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The Rose Thorn Archive

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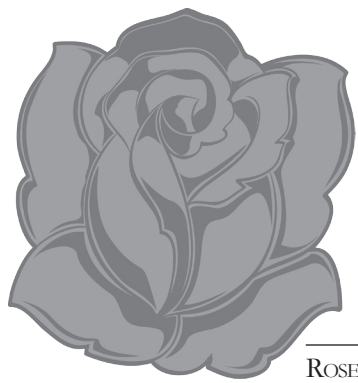
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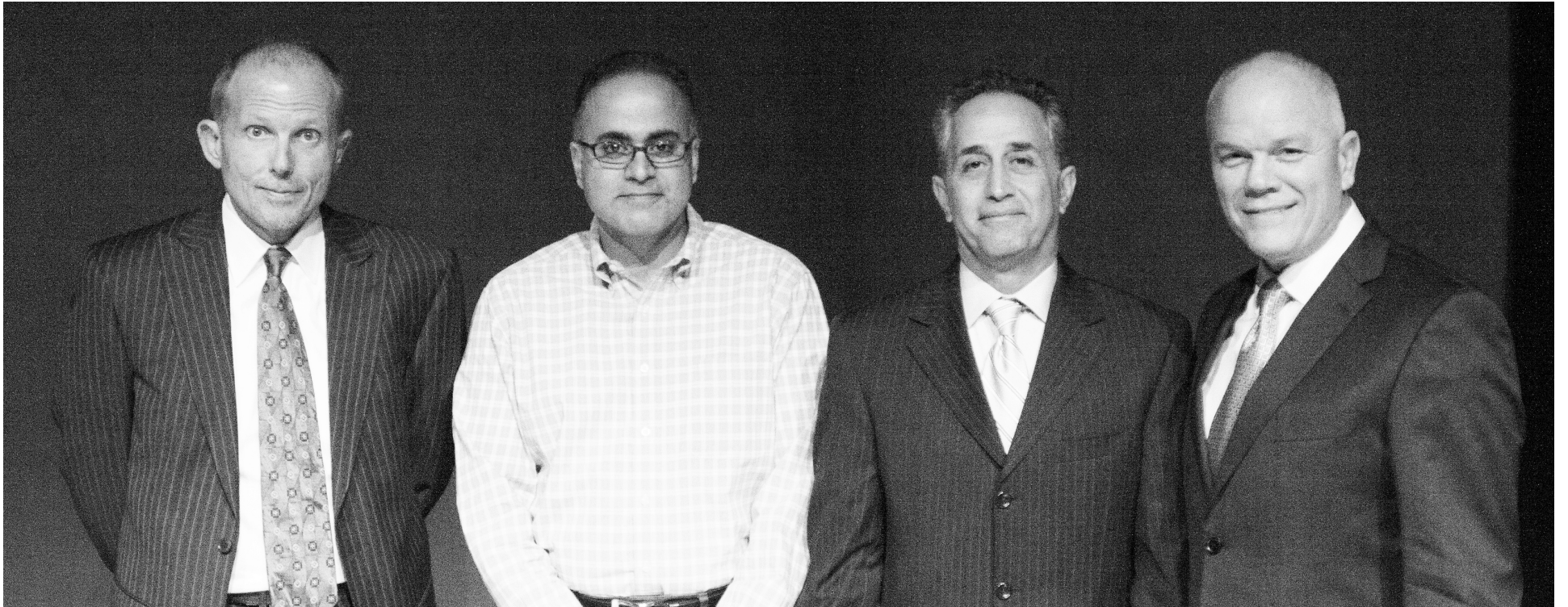
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THE ROSE THORN

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY • TERRE HAUTE, IN • [HTTP://THORN.ROSE-HULMAN.EDU](http://thorn.rose-hulman.edu) • FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2010 • VOLUME 46 • ISSUE 6

Innovation Hour showcases budget, MEMS



Presenters Rob Coons, Dr. Maarij Syed, Dr. Azad Siahmakoun, and President Matt Branam all pose following this month's Innovation Hour for the Rose Campus.
Alex Mullans • editor-in-chief

Alex Mullans • editor-in-chief

"Faculty at Rose-Hulman have a great depth of knowledge..." That sentiment, spoken by Institute President Matt Branam, set the tone for the 3 presentations that comprised this month's Innovation Hour. Innovation Hour is a new monthly series created by Branam to "provide the campus community an opportunity to learn ever more about what we do at

Rose-Hulman, how we do it, and why we do it that way." More than 50 faculty and staff came to Hatfield Hall on Tuesday for the first presentation of the series.

Chief Administrative Officer Rob Coons began the discussion by describing the process through which Rose develops its budget. In fact, Rose has 2 budgets: an operating budget for short term, year-to-year expenses like salaries, utilities, and the

like; and a capital budget for long term costs such as buildings, improvements, and other assets that cost more than \$5000. "Everyone has a role to play as a good steward of student and donor funds," Coons said.

After Coons finished, Dr. Bill Kline, Interim Vice-President of Academic Affairs, took the stage to introduce Dr. Azad Siahmakoun, the Director of Rose's Micro-Nanoscale Devices and

System (MiNDS) Facility. Dr. Siahmakoun gave the audience a quick look into the MiNDS facility, which he said facilitated a "problem solving experience for all RHIT students."

The lab, which offers courses in the ECE, BE, ME, CHE, and PHOE departments, has over \$1 million worth of equipment with which undergraduate and graduate students can work. To date, eight master's degree candidates have used the lab

to complete research. During the summer the lab also creates many opportunities for undergraduate research. As 10th hour ended, Dr. Maarij Syed, Associate Professor of Physics and Optical Engineering, took the stage for a quick summary of engineering physics course offerings in the microelectricmechanical systems (MEMS) area not covered by Dr. Siahmakoun.

The second installment of Innovation Hour will take place in one month.

Rose targets sustainability, develops Climate Action Plan

Scott Gallmeier • news editor

Fresh air and greenhouse gases are two of the main targets of the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Climate Action Plan finalized Wednesday, October 20. The Rose-Hulman Climate Action Plan is part of a larger national collegiate emissions reduction called the American College and University President's Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) in which 674 colleges and universities are currently taking part.

The ACUPCC first made a presence on Rose-Hulman's campus in 2007 when former

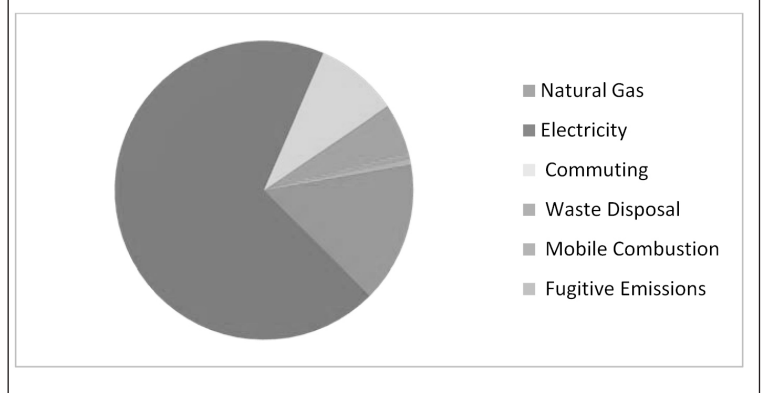
President Gerald Jakubowski signed the President's Climate Commitment. This commits Rose-Hulman to reducing energy consumption including only purchasing Energy Star appliances, observing Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification, inventorying all emissions from campus and, lastly, developing the Climate Action Plan.

Another key aspect of Rose-Hulman's sustainability effort has been to develop an culture of sustainability. This has been seen on campus through extended education in sustain-

able efforts such as Technical and Professional Communications quarterly projects relating to sustainability efforts on Rose-Hulman's campus and the surrounding area and the 2007 creation of the Sustainability team which hosts the quarterly Campus Sustainability Day.

Student response has been limited to the Climate Action Plan, but mechanical engineering student Rachel Holscher said, "I think it's awesome that Rose is really trying to become more green, and it's not just [a reason] to give us a Tech Comm project."

2009 Emissions by Source



The 2009 Emissions by source data graphic from the 2010 Rose-Hulman Climate Action Plan, published October 20.
2010 Rose-Hulman Climate Action Plan

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Entertainment reviews the combination of your two favorite shows: South Park and Jersey Shore



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Learn about why, despite the massive homework loads and crushing tests, Rose-Hulman isn't that bad of a school

Get some tips on how to stay occupied in those fleeting moments of spare time

PAGE 5: LIVING

Political candidates should stop being concerned about appearing "elitist"



PAGE 6: OPINIONS

Women's tennis earns a trip to the NCAA Division III tournament with a victory over Transylvania

Rose-Hulman football has mixed results against Franklin and Mount Saint Joseph

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Find out exactly why your laptop is such a valuable tool



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Clueless Crossword

Printable-Puzzles.com

Think of a Clueless Crossword as a mix between a regular crossword puzzle and a cryptogram. Unlike many crossword puzzles, this grid is filled only with common, everyday English-language words - no abbreviations or other special “crossword” spellings are allowed. Each square in the grid is numbered 1 through 26, and each number corresponds to one (and only one) letter in the alphabet. Your goal is to completely fill in the crossword grid by gradually uncovering the letter that belongs to each number. We’ve given you three “giveaway” combinations - fill those into the solution grid and into any corresponding boxes in the crossword grid to get started. It helps to cross out each letter in alphabet as you use it in the grid, since no letter can be used more than once. Note that not all letters of the alphabet may be used in any given puzzle. If a number isn’t used in the puzzle, it is greyed out in the solution grid. Good luck!

16	6	11		6	3	14		3	8	5		10	14	14
8	26	14		11	6	26		6	13	8		14	22	14
9	14	15		14	26	26		7	14	5		14	14	10
14	6	16	14		4	8	16			5	6	26	24	16
			6	5	8	26	15		23	21	13			
	4	1	26	1			1	15	14	24	16	21	10	
16	6	16	16	20		8	5	14	20			24	14	15
8	22	6		16	6	4		6	16	17		18	14	14
5	14	4			3	10	8	15		8	11	14	26	6
	10	14	14	3	17	14	13			7	21	26	20	
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8	9	14	4	6			16	8	11		26	14	14	23
23	21	24		16	8	7		1	26	24		9	6	24
6	24	13		14	6	26		4	8	8		21	3	14
20	14	16		13	26	20		14	24	13		15	17	14

Solution Grid:

1	2 N/A	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 N/A	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 N/A	20	21
22	23	24	25 N/A	26		

Giveaways:

#9 = M

#5 = B

#4 = G

A B C D E F G
H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z

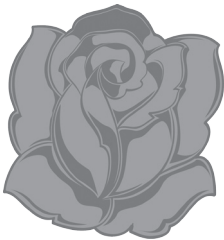
THE ROSE THORN

“Working to keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information.”

Tim Ekl • *editor-in-chief*
Alex Mullans • *editor-in-chief*
Scott Gallmeier • *news*
Colin DeClue • *entertainment*
Melissa Schwenk • *living*
Carly Baehr • *opinions*
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Carly Baehr • *cartoonist*

The Rose Thorn is a weekly publication produced by the members of the community of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology published on Fridays first through ninth week each quarter. All students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend weekly meetings, held at 5:15pm on Wednesdays in Olin Hall. We also welcome and encourage all community members to submit articles, photographs, car-

toons, and letters to the editor for publication.

We request that all letters to the editor be less than 600 words in length, and the deadline for content submission is 5:00 p.m. two days prior to publication. The editors reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar, length, and factual errors, while preserving the original intent of the submission. The editors reserve the right to

accept content changes submitted after deadline. All submissions must contain the writer's signature (electronic form is acceptable) and contact information. The editors reserve the right to reject submissions deemed inappropriate for print.

All content should be submitted to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or to the office of The Rose Thorn in Hulman Memorial Union room 249.

Material submitted for use in the print edition may also be included in the online edition located at <http://thorn.rose-hulman.edu>.

The views expressed in The Rose Thorn are those of their respective authors and, with the exception of the weekly Staff View published in the Opinions section, do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or the Rose-Hulman community.

Rose undergrads present research

Tim Ekl • editor-in-chief

Graduate students aren't the only ones at Rose-Hulman doing research into new technologies. This Friday, 27 undergraduate students from several departments will present research projects in Myers Hall as part of the Interdisciplinary Research Collaborative (IRC). The symposium runs all day and in addition to research projects will feature a speech by Derek Kingsley, professor at Indiana State

University. The IRC program began in 2004 and was originally intended to support undergraduate research in chemical and biological sciences. This year's presentations focus mostly on these departments, but also include some work from the Mathematics Department. Rose-Hulman students aren't the only ones attending the symposium; last year, five universities sent undergraduate researchers to show off projects.

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News Briefs

By Alex Mullans

Strikes and riots cripple France

Transportation across France was crippled Tuesday as rioters protested the French parliament's proposed bill that would raise the retirement age from 60 to 62. The bill is supported by President Nicolas Sarkozy as a way to slow the losses in France's pension system. Protestors staged the sixth set of riots in recent weeks in Paris, with 60,000 marching towards Napoleon's burial grounds in the Place des Invalides. In addition to the protests, workers from air traffic controllers to train operators to oil refinery workers have walked off the job, causing deep cuts in flight and train service within the country, and more than 1,000 gas stations have had to close due to lack of fuel. The bill is expected to pass the Senate later this week.

Pentagon OKs recruiting openly gay applicants

Openly gay men and women are now allowed to apply to the United States military. The recruiter is not allowed to ask potential recruits about their sexual orientation, but candidates who admit they are openly gay to the recruiter can still have their applications processed. Gay and service member rights groups have urged caution because the decision could be changed pending Federal Judge Virginia Phillips' ruling. She has said that she is unlikely to stay the ruling; in that eventuality, the government will likely ask the appeals court to do so. The Personnel and Readiness office also noted in the announcement that recruiters should "manage expectations" since the ruling could be stayed.

U.S. begins considering of alert system for hack victims

As the number of computer systems in the U.S. compromised by botnets – networks of infected computer often used to attack websites or spread spam – continues to increase, the government has begun considering a program that would allow Internet service providers (ISPs) to provide warnings to customers they've determined are 'hacked.' Comcast is currently testing such a system in the Denver area; in addition to notification of the problem, they provide free antivirus software and other help to assist the user in removing the malware from his machine. Some more radical plans call for limiting the Internet access of infected users who do not comply with removal instructions but have not gotten as far because of anticipated user reactions.



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Eyes on IFC

Here's what your Greek community has been up to:

Second Formals are this weekend on Friday, October 22nd and Sunday, October 24th. The fraternities that you signed up for will be around to pick you up at the time you are scheduled for. Please

contact the respective Rush Chair if you have a scheduling issue.

Rush will be closed from immediately after the last second formal till fraternities pick up their newly signed members Tuesday evening. There will be no tolerance for breaking this no contact period.

The following two weeks after Bid Tuesday will remain closed rush for any freshman male who did not join a fraternity regardless of whether they rushed or not.

Good luck at Second Formals and have a safe and great Bid Tuesday.

Name: Peter Westrick

Fraternity: Pi Kappa Alpha

Year: Senior

Major: Chemical engineering major

Hometown: Valparaiso, Indiana (but really Hong Kong)

Future: Looking forward to it but I guess I'll have to wait and find out.

Accomplishments while at Rose: Sophomore Advisor in Mees, Orientation Leader for Class of 2013, Ultimate Frisbee Club President, passing Thermo II, creating the Westrick Rule in IM's, becoming Greek of the Week, Crowd favorite at Mr. Rose Pageant 2010.

When asked "What was the biggest benefit you received from going Greek here at Rose-Hulman?": Going Greek has provided a tremendous amount of avenues to continually be plugged-in to both the Rose-Hulman and Terre Haute communities. The biggest benefit I've received at my time in Pike has been the hands-on and very active leadership opportunities as the new member educator. Whether my weekends consist of planting trees, renovating a Habitat for Humanity building, participating in the Mr. Rose contest, or simply grilling out at the Pike house, I know that my memories of Rose will be everlasting.



Meet your Greeks

“South Park” talks “Jersey Shore” and “Desperate Housewives”

Eli Baca • staff writer

Last Wednesday marked the return of one of the longest running Cable shows, and it returned with a Bang-Bang! Halfway into its 14th season, the show brought the house down. South Park has been known to make a mockery of topics from WoW to Jesus, but when the Jersey Shore came to Colorado, nothing was safe. The main points of controversy? The Real Housewives of New Jersey and MTV’s Jersey Shore.

The housewives moved to South Park and brought the whole family—from Teresa with the table shoving to Caroline with her “LEAVE MY FAMILY ALONE!,” the housewives were a wonderful treat as nothing was actually exaggerated. Every small detail was 100% Housewife and 100% nuts, and every time something happened the audience was given the standard, “it’s a Jersey thing.”



The Boys of “South Park” were joined by the cast of “Jersey Shore” and “Real Housewives” <http://wikimedia.org>

The second half was littered with Jersey Shore-folk, specifically The Situation and Snooki. The Situation’s abs were never not shown, and Snooki smushed, smashed, and ate her pickles while in

fluffy slippers and a bikini.

South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone completely nailed this episode and even gave us a little extra “OMG, no they didn’t” moments. This episode was a great mid-season opener and did its job to completely take down Jersey and all its eccentricities. Fans and non-fans will get a kick out of this one—it’s already a classic.

Review rating: 5 elephants



“Law and Order” returns in Los Angeles

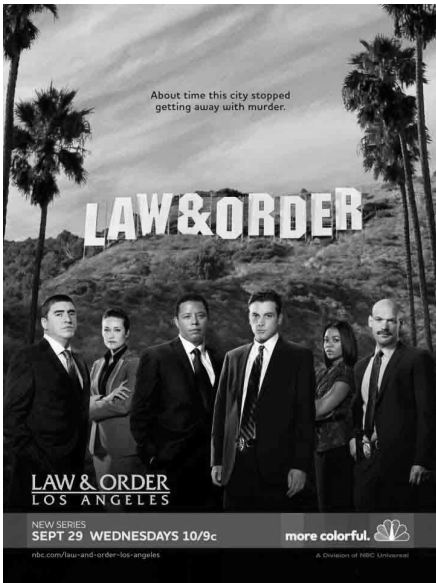
Eli Baca • staff writer

The original “Law & Order” ran for 20 seasons, from September 13th, 1990 until May 24th, 2010. At the time of its cancellation, it was the longest running drama show on American Television, tied with “Gun-smoke.” It was second only to “The Simpsons” for the longest running scripted show with recurring characters in America.

Although it’s now gone, Dick Wolf’s crime child lives on in its spinoffs, the latest (in America) is Law & Order: Los Angeles (LOLA)—and boy is it chock full of Hollywood-ness. LOLA premiered to fairly well numbers and recently got picked up by NBC for a full season, but is it better than the true L&O champ, Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (SVU), or is it just another attempt to find television gold?

Some big names for the series include Skeet Ulrich (Scream, Jericho), Alfred Molina (Spider-Man 2), and Terrence Howard (Iron Man). And while this is the first L&O to get away from New York, so far it’s done so in Rodeo Drive style.

This week’s episode followed



“Law & Order: Los Angeles,” another spin-off from Dick Wolf’s original <http://1.bp.blogspot.com>

the team as they brought terrorists to trial for murder; if there were any concern that this L&O’s District Attorneys were going to be weak in the knees, think again. Terrence Howard did an excellent job as the episode emphasized his character, and the detectives did their very best to stop terrorism in wonderfully glamorous suits.

LOLA is definitely a freshman series to watch, especially for those L&O fans. LOLA airs after SVU, so sit back, relax, and let L&O take over your mind.

Review rating: 4 elephants



“Dead Rising 2” picks up where the original left off, delivers more zombie-killing fun

Andrew Foltz • guest writer

Just like movies, music, and other pieces of pop culture, video games have their trends. Adventure games gave way to RPGs, which gave way to first-person shooters. Beyond just genres, there are plenty of themes and settings that come and go in popularity, from generic medieval fantasy world X to the future world of star-ships, lasers, and angry aliens. In more recent years, plenty of games have been made featuring one of the most popular enemies for geeks the world over – zombies. The appeal is obvious enough – hordes of mindless, tireless enemies that never run out and never give up, which are perfect for keeping gamers busy for hours.

Among the many games in recent years that have capitalized on this trend, the “Dead Rising” series stood out for trying something different. The original released near the launch of the Xbox 360 and was one of the major selling points of the system. It covered the exploits of Frank West, an independent journalist who received a tip that a major story was happening in the town of Willamette, Colorado. The major story turns out to be a zombie outbreak, and Frank must survive for 3 days in the town’s zombie-infested shopping mall until rescue can come and save him.

Dead Rising 2 picks up two years after the original. Enter

Chuck Greene, a former motocross racer. He enters the town of Fortune City, Nevada to compete in the popular zombie-oriented game show “Terror is Reality” in order to win the cash prize. Naturally, the zombies used in the show are released, and Chuck must survive for 72 hours until the rescue can arrive and locate enough medicine to prevent his daughter from turning into a zombie herself.

The game plays in accelerated time, with one hour of game time taking about 5 minutes of real time. While waiting for rescue to arrive, the whole city is available to explore. There is a main objective—to determine who caused the outbreak—but the events of the plot move on without you and there’s nothing that forces you to follow it. There are also other survivors in the city that can be rescued, and plenty of zombies to smash to pieces, along with psychopaths that have taken advantage of the chaos to cause some more of their own. Defeating zombies and saving other survivors earns Chuck Prestige Points. Prestige Points are preserved across playthroughs, and getting enough of them causes Chuck to level up, bestowing valuable item slots or health or unlocking new Combo Cards.

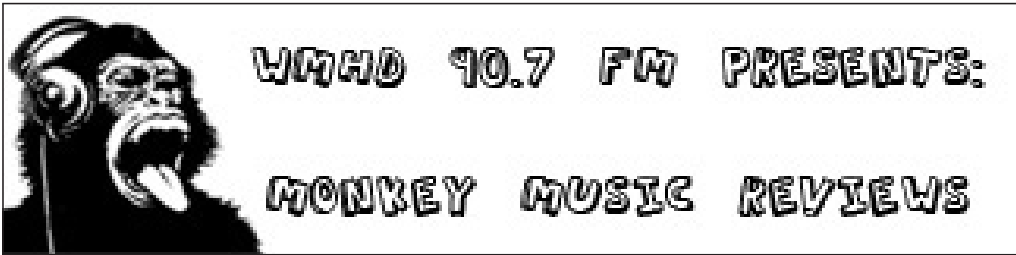
The Combo Cards are the major addition from the first game. As a natural extension of the original’s “pick up anything and everything to fight with” gameplay, Chuck can combine

different items together to form new weapons. There are a couple of weaknesses with this system. Some of the combinations are essentially useless, and many of the combinations are unintuitive and limiting. Why can you attach the fire axe to the sledgehammer but not to the broom? Still, experimenting with the different combinations adds to the appeal of the game.

The other major addition is multiplayer modes, both cooperative and competitive. Cooperative play is done via a drop-in, drop-out system, eliminating any need for multiplayer lobbies or other hassles that keep players from getting to the smashing. The competitive mode is an extended version of the Terror is Reality game show, with several different events for four players. The game is an amusing parody of American Gladiators, and any money earned in this mode can be added to Chuck’s funds in the single-player game.

Overall, the game has a few minor flaws, such as quirky controls and the strange item combinations, and the hard time limit may not be for everyone. But for people who are willing to accept that they may not be able to complete everything in one run, “Dead Rising 2” can provide plenty of hours of entertaining undead genocide.

Review rating: 4.5 elephants



Kayte Johnston • monkey writer

Weezer have built their career out of simply-crafted singles with infectious backing vocals. Without any “hip, hips” or “heys,” nothing on Hurley stands out (though they honestly tried with the single, “Memories”). Nevertheless, this is one of their stronger albums as a whole. The robust rock overpowers their characteristic punk elements making this album seem closer to the style of Jimmy Eat World than traditional Weezer. This is not to say that they have transformed because the guitars sound the same as every track on all of their albums: lots of power chords that closely follow lead singer River Cuomo’s vocal lines. As an icon of geek rock, Cuomo can get away with singing peculiar lines like, “my ocular nerve went pop zoom” (“Ruling Me”), but at other times it seems like a Harvard graduate should be able to



The cover of Hurley features, appropriately, a large picture of Hurley, Jorge Garcia’s character from “Lost” <http://blaremagazine.wordpress.com>

come up with more creative lyrics. It is good to see that the band is still doing whatever they please, though, including naming their album after the character Hurley from “Lost” and displaying him on the cover. The album does get better with a second

listen, but don’t expect anything here to be as pervasive as “Beverly Hills.”

Suggested Tracks: “Ruling Me,” “Hang On,” “Memories”

Review rating: 3 elephants



How to: Stay occupied

Melissa Schwenk • living editor

When I pictured my year in Germany, I expected several lectures a day, lots of classroom exercises, and the occasional hour of leisure to write Thorn articles. What I got instead was four two-hour-long lectures a week, three two-hour-long classroom exercises every two weeks, and more free time that I've ever had in my life.

As I've heard from past seniors with light to no course loads spring quarter, it's hard to stay occupied for those eight hours a day when your friends are in class or working. New hobbies have to be found, part time jobs taken, and the structure of your life is missed. Here are a few inexpensive activities I've taken up to help me stay occupied. And no, Facebook isn't one of them.

One of the main activities I've been enjoying is reading. Most of my friends will attest to the fact that I'm a sedentary person, so reading is perfect for me. I've been reading anything and everything I can: the Brothers Grimm fairy tales in German, Classics like Emma and War of the Worlds, and even my textbooks. I know most Rose students aren't big readers, but each student should try to read at least one book a quarter. The campus book club can help facilitate this by providing the material free of charge. If the selected books aren't your fancy, become a member of the Vigo County Public Library. They'll have a wider selection of fiction books than Logan Library and driving there will give you a chance to get off campus.

Reading has a two-fold benefit of not only occupying your time, but also giving you something to talk about besides what you stumbled to that day. Who know, it might even help you

on a date or in an interview, both places where discussing how much you Facebook stalk your friends might not get you as far as you'd like.

Another way I've been occupying my time has been painting. I took a water color course several years ago, making that my preferred artistic medium, but any type of sketching or painting can be gratifying. Remember when your parents hung all your art on the refrigerator? Just because you're practically an adult now doesn't mean they wouldn't love a handmade birthday card or a painting to hang somewhere.

If you don't feel particularly talented, get a coloring book. There is something very satisfying about finishing a picture and being able to say that you brought it to life. Plus, you'll have something to decorate your room with.

If none of the before mentioned activities tempt you, try this one: learn a new skill. It can be anything that interests you, from robot programming to driving a stick shift, from salsa dancing to a new Frisbee trick. Chances are good that Rose-Hulman already has a club dedicated to it to help you and if not, you can always eHow it.

For years I wanted to learn to salsa and now that I have the opportunity, the only thing that could stop me would be a broken leg, and with my German health insurance that wouldn't stop me for long either. There's no reason for anyone to put off what they want to learn; once you graduate, you'll have even less time to devote to learning it.

Before I came to Germany I always thoughts there weren't enough hours in the day; now I know that sometimes, there aren't enough activities in a day. Happy Occupations.

What I miss about Rose

Melissa Schwenk • living editor

Most of a student's time at Rose-Hulman is spent doing homework, complaining about doing homework, or complaining about something on campus. I'll admit, I've had my share of opinions on how things should be done but I didn't know how good we have it at Rose until I left for another school. Here are a few things I miss that we take for granted at Rose.

First and most important: Professors' Never-ending Office Hours. Most professors have an open door policy at Rose and if they aren't in class or on the phone, they're likely willing to help you, even if it isn't during their stated office hours. Additionally, if you have a question after your professor has

I didn't know how good we have it at Rose until I left for another school.

left for the day, you can usually get a prompt response by email. Some professors even provide students with a phone number to call if they need help.

In Germany, you're lucky if the professor has two office hours one or two days a week. If you email the professor, you'd better CC the teaching assistants or you probably won't even get a response.

Another great thing about Rose is that you'll never have a grad student teaching your class. While some grad students and TA's are competent, most in Germany can't keep control of the lecture, so there is a lot of background talking during the lecture.

Since going to college is practically free in Germany and tuition is so high at Rose, it's easy to see why Rose students expect to be taught by the best and not by someone who may only have three years more schooling.

Another thing I miss about Rose is the administrative work force. If it's between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday, you better believe that Financial Aid, Career Services, the registrar, and every other office on campus is open and ready to assist you.

In Germany, most Government and therefore Univer-

sity offices are closed to the public on Wednesday, and most offices have very short speaking hours on the other days. Most people will even refuse to speak to you if it's not during office hours.

This doesn't change when a large number of students is expected either; at the beginning of each semester, students have to register in their department and after two weeks of classes, I still see students waiting in lines outside the offices.

Another thing Rose students take for granted is their ability to print anything they want, as many times as they want, for free. Even most American schools don't provide this luxury. Having to pay for what you print hasn't stopped many German students from printing copious amounts of lecture notes and slides. In fact, the only thing that seems to stand in the way of unlimited printing is that fact that there are two printers for the whole campus, making me miss the days when I never had to wait for my document to print.

I don't want to sound ungrateful for the opportunity I've been given but I will definitely come back to Rose more appreciative of everything it give me and I hope all of you will realize what a great school we attend.

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Letters

to the editor



To the Editor:

The Staff View in Thorn, “Banning Technology is Failed Policy,” (Rose Thorn, October 1, 2010) has been proven repeatedly; the use of technology to control the use and distribution of pirated material has little chance of success. However, the Rose Thorn staff overlooked one fundamental aspect of the RHIT community that sets us apart: professionals do not use or promote the use of pirated intellectual property (IP). Since the faculty, staff, and students are (or are in the process of becoming) professionals, they must adhere to the basic canons of professional ethics and respect the IP created by others. These ethical codes require that professionals do not use or distribute pirated IP. While it is tempting to use “free” pirated IP in the form of MP3s, videos, photocopies, software applications, etc., a professional has two choices—buy the product and compensate its creator or do not use it. Those who do not adhere to these principles will never be true professionals.

Dan Moore
Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering
David Voltmer
Professor Emeritus of Electrical and Computer Engineering

• • •

To the Editor:

I appreciate the editorial published on 8 October, 2010. But there is a sincere problem with this article. No one on staff is a literature, English, journalism, or creative writing major. I don’t hold that against anyone, in fact I envy your ability to convey thoughts in a generally convincing and succinct manner. I do, on the other hand, take severe offense to the last sentence of the “Staff View: Harassment is never OK.” I want to believe that no staff members are so near sighted as to honestly believe that homosexuality is a “sin.” I want to believe that the Thorn staff comes from a diverse set of backgrounds that would lead to a sincere attempt at editing diction. I want to believe that, regardless of upbringing, the Thorn staff would have the sense to realize that someone could read the article and feel that the Thorn and what it represents in Rose students loses all credibility by bringing in that tacky axiom, “loving the sinner while hating the sin.” Obviously, this is not true. This is the kind of rag I’d expect to pick up fifty years ago at Rose, not today. I can’t blame anyone for this error, as I view it. But I’d be surprised if I was the only one irked by such callous banter.

Parker Lee
Senior chemical engineering major



Christine O'Donnell is a Tea Party candidate running for one of Delaware's Senate seats. She has been widely criticized for lack of political knowledge and making false statements about her past.

themoderatevoice.com

STAFF VIEW: Political elitism is not always bad

I don’t understand elections any more.

It used to be that politicians asked voters to choose between them based on their political views or stances on the issues. Candidates had intelligent debates on topics of the day, and if Dubya made up another word, so what? At least he was getting things done and could still hold his own politically.

It seems as though recently we’ve been trending away from that intelligence. Candidates like Christine O’Donnell make a splash in the news not for a controversial stance, but for not knowing about a simple thing like the legal separation of church and state. Sarah Palin’s campaign was built not on the strength of her education, but on her ability to relate to voters and appeal to the “common American” in all of us. Politicians—on both

sides of the aisle—are taking a beating if they appear too “elitist.”

Frankly, I wouldn’t mind a bit of honest elitism. Let’s face it: I choose representatives in government that I believe fight for issues my way, and I’m not up there running against them because I honestly think they know the political landscape better than I do. I’m an engineer, and what’s more, I’m a student at Rose. I don’t have the time or inclination to follow parliamentary procedure, nor can I spend hours dealing with lobbyists, interest groups, and the other major players in Washington, D.C. I choose people to go into government to take care of that on my behalf.

In this next election, I’m not picking the common American. I’d like to see a candidate who’s well versed in the issues and the laws, and who can converse intelligibly when

CONCURRING: 11

DISSENTING: 2

ABSTENTIONS: 0

needed. I don’t want someone worried about looking too smart – so long as you get the job done, be as arrogant as you want. And I’m concerned that as a nation, we’re willing to sacrifice that intelligence and raw ability in favor of people who can smile for the cameras.

So the next time you hear about a candidate who lied about their diploma or who can’t name a single sitting Democratic senator, think twice before giving them your vote. Because even if your political views align, face it: will that person even be able to represent you in government? Better to find a candidate who’s effective than one who’s attractive.

Tea Party candidates use freedom as a buzzword, not as policy

Carly Baehr • opinions editor

This year’s midterm elections boast a surprisingly large number of so-called Tea Party candidates, conservative candidates who refuse to run as Republicans despite that their views match pretty much spot-on with Republican Party views. Rather than campaigning on concrete issues and promises to accomplish certain legislative feats, the Tea Party candidates seem to be campaigning on a nebulous aggregation of principles such as limited government, freedom and strict interpretation of the Constitution.

Most people want their Congressmen to be in favor of freedom and things like that, but do the candidates’ policy positions actually reflect their principles, and do their principles really form a coherent political philosophy?

Standing on the principles of small government and maximum freedom require a politician to support any piece of legislation that expands individual freedom and to oppose any that detracts from it. However, a great number of conservatives policies and beliefs—

especially conservative positions on social issues—do not conform to this standard.

For example, most Tea Party and Republican candidates are opposed to legalization of gay marriage because they believe that homosexuality is a sin; a position based on the principle of freedom would be that people should be allowed to marry whomever they want.

Most conservatives are opposed to stem cell research; maximum freedom is achieved when scientists can research whatever they feel like researching.

Many conservatives seem to believe that the government is the only threat to individual liberty, but can individuals, corporations, and other entities infringe upon others’ freedom? Can government not be a force to protect freedom? The Civil Rights Act of 1964 protected the rights of black Americans when their rights were being threatened by the white majority. Such legislation ensured the right of every citizen to go to the same restaurants, attend the same schools and drink from the same fountains as all other citizens; no one would decry the Civil Rights Act as infringing upon

a restaurant owner’s individual right to discriminate against people he doesn’t like for whatever reason.

To give a more recent example, net neutrality is an issue that many people would argue is an issue of freedom and equality: should people have access to all different kinds of content on the Internet, or should internet service providers be allowed to discriminate between different websites for their own purposes?

Several Republicans have said that they oppose the infringements the FCC has been trying to make into Internet freedom, which confuses the issue: are they looking out for the rights of individuals to access certain types of content, or the rights of ISPs to restrict access?

Before voters decide to support a candidate based on their political philosophy, they need to examine whether the candidate’s positions actually reflect that philosophy. Americans should be aware of when a position is supported by the principle of freedom, and when “freedom” is merely a buzzword and the position is really supported by groups trying to maintain inequality.

Tennis to NCAAs

Rose-Hulman News

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology earned its first trip to the NCAA Division III Women’s Tennis Tournament with a 5-2 victory over Transylvania University on Friday at the West Indy Racquet Club.

With the victory, the Fightin’ Engineers became the second women’s sports team in school history to qualify for the NCAA Tournament. The women’s soccer team accomplished the feat in 2007.

Rose-Hulman completed its fall season at 11-1 overall and also won its first HCAC regular season title in tennis this year. The Engineers ended the

season on a school record nine-match winning streak.

Rose-Hulman opened the match with two doubles victories to take an early 2-1 advantage. Freshman Marie Stettler gave Rose-Hulman a 3-2 lead with her 6-2, 7-5 victory at the No. 3 position.

Sophomore Sage Sackett increased the lead to 4-2 with a come-from-behind victory at No. 2 singles. Sackett trailed early in the first set before rallying to capture a tiebreaker, then completed the victory by a 6-1 margin in the second set.

Senior Klara Schroederus earned the championship clinching victory

by completing a 6-4, 6-0 win at the No. 6 singles position. Freshman Colleen Stevenson led at the No. 5 singles position, and sophomore Melissa Montgomery was in a tightly contested match at No. 4 singles when the clinching point was earned.

Sackett joined Montgomery for a No. 2 doubles victory, and the No. 3 squad of freshmen Paige Cook and Lauren Reberger rounded out the winners by an 8-4 margin.

Rose-Hulman stands 11-1 overall on the season and will return to the courts this spring. The NCAA Division III Tournament will take place May 13-15 at a site to be determined.

SPORTS BRIEFS

By Kurtis Zimmerman

Rutgers player ‘responsive’ following paralyzing hit

After suffering a paralyzing hit during their game against Army on Saturday, Eric LeGrand is recovering in intensive care while the Rutgers football team faces the loss of a teammate and a friend. While LeGrand is being reported as ‘responsive’ and aware at times, his condition is questionable, and many doctors are uncertain about his future. Head coach Greg Schiano has offered himself to LeGrand’s family and friends, including fellow players who resumed practice on Tuesday, the first full practice since the terrifying injury. The team is set to play at Pittsburgh this Saturday, a game which the team will use to honor their colleague and defensive tackle. Suffering paralysis below the neck, LeGrand has failed to regain feeling or movement within the oft-referenced 72-hour window, but the team and fans continue to hold out hope for the young player’s future.

Football Recap

Kurtis Zimmerman
staff writer

The Fightin’ Engineers travelled two weeks ago to take on the Franklin College Grizzlies, followed by a trip to take on the Mount Saint Joseph Lions on their home turf.

Sophomore civil engineering student Kyle Kovach rushed for 95 yards, including one touchdown run, to lead the Rose-Hulman offense during their matchup against the conference-leading Grizzlies, but the best efforts of the men in red were not enough to earn the win. Franklin College came out victorious in a 56 – 17 win that dropped the Engineers to 2 – 3 overall and 1 – 2 in HCAC play.

Junior electrical engineering student Andrew Couch led the defense with seven tackles, but the Engineers failed to stop the Franklin offense, and the Rose offense struggled similarly in putting points on the board. Kovach carried in a touchdown in the second quarter, followed by a field goal from junior mechanical engineering student Nick Schneider. Sophomore mechanical engineering student Shane Boschert ran the ball into the touchdown for the last score of the game; this touchdown led to Schneider’s record-breaking 92nd career point-after-touchdown.

Franklin improved to 5 – 1 overall and 4 – 0 in HCAC play, and the Engineers followed up a disappointing loss by travelling to take on Mount Saint Joseph.

Mount Saint Joseph’s homecoming game was not as pleasant, as Rose-Hulman saw its season-best rushing game that led to a 13 – 7 victory over the Lions. Kovach rushed for an impressive 130 yards, and graduate student Calvin Bueltel carried the ball 117 yards to help lead the offensive attack.

But the offense was far from the only impressive facet of the game. The Engineer defense kept Mount Saint Joseph to just 205 yards and 12 first downs in the game. Junior mechanical engineering student Matt Green led the defense with eight tackles with two tackles-for-loss, one sack, and one forced fumble. The defense overall recovered three fumbles and one interception to help bring in the win.

Rose-Hulman improved to 3 – 3 overall and 2 – 2 in HCAC contests, and Mount Saint Joseph fell to 3 – 3 and 2 – 3 in conference play. Bluffton University will take on the Engineers in Cook Stadium this Saturday during the Hall of Fame Game which will honor six new Athletic Hall of Fame members.

Heavier punishments for flagrant hits

After fining three players for flagrant hits last weekend, NFL officials are warning that violent hits will be grounds for suspension starting with this week’s games. Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison is out \$75,000, and New England Patriots safety Brandon Meriweather and Atlanta Falcons cornerback Dunta Robinson will each lose \$50,000 due to fines for what officials are calling ‘violent action.’ Fines or ejections have always been used to punish flagrant hits, but after a recent series of concussions and other serious injuries due to unnecessarily violent hits, the NFL is ramping up its castigations for such actions. Harrison’s agent said the fine will be appealed because neither play in which the hits occurred was penalized. On the other hand, Steelers coach Mike Tomlin supports harsher enforcement of helmet hits though he stands by his player’s hit, which he considers perfectly legal. There is no word as to whether the union was consulted before making the call, but NFL Players Association executive director DeMaurice Smith claims they talked with “commissioner Roger Goodell every day.”

MLB postseason begins

The Yankees and Phillies swept their series in three games to move onto the AL and NL Championship Series, respectively, on the track to the World Series. The Texas Rangers took all five games to clinch their series against Tampa Bay, while San Francisco earned their spot in the NL championship in four games against Atlanta. Currently Texas leads the New York Yankees 2 – 1 in the AL Championship Series, and the San Francisco Giants have won two games to Philadelphia’s one victory in their attempt to clinch the AL championship. By the end of this weekend the AL and NL champions will be named and the World Series schedule set. The winding-up of the MLB season will begin next Wednesday and will finish up no later than next week when game seven is set to take place.

ENGINEER SCOREBOARD				
Women's Soccer 6 - 10 - 0 (3 - 3 - 0 HCAC)		Women's Tennis 11 - 1 (8 - 0 HCAC)		
Oct 9		Oct 15		
Transylvania U.	4	Manchester College	1	
Rose-Hulman	1	Rose-Hulman	5	
Oct 12		Oct 15		
Franklin College	1	Transylvania Univ.	2	
Rose-Hulman	5	Rose-Hulman	5	
Oct 16				
Manchester College	0	Men's Soccer		
Rose-Hulman	1	5 - 7 - 4 (2 - 2 - 2 HCAC)		
Oct 19		Sept 25		
Hanover College	1	Transylvania Univ.	2	
Rose-Hulman	2	Rose-Hulman	2	
		Sept 28		
Football		Franklin College	1	
3 - 3 (2 - 2 HCAC)		Rose-Hulman	1	
Oct 9		Sep 29		
Franklin College	56	Manchester Col.	2	
Rose-Hulman	17	Rose-Hulman	1	
Oct 16		Sep 29		
Mt. St. Joseph	7	Anderson Univ.	2	
Rose-Hulman	13	Rose-Hulman	0	
Volleyball 16 - 6 (4 - 2 HCAC)				
Oct 9				
Hanover College	25	14	24	27
Rose-Hulman	16	25	26	29
Oct 12				
Franklin College	18	12	12	
Rose-Hulman	25	25	25	
Oct 14				
Mount St. Joseph	25	22	25	25
Rose-Hulman	13	25	22	20
Women's Golf				
Oct 9-10				
HCAC Tournament			4th	
Anderson, Ind.			Place	
Men's Cross Country				
Oct 9				
Gibson Family Collgiate Invitational			6th	
Terre Haute, Ind.			of 13	
Oct 16				
Wilmington Fall Classic			5th	
Wilmington, Ohio			of 28	
Women's Cross Country				
Oct 9				
Gibson Family Collgiate Invitational			10th	
Terre Haute, Ind.			of 12	
Oct 16				
Wilmington Fall Classic			18th	
Wilmington, Ohio			of 31	

NASTY RUMOR of the week:

Following their groundbreaking success last year with cloning, the Biomedical Engineering department has created a new ZOMBIE VIRUS. To prevent an outbreak and the potential zombiefication of the Rose campus, the department has orchestrated the exhumation of the single corpse that was infected with the virus. The corpse, belonging to a squirrel that wandered too close to the voltage lab, was interred under several feet of concrete in front of BSB. The department decided that zombies were far too tenacious for mere concrete to prevent their spread, and so the squirrel was to be disinterred following the strictest precautions. Upon its removal from the sidewalk in front of BSB, it will be placed in a remote, undisclosed location so as to inhibit a potential zompocolypse.



The engineering student's creed

Noël Spurgeon
humor editor

This is my laptop. There are many like it, but this one is mine. My laptop is my best friend. It is my life. I must master it as I must master my life. My laptop, without me, is useless. Without my laptop, I am useless. I must program my laptop true. I must calculate faster than the test which is trying to fail me. I must find the answer before time runs out. I will...

My laptop and myself know that what counts in this school is not the programs we write, the size of our graphs, nor the approximations we make. We know that it is the answers that count. We will answer...

My laptop is human, even as I, because it is my life. Thus, I will learn it as a brother. I will learn its weaknesses, its strength, its parts, its accessories, its hard drive and its RAM. I will ever guard it against the ravages of weather and spills as I will ever guard my legs, my arms, my eyes and my heart against damage. I will keep my laptop clean and ready. We will become part of each other. We will...

Before God, I swear this creed. My laptop and myself are the defenders of my GPA. We are the masters of our major. We are the saviors of my future. So be it, until victory is ours and there is no homework, but graduation!

Wacky prof quotes

“Your buttress might be bigger than mine.”
— Dr. Sutterer. *It’s okay though. Mine flies.*

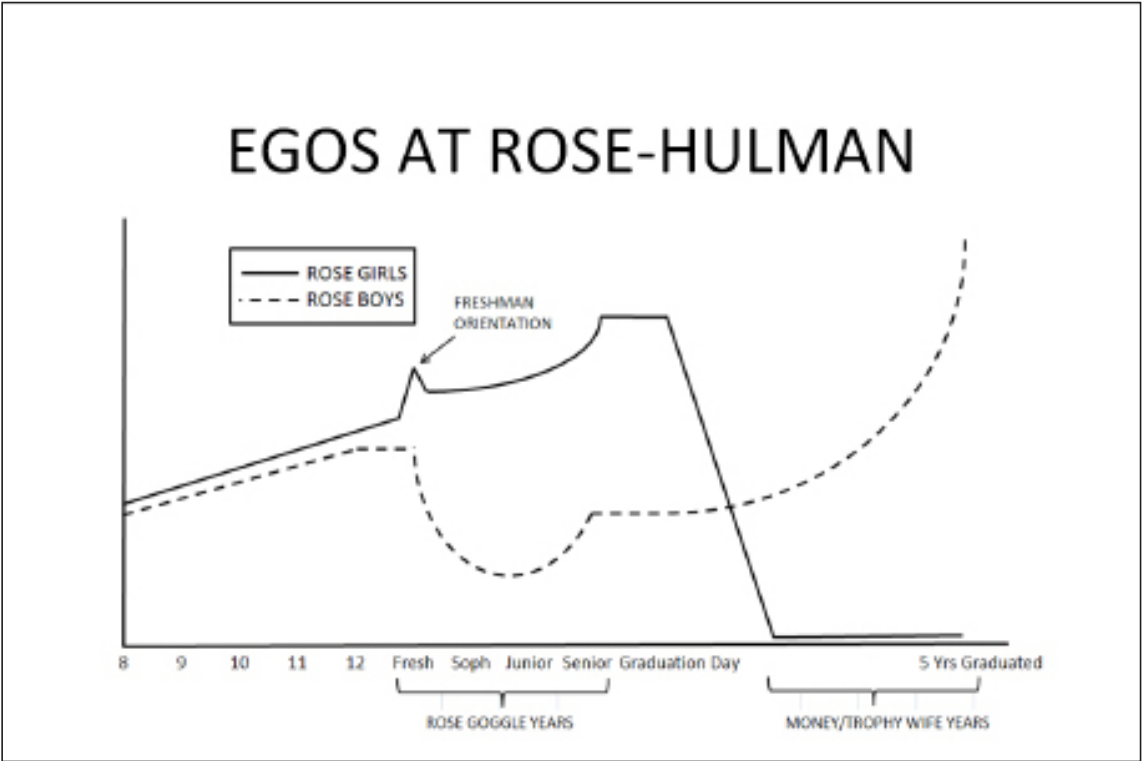
“So if you wanted to play with it, I want to encourage that.”
—Dr. Clifton. *But not too long... don’t want you going blind.*

“You gotta play this game of ‘who’s on top and who’s on bottom?’”
—Dr. Weatherman. *If you don’t know, you’re probably doing it wrong.*

“So what do we know? ... This marker smells good... Want a hit off this marker?”
— Dr. Throne, *discussing the first two steps of problem solving that they don’t tell you about: uncap marker, expand consciousness.*

“I’m so happy I forgot what I was doing.”
—Dr. Galinaitis, *on why joy is not conducive to productivity.*

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



Joshua Steiner and Ryan Borman • Trophy collectors

ROSE MEN OF GENIUS

Celebrating the unsung heroes of Rose-Hulman

Noël Spurgeon • humor editor

Today, we salute you, Mr. Back Row Narcoleptic. Fifteen seconds into the lecture, you slump to the desk and remain there for the rest of the period, face down on yet another blank sheet of notes. At the sound of the bell, you jerk awake, shake your head, and wander zombielike to your next class where the cycle repeats once more. Statics, mechanics, thermodynamics... no subject can hold sway long enough for you to get further than writing the date on the paper. A bomb filled with Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders, cake, and free 4.0's could go off in front of the room, and still you would sleep, immobile as a poorly-dressed garden gnome with bad posture. Up all night from a marathon DOTA session? Perhaps. Pulled another all-nighter to finish your project? Maybe. Even your best efforts to retain wakefulness are futile, the tsunami of sleep overwhelming your tiny raft of caffeine and self-discipline to club you into another coma. So here's to you, Mr. Back Row Narcoleptic. Your snores make the rest of us look good... by making yourself look terrible.

Top “10” Ten

Outcomes of Bid Day

Matt Melton and Noël Spurgeon • Bid Day Barons

10. No more free food Saturdays (I miss Rush already).
9. The restructuring of the ARA according to frat tables. Examples are the Theta Xi conclave, the Fiji Isle, and the multi-eating-surface-spanning New Republic of Pike. I could probably draw you a map.
8. Frat party season begins! Also: the beginning of The List. Girls should be drinking free until break. (*Ed. note: Truth. Girls, welcome to the perks of having that second X chromosome.*)
7. All the Busch Light, Pabst Ice, and Nati Ice in a 5 mile radius of campus is sold out. On a completely unrelated note, the recycling center receives the year's largest contribution the next day.
6. Freshman and upperclassmen actually get to interact. Don't worry, we don't bite... often.
5. The Night Hosts actually get to let people in on a Tuesday night. Drunk people, too.
4. The ARA is commonly mistaken for a ghost town (just without the tumbleweed, skeletons, or unnamed bands of desperados).
3. All the homework turned in on Thursday is missing one or two numbers... or all of them. (*Ed. note: You don't get any credit for just turning in the cover page. Remember that, kids.*)
2. Freshman IM teams lose to the upperclassmen IM teams because they're missing about 1/3 of their players... and 3/3 of the good ones.
1. Hangover Wednesday. Enough said.