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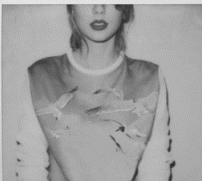


THE ROSE THORN

	saturday mostly cloudy 47°/28°		sunday mostly cloudy 39°/31°		monday mostly cloudy 42°/30°
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ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY • THORN.ROSE-HULMAN.EDU • FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2014 • VOLUME 50 • ISSUE 09


T-Swift worth the time?



Page 4

T.S. 1989

Hit the ground running early this quarter with these helpful tips.



Page 5

Why should you go to graduate school?



Page 6

Men's basketball falls in home opener.



Page 7

Newest addition to the Rose community

Elena Chong • news editor

Rose-Hulman students have one more reason to take a break from their academic studies. The Sports Recreation Center (SRC) now possesses a bouldering wall, which opened up for use for the entire Rose community on Monday. Bringing the bouldering wall to campus required a lot of time and hard work from a few students, faculty, and staffs.

The initial proposal to build a bouldering wall on campus was first suggested by alumnus Bryn Correll, former president of the climbing club. The

club asked the Rose community if they would be interested in having a climbing wall right on campus.

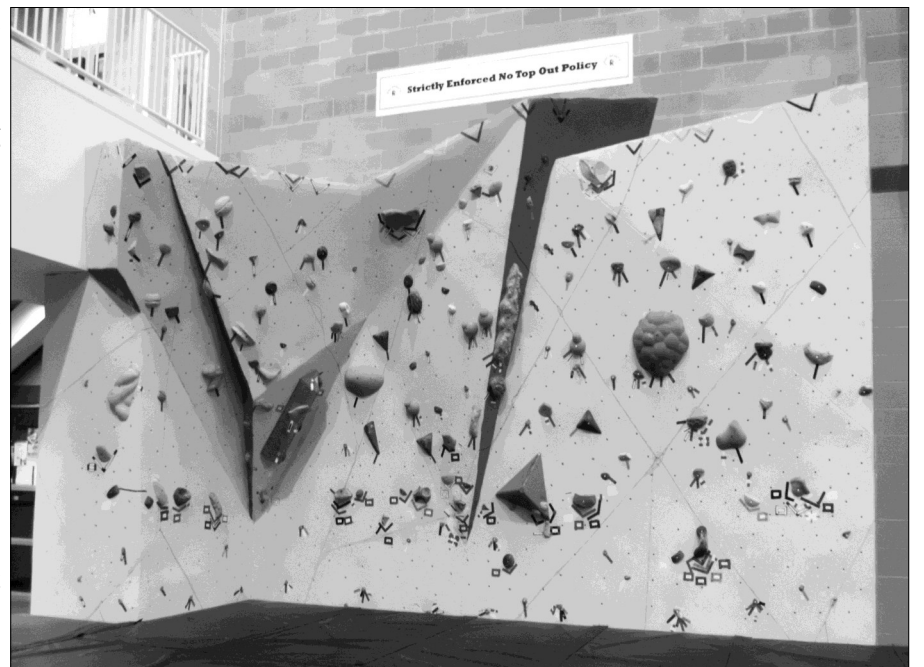
The result of the survey showed that more than 300 members of the community were interested in the idea. "There has been interest for a wall as long as I've been here," Sunil Satish said, a senior civil engineer.

The climbing club normally has to drive to Indianapolis for indoor climbing at a gym. This has been an inconvenience for the time-crunched members of the climbing club. "Our trips

to gyms in Indianapolis and Bloomington have always been time consuming and prevented greater participation," Dr. David Goulet, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and adviser of the climbing club, said. "We wanted to meet the needs of the community in general and the club in particular."

Dr. Goulet saw the possibility of making this idea become a reality. He helped create a committee within the club that focused on planning the steps to bring a bouldering wall to campus.

Continued on Page 3.



The bouldering wall is the new addition to the Sports Recreation Center.

Photo by Alla Leffullina

Freshman wow at robotics competition

Marc Schmitt • staff writer

On November 6 freshman students taking the course ECE160 participated in a robotics competition that pitted 23 teams and their robots against each other to complete a series of autonomous and remote control tasks. The event drew a large crowd as students and professors alike came out to see what the new batch of freshman had up their sleeves.

The Khan Room buzzed with excitement as the students watched their robots compete to gain the most points. The room was well prepared to handle the swarm of people that came to watch the competition as cameras were set up to capture the action and simultaneous-

ly project the video streams on to the wall.

The tournament consisted of a series of tasks that involved moving blocks from one position to another via autonomous and remote controlled functions that students programmed themselves with Lego Mindstorm kits.

To achieve the highest score a robot had to stack blocks on top of each other and move them from point A to point B around a series of walls. This was done during both an autonomous and a remote control round.

Each team was given a kit to design and build their robots from scratch.

Continued on Page 3.



Electrical engineering and compute science freshman built robots with Lego Mindstorm kit to compete against each other.

Photo courtesy of Dale Long

events

Diversity Week

Rose-Hulman Celebrates Its Diversity Various Events Held Throughout the Week
On-campus, week long

NSBE Talent Show

Organized by the National Society of Black Engineers.
Hatfield, December 6, 6 p.m.



The Humanitarian Engineer

Film presentation and discussion.
GM Room, December 10, 6:30 p.m.

Spirit of Christmas

Performing Arts: Dailey and Vincent Spirit of Christmas tour.
Hatfield, December 12, 7:30 p.m.

sports

Men's Basketball vs. Transylvania
December 6 • 3 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Transylvania
December 6 • 1 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Millikin
December 10 • 7:30 p.m.

Across

- 1. Two-syllable poetic unit
- 5. Martin and Shelley
- 10. Worker's ___ (insurance)
- 14. Berth
- 15. Old viol
- 16. To a distance
- 17. Virginia women's college
- 19. "Bah, humbug!"
- 20. "High Noon," for one
- 21. They're on the house
- 23. Teeth
- 26. A wee hour
- 27. Unlikely Planned Parenthood member
- 32. Oklahoma brave
- 33. Athenian statesman
- 34. Doers of the lord's work
- 38. Wagers
- 40. ___ voce (almost in a whisper)
- 42. Parlor, in La Paz
- 43. Quad VIPs
- 45. Open-fronted jackets
- 47. Supreme being
- 48. Allen Funt device
- 51. Osage or mandarin
- 54. Innovative and daring
- 55. "Chinatown" director
- 58. Bar at law
- 62. Off center
- 63. Spring time
- 66. Accumulate.
- 67. Clancy's Jack and actress Meg
- 68. Beware the ___ ...'
- 69. Lays tuft
- 70. Villages
- 71. Anatomical sac

Down

- 1. Word with facto or jure
- 2. Blaupunkt rival
- 3. Come Together
- 4. Rear end

- 5. What Elmo calls Dagwood in "Blondie"
- 6. Chalice veil
- 7. Category in baseball's Triple Crown
- 8. "Sure"
- 9. Back of the neck
- 10. Takes prisoner
- 11. Present
- 12. Tierney of "ER"
- 13. Light splitter
- 18. Gaits slower than gallops
- 22. They may get stepped on
- 24. Sporty 60's cars
- 25. Did some jazz riffs, maybe
- 27. AnnaSophia of "Bridge to Terabithia"
- 28. Thing on a supermarket express lane conveyor belt
- 29. ___ guy: someone you count on
- 30. Tony winner ___ Lenya
- 31. Chant
- 35. "Seeing red" feeling
- 36. "Dona ___ and Her Two Husbands"
- 37. Actress Thompson of TV's "Family"
- 39. Fruity liquor
- 41. How a lot of modern music is sold
- 44. One of the Zodiac's 12
- 46. More prudent
- 49. Bail out on
- 50. Old Connecticut whaling town
- 51. Colorful swimmers
- 52. Loggers' contest
- 53. Get ___ of (listen to): Slang
- 56. Wallop in the boxing ring
- 57. Vidi in "Veni, vidi, vici"
- 59. Neat as a pin
- 60. Keats poems
- 61. Bothersome kid
- 64. Former "Grand Ole Opry Live" network
- 65. Slalom path

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20						21			22			
			23		24	25		26				
27	28	29					30	31				
32			33					34		35	36	37
38			39		40			41		42		
43				44		45			46		47	
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51	52	53					54					
55					56	57		58		59	60	61
62					63			64	65			
66					67					68		
69					70					71		

Mathdoku

	+		-		=	1
×		+		÷		
	×		-		=	19
+		-		-		
	+		+		=	18
=		=		=		
14		3		5		

Easy Sudoku

6				8				
				5	3		8	2
							4	6
3	5	7	8		4			
	1							
		9				8	3	
	7					1		4
				4	1	3	5	
2			7	3				



The Rose Thorn

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“We are Rose-Hulman’s independent student newspaper. We keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information.”

ISSUES of The Rose Thorn are published on the first through ninth Fridays of each academic quarter.

WEEKLY MEETINGS occur at 5:15 p.m. on the first through ninth Wednesdays of each academic quarter. All members of the Rose-Hulman community are welcome to attend.

SUBMISSION of articles, photographs, art, and letters to the editor is encouraged. Submissions may be made by email to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or in person to Hulman Memorial Union room 249. The submission deadline is 5:00 p.m. Wednesday.

THE RIGHTS to accept submissions or changes made after the deadline, to edit submissions in so far as the original intent of the submission remains unaltered, and to reject submissions deemed inappropriate for print are reserved by the editors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR should be no longer than 600 words in length and must contain the writer’s (electronic) signature.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Marc Schmitt • staff writer

Riots and Protests after Grand Jury Declines To Indict Police Officer in Ferguson Shooting

A grand jury in Ferguson, Missouri declined to indict a white police officer, Darren Wilson, who shot and killed an unarmed black teenager, Michael Brown.

The decision sparked rioting and protesting in Ferguson and around the country with countless public figures speaking out against the decision.

President Obama and the parents of Michael Brown, among many others, urged calm for when the decision would be announced to the public. The police and national guard were notified of the decision two days before the public announcement.

The night the decision was released national guard troops were posted around municipal buildings equipped with assault rifles and armored vehicles.

During the ensuing riots tear gas was fired to disperse crowds and over 40 individuals were arrested. The riots damaged local businesses and property; as windows were smashed, stores looted, and cars set on fire or tipped over.

Several days after the decision was announced Mr. Wilson submitted his letter of resignation from the Ferguson police force. Mr. Wilson was a member of the force for over eight years.

Protests and Outrage Over Officer Involved in Eric Garner Death Not Indicted

In a similar turn of events in New York City, officer Daniel Pantaleo was not indicted by a grand jury for his involvement in the death of Eric Garner, a Staten Island resident who died after Mr. Pantaleo placed him in a chokehold.

Eric Garner, 43, was selling loose cigarettes when officer Pantaleo attempted to arrest Mr. Garner. Mr. Pantaleo forced Mr. Garner to the ground and placed him in a chokehold, banned in 1993 by the New York City Police Department. Mr. Garner began to have difficulty breathing and his dying words were "I can't breathe."

The decision has caused an outpouring of public anger against what is seen as another use of excessive force against black individuals by police departments around the country.

Protests against the decision come in the wake of another grand jury decision not to indict a police officer in the questionable death of an unarmed black individual. Darren Wilson, a white police officer, was not indicted for shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed black teenager, in Ferguson, Missouri.

Protests were held around the country, "die-ins", where groups of protesters lie on the ground, were held throughout New York City, and other protesters chanted "we can't breathe" in an effort to remind people of Eric Garner's dying words.

Islamic Militant Attack on Chechnya Capital Leaves At Least 20 Dead

On December 4, Islamic Militants launched a fierce attack on Grozny, Chechnya's capital, leaving at least 20 dead.

The attack, which came hours before Russian President Vladimir Putin gave his State of the Nation address, is largely seen as a move to embarrass the embattled leader.

The attack is considered the most brazen of Islamic militant insurgents, which the government has been actively fighting in past months. What is unclear is whether the militants are linked to the Islamic State or other radical militant groups fighting in Syria.

Chechen fighters have previously threatened to carry out attacks against Russian targets, citing Russia's unofficial support for Bashar al-Assad's regime in Syria.

Mr. Putin hinted the attack during his speech commenting that it may have been a Western plot to once again undermine Russia, referencing the West's involvement in fomenting unrest in the Caucasus Mountains to break up Yugoslavia.

Mr. Putin rose to prominence in 2000 after ending a long and fruitless war in Chechnya. He has worked to keep the region under control and Ramzan A. Kadyrov, who runs the government in Chechnya, has used severe force to maintain control over militant groups and has been accused of numerous human rights abuses in the process.

Robotics competition

continued from page 1

The end result was a variety of robots that ranged from the conservative and simple to complex robots that looked like cranes, a true display of Rose's innovative students. The designs consistently scoring high points were simplistic and reflected a well thought out purpose and process, principles stressed in the course.

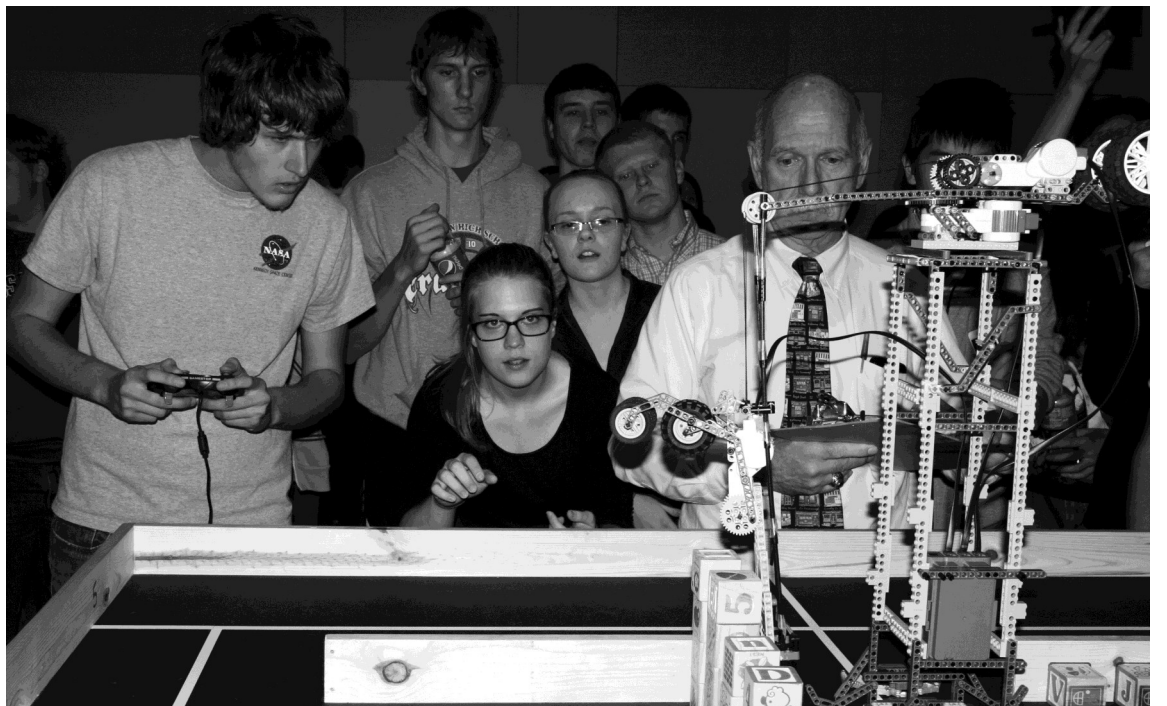
The winning team, consisting of William Small, Isabella Evans, Matt Pokoj, and Yuchen Wang, stuck to this simplistic design. After they came up with a design that worked, it was all down to figuring out how to maximize points earned. "Once we formed a winning game plan, we perfected the process with the highest possible points in mind," commented team member William Small.

The freshman class is well versed in robotics competition as many of them have competed in events such as FIRST and VEX Robotics. Anthony

Lin, a freshman who participated in FIRST Robotics at Taipei American School says that, "FIRST provides a way for high school students to work on a project together, learning skills such as leadership, time management, and programming all in a very fun and fulfilling setting. It has prepared me well to pursue my interests here at Rose."

Student's background knowledge is certainly drawn upon and sought after as they pursue their degrees at Rose. A robotics minor was started in 2009 to satisfy the growing interest of incoming classes and industry needs. Many industry leaders actively recruit Rose graduates for their deep knowledge in the field of robotics.

The Robotics team on campus have been competing for over ten years in national competitions, and allow students to build their robotic prowess in a competitive environment.



Students remotely controlled their robots to grab blocks and move them to their designated areas.

Photo courtesy of Dale Long

Bouldering Wall

continued from page 1

Club executive Satish, with climbing walls... Head Facility Director and most importantly Matt Sinclair, and expert gathered funds."

The committee gathered funds from the Student Government Association (SGA), Residence Hall Association (RHA),

reached \$56,000. According to Dr. Goulet, this new activity will definitely provide a good workout for students to maintain a good mental and physical health. It will also be a great showpiece to attract new students.

"The climbing club put a lot of work into the wall ...

Many steps were taken and many people were contacted. "I took on a managerial role, and they did much of the hard work," Dr. Goulet said. "They requested quotes from climbing wall designers, gathered research on safety, compiled a large list of other academic institutions

and Student Affairs. In addition, the Geraldine C. and Emory M. Ford Foundation contributed a substantial sum. Along with an additional \$9,000 from Pete Gustafson, the total sum

find a bit of a challenge, but any student that wants to begin can find a route that helps teach them the basics," said Issac Gehman, a junior civil engineer.

Your Childhood Reborn

Peter Samyn • staff writer

“Super Smash Bros.” for the Nintendo 3DS came out a few months ago; I was amazed that Nintendo was able to get a game like “Smash” to work on a handheld gaming device. Now the version of the game everyone has been waiting for is here on Wii U. For the most part, this is the same game that was on 3DS with better controls and graphics, but there are a few differences.

There are some new modes in the Wii U version, the first being Smash Tour. Smash Tour is a Mario Party style mode where players move around on a board and fight when they cross paths. The mode is even worse than Smash Run in the 3DS version of the game and is not worth playing whatsoever.

The events from “Super Smash Bros.: Brawl” make a return and are just as fun as ever. I actually find it odd that this mode did not make it in the 3DS version, considering it

is not a new mode to the series. New to the series are Master and Crazy Orders, a set of challenges with various different modifiers. This mode is an interesting diversion but ultimately isn’t super fun. Classic, All Star, and Training modes all return for this version. The only mode not in this game is Smash Run, which is not a loss at all.

The “Smash Bros.” game is really lacking a good single player mode on 3DS and Wii U. What happened to just having a good solid fighting campaign? “Super Smash Bros.: Melee” did it well. “Brawl” expanded on it to varying degrees of success and neither version of the new Smash has even been able to reach anywhere close to what the past two games had in this realm. It is more than a little disappointing.

The big feature in the Wii U version of “Smash Bros.” is eight player Smash. The mode is pretty much what you would

expect. It becomes nearly impossible to tell where you are on screen, especially when the camera zooms out. With a big group of friends, it is just good fun. If you are looking for real competitive play, eight player Smash does not provide that, but that is not the point of this mode.

“Smash Bros.” is one of several games to support Nintendo’s new amiibo figures. The figures themselves are nice to look at and have some in game functionality. Smash has the most in depth implementation: the ability to fight with or against the amiibo fighters and level them up to be better fighters. The concept is fine, but considering how much better Skylanders and Disney Infinity do the “toys to life” genre it just feels lacking. I do not find fighting computer (CPU) fighters to be very fun. It would have been better if you could play as your amiibo instead, considering I can fight against CPUs without even owning the

amiibo figures.

The new stages in the Wii U version are well-designed for the most part. My only real complaint about the new stages is that some are just too large and have too many items in the environment that make playing them an unpleasant experience. Several old favorites return in the Wii U version, but there are some notable omissions. Corneria, which was present in the 3DS version, is not in the Wii U version. Mute City and Big Blue are in neither version of the game, which just blows my mind. These are fan favorites that have been in since Melee. Corneria in particular is iconic and is a “Smash Bros.” mainstay.

Fighting game series used to lavish in their amazing intro videos. The last “Soul Calibur” did not have one and now the new Smash intro can hardly even be called that. It is more like a collection of clips that were slightly put to the beat of music. There are no sound ef-

fects, no fanfare. Honestly, the character reveals from the various Nintendo Directs the past year had better production value. It is pretty disappointing.

“Smash Bros” for Wii U is a great game. It is great fun, has a ton of characters and offers vast amounts of content. But the more I think about it, more is not always better and in the case of “Smash” for Wii U it is very much apparent. “Smash Bros.” for Wii U has more content than any other “Smash Bros.” game by a wide margin, but it does not do anything new or interesting.

“Smash” for 3DS was impressive, but console standards are higher. There are three other Smash Bros games that you can play, and if you are going to be pulling out the old GameCube controller anyway, I say play “Melee” or “Project M.”

Rating: 4/5 elephants



OR/AS

Mark Rodgers • quest writer

“Pokémon” has been around forever—I remember getting the original three games for my game boy color—and the franchise shows no signs of slowing. The latest installments, “Omega Ruby” and “Alpha Sapphire,” are remakes of the third generation of games originally made for the Game Boy Advance, and they definitely polish and improve on the original concept.

In the twelve years since the original games, the franchise has evolved from 2D to full 3D character models for the world and the battle sequences, and it looks gorgeous. Even from last year to now the 3d has improved, looking sleeker and making the Pokémon seem more lifelike in their battle animations, and the signature attacks of many legendary Pokémon are phenomenal.

Not much gameplay has changed. The move known as FLY has gotten a major improvement this time around: reachable destinations include individual routes and special locations within each route, a real time-saver in the games. The region has been left mostly untouched from the way the original games were laid out. Notable differences include a redesign of Mauville City, transforming it from a quiet town into a bustling shopping mall with a food court. There are a total of 20 new Mega evolutions, one of which, in addition to a new item given within the game, will actually replace a move entirely.

As a “Pokémon” game, there really is not much story to speak of, but it does a good job of adding the new Primal Reversion and Mega Evolution elements into the story. The Post-game content is interesting, named “The Delta Episode”, and is a small side-adventure that has some payoff. There is not much else built in post game other than collecting all the Mega Stones (NOT version exclusive for a nice change) and a newly unlocked area.

There is a difficulty setting in the form of the Exp. Share item. The item has been in every game since the beginning, but the original item only shared exp. with one of your Pokémon. Since “X” and “Y,” however, level experience gained from defeating opponents can be shared with your entire team. This allows for you and your team to build extremely quickly, making the game much easier, but not using it is a better option for those seeking a challenge.

All things considered, this was one of the best games I have played in a while, nostalgia included.

Rating: 4.5/5 elephants



Taylor Swift – “1989”

Amaryllis Biduaka • lifestyle editor

As a Taylor Swift fan, I had high expectations for her newest album, “1989.” I expected this album to have the same pop vibe as “Red,” since that is my personal favorite album. Instead, the album had more of an indie, smoky sound. As a result, this album is not something that you can dance and jam out to. It is perfect for those cold fall days where you need some music to study to. Despite several albums under her belt, Taylor Swift is still trying to discover her sound.

Upon my first play through the album, I was disappointed that none of the songs stuck out to me. The majority of songs on this album fade into the background and have a generic 80s pop sound. It was not until I played it multiple times that I could find some noticeable distinction between

songs. The first song, “Welcome to New York,” is not particularly ear catching. The intro mimics a slower version of an 80s workout jam, and Taylor’s voice sounds a bit robotic at times. Perhaps it is just me, but I usually expect the first song to get me excited for the rest of the album. Instead this song made me a bit skeptical as to why I was willing to drop twelve dollars for this

album.

Much to my relief, after I listened to the album several times, there were some songs that stood out to me besides “Shake It Off.” My personal favorites are “Style,” “All You Had To Do Was Stay,” “I Wish You Would,” “How You Get the Girl,” and “I Know Places.” “Style” is one of those catchy songs that you can belt out while driving home. It has a pretty relaxed tempo at first, but it becomes more peppy in the refrain. I am not going to lie that this song has been stuck in my head for the past week.

The other song that I love is “All You Had To Do Was Stay.” This song did not stand out to me until I heard the reprise. She brings out the hidden side melody of the song and it just chills me. She takes you on a seemingly routine song and surprises you by changing courses half-way through the song. This song is definitely worth the

whole play through just for this surprise.

As much as I would love to give this album a five out of five I cannot. An album should not require several plays to notice different songs. Also, I expect more than one dance worthy song on a pop album.

Rating: 2.5/5 elephants



An album should not require several plays to notice distinct songs

I expect more than one dance-worthy song on a pop album

The Other Side of the Desk

Behind the scenes of a professional Rose-mance



Stephanie Hill • faculty writer

What do the “Dr. Mr. and Dr. Mrs.” pairs do off-campus? In all fairness, many of our co-Rose-mances have young children and, I suppose, spend their time being parents. But, what do the Jones-Hills do when they go home?

Play with the cats, feed the cats, scold the cats, and bow to their every furry whim. I brought a gigantic gray and white cat, Sir Patrick Stewart Griffin (Stewie) into our marriage,

and I am happy to report that Dr. Jones is accepting his new step-cat quite well. Likewise, Stewie seems to have accepted Dr. Jones as the primary feeder and scooper of poop. Over the summer, we were delighted to add to our little family: we adopted Beatrixie H o b b i t (Trixie). The existing cat, however, was not so delighted. After months of fighting, Stewie and Trixie have come to limit their battle royals, typically to the middle of the night, when they can tear around the house and knock over the dining room chairs with impunity.

We may even be on the cusp of a beautiful friendship: I actually caught Stewie grooming Trixie’s ears on Monday night. Perhaps it was the addition

of the Christmas tree—which is, to judge by the diameter of their pupils and subsequent behavior, the greatest single thing they have ever seen, sitting in a bucket of delicious pine-flavored water and

Watch TV. Just because we are academics does not mean we do not like our mind-rot. Sundays and Mondays are for National Football League (NFL); all the other days are for Star Trek (currently watching Voyager) and British

creative outlet, and he was definitely right. Note, however, I said “creative” and not “artistic.” From 87.5 pounds of clay, we have created a massive collection of lumpy pots, perfect for Christmas gifting to our parents.

Talk about teaching. We whine, complain, vent frustrations... and then second-guess every decision we have ever made in a classroom. Every exam question is reexamined, every lecture self-critiqued. Why was that kid in the back sleeping? Was my lecture really THAT boring? It is stressful work, folks. Which brings me to our last activity.

Sleeping. Although we (hopefully) seem to be cool, calm, and collected, the responsibility for your education weighs heavy on our (nerdy) shoulders. As one of my colleagues told me at the end of last quarter: “If you are not on antibiotics by 10th week, then it has been a successful quarter.”

Just because we are academics does not mean we do not like our mind-rot

covered with the most enticing shiny objects invented by man.

Compulsively collect books. The clearance section at Books-a-Million is magnificent for this, as is the semi-annual Friends of the Library sale. Selection of books tends to be random; Dr. Hill favors non-fiction science and history, but has been known to sneak the occasional trashy fiction.

mysteries (Bletchley Circle). We also enjoy a fair amount of Nintendo—Dr. Jones is partial to Mario games; Dr. Hill prefers the epic Legend of Zelda (but has been “working on” Skyward Sword for two and a half years).

Pottery class. We have spent every Monday night at the Indiana State University (ISU) pottery studio this fall. Dr. Jones thought it would be a good “newlywed” activity and

STARTING OFF RIGHT

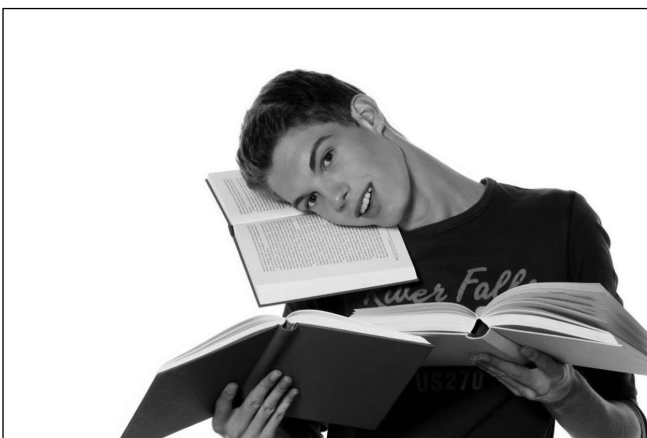
Amaryllis Biduaka • lifestyle editor

A new quarter is the perfect time to rethink your previous academic behaviors and stay the course with your good ones.

First, start on your right foot and do not forget it. In all seriousness, be sure to start the quarter off right by buying all your school supplies this weekend. Do not try to stuff all your materials in one folder. You will pat yourself on the back if you already have your notes pre organized for finals.

Start your work early. If you have problems with your assignment, you can ask your prof for help. Do not wait for the night before to get stuff. Also, now is a good time to form study groups so you can work on your homework together as a group.

Get a good sleep schedule early this quarter. As the quarter goes



Do not get lost this early in the quarter.

Photo.elsear.com

on, your sleep is crucial to your success. Make up for all your future losses of sleep now. Your body and mind will thank you.

Now is a good time to revamp your personal health routine. It is time to walk the walk you have

yet to walk and go to the gym. The first time is the hardest but once you have established a routine

Do not let seasonal depression get you down, take steps to counteract it. Host mini get-togethers with friends to watch movies. If you get cabin fever, try taking a walk to admire the beauty of the snow.

I hope that these tips help you make the best of winter quarter. It is going to be a long and hopefully enjoyable one.

Diversity Week 2014

Kick-Off Event

Sunday, December 7

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Main Dining Room

Sample foods selected just for you by the seven groups of the Diversity Collaborative.

Bling Thing

Monday, December 8

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

HMU Lobby

Make decorative buttons, lanyards, or keychains.

Tea & Cookies

Tuesday, December 9

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

HMU Lobby

Taste teas from other countries while you decorate cookies.

Field Day

Thursday, December 11

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

SRC

Let off steam with a diversity of games.

For more information contact

Dr. Luanne Tilstra, Director
ext. 8741

ROSE-HULMAN
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CENTER FOR DIVERSITY

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

One day in about 1995, when I was in college, I was walking down an unfamiliar street in front of a girls' high school. It must have been a break or a passing period; the windows were open and dozens of girls were looking out the windows. One of them took it into her head to squeal at me, apparently in her confusion (or having lost her glasses) finding me handsome. The whole wall of schoolgirls took up the squeal. It was embarrassing and annoying. I was on the other side of a fence, confident in my safety and ability to leave. When someone claims that any young man would love to have women calling out to him on the street and that therefore women should be happy about such "compliments," I know that it's nonsense.

On the other hand, I did not mind when young women I didn't know asked me where I was from when we were waiting for class to start. If I, a more or less inept person in that regard, could tell the difference between annoying speech and OK speech from strangers in a public space, I think any man can if he puts his mind to it. If in doubt, ask yourself "Do I actually want to meet her and have a conversation?" If the answer is no, keep quiet.

I am worn out reading letters and columns and memes from men defending catcalling with the argument that telling random strangers they are attractive is somehow indistinguishable from striking up conversations. No one is persecuting you for trying to meet people. I am worn out reading letters and columns and memes from men who are angry that some women point out that our culture treats women more like objects than it treats men, criticizes women's appearance more than it criticizes men's, makes women seem more helpless and less competent than men, and so on and on and on. You, reader, may not think you do those things, and indeed you probably do not, consciously or on purpose, but our culture does them.

The only way to fix this is to treat each other as equal individuals. For a start, right here and right now, let's give up on the jokes and newspaper columns and so on that assume there are two groups of people at Rose: students and "girls." The Flipside managed to make that assumption recently with an old but tasteless joke that managed to treat engineers as less than men and women as less than human all in one little story. (Do not believe me? Go check. Two engineers are assumed to be male AND a sexually submissive woman is presented as the thing so valuable no normal man would pass on her. Try swapping the genders and see how it sounds, and you'll see the double standard.) The world is not made up of people and women. It's made of men and women, or just people. Treat each other that way.

Sam Martland
Assoc. Prof. of History
A203A

MAKING FERGUSON POSITIVE

Katrina Brandenburg
editor in chief

Attention! Breaking news: Ferguson was not a singular event! Read all about it in any major newspaper. Watch it on any news station. We are being fed a constant stream of cases where someone in law enforcement may have or did behave in a way that discredited his badge, and we need to pay attention to how badly something needs to change.

I am not saying that something needs to be done instantaneously to drastically change the impact of racism, prejudice, arrogance, poor training, or outdated laws nationwide. One might expect one of those to be the key focus, but we cannot get to a point where change happens without making some changes on a more local and more personal level.

In each community, a strong effort needs to be mounted to provide a constructive outlet for the anger that is fueled by these events. A good example was recently provided by Peoria, Illinois, where a town hall meeting was held to allow members of the community to voice their concerns. Just something as simple and straight forward as a town hall meeting where people can speak their minds and work toward change in

that way can solve a lot of problems, especially the problem of undirected or misdirected rage.

This is directly counter to what happened in Ferguson. Violence was met by more violence, and the overuse of force was met by more force. This type of escalation only led to damaged

ly with their neighbors in grade schools, building more trust and respect at an early age. Write a letter to a member of your government stating your opinions on how your government should react or even just requesting a town hall meeting like the one in Peoria. Start a petition to make a change



A woman peacefully protests the events in Ferguson while state police officers form a barrier behind her.

news.stlpublicradio.org

small businesses, children missing school, and dangerous fires. Why not open up a pathway for people in communities to voice their opinions, for officers and the community to build a more trusting relationship, and for the government to make a gesture of good will towards its people?

No matter which side you think was more justified in the town of Ferguson, no one should wish for that type of destruction in his own community. So, start a program that helps local police officers interact positive-

to that law you think is so wrongly written or interpreted.

Take that anger, and use its energy for something positive. Leave no room in your anger for violence, destruction, and the escalation of a problematic situation. What is done may not be undone, but it may be prevented from ever recurring through the good works of the good people across this nation who are angry and frustrated about the current state of our nation's law enforcement and its relationship to the people it should protect and serve.

Send your letters to the editor to thorn-opinions@rose-hulman.edu.

Beneficial education: graduate school

Alla Lefullina • photo editor

It is that time of the year when graduate school applications are due and if you are anything like me you have put it off until the last minute. Although applying is a hustle, I am excited about taking the final step of my education. I always knew that I wanted to go to graduate school but I know other people struggle with this decision. For people who are on the fence about it here are the reasons as to why everyone should go to graduate school to pursue a PhD.

Love of knowledge: This sounds lame and nerdy, but I enjoy learning, and I am sure everyone who goes to Rose-Hulman enjoys learning as well. If we didn't like learning we wouldn't have chosen such a difficult

school. Enjoying learning is a must when pursuing a PhD, because PhD takes a lot of hard work and dedication. Without the proper motivation it would be easy to let yourself quit, and unlike the bachelor's degree, the PhD is not necessary to getting a job. That is why enjoying doing research is crucial when it comes to pursuing a PhD.

Sense of accomplishment: If you think obtaining a Bachelor's Degree is satisfying, imagine how gaining a PhD would feel. Since gaining a PhD takes so much energy and time, finally receiving that doctorate would feel incredible.

PhD gives you an advantage in the job market: Besides the idealistic reasons to pursue a PhD there are also more pragmatic

ones. The job market is tough nowadays, and the PhD shows the employers that you have valuable research skills, you are a dedicated and hard worker, and that you are an expert in your field. PhD opens doors to careers you might otherwise have not had an opportunity to explore and increases your chances of getting a job that you love.

PhD's do pay off: According to MeasuringU.com having a PhD adds about 11,000 dollars to the annual salary. Not that money should be a deciding factor in getting a PhD, but it should be viewed as a bonus reward.

Graduate schools might seem scary and overwhelming; however, with today's job market it is the best way to open doors and have an edge on your competition.

Men's basketball falters at home

Miriam Remmers • Sports editor

After earning their first win of the 2014-15 season against rival Wabash College on Sunday, November 30, the Fightin' Engineers fell to Anderson University in Hulbert Arena on December 3.

Rose-Hulman returned from an 11-point deficit during the second half and were within three points of Anderson during the last three minutes of the game, but was ultimately defeated by the skilled free throw shooting of Anderson players.

Anderson held a 53-42 lead with just under six minutes left in the game just before Rose-Hulman went on their scoring run. Junior Tyler Duffy and sophomore Wade Stallings opened this scoring with back-to-back three-pointers, while junior Corey Povaleri made two free throws, bringing the score within three.

The Ravens responded with two three-pointers of their own, pushing the lead back to 61-52 with two minutes left on the clock. Rose-Hulman relied on Povaleri to hit another two free throws, while Duffy contributed a layup, bringing the score back to 63-58.

Despite the best efforts of the Engineers, Anderson managed to hit four three throws in the final minute of the game to secure the win.

Duffy led the Rose-Hulman offense with a career-high 18 points and six rebounds, while Povaleri scored 14 total points with six boards.

Junior Matt Loesing contributed to the offense with nine points and seven rebounds, while sopho-

more Collin Wojcik provided seven points and two assists and junior Jimmy Miller tallied six points and six points.

Anderson improved two 2-3 overall and 1-0 in league play as a result of the game, while the

Fightin' Engineers dropped to 0-1 in conference games and 1-4 overall.

Rose-Hulman will host Transylvania University in an additional conference matchup on Saturday, December 6.



Junior forward Tyler Duffy led the Rose-Hulman offense with a career-high 18 points during their game against Anderson..

Rose-Hulman Athletics

Combs and McDevitt earn All-Region Honors

Miriam Remmers • Sports editor

Rose-Hulman goalkeeper Lucinda Combs and defender Mallory McDevitt, both juniors, garnered 2014 National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) honors for their exemplary efforts in the 2014 women's soccer season.

Combs earned a spot on the NCAA III Women's All-Great Lakes Region First Team after being named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) Defensive Most Valuable Player. She is the first two-time MVP in Rose-Hulman women's soccer history, ranking fourth in all of the NCAA Division III in save percentage (0.90). She has started every game in her college career.

McDevitt has also started in all 57 games of her college career. She is a standout on both the field and in the classroom; McDevitt earned Capital One Academic All-America First Team honors this season, and also became the eighth Fightin' Engineer to earn Academic All-American honors, joining two other Rose women as a first team honoree.

Rose-Hulman finished 12-5-1 during the 2014 season and qualified for their second consecutive HCAC tournament.



Juniors Mallory McDevitt and Lucinda Combs earned NSCAA honors for their efforts during the 2014 soccer season.

Rose-Hulman Athletics

Women's basketball triumphs over St. Mary-of-the-Woods

Miriam Remmers • Sports editor

The Rose-Hulman women's basketball team beat St. Mary-of-the-Woods College 66-58 on Wednesday, December 8, to retain the Clabber Girl trophy for the third consecutive year.

The Fightin' Engineers leapt out to an early 6-3 lead after a shot from sophomore Kristen Belyea. The Pomeroy's then went on a 14-9 run that the Fightin' Engineers quickly answered, leaving the score 30-27 in the Engineers favor at the end of the first half.

Although St. Mary-of-the-Woods got within a single basket early on in the second half, they were unable to push through and take the lead. Rose-Hulman obtained their largest lead in the game with 8:08 left to play, leading the Pomeroy's 58-45. The Pomeroy's then scored nine consecutive points, but another six points from Rose-Hulman senior Gracie Gibbs sealed the game in favor of the Engineers.

Gibbs and junior Abbie Marshall notched their third and second career double-doubles, respectively, with Gibbs earning a game-high 17 points and 12 rebounds and Marshall tallying 13 points and 10 rebounds. Sophomore Josie Schmidt added nine points, while junior Cassidy Cain garnered seven points and four assists.

The Fightin' Engineers improved to 4-2 on the season with this victory. They will open Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) play at home Saturday, December 6, against Transylvania.



The women's basketball team celebrated their win against rival St. Mary-of-the-Woods College Wednesday evening.

Rose-Hulman Athletics

Heard 'Round Campus

What things does your car eat?

Fact of the Week

Peanuts are one of the ingredients in dynamite (don't get any ideas)

WACKY

PROFESSOR QUOTES

"We're computer scientists, we don't go outside!"

- Dr. Willowski

What is this "outside" of which you speak?

"I don't know what else

I could do except maybe lead you back to your desk and give you something to eat and an adult beverage."

-Dr. Gibson

Can I have it with a loop-de-loop straw?

"If asked for your last name, you won't hesitate to answer."

-Dr. Rostamkolai

Oh, oh, oh! I know this one! I know this one! It's... um...

"Don't know if anyone has told you this, but... we don't care what you put down on the exam."

-Dr. Rickert

Everything I know and love is a LIE!

"You all know how to read, right?"

-Dr. Riley

Um... I think so? I don't know, let me check...

Rose professors say crazy things. E-mail them to the Flipside at thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu

TOP "5+5" TEN

Things students should have done before finals

1. Put some effort into studying
2. Gone to sleep before 8 a.m. final
3. Actually gone to that last final
4. Not ignored finals week
5. Taken the second part of the exam

+

Things students should have done over break

1. Learned relatives names
2. Started something
3. Finished something
4. Kept Uncle Bob sober
5. No Ferguson at the dinner table.

