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Rose-Hulman Scholar

The Rose Thorn Archive

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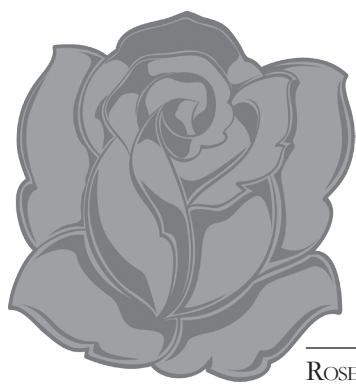
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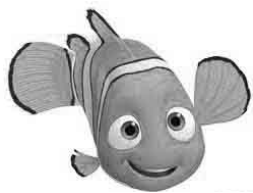
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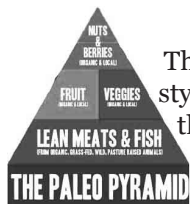


THE ROSE THORN

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“Nemo” brings the animated classic to 3D. **Page 4**



The “Paleo” diet lifestyle can help you avoid the junk. **Page 5**



Could your late-night caffeine fix be killing you? **Page 6**



Engineers dominate Homecoming events. **Page 7**

The state of the economy

ROSE PROFESSORS DISCUSS ISSUES DRIVING 2012 ELECTION

Ranjana Chandramouli • staff writer

On Tuesday, four professors from the HSS department enlightened a nearly full classroom of students, faculty and staff about the key economic issues that are factors in the upcoming presidential

election.

Among the topics discussed were the unemployment rate, the risk of increasing inflation, the misery index, long-term issues due to our current economic state, the debt crisis, the fiscal cliff, and how the current economic state can either

help or hurt a presidential candidate.

Drs. Dale Bremmer, Kevin Christ and Jong Hun Kim, all Professors of Economics, were joined by Dr. Terrence Casey, the HSS Department Head and Professor of Political Science, as they all spoke on prepared information and

graphs and answered audience questions on different aspects of the economy. This particular session piqued the interest of a diverse group of students on campus; professors from a wide variety of subjects, from chemistry to English, also attended the seminar.

National debt and fiscal cliff



The national debt has increased 64 percent from 2008, resulting from increased expenditures and decreased revenue.

This also represents a 100 percent growth from 2008 in terms of debt held by the people, which is at a historic high and increasing. Dr. Christ cited this data to relate how the two different presidential candidates plan to combat the debt crisis.

The Obama budget plan calls for declining expenditures and increasing revenue

from tax increases. This will result in a 17-21 percent national debt of GDP. However, it is important to note that if annual growth continues as it has in the past four years, the debt will actually increase under Obama's plan.

Romney's budget plan calls for a steep decline in expenditures by cutting federal spending and a smaller revenue increase. But again, if we have continued annual growth like in the past four years, the debt will plateau under this plan, not increase.

Another danger is the fiscal cliff, a term describing the elimination of Bush-era tax cuts and the drastic spending cuts in federal programs (amounting to approximately \$109 billion) that will occur in January of 2013. Any austerity measures or defaulting on debt from not properly addressing the issue will risk returning to a recession.

Variables in the election

No incumbent president has been re-elected to office with an unemployment rate greater than 8 percent since the Great Depression. As of August 2012, the national unemployment rate is 8.1 percent, which has potential to have an adverse effect on the Obama campaign.

In terms of inflation, Dr. Bremmer noted that high inflation is often correlated with poor presidential performance. The inflation rate is lower now than it was during the beginning months of Obama's term. The misery index, an economic indicator that adds the unemployment rate to the inflation, has averaged over 10 percent throughout Obama's presidency, which is higher than the past two presidencies. This index

rose at the beginning of his term and is now declining.

Other possible economic factors influencing the election include the small improvements in the housing market, upward trends in the stock market, low consumer confidence, low interest rates for U.S. bonds, and a high monetary base, which has skyrocketed since the Great Recession.



Long-term issues

Despite the lower inflation rate, there could be potential long-term problems with how the U.S. deals with its monetary policy.

The M1 Money Multiplier, an indicator for the relative increase in money supply compared to the monetary base, has offset the recent skyrocketing monetary base in the US, Dr. Kim

said. This multiplier dropped sharply during the Great Recession and has stayed below 1.0 since. Kim said that, in the long term, budget cuts will be necessary in the U.S. monetary policy.

He also spoke on changing population demographics that are putting a downward pressure on U.S. economic growth. In the next 20 years, there will be a decline in working age fraction from 0.60 to 0.54, which corresponds to a 0.5 percent decrease in the growth of GDP per capita per year. Another long-term issue for U.S. economics is the increase of integrated global markets. Struggling foreign economies have negatively affected imports and exports, and thus the economy as a whole.

It's the economy, stupid

Even though the US economy is not in the best state, including a high U-6 unemployment rate at 14.7 percent, Obama is still viewed favorably in the polls. Casey attributes this mainly to Obama winning the “framing” battle of appearing to be the best person to guide the country forward.

The economy “has improved just enough and at the right time to give Obama the edge,” according to Casey, as more people find that the economy is on the “right track” to improvement. Economic confidence measures are still negative but increasing rapidly right before the election.

Obama also currently has above a 50 percent approval rating, despite

being below 50 percent for the majority of his presidency.

He currently has a +3.7 percent advantage over Romney, which is greater than the +3.5 percent he had at this time in 2008. Obama also currently leads in votes in the Electoral College. However, many experts are still calling the race “too close to call.”



events

CAREER

Automotive Road Show

Find out about career opportunities from six major automotive companies.

Union Patio • Today, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Al Schmidft Memorial Concert

The Performing Arts Series present a concert in the White Chapel.

Sunday, September 30, 7:30 p.m.

Career Fair Bootcamp

Get resume and “sales pitch” help from the Career Services staff.

Kahn Room, October 1, 12 - 3 p.m.

Fall Quarter Career Fair

Nearly 200 companies will be there, looking for Rose-Hulman students.

SRC, October 3, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

sports

Women's tennis vs. Hanover
September 29 - 10 a.m.

Soccer vs. Bluffton
September 29 - 1 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Transylvania
September 29 - 1 p.m.

Men's tennis vs. Franklin
September 30 - 12 p.m.

Correction

In last week’s feature on the dedication of the William Cook Laboratory for Bioscience Research, Carl Cook - son of William Cook - was wrongly labeled as “Chad Cook” in the photo caption.

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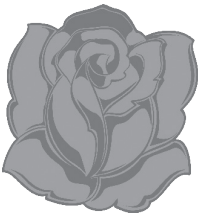
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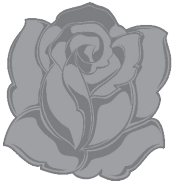


THE ROSE THORN

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Claire Stark • writer

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.

Blood drive finishes with impressive total

Kurtis Zimmerman • news editor

Rose-Hulman takes blood donation seriously, and the 295 pints of blood collected in this past week’s Fall Quarter drive are a testament to that fact.

Students, faculty, and staff gathered in the Union to offer their arms up to the Indiana Blood Center Tuesday. By the end of the day, a total of 114 pints

had been collected, and another 181 pints were gathered for donation on Wednesday. To help put those numbers in perspective, a total of 179 pints of blood were donated over two days during last year’s Spring Quarter drive.

These numbers put the community well on their way to surpassing donation totals from last year. A total of 831

pints of blood were donated by the Rose-Hulman community over the span of the blood drives held on campus last year.

There’s no rest for the weary, though. The next Rose-Hulman blood drive is scheduled to take place in a couple of months on December 4th and

5th.

Over the summer, the Indiana Blood Center put out an urgent plea for donors

available to give O-negative and A-negative blood. Drives like those held on campus help to address the needs of hospitals and disaster relief groups in times of need. Individuals looking to donate at other times can also make an appointment with the Indiana Blood Center in Terre Haute to fulfill the constant need.



The Indiana Blood Center also supports the Colts’ Bleed Blue Blood Drive.

<http://indianablood.org>

Innovation Center named for Branam



Last Saturday, members of campus gathered for the dedication of the Branam Innovation Center, which houses several project groups. Branam, who spearheaded the development of the building, passed away unexpectedly last April.

Rose named to Military Friendly Schools List

Rose-Hulman has been named to Victory Media’s 2013 Military Friendly Schools List. The list honors the top 15 percent of colleges in the United States which embrace and support the success of military members and their families. In its fourth year of compilation, the list considers more than 12,000 Veterans Administration-approved schools nationwide.



Arcelor-Mittal continues support



Arcelor-Mittal provided \$67,000 to support Rose-Hulman diversity initiatives. Included are Rose-BUD, undergraduate research programs, Advanced Transportation Systems programs, and career service programs. In the past three years, Arcelor-Mittal has provided \$269,000 to Rose.

campus buzz

NEWS BRIEFS

Claire Stark • staff writer

J.K Rowling publishes new book

This Thursday saw the release of J.K. Rowling’s first book since her Harry Potter series, “The Casual Vacancy.” Her new book breaks away hard from the style and plot her coming-of-age magic novels, the only similarity being their English settings. The 500-page novel examines the classic Haves vs. the Have-nots struggle in a small English town and examines modern problems like anxiety, bullying, cutting, heroin, and death. The title refers to the town’s empty council seat left by councilman who unexpectedly dies at the start of the story.

China and Japanese relations meet a new low

After a month-long dispute over an island expansion, things are heating up between Japan and China. Japan said it bought the islands called Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China to keep them out of radical hands. China disagreed, saying that it broke a prior arrangement. The Japanese Prime Minister has spoken strongly of their strong rule of the island. Some of the fallout of this fight has led to the canceling of festivities marking 40 years of diplomatic relations between the countries. The Chinese are also protesting Japanese shops and factories. The island themselves are not worth much, but are near excellent fishing waters and possibly large natural gas reserves.

Refs return to NFL

After two days of intense negotiations, the NFL referee lockout that’s lasted since June finally ended early Thursday morning. The NFL and the officials’ union, with the help of two federal mediators, came to an eight-year-long agreement that still needs to be ratified by 51 percent of the 121 union members in Dallas on Friday and Saturday. The plan calls for salary increases from \$149,00 to \$205,000 by 2019. The plan also allows officials to be hired on a full-time basis for the first time and requires additional training and development.

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A MOVIE FULL OF HOLES, IN THE BEST KIND OF WAY

“Dredd 3D” delivers an action flick with perfect tempo and pace

Luke Reynods • staff writer

Sometimes a movie has a very complex and layered plot. It keeps you in suspense while making your mind work to keep up with all the twists and turns. “Dredd 3D” is not that movie, and that is what makes it so special.

The plot of “Dredd 3D” is very simple and videogame-like, and it goes a little something like this:

There is an evil drug lord at the top of a massive skyscraper. Judge Dredd must get to the top of the skyscraper and defeat the evil drug lord, fighting off various enemies at each level.

The story takes place in a dystopian future in which most of the United States has become uninhabitable due to radiation. This future world is ruled by Judges, who are basically super powerful police officers who can dispense justice at their own discretion . . . or to put it simply, Judges wear red helmets and kill whoever they want.

The majority of the population lives in mega-skyscrapers that function as cities. One of these cities has begun to produce a new kind of drug called slow-mo, which allows



those who take it (and the audience) to see everything at one percent of its normal speed. Judge Dredd is sent to investigate. What ensues is a fast-paced race to the top of the skyscraper featuring lots of blood, brutality, and . . . you guessed it . . . super slow-motion gun fights.

The simplicity of the plot allows the movie to revel in the violence and one-liners that emanate from Judge Dredd, while giving us glimpses of

the way this future society works. Interspersed through all the blood and guts is a poverty and crime-stricken world in desperate need of help. We know Judge Dredd is trying to provide that help, and somehow, despite his very limited lines and the fact that he never takes off his helmet, we see him as a man who is driven by justice and torn by empathy.

So, if you’re a fan of subtle character development,

this movie is for you. If you like over-the-top violence (in 3D!), then this movie is for you. There are also some really pretty slow-motion scenes involving water that made me feel like calculating mass flow rates or something.

Though the movie was very bleak and employed slightly too much slow motion, it was a solid 90 minutes of action with a little bit of character development thrown in for

PrimeFocusWorld.com

good measure. There wasn’t anything groundbreaking or spectacular about it, but a lot can be said for a well-executed idea, no matter how simple it is.

Rating: 3/5 Elephants



GOOD FOR SOME, BUT NOT FANS

“Retribution” a stand alone “Evil” film

Jesse Sestito • staff writer

Being a big “Resident Evil” fan, this movie was a must see for me. As a movie, it did not disappoint. As the previews ended and the movie started, I sat with excitement. The opening credits had begun. The movie picked up right where “Resident Evil IV” left off. Alice and her friends were on a boat with hundreds of Umbrella Corporation helicopters approaching. However, the movie took a turn for the worse. Like most of the other “Resident Evil” movies, the main plot starts off with Alice waking up not knowing where she is. Why make such an awesome opening sequence to not even bother using it for the movie? Instantly, I knew, this would be another standalone movie loosely tied to the plot of the “Resident Evil” movies.

As a movie, I couldn’t complain. It had a decent action movie plot: escape and stay alive. It had plenty of fight scenes: 10 that I can remember. Plenty of different types of fighting: weapons, hand-to-hand, monster-to-hand, hand-to-steel, and some incredible stunts and choreography. The plot was decent, the fighting awesome, and the

characters enjoyable. I mean, who doesn’t enjoy a movie with four attractive women who could win a fist fight with any one of us and a group of ripped men who lay their lives down for these women? As a movie, I’d give it a good 4 out of 5 elephants.

However, I can’t stop the review there, because this isn’t just a movie. It’s a “Resident Evil” movie. It has a reputation to uphold. It needs zombies. The zombies in this movie are different than most of the other movies. Some of them run (and you were afraid of a mass of slow moving zombies). Some of them had weapons and guns. We are also revisited by the giant axe-wielding zombie from movie IV and the wall-climbing monster from movie I. But these aren’t even the main enemies in this fight. It’s the Red Queen from movie I back to destroy the world. That’s right. This isn’t a zombie movie as much anymore, but a psycho computer program bent on eliminating the human race using “mind control” and zombies. Sounds awfully similar to “Terminator” and “iRobot” to me. Because of all of this, as a “Resident Evil” movie, it has to receive a one out of five elephants.

But the ending saves it a little. I don’t want to ruin it for those of you who will be watching this movie, but it brings you back to the whole “Resident Evil” plot that we all know and love.

Elephant Rating: 2.5/5



As a movie, I can’t complain.

"FINDING NEMO"

More visuals, same plot

Bethany Martin • guest writer

The beauty of the ocean comes to the silver screen once again, but this time in not two but three dimensions. Usually I am against paying the extra \$3.50 for a pair of 3D glasses, and we all know that Disney has been milking every last dollar out of this re-release-in-3D cash cow, but this movie redo was worth it. The geniuses at Pixar are not lazy. Not only did they convert the entire movie into 3D, but they revamped it with new animation technology that was not around at the movie’s first release in 2003.

Every scene was stunning with new textures, brightened colors, and new floating specks. Fins were more silvery and transparent, fish had reflective scales, and the tank had smudges and finger prints. Darla, the creepy niece with some pretty intense orthodontia for an eight-year-old,

poked on the glass and left foggy smudges. Dory had more freckles, Marlin had more expressive features, Peach the Starfish had defined suction cups, and the glowing fish at the bottom had some of the most frightening teeth that these eyes have seen.

However, there was a point when the new additions were a bit overwhelming. During the open ocean scenes, there were hundreds and hundreds of floating specks. They were beautifully done but very distracting to those in the audience who have ADD. In any case, it is still the moving comedy that we loved when we were in grade school, and it was amazing to watch, even if it was only to fuel the 3D fire.

Rating: 3.5 / 5 Elephants



New textures, brightened colors, and specks

How to and why to eat a paleo diet

Ashton Wagner • staff writer

Rose is indisputably in the grips of junk food. Between late night TBRs, monster Monsters, and the dining hall ice cream machine, a college campus is not the first place one should look for ideal eating habits.

Between exercising at the SRC or IMs and still possessing some of the saving graces of youth, we do a pretty good job at coping with the extra calories. If we look at the rest of the country however, the outlook is much more bleak.

I won't even bother providing statistics on the obesity epidemic; everyone is getting heavier, and everyone is getting sicker. We've been taught that there's a simple solution, that this is just a problem of willpower. We just need to exercise more and eat healthier.

I'd like to pose a question, however: what if it isn't that simple? What if what we've been told constitutes a healthy diet isn't quite accurate?

I will be very upfront; I've discovered a lifestyle called 'Paleo' and have become a huge proponent of it. Some of you may have heard of it, some of you might not have.

For those unfamiliar with the term, allow me to explain. The principle behind Paleo is that

some of the food groups we've begun to eat since the end of the Paleolithic Period (the beginning of agriculture) might not be the optimal things to be putting in our bodies.

Just because we can eat it, and have eaten it for six thousand years, doesn't mean we should eat it. In order to demonstrate some of the principals of Paleo and how they apply to diet, I will discuss one food group or macronutrient at a time.

Grains are one of the two most contested areas of Paleo. They form the base of the government's food pyramid, and we are instructed to get 6-11 servings of whole grains every day. Cereal, bread, pasta, pizza, pancakes: they're in almost everything we eat, and flour has been the staple food of most societies throughout history. How could grains possibly be detrimental to our health?

The most prominent reason lies in a group of chemicals informally called anti-nutrients. These include Lectins, Phytates, and gluten, among other things. As it turns out, most living things on Earth (everything other than fruit in fact) don't want to be eaten, and thus have developed defenses to not be eaten.

Animals have teeth and claws and brains, while many plants

have chemical defenses. Lectins bind to certain chemicals in your body and can prevent thorough digestion and function of Leptin (a hormone). Phytic acid is a chemical that plants use to store minerals, but the human body is unable to liberate the minerals from Phytic acid.

Hence, you actually lose minerals from your body. Cultures that don't consume grains as a staple have lower incidences of osteoporosis and other mineral deficient diseases.

These two chemicals can be somewhat counteracted through cooking and processing; gluten on the other hand is another beast. Gluten is a durable protein that gives grain products like bread their structure. Your body really can't digest it, and it can open up microscopic holes in your intestine. Once inside your body, your immune system attacks it, which opens up the possibility for autoimmune disorders.

Grains are also frowned upon in Paleo for another reason. Diets high in grains are diets high in carbohydrates. The common notion of a healthy diet is one that is high in carbohydrate and low in fat.

There are a few problems with carbohydrates you might not often hear about. Most of them revolve around what insu-

lin does in your body.

Insulin is the hormone that your pancreas secretes to drive sugar out of your blood and into cells to be used. A problem arises when you try to push more sugar into cells than they need. The insulin receptors on

this causes Type 2 Diabetes.

Insulin also shuts off your body's ability to burn fat on a cellular level. Insulin is a storage hormone, so if you constantly flood your body with carbs from starchy food, you're telling your body it needs to be



Morpheus has something to tell you.
Ashton Wagner

Building flames Experiencing the world at Cambridge

Bethany Martin • staff writer

The week leading up to Homecoming submerged the freshman class in the traditions of guarding the increasingly impressive bonfire structure. Daring lookouts climbed to the very top to stare out into the night for upperclassmen who wished to tear down their hard work. Dedicated students bring their laser lights, various Nerf products, and their homework to do in the hours when no upperclassman cared to disturb the peace.

During times of extreme excitement, however, some students got a little bit carried away and had some accidents. For

The rain dance worked way too well

instance, freshman Amanda Kelley took an elbow to the face by an attacker during her shift early in the week, but that did not deter her from returning to the field and defending the tower.

During Orientation week, a rain dance was held to counteract the dry grass that threatened our tradition and our victory over the Manchester Spartans. As it turns out, the rain dance worked way too well. Just as the crowd of students went out to watch the lighting, the rain started. A drizzle at first, but then a steady torrent came down and soaked every last man, woman, and child.

As the rain came down, fireworks shot up, brightening the view of the outhouse and outlining the shape of this year's success. The flares flew up into the rain and landed on the soaked wood. Everyone waited with baited breath to see if the fire would light, but one should know that no Rose-Hulman student would ever dream of skimping on fire accelerant.

Baby fires sprang up, grew, and raised a haze of steam from the wet spectators. As the fire reached its peak, smoke started to spin up into a sort of tornado and effectively perfected the experience.

Betsy Jones • guest writer

This summer I was fortunate enough to have Rose-Hulman's support in studying abroad at the University of Cambridge's International Summer Schools in England. Going into the program, I was very excited about my classes, the weekend trips I had planned around England, and the opportunity to meet a variety of people in my international program.

Before my global experience, I could not have known the impact that this experience would have on me as a student, as a future employee, and as a person. My courses at Cambridge were credited toward my second major in International Studies.

I found it interesting to experience not only a different educational structure but also an area of study aside from engineering. One of my courses examined Britain's foreign policy in the 20th century, and another course examined Third World revolutions in the last 50 years.

I had been exposed to some of the material in these courses before attending Cambridge, but learning from British teachers provided a new perspective on the topics. The range of nationalities and backgrounds of my peers also resulted in a range of perspectives during class discus-

sions. Examining world events with people from all over the world truly opened my mind to alternative ways of viewing and handling a situation.

My course experience provided me with knowledge of the course material and also with a more open and understanding mind.

My experience outside the classroom at the University of Cambridge astounded me with the impact it had on my perspective and on my personal growth. From the day I arrived at the University, I began meeting other students from every corner of the world.

These students quickly be-

ing of each other. The more we got to know one another, to understand one another and to see each other's values and priorities, the more I saw our differences as peripheral details and saw our common humanity bringing us together.

Whether they were young students from Paris or middle-aged political advisors from India, we came together over meals or a walk on a rare sunny day in England and found common ground. The skill of finding commonalities and building a relationship with someone from a completely different culture is an immeasurable advantage for

My experience outside the classroom astounded me

came close friends and taught me more during our free time conversations than perhaps any amount of time spent in the classroom. Through our conversations comparing typical breakfast food, language, political systems and policies, and our everyday lives, I began to see the distinct differences in our cultures.

These differences were not seen as barriers, but rather as areas to increase our understand-

a future employee in a global workforce and society; it is a skill that I could not have attained without my study abroad.

My time in Cambridge has been immensely beneficial. I have gained knowledge of a different educational system, I have gained skills in communication and working with another culture, and most importantly I have gained an unforgettable experience and incredible international friends.

The other side of the desk



Corey Taylor • faculty writer

On Tuesday afternoon, I was carrying my four-month-old daughter, Luciana, around the house. We stopped to look out a window.

“Look, sweetheart,” I said. “It’s raining. It barely rained for the first two months of your life.”

Statistics for September through Wednesday, from the Weather Channel’s website, show Terre Haute averaging an 81-degree high and a 55-degree low, for a 68-degree daily temperature. This is on par with norms. Our rainfall total is 3.52 inches, .04 of an inch above normal.

Compared to NOAA’s National Climatic Data Center twentieth-century averages for temperature and precipitation during September in Indiana, this month’s mean temperature is 2.1 degrees warmer and the total precipitation is .25 of an inch higher. With four days left in September as of Wednesday, the discrepancies could fluctuate.

This nascent autumn has been seasonable, a vast improvement over the summer. For readers who aren’t year-round residents of Terre Haute and environs: from mid-June through August, this place was a scorched hellscape, indistinguishable from a scene in a Woody Guthrie song about the Dust Bowl.

At our house, most of the grass burned away to dirt. It hurt to walk barefoot on the lawn. Most of the leaves on our trees have already died. This was the case across Indiana and for swaths of the United States: what was supposed to be green turned brown.

The U.S. Drought Monitor ranked southern Vigo County as abnormally dry—the lowest level they survey—on May 29. By June 19, the whole county was in moderate drought, and all of Indiana fell somewhere on the Drought Monitor scale. On June 26, the drought was upgraded to severe; on July 17, the drought was upgraded to extreme. One week later, on July 24, nearly the entire county was in exceptional drought, the highest level.

The next day, the Department of Agriculture declared Vigo County a disaster area.

Terre Haute had peak temperatures of 100 degrees or above on 12 days in July. According to the National Climatic Data Center, July 2012 was Indiana’s driest month in 21 years (2.65 inches of rain, 1.12 inches below normal) and

its hottest month in 76 years (80.2 degree daily average temperature, 5.5 degrees above normal), the third hottest in history.

Nationally, July 2012 was the warmest month since the government began recordkeeping temperatures in 1895. Internationally, this summer had other dubious climate milestones. There was, for example, record surface ice melt in Greenland, to the tune of 97 percent.

Humans sometimes have goldfish memories, so I want to remind readers of these things. But, I also want to ask a question: What type of and how much evidence would it take for global warming deniers to acknowledge global warming’s existence?

It’s a sincere, logical, and fair question targeted to individuals and organizations who reject, for whatever reasons, the increasing prevalence of global warming.

I want to understand how it’s possible to 1) deny that human beings can and often do have a detrimental effect on the environment and 2) given that fact, deny the existence of global climate change, since there are more than seven billion people on the planet. I anticipate being thought an alarmist for even asking.

There’s quantitative, qualitative, visual, and anecdotal evidence from reputable sources that climate change is real and that human beings are the main cause. However, some hold the word of political pundits in higher regard than the findings of scientists and other observers of the natural world.

The significance of evidence should be debated, but reasonable people usually change their minds when confronted with compelling new facts. This happened to Richard Muller, a physicist at the University of California-Berkeley who conducted the Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature project. Dr. Muller found, as he wrote in a *New York Times* editorial about his research, “that the average temperature of the Earth’s land has risen by two and a half degrees Fahrenheit over the past 250 years, including an increase of one and a half degrees over the most recent 50 years. Moreover, it appears likely that essentially all of this increase results from the human emission of greenhouse gases.”

This wouldn’t have been a bombshell, had Dr. Muller not formerly been a skeptic of climate change, and had his project not received \$150,000 in funding from the Charles Koch Charitable Foundation. The namesake of that organization is one of the Koch Brothers, billionaire oil-industrialists who actively supports climate change denial and political ideologies that stymie broad national action against global warming. We avoid answering the question posed above at our shared peril. As of September 25, Vigo County remained in moderate drought, and before long it will be summer again.

Lots of late night studying with caffeine could kill you

Julie Hopkins • staff writer

It’s 2 a.m., and you have been working for a really long time on an assignment that’s due in class the next morning. You are exhausted from a week of academic clubs, filling out applications for summer work, and homework from your other classes.

Your eyes start to fail, desperately wanting to close. You are just about to fall asleep until you cave in and reach for a Red Bull or coffee.

We have all been there. The number one school in the country doesn’t give out easy workloads. But have you ever thought about what this could do to your health?

There has been much discussion on whether caffeine is good or bad for you. Some even argue that it can ward off certain cancers. Manufacturers are selling so much of the drug that it is even being sold as an energy supplement in lip balm. No matter what is on the positive side, one can’t deny the 1000 deaths per year that are caused by caffeine consumption.

What does your brain on caffeine look like?

Caffeine is a psychoactive drug; it works as a stimulant giving the user feelings of alertness. It is water-soluble and lipid-soluble. Therefore, the chemical crosses the blood-brain barrier very quickly. That is exactly why so many people abuse it. Under normal conditions, and small doses of caffeine won’t affect learning, thoughts, or memory.

Actually, caffeine can actually help with learning and memory when your brain is exhausted.

But don’t go get a Starbucks

for another all-nighter just yet.

A look at caffeine in its natural state, the jungle, shows how well it acts as a natural pesticide, killing and paralyzing insects that feed on its leaves. Studies will continue to be done on the effects of caffeine, and we have yet to see how it exactly affects the body.

Until more evidence comes out, the next time it’s 2 a.m. and you reach for another shot of espresso, remember to watch the amount you consume and take care of your health.



Caffeine comes in many easy-to-consume forms, but be mindful of its effects. <http://thinkgeek.com>

Neglecting health

Jessica Reames • photo editor

A lot of people neglect their health in numerous ways: through poor nutritional variety, sedentary lifestyles, lack of sleep, and substance use like caffeine, alcohol, and tobacco. All of these are truly awful ways to treat a body.

When I started to make time for exercising every week, it was hard to make the time, but I actually started thinking more clearly and sleeping better. These newly discovered benefits made exercise all the more awesome for me. I could spend less

time on my work because I could think quicker and more effectively. I slept better, too. I could lie down for four hours of sleep, and it was more restful than when I hadn’t exercised.

As an added fantastic benefit to exercise, I lost quite a bit of unnecessary weight that I had been carrying around. After it was gone, my joints felt a lot less stressed, and I regained balance and flexibility.

All in all, exercise is great for people, and I just don’t understand why they don’t or won’t do it.

The other side of the desk: Silent spring

Mark Minster • faculty writer

Fifty years ago this week, Rachel Carson published *Silent Spring*, the most important book of 20th-century America. Only two books in this nation’s history have had similar impact: *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, which thrust the perils of slavery into readers’ hearts; and *The Jungle*, which punched the perils of meatpacking into readers’ stomachs.

Silent Spring aimed for the mind as well as the gut. Carson marshaled basic ecology in reasoned, passionate opposition to the perils of pesticides that blanketed fields after World War II. These industrial pesticides—famously DDT, but also chlorinated hydrocarbons and organophosphates—poison not only pests, but birds, amphibians, mammals, us. She explains how pesticides concentrate in tissue as we move up the food chain, connecting this concentration to cancer and sterility. She describes how insects breed resistance, accelerating the supposed need for

more poisons.

Carson’s book raised awareness about the costs of some technologies and led to protections in the 1970s that sought to preserve clean air, water, and soil. After all, as animals, we depend on air and water and soil for our health. This was not about “saving the environment.” It was about not killing ourselves. “It is not my contention that chemical insecticides must never be used,” Carson writes. “I do contend that we have put poisonous and biologically potent chemicals indiscriminately into the hands of persons largely or wholly ignorant of their potentials for harm.”

We at Rose-Hulman celebrate innovation. It is time to admit that innovation is blind. To invent new poison is to innovate. Solutions like pesticides can cause more damage than the problems they’re supposed to solve. What is needed is not innovation, not new technology, things we’re good at, but basic awareness of how animals and plants relate to

their surroundings.

Surely it is a sign of our own times that protections like those Carson helped establish are now spun as needless regulation that stifles advancement. It is a sign of our times that we are increasing pesticide use even as we research cures to tumors we ourselves cause. And now that evidence shows that neonicotinoid pesticides are killing colonies of honeybees, whom we depend on for many crops, our political, industrial, and governmental machinery may continue to spin and dither rather than exercising care. Bayer, Paul Ryan, EPA: I’m looking at you.

Maybe innovation is an answer, as Carson suggested. “We allow the chemical death rain to fall as though there were no alternative, whereas in fact there are many, and our ingenuity could soon discover many more if given opportunity.” This kind of innovation, it seems to me, is wiser than what we at Rose-Hulman usually mean. It means ecological solutions to ecological problems, regardless of cost.

SPARTANS SENT HOME ON THEIR SHIELDS

Engineers hold off late-game rally to earn Homecoming win

Kurtis Zimmerman • news editor

It was déjà vu all over again for Rose-Hulman as the Fightin’ Engineers jumped out to a 22 – 0 lead in the first quarter-and-a-half, but Manchester College fought valiantly to make it a close game. At the end of sixty minutes, the Engineer defense was able to hold off the Spartan charge to eke out a 28 – 26 Homecoming win.

Senior Kyle Kovach earned HCAC Offensive Player of the Week after scoring the first three touchdowns of the game and rushing for a total of 95 yards. He also led receivers with 64 yards on seven catches.

The remaining Rose-Hulman points came from freshman placekicker Craig Larew, who put ten points on the board with two extra points, two field goals, and a surprising two-point conversion after the first Rose-Hulman touchdown.

During the final three quarters of the game, the Spartans put 26 points on the board, nailing in two extra points and failing two attempts at two-point conversions. The last attempt, coming in the last two minutes of play, would have tied up the score and given Manchester another chance to take down the Engineers.

Ultimately, Rose-Hulman’s defense, despite allowing 26 points from the opponent, held the Rose-Hulman lead when the offense failed to put points on the board.

Senior Grant DePalma was named NCAA Division III Defensive National Player of the Week as well as HCAC Defensive Player of the Week for his career effort Saturday afternoon, tallying 20 tackles – six for loss – and four sacks. DePalma became the fifth player in school history with 20 tackles in one game, securing his spot in the record books.

Senior Ryan Gallagher made the final stop on the two-point conversion attempt to retain the lead for the Engineers, and junior D.J. Lawson deflected a last-chance pass attempt to finish the game.

The defensive story of the day came in the form of turnovers. Gallagher snagged an interception and a fumble recovery, and junior Craig Voges and freshman Anthony Adamo each grabbed an interception.

The victory marks three straight Homecoming wins for senior quarterback Mitch Snyder who passed for 126 yards and one touchdown.

Freshman Jacob Dye proved his consistency with another solid effort, bringing down three recep-

tions, and freshman Aaron Abbott provided rushing depth with 37 yards on the day.

The Fightin’ Engineers remain perfect in HCAC play, jumping to 2 – 2 overall and 2 – 0 in conference matchups, while Manchester dropped to 0

– 4 overall and 0 – 2 in league play.

This Saturday, the team travels to Hanover College for a conference game against the Panthers, and the Engineers return home on Saturday, October 6, for the Hall of Fame Game against Bluffton University.



Senior Kyle Kovach propelled the offense with two rushing touchdowns and one receiving touchdown.

Arda Tugay • webmaster

Homecoming propitious for Rose-Hulman volleyball

Matt Dierksmeier • sports editor

Taking to the courts on homecoming Saturday, the Rose-Hulman volleyball team swept both Denison University and Illinois College to improve their record to 10 – 6.

In a thrilling opening match against Denison University, the Fightin’ Engineers had to overcome a two set deficit to earn the victory. After losing the first two sets 19 – 25 and 21 – 25, they rallied to take the third set 25 – 16. Keeping the pressure on Denison, the Rose-Hulman team was also able to win the fourth set

high 24 assists; freshman Sarah Jensen added 21 of her own.

With the momentum in favor of Rose-Hulman after the exciting win, Illinois College would have their hands full in the second match of the day. The Engineers came out firing and were able to take the first set 25 – 17. Illinois College would not recover in the match, ultimately losing

University in the first Heartland Conference Athletic Conference game of the season for the Engineers. Rose-Hulman opened strong, taking the first two sets 25 – 15, 25–21. Anderson would then rebound in the third set to steal it 25 – 20. Coming down to the wire in the fourth set, Anderson would narrowly edge the Engineers, winning 25 – 23. In the deciding set, Rose-Hulman would rally to take the set 15 – 12.

Freshman Sarah Jensen helped lead the Engineers to the victory with 14 kills, 15 digs, and 26 assists. Junior Casey Levitt had a team-high 19 kills on the night and also added 22 assists.

The win propels the Engineers to 11 – 6 on the season. They will host both Transylvania University and Principia College on Saturday. Play begins at 1 p.m. in Hulbert Arena.

in three sets. The final score was 25 – 17, 25 – 20, 25 – 11 in favor of Rose-Hulman. Junior Catherine Fiutem led the Fightin’ Engineers with nine kills. Lower tallied 12 digs in the match. The team returned to action Wednesday evening against Anderson



The Rose-Hulman volleyball team improves to 11-6 with three consecutive wins this week.

Rose-Hulman Athletics

Women’s tennis edges conference opponent

Matt Dierksmeier • sports editor

The Rose-Hulman women’s tennis team traveled to Transylvania University last Saturday in hopes of keeping their undefeated record in HCAC play intact.

While narrowly losing at the No. 1 and No. 2 singles positions, Rose-Hulman would win 5 of the remaining 7 matches to improve to 4 – 0 in Heartland Conference Athletic Conference play. With the win, the Engineers would better their overall record to 7 – 1. This also happens to be the second straight year that Rose-Hulman has defeated Transylvania by a match result of 5 – 4.

Winning for Rose-Hulman in singles were senior Melissa Montgomery at No. 3, junior Paige Cook at No. 4, and sophomore Kylie McCollum at No. 6. The pairing of Cook along with sophomore Suzana Mohd took the victory at No. 2 doubles. McCollum and junior

Lauren Reberger would win at the No. 3 doubles spot.

The Engineers will play two matches at home this weekend. Both will be versus HCAC conference opponents. The first is against Hanover College beginning at 10 am Saturday. On Sunday, they will face Franklin College starting at noon.



With wins in both singles and doubles matches, Sophomore Kylie McCollum earned HCAC Women’s Tennis Player of the Week honors.

Rose-Hulman Athletics

Wacky prof quotes

“I probably shouldn’t have hit my head as hard as I did.”
–Dr. Mech. Whatever, it’s just a head, it’s about as useful as Career Services at ISU.

“The way some professors use these pens, they obviously have problems.”
– Dr. McInerney. Momma always said, you can always tell what a person is like by the way they treat their pens.

“You’re going to trust those Canadian programmers?”
– Dr. Finn. Yeah, ya can’t trust any of the shoddy work they put out, eh? They’re almost as bad as those Minnesootans.

“We shouldn’t be allowed to have this much fun!”
– Dr. Mech. He said, to a class where two-thirds of the students were asleep and the other third didn’t even show up.

Rose professors say crazy things. E-mail them to the Flipside at thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu for a chance to win a 25\$ Visa gift card!

The Lost Leg Chronicles

Zombies attack! Part 1

Man Daginot
World’s most awesome staff writer

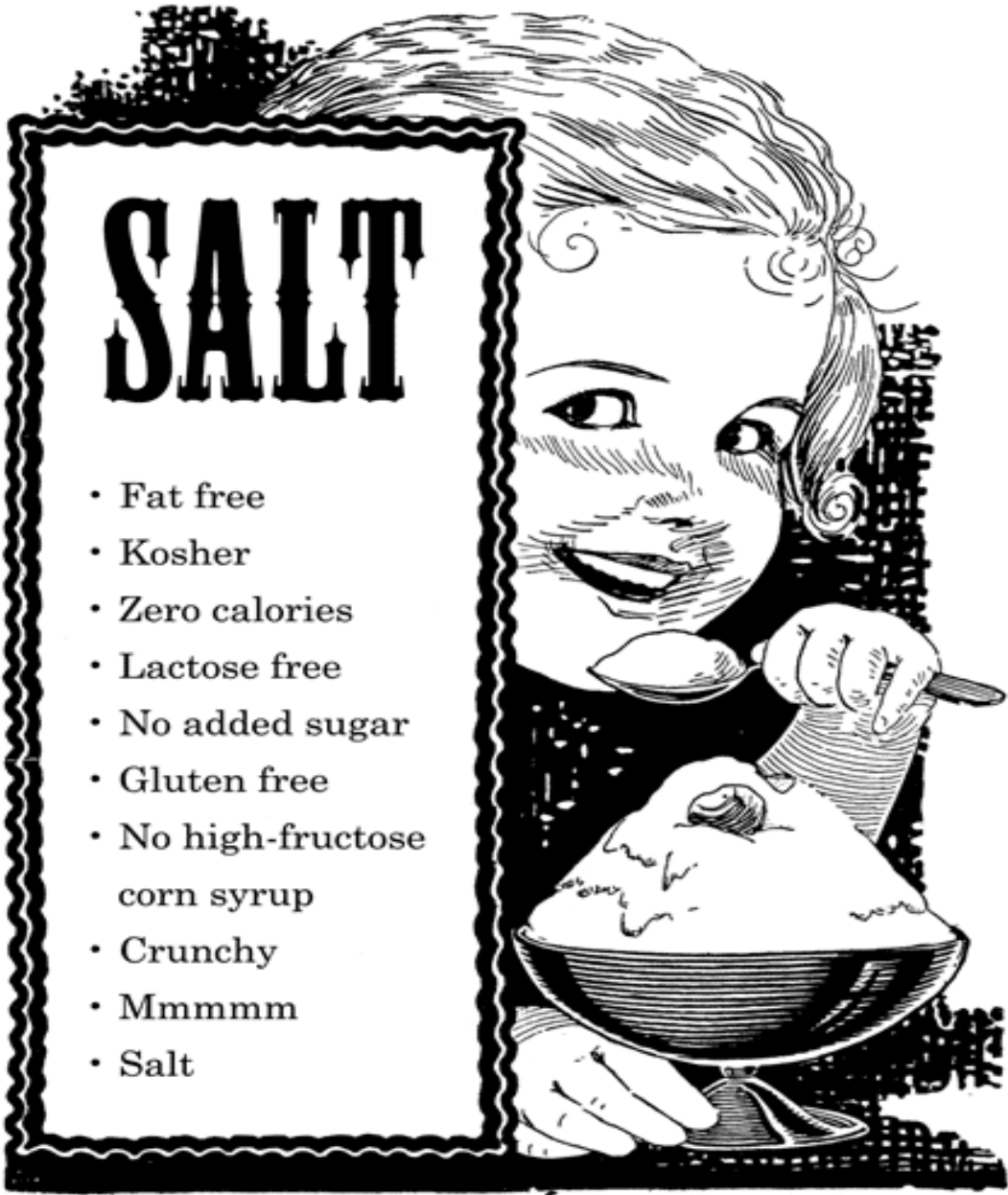
This is a true story.
It was the heat of the summer in Chicago, IL when Mrs. O’leary’s cow was at it again for vengeance. There was no fire this time, but something else that spread very quickly. This “Mad Cow” was taken to the butcher without the knowledge of the doom it would bring to mankind...
Patient zero was a poor old man who sank his teeth into a juicy, tender, medium rare steak from Mrs. O’leary’s demon cow. His body quickly deteriorated and “Mad Cow” quickly became “Mad Human” which quickly became “Mad Zombie.” No one saw it coming, except for anyone who has ever seen a movie.
I saw a news clip of this during

my flight from Alaska to Secret Area 51 where I had heard from multiple contacts they were developing secret new ways of re-growing limbs. Since I’ve had quite a challenge keeping my limbs intact so far, I figured I’d check it out.
I was going to be in a desert for the next few weeks, so I figured our military would have the whole zombie thing under control once I got back into civilization. The news clip depicted several grown men hobbling down the middle of a city intersection foaming at the mouth as they attempted to pursue victims. The military was there and they had the green light to shoot on sight.
We landed on a sand ridden air force base, and I was blindfolded as they wheeled me out into the dry, barren air. I didn’t really understand why

I was blindfolded... probably because I had such ravishingly handsome eyes, so anyone who would look directly into them would drop dead, turn to stone, or go insane instantaneously, probably.
Anyway, sand eventually stopped blowing into my face and mouth and I heard doors clamp behind me. I heard another set of doors clamp, and I felt the floor below me start descending.
I was in the elevator shaft for only about thirty seconds, but in that time, my ears popped like eight times. So, with my ear popping equation, I calculated that I was roughly two hundred feet below ground level, which I knew was pretty accurate.
When we exited the elevator they removed the blindfold. I was in a long, white, and stone corridor with hallways jutting out perpendicularly every twenty feet or so. I was wheeled down the entire length of the hall way and we entered an enormous atrium. In the center, there was a glass rectangular prism filled half way with water.
Extruding from the tub were electrodes connected to a large machine, which I was informed was called a Human Extremity Reaugmentation... something or other. There were a few more words in there, but all I remember was the acronym, HERCULES.
I slept in an adjacent room that night, knowing

that HERCULES was going to be there in the morning, waiting for me. I woke up and signed about eighty thousand consent forms. They barely even spoke to me as about twelve men bustled around in lab coats. Someone finally came over to me and put a plastic piece to my face, he told me to count back from 100.
“100... 99...” I mumbled.
I woke up in a painful, dazed blur with doctors and nurses buzzing around me. I peeled my eyes open and the pain coursed through my body.
“Knights of Columbus that hurts!” I shouted.
I could see clearly now. The doctors and nurses peered at me awkwardly as if they had never seen “Anchorman” before. Wide eyed and now in pain for the human race, I tried to sit myself up, but was promptly denied with a firm thrust from the hand of a nurse.
“How long have I been out?”
“Almost a month...” Someone answered.
“What!?!”
I was furious. I definitely missed my fantasy football draft. There was no way I’d be keeping up with the Kardashians now. And on top of that, I’m pretty sure I own about eight redbox DVDs now since I am certain I never returned any for the past few months.
The doctors and nurses were excited to tell me that the HERCULES treatment was successful and I would be on two feet again very soon. They did, however, mention that one thing went wrong with the treatment...

Married to the Sea



Married To The Sea.com

Top Ten Reasons to live in Indiana

thorn staff • we’re almost funny.
Almost.

- 10.** The wonderful weather. Between the low humidity and warm sunny days, you can’t get much better than Indiana!

9. The mountains.

8. It’s citizens demonstrate unparalleled religious tolerance.

7. ~~Peyton Manning.~~

6. You don’t have to drive more than ten minutes in order to find a corn field.
- 5.** There are always cops in disguise on 69 (heh).

4. If somehow you get bored, you can always visit one of the beautiful beaches.

3. Most people are excellent drivers.

2. Passing through Indiana gives you the wonderful opportunity to see Terre Haute! Known locally as “Terredise.”

1. It’s not Mississippi.