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Beauty is in the

eye of the hacker

A computer programmer named Ber-

nie Peng decided to propose to his girl-

friend using the computer game, "Be-

jeweled." He hacked the game such that

when his girlfriend, Tammy Li, reached a

certain score in the game a marriage pro-

posal would appear. When she reached

that score and saw the message she said

yes. The couple will be getting married

over Labor Day weekend, and PopCap,

the company that made the game will

pay to fly them to Seattle as a portion of

their honeymoon. The company, rather

than filing a lawsuit against Peng for changing the game, is embracing the sit-

uation. They will even be giving copies of

their game out as a wedding party favor.

Buried jersey re-

moved to fend off

curse

ton Red Sox jersey removed from a burial

spot in the team's new stadium. A construc-

tion worker buried the jersey under two feet

of concrete as a way of cursing the team.

Several workers overheard the man talk-

ing about the jersey and where he buried it.

They later phoned in tips about the shirt's

location. Yankees' President Randy Levine

originally thought about leaving the shirt where it was, but then it was decided that

they didn't want to reward someone who

had bad intentions. It took over five hours

of drilling to reach the jersey. The jersey will

be cleaned up and sent to the Jimmy Fund,

a charity associated with the Dana-Farber

Cancer Institute in Boston.

The New York Yankees recently had a Bos-

HOR

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008

ROSE-HULMAN.EDU/THORN/

Volume 43, Issue 23

Brandon Couch and Nicholas Lee tribute on Page 5

Obama visits Terre Haute

Rachel Howser **By Kyle Kamischke**

Staff Writer

T enatorBarackObama visited Terre Haute last week to speak at Terre Haute North Vigo High School as part of his presidential campaign. The rally took place on Friday, April 11 at 8 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. Tickets for the event were available at The Meadows Shopping Center and were in high demand. Senior civil engineering major Stuart Nash explained, "We knew that in a town full of college students there would be a lot of demand for the tickets. So we decided to get in line by 5:30 a.m. to guarantee we would be able to see him on Friday."

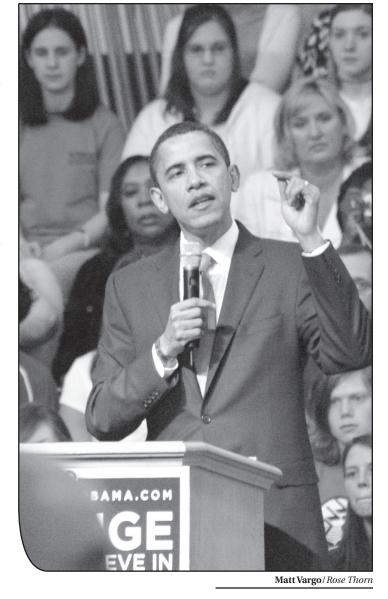
> As Nash predicted, the tickets were popular and were quickly claimed. The next day, Terre Haute North Vigo High School opened their doors for the event at 6:15 pm. Nathan Ingersoll, a junior electrical engineering major, stated, "The place was packed and there was a ton of energy in the gymnasium." Todd Nation, a Terre Haute city councilman and Obama campaign volunteer, opened the event followed by an introduction by Bianca Gamble, another volunteer and past president of the League of Women Voters. Gamble stated, "I was honored and humbled at being

given that opportunity. I'll always remember it."

Senator Obama spoke to the Terre Haute community for about an hour about his beliefs on many issues, including the termination of the No Child Left Behind program, his support of the development of alternative energy sources, ending the war in Iraq, and his views on universal healthcare. Ingersoll stated, speech was very enlightening and reinforced my absentee vote cast in Wisconsin. Even if you disagree with Barack's stance on the issues, nobody is able to deny that he is an exceptional orator and it was a treat to witness him in person."

Senior electrical engineering major Leven Browne said, "I have seen many of his speeches on TV and the Internet, so the message that he conveyed at the meeting was not new to me. However, I was pleasantly surprised by the reactions of the audience. Some of the supporters that sat near me consistently yelled out comments like 'Tell it, Barack!' and 'You got that right!', while the rest of the audience gave him multiple standing ovations."

Continued on Page 3...



Barack Obama gave a speech at Terre Haute North Vigo High School, Friday April 11, 2008, in preparations for the upcoming 2008 Indiana presidential primary.

Lawmakers angry at Google's games

Several U.S. lawmakers are angry at the game that Google played with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) with regard to the auction of the 700-MHz spectrum. They were not happy that the FCC's auction rules didn't force Google to make a strong attempt at winning the auction after getting the open access requirement attached to the auction. The company admitted that they were not interested in winning the auction. They only wanted to ensure that applications and handsets had open access to the spectrum. Florida Republican Representative Cliff Sterns protested that Google had no incentive to give telecommunication companies such as Verizon and AT&T a run for their money. Republican Fred Upton, of Michigan, said, "Google is one of the richest companies in the country with a market cap of \$140 billion dollars. That's \$40 billion more than Verizon." Despite the protests, FCC chair Kevin Martin was very happy with the outcome.

Smoother roads ahead

Tim Boyer

Copy Editor

s the years have gone by, **L** some of the roads around campus have deteriorated to such a poor condition. With potholes lining parts of Rose-Hulman's roads, the suspensions of many cars have been tested. With the extreme freeze-thaw the past couple years and Rose-Hulman's method of removing snow, including many corroding ice-melters, many students have come to realize that some of the

roads are past the point ing and resurfacing of pothole repair. After repeated filling of potholes, Rose-Hulman's Office of Facilities Operations recognized this problem and knows something needs to be

done. Facilities put in place a plan to repave the roads man only needs to this spring, "The plan is to mill and resurface the roads around the academic buildings and in front of Speed Hall. These areas are in the most need of repair," Wayne Spary, Vice President for Facilities told The Rose Thorn. "The schedule is to accomplish the mill-

of the roads during the week after commencement year. This is a time when closing the roads will have minimal impact with the people on campus."

Since Rose-Hulaccommodate limited amount of traffic, the Institute doesn't repave often. "Resurfacing of

the roads has been done in small sections or part of construction projects. The last resurfacing was the road from the Apartments-



Andrew Carlson/Rose Thorn

Pothole in front of Speed Hall causes traffic hassles, plans call for re-paving over break.

style Residence Hall up to the intersection by Logan Library," continued Spary.

Sadly, because of the

timing of the repaving, the graduating seniors will not be able to know the happiness of pothole-less Rose-Hulman.

NEWS Loan Scares and Appearances

Empowered

OPINIONS



Athlete of the Week



Top 10 Things To **Do Before** Graduation **FLIPSIDE**

Bandwidth Freedom

NTERTAINMENT

NEWS - PAGE 3 ENTERTAINMENT - PAGE 4 TRIBUTE - PAGE 5 OPINIONS - PAGE 6 SPORTS - PAGE 7 8 39Vd - 30/Sd/13

The Magic Number

by Jim Sedoff

Puzzle 1

The numbers are already in the correct order. Just insert the operators in the blanks provided.

64 19 77 38

Find the answers to all Rose Thorn puzzles at: hiip://www.roso=hulman.edu/ihorn

Instructions:

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

Puzzle 2

Now, it gets trickier. The numbers are now out of order. Rearrange the numbers and insert the correct operators.

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CM 5037, 5500 Wabash Ave. Terre Haute, IN 47803-3999 Phone: (812) 877-8255 Fax: (812)877-8166 E-mail: thorn@rose-hulman.edu

http://www.rose-hulman.edu/thorn

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Rachel Howser Tim Olmsted Tiffany Parrott John Pinkus Christine Price

Cartoonist Erin Hudson

Photographers Christina Davis Suzanne Kissel

Albert Mui **Isaac Sachs** Matt Vargo

J.P. Verkamp

James Zhou

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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.

Obama, from Page 1

After his speech, Obama opened the floor to questions. Ingersoll explained, "He opened the floor to questions at the end of his speech and attendees were able to ask questions; I thought that was awesome. He openly responded to questions regarding Cuban relations, school safety, and the rebuilding of New Orleans."

Many supporters favor Obama because of his differences from traditional politics. Browne explained, "I also believe that the corruption and incompetence that has become apparent in the current administration will inspire Americans to support Obama. He has made his independence, and lack of corporate obligations a central element of his campaign, and will craft his policies and decisions based on the welfare of the American people rather than the lobbyists in Washington." Ingersoll stated, "It became clear to me that Barack Obama is aiming to create a new kind of politics. A world of politics where voters are recognized by Washington as people who lose jobs, struggle to provide health care for their families, and want to go to college but can't afford it. As long as I can remember, the middle and lower class Americans have blindly fed the great American economic machine. Now that the machine is stalling, America is looking for change. [Presidential candidate] Barack Obama embodies that hope for change."

Many of the attendees had a positive experience. Browne stated, "All in all, the event was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and I continue to be an avid Obama supporter." Merry Miller, the department secretary for the Humanities and Social Sciences Department, stated, "I'm definitely a Hillary supporter, but with Obama coming to town I decided I would go into it with an open mind. I would hear what he had to say, his policies, what he would do for America. He's a very good speaker. He's motivational, but he did not convince me oth-

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Appearances play changing role in obtaining jobs

Dylan Polk

Daily Eastern News

Levi Cox sports a Mohawk, tattoos and several facial piercings.

But Cox, an Eastern Illinois University freshman art major, said he does not believe his appearance will have an effect on his ability to get a job.

"I'm not worried because it doesn't really affect my major," Cox said. "I'm not sure how much of a problem piercings are. It's more (a matter of) how willing the boss is to hire."

With the semester nearing its end, many students are looking for summer jobs and many graduates are looking for long-term employment. But there is a diverse opinion on whether or not appearance plays a factor in determining if a student is hired for a job.

Cox said there is a negative connotation with people who have long hair, tattoos or piercings in the work-

"Organizations have their own cultures and a kind of 'brand identity," said Linda Moore, director of Career Services. "They base their appearance expectations on that identity."

She added the key for college graduates and interns is to do their homework to identify those organizations that match well with their own personal values and characteristics.

Many companies do require their employees to take measures to either cover up or otherwise make alterations to their appearances.

Such measures include covering up tattoos, removing earrings or other piercings, and replacing colored plugs for clear or skin-tone plugs.

Audra Dust, an employee at Positively 4th Street Records, does not encounter such a policy at work.

The record store has no policy regarding hair, tattoos or piercings.

Dust said policies regarding appearance pertain to certain jobs, such as a receptionist.

She added some people might even be discouraged from applying for certain positions because of stringent policies.

"I can see why people would feel threatened," Dust said.

Moore said while businesses are becoming more relaxed in terms of attire, she doesn't see a scenario where tattoos and piercings are completely accepted.

"Today, workplaces require only business-casual or scaled-back business formal attire for non-executive staff and for staff who are not involved in meetings with important clients," Moore said.

She also said the American workforce is directly influenced by the emergence of global services.

"Employers are going to be more cognizant of international values and what international clients expect of the American worker," Moore said. "The impact of the international perspective will be an increasing influence on how the American workforce presents itself intellectually and visually."

Moore added she is not aware of any evidence to suggest potential discouragement in employees, at least not in formal studies.

"Undoubtedly, some people do not select certain careers because they do not see themselves matching the types of skills and attributes that are desired in that industry," Moore said. "Nevertheless, there are some candidates who pioneer new attitudes about what is accept-

Moore used an example by recounting the story of Miss Iowa 2007, Abbey Curran.

Curran competed for the Miss American position with cerebral palsy, which resulted in physical abnormalities in her legs that made it difficult for her to walk, she said.

"She still competed in the pageant, the swimsuit competition and used an assistant to help her walk," Moore said. "That certainly was a challenge to the expectations for appearance of a viable beauty pageant contestant."

Moore said although self-selection is smart, it is more reserved for the employer level rather than the career level.

"Miss Iowa was probably very selective about which pageants she entered but did not exclude pageant competition from her activities, Moore said. "You might be able to wear flip flops or facial hair one day, but on another day your arms, feet and legs might need to be fully covered with pressed, quality clothing as a sign of respect for the person(s) that you might be serving.'

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George Washington U. preps for student loan scare

Mike Phillips

The GW Hatchet

The subprime mortgage crisis, which tore through the financial markets over the last year, has reached student loans. Officials at George Washington University are wary, but confident that students here will be able to find loans to cover the University's sky-high tuition.

While no schools or students have reported problems accessing aid yet, potential shortfalls have sent Congress and financial aid offices scrambling to ensure students will be able to find fi-

"I'm not pushing the panic button. I think we're OK, from what I've heard," said Dan Small, director of student financial assistance at GW.

Student loans issued by brokers have traditionally been resold to investors on bond markets, since brokers rarely have the funds to cover the loan themselves. But the collapse of the market for home mortgages last year made such debt a pariah for investors, and student loans are the latest victim.

Most student loans are guaranteed by the federal government through the Stafford and PLUS loan programs, which are limited. Last year, students received about \$60 billion in such

As tuition has risen, students have turned to private lenders who offer more expensive loans to make up for the shortfall. These loans have grown in total from \$1.6 billion in 1996, to more than \$17 billion this past year, according to the College

Board. Despite the exponential growth, they are also particularly vulnerable to the financial market's current ailments.

"I think the private loan end of the market is going to be much rougher than for loans backed by the government," said Frederick Joutz, a GW professor of economics.

Unable to finance new loans, some brokers are pulling out of the market altogether. In recent months, more than 50 lenders have ceased making loans, according to The Washington Post.

Lenders are also raising credit score requirements and interest rates, becoming more selective about which students they loan

"Private loans are changing," Small said. "They're not going to give easy loans anymore."

These problems have also drawn the attention of Congress. At a hearing on Tuesday, Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.) called on regulators to extend funds to student loan markets and warned against a possible "student loan credit crunch."

Reforms proposed earlier this month by Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass) and Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.) would increase the amount students could borrow under the Stafford loan program by \$2,000 a year, let parents defer loan payments until students graduate and allow the Department of Education to buy student loans from brokers.

This measure would help brokers issue loans even if they could not find buyers on the bond market, but would add billions of dollars in new expenses and risk to the federal budget.

"Increasing the Stafford loan limits is definitely a good idea since it makes students less dependent on private loans," said Sandy Baum, senior policy analyst for the College Board. "It's a different question whether the government should do more to subsidize the market, and one I don't know the answer to."

Luke Swarthout of the U.S. Public Interest Research Group said lenders might abuse such measures.

"It's reasonable and responsible for Congress to put some additional safeguards into place, but those safeguards should not create loopholes for abuse," he

Regardless of the outcome in Congress, Small said he has confidence in GW's position. The default rates for GW students were typically less than one percent, and he noted that the University anticipated many of the current issues and revised its aid accord-

"They know the students graduate and pay it off," Small said. "We think these strategies are still going to be OK, and we're reviewing them constantly."

But Small said he is worried about the roughly 5 percent of GW students whose low credit scores will make them ineligible for private loans.

"Where is that money going to come from?" Small said. "That's the dilemma we're faced with."

He said, "I'm not trying to panic them, but these students need to sit down with a financial counselor so they know all of their options and understand how this is going to affect

Correction

In the March 21, 2008 edition of The Rose Thorn, we misattributed the photo in the "Rose Gun Club hits its mark" article. The photo had been attributed to Isaac Sachs, whereas it should have been attributed to Matthew Vargo.

Correction

In the April 11, 2008 edition of The Rose Thorn, we misattributed the article "Spring Career Fair draws a crowd." The article was attributed to Rachel Howser, Staff Writer, whereas it should have been attributed to Parker Lee, Advertisement Manager.



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"Empowered" has an excess of bondage

Ben Collins

Entertainment Editor

Empowered is a graphic novel only release by the series writer and artist Adam Warren. Warren has several major cover arts under his belt, and has been a constant gem in the comic industry and "Empowered" is his main comic project at the moment.

Manga as an art form has had many obstacles to overcome, especially in its transition to American culture, and into the eventual spawning of the American manga subgenre. The biggest obstacle that it has needed to traverse, besides the language barrier, is the extent to which it is taken seriously by Americans. More people associate the idea of manga with anime, than with distinguishing it as a comic style or to give credit to the storytelling and sometimes superior artistic quality of Japanese manga. American culture has accepted manga to an extent and has integrated some of the appealing facets of the style into our mainstream works and into dawning new genres. These integrations take the more blaring features of both manga and anime to new extremes;: absurd facial expressions with no realism, and the flagrant exposure of the female body for humor and sexual appeal. We have had this latter theme consistently in our original comic repertoire, and yes, at times it gets taken to extremes, manga pushes that limit, and for the artistic vision

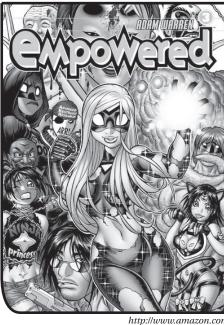
that's very appealing. Creating this new American manga-style has taken sophomoric ideals as flaunting breasts and something as inappropriate as bondage and degradation and using it as a selling point. It's on this train of thought that "Empowered," as a series, comes into play.

For this American manga, he has created a character and a storyline that follows the idea of Japanese manga artistically, but breaks the mimicry with more American dialogue, by being crass and obscene. The stories within this particular volume revolve around one seemingly constant theme in this series: Empowered gets into a set of scenarios where she is bound

and flaunted, to the point of being the entire plot of a chapter. It deviates occasionally from this to dive deeper into the individual characters and Warren shows his skills as a witty writer but overall, boobs and bondage are the motif.

Considering there is little to no linear story line, there is no real way to summarize the volume. Several stories, however, are especially interesting for their deviation from the main plot to give some background on Empowered's love interest, Thug Boy, and his previous anti-superhero lifestyle. Warren also develops Empowered's best friend, Ninjette, a drunkard ninja warrior, by showing the exciting fight scenes normally associated with manga, almost mirroring scenes in "Naruto."

For a critique of the volume and of the series, it's unfortunate that the writing and plot was as poorly developed as it was. I had a very low expectation going into the book, and while that expectation was overcome, it still stands as being an unoriginal and sophomoric attempt at developing an emerging breed of graphic novels and comics in general. It's entertaining and a quick read, yes, but there are many blaring problems overall that make the series suffer.



The third volume of the series with cover

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"Prom Night" doesn't put out

Shayna Murphy

Massachusetts Daily Collegian

In an age where ghost stories and torture porn rule supreme in horror, old-timers jonesing for slashers have been hard pressed to find their fix. Attempts have come and gone, often with remakes like 2003's "Texas Chainsaw Massacre," but these ventures have failed to capture the magic of the old ways.

That's why Sony Pictures is looking to end that incalculable search, for now at least, with a remake of the 1980 classic slasher, "Prom Night." Done to death in a long strain of sequels, Sony figures it's time to give those legions of "Prom Night" fans the remake they've been clamoring for. With a fresh cast and a hipper-thanthou soundtrack, "Prom Night" boasts a night to die for. With any luck, that may actually be true.

Brittany Snow stars as Donna Keppel, member of the graduating class of 2008. She's got some heavy baggage - freshman year of high school, her entire family got slaughtered by a whackedout schoolteacher (Johnathon Schaech). Except for the occasional nasty flashback - which seems to manifest only in times of prologue, she's seemingly put the past behind her.

Off to Brown in the fall, and tonight, to her senior prom, she's ready to bid high school adieu with all the pomp and ceremony

befitting a normal teenager. But if only she knew that an old friend was in town special for the occasion, poor Donna may never have picked out a dress in the first place.

Snow, the breakout star of last summer's "Hairspray", has a tough act to follow in "Prom Night." She picks up a role formerly occupied by the legendary Jamie Lee Curtis during a time when Curtis was considered the Meryl Streep of scream queens. It's not quite "Halloween," but "Prom Night" enters the Curtis filmography before 1983's "Trading Spaces" brought the actress A-list reputability.

Snow shrieks at octave, but has issues duplicating Curtis' feral wails. The rest of the cast, looking light years older than the kids they portray, are cardboard cut-outs to the model. There's the boyfriend (Scott Porter) and the best friend (Dana Davis), both of whom are transplants from the wonderful world of primetime. There are other people too, mostly fodder for the chopping block. The trained eye should have no problem calling out the death order quickly.

Hot on the trail of the mad killer is a cop (Idris Elba) who specializes in utter incompetence. He's a graduate from the "Police Academy" school of detective work, so rather than seek out the bad guy, he just paces around the movie, scoping out cute girls and making lots of tedious calls on his cell phone.

"Prom Night" looks pretty bad from here, and none of this should really be news. A horror film that's silly and fantastical? Surely, dear reviewer, you jest. Before you sign this off completely, hear me out. By legitimate standards, sure, "Prom Night" bottoms out. But even by its own genre standards the flick is a mess, and here's why.

As a killer, Schaech's schoolteacher doesn't tread new ground. Seasoned fans will see through his pretty boy looks and puppy dog crush, and call him out as the uninspired hack job he is. Despite efforts, newcomers probably won't be chilled by his stalk and prey of Snow and her compatriots, either. No killer worth his salt ever checked into the hotel before the big slaughter, to say nothing of the puny pocketknife which he uses to dispatch his victims.

Slashers may be candy for the soul of aficionados, but the truth is, we're not in Haddonfield anymore. Slasher movie mainstays - senseless blood, guts, and nudity - are overkill. In light of recent trends, the things which made the original "Prom Night" a slasher staple show their age with today's audience.

Chalk it up to that great slayer of all things entertaining - political correctness. No one used to care much if chicks got sliced and diced topless, because it was all in the name of good schlock. Then one day, liberal party poopers got the memo that these things were offensive. Crying misogyny and excess, they pushed the genre to a point where it had to alter its criteria, or else face mass condemnation.

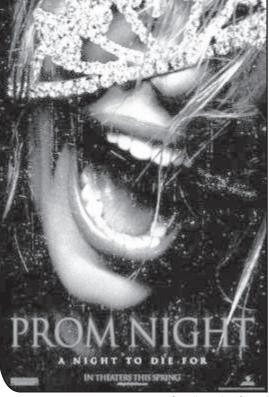
As a result, things like topless chase scenes just won't fly in today's horror.

"Prom Night" isn't about to rectify this, but its absence ensures that the work suffers. While the old "Prom Night" may seem antiquated to audiences, the stuff that made it exemplary aren't allowed casually anymore.

Director Nel-

son McCormick, eager for an audience but hesitant to commit to anything too obscene, keeps "Prom Night" clean as can be, and that's a huge problem. The last thing anyone wants to sit through is a neutered slasher

"Prom Night" could stand to grow a pair, or at the very at least, put out a little. By any measure,



http://www.imDb.com/

"Prom Night," a remake by Sony Pictures.

slasher flicks needn't be good to be entertaining. The re-envisioned version of "Prom Night" is neither. The flick leads its audience on with the promise of sexual themes and gruesome imagery, but it's only a tease. It would be better for all involved if the flick succumbed to the baser demands of the genre, but instead, it remains wedded to its PG-13 rating and horrific insinuations.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Brandon Dean Couch

Chris Casillas

Copy Editor Emeritus

Mandy Ferrell

Guest Writer

Brandon Dean Couch was born July 1, 1985, in Greenfield, Indiana to Richard and Peggy Couch. He had two sisters, Sabrina Simpson and Jessica Couch. Couch grew up on the family farm where he baled hay, raised beef cattle, and also participated in tractor pull competitions. Couch began playing football at age 8. During his football years, Couch was diagnosed with epilepsy and had to take a year or two off from playing his favorite game. His will was too strong to keep him away and once the seizures stopped, he went back to playing.

After graduating from New Palestine High School in May 2003, Couch continued his education by attending Rose-Hulman. He was a member of the Rose-Hulman football team. Couch won The Spirit of Chauncey Rose Award three years in a row. This was awarded to him unanimously every year. The award will be renamed as the Brandon Couch

Award in his honor.

Couch was a tutor for the Homework Hotline and an employee of the Mail Distribution Center. Couch was a sophomore advisor, and this is how he met his fiancée, Amanda Ferrell. He was also a brother of the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity.

Couch attended every basket-ball game for which Ferrell was a cheerleader, and was the official time keeper for the women's lacrosse team. He also enjoyed spending time with friends and was very approachable to talk with. He enjoyed playing billiards, bowling, board games, collecting movies, and doing crossword puzzles. He was a major fan of playing Xbox and both Ferrell and Couch played "Grand Theft Auto" together.

After completing his degree in the fall of 2007, Couch became employed at Harrison Steel Manufacturing in Attica, Indiana. He had worked there since November as a project manager, working on a half a million-dollar project.

In the spring of 2009, Couch and Ferrell had planned on being married on Valentine's Day in Anderson, Indiana. They had planned on going to Paris, France for their honeymoon.



Nicholas Broadbent Lee September 27, 1986 to April 5, 2008



Brandon Dean Couch July 1, 1985 to April 8, 2008



Photos of Brandon courtesy of Mandy Ferrell. Photos of Nick obtained from a memorial DVD available at the celebration of his life in Texas.

Nicholas Broadbent Lee

Margaret Kelly

Guest Writer

Nicholas Broadbent Lee was born on September 27, 1986, in Eugene, Oregon to Scott and Laurie Lee. His younger brother, Nathan was born in 1990, and although 4 years separated the two, their adoration for one another was obvious. While Nick was growing up, the Lee's moved around, from Oregon to Salt Lake City, and then finally to Bryan, Texas, where Nick went to high school. Even though the Lee's settled in Bryan, they still travelled quite a bit: a one-month stint in Austria, many summers fishing commercially in Alaska, and two three-month trips to Italy. On the second trip to Italy, when Nick was a sophomore in high school, he met his fiancée to be: Jennifer Bartels.

Nick always had a passion for hard physical work. His Alaskan summers were physically grueling, but he also loved demanding sports, such as mountain biking, snow-boarding, water polo, and swimming. He began swimming around the age of 5, and continued to swim successfully through this, his junior year at Rose-Hulman.

Nickhadasmilethatlituprooms, a quiet confidence, and a magnetic personality that drew people to him. He loved his friends, flourishing in their company, and triumphing in their successes. He seemed indifferent to the limelight, yet he always seemed to be surrounded by friends. One of his closest friends at Rose-Hulman, Ben Butz, said, "I've had more great times with Nick in the few years I've known him, than I've had with people I've been friends with my entire life." All of Nick's

friends can say the same, and he

will be sorely missed.

The phrase "low maintenance" was coined to describe Nick. He had a sweet disposition, and always strove to please and support his friends and family. He was patient, responsible, and pragmatic to a fault. He set life goals and pursued them with focus and determination, yet he maintained the balance to savor every moment of his life.

Nick had a wonderful relationship with Jen Bartels, his fiancée. He was within weeks of completing his junior year in biomedical engineering at Rose, and he was looking forward to working as a biomedical engineering intern this summer in Houston.

Nick traveled extensively with his family, living in Utah, Italy, and Austria. From the time he could walk, he worked summers in Alaska with his family as a commercial salmon fisherman. He worked longer and harder than most grown men will ever know, and knew how to enjoy the effort.

Nick was also a Varsity letterwinner and captain of the Rose-Hulman swim team. The bonds he created with his fellow swimmers were those of mutual friendship and respect.

Nick was a great son, an incredible friend, and an outstanding example of how we all should live our lives. Nick had the innate ability to brighten any situation and positively influenced everyone with whom he came into contact. We are all lucky to have had him in our lives, and although he will be missed, he will never be forgotten.

"When you are sorrowful, look again in your heart, and you shall see that, in truth, you are weeping for that which has been your delight..."







We met Nick three years ago, freshman year at Rose-Hulman. Over our three years at Rose, we have never worked so hard in our lives, but we also had the time of our lives. Nick was an important part of our group. His being there guaranteed that there would be a good time. Even if there was nothing to do we could just give him a hard time for his huge black pants and all was well. We all lived in a house together and he always went well out of his way to make sure others that came to visit were having a good time. We wouldn't trade the years we spent with Nick for anything in the world. We had some awesome experiences, and we made stories we will tell for the rest of our lives.

Kevin Butler, Ben Butz, and Doug Hale — Friends

I'll never forget the first thing I thought before I walked into his room [freshman year]: "Couch is a funny last name, and I'm glad it's not mine!" The moment I saw him, his face lit up, as so many of you can probably see even now. Some days later, he told me that he never actually imagined he'd find love. He actually hoped that since he decided to become an engineer, he could make some money that would reel someone in. The night before school started, Brandon and I talked all night out on Mees patio, and when we went to breakfast that morning, we didn't say a word — but we didn't have to. It seemed childish at the time and I knew it did, but I already felt like I wanted to be with this guy forever.

Mandy Ferrell — Fiancée

There are probably not enough nice words in the English language to describe Brandon Couch. He worked for me in the Mail Distribution Center, maybe I should say he worked with me and everyone else; he helped everyone. Brandon was always considerate of everyone else's feelings.

My wife and I were fortunate enough to have been able to spend a little bit of time with him and Mandy outside of the Rose atmosphere, and my wife's first impression of Brandon probably sums it up best—When you were in a conversation with Brandon, he made you feel as though you were the most important person in the room, no matter who or how many others were there.

Rick Alumbaugh — Manager, Mail Distribution Center

A challenge to the Rose-Hulman community

Staff Editorial

Without a doubt, the Rose-Hulman community has been struck by tragedy over the past few months. The hospitalizations of Jeff Trune, Drew Christy, and Adam Effinger and deaths of Nick Lee and Brandon Couch have been tragic blows to our campus community which will have lasting effects on many

The recent outpouring of love and generosity on the behalf of Drew Christy has been an impressive statement of the Rose community's dedication to supporting its own. The donations of many caring individuals and organizations on campus have not only undoubtedly made a difference in the lives of Drew and his family, but have proven that Rose is more than a college:

it is a tight-knit community of people who genuinely care about their own. We should all be very proud of our actions in response to the calamity that has befallen Drew and his family.

Sadly, our trials have not been limited to Drew's accident. Four other Rose-Hulman students and their families have been struck with tragedy who are no less deserving of our love and support through this difficult time. It is important that the overwhelming response that the Rose-Hulman community made in assisting Drew and his family is repeated as many times as necessary in order to properly care for our own: for Jeff and Adam who are still hospitalized, and for the families of Nick and Brandon, who are still in mourning.

What we can offer these fami-

lies is not necessarily restricted to financial support: our time, emotional support, and prayers can speak just as loudly and are just as important to those struck by tragedy – a simple phone call

can be priceless; a visit to a hospital room can speak as loudly as a check.

We also must not allow sudden and shocking tragedies to eclipse those which have come on more quietly, yet are no less devas-

tating. While what has befallen Jeff and his family has been less

has happened to Drew, Adam, Nick, and Brandon, they are just as entitled to our love and sup-

We must be wary of complacence: it is easy to let our empa-

We should all

be very proud

of our actions in

response to the

calamity

thy wane with repeated use and the zeal we originally pursued the assistance of Rose families in need can diminish with time. When confronted with such sudden and repeated tragedy, it is often

all one can do to keep from curling up and turning inward in abrupt and dramatic than what order to cope with such horrific

Bandwidth limit gone =

events. However, the temptation toward such behavior must be actively resisted: there are those among us in desperate need of our help and we must not hesitate for a moment to freely give

Over the last few months, our community has been struck with repeated tragedy. Despite this fact, we are still that: a community. It is our duty to lift up those of us who have been hurt most by these events in their time of need, or we will cease to be what we claim. We have proven, in the case of Drew Christy, what we are capable of in terms of providing financial and emotional support. It is paramount, both to these families and to ourselves, that we continue to do this for the most recent victims of tragedy in our Rose-Hul-

Tales of a baggy ninja

Kevin Butler, Ben Butz, **Douglas Hale, Margaret** Kelly, Zach Tatlock, and **Kristopher Williams**

Guest Writers

Known to his family and close friends only as "The Moose Cruncher," Nicholas Broadbent Lee was born on September 27th 1986 in Oregon. Some say he was the spawn of Bigfoot and Charlemagne; others say he was born of Scott and Laurie Lee. We are in no position to decide who was right. Legends of Nick began to arise around the year 1990 when he slain an Orca in the Great Salt Lake. Locals still sing of his exploits, and perform a dramatic re-creation of the

event yearly. Shortly thereafter, Nick's family was forced to escape the fame, and moved to Bryan, Texas. While in Bryan he tried to maintain a normal life but embraced the color purple as it was hard to forget his royal blood line. After defeating puberty at the age of five with nigh a voice crack or pimple, Nick spent his summers working the seas was routine during these fishing expeditions for Nick to use his own body as bait, lulling the sharks into a false sense of security before bludgeoning them to death with a Louisville Slugger. While in port, Nick oft competed in lumberjacking competitions to prove his mettle. Nick dominated these competitions, winning all but one of them. In the one he did not win, Nick lost a hand while chain-sawing a log, only to reattach it himself mid-competition and finish second. While spending a night in the hospital to recover from this mishap, Princess Diana and Nelson Mandela visited him to deliver a magical puppy to help speed his recovery. Nick loved this puppy with the whole of his carbon fiber soul, making his life goal to keep this puppy a puppy forever: small, furry, and adorable. It was this

love that lead him to biomedical engineering. However, after a week of research, Nick realized his dream, and discovered how to make it happen, only to also discover that all of the concentrated adorableness would make the universe implode. Nick decided this was his secret, and his secret alone, for him to carry in his baggy, black pants as Atlas carried the world on his shoulders. After all of his exploits, Nick decided it was time to lay low for a spell.

In the fall of 2005, he was drawn out of his lull by the cry of the Chimera in the city of Terre Haute. The Chimera was Nick's mortal enemy, and after a brief struggle, Nick vanquished the Chimera with a spear forged from a can of Keystone and the femur of Montezuma. After conquering the Chimera, the bane of Terre Haute, Nick decided to stay and conquer the SRC Natatorium and Coach Caruso's heart. Nick found his homework simple, and instead spent his time single-handedly busting meth labs and teaching local children the Hausdorff along the Alaskan coastline. It maximal principle. After successfully dividing the meaning of life by zero, Nick used the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus to prove the existence of God, Moses, and Unicorns. Soon thereafter, "The Moose Cruncher" developed a working model of a cold fusion device that would simultaneously end the world's environmental and energy concerns, gaining the praise of Al Gore, his holiness the Dalai Lama, and his old friend Nelson Mandela. Many speculate the pope would've also approved if it weren't for a blood feud between the two over a T-shirt of Nick's design. Unfortunately for us, Nick recorded all of his discoveries in an unintelligible script, known only to Nick, John Stamos, and the Loch Ness Monster. Nick truly was the "self made man", literally hewing himself from a solid slab of bronze.

Ryan Schultz

News Editor

Emeritus

Perhaps I am about to doom myself to geek hell, but whatever. I have to say that the removal of the bandwidth limit is, perhaps, the worst thing Those-Who-Make-The-Rules have done since Dr. Midgley was here (that's a backhanded compliment, by the way). Anyway, point is, I think removing the bandwidth limit was a terrible idea. Many of you will disagree with me for various (illegal *cough* *cough*) reasons, but I hope that by the end of this piece you will be able to see my point of view.

Long story short, Rose has a finite amount of bandwidth that is shared by all users of the network, from faculty to students to staff. Under the previous bandwidth-cap system, torrents and general usage (like watching streaming content) had to be throttled so people could sneak under their 48 hour limit. This meant that even when the network was at capacity, the peak traffic was more sporadic, allowing more users the full-throttle bandwidth experience. With no need to throttle torrents or limit streaming, traffic is constant, thereby perpetually hogging a chunk of available bandwidth and not providing the gaps that allow more users to communicate. It's like a big bowl of M&Ms at a party. If torrenters and streamers have dixie cups and they all take a small scoop of the M&Ms. then plenty of candies are available to the other partygoers. But, if the same number of people are given buckets instead of dixie cups, then

> Send your opinions to

opinions@ rose-hulman.edu

bad move

the number of candies left to partygoers is significantly smaller. Get my drift?

I could prattle on and on how it's "not fair," that so few ruin it for so many. How this is one more example of a few bad roses ruining the entire bouquet (awful pun intended). But I won't. Instead, I propose the following argument.

A torrenter or streamer would argue: "If the bandwidth is there, and since I pay the same fee as everyone else, I have a right to use as much as I want." To which, I would reply, "Yes, you pay the same as everyone else, so yes, you have as much privilege to it as I do. When your privilege to use the network for your personal reasons interferes with my right to use it for my academic reasons, then my right trumps your privilege." The bandwidth limit kept the network abusers in-check so the rest of us could use the internet for work and legal pursuits.

The situation is bad (have you looked at the bandwidth usage monitor recently?). I'm not going to quote any numbers because, again, on paper, the situation doesn't look nearly as dire. But, the feeling, the perception of pokiness, is disappointing for a school that unabashedly flaunts its flagship

Now, certainly you're asking yourself, what could somebody possibly be downloading and uploading so much all of the time? Does the internet really contain that much free content? The answer, as I'm sure you're well aware, is no. Torrents are, for the most part, 100% illegal. It is a highly sophisticated way to steal content simultaneously from many sources. I personally don't care what an avid torrenter says - if a song, movie, or piece of software is on their computer that they didn't pay for in some form, then that's stealing, pure and simple.

Personally, I don't have a problem with pirates because what people do on their own time is their own business. However, I imagine that Rose might have a problem with it. Let me propose the following hypothetical scenario: the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) discovers that Rose-Hulman houses an unusually high concentration of the internet-savvy and is a hot-spot for illegal pirating activity. Rose used to slip under their radar because network users were throttled low to evade the bandwidth limit. But now, with no cap, Rose suddenly becomes very visible to the RIAA who subsequently files suit. Because they've knowingly eliminated the one tool that kept piracy at bay (har har), the administration will be forced to walk the plank.

In Rose's confining walls, we as students lose sight of the privileges that this place offers us. At other fine schools around the country, students have limits on the number of pages they can print from school printers, have the internet bottlenecked through online nannies, and have severe bandwidth restrictions. And nobody complains. Nobody sends a cathartic email to the system administrators demanding to be given unlimited throughput for their own selfish personal reasons. In fact, when I've spoken with students from other schools about our internet access, many of them are incredulous that the administration of the school would trust us enough to allow us that sort of access.

So, let me summarize the reasons you, IAIT, should bring back the bandwidth limit. (1) Perceptible slow-down unbecoming of a school that flaunts that it's #1 (2) There's no way that a policy that allows interference with academic endeavors (that is, unlimited torrenting and streaming that hogs bandwidth) is consistent with the goals of the Institute (to provide the best academic experience possible) (3) The RIAA. So, please, bring back the bandwidth limits. I close with this question to you IAIT, do you honestly believe that the same student body that sends you the deluge of immature hatemail when they get 56k-ed can "use this shared resource responsibly?" I think we both know the answer to that question is a resounding "no."



Ryan Mitchell



Tim Boyer

Copy Editor

For a sport that doesn't always make the headlines at Rose, senior biomedical engineering major Ryan Mitchell is making his mark. Leading the golf team to one of the best starts in about a decade, Mitchell holds his place among the top performers of the team with an average of only 13 above par. This was highlighted by a +9 performance last Saturday at the Manchester Invitational, earning him the 5th spot out of 55 contestants. This weekend, Rose-Hulman will be hosting its first Invitational in about 10 years at the Hulman Links Golf Course in Terre Haute.

Rose Thorn: How long have you been playing golf?

Ryan Mitchell: I have been playing golf for ten years.

RT: What is your most memorable match?

RM: My most memorable match occurred during my freshman year of high school. I was playing in the final grouping in a match against Zionsville High School, the number one ranked team in the state at that time. I birdied my final two holes, the last of which was a par four where I pushed my drive into

the woods right of the fairway, hit a seven iron over the treetops fifteen feet from the pin, and drained the putt with everyone from both schools watching on a hill behind the green. The birdie-birdie finish earned me medalist honors for the match and led my Hamilton Southeastern Royals to a two shot victory over the Zionsville Eagles.

RT: How would you compare Rose's program to that of your high school?

RM: The golf program here at Rose is a little more relaxed than that of my high school. We get the opportunity to practice whenever it fits into our schedules and there is less pressure to play well on a daily basis, which actually allows me to play better. I also like the fact that we get to play in both the spring and the fall in college as opposed to only playing in the spring in high school.

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

RM: The most meaningful award that I have received came when I won the Hamilton County Junior Golf Championships the summer before my senior year of high school. The most meaningful recognition that I have received came when I was

named to the Indiana All-State Academic Team my senior year of high school.

RT: The Rose golf team is having one of its best years in recent history. How do you think the team could finish in the conference this year?

RM: Franklin and Transylvania are perennial powerhouses when it comes to HCAC [Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference] golf. However, Franklin has fallen off a bit this year; therefore, I feel that second place in the conference tournament is well within reach if our team plays up to its potential.

RT: The golf team is hosting an Invitational this weekend, something that hasn't happened in the past couple years. How does it feel to be playing on your home course?

RM: I'm really excited about the fact that we're hosting a tournament this weekend, and that most of the schools in our conference will be there. I feel that we have one of the most difficult home courses in the HCAC, and this home field advantage could give us the boost that we need to take the title. We tee off at noon on Saturday and a little earlier on Sunday, so everyone should come on out to Hulman

Engineer Scoreboard

Softball 16-8 (6-2)

April 16

Greenville College at Rose-Hulman 0

Greenville College 1

0 1 7 Baseball 19-9 (6-4)

April 11

Mt. St. Joseph 1 at Rose-Hulman 6

Mt. St. Joseph 7 at Rose-Hulman 5

Men's Golf

April 12

at Rose-Hulman

Manchester Invitational Fort Wayne, IN

5th of 9 teams

Track and Field

April 12-13

Little State Meet Indianapolis, IN

11 top-ten finishes

Men's Tennis 3-5 (3-2)

April 13

Rose-Hulman 4 at Franklin College 5

Women's Tennis 8-7 (6-2)

April 12

Rose-Hulman 6 vs. Illinois Wesleyan U. 3

Rose-Hulman vs. **Wheaton College**

0

9

Links and enjoy the beautiful weather while it lasts!

RT: How has participating in a varsity sport had an effect on your experience at Rose?

RM: Participating in a varsity sport has made my time at Rose much more enjoyable. It allows me to take my mind off of studying and gives me the chance

to just enjoy being outside and work on my game.

RT: Do you have any plans on staying involved in golf after Rose?

RM: After I graduate, I plan on continuing to play golf as much as possible, and I will probably participate in a few amateur tournaments during the summer.

Men's track nationally ranked

Rose-Hulman News

The men's track and field team has been nationally ranked for the first time in more than a decade by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

The Engineers are ranked No. 25 in the nation and No. 5 in the Great Lakes Region in this week's rankings from the organization.

The USTFCCA uses a criteria that evaluates the top two performances in each event that is conducted at the NCAA Division III Track and Field Indoor National Championships and The Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the statement of the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the Engit tion at the Engit tion at the light Meet to p.m. at Coolean events beging the Engit tion at the Engit tion a

assigns a numerical value based upon the quality of the mark.

Last week, the Engineers combined for 11 top 10 finishes at the 2008 Little State Championships, led by three top five performances. Senior Matt Repking led the Engineers with a second-place effort in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, while sophomores Jonathan Rogers and Travis Vanderberg in the pole vault and javelin throw.

The Engineers return to action at the Rose-Hulman Twilight Meet tonight starting at 5 p.m. at Cook Stadium. Running events begin at 5:30 and admission is free.

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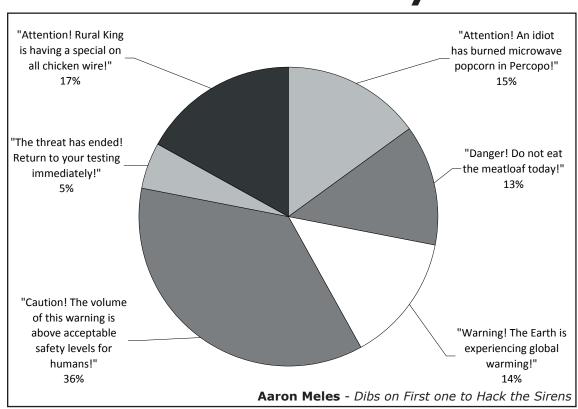
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Rejected warnings for the new alarm system



Interpretive Education

James Zhou

Oh the Humanities!

What if engineering was like some of the more esoteric liberal arts fields, where things like facts are tossed out in favor of "truths," beliefs, and inane opinions? To find out, I went deep undercover as a corporate-hating-Democrat-hippie pot dealer with three trisexual multi-racial parents at a liberal arts university, where thanks to the enormous class sizes, no one noticed me spying on the various lectures.

Unfortunately, I was discovered and subsequently kicked out when I accidently sat in on an international relations class and made a remark based on logical deductions from a statistical analvsis of the relative contributions of each nation to scientific progress. While an angry and slightly intoxicated mob chased me away from their bastion of free thinking for my rationality, I texted this article to the Flipside.

Archaic languages: If you thought translating between Metric and English units were hard, try translating a schematic of a suspension bridge between Aramaic and Latin. On the plus side, if you ever make a mistake and someone dies, just blame it on the construction workers' shameful ignorance of the "damn well still alive" languages

History: I fell asleep and was unable to learn anything about history, except that history is really boring.

Music: Apparently music majors spend their entire lives studying and reproducing harmonic oscillations. My EE friend has a small combination signal generator/oscilloscope which replicated Mozart's life's work in roughly 3 days and finished his unfinished works in the following afternoon. He is currently using it to figure out why his radio has trouble receiving the song about "supermanning holes" (I have no idea what language that song is in or what "supermanning holes" even translate to).

Psychology: The most awesome class ever. You get points based on how deviant your opinions are from everyone else's. Finally, some people who applaud the genius behind my idea of conquering the world with a cyborg army. Of course, since they have no career prospects, money, or useful organs, they can not assist my

Art: I was too disgusted to take an arts class after hearing about how some Yale girl made her senior project with leftover matter from self-induced miscarriages.

Women's studies: The class is full of women, who glared at me until I left. In reflection, wearing a "bros before ho's" t-shirt was not the correct disguise for this situation.

This day...
1946: The Battle of Alcatraz occurs as six inmates take over the prison in a failed escape attempt. Why hasn't this become a level in some video game yet? Get on that CS majors!

2000: President Bill Clinton announces the civilian use of GPS. Now both a human and computerized woman can tell you where to go in a car, and the man's wrong twice.

...in history

Wacky prof quotes

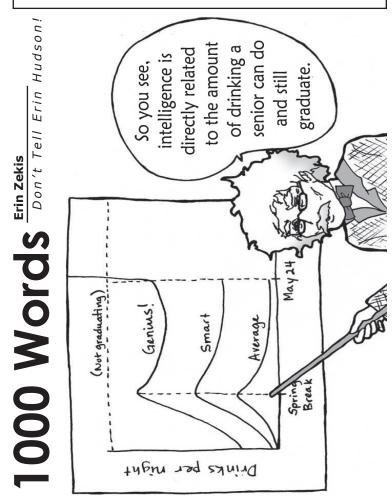
- "I am God, I define this [eraser] as a centimeter." — Dr. Bunch, always drawing to scale. His scale.
- "What would your chromosomes be like if you didn't see this stuff?" — Dr. Galinaitis on the superiority of RHIT students chromosomes. Or lack thereof...
- "I should find all of your Calc I professors and shoot them!" — Dr. Holden, who just doesn't like the Calc I professors. They stole his abaccus. Meanies...
- "You got 2 vectors, Mike and John here, and they walk into a bar..." — Dr. Galinaitis, master mathematics storyteller.
- "What's doping? That has many contexts, I grew up in the 60s and know all about that." — Dr. Bunch, who just explained why he made the eraser comment.
- "Ask your father about that. He'll probably hit you for that." — Dr. Sanders, always ready to nominate his students for old school punishment.
- "That's when I knew I was doomed to be an engineering professor: when I floated my rubber ducky under the water" — Dr. Thom, sharing a tender moment about his lost childhood. Touching.

Top Ten ways Rose kicks us in the

Matthew Melton and Molly G (illam)

Back With a Vengence!

- 10. You walk in your room to find 2000 pounds of jello on your bed and four freshmen apologizing because they thought you were
- 9. You finally get to relax with some good old fashioned IM's except they've been rained out four out of the five weeks. Who wants to try indoor Softball next year?
- 8. Two tests, two homework assignments, a quiz, lab write-up, blah blah blah insert your specific class requirement here, and your girlfriend thinks you're cheating on her because you don't spend any time with her.
- 7. You try to write a joke about Hertz, but everyone who knew him graduated a long ago. Next Flipside celebrity: Ryland Hayes!
- 6. Mid-term break time! Unfortunately, break is short for Brutally Reaming you with Extra Assignments Kindly. Spring break 2008
- 5. Your laptop, not wanting to ruin your game of Dota, instead commits Seppuku while working on your Senior Design project that's due Monday morning. And no, IAIT does not do house calls.
- 4. You pull an all-nighter studying for the Fluids test, only to get to M Sys and learn Fluids is next Friday. M Sys is this Friday.
- 3. You finish your ten-page research paper only to discover it's not supposed to be double spaced.
- 2. Rose Superflu! A cross hybrid of the common cold and our shattered hopes and dreams of an easy spring quarter. And it lasts until summer no matter what you do.
- 1. All your friends outside of Rose finished their finals this week. Those !@#\$%^&*...



Flipsideonomics: How Did Rose Spend its Slush Fund this Year?

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Transactions performed above, around, and mostly under the table	Amount:
New signs for our building sowho gets lost on our campus?	-5,000.00
Covering the difference in SGA's budget for next year (This one's real)	-31,000.00
Revenue for renting out our souls facilities to the Colts	300,000.00
Expenditures resulting from the Colts being needier than a Rose Goddess	-121,437.00
Profits from selling the leftover Colts stuff on Ebay (yay garbage picking!)	37,456.00
Money spent on 30 foot tall honeycombs so our parents will feel better	-9,740.00
Ad money from playing hourly radio commercials on the honeycombs	47,100.00
Money funneled to the DOD for secret laboratory under Scum Pond	-241,570.00
Covering the damage from the Femto-laser being pointed the wrong way	\$ Deming
Yearly total of fun with Slush Fund transactions	-24,191.00