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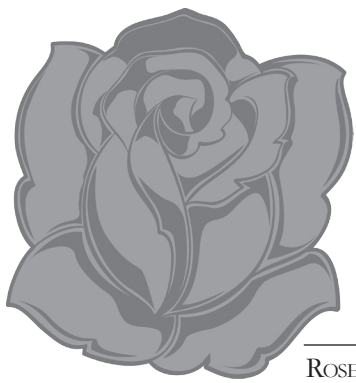
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THE ROSE THORN

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RHEV places 3rd and 5th in national competition



The Rose-Hulman Efficient Vehicle team prepares their car for inspection before the Shell Eco-Marathon Americas competition.
Allen White • Rose Hulman News



Allyson Nelson drives the RHEV car, designed for maximum fuel efficiency.
Shell Eco-Marathon

Ranjana Chandramouli • staff writer

From April 14-17, two cars from Rose-Hulman's Efficient Vehicles Team were able to finish at the top of the pack, placing 3rd and 5th out of 33 teams and over 700 students at this year's Shell's Eco-Marathon Americas competition, held in Houston, Texas.

The Rose-Hulman Efficient Vehicles Team, which has been part of the Rose-Hulman community since 2004, has taken two cars, run by

gasoline-fueled internal combustion engines, to the Shell competition for the past three years. While occasionally they divvy up tasks to get more down on both cars, "everyone on [the Rose-Hulman team] works on everything when they can [and they] operate as one team", says Stephen Sakai, a senior mechanical engineering major and the current president of the Rose-Hulman Efficient Vehicle team. It is due to their hard work and dedica-

tion that they have been so successful, Sakai says.

This year was especially remarkable, as the team assembled a new car for this competition in less than two months, which led to hard work to finish the car in time as well as a few minor bumps along the way. Two seniors on the team used the body and canopy developed in their senior design project to help build the new car. The driver of the third-place finishing car, sophomore me-

chanical engineering major Ally Nelson, said that "when [the team initially] got to Houston, [they] had a few issues with [the car], but the [team] worked really hard and... with every run [they] did [on the track in Houston], the mileage improved."

This top-placing Rose-Hulman car gained a remarkable 1,476 mpg on the track in Houston, Texas to race to third place overall, behind Laval University in Canada and Mater Dei High School from Evansville, Indiana. The other Rose-Hulman car, driven by Alexandra Schwier, a sophomore biomedical engineering major, also finished strong in the competition at fifth place, with 1,205 mpg.

Next up for the Rose-Hulman Efficient Vehicles team is the SAE Supermileage competition in June that takes place annually in Marshall, Michigan. Sakai says that the two competitions "operate very differently" and that they will be installing a different type of engine, as is required by SAE. Despite this, Sakai feels confident in the Rose-Hulman team, stating that, "the team we've got, we will be able to overcome whatever obstacle we come across."

Theta Xi fights cancer with candy

Raises \$200 for American Cancer Society

Richard Thai • copy editor

Pelting rain: 0
Smoke for the Cure: 2

Smoke for the Cure didn't let the rain bring it down for the second year as passersby purchased Candy Cigarettes, Bubblegum Cigars, and T-shirts on April 15. Smoke for the Cure is an annual charity event held by Theta Xi since 2007, with all proceeds donated to the American Cancer Society.

"I thought the event went well this year," said Tom Dykes, a junior electrical engineering major. "Unfortunately, it has rained two years in a row, so we were

unable to set up a hookah outside and allow passersby to smoke, but we made more money than last year and everybody enjoyed themselves." Dykes is a member of Theta Xi who also serves as the Philanthropy Chair, and coordinating Theta Xi's philanthropic events.

"We raised about twice as much as we have the last few years, and we got to have some fun putting a tent up in the commons," said Devin Banks, a junior software engineering major. "We also got to poke a little fun at something usually considered too serious to be funny while raising money for a good charity."

This year's event raised about \$200 with its unorthodox marketing.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Do you breathe air? Are you a sentient being? Then Portal 2 is the game for you!



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What does he have that you don't? Find out on living.

Find out this columnist's opinion of Donald Trump as President.



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Spring break sports recap ahead in sports.



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PAGE 8: FLIPSIDE



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THE ROSE THORN

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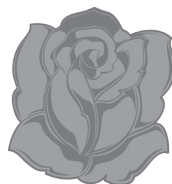
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The Rose Thorn is a weekly publication produced by the members of the community of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology published on Fridays first through ninth week each quarter. All students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend weekly meetings, 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.

Student Government Association Elections

Class President Candidates

Senior Candidates

Debbie Davis

Biomedical Engineering
Winchester, Indiana



SGA should host an event to celebrate the clubs and all their accomplishments through the school year. This event would entail giving out awards to clubs with great accomplishment with improving student life on campus. My nominations and decisions would come from the elected senators. The event would also be a lot of fun with a free dinner, a band, and many activities and games. It would be SGA's way to give back to the clubs, which make SGA the great organization it has become in the last few years.

Andrew Jordan

Mechanical Engineering
New Palestine, Indiana



I would like to see another TV personality, similar to Grant from Mythbusters, come to Rose for a presentation. There was a HUGE turnout for that event, mostly because it was something that everyone on campus was interested in and could relate to. I think that by doing an event similar to this again, a great deal more students would want a say and participate in SGA. I would like to offer the senior class a chance to relax on a weekend. I'm thinking a bonfire (smaller than homecoming, but still a decent size) and a cookout.

Eric Liobis

Civil Engineering
Middlesex, New Jersey



I would organize a senior water pong tournament. See who the best is after 4 years of practice.

Trenton Tabor

Mechanical Eng. / Economics
Middlesex, New Jersey



SGA should continue to sponsor established events like Skinnerfest. Instead of focusing on large resources on divisive concerts, I would push SGA to make more lasting improvements on campus. And though I have an idea, I would love input on what these improvements could be.

Junior Candidates

Durushka Ahmed

Chemical Engineering
Karachi, Pakistan



I think SGA should sponsor a kite festival, a class or school-wide picnic, Rose Idol, a karaoke night, an inter-class volleyball tournament, or sponsor class shirts.

Spencer Bohlander

Mechanical Engineering
Cambridge City, Indiana



I think it would be cool if SGA was to sponsor a week long benefit dinner where you pay a dollar or two at the ARA and they actually serve us their catered food, which is the food we have during the holiday dinners. By doing this they could get some local businesses to match what they make to pay for the food and then all the profit could be donated to a charity organization.

Alex Mullans

Software Engineering / Computer Science
Castle Rock, Colorado



I think SGA has already found one of the coolest events possible on a college campus: a big-name band concert. As junior class president, I would work to ensure the future financial and attendance success of the concert by gathering lots of feedback from my constituents.

Sophomore Candidates

Neville Nishanth Rao

Software / Computer Engineering
United Arab Emirates



I think SGA should sponsor a soap-box tournament every year during one of the first weekends. It would be a good social event for the new freshmen if every residence hall had one team. Additionally, it could be a philanthropic event where additional teams paid a registration fee with prizes offered to the winners.

Zachary Troope

Mechanical / Electrical Engineering
Rolling Meadows, Illinois



I think SGA should sponsor a "Volunteer Fair" at Rose. It would be a publicized event that would host charities and places that need volunteers in the Terre Haute and the surrounding areas and allow us to help them and given back to the community that houses our great school.

LeKisha Bradley

Mechanical Engineering
Richmond, Indiana



Rose-Hulman's SGA should sponsor more school spirit events. We should encourage tail-gating and decoration of dorms supporting various sports and academic teams. Spirit and pep during winter quarter would increase happiness across campus and distract students from the stretch between winter break and quarter break.

Portal 2 ‘a triumph:’ It’s hard to overstate my satisfaction

Noel Spurgeon • flipside editor

Warning: This review contains spoilers. If you haven’t played the game yet, just look at the elephants at the bottom, and go purchase it posthaste.

The original Portal was a small work of art. Imaginative, challenging, tightly scripted, and flawlessly acted, it was an incredible success, developing a deservedly enormous fan following. When Portal 2 was announced, however, there were some doubts. Would the sequel stand up to the black humor and brain-bending puzzles of the original, or would it simply feel like Portal: The Extended Techno Remix? Also, the addition of multiplayer presented another wrinkle: how would the challenges stand up to the need for teamwork? Judging by the 14 hours I’ve spent becoming the Queen of Quantum Space Holes, Portal 2 has succeeded admirably on all accounts.

From a gameplay standpoint, Portal 2 is very much like its predecessor. After accidentally reactivating GLaDOS, you are put through yet another series of test chambers very much like those in the first game. The difficulty curve of these puzzles is, once again, excellent. Each new mechanic is thoroughly introduced in a challenging, but reasonable way, gradually integrated into successively more difficult test chambers. Even the messier, more ‘organic’ settings of the later levels in the underbelly of Aperture Labs maintain this approach; however, it is more difficult to find the exits, and some of the puzzles take a bit of searching before you actually move on to solving. The difficulty of the game was very consistent: although some of the puzzles required a good deal of pondering, it never crossed over into frustration, and the solutions always came with a sense of satisfaction. The new gameplay elements were similarly pitch-perfect, offering just

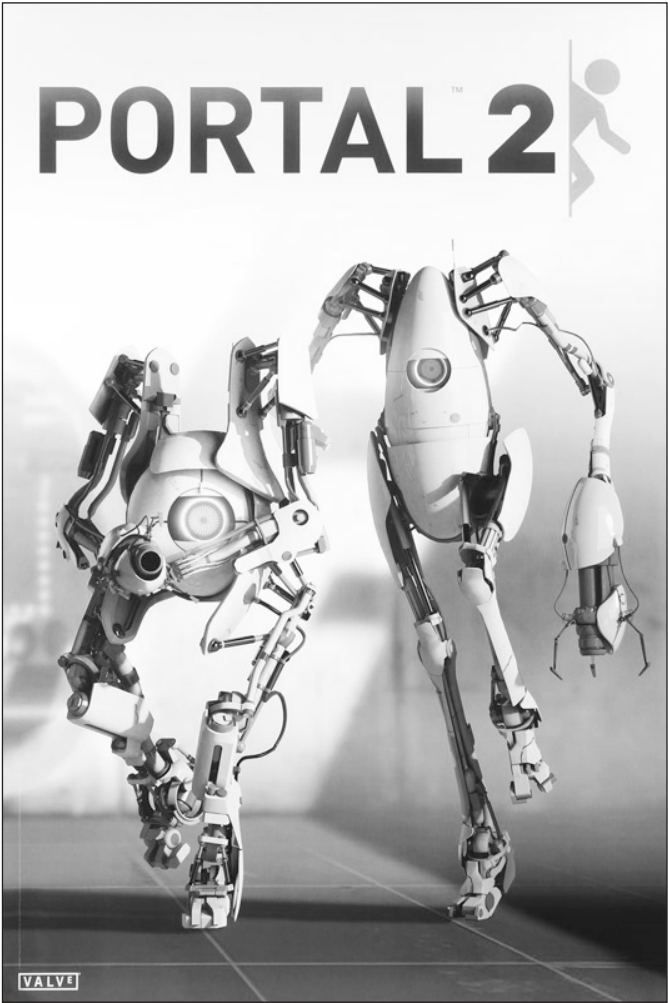
the right level of complexity without being unwieldy, and combining to form some truly innovative solutions.

The co-op levels were similarly well done. The puzzles here are not simply single-player puzzles with the advantage of two sets of portals, but are genuinely cooperative challenges. The ‘point,’ ‘portal,’ and ‘timer’ tools are all incredibly useful even in conjunction with voice chat and make the puzzles enjoyable rather than a chore. Although it is possible to solve the puzzles without any vocal communication, I highly recommend using VOIP, as one of the most entertaining parts of this section of the game is being able to interact with your partner (and violently curse them when they drop you). The gestures, while not essential, are also enjoyable, as they add another dimension to player interaction (and allow you to taunt the turrets). There is also a neat little feature called ‘partner view’, where you can see what your co-op partner sees. This is incredibly helpful during some of the chambers that involve moving to drastically different elevations, or between walls and other barriers.

In addition to excellent gameplay, the story itself is incredibly immersive. I’ll admit to being a story snob, but the story in Portal 2 is brilliant by anyone’s standards. The voice actors are some of the best I’ve ever heard in gaming, and the dialogue is sharp, witty, and fantastically written. GLaDOS shifts perfectly from passive-aggressive to almost maternal, and Wheatley, Cave Johnson, and Caroline fill out an excellent cast of supporting characters. Even Atlas and P-body (the co-op robots) are incredibly expressive: their slow evolution toward humanity is wonderfully handled. The overarching story is also wonderfully written, gradually being revealed through the dialogue as well as the surroundings. In the same

vein, the game world is incredibly immersive: at one point, I found myself edging up to ledges as though I were in actual danger. Both the sterility of the modern test chambers and the vastness of the underground facilities are beautifully depicted and fleshed out, and the progression through decades of test chambers is exceptionally well-designed to be both visually appealing and informative. Although Portal 2 does not aim for the hyper-realistic graphics of some other games, the visuals are more than adequate. All of these aspects culminate in two spectacular (and altogether unexpected) endings, which successfully tie together the bits and pieces picked up during the game without feeling like too neat a package.

In total, Portal 2 is an excellent gaming experience from start to finish. Although it is rather short (it took me around 14 hours to run through both the single and co-op campaigns, although some people I know finished it in as few as 10), the game never feels tiresome or repetitive. However, some players have taken issue with the lack of replay value, as the puzzles are not quite the same after you’ve beaten them once. This is a point I personally disagree on: perhaps I have memory problems, but to me, the game was long enough for it to be difficult to




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remember every solution. In addition, the game is well worth a replay simply for the story and some of the more entertaining achievements. If you like puzzles, or well-told stories, or being called fat by a supercomputer, I suggest you go out and purchase this game immediately... science demands it.

Review rating: 5 elephants



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What does he have that I don't?

Melissa Schwenk • living editor

If you are between the ages of 18 and 24, you've probably heard the phrase "Bitches be Crazy" at least once. If you haven't, good for you; none of your friends have been perplexed by the activities of a female recently.

As someone with plenty of male friends who is somewhat successful at keeping her crazy hidden, I'm often asked why women act the way they do. I'm no anthropologist, but I think I might be able to provide some insight from past experience.

The most common question I get is "Why are you attracted to one boy but not another?" In other words, "What does he have that I don't?" This isn't really a fair question; each person has his or her own taste, it's just that men's taste is easier to stereotype.

Take a look at celebrity couples — male celebrities almost always have younger, attractive mates. On the other hand, there are many female celebrities with

They talked to me like a real person before finally asking me out.

mates that people agree are of below-average attractiveness, especially in Hollywood. However, just because the general consensus is that she's out of his league doesn't mean that she believes it.

Most of the time, girls can't really explain why they like someone. They may think they have a type, but most of the time, they end up with up with someone who is the exact opposite, looks-wise. There are a few things they can agree on though, when it comes to which boys have it going on.

First, confidence attracts women more than baby-blue eyes or rock-hard abs. The most obvious common trait between my past boyfriends is that they were all confident when they approached me. None of them acted as if I was out of their league; they talked to me like a

real person before finally asking me out.

There is a limit to this confidence though: most women don't want to be approached by someone acting like God's gift

to women. If you act like you are entitled to our attention, most girls will ignore you. The most common occurrence of this hubris occurs at dance parties, where boys often approach from behind, without so much as a "Hello, my name is..."

Next, take a little pride in your appearance. Everyone has their own style, but if you look like you just rolled out of bed all day, every day, people are not going to take you seriously. Why would a girl, who spent anywhere from five minutes to an hour getting ready that morning, want to spend her time with someone who didn't have the courtesy to shower before picking her up?

Putting on a clean shirt and jeans without stains will, at the very least, not scare girls away. However, don't change the way you dress just to impress a girl; if you are a hipster, you probably want to date a female hipster, not whichever non-hipster has attracted your eye that week.

More on clothes: buy clothes that actually fit you. I'm against male skinny jeans, almost as much as female ones, but I have to admit, the people who can pull them off, pull them off well. For the rest of you, ditch the baggy pants your mom has been buying for you since middle school. These are worse for future relations than a room-



Female celebrities often end up with men that leave people scratching their heads and asking "What's he got that I don't?" The general consensus is that Alyssa Milano is attractive, but most women probably can't say the same about her new husband.

www.popcrunch.com/alyssa-milano-married/

mate who ignores a sock on the door. In addition, stick to shirts that aren't two sizes too big.

Your clothes don't need to be skin tight, but they should at least not hide your body completely. If your clothes make you look bulky, girls will think you are bulky, even if you don't have a six pack. If you have any questions about what you are thinking about buying, take a sister or female friend along with you to the store to approve your purchases. It's better to

have someone tell you before you spend the money that the outfit doesn't work than after the tags are off.

Hopefully these tips help you understand women a little more. If there are any women out there who want to dispute or add to this article, send your submissions to thorn-living@rose-hulman.edu. And if anyone can help me understand men and wants to write for the living section, e-mail the same address.

Battling blemishes - a guide to acne

Morgan Lopez • staff writer

Acne. Everyone here has it. No one wants it. There are countless remedies out there, from over-the counter concoctions, to prescription drugs, to unusual at-home treatments. Accusations of what causes acne are flung far and wide from hormones to chocolate. Over break I experimented with some treatments and researched preventative measures; my findings are summarized

in the tables below. To better understand how/why these treatments do or do not work, one must consider some of the basic facts concerning the cause of acne.

Acne is a bacterial infection of the skin. A pimple forms as the body's defense against the colonization of acne-causing bacteria under the skin. These infections occur readily if pores have been plugged by cosmetics, oil, or flaked-off skin, providing a perfect place for

acne bacteria to hang out. Killing bacteria, keeping pores clear, and strengthening the body's immune defenses help fight acne. There are many methods of accomplishing these. Some work better than others, and others only work for some people. Some don't work at all. The "effectiveness" column in the table below is based solely on my experiences with the remedy, but everyone is different, so what works for me may not work

for you, and vice versa.

Sometimes, as we all know, we get an especially nasty specimen of the infection, which results in a particularly embarrassing spot. These are best dealt with by soaking a wetting a wash cloth or paper towels in hot water and applying to the affected area for 10-15 minutes at a time. This increases circulation and softens skin. Then, applying a dab of mud mask (available at Wal-Mart) to the spot extracts liquid

from the area and makes the blemish less noticeable. Avoid extracting infection sites yourself (squeezing), as even light pressure can damage surrounding tissue and push bacteria further into the skin.

If your acne is unresponsive to common treatments, is painful, or just seems out of control, see a doctor. They can prescribe oral antibiotics or retinoids that will improve your condition immensely.

Remedy	Intention	Implementation	Effectiveness
Benzoyl peroxide (OTC gel, facial cleanser)	Kills bacteria on skin, fights bacteria in pimples	Apply regularly, especially to problem areas	Good for shrinking blemishes, not as effective for prevention
Salicylic acid (OTC gel, facial wipes)	Kills bacteria on skin, dries out active infection sites	Apply regularly all over or just to acne-prone areas	Good for prevention, moderately effective for combating present pimples
Toothpaste	Increases circulation to area applied to assist immune defense, kills bacteria	Apply to active infection	Poor, may actually cause more acne to develop
Lemon Juice	Changes PH level of skin to inhibit bacterial colonization, exfoliates to prevent pores from clogging	Rub ½ of a squeezed lemon all over face weekly	Poor, dries out skin making it more susceptible to infection, but improves skin tone
Sunlight	Sunlight kills bacteria on skin	Get some sun, but not a sunburn!	Fair treatment, but use a non-comedogenic sunscreen
Washing pillowcase and sheets often	Reduces pore-clogging oil on surface in regular contact with the face	Wash sheets, especially pillow case once a week	Fair acne prevention, especially on cheeks
Facial Moisturizer	Reduces sloughing of dead skin which can clog pores, keeps skin healthy to fight infection	Apply after washing face	Excellent prevention, be sure to use a non-comedogenic moisturizer for the face
Hydration	Improves skin's ability to flush oil from pores, improves skin health	Drink 6-8 8-oz glasses of water daily	Fair to good prevention
Physical activity / sweating	Flushes oil and bacteria from pores, increases circulation to skin to help fight infection	Exercise moderately 3-6 times a week or spend time in a sauna and allow yourself to sweat for a few minutes	Fair to good prevention, fair at bringing blemishes to surface where
Diet	Avoid foods that encourage bacterial proliferation or clog pores	Avoid sugary foods, oily foods, and caffeine	No noticeable change, though many swear by it

President Trump: not a good idea

Carly Baehr • opinions editor emeritus

Donald Trump—yes, that Donald Trump—has inexplicably risen to the top of the list of Republican Presidential candidates for 2012.

Trump also appears prepared to fight for the candidacy based on his showmanship rather than his policies. Rather than spending his airtime talking about how we should fight for democracy overseas or balance the budget or keep our children safe from evil abortion doctors, Trump has instead chosen to make headlines by dredging up the old claims about President Obama’s birthplace.

Trump allegedly hired some investigators of his own and sent them to Hawaii to plumb the murky depths of the Hawaiian public records in search of the “missing” birth certificate. And according to him, he just can’t believe what they’re finding. Despite the multiple birth announcements in Hawaiian newspapers and the certificate of live birth that has been on the Internet since 2008, apparently there is no evidence whatsoever that Obama is a natural-born citizen. All he wanted was a birth certificate, Trump kept saying. What was Obama hiding?

Then, this week, Obama gave the “birther” conspiracy theorists what they wanted and released his long-form birth certificate in an attempt to put an end to the ridiculous distraction from

real issues. Trump, of course, took the credit for “forcing” Obama to release his birth certificate, and is apparently extremely proud of himself for this fact, though he’s still going to wait for the document to be authenticated before he makes any real conclusions about its veracity.

Trump, of course, is going to wait to start campaigning until the last episode of his reality show “The Apprentice” airs, but in the meantime he seems determined to

gain support by pandering to the most radical conspiracy nuts in the right wing. Even conservative pundit Bill O’Reilly, much to his credit, has stated that the conspiracy is bogus, but that

hasn’t stopped the 40% of Republicans who still think the President is secretly Kenyan, according to the most recent polls.

It’s disturbing to note how much sway the fringe of the Republican Party seems to hold over today’s politics. Instead of talking about the economy and foreign policy, the media have flocked to Trump to talk about birth certificates. Even if I agreed with his politics, I would never vote for Donald Trump because of the way he’s turning the pre-campaign season into a political sideshow. In 2012 I want to vote for a President, not for the host of “The Apprentice: US Edition.”



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Dr. Corey Taylor • faculty writer

Did you know that April is National Poetry Month? Did you know that there’s good poetry to be found in Terre Haute, including Rose-Hulman?

For most (not all) people around here the answer to these partially-rhetorical questions is probably “no.” I’d wager, too, that for some (not all) people who answer “no,” there’s likely a “who cares?” thrown in.

How sad and unfortunate.

National Poetry Month is organized by the Academy of American Poets and receives sponsorship from the American Booksellers Association, the National Council of Teachers of English, the National Endowment for the Arts, and others. Since 1996, the commemoration has raised awareness of and celebrated the aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural power of poetry in the United States (www.poets.org). Aware that the times are a-changing—to paraphrase one of my favorite poets, Bob Dylan—some National Poetry Month events are mediated through Twitter and iTunes. However, most of the celebrating occurs in physical settings like classrooms, coffee shops, bookstores, libraries, and museums.

Communities mark National Poetry Month differently. In the Wabash Valley, poetry has been on display all month. On April 1st, I attended the Swope Art Museum’s First Friday event, an awards ceremony for and readings by winners of the first-ever Max Ehrmann Poetry Competition. For those of you who don’t know, Ehrmann was a Terre Haute native who wrote a fair amount of poetry, most famously the quasi-philosophical “Desiderata.” I’ll admit that he’s not among my favorite poets, but Ehrmann was a native son and we should celebrate his life and work.

The Ehrmann Competition awards ceremo-

ny, organized by Art Spaces, Inc. and funded mainly by St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, was nicely planned and well attended. A majority of the poetry honored that night was quite good, and the authors ranged from fifth-grade students to full-grown adults. According to Brian Boyce’s April 2nd Tribune-Star article about the event, competition was stiff: nineteen winners were selected by three professional, Indiana-based poets from a pool of 308 entrants.

Conspicuous by their absence, however, were contributions from and several members of the Rose-Hulman community. In addition to SMWC, eighteen local businesses, college departments and clubs, and associations pitched in monetary and other forms of support. Nothing and no one associated with Rose-Hulman appeared on the list of sponsors. And other than Phil Rodenbeck, a senior mechanical engineering major who won the Art Spaces, Inc. Choice Award for “At Young Indiana,” I saw only two faculty colleagues at the event.

That makes four people from Rose-Hulman. There were around 200 people at the Swope. Approximately 2,300 people live, learn, and work at the college. To call Rose-Hulman “busy” epitomizes understatement. Admittedly, I don’t always attend every event I want to, but our absenteeism from the Swope on April 1st was embarrassing. The virtually nonexistent turnout, total lack of awareness (before the event, anyway; there was a nice piece about Phil’s award posted to the college’s website afterward), and absence of funding were inexcusable and shameful for an institution of higher education—even one with a narrow focus.

Perhaps I’m personally and professionally biased toward poetry. I won’t apologize for that. There’s not an English major to be found at Rose-Hulman (among the student body, anyway), but we have several students, faculty, and staff engaged with poetry and other literary arts. As faculty advisor for our literary and visual arts magazine, Ink, I have first-hand knowledge of the vast non-engineering talent that exists here. The poetry—not to mention the prose, visual works, and plastic arts—in the soon-to-be-released Volume 9 is arguably the best to be published in the magazine in the last four years. You can see for yourselves, soon.

I hope that, for future Ehrmann Competitions and other literary events, we as a college show ourselves better than we did earlier this month.

STAFF VIEW: Guard your rights

I’ve been thinking about an interesting argument recently. It started with a joke I once heard about the Second Amendment that there was no reason to have military grade rifles unless the deer start wearing Kevlar. At the time, I laughed and thought that this was a pretty reasonable argument against citizens owning assault rifles. However, there has always been something unsettling about it. The truth is that there really is no reason for citizens to have assault rifles or submachine guns. We are not under attack. There is no war on the home front. After all, this argument reasonably allows guns for sporting use. It’s not seeking to take them away. But there is the very issue. The Second Amendment should not be tampered with.

The Second Amendment was not put in place simply to allow the possession of hunting rifles. That would be a ridiculous thing to put into the Bill of Rights. It was determined that a citizen ought to have the right to own a firearm to defend himself. In those days, they were defending themselves against the unjust British government; so if we’re not defending ourselves from an unjust government, why should we have guns? Well,

CONCURRING: 11
DISSENTING: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 2


some people would argue that we are defending ourselves from an unjust government while others may say that we need to be prepared to defend ourselves against an unjust government. Whether these arguments are true or not, they seem a bit paranoid. I believe that we must keep the right simply because it is our right. We may not be in dire need of it at this moment, but that is no reason to let it go. After all, how many of us are using our Fifth Amendment right at this very moment?

Now, I’ll be the first to say that the federal gun laws and the local gun laws in most states are full of loop holes and redundancies; however, this only calls for reorganization of the laws, not a ban on guns. Switzerland has a mandatory military service period during which its citi-

zens are trained to use assault rifles. Citizens are then allowed to keep those rifles for the rest of their lives; the only restriction is that the rifles are made semi-automatic rather than full automatic. Isn’t it interesting that Switzerland’s crime rate is much lower than that of the United States? I won’t say that there is a direct correlation, but I will say that there is an indication that more guns do not necessarily cause more crime. In fact, there are many myths about guns that proliferate in today’s society. For example, silencers were not created as a tool for assassins (as Hollywood would have us believe) they were created so people could hunt without bothering their neighbors. So why are silencers sometimes banned or at least looked down upon?

Guns are not a major issue to me right now. They are actually pretty far down the list as far as I’m concerned. However, the issue is that rights have a funny way of disappearing over time. If they’re not constantly watched over, they can slip away. But they should not be forgotten. It is your right, and even if you do not use it, no one can take it away from you.

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Athlete of the week



Allie Faber



Coming into Spring Break off a pair of hard losses to Anderson University, Rose-Hulman's softball team set off on a trail of six conference games in a row to fill their Spring Break play.

Overall, the Lady Engineers split the series of games 3 – 3, losing both games against Manchester College, sweeping Franklin College in two incredible come-from-behind wins, and splitting a twin bill against Hanover College last weekend.

In the split against the Hanover College Panthers, senior civil engineering major Allie Faber led the offensive effort with two home runs in the opening game, setting the single-game school record for Rose-Hulman. Faber also accumulated six home runs this season to set the single-season home run record and eight home runs in her career for the career home run record as well.

For her record-breaking efforts during Spring Break, Allie Faber has been named Athlete of the Week, and she graciously took the time to answer a few questions for *The Rose Thorn*.

Rose Thorn: How long

have you been playing softball, and what positions have you played?

Allie Faber: I started out playing T-ball at a pretty young age and spent a lot of time playing wiffleball and home run derby in the back yard with my brothers. I usually played with club teams from then on, but spent a good part of the games playing in the dirt or picking flowers. I began playing more competitively in 6th grade as a pitcher and third baseman and started catching in high school because I wasn't afraid of getting hit by foul balls or getting dirty and the position looked like more fun because as a catcher you are involved in every pitch.

RT: What is your favorite thing about softball?

AF: As a kid I was kind of lazy, so think it was my favorite sport because it required the least amount of running. Now I love it because the girls on the team are so much fun and because nothing feels better then smacking the crap out of a ball when you have had a rough day.

RT: What have you learned from being a part of the softball

team?

AF: As a catcher you always try to think how to set up the batter to strike out. It's important to call different sequences and keep the batter off balance and guessing. It has taught me the importance of planning ahead, making creative decisions, and how to adjust and fight back when things aren't going your way.

RT: What other clubs/activities have you been a part of during your time at Rose?

AF: I am an RA in Mees hall. It's pretty much the best thing ever.

RT: Since you are a senior, what are your plans for after this year?

AF: I will be working for Alcoa, a company which produces aluminum products in their Engineering Products and Solutions Business unit. I will be traveling to different casting plants to implement projects and methods to help improve their output speed and reduce manufacturing cost. In the future I plan on earning an MBA and maybe working in or owning a consulting firm.

Spring break sports recap

Kurtis Zimmerman • sports editor

Despite a wet week of rain and thunderstorms which delayed or postponed several events, Rose-Hulman's athletic teams continued competing to begin wrapping up the spring season.

Track & Field

Rose-Hulman competed twice over the past two weeks: first at home in the Twilight Meet – where the track and field team accumulated 17 top-three finishes, earning second place overall in the men's competition and sixth in the women's competition – and second, this past weekend at the Bellarmine Invitational, the team combined for 12 top-five performances, earning HCAC Athlete of the Week honors for three members. Sophomores Creasy Clauser and Liz Evans were named Athletes of the Week for the women's team, and junior Sutton Coleman earned similar honors for the men's team.

The track and field team has now earned 18 HCAC Athlete of the Week awards in 2011, leading the conference. Coming up this weekend are the HCAC Outdoor Championships in Hanover, and the NCAA Division III Outdoor Nationals will take place at the end of the month.

Baseball

The Fightin' Engineers competed in six games over break, finishing the week with a 2 – 4 record. The team picked up one win and two losses against both Transylvania University and College of Mount St. Joseph; they returned to Terre Haute this past Tuesday to take on Franklin College and dominated the Grizzlies with a 10 – 2 win. The victory featured two home runs for senior Michael Kovacs, who recorded a total of five RBIs on the game, and senior pitcher Gannon Sadzeck improved to 2 – 1 on the season after holding Franklin to just two runs.

The baseball team now sits on a 21 – 12 record overall and 11 – 7 record in HCAC play, putting them fourth in the HCAC standings. They will round out the season with games against Manchester, Franklin, and Hanover before the start of the HCAC tournament beginning May 12.

Softball

The Lady Engineers likewise competed in six games over break, finishing with a 3 – 3 record on the week. Two tough losses at Manchester were matched by a two-game sweep of Franklin that featured two come-from-behind wins to top the Grizzlies despite deficits in the seventh inning. Last Saturday the Lady Engineers hosted Hanover and split the two-game matchup, and senior Kyla Lutz earned HCAC Athlete of the Week honors this week for her two victories on the mound and impressive hitting.

The softball team is now 13 – 19 overall and 6 – 8 in conference matchups, placing them sixth in the HCAC standings. They round out their regular season with their Senior Day game against Defiance College this Saturday at 1 p.m.

Men's tennis

The tennis team earned their first HCAC title this past weekend after defeating Defiance 9 – 0. They finished the HCAC regular season with a 7 – 1 record, and the championship is the first in the history of Rose-Hulman.

They will compete in the HCAC Tournament this weekend where the league representative to the NCAA Division III Tournament will be determined. The men's squad joins the women's squad as conference champs and has a chance to join them as contenders in their respective NCAA Division III championships. The women earned a bid to the tournament this past fall and will compete in May.

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Stephen Mayhew • Exhaustive fact-checker



ROSE MEN OF GENIUS

Celebrating the unsung heroes of Rose-Hulman

Noël Spurgeon • humor editor

Today, we salute you, Mr. Extension-Cord Raider. The single ray of sunlight that pierced your blackened WOW-cave proved too difficult to resist, and here you are, squinting in the spring sunshine. Extension cords and Ethernet cables are draped out your window and wrapped around your lawn chair as you try to adjust the screen for optimal glare protection, and are disappointed to find out that unlike the fluorescent glow from your desk lamp, you can't change the angle of the sun. Limited to your laptop, you bemoan your low frame rate, behemoth, Freon-cooled desktop having been left inside because it was simply too heavy for you to move. But yet, you persevere, doling out blows from your Level 75 Golden Spiky Sword of Deadly Poking, your paladin climbing the ranks of the most esteemed WOW players as you risk your carefully-maintained pasty complexion for game and glory. So here's to you, oh hardy gamer: thanks to you, we can now have the great indoors... outdoors.



Top “10” Ten Things to do before you graduate

Matt Melton • Speed Lake sunbather

10. Break laptop. Get new one.
9. Start going to bed BEFORE 3 a.m. Stop waking up after 3 p.m.
8. Search 5000 e-mails in Rose e-mail inbox to see if any of them need to be saved.
7. Find apartment complex that will both allow tesla coils and have the necessary power supply for them.
6. Write detailed exercise plan to replace weekly IM's with something other than Call of Duty and ferocious weight gain.
5. Learn how to cook. Real life does not come with a meal plan.
4. Begin talking to more girls to adjust to 50/50 ration found in the rest of the world.
3. Change Rose e-mail address that was used for EVERYTHING to one that I will still have in three months.
2. Search for “mate” now that one has time to do so.
1. Find job (Oh yeah...crap...).



NOT FOR THE
INDECISIVE

Wacky prof quotes

- “Should we wait for what’s-her-face? I didn’t mean to say what’s-her-face. I mean that in a good way.”
— Dr. Coppinger. At least it was the face...
- “You should be troubled by what you are doing right now.”
—Dr. Adams. We know the feeling. It’s called sophomore year.
- “I will not change the form of the quiz, because the point of the quiz is to harass you.”
—Dr. Kuo. And also to destroy my hopes and dreams. Don’t forget about that one.
- “Do any of you like hip hop? Don’t tell me, you’ll get an F. ”
— Dr. Hoover. So does not knowing if I like hip hop give me an A?

- “Do you know who sees in infrared? PREDATOR. ”
— Dr. Moorhead, on the impornance of knowing the visible spectra.
- “My colleagues would say, ‘You’re not in front of them, boring them! Don’t you understand your job?’”
— Dr. Mason, who is not here for your entertainment (only his).

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

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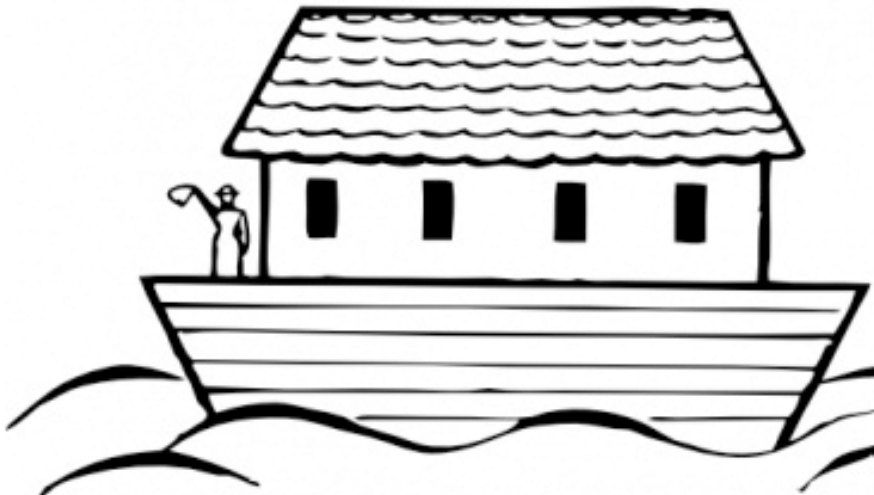
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