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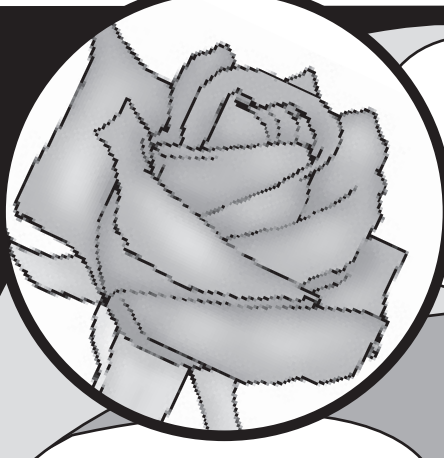
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THE ROSE THORN

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA
FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2009 ROSE-HULMAN.EDU/THORN/ VOLUME 43, ISSUE 20

News Briefs By Andy Klusman

Jobless claims at new high

Jobless claims rose last week to a seasonally adjusted 652,000, which is up from the previous figure of 644,000, according to the Labor Department. This increase was worse than economists' projections and brings the total number of people claiming benefits to the highest total since 1967. This news follows the announcement from the Commerce Department stating that the economy shrank at a 6.3 percent annual pace at the end of 2008, which is the worst decline in 25 years. Many economists project that the economy will contract at the current quarter at a rate of five or six percent, which is weak by historical standards, but slightly better than the end of 2008.

Japanese man is double atomic bomb survivor

The first person to become officially certified as a survivor of both United States atomic bombings in Japan is 93 year old Tsutomu Yamaguchi. He was previously certified as an "hibakusha," or "radiation survivor," of the atomic bombing in Nagasaki on August 9, 1945. He is now confirmed as a survivor of the attack on Hiroshima three days earlier. He spent the night in the city, and then returned home to Nagasaki. Nagasaki city official Toshiro Miyamoto said, "As far as we know, he is the first one to be officially recognized as a survivor" of both atomic bombings. He also said there is the chance there are more people like Yamaguchi. Certification of surviving the bombs allows the person to receive government compensation, but Yamaguchi will not have his compensation increased.

Germany extends car scrapping bonus

Although she faces criticism from environmentalists and some car industry executives, Chancellor Angela Merkel is likely to extend the car "scrapping bonus" offered to Germans. The bonus is a popular initiative to help spur auto sales in the light of the economic crisis. The program pays owners of old cars 2,500 (\$3,300) to junk their cars and buy a new car. Some German car executives are criticizing the program because the most popular cars being sold are cars selling for under 10,000 (\$13,500), which are primarily non-German cars. The German Economics Ministry head Horst Seehofer said, "The scrapping bonus is a huge success that has pleased us and we should expand it."

A semester at Aizu

Tim Ekl
Photo Editor

When students go on break, the last thing most want to think about is schoolwork or classes. But when Cary Laxer goes on sabbatical, he's the exact opposite.

Laxer, the computer science department head, took sabbatical for the 2007-2008 school year. Rather than go home or vacation with his family, however, Laxer chose to visit the University of Aizu, a recently founded Japanese university with a focus on computer science and engineering.

During his visit, Laxer team-taught a course on Java game development, learned basic Japanese, did some cultural sightseeing, and came back armed with ideas for improving Rose-Hulman's collaboration with other overseas institutions.

The University of Aizu, founded in 1993, offers only degrees in computer science and computer engineering.

Rose-Hulman's collaboration with Aizu began three years ago with a talk given at Rose by one of Aizu's professors. The presentation, which Laxer attended, focused on cross-cultural differences and computer science education. Laxer spoke with the visiting professor after his

presentation, and the two corresponded by email for some time.

A pivotal moment came when Laxer went on a global conference trip. He was able to add a one-day stop at Aizu to visit and chat with his Japanese colleagues. "[The faculty there] were thrilled that we were

number one, things like that," Laxer said. "At the end of my visit, they agreed that we should pursue further cooperation."

The two universities formally began their relationship soon thereafter, when Gerald Jakubowski, then first-year president of Rose-Hulman, signed a document establishing cooperation between Rose and Aizu. The document was the first he signed in his time as president, according to Laxer.

That cooperation eventu-

ally culminated in the president of the University of Aizu inviting Laxer to spend a semester there, teaching courses and getting to know the university. Laxer accepted the offer, despite plans to visit New Zealand with his wife and spend a portion of his sabbatical there.

Along with Laxer, four students went to Aizu for the semester: Mark Grandjean, Ryan Parnas, Daniel Sabin, and Jonathan Woodworth. All four are junior computer

science majors, with Parnas also double-majoring in software engineering.

"I got a grant from Rockwell Collins that allowed me to take four students with me as exchange students and paid for their travel costs and some cultural sightseeing that we did," Laxer said. "They were the first students that ever earned transfer credit from the University of Aizu."

Continued on page 3...



Photo courtesy of Cary Laxer

The University of Aizu. Founded in 1993, Aizu is a Japanese university that places a focus on science and engineering.

Sustainability Week

Lindsey Saxton
Ad Manager

Over the last two weeks, the Sustainability Club brought activities intended to help Rose become as environmentally friendly as possible. March 15th to 20th, called the Week of Warmth, was a series of prize drawings for people who wore specific clothing. Dr. Minster, the club sponsor, quipped, "I liked that we called it Week of Warmth, abbreviated WoW. Some people saw it and thought we were talking about World of Warcraft." The Sustainability Club emphasized the fact that many people turn on space heaters instead of throwing on

a sweatshirt to warm up. The Rose campus generally has problems with temperature control. Dr. Minster noted,

of clothing, they could be entered in a drawing for various Rose Hulman gear. According to Minster, participation in-

and Erik Hayes did "a good job recruiting people." This past week included events promoting the Sustainability Club in general, including sorting through the trash from residence halls for recyclables and creating a sculpture out of trash to win prizes. The next week, the Sustainability Hallympics began. Residence halls competed to see which dorm was the most economically friendly. Minster was pleased with the week overall, saying, "I'm pleased even if we've raised awareness even just a little."

The Sustainability Club is always welcoming volunteers who would like to help raise awareness: their next main event is an outdoor party for Earth Day.

I like that we called it Week of Warmth, abbreviated WoW. Some people saw it and thought we were talking about World of Warcraft.

-Dr. Mark Minster

"Sometimes in the summer it's really very cold on campus." If a student wore a certain article

created over the week. According to Dr. Minster, this was partially because Jim Sedoff

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The Magic Number

By Melissa Brumbaugh

Instructions:

Using addition (+), subtraction (-), multiplication (x), and division (/), solve the puzzle by using all the given numbers only once to equal the Magic Number.

$$\underline{\quad} 25 \quad \underline{\quad} 57 \quad \underline{\quad} 58 \quad \underline{\quad} 69 \quad \underline{\quad} 90 \\ \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} - \underline{\quad} - \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} = 47$$

$$\underline{\quad} 2 \quad \underline{\quad} 6 \quad \underline{\quad} 53 \quad \underline{\quad} 55 \quad \underline{\quad} 67 \\ \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} = 236$$

$$\underline{\quad} 13 \quad \underline{\quad} 53 \quad \underline{\quad} 60 \quad \underline{\quad} 90 \quad \underline{\quad} 91 \\ \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = 6990$$

$$\underline{\quad} 24 \quad \underline{\quad} 27 \quad \underline{\quad} 28 \quad \underline{\quad} 73 \quad \underline{\quad} 73 \\ \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} / \underline{\quad} = 699$$

Find the answers to all Rose Thorn puzzles at:

Crypto-Quote of the Week

By Melissa Brumbaugh

Instructions:

Solve the puzzle by deciphering the following quote and figure out from which movie the quote is. Each letter represents a different letter in the alphabet.

Hint (Solution = Crypto):

A = E B = U C = X

MA'R UWEAWZ ATW YWXCYPH TWPH UF

DF UWRA IYMWZH, DMRR XCYZWPME

GYMZXW DWHEP. EZH, BER RTW DEH. TM,

XCYZWPME. TCB EYW FE, RBWWAMW?

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The editors reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar, length, and factual errors. The editors reserve the right to accept content changes submitted after deadline.

All letters must contain the writer's signature (electronic form is acceptable) and contact information (e-mail address and/or phone number).

The views expressed in the *Rose Thorn* are those of the original author and do not necessarily represent the views of the *Rose Thorn* staff or Rose-Hulman community.

A semester at Aizu, from page 1

While at Aizu, Laxer taught a graduate-level course on Java game development. Three of the four Rose-Hulman students enrolled in the course, allowing Laxer to get to know them better and have an unprecedented teaching experience.

"It was a great way to get to know some Rose students," Laxer said. "It was a unique opportunity to teach [them] in a different country."

Though Laxer enjoyed his trip, teaching at Aizu was very different from teaching at Rose-Hulman. Japanese students, according to Laxer, "don't speak in class, don't ask questions, and

didn't want to work with Rose students on a team."

"There were times I wondered if the Japanese students understood what I was saying," Laxer said. "I probably had more interaction with the Japanese students here from Aizu than I did with the students there. It's a very different culture."

Along with the differences in cultural attitudes went the differences in language. Laxer didn't have a chance to learn Japanese before his trip, so he took a beginner's course in the language while overseas. The graduate-level courses were mostly taught in English, how-

ever, and Aizu focuses on building English skills in its students, so Laxer didn't have too much difficulty.

"They're trying to force their students to speak more English," Laxer said. "I could tell from their presentations that some were very uncomfortable with English."

Despite the occasional problem, Laxer came back to Rose having taken away something valuable from the sabbatical.

"I think it helps me to prepare our students better for when they work collaboratively with students from another country," Laxer said.



Photo courtesy of Cary Laxer

The president of the University of Aizu stands among several school faculty members.

Nun brains assist in dementia research

Emma Carew
Minnesota Daily

Education is a big part of the mission work done by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, so when then-University of Minnesota neurologist David Snowden approached the sisters in 1986 about entering into a research project that involved the donation of their brains posthumously, they seriously considered it.

"One of the wisdom figures stood up and said, 'we're not going to need our brains when we're dead,'" Catherine Bertrand, provincial leader of the Mankato province, said. "They saw themselves as being educators in life, and they would love to continue to be educators in death."

The Nun Study, as it's called, has tracked the cognitive abilities and motor functions of more than 600 nuns over the past two decades and continues to study the donated brains as they've passed on.

The brains have been processed and placed in plastic containers, and sit shelved outside neuropathologist Dr. Karen SantaCruz's office.

Since only about 50 of the nuns are still alive, the University now houses about 600 brains.

Although a majority of the work was done at the University of Kentucky after Snowden took a position there, the University of Minnesota regained possession of the Nun Study when he announced his retirement last year.

"This is where the study started when Dr. Snowden was at the

University of Minnesota," said Harry Orr, professor and director of the Institute for Translational Neuroscience. "And one of the larger convents of the sisters is located in Mankato."

The nuns make for a very unique population to study, he said, because of their similar lifestyles.

"They don't smoke, they don't drink, so you can reduce the effects of some of these other environmental factors," Orr said, "and focus in on other factors that might be harder to get your hands around in other population studies."

Orr said the University also proposed taking the Nun Study in a very interdisciplinary direction going forward, incorporating investigators from a range of fields: education, imaging, neuroscience.

Among the study's findings are a relationship between early childhood education and reducing the susceptibility to Alzheimer's disease, he said. They also found a relationship between traumas to the brain, such as strokes, and an increased susceptibility to Alzheimer's.

"We are thrilled," said Michelle Barclay, vice president of programs for the Alzheimer's Association Minnesota-North Dakota. "It gives us information about how people can age successfully, what we might be able to do to prevent or slow down Alzheimer's disease."

The Alzheimer's Association will host "The Meeting of the Minds" regional conference this weekend, where Dr. Kelvin

Lim, the study's scientific director, will present the study to the Midwest Alzheimer's community, she said.

Another interesting finding has been that some of the nuns brains look like they have Alzheimer's, Barclay said, but the women weren't exhibiting symptoms before they died.

"If that's the case, there may be things you can do, even though you have the disease to slow down or prevent the expression of the disease symptoms," Barclay said.

Major advances in Alzheimer's research since the Nun Study began mean researchers now know what dementia looks like in the brain.

SantaCruz's job involves studying slices of the brains, searching for patterns, such as the ones where the pathology indicated brain dementia but the annual cognitive tests showed otherwise.

The researchers then work to connect the dots to establish the relationships, comparing the brain data with the cognitive and motor skills tests from when the nuns were alive, and also information about their lives before the convent.

Since the materials arrived at the University, the administrative team under Orr has set up a budget for the next two years and started developing a framework for a second nun study.

Orr said they hope to enroll a second group of nuns and use strengths within the University, such as advanced magnetic resonance imaging and genetics, to continue studying the nuns.

Sabbatical: By the Numbers

- 12 countries visited by Laxer
- 4 students visited Japan with Laxer
- 14 months elapsed over the course of the trip
- 4620 digital pictures taken
- 1 graduate-level course taught by Laxer at Aizu
- 15 A grades received by Rose students at Aizu
- 3 students from Aizu currently at Rose-Hulman
- 11 bottles of sake collected by Laxer

Biochemistry & International Studies Programs Added to Academic Majors

Dale Long

Rose-Hulman News

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology will add bachelor's degree programs in biochemistry and international studies to the curriculum, starting in the 2009-10 academic year, according to Art Western, vice president of academic affairs and dean of faculty. The biochemistry degree will be part of the Department of Chemistry and the international studies degree will be offered as a second major by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS).

Life sciences are a driving force for scientific discovery and economic opportunities in the 21st century. Chemistry and biology are becoming interdisciplinary career fields, with modern researchers using skills from both science areas to understanding biological and chemical systems at their most basic level.

The biochemistry degree adds a new course plan to chemistry department offerings, along with a degree in chemistry and a second degree major in biochemistry-molecular biology. The biochemistry degree meets guidelines specified by the American Chemical Society, has a solid foundation in all areas of chemistry, including biochemistry, and has a solid foundation in applied biology. The new degree also emphasizes undergraduate research in biochemistry, according to Michael Mueller, head of the Department of Chemistry. The department has one professor who specializes in biochemistry, Mark Brandt, and has hired another biochemistry professor, Ross Weatherman from Purdue University's College of Pharmacy, to join the department faculty this fall.

Rose-Hulman has long been a leader in undergraduate-centered education, and is rapidly becoming a leader in life sci-

ences education through its chemistry and applied biology programs. The applied biology major was established in 2001. These programs, along with the new biochemistry major, will allow Rose-Hulman to provide uniquely skilled graduates to industry and graduate programs, noted Western.

In the area of international studies, technical work has increased in the international and multi-lingual arena during the 21st century. The international studies major provides Rose-Hulman students with the opportunity to complement their primary major with a second major that prepares them for an interdependent, multicultural and transnational world. Courses in the major focus on economic, cultural and social processes that take place among nations and world regions. Topics may include globalization, post-colonialism, communication, migration and environmental change.

The core curriculum for the international studies major covers courses in world literature, international relations, humans and culture, world history, world geography and principles of economics. There are three areas of concentration within the major: international political economy, comparative cultures and an individualized major.

Students can choose from a general list of courses which includes such topics as the history of economic thought, international trade and globalization, international finance, environmental economics, introduction to East Asia, geography of the Middle East, European politics and government, travel in world literature, religion and ecology, and modern China and art history: renaissance to modern. There is also a one year requirement of foreign language study in German, Japanese or Spanish, and a capstone project.

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Mexican Mob no match for vampire clowns

Eli Baca
Staff Writer

"Juarez," originally published as "30 Days of Night: Bloodsucker Tales #1-8," recounts the story of a private investigator, Lex Nova, as he travels to Mexico in order to discover why 400 girls have gone missing. Along the way, Lex reunites with old (and fanged) friends, tangles with some Mexican gangsters, and manages to develop a friendship with a priest who has lost his faith.

Written by Matt Fraction ("Thor," "Uncanny X-Men," "Invincible Iron Man"), "Juarez" brings some gritty Mexican swagger to the "30 Days of Night" universe, and does it with real characters as well as a vampire who calls himself Bingo. Fraction's main character, Nova, while being the well-known, hardened detective, has the unfortunate problem of expressing his inner thoughts aloud.

The humor of a noir-style detective giving voice to his own twisted storytelling keeps the comic fresh while taking a stab at all the detective comics that display the main character's inner thoughts only to the audience. Throughout the comic, other characters call him on his weird speech habit, but it seems that he doesn't realize what he's doing—one of the best examples is when a cop asks him his name and he says, "Don't say Lex Nova. Don't say Lex Nova." After his chant, he finally says, "Cornelius."

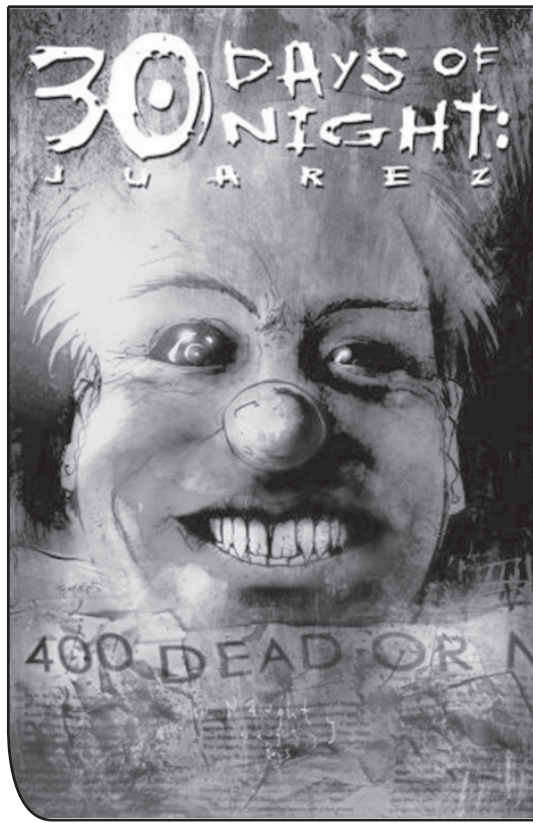
Another good part of the comic is the darkness of the story and its characters. Each one has human flaws (greed, lust, etc.), but the best part is how all the characters pretend to be better for the others. The only real people in the book are the vampires. They make no bones about who they are and what they want, and they bring a little bit of The Joker into the mix, only their faces aren't red with make-up. The

story starts with a girl's blood splattering in the sand and takes off from there, never diverting from the dark tones but adding one-liners of the real world to let the readers relate to the characters. The graphic novel is not for the weak-hearted or the anti-curse-worded, but for fans of the genre; it's a perfect continuation of the universe and a new tale for others to do spin-offs.

The final element to the sick and twisted dark humor that Juarez presents is the art by co-creator Ben Templesmith ("Wormwood," "30 Days of Night," "Fell"). Templesmith's free color style mixed with tight outlines brings definition to the characters—making the cruel smiles of the undead a lot more horrific. The comic book is made even darker by the art, and some of the best panels are the ones with vampires—teeth, blood, and all.

The visuals presented by Templesmith are always intriguing and creative, adding a sort of movie element by using a couple more panels in places just to show dust settle or blood flow from underneath a door. The creepy and methodical style of Templesmith continues to draw readers in and suck the life out of them—but in a good way.

"Juarez" lost a lot of the darkness of the original "30 Days of Night," mainly because of the



<http://www.idwpublishing.com>

If undead vampire clowns don't creep you out, read or watch Stephen King's "It." If you're still not creeped out, the 90's left you desensitized.

location change, but the darkness of the characters keeps the story squarely in the universe. It's packed full of different story elements—from detective mystery to vampire frenzy, to the twist at the end—"Juarez" keeps readers on their toes and gives them something to sink their teeth into.

Fraction's down to earth writing coupled with Templesmith's brilliant art brings the darkness out into the hot desert of Juarez and adds another great tale to the "30 Days of Night" universe. Look for more "30 Days of Night" action in the new series "Til Death."

Reviewer rating: 4.0 elephants



Action movie buffs revel in "Taken"

Hobey Tam
Staff Writer

At first glance, "Taken," directed by Pierre Morrel, is nothing more than another "James Bond" film with the damsel in distress replaced by a daughter. The two movies have an uncanny resemblance to one another, marketing their movies using action packed trailers and having similar movie posters featuring the protagonist, alone and armed.

The difference between the two is simply this: Liam Neeson makes James Bond—Sean Connery through Daniel Craig—look like a little prepubescent boys playing cops and robbers.

"Taken" is the story of a man with nothing because he gave everything he had to protect America. His station was a "preventor," a profession which cost him his marriage and ultimately a relationship with his daughter.

The retired counter-terrorist federal agent now lives humbly as a bodyguard-for-hire in an attempt to revive his lost relationship with his daughter.

Like any teenager, she takes everything for granted and Mills (Neeson) must struggle to compete against her wealthy

step father. She is also careless, like most teenagers—careless enough to venture to Europe accompanied by an even more careless teen friend, only to disappear. The rest of "Taken" is an adrenaline rush as Mills searches for his daughter and hunts down anyone linked to her disappearance.

To understand "Taken" as a movie experience, imagine a mix of "Shooter" and "Hostel," bringing together the heart-pounding thrill of espionage, survival, and the hunt.

Grossing \$26.4 million in its opening weekend and receiving critical acclaim, "Taken" has easily secured a spot as one of the top action movies of 2008.

As a final side note, this is a movie for anyone who enjoys the "Transporter" and "Bourne" series.

If you are sick and tired of pretty boys assuming the coveted agent roles in movies and dishonoring the concept of the action film, consider "Taken" as an evening escape into hard-core action.

Reviewer rating: 5.0 elephants



<http://movie.sky.com/>

Liam Neeson epitomizes the action-movie leading man in "Taken." The movie takes him to the extreme eventually leading to the explosive ending.

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A drag show adventure

Melissa Schwenk
Staff Writer

I like to be an adventurous person and try lots of new things; so when my friend invited me to a drag show at her college, I jumped at the chance. I'd already gone to see Chippendale's for charity, so why not support another philanthropy with a drag show?

I wasn't sure what to expect. My of-age friend went to a drag show at a club here in Terre Haute and said it was a lot of fun. I asked her what to expect and she gave me the low-down. Since Drag Queens will only hang out with you at events like this if you pay, make sure to take lots of one-dollar bills. I was also told not to wear a lot of makeup because I might be mistaken for a performer. What a great friend.

Since there wouldn't be too many guys there to impress, I didn't spend too long getting ready. I felt the show would be like an ugly sweater party: try to look good but follow the theme. This night isn't about the straight women in the audience; it's about the "women" on stage. You don't want to try to look the best in the room and have a Queen look hotter



Melissa Schwenk / Rose Thorn

Do you need a change of scenery? Melissa describes her experience at a drag show.

“why not support another philanthropy with a drag show?”

than you. Girls should also keep in mind that the guys there are probably supporting their significant other or are on the prowl for a man, just like you. Don't get upset if you don't get hit on the whole night—just think of it as a break from all the Rose attention you get. Guys should also be prepared to get hit on if they are on the more metro side of life. This

is especially true if you go with a large group of girls. All in all, the drag show was a fun experience. The performers were entertaining and the costumes were even crazier than circus outfits. I'll never be able to listen to "Poker Face" again without thinking of "Diva," the performer with the giant cardboard cutout on her back. There was loud music and dancing in case you got bored of watching the "girls". And, best of all, dollar bills were flying towards the stage and money was collected for charity. Even if you never go again, a trip to a drag show is something not to be missed.

The Ladies' Man

Elliot Simon
Staff Writer

Dear Ladies Man,
I have been together with my girlfriend for five months now, and my parents are dying to meet her. They even offered to get her a plane ticket to come visit next break, but I'm not sure they'll like her. What should I do?
-Mama's Boy

Dear Mama's Boy,
Your parents main interest in meeting your girlfriend isn't to shower disapproval on you for all of her shortcomings or at how much better she is than you (you go to Rose, think about it for a second). They're much more interested in comparing what they expect of you to what you have actually become. Remember that for a long time, the most significant woman in your life was your mother, and it says a lot when your girlfriend has similar traits to her—or not. A couple things that can certainly make things go more smoothly over the break though: keep in mind that while at Rose, re-

lationships are a tad skewed. When you go home, you are expected to keep PDA to a minimum (that's Public Displays of Affection, not some electronic gizmo). By minimum, I mean keep anything more than a boring, run-of-the-mill kiss someplace mom and dad can't see it. They can assume what you're up to all they want, but it will cause more ripples if the news gets out, so to keep things as pleasant and simple as possible, keep it behind closed doors. In the interest of being thorough, don't forget that includes your hands, Romeo. Mom and dad aren't going to want to see you pawing at her, dogs don't get to sit at the table and eat people food. Beyond that, don't forget to introduce her to your parents the first time she meets them, and expect to spend a lot of time talking about what you two do together at school. If you want to go over the top, a gift from her to them would probably be another step in the right direction but it isn't necessary. Don't worry too much about it, since the test is for normalcy, not perfection.

my parents are dying to meet her, they even offered to get her a plane ticket...

A girls' guide for guys

Lindsey Saxton
Advertising Manager

Rumor, as defined by dictionary-reference.com, is "a story in general circulation without confirmation or certainty as to facts." At some point in life, everyone has to deal with rumors. In fact, you'll probably deal with them many times in your four(ish)

years at Rose. It's a small campus, and people talk. There are times when it seems everyone knows about everyone else's business. Though I'd like to say I never partake in such things as rumors, I do occasionally get sucked in. It happens. All that I can say to guys out there is that a lot of rumors are false and pettt. Listening to them can ruin friendships.

Do	Don't
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take everything you hear with a grain of salt. • Think first about the rumor and all it entails. • Question the validity of the rumor. • Think through the implications of the rumor. • Make sure the friendship is worth jeopardizing before you say anything. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believe it right away. • Confront them about it. You may screw up whatever's there. • Automatically accept it as gospel. • Spread it. You're only hurting the subject of the rumor. • Ruin a perfectly good friendship or relationship.

So far, I have heard an incredible number of ridiculous rumors about people who are too sweet and nice to deserve such awful treatment. Most guys don't realize how easily some girls' self-esteem can be shattered by false gossip. As someone that has been on the bad end of a nasty rumor,

I can attest to the fact that they can hurt, more than some people think. There is never a good reason to start a rumor, and people should avoid believing and spreading them. Here are some of the craziest rumors I've heard about people since coming to Rose.

- "She's only interested in having sex with him."
- "She's too rich and spoiled for me."
- "She hangs out at fraternities, so she must have slept with some of the guys in them."
- "He's only dating her because she puts out."
- "He's such a pothead, and it's the reason he puts up with her."
- "She's slept with a ton of guys since coming to Rose."
- "He's dating her but keeps trying to sleep with other girls."

Basically, most rumors here end up trashing the reputations of perfectly good people. Fortu-

nately, there are some guys decent enough to look past such gossip. As girls, we appreciate it.

Ashton Development

Now Leasing

812-249-4359

Closest apartment complex located off Heritage Trail

Lease by March 30th to be entered into a drawing for a \$1,500 rent rebate.

Awesome Aussies

Lindsey Saxton
Staff Writer

When I was little, my life goal was to become a mermaid. Seriously. I wanted to be just like Ariel (The Little Mermaid was my favourite movie for ages). It's the reason I got into science. I was going to genetically engineer myself into a mermaid. I was a nine year old who knew about codons and nitrogenous base sequences, but I couldn't let go of the idea of becoming a legendary sea creature. At a school book fair, I bought a book of mermaid tales, and the best one was a story about an Australian mermaid. From then on, I was obsessed with the idea of visiting Australia. When my parents told me we were moving to Australia for 7 months, I was ecstatic. It meant missing the

second half of my junior year of high school, but it was completely worth it. Here are the six* best things about the land down under.

1) The Beaches

I've always loved the ocean. Some of my greatest memories take place its waters. I lived in Brisbane, which is conveniently located just half an hour away from some spectacular beaches. Caloundra, Straddie Island, and the Gold Coast were my favourites, but there were plenty of amazing beaches there. I would spend my weekends frolicking in the waves,

body surfing, building sand castles, and getting tan. It was amazing!

2) The Animals

There were incredible animals there. There were colorful exotic birds in my backyard. I got to hold baby kangaroos and hug koalas. And don't get me started on the platypi. Cutest creatures ever! They were so small and vivacious and sweet!

nights on a dive boat in the Great Barrier Reef. I did night dives with six different species of sharks, saw incredible creatures like the Christmas tree worm, and identified hundreds of different fish.

5) The Language

By this, I mean the slang. They used British words like "bath bomb" and "loo". Random things were shortened by putting an e



This is an echidna, also known as "the Australian porcupine-like thing that you just want to snuggle and smuggle back to America."

3) The Snack Foods

I'm a girl, so I love chocolate. Australia is the best place ever if you love chocolate. Everyone loves Cadbury Cream Eggs, right? Well, they're only the tip of the iceberg as far as Cadbury goes. Nutella, Tims Tams, Kinder, the list goes on and on... I would probably weigh 300 pounds if I still lived there.

4) The SCUBA Diving

I got certified in a quarry in Indianapolis. The water was 40 degrees Fahrenheit. It kind of sucked. Australian SCUBA diving, however, was incredible. I spent four

sound at the end (Brisbane became Brizzie, breakfast became brekkie, etc.), and nicknames were REALLY easy. Take the first syllable of the name and put an o at the end. (A few people called me Linds-O.)

6) AFL

AFL is the Australian Football League. Imagine a sport that's a combination of soccer and football. Then make it ten times better, and it's AFL. I went to a few games while I was there, and they were intensely fun. GO Brisbane Lions!

*There are really seven because the legal drinking age is 18 there...

Letter to the Editor

I found the editorial (The Science of Baby Killing), printed in the March 13th edition of the Rose Thorn, to be misinformed and based on bad reasoning.

First: While you take aim at stem cell research, you seem to be ignorant of the very workings of that branch of medical science with regard to embryos.

You seem unaware that most embryonic stem cells are extracted from unused *in vitro* embryos, which are grown *en masse*, and of which only a few are selected for fertilization. The number of these unused embryos is enormous: nearly 500,000 remain frozen in fertility clinics and storage facilities in the US alone. As a vast majority of these will go unused, they will be discarded if not used for research. Does that make the act of *in vitro* fertilization genocide?

Secondly, I'm tempted to believe your true frustration (as with many who are against stem cell research) may be the destruction of potential life for any reason. Many "prolife" groups put stem cell research, abor-

tion, and even contraception in the same basket. The flaw with the "prolife" stance is that it is largely backed with values of dated, male-oriented societal structures, while the realm of pregnancy lies entirely in the domain of women. The unborn child is fully in the capacity and care of the mother from con-

trivial made me think I was reading the "Flipside."

-The use of the names "Fluffy" and "Woofums"

-Allusions to "South Park" but not to credible sources

-Phrases like "for all you yuppies out there"

With all this in mind, your editorial could hardly sway people of the opposite opinion. In fact, I wonder if it didn't cause hard-lined individuals with positions like your own to reconsider.

If you are indeed so worried about the loss of human life, I suggest you write about the lack of retributive actions towards despots like Omar al-Bashir (President of Sudan who inflamed the conflict in Darfur and recently evicted

aid organizations) or the global economic downturn, which the World Bank predicts will force 53 million people into the category of "extreme poverty" this year. Use your pen to fight the real devils of this world, not to project horns onto scared women in abortion clinics or parents who want a child.

Sincerely,
Alek Yoder

ception, so it seems incomprehensible to me how one could possibly regulate what a woman can and cannot do with regard to something that is inherently under her own control. An approach like your own, which regards a two week old embryo as "a real person" treats women as incubators instead of individuals with control over their own lives.

Lastly, snippets of your edito-

SERIOUSLY. *Mark Minster*

File this under "had to share." So, I can't divulge my sources, but what you see below appeared as part of a flier on the campus of a Catholic college nearby. I've cut a couple things, but haven't added anything to its delicate art.

Appreciate two things. First, note the writer's habit of using heaping tablespoons of italics, boldface, quotes, and underlining, alone and in combination, as if each font modification imparts its own subtle flavor as would a cup of cayenne pepper or a bushel of dill. (The font changes, too, but we can't replicate that here.) It's a habit the writer shares with my mother, who, like most

mothers, scrawls a little note of her own on greeting cards. What makes my mother unique is that she applies her own complicated system of single, double, and triple underlines. By the time she's done,

everything is underlined, so she needs to add another layer or two, to emphasize the emphatically emphatic.

The moral of the story, friends—and Mom, if you're reading—is that, if the whole world were boldfaced, we'd never know.

(Maybe it already is...)

Obviously, there's something else charming to note about the message below. I think you won't fail to notice...

“Obviously, there's something else charming to note about the message below. I think you won't fail to notice...”

The Housekeeping Staff will be working to "deep clean" the 1st floor of Owens. They will be coming to work **early and also working on the weekends**. We want to share with you the proposed schedule so you can "plan ahead" when you want to reach various parts of the building during these days. We will "work with you" when possible.

The stripper that will be used is the same one that was used in Owens Dining Room. We hope that the smell will be more "friendly" to those who are allergic.

January 26 and 27—Monday and Tuesday Beginning at **6:00 a.m.** the West Entrance to Owens will be stripped and waxed. **This means you will need to use the Front door and Dock door to come and go from the building.**

January 28, 29, 30—Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday Beginning at **5:00 a.m.** at the 1st West Hall we will begin stripping—and continue until we reach the Owens Dining Room. (We do not know how long it will take, but we will post signs to keep you informed of the exact stripping spots.)

Please do not walk on any floor if stripper is on the floor—it is very dangerous. Please watch to see where the "work in progress" is happening...

January 31 (Saturday)—beginning at 1:00 p.m. on the West Wing AND ON February 1st (Sunday)—beginning at 10:00 a.m. FIVE, yes, 5 coats of wax will be applied to the **entire 1st Floor Hall.**

We hope when we finish this project, you will be so pleased with the results that you will say, "It was worth all the inconvenience we had to put up with while it happened." Thank you for your cooperation.



Rose-Hulman INK

INK is Rose-Hulman's literary magazine.

Haikus to the Editor

Addressing last week
To the flipside editors
About your haiku

We think it's lovely
You have noticed our presence
Here on Rose campus

Our magazine is
Now accepting submissions
For this year's volume

We are taking art,
Literature, and also
Multimedia

So, in conclusion
The editors of the Thorn
Should participate

Enter something, but
Don't forget! The deadline is
The end of next week!

Thank you very much
For the free advertising!
Regards- the INK staff

Have opinions?
Send them to
opinions@
rose-hulman.edu

Athlete of the week

Jordan Goslee



Tim Boyer
Sports Editor

A perfect game is hard to come by in baseball or softball, especially the way junior biomedical engineering major Jordan Goslee has defined it. In fact, since the pitcher never bats in baseball, it's only possible in softball.

Last Sunday, Goslee pitched the first ever perfect game for the Rose-Hulman softball program, helping shut out the Hanover College Panthers 8-0 in the second game of the double header. But she was not only perfect on the mound. Goslee was not only perfect at the plate for the game but for the day as well. She went a perfect 6-6 against Hanover in the two games, smashing three doubles in the first game and three singles in the second. Her three doubles in the first game gave way to four RBIs.

She currently has an ERA of 0.47 after 59.2 innings pitched, less than half of the record she set last year of 1.05 over 107.0 innings pitched. Goslee also holds the for most strikeouts in a seven inning game at 16, including places below first with 15, 13, 12, 11 and nine strikeouts in other games. (As a point of reference, in the game she struck out 16, she faced 23 only batters.)

Goslee took some time to answer questions for The Rose Thorn.

Rose Thorn: How long have you been involved in softball? Pitching?

Jordan Goslee: I have been playing softball since I was 10, so for ten years. My parents had to do a lot of convincing to get me signed up, but eventually I agreed to give it a shot. I started pitching when I was 12, and got a little more serious when I was

about 15, when I started working with my current pitching coach. I've been playing softball every fall, spring and summer season since I first got into softball. Playing travel ball every summer really exposed me to a higher level of competition than I was able to face in high school, and I think the extra challenge only helped me develop my skills as a player. I've overcome a lot of obstacles as a pitcher.

RT: This past weekend, you threw the first perfect game in Rose-Hulman history. How did you build your skill to this level?

JG: When I was in high school I took weekly pitching lessons pretty much all year long with my pitching coach and we keep in touch when I'm having trouble with one of my pitches. The key in the circle is being mentally confident in my spins and relying on the defense to have my back. I'm not actively trying to strike every batter out - I'm just trying to get them to hit the ball where I want it to go and let the defense take it from there. Most of it is being mentally tough enough to get myself out of the sticky situations I sometimes get into.

RT: In addition to your perfect game, you were a perfect 6-6, with three doubles and three singles. How did you get motivated to do well offensively and defensively?

JG: Doing well both offensively and defensively is just a part of the game. All of us are focused on doing our best and playing "our game" every time. When I step in the box, I'm just trying to get my-

self on base and advance the runners. You've got good days and really bad ones. I don't think there's anything I did differently to perform better against Hanover on Sunday, everything just seemed to line up. The team really came through in the clutch.

RT: Last year, the softball team won the HCAC regular season championship but lost in the conference tournament. Is there anything you or the team learned from that experience?

JG: Last year's team was really successful. It was too bad that we didn't win the tournament but we did our best and I know that I personally was proud of that. We had a great season and I think we learned how far we could go in the conference. We were ranked #1 preseason this year and I think that's really given us some extra confidence.

RT: Is there something in particular you think will help the team do well again this season?

JG: The team gets along really well both

Engineer Scoreboard

Baseball
12-4 (3-1)

March 20
Manchester College 1
at Rose-Hulman 14

March 21
Manchester College 0
at Rose-Hulman 4

March 21
Manchester College 11
at Rose-Hulman 5

Men's Tennis
4-7 (2-1)

March 15 - Indianapolis, Ind.
Rose-Hulman 7
vs. Franklin College 2

Softball
8-8 (2-2)

March 21
Transylvania Univ. 3
at Rose-Hulman 2

March 21
Transylvania Univ. 1
at Rose-Hulman 0

March 22
Hanover College 1
at Rose-Hulman 10

March 22
Hanover College 0
at Rose-Hulman 8

Track and Field

March 21
Rose-Hulman Early Bird Invitational
Terre Haute, Ind. Six 1st place finishes

on and off the field. Sometimes it gets pretty intense, but we always seem to be having fun. That's important - if you're not having a good time doing something, you probably shouldn't be bothering.

RT: Do you have any hobbies outside of softball?

JG: I'm President of my sorority, Delta Delta Delta. Between Tri-Delta, school, and softball I stay pretty busy.

RT: What's the most meaningful award or recognition that you've received?

JG: Last year I was named HCAC Pitcher of the Year. That was a huge honor and something that I'm extremely proud of as pitcher, but it's also a direct reflection of the team I've got behind me.

A PENNY FOR THE COACHES THOUGHTS

Jeff Jenkins

Head Baseball
Coach

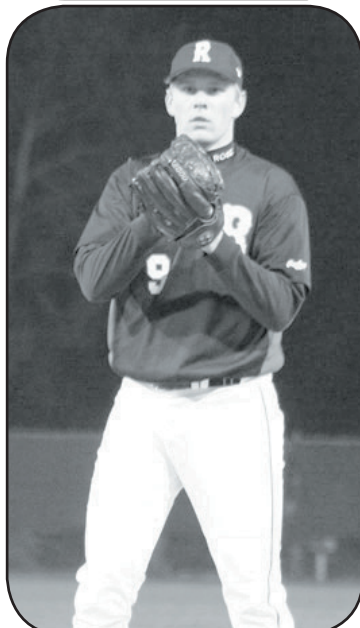
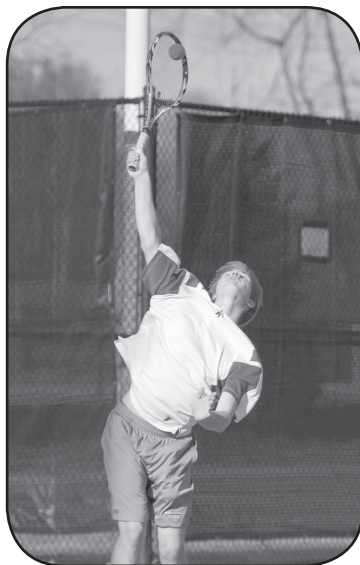
The Rose-Hulman baseball team finished the week with a record of 4-1 including a 3-1 start in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, good for a first place tie with Transylvania. Rose started the week last Tuesday versus Franklin College, the pre-season number one pick. Rose jumped out quick with a five run first inning and never looked back as junior Derek Eitel ran his record to 3-0 on the season with strong bullpen help from junior Jared Kronable who recorded his first career save. After the quick first inning start, Franklin pulled to within one at 6-5 in the seventh before a five run ninth inning by the visiting Engineers to put the game out of reach. Sophomore Chris Stemple hit his first career home run and junior Keenan Long also homered to lead a 15 hit Rose attack.

Last Wednesday evening, Rose hosted the Little Giants from Wabash College. The bats stayed hot as Rose triumphed 9-3 in rain shortened contest. Keenan Long stayed hot with the bat as he launched two long home runs and Sophomore Nick Rumpke pitched four strong innings for the win.

Manchester College was next up for the Fightin' Engineers as Rose opened their home confer-

ence slate in front of a large crowd on Friday night. Sophomore Gannon Sadzeck dominated on the mound with a complete game and four hitter as Rose pulled away from a tight 2-1 lead to score 12 runs in the seventh and eighth innings and prevailed by a 14-1 final score. Juniors Andrew Bilse and Tim Tepe combined for seven hits, including three triples to lead the offense. Saturday's doubleheader started with junior Nick Maloney combining with Derek Eitel for the teams first shutout of the season a 4-0 blanking of the Spartans. Game two started out well for Rose with Sophomore Andrew Oakley handing a 3-1 lead in the sixth inning to the Engineer bullpen. However, Manchester was able to score nine runs in the sixth against a usually reliable bullpen and Rose ended up on the short end of an 11-6 defeat. The loss left Rose with a conference record of 3-1 and overall at 12-4. The week also helped land Rose in the American Baseball Coaches Association national rankings at number 24 and sets up a huge series at Art Nehf Field this coming Friday and Saturday against co-leader Transylvania.

Come out and enjoy the action this weekend beginning at 6pm Friday and the noon doubleheader which caps off the action on Saturday. Help the Engineer baseball team hold on to first place!



Rose-Hulman News

Daniel Hopkins

Head Men's Tennis
Coach

This upcoming weekend Rose will participate in the Wabash College Kerry Seward Invitational. Formerly the Indiana Little State Tournament, Rose minus host Wabash College is the lone team to play in all but one of the yearly events since 1976.

The 2009 tournament will have eight teams with host Wabash, Carthage, Ohio Northern, Coe, Hanover, Albion, Transylvania, and Rose. Of the eight four were in the NCAA Division III regional tournament. Six of the eight have been either nationally or regionally ranked this year.

The current record of the Rose tennis team doesn't indicate how talented these youngsters are. Two of the current losses were a 6-2 loss to Transylvania with two tie-break losses, one in second doubles and the other in a third set tie-break at second singles. The same thing happened with a 6-3 loss to Wabash College. Transylvania has yet to lose a conference match in more than five years. Rose hasn't defeated Wabash in just as long.

Rose stands alone at second place in the HCAC conference with wins over Manchester and Franklin. Three teams are tied

for first being Hanover, Transy, and Defiance.

There are no stars on this team, just ten solid players. Unlike most teams, we have a wealth of talent just below the top six that can fit in the lineup and score if needed. The current top seven players make up the weekly line-up with David Pick and Stephan Lemmer playing either six singles or three doubles in one or more matches weekly.

Our 10-7 record and second place finish in the HCAC Conference tournament last year was the best showing by a Rose men's team in many years. "This team, even at 4-7, could beat last year's win/loss records and still has a chance to win both the conference and the conference tournament."

We have played the best schedule in the conference with several regionally ranked division II teams and one NAIA team. We've paid our dues and now it will be time to reap the rewards. After this weekend's tournament, Rose will play four of five HCAC teams over the next two weeks, finishing off with Anderson on the last weekend of April.

[Editors Note: The previous content was submitted by the head coaches, sharing their thoughts and opinions on games from this past week.]

Please read this paper. Printed media is not irrelevant yet.

Rose-Hulman MARCH MADNESS!!!



The TV compels you!

Noel Spurgeon

Has got the power... of credit

We blame television for a lot of things: obesity, child violence, and ADD, just to name a few. Personally, I blame television for my inability to get to bed on time, my inability to get work done, and a peculiar urge to treat my everyday life like a documentary (True Life: I am Rose-Hulman's Patsy). Also, television gives me the strange urge to purchase things that I neither need nor know what to do with. I think this might be a side effect of finally being "18 or older" and able to call, but consider the following:

OxiClean - Maybe it's because he sounds like a street corner prophet in need of a tranquilizer dart. Maybe it's because I'm jealous that I will never be able to grow a beard as luxuriant as his (well, let's hope not). For whatever reason, I find it exceptionally difficult to resist Mr. Mays' siren song of superior cleaning power.

ShamWow - I need more laundry like I need another hole in the head, but the ShamWow has always been strangely tempting. I think it's because it would finally legitimize my desire to wear a purple polo and a headset and demonstrate the capabilities of the ShamWow to

bored housewives with painted-on eyebrows.

Mighty Putty - This one I can (maybe) think of legitimate uses for. Need to hang a picture? Mighty Putty! Not enough flatware? Mighty Putty (and marginal sculpting ability)! Out of staples for your homework? Mighty Putty! Need an excuse to TALK IN ALL CAPITAL LETTERS? Mighty Putty! On second thought, maybe it's just the beard talking.

Bowflex - I have no intention of ever using one of these—I'm more of a yoga/pilates/watch other people exercise kind of girl, but I'd order one in the futile hope that it came with the featured male model. Yes, please.

And last (but certainly not least)...

The Snuggie - I've always wanted to look like a member of some obscure doomsday cult. More importantly, I want to do it in public. The Snuggie is the full-body equivalent of Crocs: no matter how comfortable or useful it is, you look like an idiot. Plus, it sends some people into fits of foaming-at-the-mouth rage... which is precisely why I want one.

For the forward thinker who still wants some... kids

Cari Harper

GeneticSexpert

		Mother	
		Accountant	Engineer
Father	Accountant	Mechanical Engineer	Software Engineer
	Economist	<i>Hobo</i>	<i>Inventor of ShamWow</i>

		Mother	
		Business	Engineer
Father	Business	Civil	Engineering Physicist
	Engineer	Mathematician	Physicist

		Mother	
		Chemist	Biologist
Father	Chemist	Drug Dealer	Veterinarian
	Teacher	Chemical Engineer	Pastor

		Mother	
		Teacher	Communications Major
Father	Economist	<i>Fry Cook</i>	1%: Company CEO, 99%: <i>Fry Cook</i>
	Art History Major	<i>Fry Cook</i>	<i>Fry Cook</i>

Bold = A Rose Hulman Major.

Italics = Evolutionary dead end. Will never reproduce.

Wacky prof quotes

"Today we're going to talk about necking in bars."
— Dr. Stienstra, telling students how to relieve stress in bars.

"That's what happens when balls start hitting stuff."
— Dr. Purdy. According to the laws of conservation, you should wait for the next episode: *The Stuff Strikes Back*.

"We don't want any 'extracurricular activities' going on with electric fields."
— Dr. Wagner. Who knows what those naughty electrons might do in an magnetic field.

"It wants to get longer, but it can't."
— Dr. Fine, a person who never checks his spam folder.

"Sometimes it is hard. But it is often desirable."
— Dr. Claude, who writes the spam e-mails Dr. Fine does not read.

"Most people would object to injecting stuff that comes from other people's urine. I don't know why..."
— Dr. Brandt. Everyone knows urine is sterile, except for the bacteria.

"I don't want to get in trouble with the Secret Service for advising people to counterfeit money."
— Dr. Mohan. I, on the other hand, have no problem advocating that people counterfeit money.