Students test out transient ice rink

By Chris Mueller Staff Reporter

Kirkville had an ice rink — for three days only. 

The Student Activities Board, SUB After Dark and the Center for Student Involvement brought a synthetic ice rink to the Student Union Building, Friday-Sunday. The free event made up the Kilimanjaro Club's 10th anniversary celebration and featured music, games, s'mores and hot cocoa. Music played of campus winter moments, pictures played. Music played of campus winter moments, pictures played. 

"We initially got the idea from a plastic polymer, and the way the material compacted described it, it's a cutting board, sort of like those oil-cutting boards," Bruning said. "The thickness of the slices will cause the base layer to liquify or top, and they stay up with an environmentally friendly plastic that keeps the fabrication." Students created an alternative, more economical and safer to make ice rink. The cost was similar in price to a normal ice rink, and there were no need to bond up locks and gloves in so cold conditions. "It was just as much fun as we needed it to be," Bruning said. 

"Well, basically it's a big plastic board. Installation takes two hours. It's like a puzzle." 

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Amy Gwin/Indie The Student Activities Board, SUB After Dark and the Center for Student Involvement brought a synthetic ice skating rink to the SUB.

Smocovits wishes Darwin happy birthday

By Lindsay Williams Staff Reporter

This year is a time of celebration for those in the field of science, as it marks the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of his scientific work, "On the Origin of Species." 

Thomas hosted guest speaker Betty Smocovits Friday, Feb. 27 to kick off the Year of Darwin celebration. The lecture was titled "A Darwinian Viewpoint on the Theory of Song and Musical Production," and featured music and slides. 

The lecture was designed to demonstrate how Charles Darwin and the theory of evolution also explain the behaviors of people. Throughout the lecture, Smocovits showed slides of images of music values over the years that explained Darwin's theories through them. 

"I saw the first piece of what music that I learned back in 1965, and I've very curious about it," said Betty Smocovits. "In particular, I've counted down 20 years for the music and I wanted to do something special this year. I wanted to do something that would be appropriate for the lecture and the slides." 

This perspective on Darwin's history was brought by Thomas' Phi Beta Kappa, as well as Smocovits. 

"I've been taking it for the material for a long time," she said in a conversation. "It's an idea that I've been preparing for the celebration of the centenary (of) literature and science and also specialty in the history of evolution." Smocovits said. "I've been involved in the material for a long time. I am not a philosopher, but a psychology." Smocovits also gives lectures to these classes during her two-day visit to Thomas. 

"It's been interesting to think about little things I enjoy what people really think and do with really bright and interdisciplinary works and teachings," she said. "I was really interested to see the student body at Thomas. I don't know. I'm not as many intellectual sciences, but I teach them with some science." 

Smocovits said that the different aspect of the experience was when someone could tell her more people. Smocovits was about Darwinism," she said. 

"It's a great opportunity for me, and for the students," Smocovits started. "I have had some experience working with the students. "I have been disappointed, but that's not going to happen anymore," Smocovits said. "We asked them to set up 50 kids, and it was bigger, and they did it. Because people knew how many would show up." Smocovits said "But when people started coming in 30 minutes early, then they knew that we had a lot of people knowing that were coming in and it was very encouraging." Smocovits said that this event would not have been possible without the Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity and the many people who came out to support the event. Students are really excited," Smocovits said. "We have a couple of people that have been disappointed, but that's not going to happen." 

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