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News Briefs

By Kyle Kamischke

Captain America
killed off

The famous superhero Captain America, aka Steve Rogers, has been killed off after 60 years in the comic books. The writers for Marvel Comics recently killed off Rogers in its divisive “Civil War” story line, which pits the characters of the Marvel Comics against one another. In the series, Rogers is set to stand trial for ignoring an order for all superheroes to register with the government due to one hero accidentally causing a 9/11-like event. He eventually gives in to authorities and is later shot outside on the courthouse steps as he goes to trial. Captain America was killed off as a symbol of the current times with issues such as 9/11, the War on Terror, and the Patriot Act. It is currently not known whether he will be resurrected; if he was, some feel it would take away from the symbolism that his death represents.

New barf-blaster
introduced

The US Navy is currently putting money towards research on a new weapon that will cause extreme nausea in its target. The weapon is intended for urban combat and has been given the name Electromagnetic Personal Interdiction Control (EPIC). The weapon can be used through walls and temporarily interferes with the coordination and balance of its victims’ inner ears. A side effect of the weapon is tremendous motion sickness. EPIC is seen as a much better alternative to the microwave-oven based weapons that are designed to make their targets feel like they’re on fire. The firm in charge of developing EPIC was awarded a \$100,000 contract in 2004 and is now seeking more money to continue their research into the weapon.

Hole in Earth’s crust
discovered

There is currently a giant hole in the Earth’s crust on the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean seabed. This hole goes against everything currently thought of in traditional geophysical theory of plate tectonics and scientists want to find out why it exists. A team of scientists left the Canary Islands on a high-tech vessel with a robot named Toby that they plan to use to take pictures of the hole. It will also take rock samples and dig into the exposed mantle and bring back its findings. The hole is approximately 16,400 feet below the ocean surface and has a diameter of anywhere between 10,000 and 13,000 feet. The mission is expected to last 6 weeks and should provide insight into the chemistry of the oceans and how the Earth acts under so much pressure.

HOUSING 2007 — 2008



In case you happened to miss the meeting, here are some important dates regarding the housing process for the 2007 — 2008 school year.

- April 30Housing Preference Forms distributed via email.
- May 2On-line Housing Form completed and \$100 housing deposit due in the Student Financial Services Office (A-102) between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Information courtesy Tom Miller, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, and Erik Hayes, Director of Residence Life. Background picture by Andrew Carlson.

Athletes gear up for great race

Tiffany Parrott
Staff Writer

On Friday and Saturday, Rose-Hulman will host the 2007 Division III Indoor Track and Field Championship. Over four hundred athletes from twenty-eight states will be competing. Students began arriving Wednesday for the event. Thursday evening, Rose provided a banquet for all participants, coaches, and others affiliated with the championship. The dinner was held in the Hulbert Arena of the Sports and Recreation Center. Men dressed in suits and ties, and women dressed in cocktail dresses enjoyed a dinner of fruit, salad, rolls, pasta, chicken, and other dishes. A stage with two large screens on both sides supplied the evening’s centerpiece. The screens displayed impressive photographs of competing

athletes, as well as videos of races. Rose-Hulman’s Track coach Larry Cole gave an inspiring speech to the audience on the temporary stage. The competition will begin at noon on Friday with the women’s long jump, and will end Saturday at 4:45 P.M. with the men’s 1600 relay. Competitors hold amazing times for their events: the threshold to conquer for men’s 55 meter dash is 6.34 seconds, 55.85 seconds for the women’s 400 meter dash, and 4:47.42 for the women’s mile run. It is a little-known fact that NCAA Division III is the largest of sport divisions, and it also has the most diverse student population. Senior Ryan Schipper, a civil engineer, will be the only student representing Rose-Hulman. A ticket for the meet is five dollars at the door, or free if received prior to the event in Student Affairs.

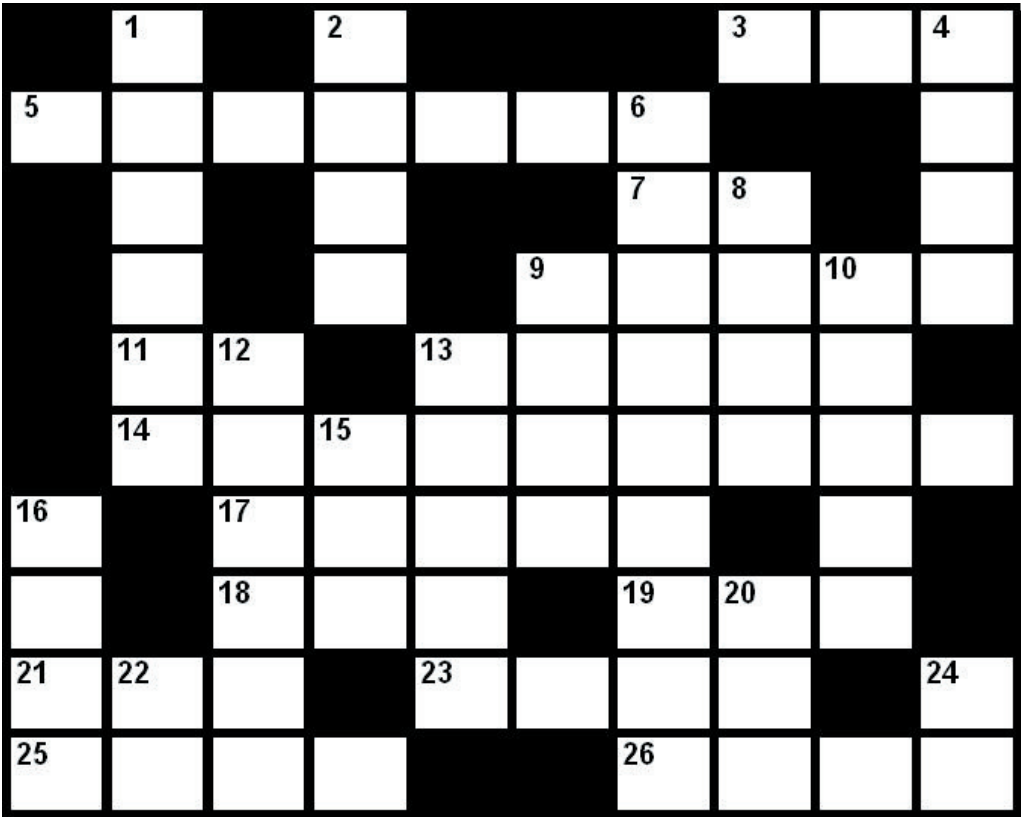


Andrew Carlson / Rose Thorn
Athletes competing in this weekend’s NCAA Division III Indoor Track Championship partake in an RHIT-sponsored banquet held in Hulbert Arena.

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
Welcome from our new Editor-in-Chief, How to buy a car Page 3	300, Ear Candy, YouTube Page 4	Putin power grabs, why the guest writer thinks he’s qualified to write Page 6	Baseball, Softball player wins HCAC player of the week, scores Page 7	“Just slip it in.” Page 8

Crossword

by Jim Sedoff



Check out the answers on our website:
www.rose-hulman.edu/thorn

Across

- 3 You would hail this in New York and we aren't talking about Paris Hilton
5 We are in the last one, my EIC will give you part of a dollar if you get it right
7 Windows Vista, Redhat, Tiger
9 Pétanque, bowls or lawn bowling by other names
11 The girl group that sells those deliciously addictive cookies
13 Try to think Kelly Bundy or Cher from "Clueless"
14 With higher student enrollment, you may want to look into living here next year
17 This German town hosted the World Sumo Wrestling Championship in 2004 and had the world's first 110 kV powerline
18 Roth comes in two flavors: Traditional, and this
19 You may think you are fine in the ring, but the Ref. just called this bell-ringer
21 If you have the time this quarter, you might actually see this outside
23 You're no boat, but that doesn't mean you couldn't use this to prevent cap-sizing for that hottie in MA211
25 A city in Minnesota, but more recognized as a small country in Africa that I'd like to go to
26 Maybe this week we'll go with the floe and stop seeing this around campus

Down

- 1 Half brown horse, half zebra this extinct southern African equine had its last breath in an Amsterdam zoo in 1883
2 It was last month and although it's not Tuesday, who says you can't grossly celebrate it again?
4 "Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man / ____ me a cake ..."
6 Whether you have two or three, you need to start looking for them for next year, unless you are living in 14-Across
8 Bachelor of Sci. in Eng.
9 A smidge more than just 1 and 0, they help control a horse
10 Could be a line or a country in Africa
12 'Tis the season of birds, bees and this quarter
13 Hopefully you didn't ____ anything over 12-Down ____
15 You breathe it
16 For seniors this is their ____ 5-Across at Rose
20 You mk pttry n ths
22 A disguised cop might have these two letters on their badge
24 This German company made the "People's Car"

Classifieds

4-7 bedroom houses

4-7 bedroom houses. Reserve your 4-7 bedroom rental houses now for the 07-08 school year. 2 1/2 baths, central air/fridge/range/dishwasher. Washer and dryer included, 2 car garages. Clean and well maintained with 24 hr service. 9-12 month leases. Convenient to campus. In good areas with ample parking 478-9286.

9 bedroom house

Available August. 9 bedroom house located on south Center St, 2 kitchens, 3 baths, off street parking washer/dryer plus more. Call Sharp Flats at 812-877-1146 for details.

For rent

5 bedroom house available near ISU stadium. Large house with lots of room. Washer/dryer, stove, refrigerator and some furniture provided. \$220 per student. 812-230-2992.

House for rent

3 & 4-5 bd., spacious, quiet for study, **EXTRA NICE!** Call 232-6977 after 11 am. Please leave ph #.

Sharp Flats, LLC

Now renting for 2007-2008 school year. Convenient and affordable housing. Some availability now. Sharp Flats East is just a short walk from Rose with efficiencies, studios, and one bedroom units and short-term leases. Our downtown properties are located on or near 6th St., and feature 1-9 bedroom units. Check us out at www.sharpflats.com. (812) 877-1146. sharpflats@excite.com.

1-5 bedroom rentals

Now renting 1-5 bedrooms. Summer or Fall. \$310-\$550. Some utilities included. No pets. Gibson Apts. 234-4884.

Marylaine Apartments

628 Ash St. Adjacent to north side of Union Hospital. 1 and 2 bedrooms. Ample on-site lighted parking. Basic cable free and water included. Clean and well maintained. Deposit and lease required. 235-1332.

Three bedroom apartment

Large, furnished, three bedroom apartment available Summer or Fall quarter. Nine or twelve month lease. \$660 includes all utilities. Contact Dr. Diteon (CL104, Box 171, ext. 8247 or 299-5182.

Trail's End Cafe 40

Menu features homeade cooking, desserts, and daily specials. Close to campus. Dine in, carry out, or call ahead and we will have your order ready. Show your Rose ID and get 10% off. 6710 E. Wabash Ave. 877-4002.

The Rose Thorn

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

**The Rose Thorn is published on Fridays
first through ninth week each quarter.**

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The *Rose Thorn* welcomes and encourages comments from its readers. We request that all letters to the editor be less than 600 words in length.

THE DEADLINE FOR CONTENT SUBMISSION IS 5 P.M. TWO DAYS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

All content should be submitted to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or to the *Rose Thorn* Office (Hulman Memorial Union room 249).

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.



Ken Meyer / Rose Thorn
The Rose Thorn's new Editor-in-Chief.

Welcome from the Editor-in-Chief

Aaron Meles
Editor-in-Chief

Hi! I'm Aaron Meles and I am the new Editor-in-Chief of the *Rose Thorn*. Many of you may know me from the Opinions page, where I used to edit. As Editor-in-Chief, it is my goal to continue guiding the *Rose Thorn* on its mission of serving the Rose-Hulman campus community.

As part of this new transition, you will be seeing several changes in the *Thorn* over the next couple weeks. We've brought weekly puzzles back (with a crossword puzzle in this issue). We'll also be mixing in some sudokus and cryptograms throughout the quarter. You'll also notice some new features and columns popping up over the next couple of weeks, including weekly YouTube video highlights and new sports scores and information. My staff and I have also been working on redesigning the *Thorn* to have a brand new look and feel, which we hope to have completed and published in the next couple of weeks.

We also want to get the campus more involved with the paper by introducing a new position on the newspaper staff – guest writer. Just like our current staff writers, guest writers will submit articles to any section they want on a variety of topics. However, we ask that they submit four times (at max) per quarter! As you can see, a rigorous weekly commitment isn't necessary to write for the *Thorn*.

If you're considering writing for the *Thorn*, I encourage you to try it out by guest writing for a while. I think that you will find that writing on a regular basis is not only incredibly liberating and fun, but you will see noticeable improvement in your writing skills as well. Writing for the paper is a great way to get friendly, non-GPA-affecting feedback on your writing from our experienced editors.

Even if being a part of the *Thorn* isn't for you, I hope you enjoy the changes that will be taking place in the near future. Good luck in the coming quarter!

Cars! Cars! Cars!

Fred Webber
Staff Writer

Late Tuesday afternoon, around 60 seniors gathered to hear Scott Jaeger, a 1989 Rose graduate and General Manager at Thompson Honda in Terre Haute, share his knowledge about the general process of buying a car. Jaeger was invited by Alumni Affairs as part of the Countdown to Commencement Series.

"You're going to spend a lot of time in this car, and it's going to serve you for several years," advised Jaeger, who encouraged students to consider the use of their car even five years from now.

Jaeger began by highlighting some of the important considerations in car purchasing.

One basic considerations is the utility of the car; will it need to haul anything or be driven in rough terrain or weather?

Another is size: will the car be used for a single driver? Or will it have to be used for spouse or family hauling?

All cars use fuel of some kind; consider the cost of fuel, and whether it is worth driving a large truck when a small car will be sufficient.

A major consideration will be whether a new car is purchased, which will have a warranty, be more reliable, and have that "new car smell," or whether a used one will do just fine.

Jaeger also brought up several other considerations that may not be as obvious. Insurance on the car will be needed; this will be much more expensive for some models than others. Some states, including Indiana, have an Excise Tax, which is charged annually and is based on the cost of the vehicle. Finally, all cars depreciate the moment they are driven off the lot – some much more so than others – so Jaeger recommends considering this if the car will be traded in or sold in the next few years.

Feeling relaxed and comfortable with the process is important during the search for a car. "If you're not having fun, you're probably in the wrong place," commented

Jaeger, citing problems such as not trusting the salesman or dealership as major causes of feelings of uneasiness. He encouraged students to find a sales person who they are comfortable with and who treats all customers fairly, regardless of age.

When discussing cars with any dealer, there are a few things to watch out for. Any dealer claiming he or she can get a discount on certain models that other dealers cannot get is lying – by federal law, all dealers pay the same price to the manufacturer.

When shopping for used cars, the official legal history could be altered; such as removing indications on the title of hurricane or flood damage, or underrepresenting the number of miles it has been driven: "Any reputable dealer should provide a Car Facts for you" explained Jaeger. The Car Facts help you determine if evidence of

benefit: price negotiation, trade-in negotiation, and financing.

For price negotiations, one chief thing to keep in mind is supply and demand: when gas prices went above \$3 per gallon last year, a Toyota Prius went for the value posted on the car door, no less. However, this was a great time to buy a Ford Explorer.

Recently, though, this has become untrue because gas prices have receded to between two and three dollars per gallon range. When a dealer is making any offers on a car, such as a non-standard warranty or other options for a discount or for free, make sure it is in writing on the bill. "If anyone tells you anything, write it down," Jaeger urged.

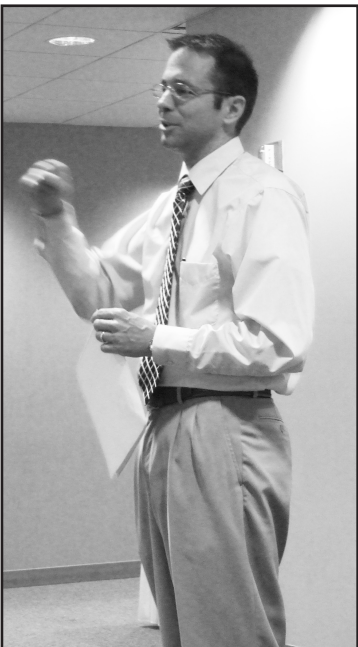
According to Jaeger, when trading in a car, the dealer will almost definitely pay less than could be made if sold by the owner. That being said, Jaeger pointed out, selling a car by owner takes longer and is a tedious process.

When the dealer sets a price, "Remember that profit is not a dirty word," said Jaeger, who pointed out that the company does need to make some money to stay in business and pay its employees. It is still a good idea to look up the true market value of a car; however, keep in mind that it is just an indicator, and cannot take into account, such as a general appraisal.

He also suggested that some students, especially some of the women, may feel uncomfortable with a large strange man wanting to come up and test drive the car. Each car has three prices – the price the dealer asks, the price the car has on the wholesale markets, and the price at which the owner could sell it.

Come time to pay, Jaeger listed five options: pay cash, finance it with the dealer, get a simple interest loan, lease it, or get a balloon note, which Jaeger notes is probably not very wise.

A lease is generally computed by the company determining how much the car will depreciate after X years, dividing that



Albert Mui / Rose Thorn
Scott Jaeger, a general manager at Thompson Honda in Terre Haute, discusses the finer points of buying a car with seniors during a recent Countdown to Commencement Lecture.

value by the appropriate number of months, and adding interest. At the end of a lease, the car can be bought, traded in to a dealer who will pay off the lease, or give it back. What is done at this point is dependent on the current market value of the car; Jaeger again pointed out how gas prices can affect the demand for a car. Leasing varies from state to state.

Most manufacturers will generally have a college-grad financing option. Simply have decent credit (no credit is ok) a diploma, and an offer. A dealer financing package will generally have the option to get cash up front or get a percentage reduction on financing. It is fairly simple to run these numbers, but Jaeger suggested that if it is close, take the up-front cash in case something happens to the car.

When it comes down to signing the final contract, the filled out contract can be taken home, says Jaeger, who encourages that students do it to be aware of all of the fine details. He suggested that students make a special note of prepayment penalties and late fees on payments, and generally try to avoid these. "If somebody's pressuring you, you're probably in the wrong place," Jaeger advised.



Websites to Check Out

AnnualCreditReport.com
– Free credit report from major credit bureaus

Consumer Reports – Vehicle Reviews

Edmunds.com – Vehicle Purchase Information, Market Value Pricing

EPA.gov/greenvehicles – Environmental Information about vehicles

FuelEconomy.gov – Fuel Economy Comparisons

Intellichoice.com – Vehicle Purchase Information / Cost of Ownership

KellyBluebook.com – New car and Trade in values

Online Payment Calculators – calculate payments

Manufacturer Websites – Model Information / Financing Information / Incentives

NHTSA.gov – Safety Information

SaferCar.gov – Safety Information

Compiled by Scott Jaeger

Things to ponder when purchasing

Utility – Will it be hauling anything? Going on rough terrain, or harsh weather?

Size – Will you be mostly by yourself, or are you likely to soon get married and maybe even have children?

Fuel Price – Consider the fuel economy of the vehicle- you can go the same distance in a large truck and a small sedan

Market Value (Depreciation) – If you want to sell or trade the car in within a few years, consider how much the car will be worth. This varies radically from car to car.

Insurance – Different vehicles cost different amounts to insure. When you hit the age of 25, though, this amount will drop way down. Females currently have an advantage on males.

Excise Tax – Some states charge tax annually based on the value of the vehicle

New vs. Certified vs. Used – New cars cost more, but are a pretty safe bet. Used cars are not so much a 'sure' thing. Certified cars can be more dependable and have a warranty.

New offering from Anberlin mature, ear candy

Nick Slabaugh
Guest Writer

In an Associated Press interview regarding Anberlin's latest album, *Cities*, lead singer Stephen Christian described the album as being about Man vs. Self - a marked change from their accusatory sophomore effort, *Never Take Friendship Personal*. Upon listening to *Cities*, it's clear that his claim is true. *Cities* is marked by an introspection unheard on Anberlin's previous albums - 2003's *Blueprints for the Black Market* and 2005's *Never Take Friendship Personal*. With lyrics like "I am

in part to former Acceptance member Christian McAlhaney's presence on guitar. Fast-moving guitars, intricate drum work, and well-integrated keyboards accent Stephen Christian's unique tenor, putting the focus on the melodic and lyrical quality of the album.

There are several excellent hard-rocking tracks on *Cities*, notably "Godspeed", "Hello



www.christianbook.com
Cities is arranged with the entirety of the composition, from start to finish, in mind

the patron saint of lost causes, a fraction of who I once believed," the lines of *Cities* are those of an older, more mature Anberlin.

Fans of the band will find a lot to like about *Cities* from the very first track. The album starts off with a short ambient intro track reminiscent of an orchestra tuning up on a busy street, then rolls straight into the hard-rocking "Godspeed". "Godspeed" gives the impression of a song run away in a style that is patently Anberlin's, and sets the tone for many of the harder songs on the album. Chugging at bullet-train speed, the rhythm guitar work on *Cities* keeps the harder songs moving at an exhilarating pace.

Producer Aaron Sprinkle again demonstrates his talent for showcasing vocals with close attention to the balance of the album. Fans of Acceptance will hear some similarities to 2005's *Phantoms*, perhaps also due

written harmonies with Joseph Milligan, the lead guitarist and backing vocalist. The final track, named "Fin", ties the album together, pulling lines from other songs and ending the progression with a grand coda that is electrifying.

In the increasingly crowded alternative rock genre, it's becoming harder and harder for a single album to really shine above the rest. However, thanks to Anberlin's unique sound, Aaron Sprinkle's excellent production, and a bit of risk-taking from the band, *Cities* does shine, and brightly. Any fan of Anberlin should have this album (and probably already does), but fans of bands like Acceptance, Augustana, Waking Ashland, or Motion City Soundtrack should add it to their library as well. Even those uninitiated to the genre will most likely find something to like here.

Stunning visuals lead the charge in '300'

Ally Melling
Daily Kent Stater

Nearly two years after the theatrical release of "Sin City," Frank Miller's latest blood-soaked, testosterone-filled, comic-geek wet dream is finally upon us, and like the novel it's based on, "300" is truly a graphic delight.

And how could Zack Snyder, director of 2004's "Dawn of the Dead," resist another adaptation with so much gory potential?

Set in 480 BC Greece, the "300" graphic novel was Miller's interpretation of the Battle of Thermopylae, an ill-fated but impressive conflict when thousands of Persians suffered massive loss at the hands of a mere 300 Spartan soldiers.

In Snyder's film, this famous last stand features Gerard Butler ("The Phantom of the Opera") as the brave King Leonidas, leader of the warrior-based culture notorious for breeding soldiers from birth. Leonidas must defy his own country to protect it from Persian tyranny, leading a small number of Sparta's finest, which includes actors such as David Wenham (Faramir from "The Lord of the Rings").

Simply, "300" is a visual masterpiece. Like Robert Rodriguez's faithful rendering of Miller's black-and-white "Sin City" com-

ics, "300" was filmed mainly in front of blue and green screens and used multiple software for color and special effect modification. Beyond computer-generated beasts and legions of soldiers, the result is a uniquely filtered look. The film carries over the washed-out browns, dismal grays and bright, arterial reds graphic-novel colorist Lynn Varley won an Eisner Award for in 1999.

"300"'s amazing rendition of color and CGI blend with slow motion to create some spectacular, violent battle scenes. Never before has skewering, decapitation and swordplay looked so beautiful on screen.

Also like "Sin City," a majority of "300"'s sequences and dialogue match the graphic novel word for word and panel for panel. From Leonidas dispensing with Persian messengers to the sensual writhing of the Oracle to the androgynous King Xerxes, many scenes are thankfully exact.

The added scenes that don't match the graphic novel are the film's major downfalls. The biggest difference is the expansion of Queen Gorgo's character and the romance between her and Leonidas.

Why does Warner Brothers always feel the need to create an unnecessary love story for a film that doesn't need it? "V for Ven-

detta" suffered the same fate.

One can only guess scriptwriters thought the audience needed an occasional break from "300"'s awesome war scenes. Their answer was to throw in a detracting subplot about the queen ("The Cave"'s Lena Headey) cheating on Leonidas in order to gain council support for his fight against the Persians. In the end, her efforts amount to a-whole-lot-of-nothing and make Spartan women seem weak and tacky.

On a broader scale, many people are criticizing the film's fictional depiction of Spartan fighting tactics, something both Miller and Snyder admitted they altered so the fighting scenes would look better. Sorry, history buffs.

The people who are criticizing "300" by drawing connections to the war in Iraq and comparing King Xerxes to President George W. Bush should also remember Miller published this graphic novel as a comic book series nearly a decade ago.

So, ignore the forced romantic plot and focus on the overwhelming amount of great elements, such as the intense acting, strategic costuming and harsh score. If you like faithful adaptations or merely action films with originality and style, "300" is fresh eye candy with a taste you'll want to savor more than once.



<http://www.msnbc.msn.com>

Nearly every scene in "300" is a stunning visual composition, transitioning from one dramatic image to another, making the film another landmark based on Frank Miller's work.

Vampires, anime entertain in 'Lunar Knights'

Joshua Denenberg
The Daily Campus

When the name of acclaimed video game designer Hideo Kojima comes up in conversation, most gamers think of the "Metal Gear" series. Recently, however, he and his team released the title "Lunar Knights" which is quite the departure from what Kojima has become associated with.

"Lunar Knights" is the follow up to the Game Boy Advance series "Boktai." Those familiar with the series will recall it as an above average top-down action role-playing game. However, the most memorable part of it was a bizarre "light sensor" that would be able to detect if you were playing broad daylight, which would in turn affect the potency of abilities and even events in the game. Those who have tried playing a Game Boy in broad daylight probably know this is not a good idea due to the horrendous glare created on the screen. This mechanic is still present in "Lunar Knights" but it was fixed so now the "day-time night-time system" is simply set on an inter-

nal clock. Like "Boktai" the time of day in "Lunar Knights" affects various elements of the game ranging from recovery to the enemies you encounter.

This "day-time night time" mechanic is not the only thing that makes "Lunar Knights" a surprisingly solid title. The control of polar opposite characters during the duration of the game also adds quite a bit (one character, Lucien, uses a big sword while Aaron uses a gun). Both have unique strengths to help you conquer the lengthy dungeons that make up the core of the game. Here, the day and night mechanic plays a significant role. While Lucien is more effective and able to recover attack energy at night, Aaron is only able to do the same in daylight. This forces players to budget their character's precious power and play to their strengths based on the location.

The dungeons that were alluded to are long and absolutely loaded with monsters. In most role-playing games, you kill a bunch of monsters in one area

until you get strong enough to kill the enemies in the next. In this respect, this game won't win any points for originality. Although the dungeons are well designed this style of game cannot help but feel a little routine even with the unique mechanics and dual character system.

One of the first things noticed in the game is the distinct anime-style art and lush use of color in the game. While the graphics are relatively behind current standards, the effective use of color and brief-but-well-done anime cut-scenes help make up for it.

When it comes to the storyline, "Lunar Knights" is not the most original, but it will keep players interested enough to keep playing. The general premise is that the Earth has been taken over by vampires in the future. You guide your two heroes to try to fight vampire domination. While there is far more intrigue to come, nothing more can be said without spoiling key events.

"Lunar Knights" is sure to please fans of the genre, or those just looking for a lengthy adventure to kill their spring break.

YouTube Video of the Week

David Bander
Guest Writer

Each week I will be highlighting two videos from the ever popular website, YouTube, that I think you need to watch. Some of these videos may be new, some may be old, and you may have seen it a hundred times before, but I think you need to see it again either way. If you have any videos you want me to see, send them to entertainment@rose-hulman.edu.

PS3 Song

What it is: A slideshow video accompanying a song written by Doc Adams titled, "How to Kill Your Brand" on why the PS3 is failing. The song is glorious in its mediocrity. The author takes a popular song, "How to Save a Life," and rewrites the lyrics with some dialogue in the middle. There is nothing that screams rock star like a nerd singing his own tune about the failure of a product.

How to find it: Simply search for "ps3 song" and it'll be your #1 result.

Muffins

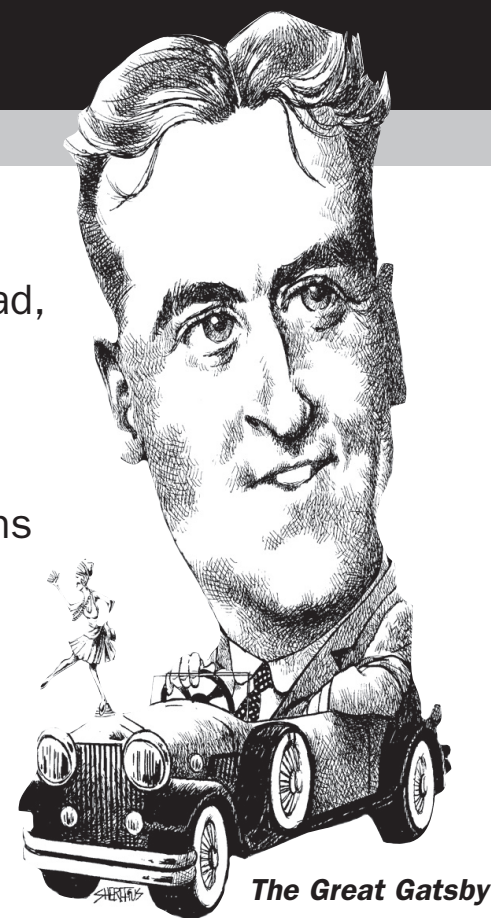
What it is: A guy in drag as an old muffin maid promoting her company to a child, listing the different muffin flavors they offer. This video would normally be pretty lame, but on YouTube, it is beautiful creation. Her accent is hokey, and the muffin ideas get pretty weird, but the timing is great and you'll find yourself saying "MUFFINS!" after just a viewing or two.

How to find it: Search for "muffins" and again, it'll be your #1 result.

Read *The Great Gatsby* February 15 – April 1.

Join the Vigo County Public Library and its partners in The Big Read, an event designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. Get your copy of *The Great Gatsby* at any VCPL branch. Then between now and April 1, join book discussions and programs throughout the community where you will *live* the book! From tea and raccoon coats to the Charleston, experience the Roaring Twenties, Gatsby style!

*Reservations required



BOOK DISCUSSIONS			
Meadows Branch Book Club	Mon., Mar. 19	2 p.m.	Sycamore Manor
North Branch Book Club	Wed., Mar. 21	2 p.m.	VCPL North Branch
West Branch Book Club	Mon., Mar. 26	10:30 a.m.	VCPL West Branch
Coffee Grounds	Thurs., Mar. 29	7 p.m.	423 Wabash Ave.

PROGRAMS			
Movie Showing – “The Great Gatsby”	Wed., Mar. 21	2 p.m.	VCPL South Branch
“Gatsby’s ’20s: Literature, Music and Local History”	Thurs., Mar. 22	12:10-12:50 p.m.	VCPL Main Branch
Fitzgerald Scholar Matthew Bruccoli	Thurs., Mar. 22	7:00 p.m.	ISU Hulman Center
“Reading Gatsby in the 21st Century”	Fri., Mar. 23	10 a.m.	Clabber Girl
*“Tea with Mr. Gatsby” (Vigo County Historical Society)	Sun., Mar. 25	3 p.m.	Women’s Department Club

For additional information go to
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SPONSORS:

This event is part of The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest.

Soviet Union all over again?



And my opinion is...

Andrew Klusman
Opinions Editor

Have we gone back in time, oh, say 20 or 30 years? It sure seems like it, looking at Russian President Vladimir Putin's comments in the past few months. There's a thing to be said for nostalgia of the older, simpler days, but he's really taking it far this time around. And Putin is not alone in his desire for the old days of Russian strength and international power, but the generals in the Russian Army seem to share his longing for the good ol' days too.

First, there is the obvious power grabbing that has gone on in Russia. In light of record oil profits, the Russian government has now found it necessary to re-nationalize many of the big oil companies that, only a few years ago, were run by the State. This means that the State now has all this new-found

money to go on a spending spree with. This is no small detail, as it was only last year that, according to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) statistics, Russia has overtaken Saudi Arabia as the world's largest oil producer. In addition to this nationalization of oil companies, Putin has been centralizing power in the President's hands. The most obvious example of this is the post-school-takeover power grab, when Putin removed the popular elections of regional governors, and put in place governors that the President appointed. To fully complement his power-grabbing, Putin has also decided that the nationwide television should also be run under the supervision of the State. Nothing like good ol' Cold War-era news coming out of the Kremlin.

Second, Putin has found the need for a massive military overhaul, including General Solovtsov's high-profile support for a modern missile production plan. In the past few months, as reports of talks to place missile bases in the Czech Republic and Poland (as part of the missile defense shield President Bush has championed), Putin and his generals have stepped up talk-



http://president.kremlin.ru/images/president_07.jpg
Vladimir Putin - Soviet Union Premier Wannabe.

ing about their counters to the "threat" posed by the shield. In the past few months, for example, Putin has brought up the notion that Russia has a hypersonic long-range missile that can alter its trajectory, rendering the missile defense system useless. In addition to that, there is the new process that Russia is undergoing, whereby it is modernizing its nuclear missiles. Throw in a plan to start creating new intermediate-range missiles (missiles that are banned due to the

Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty signed by Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev), and a general's idea to have a smaller, more mobile Army similar to the United States army, and you have a pretty formidable foe for any possible national enemies.

Third, some of Putin's most vocal critics seem to find themselves dying or shot. Take, for example, the shooting of an expert on Russian intelligence. He was shot outside of his Maryland home, in what some are claiming was a "robbery." He appeared on "Dateline NBC" only days earlier, saying evidence pointed to the Kremlin being responsible for the death of ex-KGB agent Alexander Lit-

vinenko. And in Russia, a journalist that was a vocal critic of the government and Putin has "committed suicide" by jump-

ing out of a fourth-floor window in his apartment block. The interesting thing is that this man lived on the second floor in this apartment block, and was going to write a report about secret Kremlin-Syria missile systems deals. Never mind the fact that two female college students called emergency services after hearing his body land on the portico above the main entrance, only to be told to wait 30 minutes, and then call back if he was still moving.

However much Putin may want the old Soviet Union back, along with its associated power plays and ways of oppressing the populace, it should not fly any longer. The Russian people should not stand for Putin's antics, and they should not support him only because he has been able to pull them out of the economic doldrums (while that is a noble achievement, it should not be the loyalty-maker for his reign as Russian President). We can only hope that, come 2008, Russia has truly free elections, and are not overtly swayed by Putin's power hold over the country.

Don't send polonium like Putin did! Send us letters and e-mail!

email: opinions@rose-hulman.edu

Why I think that I am qualified

John Pinkus
Guest Writer

My 7738th afternoon on this planet, though it was scheduled for the 7736th, was spent in a meeting of an organization to which I involuntary contribute \$165 dollars a year. When the green climbing device was in my hand, I thanked an individual for providing me with a substance that burnt my tongue. After my voice box stopped vibrating, I sat there thinking if I could calculate how many taste buds this liquid had destroyed. I realized I would probably need to determine the surface area of my tongue, thus I would have to do some triple in-

tegral nonsense (though that is one of the few things I can still do on Maple). Before I could determine another step to solve a problem that I would not actually get around to solve, another individual spoke with the green device.

He talked about how he was the new editor of this newspaper, and he was looking for writers. This made the gears in my head, which do not actually exist, start to turn. I realized that I read the Top Ten in every single edition to see if there is a Hertz reference. I also skim the Wacky Prof Quote, mainly to see if any of my current professors are quoted. On the rare occasion that I want to experimentally question the use of water as the universal

solvent, I only read about one third of the paper. Acetone would have been a better choice in this case, but darn ketones are so hard to form.

Furthermore, I am qualified to talk about current events because I have watched "The Daily Show" when five questions was still a segment. I continue to watch this show when there are not any classes that I can "sleep through" on a once-a-fortnight basis! Also, I look at the front page of *The Indianapolis Star* when I walk by the "free" display in the commons. I ask you what is brighter than a star. According to Thesaurus.com, brightness is a synonym for intelligence, and brightness is also a synonym for luminosity. Since photons are absorbed in my skin all the time, then by the transitive property knowledge of daily events would be known. This is assuming that I make the strenuous quest past the display each day.

I am also qualified because I understand the needs of an average Rose student. I mean ... I go to Rose ... and I am a student. What more do you want? Wait a second, who is this "you" person. I checked on Facebook, there isn't a "you" that goes to Rose-Hulman, and if they are not on Facebook, then they do not exist. On that topic, Jeze Chrezze must only have a MySpace page. That guy provides an example of how quickly a judicial system can operate. Texas could learn something from that pilot guy.

I believe that even in this short passage the qualificationminhood of my writing is apparent. I mean, there is not any thing that I do not understand in this column so far. Since I have declared that I represent the average Rose student, there should not be any problems

with any other person ascertaining the idiosyncrasies of the black ink shapes presented to them so far. Related to black ink shapes, I wonder if Arabic speakers think we waste too much space in our writing. I bet that is why they are so mad at us all the time. It does not have anything to do with two different guys who liked to talk about this invisible guy.

I can not think of any good way to end this article. I have written and deleted more endings than times I went to P-Chem. The reason why I wrote this article was to prove that I was qualified to write an article. I should have written a normal opinion article. Alas, hindsight is 20/20. Though, my glasses are never clean enough to see 20/20.

Safe sex for squirrels

Staff Editorial
Daily Targum

Apparently, a squirrel population explosion at a park in California can only mean one thing: Birth control. After trying "poison, gassing and euthanasia" to stop the squirrels from reproducing in Santa Monica, officials are giving into complaints from animal rights activists and attempting to use an "immuno-contraceptive vaccine to stunt their sexual development," according to The Chicago Tribune. The squirrels at Palisades Park -- of which there are estimated to be more than a thousand -- are believed to pose a public health risk because they "are aggressive and may carry rabies or host fleas that can spread disease."

As ridiculous as this may sound, it would be extremely unfortunate if city health officials were to ignore the squirrel population increase and then find an increase in diseases transmitted by rabies or fleas somehow traceable to Palisades Park. Granted, squirrels are not exactly public enemy number one on the scale of health concerns in California or even just Santa Monica, but if any potential health concerns

can be easily avoided by acting now, then health officials are making the right move. In the past nine years, the city of Santa Monica "has been cited five times by Los Angeles County" for squirrel overpopulation. If no other methods have worked in the past, then Santa Monica loses nothing by adopting more animal-friendly methods of population control. According to one United States Department of Agriculture wildlife biologist, the shots have no side effects.

In fact, other than the idea that squirrels are breeding so much that it would require us to effectively sterilize them -- which is, if you think about it, is a situation that begs for tongue-in-cheek commentary -- the proposed plan is virtually foolproof. If the vaccine works as claimed, then squirrels will no longer go through puberty. In turn, the public health risk is minimized, Santa Monica health officials and animal-loving activists will be happy, squirrel males will no longer be able to bench press as much, squirrel females will no longer have their curvaceous figure, and -- most importantly -- those pesky love-making squirrels will no longer reproduce.

1000 Words

by Erin Hudson



What happens at Rose, stays at Rose.

Montgomery earns HCAC honors

Rose Hulman News

Junior Ashley Montgomery has been named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Softball Player of the Week for her efforts during the Arizona trip last week.

Ashley batted .545 with three home runs, three doubles and one triple to propel Rose-Hulman's offense in a 4-4 Spring Trip to Arizona. Montgomery finished an impressive 18-33 at the plate with 11 runs batted in and

eight runs scored as the team's leadoff hitter.

She tallied an on-base average of .571, slugged at .970, and committed just one error in 34 chances at second base for 22 put outs, 11 assists and a fielding percentage of .971.

Montgomery leads the team in hits (18), doubles (3), triples (1), home runs (3), and RBIs (11).

In two games with Cabrini College, Ashley led a strong offensive effort that scored 24 runs, with five hits in ten at-bats,

five runs batted in and scoring twice.

The Engineers return to action in conference play against Hannover tomorrow at 1 p.m. at the Rose-Hulman Softball Field.

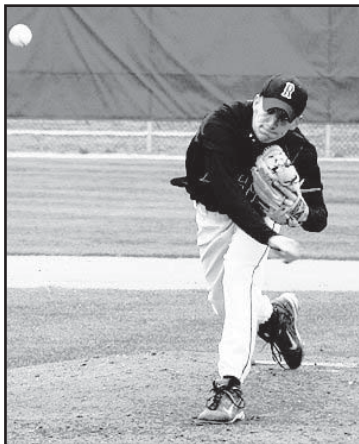


Rose Hulman News
Ashley Montgomery batted .545 with three home runs in the Arizona Trip.

Baseball returns with an even record

Rose Hulman News

The Rose-Hulman baseball team slapped 11 hits, but a lack of timely hitting led to a 6-0 Augustana College victory in the 2007 Engineer baseball opener in the Port Charlotte Classic on February 25. The baseball team completed its annual Spring Trip with a 3-3 record, after a 5-1 loss to Ohio Northern University on last Friday.



Rose Hulman News
Brad Otto tossed five strong innings to start the game.

strikeouts to lead the Ohio Northern effort.

Senior Brad Otto allowed just two runs in the first five innings to keep the Engineers within striking distance.

The Polar Bears answered with two runs in the sixth and one in the seventh for their third win of the season.

Rose-Hulman stands 3-3 overall on the season and hosts Illinois Wesleyan University in the 2007 home opener tomorrow at Art Nehf Field at 1 p.m.

Sports Briefs

by Mike Ferguson

Waltman out at State

Indiana State University will begin the hunt for a new head basketball coach this off-season. Former coach Royce Walton announced that he had been fired toward the end of the 2007 season after the sixth straight losing season. Walton got the news before his Sycamores played in the Missouri Valley Conference tournament. He believes that the situation could have been handled better by the administration but is not upset. Waltman led ISU to the NCAA tournament in the 2000 and 2001 seasons but has had little success since then. The Indiana State Sycamores finished 12-16 this season, with a record of 5-12 within the Missouri Valley Conference.

Big Green in Big Dance

The University of North Texas Big Green earned their spot in the NCAA men's basketball tournament by beating the Arkansas State Indians in the Sun Belt Conference tournament championship on Tuesday. North Texas took the tournament over Arkansas State in a well-played game that ended with a final score of 83-75. This marks the first time the Big Green has made it to the NCAA tournament since 1988. North Texas' Calvin Watson led the offensive charge with a 24 point explosion including six 3-pointers. The Indians' Isaac Wells also had a good offensive night with 21 points but it was not enough to quench the Big Green offense.

Engineer Scoreboard

Baseball 3-3 (0-0)	Softball 4-4 (0-0)
February 25 Augustana 6 at Rose-Hulman 0	February 28 Catholic 6 at Rose-Hulman 0
February 26 St. John's - MN 6 at Rose-Hulman 7	Rose Hulman 11 at Ohio Northern 5
Rose-Hulman 8 at St. John's - MN 5	Rose-Hulman 9 at St. Benedict 10
February 27 Rose-Hulman 7 at York College 13	March 1 Rose-Hulman 11 at Cabrini 0
February 28 Rose-Hulman 12 at Catholic 6	Rose-Hulman 3 at Ohio Northern 17
March 2 Rose-Hulman 1 at Ohio Northern 5	Rose-Hulman 1 at Concordia 6
Men's Tennis 2-0 (0-0)	March 2 Cabrini 9 at Rose-Hulman 13
March 4 Anderson 2 Rose-Hulman 5	Rose-Hulman 8 at St. Benedict 6
Manchester 0 at Rose-Hulman 6	Men's Golf
	March 3-4 Rose-Hulman 4 at Sewanee 4

Track and Field

February 23
Ohio Northern Friday Night Series *Unscored meet*
Ada, OH

March 2
DePauw NCAA Qualifier *Unscored meet*
Greencastle, IN



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Advice worth about \$1.00x10⁻⁹

James Zhou
Staff Writer

This great newspaper does not yet have an advice column. Perhaps it is because we proud engineers don't seek answers by asking people; we'd rather find out the fun way. This is why most of my glassware is slightly cracked and there seems to be a new sky-light above my head.

However, based on my eaves-dropping, I have discovered that even engineers have problems they cannot solve. Unfortunately, most of them are related to physics and far beyond my mere mortal comprehension. However some questions do have answers, and I shall provide them.

“... so I'm still undecided about my major. Do you think... hey, there's a guy with a microphone sneaking around!”
-Majorless in Mees

Majorless in Mees,

Although I have no idea if you are actually *from* Mees or even what a Mees is, I can help with your question. If you like to cut up living things, you should immediately see a psychiatrist, you lunatic! Once you are cured, seek a degree in biology. If you have a chemical dependence, think about a chemistry degree so you can make some yourself. If you love literature, then you went too far down Wabash and should have turned left at Chestnut.

“... these gas prices suck...”
-Some Guy

Some Guy,

Quit whining. We're better off than most of the industrialized world. Stupid Europe and its insane petrol taxes. Anyway: do something constructive rather than just complain. Ever thought about hooking a small reactor up to your car? Sure, it will violate a few international treaties to drive around with an unlicensed nuclear device, but hey. No more paying for gas. Don't worry about cancer. It will take more than a gray of radiation to cause problems for you, and if you can't even shield yourself and deflect that radiation towards tailgaters, then you don't deserve to be here.

This Day in History

The USS *Monitor* battled the CSS *Virginia* during the Battle of Hampton Roads on this day in 1862. Neither could destroy the other, just like two lazy Rose students flailing at each other with pool noodles.

In Addition

Please place a DNA sample on this square and wait five to seven minutes for verification. This new identification policy is for your protection, and is intended to prevent any terrorist use of this paper.

Campus parking restrictions

Aaron Meles
Editor-In-Chief

Effective from one week before the event until fifty-thre hours after the event.

SRC lots: These lots are closed to students, faculty, and those attending the event. This is part of a 200 yard “safe zone” around the event, where no liquid fuels, propellants, or flammable sports drinks can be located in anticipation of the possibility of a surprise visit from the President of the United States.

Apartments lot: All traffic will be diverted here in lieu of using the SRC lots, where strict parking laws will be in effect. The lot will be patrolled continuously. Despite lot overcrowding and a significantly lower number of handicapped persons living in the Apartments than there are



handicapped spaces available, people parking in these spots without the appropriate tags will have both legs broken on the spot in order to validate the parking.

Myers lot: Every second space in this lot will be reserved for NCAA officials, their families, and their egos. On every fifth quarter of an hour, this setup will invert. Those in violation of this rule run the risk of having their vehicles crushed by huge egos and families.

Percopo lot: All cars in this lot are a serious distraction to the visiting athletes and have already been destroyed for your convenience.

BSB lot: The cars in this parking lot have all been ticketed. In order to void the ticket, you must attend the aforementioned event where you are required to cheer loudly for a total of at least ten minutes. After that, there will be a large hoop set up outside of the Public Safety office through which you then jump to the satisfaction of those present.

Wacky Prof Quotes

“I met her on Tequila Tuesday, liked her so much, I went back for Vodka Wednesday.”
—Prof. Bremmer, on his wife

“They deserve to die.”
—Prof. Mueller, on folks who smoke while pumping gas

“Don't wear that bikini on Friday.”
—Prof. Merkle, on male presentation attire

“1+1, we know for sure, is zero.”
—Prof. Radu, on mathematical postulates

“I think Kansas is the worst state in the Union.”
—Prof. Byun, not a fan of “The Wizard of Oz”

“Marriage is a series of compromises, and in my marriage, I always compromise.”
—Prof. Bremmer, on matrimonial bliss

“I can't imagine Lady Macbeth fornicating well.”
—Prof. Minster, speculating on Shakespearian sex

“If you want to drink, go to that side of the room. If you want to brawl, come to this side of the room. One or the other-- not both.”
—Prof. Martland, on drunken brawling in class

“Who was the first person to use this robot? The dead guy!”
—Prof. Mutchler, on a gruesome LEGO accident, maybe

“Let's talk about enlargement—not the kind in the email solicitations.”
—Prof. Casey, on a geekier kind of spam

“Can't see through me? I should've worn a different color shirt.”
—Prof. Goldman, who is thankfully not an optics prof

“I am not a vampire.”
—Prof. Radu, just in case we were worried

Send your prof quotes or other humor material to flipside@rose-hulman.edu

We are not alone

Phillip Becker
Staff Writer

It looks like the squirrels have come back from flying south for the winter. I missed those guys. Wikipedia should describe them as “nature's gift to humanity,” with their cute bushy tails and “step off my acorns” attitude. Their absence must be why winter quarter is such a downer.

On my way to a group meeting, there was a squirrel running its tiny squirrel fingers through the grass, or whatever squirrels do in their free time. Is it free time? Maybe foraging through the grass is work for a squirrel. He's just mumbling to himself about how crummy it is to be a nut-forager until five o'clock, when he can go home, curl up in his bushy tail, and kick back an acorn.

Any way you look at it, his busyness led him onto the sidewalk in front of me. His paws touched the acorn-less pavement, and he paused. I kept walking down the sidewalk, knowing my superior size would cause any tiny woodland beasts (such as squirrels) to scatter before me. But this one didn't.

As I approached, it reared up on its hind legs and stared at me. Not face to face like a man would, but from the side of its head, because squirrels have side-eyes like chameleons. I was locked in gaze with the beady, little, black eye. I continued to walk, and the



suneco / flickr.com (ccby2.0)
The craftiest of the sciurids.

squirrel continued to stand and stare stoically.

My spine began to tingle. My instincts were yelling “Run! Run! You do *not* want a squirrel clawing your eyes out! It could be rabid! It may be hilarious in the cinema, but squirrel maulings are a terrible and evil thing in reality! Think of the children!” (Yeah. My fight or flight response uses the word “cinema.”)

With each step, this game of chicken became more and more intense. My manliness was about to give way to my fear when the squirrel launched into action. I threw my arms in front of my face and held my breath. (Don't ever breathe during a squirrel mauling. It's a rookie mistake.)

After a minute of standing in the Quad shaking, I peeked out from behind my hands. The squirrel had left. I proceeded to my group meeting, never to tell anyone that for a second I was afraid of a squirrel.

Top ten Rose track-and-field events

Matthew Melton
Staff Writer

10. *The Broken Mouse Toss*: Possibly not so broken. Toss, violently slam against a wall... small details.
9. *The “30 Free Tickets To See 300 at IMAX?!” Dash*: 16 seconds flat? a new world record!
8. *The World of Warcraft Marathon*: No getting up. For *any* reason.
7. *The Rose-Hulman Medley*: The Subway Run, the Wal-Mart Run, the First-Wok Run, and anchoring it all, the Taco Bell Run!
6. *The All Night “Mountain Dew” Relay*: For the extreme athlete, try the All Week “Monster” Relay.
5. *The Lake and Lap*: Run around Speed Lake, then lake someone. Rose's version of the Steeplechase, sort of.
4. *The “Run! It's a Girl!” Sprint*: Rose men have specialized in this event since 1947.
3. *The Senior Laptop Discus Throw*: IAIT's official favorite.
2. *The “Oh Crap, I Have Four Homework Assignments, an Essay, a Presentation, and Two Tests Tomorrow” Race*: Also known as “Tuesday.”
1. The quintessential Rose-Hulman event: *The Nerd Run!*

