

The IEI Reporter

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Birthdays

Marcus Crooks
11-21

Min Seong
Byeon 11-23

Juho Cho 11-17

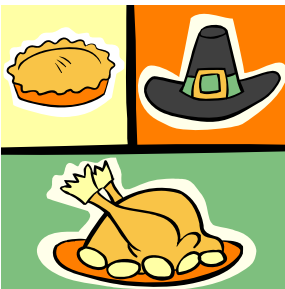
Arthur Hsiao 11-
24

Ding Wen Yu
11-24

Thanksgiving Tasting

Wednesday
Nov. 26th

@ noon



Sign up to
eat

Thanksgiving
Dinner!

IEI REPORTERS: Amir Caldera Mendoza, Yeong Doo Hong,
Arthur Hsiao, Geeyeon Kim, Takahiro Kusakabe, Yunji Lee, Jae Won Song,
Naoya Suzuki, Maria Urena Vasquez, Duy Phac Vo, Dania Watson
Editor: Rebecca Tieman Production Editor: Marcus Crooks



A Natural Treasure in Honduras By: Dania Watson

Honduras is a small country located in Central America. This country offers many interesting natural places to visit, such as natural parks, beautiful beaches, archaeological sites and varied tropical flora and fauna. One of the most important and visited places is the Bay Islands located in the Caribbean Sea.

If you are interested to learn about scuba diving, this is the premier dive destination. Many hotels in the islands offered this service at low price. Also in these islands you can enjoy one of the second biggest coral reefs in the world after that of Australia. The majority of people in the islands speak English because for many years this territory was England's colony. Of course, the native people speak Spanish and their own dialect. If your budget is limited this place is the best choice. You can get a room for only \$20 and the exquisite seafood is affordable too. However there are many luxurious hotels in the area if you want to spend more money.

This tropical paradise offers the tourists a quiet and relaxing atmosphere. When you plan your vacation I recommend you go to Honduras. If you want, I can be your tour guide.



Marino Ballena National Park

By: Maria Urena Vasquez,

Last January I went with my family to the beach that is close to my grandparent's house like 40 min. from their house. There are a lot of beaches in that area so you can choose the beach that you like the most or go to different beaches. We decided to go to a national park called Marino Ballena that has several beaches; the first beach that we went to was called Uvita Beach. It's a wonderful beach because one end of the beach has the shape of a whale tail. If the tide is down you can walk to the tail and it's not dangerous and spend some time over there taking pictures or resting. If you are afraid of the ocean it will not be a great experience because you are walking in the ocean. After that we decided to return to the beach and play with the sand for a while. At lunch time we went to a family restaurant to eat seafood and typical food too, it was so delicious. In the afternoon we decided to go to another beach that belongs to the same park and it's called Arco Beach. While my mom, my grandparents and my brother were taking a rest and my father, my other two brothers, my uncle, my cousin and I were walking on the beach. My cousin told us that behind a little mountain was a really nice beach, so we started looking for the way to go to the other side. And we started climbing the mountain in the center and when we were on the top I thought how are we going to get down, it's too dangerous. And then I saw another people coming in the correct way. When we went down I can't describe how wonderful that beach is, it's amazing. I would like to go there again and if you are planning to go to Costa Rica you must go there.



My Best Friend

I have my best friend in America whose name is TAKA. He is awesome. Actually I had never talked with him before I came to America. He is so shy, and so am I. One day, he came to my room and we talked about ourselves. I usually don't talk about myself to other people especially those who I have not talked to much. But he wasn't the person that I thought. I don't know why, but I started talking to him. He also talked about himself to me. He had a lot of funny stories. I had never met a person like him. Since then, I think we became good friends. I am not sure that he thinks the same. But there is a VERY BIG problem. He is also an exchange student, and he is going to stay here for just one semester. So he is going to go back to Japan this December. But I am going to stay here for one year. That is so SAD. I can't imagine the life that he is not with me. We have talked, smoked, and laughed with each other a lot. I will miss him a lot. But one day he said "Even though I will go back to Japan and we don't see each other for a long time, after you come back to Japan, we will be able to hang out!" I was so glad. He is the best friend whom I have ever met in my life. TAKA!!!!!!





RCTV – Radio Caracas Television... An Experience I will Never Forget By: Amir

Hi Everyone! Today I will tell you about RCTV and the experience that all Venezuelan people experienced in May 2008 with the television station. Radio

Caracas Television (RCTV, now RCTV International) is a Venezuelan cable television network located in the neighborhood of Quinta Crespo, Caracas – Venezuela. RCTV was officially inaugurated on November 15, 1953. It was the third television network to begin operations in Venezuela. RCTV has a lot of history and also had a lot of transitions. They had different style of programs and some international organization gave different awards for their excellent work for entertainment and correctly inform the people who watch this channel. For example: In 1992, Kassandra was the first Venezuelan telenovela (soap opera) that arrived in the Japanese market. This production was translated into eighty languages and was placed into the Guinness Book of World Records for being the most sold telenovela. This channel had worked for the Venezuelan people for 53 years. On December 28 2006, President Chávez said through the all television stations that the government would not renew RCTV's broadcast license which came up for renewal on May 27, 2007. This day was a sad and confusing day for all Venezuelan people and all the employees of RCTV because we thought, "We will lose our jobs." After 5 months of fighting, protesting, walking around the city, and supplicating, on May 27, 2007 12:00 am. RCTV was closed and more than 50 % of the employees lost their jobs. The Venezuelan people went to the street to protest this situation, but Chavez's government did not say anything. Also, the government took control of the equipment that was property of RCTV, including antennas, transmitters and cameras, to use it in a new government owned channel. Finally, on July 16, 2007, the station continued working on cable and satellite systems under the name Radio Caracas Television International. I will never forget this day and this situation because I worked at this television station and I learned and had some good experiences as a television producer. RCTV was like a big school for me. RCTV was my Family too. Thanks!



Pets

By: Yunji

Have you ever had a pet? When I was young, I had many kinds of pets, but most of pets didn't stay long with me. First, my mom said I had a dog when I was really young. I don't remember that dog, so I don't have a story about my first pet. Second, when I was young I enjoyed catching dragonflies almost every-day. After I caught the dragonflies, I hung up thread on their tails so it became like a balloon. It was really fun for me, but these balloons were just for 1 day. The third pets were polliwogs. This is a baby frog. During the summer, I used to catch polliwogs and put them in a water bottle. I brought the water bottles to my house, but I didn't feed them. So they was starved and finally died. The next pets were chickens which I bought at the fair, but my mom didn't like them. so I had to raise them outside. A few days later, they were killed by a cat and I cried a lot. The fifth pet was a hamster. I bought a hamster secretly because no one liked hamsters except me. When I bought the hamster, I didn't have enough money, so I couldn't buy sawdust which is important for hamsters. The shop clerk said, instead of sawdust I could use newspaper pieces. I split the newspaper and spread it on the bottom of the hamster house, but I had to feed my hamster outside and that time was winter, so I put newspaper pieces for warmth. And the next day, my little hamster was dead because he couldn't breathe and I regret about bringing the hamster home. Also, I had a sparrow, a praying mantis, locusts, snails, fish, and mollusks. I think, I had better not to have anything which is alive. So now, I have a dog which will never die. His name is Mungmung and he lives in Nintendo.

Haunted Corn Maze

By: Takahiro

The Haunted Corn Maze is a maze at the International Ag-ricenter that is made by using a huge corn field. People have to walk a complex path from start to the end in the dark that is cut through the corn field. This year, it was in the shape of the University of Memphis Tiger's logo. As you go through the maze, there are tricks to scare people. There are also people dressed up as famous horror movie characters, such as Michael Myers from *Halloween*. There is also music from horror films that is played over a loud speaker. In Japan, there are no places like this, so I was very excited to go with my friends. However, when the people dressed up as horror movie characters tried to scare us, I was not affected. My friend thought that I was frightened, but I said that I was just acting. At the very end of the maze there were people with chainsaws. It was the only time that I was scared, because even though there were no blades, the chainsaws still made the same sound. My first experience at the Haunted Corn Maze was interesting.

An Unexpected New Friend

By: Doo

We often meet a new friend in unexpected places. I want to introduce one of my friends who I met in a pub. Two weeks ago, on Election Day, I went to a pub which is near campus with my friend to watch the election broadcast with beer. After having watched Obama and McCain's speeches, we planned to go back our dorm. However, one guy asked me, "Are you from Korea?" I didn't expect that because I have never received this kind of question in a pub. Usually people who are in this place just want to enjoy drinking with their friends, but he was different with other people who I had met. He had a lot of interest in Korea since he was in Korea for one semester to study Taekwondo which is Korea's traditional military art. Right now he is teaching it in Memphis. Therefore, we talked a lot about the differences between Korea and U.S's politics and culture. Actually, while I was watching the broadcast, I had a lot of questions. Through him, I could solve them. After this time, we have kept meeting him; he is like a conversation partner. However, next month, I am going to go back to my country so I can't meet him anymore. If I continue to stay here, he will be both my teacher and friend.

Night Entertainment

By: Arthur

Different cultures have different experiences, such as the night activities, I had lots of things can do when I was in Taiwan but nothing in Memphis. For example, most of the students in Taiwan usually study in the library until it closes. Sometimes they are hungry and they could find much delicious food anywhere such as 7-11, which has hot dogs, sushi, hamburgers etc or some restaurants which only open at midnight and sell different kind of snacks. After we satisfy our belly, my friends would invite me to go to KTV (karaoke) with them because the price is half cheaper than in the morning. However, we stayed up all night and it made us exhausted, but we are still finding more and more interesting things we can do in the future. Because we don't want to just do nothing when we are young!

All about the IEI Camping Trip

By: Jia

Approximately thirty people from the IEI including the teachers went camping in Arkansas last weekend. Despite the fact that it was too cold, we all enjoyed every single moment there. Let's take a look what we did for three days.

Friday – the 1st day

We arrived at the camping ground around 4 pm and started to set up the tents and a temporary kitchen following the teachers' directions. Dinner was delicious soup. A game time, a beautiful sky and a bon fire with marshmallows. I will not forget them.

Saturday – the 2nd day

We got up 8ish and had pancakes, bacon and scrambled eggs for breakfast which the teachers prepared. We went hiking near the camping area. Actually we had two choices: a

short route and a long route. Most of us chose the long route. It was a little bit tiring so that we regretted about our choice for a while but we saw a great nature and felt many things from it. In a free time we played soccer, Frisbee and some people including me took a nap.

Dinner - Fantastic steaks made us crazy.

Sunday – the last day

After breakfast we organized everything and came back to the campus at 2 pm.

I felt three days were too short. If you have a chance to go camping next time, you must sign up for it.



Friends

By: Duy

In my life, friends are always important because they can change my life although it is a little. They can make you can split one's sides with laughter; believe the world is really beautiful or give me advice about life that is opening a new world with me. That is a friend forever. When I am sad and the world around me is bad or empty, those friends will help me stand up and makes my gloomy life become bright and fill the emptiness. That friend can lead me over the difficult times of life, sadness and all grow past troubling times. A friend will take your hand and tell you everything will be fine. If you find a friend that looks like that, you will feel happy and full because you don't need to worry, you have a friend forever in your life and it won't end. Friends show you the meaning of the life; talk about some things that I want to listen to and that friend always has meaning in my life and it is forever.



First time to see the movie !!

By: Jae Won

I was excited in the last weeks because I had made an appointment to see a movie with my friend who is a student of U of M on last Friday. However, I was supposed to join other friends on Friday. I couldn't help it because both of meetings are going to be delightful for me. I thought, "It's easy to fulfill my appointments. Just follow the schedules, then there will not be a problem." I should have thought more considerately. In my case, whenever I thought there was no room for error, something popped up out of nowhere I couldn't expect. In other words, overlapping good promises. What I've gone through in the day was just like this case. At the first meeting, I was almost drunken. Some friends said, "Don't go there and sleep now, or you are going to show your reddish face in front of them." Instead of canceling my promise, I chose to wear a hat to pretend to be routine conditions.

Anyway, I went to there and saw the movie. The series of James Bond, "Quantum of Solace." That movie was great except for my understanding of the movie plot. Ha-ha ~ !! Even I didn't notice the last scene is last until the name of director, the actors, and episodes through making films showed up. When the movie ended up finishing, we gathered together beside the entrance. Maybe they wanted to say what is the best impression scene. For me, I didn't do anything without nodding a head after what they said even though I couldn't understand them exactly. Actually, I was not supposed to ruin a good atmosphere. I've seen both of the series of James bond, the former and latter. I preferred the former. Usually, among the series of big hit films, the best thing is the original work. I can't say in detail for someone wanting to see this movie. It seems like spending 9 dollars wastefully. However, from this, I had one more goal over here, to watch movies while following the plots clearly and sounding like a movie critics when talking with friends. I hope the next movie will be from the James Bond series.

