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**Hotel life** Students share the perks of living in Lakeside Hall.







# UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Since last year, several ongoing projects have continued across campus as Rose-Hulman continues to strive for greatness.

## The "Great" Debate moves from ideas to actions

Claire Stark • staff writer

Last year, under the guidance of President Branam, a committee of 14 faculty and staff was put together to create a strategic plan to bring Rose-Hulman from "best" to "great." Almost a year later and after talking to over 2000 continuants, including foundations, students and alumni, the committee decided on six guiding principles and goals to create a future vision of Rose-Hulman. Student input was generated last year through easels on campus to write ideas, t-shirt giveaways, and information tables, which were all student led. Throughout the summer,

the year was shaped into a strategic plan. This article as well as two others will cover all the goals, the people who helped shaped them, and how it will affect today's students and tomorrow's.

The Great Debate started with the school's mission statement: "To provide our students with the world's best undergraduate education in science, engineering and mathematics in an environment of individual attention and support." Each goal is broken down into subideas of how they can be created. The first goal is to create a better learning environment. Dr. Williams, the Executive Director of Institutional Research all the data collected through Planning and Assignment, said, "Teaching and learning are the core of Rose-Hulman. The Center for Teaching and Learning needs to be a place where new teaching practices can flourish as well as strengthening traditional teaching goals." Dr. Williams is one of the faculty members who has been involved throughout the entire "Great Debate." This will be accomplished by an innovation fund to help support ideas like HERE and IROP as well as online and hybrid classes. This goal also seeks to create a new state-of-the-art teaching and learning center in the form of a new building.

Continued on page 3

#### SRC changes fueled by student feedback

Jason Latimer • copy editor

The SRC received a slew of renovations and enhancements over the summer, the most notable being Hulbert Arena's resanded and repainted floor and the weight and cardio rooms' revamped floors. Additionally, there were a number of small improvements made to various facilities.

The facelift to the arena basketball court included the repair of 85 wooden boards, a resanding of the whole floor, and a new paint scheme based on input from students, teams, and coaches. According to SRC Facilities Director Matt Sinclair,

"What you see out there is kind of a mix of what all those suggestions were." Staff also installed new basketball goals in both the arena and the field house.

The average basketball court can last about 10 years before needing to be repaired, Sinclair said. The Hulbert Arena floor lasted 50 percent longer than usual lifespan, a feat Sinclair credits to Rose's custodial staff. "They take really good care of it, like it's their baby," he said. "They're relentless. They're on it all the

Continued on page 3

# Root quad construction continues

Ranjana Chandramouli • staff writer

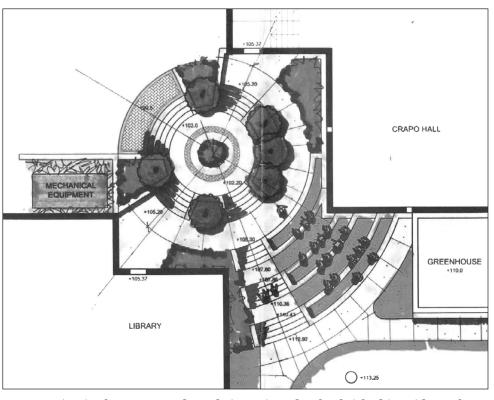
The Root Quadrangle welcomed students back to a new school year with some big changes from the summer.

Last year, Rose decided to implement a plan over the summer that would make effective and efficient use of the area between the quad, Crapo Hall, and the lower entrance to the Learning Center. The first completed project was the William Cook Lab for Bioscience Research, which was made possible by a contribution from Carl Cook. According to Mike Taylor, Senior Director of Facilities Operations here at Rose, the new 1,350-square-foot facility "will allow students to investigate the biological sciences through...study of plant life and organisms." Though a noble goal, the construction in the small space between the Root Quad and Crapo Hall proved to be a challenge as work continued over the summer. Taylor remarked that underground utilities, rain, and "tight physical space... [while] utilizing heavy excavation equipment" were just a few of the challenges encountered while working. While the entire process, from planning to execution, was

intensive and tricky, the 'greenhouse' was completed in August of this year.

Facilities is still working to fully furnish the greenhouse to optimize its function. Dr. Jameel Ahmed, the Department Head of Applied Biology and Biomedical Engineering, remarked that, while there are a few things to complete before classes can use the greenhouse, they should be ready to "start using the greenhouse to support biology classes and research by winter quarter." Ahmed also expressed a hope to create a fully functional prep area next to the greenhouse in the next year.

Construction still continues on the new courtyard between Crapo Hall and the Logan Library. The administration hoped to create a "pedestrian connection" between the two structures and the Root Quadrangle - an "ideal location," according to Taylor. The courtyard will have new lighting, greenery, and seating areas. There will also be an amphitheater-like space to serve as an outdoor classroom artwork. This new addition to campus is tentatively scheduled to be completed by October 10, depending on weather.



and will have places to hang even more Construction in the Root Quadrangle is projected to be finished in mid-October, connecting the space between Crapo Hall and Logan Library.

**Garmong Construction** 

#### Homecoming Banner and Cheer Contests Entry Forms and Rules Available at the Union Office or by contacting Durushka Ahmed at ahmeddi@rose-hulman.edu Deadline: 12pm September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012

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http://printable-puzzles.com



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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.

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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 include submissions in the online edition at thorn.rose-hulman.edu, to edit submissions insofar 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.

The views expressed herein are those of their respective authors and, with the exception of the Staff View, do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or the Rose-Hulman community.

### Lakeside Hall's first residents pleased with results

Ranjana Chandramouli staff writer

The first set of Lakeside Hall residents moved in before the start of the school year. The new residence hall received positive feedback. Several residents were gracious enough to give us their personal opinions of the living quarters.

"The rooms are really nice, ...like I am living in a hotel. I am able to look down either side of the hall just by stepping out of my room. The lobby is nice because it allows people to hang out and be a little loud outside of their room. The one big change I think all of us RA's here would want to make would be to the doors. The doors are like hotel doors, as in they shut automatically. This is bad for the open-door policy we like to create on the floors, but all the residents are working around it, and we got door stops to help keep them open."

– Ashley Kohls, Senior ME, RA on 3rd floor

"I like the way that the rooms are set up. With the bedrooms on one side of the apartment, it becomes more private and you are less disturbed when you are sleeping. I like the dark finish of the furniture. The new apartments will be a good living space for this year and years to come for students."

– Jaci Dalton, Junior EE

"I love the fact that Lakeside Hall is doing its part to conserve energy resources. The biggest thing I would change would be to have an aluminum and paper/ cardboard recycling bin along with our trash cans in our rooms so that it is much easier to reduce waste."

Chelsea Copenhaver, Junior







Arda Tugay • guest photographer

# "Great" Debate, continued from page 1

One of the truly innovative ideas is increasing recognition and support for professors though the creation of endowed chairs, as well as awards and an industry boot camp for professors without industrial experience. Currently, Rose has only one award for teaching and almost no set recognition system for research or student outreach.

The second guiding principle is to prepare students for all kinds of futures. Brian Cherbak, a senior electri-

cal engineer, said about this goal, "this point is the most broad topic for students. The ability to tailor your degree and college experience will help in the next stage of life whether it be industry or graduate school". This includes having students learn what type of jobs are available through speakers, industry connections, and professional mentorships. Another plan to prepare students for jobs is by tailoring the curriculum and extracurricular and profes-

sional activities. This could include an extracurricular transcript to show achievements in clubs, sports, and service. One of the most interesting sub-ideas is to have each student have one meaningful international experience. This could be done by creating more university partnerships, evaluating majors to allow for more study abroad, and more financial support for students who study in foreign countries. The last sub idea is to empower students to deal with complexity. This goal was overwhelmingly supported by alumni. In essence, it is the ability to understand and work with multiple groups and projects at the same time. This goal will be accomplished by making sure students have the right knowledge to deal with difficult situations. As Dr. Williams stated, "[Students learn] skills that can go anywhere. Lots of the problems in the world can be solved though engineering, whether it be water, power,

politics, or education. The ability to problem-solve can be used anywhere and is needed everywhere."

The student group that worked with the "Great" Debate is currently reforming what the group's goals are and how to tackle them. As Brian Cherbak said, "Things will start going this year. If there is anyone feeling passionate about these goals and wanting them to happen, they should contact any of the faculty and staff team."

into the floor to eliminate tripping hazards. According to Sinclair, Rose's weight room floor survived almost twice as long as it should have without repairs, another achievement Sinclair recognizes the school's custodians for. The SRC ordered five new half racks for the room, with two already in place. The cardio room also received new flooring.

Faculty stayed busy this summer with other projects as well, including cleaning and repairing tiles in the SRC pool, replacing the wells at the intramural and baseball fields, and adding fans to the weight and cardio rooms. "From the day after commencement starts to the day you guys get back, we start with all our projects," Sinclair said."

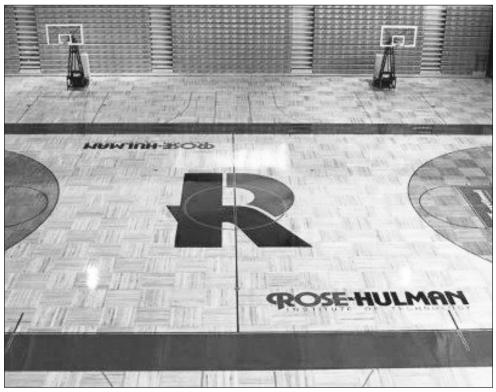
Sinclair outlined a few projects he would like to see completed in the future, including new curtains in the field house, new restrooms and

SRC administration redid the team rooms at the soccer and baseweight room floor with a new Sport ball fields, a climbing wall installed Impact surface and integrated the in the SRC, and overall expansion of dumbbell station mat and platforms programs and facilities at the center. He also emphasized that the SRC was committed to serving students and described how important student suggestions were to the center's future.

"New things like (the rock wall), it's always generated from student input," he said. "When we say this is a student facility, we really do 90 percent of stuff for students."

Sinclair explained that some work at the SRC, like repairing and replacing worn out utilities, necessitated action that didn't require student involvement. However, for large-scale projects, students were indispensable to the decision-making process.

"When it comes to designing something, we always get student input," he said. "As long as it will work and it's functional and it's good for the school, I'm going with the student input. I would say most of our projects are student-driven."



Hulbert Arena underwent a facelift over the summer and is ready for the fall volleyball and winter basketball seasons.

Rose-Hulman News

# THE DARK KNIGHT RISES

#### THE SEQUELS WE WANTED - BUT NOT THE SEQUELS WE DESERVED

Jason Latimer • copy editor

The Caped Crusader's latest blockbuster hit has achieved critical success since it debuted in July and already sits at number 26 on IMDB's top movies of all time, between "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Silence of the Lambs". Christopher Nolan's conclusion to his trilogy was an utter success at the box office, grossing over \$1 billion and second only to "The Avengers" this summer. It's gar-

nered 87 percent critic and 92 percent audience approval ratings, scores that – although not perfect – demand admiration in the industry.

Yet, despite all of these achievements, "The Dark Knight Rises" was a bit of a letdown. Even among its most loyal fans, there's a general acknowledgement that the film didn't quite live up to the legacy of its predecessor, which sits at number 8 on the same IMDB list. So why wasn't "Rises" as good as "The Dark Knight"?

Even though they were both about Batman, they were two entirely different movies. "Dark Knight" had a narrow, driven, and streamlined narrative. Yes, it was a cerebral thriller that expected you to think, but the plot was a clearly defined succession of events that was easy to follow.

"Rises", on the other hand, was sprawling with characters and backstories. Most of the movie was spent trying to build

up tremendous momentum from multiple directions, which is tough to pull off well. In fact, virtually the whole first half of the movie was spent leading up to Bane's master scheme. But that's what a movie of this scope and size requires. It needs all of the structure and narrative support that it can get in order to come off as grand and epic as was intended. Otherwise, it just feels bloated and pretentious without any substance. But in order to do that, it needed time, time that the movie didn't have.

That's why we should have been watching "The Dark Knight Rises: Part One" this summer. Rises' grandiose plot seemed empty and lacked framework that Nolan probably had to rush through to keep it under three hours. Had he split the movie into two parts, with a break right after Gotham's isolation, he would have had time to strengthen characters' relationships and expand upon the backdrop to Batman's final battle. "Part Two" would then include Batman's escape from figurative Hell, his return to Gotham that was completely skipped over, and the heroic rescue of his city, albeit with more fights, explosions, and general Batman awesomeness.

Although the storyline was the main selling point of the movie, there were many other aspects that added to the film's quality. The acting was excellent: although the main cast was pretty much a reunion of Nolan's "Inception", Christian Bale (Batman), Tom Hardy (Bane), Joseph Gordon-Levitt (John Blake), and Marion Cotillard (Miranda Tate) fit into Gotham just as well as they fit in Inception's dream-realm. And, if Hardy's entire performance was an impression of Sean Connery, he nailed it. Returning again were two of the industry's most experienced, and quite frankly oldest

veterans, Morgan Freeman (Lucius Fox) and Michael Caine (Alfred Pennyworth). Freeman has always been simply spectacular, but "Rises" may be Caine's best work yet. There are few movies that have made me cry, but this one, thanks to

When I first discovered that Batman would have sidekicks in "Rises", I was initially a little wary. The only assistance this hero was supposed to have was what was on his utility belt. However, after



watching the movie, I was pleased by Anne Hathaway's femme fatale performance as Catwoman. I always love a good reluctant hero, and I mean, come on... it's Catwoman.

Once again, Nolan has outdone himself in presentation, not because of great special effects but because of their absence. Throughout the trilogy, Nolan has tried to make his films look as real as possible by literally creating – and destroying - what you see on film. The Batmobile and its scenes in "Dark Knight" were all real, including when they blew it up. Where most filmmakers would create a digital Batcopter, Nolan made a real one. His commitment to graphic realism has paid off, creating one of the most believable and realistic superheroes on the silver screen.

I wanted to write an analysis of the plot themes and parallels within the trilogy itself, but for the sake of spoilers, I decided against it. Still, even without recognizing its literary techniques, anyone who likes superhero movies or appreciates good filmmaking in general should enjoy "The Dark Knight Rises". I respect Nolan for his attempt at this writing style that is so drastically different from the tight storyline of "The Dark Knight", but ultimately, it turns out mediocre, simply because he ran out of time and had to gut a lot of narrative foundation. However, it retains the key tenants of his prior Batman movies and delivers an exciting and stirring conclusion, even if we did wish for a grander of a finale.

Rating:



#### THE KNIGHT HAS FALLEN - YOU HAVE MY PERMISSION TO CRY

Bethany Martin • guest writer

The haunting voice of a prepubescent boy singing the national anthem at a doomed football game was the soundtrack to the many months before "The Dark Knight Rises" entered theaters, and the sound of me banging my head against a brick wall was the soundtrack to the hours after the show.

For me, the most offending part of the movie was when the esteemed is no possible way for her to sprint and then fire off a couple of cartwheels without breaking every bone in her body. I understand that she has "cat-like" qualities, but no cat I have ever seen, even on those viral videos, can ride a batmotorcycle with heels like that.

I'd like to take this time to mention that someone in the make-up department forgot that three thousand police officers stuck underground for months on end would be the scruffiest,

> bearded, homeless looking men that would be accompanied by a stench so overpowering that you can see the haze ascending from their unwashed bodies. And, someone in special effects forgot the laws of physics. The most noticeable even was when Blake was locked in a battle with one of Bane's goonies and he shot the side of the truck and the bullet ricocheted and went right through Blake's attacker.

> I don't want to harp on the strategic flaws of Mr. Wayne to engineer a bat-shaped bonfire on the top of a bridge, but really, what did that accomplish? Another big time-wasting favorite of mine is the make-out session Batman and Catwoman share as a nuclear, repeat NUCLEAR, bomb is nearing explosion. Not only do they need to relieve their sexual tension in front of a dead woman, but also as millions of lives are slipping through their hands. I cannot stress enough how nuclear this bomb is, but no, it is time for the romantic climax of the movie instead of doing the logical thing and moving

the bomb as far away from the innocent lives of Gotham.

After the bomb blows in the middle of a huge body of water there is no mention of the inevitable nuclear fallout

imdb.com

Bruce Wayne's back was broken by Bane and then was miraculously fixed by a prison doctor and sheer will. As a klutzy athlete I have had my fair share of simple injuries that took months and

months to recover and they were not even close to the serays that would involve putwould take the amenities of that our beloved Batman is from a serious back injury in less than five months, gains

his original strength, and endures several backbreaking falls trying to crawl out of the prison hole. Nobody, not even Batman, could stay together after all of that focused physical stress. The simplest remedy I can come up with off the top of my head is to just lengthen the time it would take the bomb to go off and let the poor man recuperate for a year or so.

Now I would like to talk about the extremely tight fitting leather outfit and six in. stiletto heels that Anne Hathaway rocked throughout the entire movie. Even as a straight female I can tell you that Ms. Hathaway was hot, but also as a female I could eventually see past this and realize that a suit that tight and heels that high would restrict the kind of gymnastics a world-class cat burglar would need to employ. Unless she has ankles of reinforced steel, there

verity of a dislocated spine. The amount of care and x- Nobody, not even Batting poor Mr. Wayne back together and avoid paralysis man, could stay toa ridiculously expensive hospital. Now, let us imagine gether after all that fonot paralyzed, and remember that he recovers fully **cused physicial stress**.

> that would be bound to happen after an event such as that, but no even Batman, who was the closest to the blast, has not the slightest symptom of radiation poisoning at his happy little table at the end of the movie. There is not a trace of worry or trouble because his girlfriend has been mystically erased from all digital records by a mysterious thumb drive and he is presumed dead by all his enemies. This surprisingly bright ending to one of the "Dark"-est trilogies was unexpected and a bit contrived, but I cannot complain because at least it ended.

Rating:



## Not fully prepared: the lesser-known truth

Garrett Meyer • staff writer

generation seems fantastically shortchanged in our choice to divide sex and the stork. In a survey of seventy-one Percopo Hall sophomores, sixty replied that avoiding pregnancy with over 95% certainty means one of only two things: complete abstinence or the use of mechanical or chemical means to suppress our fertility. The stigmas, statistics, and safety of these two methods vary by interpretation, but they are supposedly all we have.

Both options can leave us dissatisfied. Complete abstinence limits the union and pleasure possible in sexual intimacy. It is the only absolutely certain method short of bodily modification, but couples the world over believe that it throws the bathwater out with the potential baby.

Contraception, though, has its own downsides that

populations when flushed out of women into the water supply and since billions of latex condoms are discarded every year. Hormonal contraception in particularlong hailed for its simplicity, effectiveness, and topical relief of some women's health issues—has been linked to lower libido and severely elevated risk of breast cancer. To be fair, research also indicates that "the pill" may lower risk of other cancers, but consuming what the International Agency for Research on Cancer classifies as a human carcinogen in oral contraceptives for our "problem" of fertility can hardly be an ideal solution.

As a further slap, the ends may be falling just as short as the means. Whatever the case-by-case effects of contraception, 49% of all 2006 US pregnancies were still unintended. More than half of all births to American women



Much like this dart, the best-known methods for birth control or family planning today don't quite hit the desired target.

www.123rf.com/

The Center for Disease Control taugnt truth is this: one needs neither complete abestimates nineteen million new traception to regulate dirth. Fertility is something that of sexually transmitted is called Natural Family cases diseases each year in the United

must be overlooked. It channels sexuality through highly profitable commercial products and creates a perspective in which childbirth is called failure. It represents an unexpected pollutant, as contraception with synthetic estrogen can devastate fish

States.

under thirty are out of wedlock. The Center for Disease Control estimates that there are about nineteen million new sexually transmitted infection cases each year in the United States. These markers do not reflect the promise that we can control with



NFP in general is correlated to a joyfully low divorce rate of less than five percent. www.fulltiltmarriage.com/

contraception the outcomes of our own sexual decisions. But what other choice do we have?

incredibly under-The taught truth is this: one stinence nor artificial contraception to regulate birth. can be understood and accommodated through what Planning (NFP) rather than artificially opposed and ignored through contraception. The most common NFP methods employ the knowledge that a woman has a definite window of fertility in her menstrual cycle and is otherwise infertile. This is because a sperm can survive at most five days inside a woman and an egg (after being released from the ovary in a once-a-cycle occurhours of viability. Due to the hormones that control this measurable indicators of

her current position within her cycle. These symptoms include clear distinctions in body temperature, cervical mucus consistency, and cervix position. They are concrete enough that even irregular cycles are strongly traceable. By taking a few minutes a day to observe, chart, and understand them, couples can determine the woman's underlying hormonal imbalances, date of conception, and most practically, fertility. They then have the choice to engage in intercourse during the woman's fertile or infertile times to achieve or avoid pregnancy.

NFP has no side effects, few costs, and zero environmental impact as it is just applied self-knowledge. Though NFP is not easy, women who use "the pill" as a means of avoiding pregnancy are more than twice as likely to stop doing so within a year compared with users of the Creighton Model FertilityCare System, a branded form of NFP, and NFP use in general is correlated to a joyfully low divorce rate of less than five percent. Couples practicing it can discover the root causes of female conditions like premenstrual syndrome and menstrual cramping, allowing for actual treatment

It would be foolish to say there are no drawbacks to NFP and its methods. First, it presumes that we have legitimate need to separate sex from children at all. This is not a given because controlling our fertility is not a virtue in itself. If driven by a greater good, however, NFP still demands constant communication from a couple. This makes it incompatible with hookups and casual sex. It cannot be combined with hormonal contraception, as a woman cannot follow her natural cycle if it has been hormonally replaced to negate her partner's constant fertility with her constant

#### One needs neither complete abrence) has only twenty-four stinence nor artificial contracepdance, a woman gives off tion to regulate birth.

through changes in diet or infertility. And finally, if one specific hormonal therapy instead of voiding a wom- pregnancy, NFP poses the inan's natural cycle for that of convenience of not being able a pregnant woman to alleviate symptoms as hormonal contraceptives do. The final kicker is that, speaking with rough numbers, periodically abstaining from sex on the eight fertile days of a twenty-eight-day cycle can be as statistically effective as any contraceptive in avoiding pregnancy over a year, with numbers as high as 98.6% coming from widely credited studies.

wishes to exercise it to avoid to have childless sex at every

Whether this inconvenience lessens or fulfills our sexual nature and whether it makes contraception the better choice are questions of value. But what cannot be questioned is that not another generation should pass into adulthood as uninformed as we are of our human bodies and our inbuilt capability to plan our families.

TO WRITE FOR THE ROSE THORN, EMAIL YOUR IDEAS TO THORN@ROSE-HULMAN.EDU! WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

### Getting fit, getting big

Vernon Edwards • guest writer

Without question the most important attribute in working out, especially if you're using free weights, is your form. Bad form can get you injured quickly, or even worse slowly grind at your body for years until something fails and you have long term irreversible injuries. What I've most commonly seen are shoulder and back injuries. Learn how to do those Olympic lifts before you start stacking on the plates.

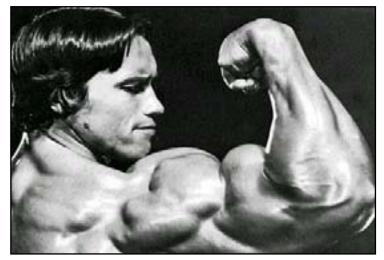
Also with good form you'll see better results. Little things like squeezing at the apex of your contractions and proper breathing do make a difference.

The next most important attribute is consistency. This is what separates the big guys from the small fries. Most people would say nutrition or the amount of protein you eat is what separates the people with big muscle gains from the rest. While nutrition makes a world of a difference in your size, it's only an aide to help fuel and repair your hard work in the gym. If you are one of those guys who works out for a few weeks, then loses the next few weeks to being too tired, lazy, or hung over, to make it to the gym, all the protein in the world is not going to build muscle.

There are so many other aspects of body building that it is hard to decide what the third most important attribute is. I'll have to call it a tie between having a good exercise program and nutrition. The two go hand in hand. You're not going to get good results by doing one and ignoring the other.

Form, consistency, exercise program, nutrition is all it

Stay Dedicated, Stay Hungry, Get Big.



Consistently working out is key to getting the body you want. http://jewishjournal.com

#### An appendix to my adventures

Marcus Willerscheidt • editor-in-chief

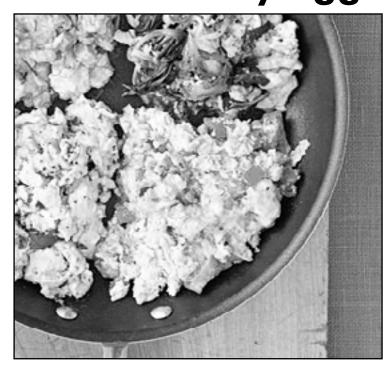
Nobody wants to go to the emergency room, but if you're ever there, why not make the best of it? This last summer I got my appendix out. The appendix, for all those who don't know, is a small vestigial structure connected to the colon located near the junction of the small and large intestines. Although volumes could be written on this funny little organ, its characteristics, and whether or not it's necessary -- many probably have been, I'd like to draw your attention to my charming trip to the hospital. The adventure began with uncomfortable feelings that afternoon. By the evening, I was no longer

able to stand up straight, and I was experiencing tightness in my abdomen. As the night wore on, I began to feel nauseous in addition to my other symptoms, and I mistook my malady for the influenza. However, when the pain finally came at two o'clock in the morning, my parents and I decided it was time to go to the emergency room. What followed were remarkable displays of kindness from checkin to check-out. I was taken through endless corridors in what seemed like a labyrinthine hospital. But, my adventure did not end there. I was given contrast at about three in the morning mixed with first cranberry juice then apple juice. To my dismay, neither masked the taste of the bitter

help show organs in the CT scan I had about half an hour later. The nurse told me that my appendix had swollen, but it had not burst. In addition, the nurse administered pain killers to me to help me get through the night. My appendectomy was scheduled for the next day, and the rest of the night I spent meeting many of the night shift staff. The next morning, after a relatively sleepless night, I cheerfully went from pre-op to the operation room. Really the whole procedure would have been a blast had it not been for the need for an appendectomy. The staff was very nice, and the jokes didn't stop. I would detail the operating room, but I can hardly

fluid. The contrast was necessary to remember it. The anesthesiologist was that good. I know I went into a room with a lot of lights and electrical equipment, and we started a conversation about something, but I don't even remember what at this point. I woke up later that afternoon; the surgery had taken approximately an hour. And, I woke up hoping for an impressive scar. Unfortunately, the scars these days aren't what they used to be. The procedure was done laparoscopically and thus I have three small scars that I fear may disappear at some point, so much for that shark story! The food wasn't great I'll admit, but I was out that night and was able to recover at home from there on.

#### Quick n' dirty eggs



The variations on eggs are near endless and delicious!

http:// myrecipes.timeinc.net

#### Richard Thai • opinions editor

If there's anything every college kid should have learned how to do after graduating is how to cook eggs. It's quick, it's easy, and it's delicious. But one of my favorite things about cooking eggs is how easy it is to add a flavor that gives it a real kick! Here's one of my favorite flavorful variants of college-kid eggs:

- 2 eggs
- ½ cup of salsa (preferably fresh garden)
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 2 tbsp of olive oil

That's really all it takes.

Coat a large sauce pan with olive oil and heat it over medium heat. Cook the salsa until it's free of most moisture. Be careful not to overcook it, burnt tomatoes are horrid! Add in your eggs and make sure the salsa mixes well into it. When your eggs start to solidify, add in salt and pepper as desired. When it looks like it's almost ready (3-5 minutes), lower the heat and it's ready to

Try adding in extra vegetables and/or seasoning with the salt and pepper to give it your own distinctive

#### **RHIT Freethinkers Unite:**

Come hear JT Eberhard. co-founder of Skepticon, speak about

#### **Atheism and Morality**



3 PM Saturday Sept. 8th



RHIT freethinkers are uniting to form a new club. With JT's inaugural presentation, students are invited to explore topics like atheism, arguments for the existence of God, and living a secular life.

A Q&A session with the speaker will follow.

contact coppinge@rose-hulman.edu for more information



# Fightin' Engineers lose close battle versus Kalamazoo College

Kurtis Zimmerman • news editor

Four touchdowns and a safety is typically enough to send a football team back to the locker room celebrating, but a pair of missed opportunities on point-after attempts left the Fightin' Engineers one point short in their 28 - 29 season-opening loss Saturday night. Kalamazoo College walked away with the win after a botched kick attempt that could have tied the game at 29.

The game stole pages from an inspirational movie at the onset, as an intercepted pass from senior quarterback Mitch Snyder found the Kalamazoo Hornets deep in their own territory. A pair of plays later and a tackle by junior D.J. Lawson in the end zone put two points on the board to start the game with the Engineers' winning defense.

The teams traded empty drives until a sack late in the first quarter sent the ball out of Snyder's hands into the arms of a Kalamazoo defender, who sprinted far into En-

gineer territory before being at halftime. tackled. The Hornets went up 7 - 2 off a couple of quick runs with just a few minutes left in the quarter.

The Engineers made quick work of the clock, and Snyder connected to freshman

Jacob Dye on a fifteenyard pass to regain the lead for Rose-Hulman, - 7. A missed point-after attempt meant the score remained the same leading into the second quarter.

Before first half wound down, teams traded touchdowns to bring the

score to 15 - 14, Rose-Hulman's advantage. Kalamazoo scored off a pair of passes and a 27-yard run to the end zone to take the lead 22 - 15

The score remained unchanged until another forced fumble by Snyder set Kalamazoo up in Engineer territory, where a few short runs sent the Hornets back to the end zone, and up 29



A 60-yard run by Rose-Hulman running back Kyle Kovach earned him the inaugural HCAC Play of the Week award.

- 15. With another quarter remaining in regulation, the Engineers had plenty of time to catch up, and they did just

Keeping the Hornets scoreless in the fourth quarter, Snyder connected with Dye again on a 40-yard pass in the end zone to make it a seven-point game with 14 minutes of regulation still on the clock. Over ten min-

> less drives went by, and just two and a half minutes remained on the clock. The Fightin' Engineers had to move quickly capitalize on this drive.

utes of fruit-

And they did. Snyder could not connect with junior Marcus Washington Rose-Hulman Athletics on the first pass play, but

> on the following play, senior Kyle Kovach broke several tackles to rush for a 60-yard haul to the endzone, setting up the special teams tying

point-after.

But the stars did not align for this Rose-Hulman team. The ball was fumbled on the snap, sending the players into a panic that ended in an incomplete pass rather than the tying point kicked through the uprights. Kalamazoo was able to burn the rest of the clock to send the disappointed Engineer team home with a loss.

Kovach rushed for 223 yards and scored two of the four touchdowns, with Dye connecting on Snyder's passes for the other two to lead the game. Junior Craig Voges led the defense with an impressive twelve tackles, and senior Ryan Gallagher had eleven tackles and one forced fumble.

The Engineers dropped to o - 1, while Kalamazoo went up 1 - 0. The Engineers travel to Centre College this Saturday for their second matchup of the season. They return home on September 22 for the Homecoming game against Manchester College.

# Volleyball team victorious at Illinois College Invitational

Matt Dierksmeier • sports editor

To commence the 2012 season, the Rose-Hulman women's volleyball team partook in the Illinois College Invitational this past weekend. Play for the Fightin' Engineers began on

Saturday with two matches against both Au-College rora Illinois and College, in which Rose-Hulman won each in three sets.

On Sun-Roseday, Hulman first faced against MacMurray College, defeating Mac-

Murray 25 - 20, 25 - 15, 25 - 15. The Fightin' Engineers then moved on to the championship match against Culver-Stockton. In the opening set, Rose-Hulman dropped their first of the tournament, 16 - 25. The Ladv Engineers then bounced back to win the second set 25 - 18. Culver-Stockton would then go on to win the third set, 17 - 25. Rose-Hulman now needed to win the next two sets to capture the championship.

In a tightly fought fourth set, Rose-Hulman extended the match, winning 25 - 21. In a determining fifth set, the Lady Engineers bested Culver-Stockton 15 - 10 to capture the Illinois College Invitational champi-



The 2012 Rose-Hulman volleyball team looks to continue their success after making it to NCAA Division III Tournament last season.

Rose-Hulman Athletics Fightin'

onship. Rose-Hulman senior Anna Lewer was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Lewer recorded 53 kills over the span of the tournament, including 12 in the championship match. Also earning accolades for Rose-Hulman was junior Kate Dangel with her all-tournament team nomination.

The Rose-Hulman team then traveled away on Wednesday to take on Greenville College. The Fightin' Engineers fell in the first two sets, but battled back in the third to force a fourth set. Greenville though would go on to win the fourth set, taking the match by a final score of 25 - 20, 25 - 19, 16 - 25, 25 - 21. Rose-

> Hulman junior Casey Levitt recorded 16 kills, while freshman Sarah Jensen led the team with aces and added 39 assists. The team currently stands at 4

T h e Engineers

will be in action next as they host the annual Rose-Hulman Volleyball Invitational this weekend. Play begins at 1 pm on Saturday when Rose-Hulman takes on DePauw University. At the conclusion of that match, they will then play Centre College at 3 pm. On Sunday, the Fightin' Engineers will take on Webster College and Millikin University at 11 am and 1 pm, respectively.

# Women's soccer takes two of three

Matt Dierksmeier • sports editor

The Rose-Hulman women's soccer team played their first game of the season against North Park University last Saturday. North Park struck first with a first half goal, but Rose-Hulman would make up for it in the second half. Junior Amanda Kingman scored one from inside the box in the 73rd minute to level the score. A penalty kick was awarded to Rose-Hulman in the final minutes, and was put in by freshman Katie DeMoss to help pull out a 2-1 victory.

Rose-Hulman traveled to take on Wilm-

ington College Sunday. The score remained level in the first half as the teams battled the steady rain. With the game almost over, of Wilmington College played the role of spoiler as a

shot from Sarah Watters struck the back of the net in the 90th minute.

The team was back in

action on Wednesday at Greenville College. In another closely contested match, Rose-Hulman was able to pull out a 1 - 0 victory with strong offensive and defensive efforts. The deciding goal came from Rose-Hulman freshman Hayley Gilliam in the 52nd minute. In the game, Rose-Hulman outshot the Panthers of Greenville College 9 - 5 and held a 9 - 1 advantage in corner kicks. Freshman Lucinda Combs recorded four saves in the shutout win

The team currently stands 2 - 1 on the season. Their next action will be against Marian College in Indianap-



the Quakers The women's soccer team will play their first home game this Sunday against Centre College at 2 pm.

Rose-Hulman Athletics

olis on Saturday, returning home on Sunday to take on Centre College starting at 2

# Announcing: wacky prof quote raffle competition

This quarter marks the second quarterly (except summer) official super awesome mega crazy Wacky Prof Quote Raffle Competition Giveaway in which one student will win a \$25 Visa gift card by sending in their wacky prof quotes! Unfortunately, we could not get permission to have a death-defying motorcycle stunt competition to determine the winner, so here's how it'll work...

1. Next time your professor says something funny, wacky, or weird, send an email to thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu with the quote and professor's name.

2. If the quote makes it onto the flipside (it may take two weeks), a ticket with your name will be entered into the raffle. For each quote you get onto the page, you will receive a ticket into the raffle. If there are multiple submissions for a quote, each submitter will receive a

3. Each submitter, regardless of whether the quote gets on the page, will also receive one positive thought on behalf of the Cool Guy from the Thorn.

4. At the end of the quarter, the raffle will be drawn, and one student will receive a \$25

# THE OST EG CHRONICLES Part |: This is a "True" Story...

#### Man Daginot • guest writer

You've seen him hobbling around campus with that metal pole extruding from his knee. You might have even had the enjoyment to talk to this young fellow. Anyway, as I know you all are wondering how that kid really lost his leg. So, allow me to enlighten you all... This is a true story.

The Setting: Moscow, Russia. December,

Their Mission: Extract Russian Intelligence Satellite photos taken over U.S. soil

My Mission: Track down my sweet Svetlana Yevgonova and seduce her.

I was 8 years old, doing reconnaissance work for SCIA (Secret CIA). It is so secret that the executive management of Area 51 does not know of its existence. Anyway, I found myself in the middle of frostbitten Moscow in the dead of winter. The SCIA gave me a window of 24 hours total in Moscow to extract the photos. So... I translated that to 24 hours to track down my beloved Svetlana, seduce her, and make some sweet Russian reconnaissance. If I had time to spare, then maybe I'd go to google maps and download a few pictures of some farms in Kansas or something to keep them happy. Finding her was too easy... I just had to go to the first place I always go after I land, the 'Murican Embassy. So there I was, tracing her steps from the 'Murican Embassy where she had been trying to convince some avid 'Muricans to stop driving their Ferd Fteenthousands and become more fuel efficient. Good luck. Although, it was rather difficult after passing the embassy not to give in to the rich smell of that tempting bacon wrapped corn on the cob they were devouring on the other side of the glass. I digress. Svetlana entered a rather recently refurbished apartment complex with a lion fountain in the courtyard... yes, still running in below zero temperatures, Russians... right? She glanced neither right nor left, but I knew she knew that I knew that she knew I was there behind her. We got to the grand glass elevator, but I beat her to the button. Like a boss. As we were waiting there for the elevator to open up, I decided to make some sweet small talk.

"Hey, did you get the new Nintendo 64 yet?" I

"Ummm... no, what's that?"

"...." I responded.

After about a minute of glaring directly into her ignorant face, I managed to string together a few words.

"Ok, so you're telling me you've never shot-put Bowser off of his floating volcano island?... You've never ran headlong into Chomp Chomp as vaulted you off of Rainbow Road!?... You've never... ughhhh!"

She clearly did not understand my frustration. None-

theless, I believe I started off on the right foot with our grand reunion.

Stay tuned next week for more of...

The Lost Leg Chronicles

## **Top "10" Ten**

"Useful" advice for the freshman class

#### thorn staff • a heck of a bunch

- If you don't drink coffee, start tomorrow. of genetalia into the snow. Not only is it If you do drink coffe, stop tomorrow! Doing this will keep your mind sharp and ac-
- 9. Pull as many all-nighters as you possibly can. The "fun" you get out of them compounds with each consecutive night you stay up.
- 8. Wait until 5th period to go to lunch every day. Most people go during 4th or 6th, so the line should be at its shortest.
- 7. Due tomorrow? Do tomorrow. Most professors don't require homework to be turned in. And its rarely suggested to even attempt it.
- 6. If you want Subway, make sure you get there right when meal exchange starts to beat the late night rush.

- 10. Change all of your habits right away. 5. If it snows this winter, draw a bunch clever, but EH will think you're the coolest kid on campus.
  - 4. Don't exercise! If you are physically tired today you will be mentally tired tomorrow. Instead, spend the evening playing video games and eating delicious cheesy nachos. You won't regret it.
  - 3. Sharepoint is a lot like Twitter; everybody wants to read what you have to say. Make sure you put them up as fast as you can and as often as you can.
  - 2. Sign up for as many email lists as possible (or all of them if you can!). In general, the more emails you have the easier it is to get involved in campus activities.
    - 1. It only gets easier from here on out.

#### **Breaking: Flipside needs** your help!

Still pays nothing

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO PUT CONTENT ON THE FLIPSIDE?

#### PROBABLY NOT.

But seriously, if you can do any of these things...

- Write funny things (satire, made up stories, etc.)
- Come up with hilarious ideas
- Draw (minimum ability requirement is stick figures)

then we'd love to have your help to make this page as great as possible. So if you'd like to try your hand at it, send me your ideas or writings to thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu.

Wacky prof quotes

Dr. Minster. What is this, an adult who plays vidja games? I don't know if I

"I don't know if you know this or not, but I may be Dragonborn."-

Since it's first week there aren't a whole lot of quotes. So here are some of last year's leftovers to get the ball rolling! Note: professors name are omitted due to "quote expiration" which was just made up right

"Put an organ in the blender, blend, ...steps..., and you get an enzyme. That's how I see it."

"You sound like a coach athletic director, just full of empty buzzwords."

"Spock kind of has Justin Bieber hair."

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