

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

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News Briefs

By Andrea Brown

S.G.A. election results

Based on results of Tuesday's election on Banner, Stefani Vande Lune will be President of the Student Government Association and Paul Benjamin will be Vice President for the 2005-2006 school year. They take duty at the start of the Spring Term.

Blame the gunk

While installing a robotic arm on the International Space Station Wednesday, spacewalkers Leroy Chiao and Salizhan Sharipov found a patch of dark, oily residue and a white, honeycombed substance in the vents. The frequent breakdowns in the air-supply equipment of the spacecraft could be accounted for by the unknown substances.

Fidget to raise metabolism

A recent study shows that skinny people fidget more than their heavier counterparts, thereby burning more calories each day. According to the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, slimmer people don't necessarily exercise more than the obese, they are simply more active in daily activities, range from cleaning to tapping their toes while sitting.

Ten slim and 10 slightly obese people (BMI of 33 or higher) were given undergarments that monitored their posture and movements every half of a second, 24 hours a day for 10 days. The obese were found to average 2.5 hours more per day lying down than the lean. The fidgeting and extra activities of the slim burned enough calories to give them an average of 33 pounds less of weight gain a year. The study is published in Friday's issue of the Journal Science.

Friday
Partly Cloudy 25 Hi / 29 Lo

Saturday
Snow to Wintry Mix 34 Hi / 29 Lo

Provided by www.weather.com

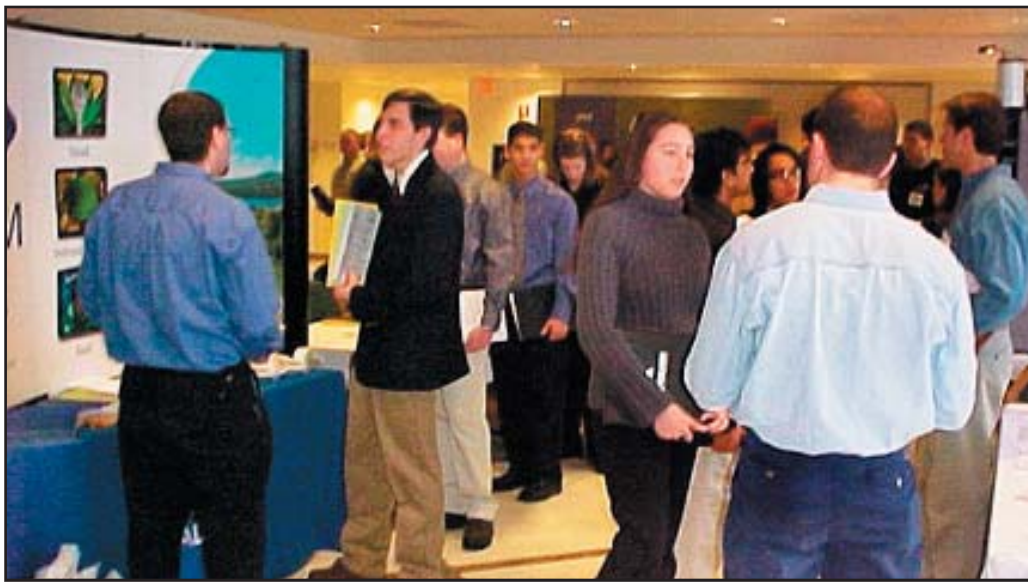
Career fair sees record turnout

Angela Smiley
Staff Writer

Rose-Hulman's recent Winter Career Fair enjoyed its highest turnout yet as 65 companies and hundreds of students flooded the Hulman Memorial Union this Wednesday. Companies in attendance included Midwest-based firms such as Archer Daniels Midland and eTapstry as well as national and international organizations such as Microsoft and Rockwell Collins.

In past years the Winter Career Fair has been the smallest Rose holds, drawing 25-35 companies and mainly attracting student searching for summer internships. This year, however, the focus has broadened to include full-time and co-op opportunities, helping to bolster both student and recruiter turn-out.

Kevin Hewerdine, Director of Career Services, estimated that the fair drew 6-8 more companies than initially expected, and has seen as much as a 35% increase in students attending. "I thought the student attendance was exceptional," he stated after the fair's conclusion. "The companies that were there said they were outstanding... they were busy from 11 a.m. to 4



Rose-Hulman News

Popular Place: Hundreds of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology students attend the Winter Career Fair in search of full time, internship or co-op employment opportunities.

p.m."

In fact, many companies remained long after 4:00 to talk with students and take additional résumés. Recruiters from Digi International, a company new to Rose, were among the last to leave, staying nearly an hour after the fair's official end. According to Hewerdine, the enthusiasm from students and their overall qualifications made an impression on these corporate visitors.

"Several companies that were new to the Rose campus said they would certainly be

back," he remarked.

Students, too, were overwhelmingly positive about the increase in recruiting at the Winter Fair; however, some had concerns about the lack of occupational diversity in recruiters. "More jobs for physics majors are needed," commented Christopher Grubb, himself a physics major. The majors receiving the most attention seemed to be Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, with pure sciences (biology and phys-

ics) and mathematics the least sought-after.

"It's amazing, the turnout this year - next year we should hold it someplace bigger," commented Amber Pennington, a junior computer science major who was in attendance on Wednesday. Indeed, the sheer density of this year's winter fair has prompted many suggestions that it should be relocated to a larger space, such as the Sports and Recreation Center.

Continued on Page 3...

Barbershop to open in New Apartments

Bridget Mayer
Staff Writer

Shaggy-haired students will have an opportunity to trim up next week when the barbershop in the Apartment Residence Hall officially opens. For many students, this service will provide an alternative to the perils of getting a haircut from a well-intentioned but inexperienced friend. The shop, which has been in the works since the apartments were built last summer, will be open and staffed by the end of next week.

The hairdresser hired by school administration is a cosmetologist, specially trained to do haircuts, perms, and styling. Gary Miller, currently a stylist at Toppers Hair salon, located on 3rd Street, has had extensive experience, and will even style hair for special events like formal dances. Al-

though a full list of prices is not available, the prices for haircuts are reasonable: men's cuts will be \$7.00, and women's cuts will be \$10.00.

The barbershop, which has been closed and unoccupied since August, will be completed by next week; the school has ordered a counter, chair, and mirrors to complete the interior. Miller will schedule time in the shop around his current schedule at Toppers. More information on his availability will be on hand next week.

"I think the prices are competitive, so if he does a good job it should be quite successful," said Pete Gustafson, Vice President for Student Affairs

and Dean of Students. Selecting a competent and flexible stylist was also important. "We took a long time settling in to the new building before we started looking. We also

I just cut hair and offer an outlet for people who need to vent.

—Marlo Manaloto

wanted a cosmetologist rather than a barber so both men and women could use the shop."

Maintaining a definitive hairstyle is often the least of many students' concerns. When students do feel the need to get a trim, they frequently request the services of fellow students like Marlo Manaloto, a senior computer engineer. Manaloto, a resident assistant in the Apartments, trims hair for her friends. Although she charges nothing for a haircut,

she notes that she "always accepts food donations." She is not worried about losing her customer base to the new stylist, however. "I don't see business declining for myself. I have a pretty loyal set of customers, and it doesn't hurt that I'm free...from what I hear, he does more than what I do. Highlights, perms, styling...I just cut hair and offer an outlet for people who need to vent."

Manaloto said she was not the only amateur hairdresser on campus, but that she would gladly have her own hair trimmed by the new stylist. "I actually welcome this new barber. Maybe he can teach me a few new tricks."

"I've been cutting hair since the seventh grade," said Manaloto. "I was aware of the new hairdresser—from what I hear, he's a good guy, but I'll sure miss having my own barbershop setup."

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
Pell grants and grade inflation.	U who?	7th week strikes.	Dan and Dave lock and load.	I'll take the backdoor entrance for \$500.
Page 3	Pages 4 & 5	Page 6	Page 7	Page 8

Upcoming events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					January 28	29
30	31	February 1	2	3	4	5
	* Celebrate Engineers Week Event: * SGA Serving Doughnuts & Hot Chocolate, Commons, Moench Hall, 8-11 a.m.	* Deadline For SGA's Student Leader of Winter Quarter Award Nominations	* Student Activities' Laser Crystal "Clearly You" Momentos, Kahn Rooms, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	* Celebrate Engineers Week Event: * Tossing Out Foam Fingers/U.S. News #1 shirts at Basketball Games	* Mathematical Contest in Modeling, Crapo Hall, Throughout Day * Career Services' Job Interviews: Penford Products	* Triangle's Vigo County SADD Games, Arena, Sports and Recreation Center, 4-9 p.m.

Classifieds

Apartments and houses

Available January, 1-4 Bedroom Apts & Houses. Starting at \$335/month. ROI Apts. 232-2466.

Room for Lease

Room for lease for March-May. \$300/month includes utilities. Call (812) 201-6285 or email sutherjn@rose-hulman.edu

Algebra 2 Tutor

Seeking Algebra 2 tutor for two high school students Wednesdays after 6 p.m. or on weekends. Contact Molly Reed at mjr@vigoschools.com or 217-826-8700 for more information.

Female Algebra 2 Tutor

Tutor needed for 11th grade Algebra 2 student. Female applicants preferred. Call Bruce at 812-872-2466.

Apartment for Rent

4 bedroom, 2 bath, dishwasher, central air. \$200 per student. East location has full basement with washer and dryer. 1 block off Wabash. 812-232-0372. Ask for Phillip or Mary Kay Wilson.

Campus & Community Luncheon Series

Campus & Community Luncheon Series at United Campus Ministries, 321 N. 7th St., Terre Haute, begins Wednesday, February 2, 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. This semester's theme is *Healing a Divided Nation*. Next week's topic is *Unhealthy Division and Healthy Pleuralism*, to be presented by Dr. Linda Maule, Director of Legal Studies, ISU. This is a brown bag lunch and discussion series.

Ford Escort for Sale

Car for sale. White Hatchback Escort 1992; 102,000 miles. Minor cosmetic damage. Relatively new tires. \$550 or best offer Contact: Luke.Stark@rose-hulman.edu or call 877-0727

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Gibson Apartments

Now renting for summer or fall. 1-5 bedrooms. Close to campus. No pets. 1632 Wabash Ave, 47807. (812) 234-4848. Contact Linda Wright.

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The Rose Thorn

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Editors reserve the right to condense or edit submissions for clarity, space limitations, grammar and spelling mistakes, and factual errors. Letters to the Editor must be signed and include contact information: phone number, e-mail address, and the major and class of the author.

Career Fair, from Page 1

Jan Ford, Associate Director of Career Services and coordinator for the fair, acknowledged that space had been somewhat tight and did not rule out the possibility of a move. She did, however, stress the value of high attendance to the event as a whole. "What I heard from companies was a great deal of excitement about the number of students who turned out," she stated, and went on to say that students were pleased by the number of companies. "That's the whole point - to provide opportunities for students and employers to inter-face."

Recruitment efforts do not end with the winter fair. The Northwest Indiana Regional Career Fair, held at the end of February,

allows students to network with employers from Indiana and surrounding states, and the Spring Career Fair, held in mid-April, gives employers a last chance at filling positions which they couldn't be sure were available earlier in the year. The spring fair has seen a large amount of early interest; Hewerdine stresses that this is in large part a function of student response to the year's first two fairs. "I really want to give the students my thanks for coming out," he said. "It is an effort for companies to come here, and for companies to come back. What brings them is knowing that they'll get a response... and I couldn't be happier for the companies that came."

Pell grants drive up college costs

Lisa Humes-Schulz
Daily Californian
(U. California-Berkeley)

Federal Pell Grants, meant to ease booming student fees and tuition, could actually be responsible for growing fees, according to a report released Wednesday.

The report, issued by the Cato Institute, a public policy research foundation, concludes that funneling more federal aid to students is increasing the demand for higher education and, in doing so, unintentionally driving up the price of college.

"It's nearly impossible to believe that tuition is not being increased by subsidizing higher education, and maybe we ought to think about how much it's happening," said Gary Wolfram, author of the report and professor of political economy at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

Wolfram said the root of rising fees boils down to simple economics: Legislatures will see increasing demand for higher education as a signal to raise student fees and allow Pell Grants to cover the additional cost.

"I think that you do see a trend. When the federal government does increase the flow, the state uses part of that to divert its flow to other priorities," said Jedd Medefind, chief of staff for Rep. Tim Leslie, R-Tahoe City, who serves on the Assembly's higher education committee.

"Before we go off expanding the program ... what we ought to do is sit down and see if this thing is doing what we thought it would," he said. "Are there other ways of doing that that might make us better off?"

The study comes on the heels of President Bush's effort to boost the maximum Pell Grant by \$500 over the next five years.

His proposal would ask Congress to reform student loan programs to save billions in cash, which could then be sent to fill the hole left by Pell's \$4.3 billion budget shortfall.

"My experience is that that is not the case," said Jason Murphy, spokesperson for Sen. Jack Scott, D-Pasadena. "I don't think there's any indication that we've tried to bail out because the Pell Grants have grown."

U. Iowa attempts to rein in grade inflation

Katie Trotsky
The Daily Iowan (U. Iowa)

Several years ago, graduating accountant majors at the University of Iowa had a problem, but they did not know it.

According to many of their employers, the new accountants had terrible writing skills, a flaw the new grads never spotted in college because of their high grades. Lola Lopes, associate provost for undergraduate education at the university, said this is an example of how the trend of grade inflation in colleges across the nation can hurt students.

"Grade inflation postpones the day of reckoning when students really discover where their skills are as opposed to what they need to be," she said. "When students find out about mechanical and logical problems in the workplace, it is the wrong time to be getting that feedback."

Beginning this academic year, Princeton University implemented a curve designed to keep grade inflation in check. The new university-wide curve allows a maximum of 35 percent of students to receive A's in each course.

The University of Iowa is concerned about grade inflation -- the Tippie College of Business adopted new grading guidelines in spring 2003 -- but Lopes doubted whether the entire university would adopt a mea-

sure as strict as Princeton's.

"[The Princeton regulation] would cause conflicts that don't need to be there," she said. "Will Princeton see students not helping other students?"

In the fall of 1995, the average University of Iowa student's undergraduate GPA was 2.814. By the fall of 2004, that average had risen to 2.957. During the same period, Lopes said, standardized test scores basically remained the same.

Because employers recognize grade inflation, she said, experience is more of a priority when making hiring decisions.

"It gets so it doesn't mean very much to get an A if everyone is getting them," Lopes said. "We want your GPA to mean something."

The business school's grading guidelines for undergraduates give A's to 20 percent of students in core courses, 30 percent in required courses, and 40 percent in electives. The curve is only recommended, except in the finance department, where it is required.

Nancy Hauserman, the busi-

ness school's associate dean for the undergraduate program, said she does not get the sense that students are more competitive with one another under the new guidelines. One of the main issues students have is when they receive around 80 percent of points but only receive a C when they think they deserve a B, she said.

Grade inflation postpones the day ... when students really discover where their skills are as opposed to what they need to be.

—Lola Lopes, University of Iowa

"I remind them that at least 70 percent of the class scored higher than they did," Hauserman said.

Among students, there is still a misconception that a grade is automati-

cally based on a percentage of points, she said. Rather, the emphasis is on how students perform compared with their peers -- and professors use individual discretion.

"Several of us who teach the large classes that students take before they enter the business school are considering not using the guidelines because we think there are too many A's under the guidelines," Hauserman said.

Murphy said instead of seeing higher education as a place to cut costs when Pell Grants seem sufficient, legislators choose to boost Cal Grants -- state-funded grants for college students -- to cover the growing cost of college.

Since 2000, when California changed Cal Grants to entitlement funds, the grants jumped from \$452 million to \$545 million in 2002.

Pell Grants, besides driving up tuition costs, also pose a threat to individual institutions' academic

freedom, Wolfram said. By accepting federal dollars, he said, the government is able to control instruction and create mandates to educators, with the threat that aid will be revoked if requirements are not followed.

"The federal government cannot tell the state what to do," he said. "But what you can do is pass a statute that says we're taking away the loans at UC Berkeley if you don't comply."

Instead of eliminating Pell Grants as a solution to soar-

ing student fees, increasing aid would ease the burden of paying for higher education, said Roberta Johnson, associate director of financial aid at UC Berkeley.

"I don't buy the base assumption that the very modest increases in Pell Grants are driving the surging costs of higher education-it's too simplistic," she said. "The kinds of increases that are being proposed don't begin to cover the rising costs of higher education."

Attention Students!!!

- **What:** Free food and the chance to express your ideas about what Rose-Hulman should be like in 2015.
- **When:** Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2005
7 to 9 p.m.
- **Where:** Kahn Rooms

SGA President Jake Klug will moderate a discussion open to all students who want to express their dreams and ideas about what Rose-Hulman should be in 2015.

Free pizza, soft drinks and other refreshments will be provided.

Laptops will also be available so you can easily submit your responses via the "Rose-Hulman 2015: A Conversation About Our Future" Web site. You can provide your ideas on the public online Discuss Forum, or via the individual private response form that is also accessible via the special Web site.



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Precinct 13 gets unlucky

Jacob P. Silvia
Entertainment Editor

Assault on Precinct 13 is a remake of a remake directed by Jean-François Richet. He attempts to bring new life to John Carpenter film of the same name (*Assault on Precinct 13*), which is further a remake of the great Western film *Rio Bravo*. Though this remake of a remake had great potential to be a wonderful film that I would have enjoyed greatly had it not been for several factors, which I shall discuss later.

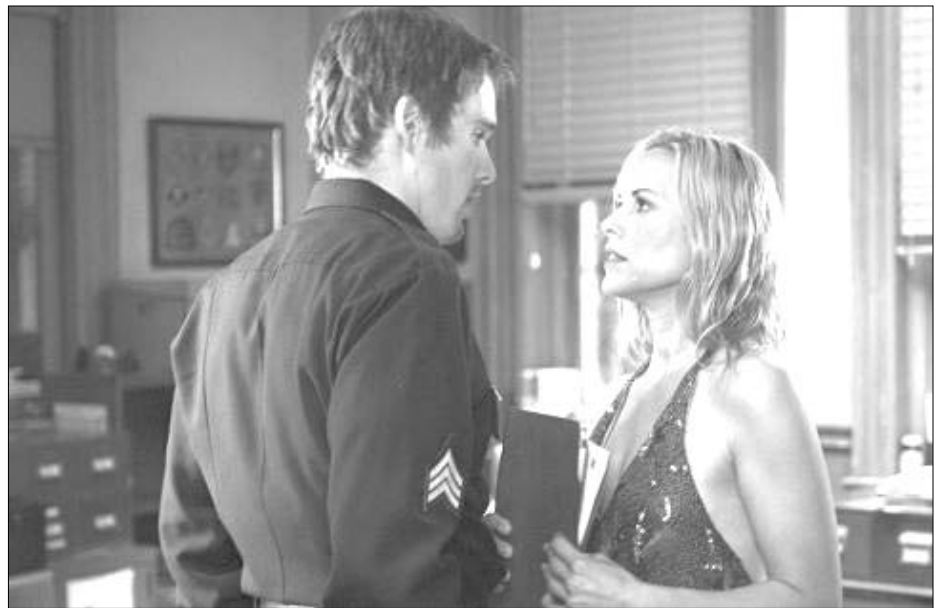
The premise of the film is as follows: Detroit, MI gets itself a new precinct, and thus can close down old Precinct 13. However, it's Detroit, and it's New Year's Eve, thus, it is snowy. During a prisoner transfer of some petty criminals, junkies and a cop killer named Bishop (Fishburne), the police bus is redirected to Precinct 13 for holding until the bad weather passes. Roenick (Hawke) and the rest of the P13 closing crew are now responsible for the care of these criminals until the weather is gone. However, Bishop is a prime target for a stealth surgical strike, until Roenick intervenes, discovering and revealing the true identity of these adversaries, effectively giving all those held and stationed at P13 that evening the "kiss of death."

They must outlast several well-trained killers, and police must team up with criminals in order to survive.

The movie was entertaining, and if you want to see an action packed gun battle-laden film featuring Laurence Fishburne being a total badass, I suggest strongly that you see this film. Other than the action, and occasional bits of shocking moments, the mov-

ie was not that great.

The first major detriment to this film was entirely the theater's fault. Kerasotes Honey Creek had a lot of trouble starting the film. Several times during the first few exciting, yet otherwise plot irrelevant minutes, the projectionist not only lost control of the side curtains (having the edges of the film projected upon them), left the film out of frame for a long time, as well. Further, the projectionist shut down the projector to fiddle with the film some more, which resulted in further curtain chicanery. Granted, when I was a projectionist for a major movie theater group, I had my occasional slip ups, one particularly bad one necessitating a few film splices. However, whenever I had a projector problem, you know I tried to make the customers not want to unseam me the nave to the chaps and fix my head upon their battlements. I offered them movie passes, an item which costs the theater nothing, as the people who use the passes tend to buy snacks: the real money-maker at a movie theater. The only thing my party got was a dirty glare from one of their ushers as the situation was remedied at a snail's pace. It sometimes makes me wish that some other theater branch could take up



Officer Roenick (Hawke) has a touching moment with his psychiatrist, Doctor Alex Sabian (Maria Bello). IMDB.com

residence in Terre Haute, which will give the Kerasotes theaters a darned good reason to shape up, as then they would not hold the monopoly as the only presenter of hot new movies. Competition would be good for the community as a whole.

Aside from that, the problems I had with the movie were, in fact, the movie maker's faults. Primarily, the movie failed at decent advertising. I went to see the film having no idea what it was about. I had never seen an ad on the television (granted, I watch television very rarely), a trailer before another movie (though, I tend to see the more pretentious variety of film), or even on the internet (I really didn't check Apple's movie trailer page all that extensively). I investigated the film on the internet after seeing it, noticing that the strongest point they used to promote the film was Ja Rule

(AKA Jeffrey Atkins), professional hip-hop artist. I had to delve much deeper into the ads to realize that Laurence Fishburne and Ethan Hawke were the two big-name stars in this film. It was pitiful (I thought) that advertisements depended on the name of a rap star who had a somewhat tertiary part to promote their film. It has not done so well from a monetary point of view. According to the Internet Movie Database, the movie cost about \$20 million to make and has made something over eight million dollars so far—not quite making up for money spent.

I wouldn't blame you if you didn't want to see this film, but just the same, not much else comes out this week—just some crappy horror films. Go see *Proof* at Hatfield, and if you've seen that already, go see *Assault on Precinct 13*.

Out This Week

In Theaters

Alone in the Dark
Directed by Uwe Boll
Starring Christian Slater
Rated R

Hide and Seek
Directed by John Polson
Starring Robert De Nero
Rated R

On DVD

Alien Versus Predator

Monster

Predator 2: Special Edition

Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow

"MacGuyver": Season One

Box Office Tops

1. *Are We There Yet?*
2. *Coach Carter*
3. *Meet the Fockers*
4. *In Good Company*
5. *Racing Stripes*

Retraction:

The proper spelling of the term meaning "without musical accompaniment" is "a cappella," having both two p's and two l's.

New Ani DiFranco album is not quite that new

Lissa Avery
News Editor

My first thought upon seeing a copy of Ani DiFranco's latest album, *Knuckle Down*, among the newspaper's incoming mail was, "Isn't she too big an act to send random college newspapers her latest release?" Maybe, maybe not.

Either way, DiFranco has created another CD in a very similar vein to her 2003 and 2002 releases—*Evolve* and *So Much Shouting, So Much Laughter*, respectively—plucky music and insightful, punchy lyrics and poetry that many could apply to their own lives or to society in general. After all, what Rose student *can't* sympathize to some extent with the sentiments "I know that I was warned / Still it was not what I hoped" and "I gotta knuckle down / And just be okay with this"?

Hey, it's seventh week and I'm a sophomore. I'm allowed.

Honestly, this CD doesn't strike me as much of a stretch from her recent works. This doesn't make it bad, it just makes it interchangeable with her others. I could make a large four-CD playlist of her songs and not be able to mark any artistic growth

in DiFranco, although I'd have a wonderful time singing and dancing while I listened. The one memorable track on this CD—"Knuckle Down", from which the above lyrics come—isn't particularly noteworthy, except that the lyrics happen to strike a note with my current state of mind. There was a similar track or two on each of her other CDs that I own.

It's generally known—if you know who Ani DiFranco is, that is—that her music, produced by her own Righteous Babe Records, meshes well with a typically liberal audience: feminists, those that are pro-gay-rights, and those against the death penalty are a few groups who may find some lovely or powerful message in DiFranco's music.

This variety of messages leads to a high replay value in her music despite the lack of musical variety. The first several times of listening to one of her CDs, I may fixate on three songs that strike a chord with me, depending on my state of mind. Two months later, a revisit may lead me to find another gem. DiFranco hits too many topics and styles for me to write off an entire CD as a loss simply because I can't find more than



a song or two of immediate interest.

Ani DiFranco's *Knuckle Down* is really just another DiFranco CD—there's the obligatory anti-male lyrics, the obligatory pro-women's-power lyrics, the obligatory non-song poetry reading, and the twangy acous-

tic guitar. There's also the ability to empathize with the emotionally-charged lyrics and the painful love-hate stories scattered throughout the CD. For "just a pDiFranco CD", though, it's a good one, and one worth the purchase to newcomers and die-hard fans alike.

Hey Reader!

How are you enjoying the Entertainment section these days?

Is there something we need to review more? Is there anything we're not reviewing at all?

We appreciate your questions and comments, as well, want to make for an enjoyable page or so for you to read.

Please direct any helpful comments, questions or constructive criticism to entertainment@rose-hulman.edu

Thank you.

How to dismantle your career

Mike Jones
Staff Writer

Has anyone else noticed it's been a slow month for album releases? I've been stuck for the last couple of weeks grasping for a new album to review. At least I've got some catching up to do on some notable albums released in November and December.

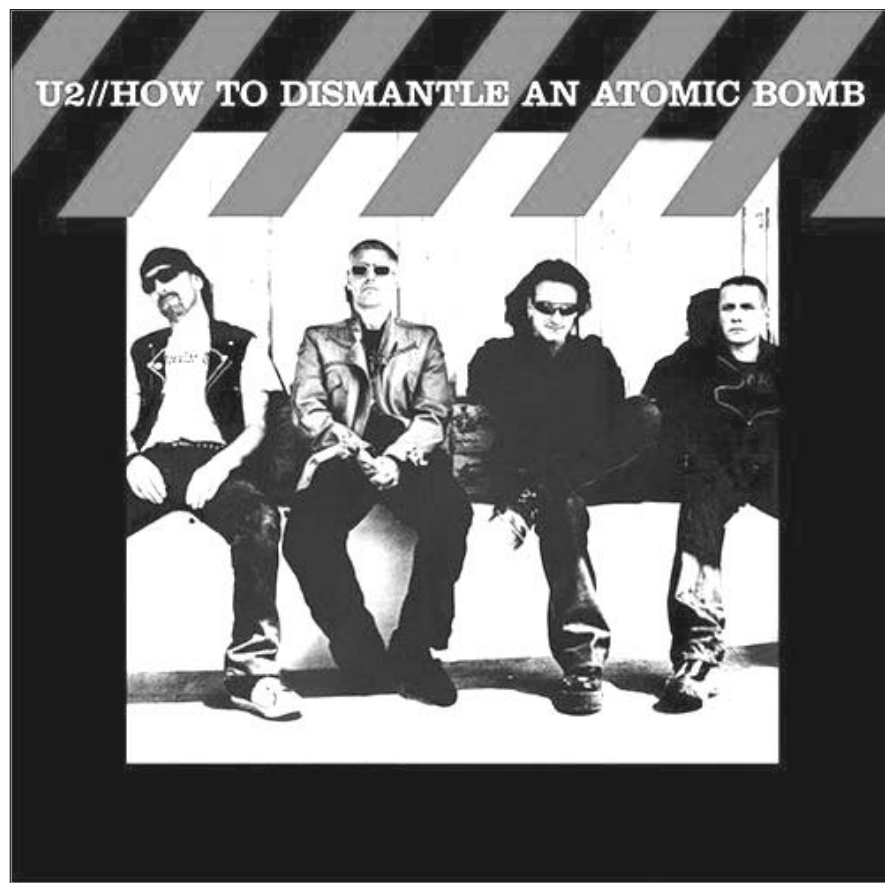
I have to admit it: I'm not really a big U2 fan. Many people think these guys are gods among men, but I'm just not one of them. In fact, I'm of the opinion that the last good album they released was *Achtung Baby* in 1991. Despite that, I didn't say very many bad things about their last album, *All That You Left Behind*, because it seemed like everyone else thought it was fantastic. I'm not going to give their newest release the same treatment. My first reaction to *How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb* was not a good one. I tried to shake it off look at the album from an objective viewpoint. The album was still unbearable for me to listen to.

I first heard material from *How to Dismantle...* when the first release "Vertigo" was featured in an iPod commercial. It was

hard to listen to even a 30 second spot. Fortunately, "Vertigo" does become a little better each time you listen to it. I'm not saying it's a *good* song, just that it's not nearly as annoying as when I first heard it. It's also the opening track on the album, which is one of the few good choices the band made. The next two tracks, "Miracle Drug" and "Sometimes You Can't Make it on Your Own" are reminiscent of the band's older work. This surprised me, and at this point I started to think this album might actually be pretty good. Three decent songs to open the album is a respectable start. Unfortunately, it's a complete wreck after this point. The fourth track, "Love and Peace or Else," is bad on every imaginable level. It's musically unoriginal, hollow lyrically, and the vocals are dreadful. "City of Blinding Lights" sounds basically like Coldplay with one problem: it's not Coldplay performing it. Once again, Bono's vocals are beyond irritating on this one. And who can forget "A Man and a Woman"? Terrible. I'll skip the review of the remaining middle tracks of the album, the comments on the above three tracks pretty much describe my reaction to any of tracks 4-10.

The album fades with "Yahweh", a song that somehow manages to be worse than the rest of the album. By this point in the album, you'll have accepted Bono's horrible display of vocals, but even the Edge's guitar tracks are hopelessly repetitive and grinding. This song lacks any redeemable quality, and sounds more like the work of a middle school band than that of a veteran band of 20 years.

The recurring theme on this album is that Bono's vocals are atrocious. Bono has never been an incredible singer, but his lyrics and creativity often made fans overlook this; however, in *How to Dismantle...*, the lyrics have no depth, and any sense of creativity is lost on me. To top it off, the



vocals are mixed about 3 times louder than any other element. Musically, the album is not too bad, but I find it impossible to get beyond the vocals. Bono

has often made me cringe in the past, but upon hearing his appalling vocals on *How to Dismantle...*, I regretted ever being born.

Great mathematical play, here's *Proof*:

Alex Clerc
Staff Writer

Hilarious, tragic, enthralling, hip, and just plain entertaining – *Proof* proves to be a must-see production, especially for those of you who have ever done "math."

Proof is a play about mathematicians and the mathematics that drives them insane. The plot revolves around the disturbing dynamics of a math-loving family that puts the function in dysfunction. The streamlined plot pulls the audience deeper and deeper into the lives of a world-renowned professor, his two daughters, and Hal, one of his many protégés.

Sophomore Danna Sheridan aptly portrays the mathematician's daughter, Catherine, a young woman who has inherited not only her father's great talent but also his great instability. Sophomore Christian Gage plays the neo-nerd Hal, a stagnating yet hip grad student who shows us the side of math you won't find in your Calc book. Greg Stump, the Tech Director of fair old Hatfield Hall appears as the professor and Caroline Rodkey, an alumnus of St. Mary of the Woods, joins the cast as Claire, the "other" daughter.

The play begins with the passing of the professor. The brilliant Catherine, still living in the house where she cared for her un-hinged father, feels herself losing her grip on reality after her father's long-expected death. Meanwhile, Hal (who totally has a crush on Catherine... pass it on) frequents the house to read through the professor's old journals, searching for brilliant proofs among the masses of notes the professor has left behind. Claire fears for her sister Catherine's sanity and schemes to get Cath-

erine to move to New York, away from the memories and the math that are driving her mad.

And then a revolutionary mathematical proof is discovered, a proof which will transform several fields of mathematics. It is assumed to be the professor's work, but Catherine, who has had to drop out of undergraduate school to take care of Dad, claims (without proof) that the proof is hers. Drama ensues...

The fact that this is only a four-man show transforms "Proof" into a different kind of play, allowing all the characters to shine and keeping the play engaging and the action sharp. All of the actors and actresses give rock-solid performances. The play itself, written by David Auburn in 2000, won a Pulitzer and a Tony Award for Best Play of 2001.

It's no surprise that the play has already won so much prestige. *Proof* serves up some tasty food for thought on a variety of themes including love, death, insanity, family loyalty, alcoholic theoretical physicists, women in mathematics, faith beyond the evidence, tax-deductible hotel sex, and the possibility that mathematicians can actually be hip. Or if you prefer, screw that thinking stuff. *Proof* can be just as entertaining if simply taken as a nerdy soap-opera.

Technically speaking, the staff of *Proof* has done the play proud. The set and music are cool and well-executed. All in all, *Proof* is a play which is very entertaining, thought-provoking, and best of all, very relevant to our school. This is a play that will make you proud to be the insane mathematician (or engineer or scientist) that you are. *Proof* will be showing the weekends of January 28 and 29 and February 4 and 5.



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The deficit is out of control



At least
I have
opinions

John Kropf
Opinions Editor

This year, the United States is projected to have a deficit of 427 billion dollars U.S. The deficit is out of control. I consider myself a fiscal conservative believing that it's unwise to spend more than you make. But that is exactly what the United States is doing right now.

In his inaugural address, the President described his vision for spreading liberty and ridding the world of tyranny. But he didn't delve very deep into how much money this would all cost. In usual Bush fashion, he glossed over the unsavory parts of his plans, forgetting to let us know that we would be footing what is likely to be a hefty bill for these global escapades.

The white house recently

said that it will need another \$80 billion in funding, mostly earmarked for Iraq. This new spending would make this year's deficit the largest in U.S. history.

The seemingly constantly growing hemorrhage of money from the U.S. government is worrisome. On Wednesday, the American Bankers Association said that the deficit was "unsustainably large"; essentially meaning that the U.S. economy will have to increase taxes or decrease spending sometime in the future. Even the United Nations has stated that the U.S. deficit could disrupt the global economy. But even with all the election rhetoric about the deficit, few Americans seem to notice or care.

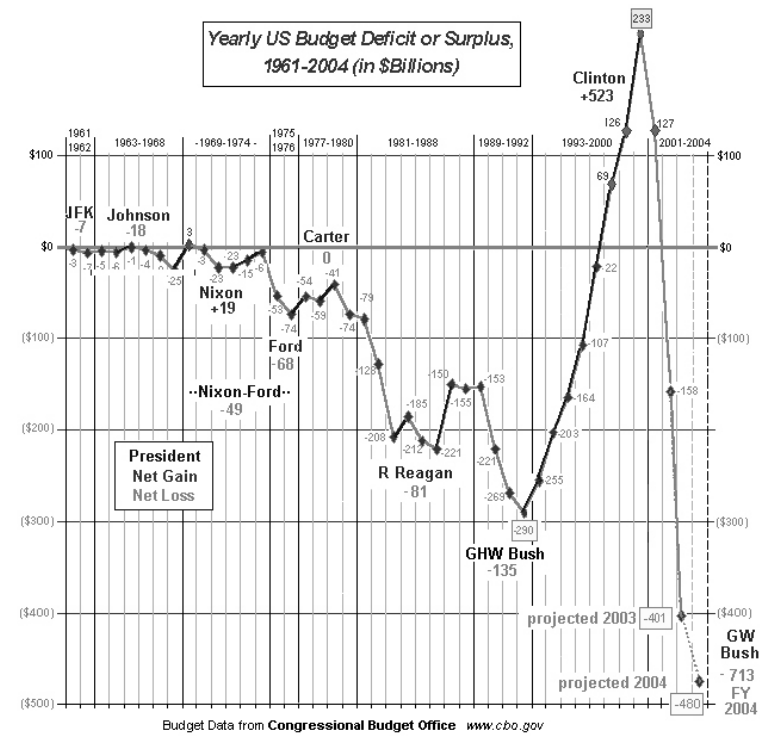
The government needs to take control of the deficit today. John Snow, the treasury secretary told CNBC that the administration was committed to reducing the deficit and controlling spending, but somehow, I find that hard to believe. After all, the United States government engaging in deficit spending is nothing new.

The deficits of today affect you and I in a personal way, however, because when they come due, we'll be the ones paying taxes. Not only that, but continuing deficits of this magnitude are projected to have negative effects on the Dollar, and on the faith of foreign investors in the U.S. economy, which can mean fewer jobs for those of us leaving college.

Those of us who will be inheriting this mess need to be more concerned about it. We need to make it known that we expect the government to cut spending commensurately with increases to pay for Social Security reform or prescription drug benefits in Medicare. We need to learn that no one ever gets something for nothing.

The deficit problem is one that runs deep in society. Too many people live beyond their means and see no problem with the federal government doing the same. To correct the deficit problem, we need a shift in the values of the population.

Without this shift, we face an uncertain future. As mere citizens, the only thing we can



The U.S. Budget Deficit

uuforum.org

do to reduce the deficit is demand fewer services from the government, and write our congressmen to request they support measures to control spending. Line item veto, a provision that would allow the president to veto certain

provisions of bills would also help by allowing the president to veto pork appended to bills that are nearly guaranteed to pass. It's not much, but controlling the deficit is a noble goal, and one that we need to take seriously.

Letter to the editor

I have occasionally skimmed through John Kropf's opinion articles, but have never really found them to be particularly lucid or well-reasoned. Last week's article ("Ben Franklin Said It Once...") was quite different. While he didn't go into the details of the USA Patriot Act he certainly did an excellent job of pointing out some of the problems with the Act. I might object to his use of the phrase "civil liberties" simply because the first thing that comes to mind when I hear that phrase is the profoundly anti-liberty ACLU. Still, semantics are not the point.

People would go crazy if I called our beloved, Christian president, George Walker Bush, a liberal. In the classical sense of the word, Bush is not a liberal, but then again, if we are defining words by their classical meaning, Clinton wasn't a liberal either. The best term to describe the last two presidents (and indeed most of the presidents in the twentieth century, with the possible exception of Calvin Coolidge) is Statist. That is, a person whose fundamental view of the world is that man lives for the sole purpose of serving the State. The State is the be all and end all. There are no individual rights; there is only the State.

Now I'm sure by now many of you have dropped your papers in disgust. Perhaps you are muttering obscenities directed again the person who would dare to compare George W. Bush with that piece of overdone libido that served as our most recent president. I will now attempt

to prove my point. This USA Patriot Act – a monster of Statist oppression – is the exact same USA Patriot Act proposed by the Clinton administration in the wake of the OKC bombing. You heard me. Bush did not think this up on his own. The act was waiting for him when he came to office. When Clinton attempted to get this act through congress he was stopped cold by neo-cons who opposed the act "on principle." But apparently the only real reason they opposed the act was that it was being proposed by a liberal Democrat. This is not the only frightening attempt to curtail our liberties that the Bush administration has attempted. If pressed, I could give a number of other policies pushed by the "conservative" administration that ring frighteningly of George Orwell's 1984 (one example being the Free Trade Area of the Americas, an EU like institution that would severely detract from our national sovereignty – can anyone say Oceania?) For those of you who enjoy reading history, I suggest you do a comparison of Hitler's rise to power with the post 9/11 administration's actions.

Am I being too suspicious? Perhaps so; we shall see. Those are my thoughts on the Patriot Act. You are free to take them or leave them – but please, take them or leave them on reason, not on principle.

David Korff
Computer Science
Class of 2008

Racism still exists just beneath society's surface

By Ikechukwu Enenmoh
Iowa State Daily
(Iowa State U.)

Are you racist?

This is a question to which many of us would invariably say, "No!" Racism has definitely become culturally unacceptable, but that does not mean that it is not practiced -- by whites as well as blacks.

Yes, most of us discriminate against people based on their race, ethnicity, or background. Racism is very much a part of the American psyche. Statistics from the U.S Department of Justice show that blacks are twice as likely as Hispanics and five times more likely than whites to be in prison. This must mean one of two things: Either blacks are inherently more criminal than whites and Hispanics, or there is something fundamentally wrong somewhere.

We can all consciously ignore glaring differences like this, but these differences would still be part of our subconscious. Therefore, we might interpret some of our racist actions as rational, and give other reasons for them besides racism. Whether we do it consciously or subconsciously, we all treat people differently based on their skin color.

For example, when I turned 21 last semester, I went with my friends to Crush, a dance club in Des Moines. When we got there I wasn't allowed to enter. It wasn't because of my age, but because "there was something wrong with my ID." In fact, it seemed as though everyone else who wasn't allowed into the club was black, too. A rational excuse the

bouncer can give for this scenario is that he was trying to trim out the violent crowd. The belief that blacks are more likely to be violent is racist.

Racism perpetuates racism. Therefore, when blacks experience racist acts, they internalize it or respond to it with racism. I have heard blacks on this campus say that they hate white people. There are black people in this society who would not deposit their paychecks in the bank because they have so much distrust of white people.

The American society has inhaled racism for so long that it has led to a cancer affecting one group of people directly and the whole body of people indirectly.

I don't blame the bouncer who barred me from Crush; his racist belief is true -- blacks statistically commit more violent crimes than whites. But that violent tendency has roots in the legal segregation that subjugated blacks until the mid-1960s.

Segregation led to isolation of blacks into communities that had poor education and poor social services. That environment encouraged violent crime and all kinds of social problems, including poor treatment of women. Fifty-four years ago, segregation in public schools was outlawed, but not much was done to desegregate America. Today, a higher

percentage of blacks still live in communities with poor education and poor social services. Therefore, today, racism still exists as part of the system.

Individual acts of racism are, in many cases, a product of systemic racism. The stereotypes that exist as a result of racism are in many cases internalized by blacks and practiced by everyone else.

One way blacks internalize racism is through gangster rap. There is no doubt that the things gangster-rap artists rap about exist; however, by accepting things like violence and the poor treatment of women as "black culture," blacks are internalizing racism.

What can be done to get rid of systemic racism? One way is to provide more educational and social resources to communities that have a high percentage of blacks. President Bush can be commended for pointing out "the achievement gap" between minorities and whites. But more resources still need to be poured into poor communities.

As individuals, we can also do our parts in reducing racism through forgiveness and understanding. If we can recognize that individual acts of discrimination are a product of decades of misunderstanding and prejudice, we are less prone to hate people who discriminate and less prone to discriminate ourselves.

As individuals,
we can also do
our parts in
reducing racism
through
forgiveness and
understanding.

Have an opinion? Send a letter to the editor.

E-mail opinions@rose-hulman.edu

Rose Sports Rundown

Cloutier brothers can't stop shooting

Andrew Twarek
Staff Writer

"Stop and focus on your next shot...pay attention to nothing but the little black dot 50 feet away."

Dan Cloutier knows it doesn't sound like that much fun, but he just can't stop shooting on the Rose-Hulman rifle team. For Dan, "there's always that one shot that just feels right...the position, the sight, the release. It keeps you coming back."

His brother Dave adds, "It's addicting in its mental challenge. There isn't a whole lot else like it." In baseball, there are opposing pitchers, but in rifle, "you're competing against yourself, so it's always an even match."

That's right. Two of the top shooters for Rose-Hulman are brothers. That's quite a feat for a school this size. Dave is a sophomore in his second year with the squad, and Dan, who transferred to the school last year, is a senior.

Growing up in Roseville, Minnesota, there weren't too many other kids on their block. Dave and Dan were always tossing a football back and forth or playing catch with a baseball. Their hometown high school offered something different, though, something besides a diamond or gridiron: a rifle range.

The team didn't have a real coach, or anyone who had a lot of experience, but that didn't stop them from competing against other schools. "We were self-motivated—we kind of fell into it and enjoyed doing it," Dan said. Traveling anywhere from across town to Gary, IN (a six-hour haul) to find competition, they enjoyed themselves and the sport.

When he graduated, Dan attended the US Military Academy and was able to continue his action on the rifle team. He shot there for two years, was named their Most Improved Shooter in 2003, and earned an Academic All-American award at West Point.

Meanwhile, as Dave was looking for an undergraduate school, he noticed Rose-Hulman. "The rifle team caught my attention, but walking on campus for my visit, it felt like it fit me well," he said. Dan was looking to transfer from West Point at the same time, and Dave suggested he look at Rose. Both



Andrew Twarek / Staff Writer
Dan (left) and Dave (right) Cloutier take a minute out of their practice for a photo at the Cook Stadium rifle range.

Cloutiers enrolled in the fall of 2003; Dave as a mechanical engineering major and Dan in computer science.

They came at a good time, as the Engineers' team was their best in recent years. Dan helped them beat two team records in smallbore competition and set two highest team aggregate scores. Both he and Dave were members of the squad's record-setting team in the 40-shot air rifle, and this season they helped break the 60-shot air record together.

Rose-Hulman's rifle team finished 14th in the nation last year, up from 18th place in both 2001 and 2002. This is more impressive given the fact that competitors are among all levels of NCAA play, so Division III athletes from Rose-Hulman are shooting next to Div. I scholarship athletes from across the country. The Engineers hold dual matches against teams as nearby as Purdue (earning a 4338-4117 vic-

tory over the Boilers this season) and as far away as the University of Nebraska (number six in the nation last year).

There are only about 10 schools in NCAA Div. III with a rifle team, and the Engineers fare well. "We are consistently in the top three among the Div. III schools—the other two being the US Coast Guard Academy and Norwich University," Engineer head coach Michael Ray pointed out. USCGA and Norwich are both military schools, where marksmanship is taken seriously.

As far as this year's squad, the Cloutier brothers prove to be important players on the team. Of the nine shooters this year, five were walk-ons—having no rifle experience when they joined the team as freshmen.

The other two seniors for Rose-Hulman Rifle are Jennifer Lowe and Bryan Shaw. Both came to the program as walk-ons, but have

become the other members of the four-person scoring team. (The aggregate scores of the preselected four team shooters are recorded as the team total.)

A pair of experienced sophomores provides depth to the squad. Nicholas Schmidt, from Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and Dan Durham both scored highly in state competitions before coming to Rose-Hulman. Joining the Engineers for the first time this season are freshmen Tommy Buetow, Buddy Meyer, and Elizabeth White.

Coach Ray is happy to have both Dave and Dan with him this year. "Dave came in [to the program] with some experience, but he has really taken off as a sophomore and become a consistent fourth shooter," said Ray. "Dan is a natural leader for the team. He works on team unity," he added.

Team unity does make the sport a lot more enjoyable. "Our team does a lot together. It's a good way to hang out after school with friends. We do a lot of things outside the range," Dave explained.

When May rolls around and classes finish up, Dave isn't sure what he will do for a summer job. Dan, who is graduating, doesn't have that luxury. He's hoping for a position in communications software design, but hasn't nailed anything down just yet.

Dan would like to continue with the sport, however: "I want to keep shooting if I have the time. Most of the meets are open, and there is a large one in Cincinnati every year that I'd like to compete in." He continued, "It's an expensive sport, but there's the opportunity to do it for a number of years."

The rifle team continues its 2004-05 season this weekend, hosting both Nebraska and Purdue in the final home match of the year. They finish the season on the road, and culminate in style: the team is traveling to Germany over Quarter Break for a week of air rifle shooting and sightseeing. Travel is one of Dave's favorite things, "going to big schools and shooting against D-1 athletes and Olympians."

Dan sees the bright side in shooting at home, though: "not unpacking our gear."

Upcoming athletic events

Basketball

Friday, January 28
Rose-Hulman
at Centre
Women - 6 p.m.
Men - 8 p.m.

Sunday, January 30

Rose-Hulman
at Sewanee
Men - 2 p.m. ET
Women - 4 p.m. ET

Thursday, February 3

**Rose-Hulman
vs. DePauw**
Women - 6 p.m.
Men - 8 p.m.

Track & Field

Saturday, January 29
Engineer Invitational
Noon

Games in bold denote home games

Last week's sports scores

Men's Basketball (10-8, 4-3 SCAC)

Jan. 21

Rose-Hulman 51
vs. **Hendrix** 55

Jan. 23

Rose-Hulman 62
vs. Rhodes 57

Women's Basketball (10-8, 3-4 SCAC)

Jan. 21

Rose-Hulman 80
vs. Hendrix 67

Jan. 23

Rose-Hulman 55
vs. **Rhodes** 59

Teams in bold denote winners

Rose-Hulman intramural basketball standings

Josh Annin
Sports Editor

(Win-Loss-Tie-Forfeit)

Winter intramurals are winding down for this year. Playoffs for both basketball and volleyball begin next week on Monday, January 31.

Current standings for all basketball leagues are shown to the right. Watch for preliminary playoff results next week.

Standings current as of Wednesday, 1/26

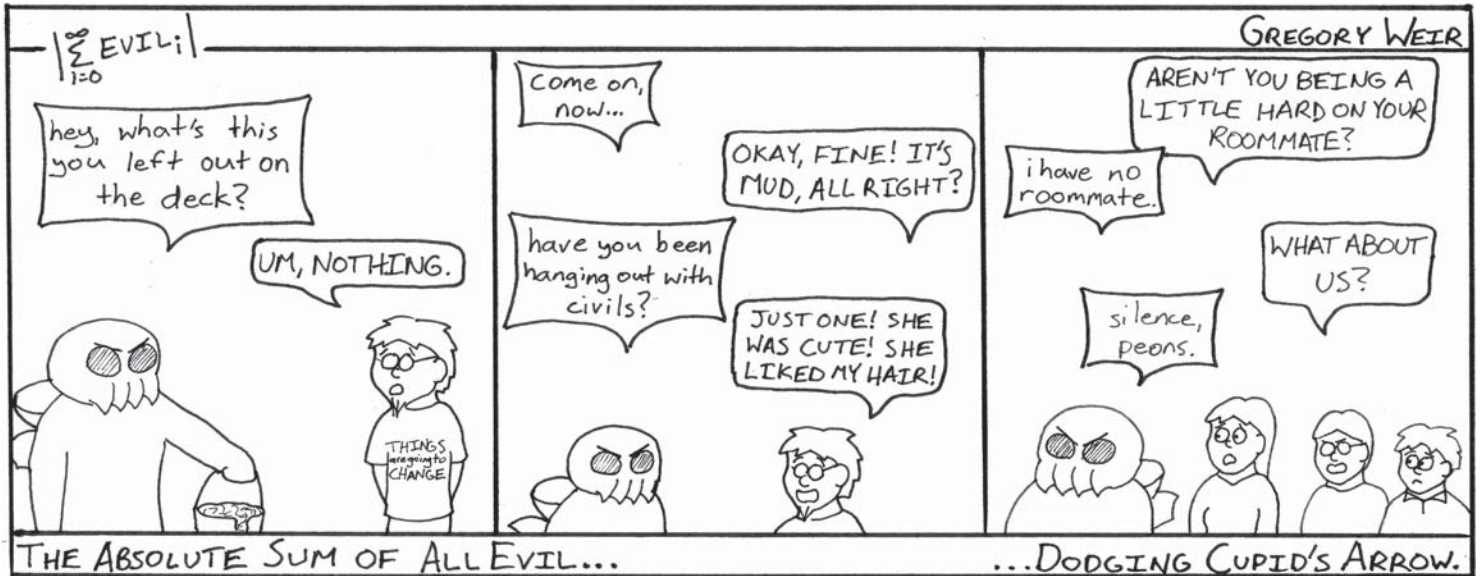
	W	L	T	F		W	L	T	F		W	L	T	F					
GREEK LEVEL A					GREEK LEVEL C					INDEPENDENT B (2)					RESIDENCE HALL B (2)				
Triple Teamers	6	0	0	0	Dingers	4	1	0	0	Team Korea	6	0	0	0	D-1	5	0	0	0
ATO Blue	5	1	0	0	Fiji Pledges	4	1	0	0	Superior Generals	5	1	0	0	New Res 2	4	1	0	0
Dingers	4	2	0	1	Ankle Biters	3	2	0	0	Sophomore Team	4	2	0	0	Do It For Sammy	3	2	0	0
E.G. Basketball	3	3	0	0	These Guys	3	2	0	1	Shot Callas	3	3	0	0	Team Winham	2	3	0	0
Fiji Juniors	1	5	0	0	Midget Squad	1	4	0	0	Stafac	2	4	0	0	Speed 1 Ballas	1	4	0	0
Delta Sig Green	1	5	0	1	Chi Omega	0	5	0	0	Air Force	1	5	0	0	BSB 3 Chickies	0	5	0	1
Pike Gold	1	5	0	1						Goebel's Team	0	6	0	5					
GREEK LEVEL B					INDEPENDENT B (1)					RESIDENCE HALL B (1)					RESIDENCE HALL C				
Dingers	6	0	0	0	Ivory	6	0	0	0	BSB 2	6	0	0	0	Sam	5	1	0	0
The Shockers	4	2	0	0	Team Housand	4	2	0	0	S.W.A.T.	5	1	0	0	New 2	4	1	0	0
Fiji Seniors	4	2	0	0	Beisball	4	2	0	1	Skinner	4	2	0	0	BSB 2	4	1	0	0
Fiji Sophomores	4	2	0	0	Fighting Pacifists	3	3	0	0	Speed 3	3	3	0	1	Cool Runnings	3	2	0	1
Midget Killers	2	4	0	0	Samcats	2	4	0	0	Deming 2	2	4	0	0	Speed 2	1	4	0	0
ATO Gold	1	5	0	0	The Runners	2	4	0	0	Blouses	1	5	0	1	Pumas	1	4	0	1
Delta Sig White	0	6	0	0	VBall BBallas	0	6	0	3	D Zero	0	6	0	0	Blum	0	5	0	0

This Day In History

In 1986, the Challenger shuttle explodes upon take-off, with Christa McAuliffe, a high-school teacher, on board. That'll learn her.

In Addition

The blue button will take you to the top floor. However, the yellow button will plunge you into eternal darkness. Don't forget.



Finding Your Favorite Faith

Alexander J. Clerc

How do you know what other religions are like if you've never tried them? There are lots of religions out there these days, and it's hard to tell if the faith you were born into is the best one. Keep in mind that this is college, a time in your life when it's expected that you'll experiment. This experimentation can include spirituality, too; it's not just limited to alcoholism.

If you're boring, you'll choose to convert to something mainstream and blasé like Christianity or Islam or Judaism or Buddhism or Hinduism. If you're looking for something a little different, I highly encourage (nay, demand) that you Google these up-and-coming faiths:

The Church of Jesus Christ Elvis - "For unto you is born this day in the city of Memphis a Presley which is Elvis the King." See also The First Presbyterian Church of Elvis the Divine.

Cubicism - Ignoring the infallible Time Cube indicates that you are stupid and evil.

Discordianism - A religion ~~discarded by the majority of the other~~ ~~way around). The Discardianism of the center of the universe outlines~~ ~~core beliefs that include "A Discardianism of the center of the universe~~ ~~CHAPTER #23~~ Discordianism has been described as "a religion for roundeyes."

Invisible Pink Unicorn - The believers of the IPU attest that "the Invisible Pink Unicorn is a being of great spiritual power. We know this because she is capable of being invisible and pink at the same time."

Jedi - In England's 2001 census, about 390,000 people reported their religion as Jedi Knight. May the force be with them.

Shatnerology - Need I say more?

Top Ten Best Ways to Get an Internship

10. Announce to the rep that you are only talking to them because they had the coolest giveaways.
9. If you are short on the skills part of your resume, fill the space with various bodily functions.
8. The representatives choose candidates for interviews by who they can remember from the fair, so be sure to say your full name loudly every couple of sentences.
7. To save time, include all your excuses on your resume.
6. Impress the representatives by answering all questions in Morse Code.
5. Tell every interviewer that you know Hertz until one of their faces lights up with recognition.
4. Many of the reps are very lonely, so be sure to hit on them often to remind them that they are really beautiful people.
3. Let them know about all the exotic places you have lived and worked in: Terre Haute, West Terre Haute, Seelyville...
2. Inform them of your many patented inventions, including the electric light, the Internet, and the wheel.
1. To avoid later confusion, be sure your resume includes the fact that you melt in sunlight.

-Aaron Meles

Wacky Prof Quotes

- "Keep writing. I'll tell you if there are flames."
--Prof. Luegenbiehl, after a fire alarm
- "And yes, I may be abusing you, but I have that right. I get paid."
--Prof. Cecil, who likes her job
- "One person who is not going to pass the class is the spy for the Thorn."
--Prof. Eccles, who is being monitored
- "It is the domestic pilsners that I disagree with most violently."
--Prof. House, on alcoholic beverages
- "I'm gonna up the humiliation factor in this class - make you squirm."
--Prof. Cecil, being cruel to students
- "The Ruskies had it! God bless 'em."
--Prof. Fine, on titanium submarines
- "I want to be clear that the body that was found in my office was dead before it got there."
--Prof. Azhar, who murdered a man
- "Please don't tell Dr. Midgley I quit 9 minutes early. If you do, I will put an extra question on your test."
--Prof. Eccles, who is a lazy slacker
- "I should have brought candy. Candy is like Viagra for the hands!"
--Prof. Azhar, trying to get hands up
- "I'll just be clear: the reason your papers aren't graded has nothing to do with your mothers in Vegas."
--Prof. Minster, calling your mom a whore
- "It's the personality type we call the engi-nerd."
--Prof. Martenson, insulting students

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

Herbig's Pun of the Week

Weavers tell the best stories.
They spin excellent yarns.