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Student Newspaper

Spring 3-11-2005

Volume 40 - Issue 19 - Friday, March 11, 2005

Rose Thorn Staff

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Recommended Citation

Rose Thorn Staff, "Volume 40 - Issue 19 - Friday, March 11, 2005" (2005). *The Rose Thorn Archive*. 239.
<https://scholar.rose-hulman.edu/rosethorn/239>

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News Briefs

College students rescue Haitians

College students aboard a research vessel in the Carribean Sea rescued 49 Haitians from a tiny sailboat with no food or water. The Haitians were turned over to Jamaican authorities early Thursday.

By Lissa Avery

EPA sets new limits for air pollution

The Bush administration set new limits on smog and soot pollution Thursday that affects 28 states mostly east of the Mississippi River.

The EPA's new "Clean Air Interstate Rule" enforces stricter regulations on the volume of air pollution that states can allow. If these new regulations are kept, the nation's pollution from nitrogen oxides will be reduced by 61% below 2003 levels and sulfur dioxide will be reduced by 73%.

The EPA estimates the rule will also prevent 17,000 premature deaths, 22,000 nonfatal heart attacks and 700,000 cases of bronchitis and asthma each year. The new standard will also reduce smog, soot, and haze.

By Alexander J. Clerc

Demonstration stifled in Syria

A demonstration by about 100 Syrian activists in Damascus was broken up by hundreds of government supporters on Thursday. The halting of this protest is the latest sign of Syria's rejection of Western calls for Syria to allow more civil liberties and to end its control over neighboring Lebanon. The government says drastic measures in civil procedures are necessary as long as Syria remains formally at war with Israel (they have been since 1967).

By Alexander J. Clerc

Friday
Few snow showers/wind
35 Hi / 21 Lo
Saturday
Flurries 35 Hi / 19 Lo

Provided by www.weather.com

Housing process gears up

Angela Smiley
Staff Writer

As we approach the end of this academic year, Rose students begin to make preparations for the next one. Part of this process is making housing arrangements for the following year.

For returning students, the housing process is a two-month event which began March 7th (the first day of the quarter) with the campus-wide distribution of the Housing Information Sheet. The process was highlighted this week by a pair of informational sessions, one for freshmen and one for upper-classmen. The sessions were held the evening of March 10 and were hosted by Tom Miller, the Associate Dean of Students, and Eric Hayes, the Director of Residence Life. Their stated purpose was to answer student questions about housing and lay the ground rules for the remainder of the process.

Currently, about 900 (or 50%) of Rose's undergraduates live in one of its nine residence halls. This relatively high number reflects the opening of the Apartment Residence Hall, new this year; the new hall has allowed Rose to satisfy on-campus housing demand for the first



Alexander J. Clerc / Staff Writer
Freshmen gather to hear Tom Miller and Erik Hayes explain sophomore housing options.

time in several years. It has also allowed the school to offer single rooms in Blumberg and Skinner halls, a pattern which will likely be continued in the 2005-2006 academic year.

According to Miller, the most-requested halls are the apartments and its sophomore counterpart, the New Residence Hall. "It's the new ones," he quipped, citing the results of the Intent to Live on Campus survey, which he and Hayes use as a barometer of housing pressure.

Student opinion seems to bear this out. Some Apartment residents are seniors, most of whom will not be returning next year. However, of those who remain, many apartment residents plan to continue living there. These current residents will have priority in being placed in apartment, but many sophomores also hope to move into newly vacated apartments.

Among freshmen, the majority plan to apply to New Residence Hall (which will

be renamed Percopo Hall by the time they occupy it), though some plan to reapply to their present dorms or request single rooms. Still others are undecided. Elizabeth White, a freshman mechanical engineering major currently housed in Blumberg Hall, suggested that transportation was a major impediment to moving off campus. "Living on-campus, I don't need a car to get to class," she remarked. "I still want a car, but..."

A full group cannot guarantee you a place in your chosen residence hall - in past years, New Res applicants have been subject to a lottery to remove groups from the pool because there were not enough rooms to house all of them, and any other over-requested hall will undergo the same procedure. However, for those who wish to live in apartment or New Res especially, all authorities stress the importance of forming a full suite of four and ensuring that each member requests the other three. In the event that you desire to live in one of these halls but do not have a group of four, you may visit the Office of Student Affairs to view the list of suites seeking one, two or three additional members.

Continued on Page 3...

Seniors to the fore: Applied biology

Bridget Mayer
Staff Writer

While many students are gearing up for spring quarter, seniors in the Applied Biology and Biomedical Engineering department are breathing a sigh of relief because their research and design projects were finished up last quarter.

The senior project is a requirement for graduation, beginning in the student's junior year with topic research and a proposal write up. Students must complete twelve credits of research, and by completion, many have produced re-

ports that are comparable to a thesis for a master's degree. Biomedical engineers must design and revise their projects multiple times to demonstrate knowledge of engineering processes.

Rita Strack, a senior applied biology major, built her thesis

around the accuracy of DNA translation in mutant strains of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, more commonly known as baker's yeast. Strack began the project the summer after her freshman year at Rose-Hulman, and picked it up again as her thesis project under AB/BE professor Dr. Anthony. The thesis and lab work is difficult; Strack



Bridget Mayer / Staff Writer
Rita Strack, senior Applied Biology major, running a gel electrophoresis.

has put in "too many [hours] to count, but I'd say an average of eight hours a week for three quarters." As with all biological research, Strack encountered frustrations and disappointments in her work. However, she said, "You roll with the punches and keep accumulating data and going toward your goals."

Junior applied biology major Stefani Vande Lune is just beginning the process of designing her thesis, which will cover regional deformation of the anterior cruciate ligament in human knee joints (commonly known as the ACL).

Continued on Page 3...

You roll with the punches and keep accumulating data and going towards your goals.

— Rita Strack

Rose-Hulman, and picked it up again as her thesis project under AB/BE professor Dr. Anthony. The thesis and lab work is difficult; Strack

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
Indiana 2016 Leadership Summit	To Be or not to Be Cool.	RFID tags: now featuring Jacob P. Silva	Winter Sports Wrap-up	Sleep. It's good for you.
Page 3	Pages 4 & 5	Page 6	Page 7	Page 8

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Intercambio Cultural Maya

Intercambio Cultural Maya is a service project that goes twice a year to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. This summer Intercambio will travel to Holbox, a small fishing village on the Gulf of Mexico, to help with the construction of facilities that house youth retreat activities. It takes place June 18-25. There will also be time to explore the island of Holbox and visit Mayan ruins. Applications are being accepted now through April 8. For more information contact United Campus Ministries, 321 N 7th Street, Terre Haute IN 47807, (812) 232-0186, summer2005@intercambio-maya.org.

Midwest Student Christian Gathering

Register deadline is March 18 for the annual Midwest Student Christian Gathering to be held April 1-3 at George Williams College on Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Students from across the Midwest will gather for scripture, meditation, music, workshops, fellowship, and much more. Call the United Campus Ministries, 232-0186

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Worship

WORSHIP with music, prayer, and reflection in White Chapel Sunday, March 13, 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Led by United Campus Ministries, 321 7th Street, Terre Haute IN 47807. Campus Minister: Jack Diel, Jack.A.Diel@rose-hulman.edu

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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.

ABBE,
from Page 1...

Collagen, an elastic connective tissue that helps hold joints together, is non-uniformly arranged throughout the ligament and affects its stretching capabilities. Although she has not done any actual research yet, Vande Lune has put in about thirty hours with her advisor, Dr. Livesay. This is not her first experience with research; last summer, she worked at Cincinnati Children's Hospital studying cellular signaling. "I am sure my experience will help me when I work with tissues here at Rose, and it increased my overall comfort at being in a lab setting and following lab protocol."

Chad Zarse, a senior applied biology major who was recently named to the All-USA Academic Team, just finished a project under Dr. Weiner designed to determine whether light intensity or the time of year was more important in regulating structural adaptations in the lateral eye of the horseshoe crab. He found that light intensity shows a much larger effect than the time of year. Zarse has worked on this project since the fall term of his freshman year. He, too, recognizes the frustrations involved in biological research. "Every project has its limitations, caveats, and shortfalls. My biggest problem is my small sample size. When you do whole animal studies, it can take a very long time to collect and analyze the data."

Students interested in doing research should not be hesitant to talk to professors and advisors. Said Zarse, "You will get an idea real fast about who you can work with and which profs are doing projects you would like to work on." Strack knew exactly who she wanted as her research advisor: "I chose to work for Dr. Anthony because I knew he was a good mentor and that he would be able to give me a lot of advice on how to choose graduate schools." Colloquium classes offered junior year also provide an opportunity for students to learn about ongoing research. "I listened to different AB and BE professors talk about their research...I chose Dr. Livesay because he is an upbeat guy and his research interest sounded interesting. Then I honed in on a specific project I could do with him," explained Vande Lune.

Work on her senior project has allowed Strack to have her pick of graduate schools. She will be attending the University of Chicago, an institute she says likes to see strong research backgrounds in their applicants. "They were really impressed that all the bio majors at Rose get to/ have to do a senior project and write a thesis!"

Don't spend all your free time playing Halo. Write for the Thorn.

Meetings are held on Wednesdays in O157 at 5:15 p.m.

Two students participate
in Indiana 2016 summit

Rose Hulman News

Rose-Hulman juniors Richard Franko and Gilbert Grady contributed to discussions about the state's future during the Indiana 2016 Leadership Summit last Monday, Feb. 28, at the Indiana History Center in Indianapolis.

At least two traditional students from every Indiana college or university met to interact with Indiana leaders in a program designed to promote bonds between outstanding students and the Hoosier state.

Franko, a civil engineering major from Knox, participated in the education planning group, discussing what Indiana can do to keep quality college graduates in the state.

"I felt that I was able to bring a true reference to the group since I grew up in a small town, but was still able to strive to attend a top university," said Franko, who is a Sophomore Adviser in Rose-

Hulman's residence halls and is a member of the Army ROTC unit. "My key idea was to bring businesses into colleges around Indiana and show what college students are capable of in the workplace. By doing this, bonds will form between companies and colleges."

The education group's No. 1 idea was to promote students doing well in school, beginning as early as kindergarten, by creating incentives for attendance, hard work, and ultimately good grades.

"Our group would like Indiana communities to recognize that being a good student, from an early age, will lead to a positive future for us all," Franko stated.

Grady, a mathematics major from Indianapolis, is a member of Rose-Hulman's student chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers, was a Reader's Digest Scholar, and is a starting player on the varsity football team.

Improving public education

is also key issue to Indiana's future, according to Grady. "Public schools are poorly funded, have the lowest test scores in the state, and are housed in buildings that need a lot of repair . . . The biggest thing that public schools in Indianapolis need are a culture change."

Housing,
from Page 1...

"I want you to know that housing is sort of a work in progress," Miller stressed. However, he also expressed optimism that all students requesting on-campus housing would be able to receive it. "If you want to live on campus," he stated, "it looks as though you're going to be able to live on campus."

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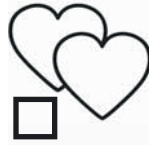

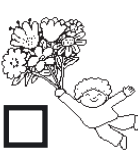
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Out This Week

In Theaters

The Passion Recut
Directed by Mel Gibson
Starring Jim Caviezel
Rated R

Hostage
Directed by Florent Emilio Siri
Starring Bruce Willis
Rated R

Robots
Directed by Chris Wedge & Carlos Saldanha
Starring Ewan McGregor
Rated PG

Millions
Directed by Danny Boyle
Starring Alexander Nathan Etel
Rated PG
Limited Release

The Boys & Girl From County Clare
Director John Irvin
Starring Colm Meaney
Limited Release

Dot the I
Directed by Matthew Parkhill
Starring Gael Garcia Bernal
Rated R
Limited Release

New Travolta film way cool

Jacob P. Silvia
Entertainment Editor

There are rules one must follow if one wishes to survive the watching of a movie. One such rule is this: if said movie is a sequel, see the original film *first*.

Unfortunately, when I went to see *Be Cool*, most of the other people in the theater did not follow this vital and important rule. Some people went to see it because it had {Vince Vaughn, Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson, Uma Thurman, John Travolta, Cedric the Entertainer, André 3000}+ in it. Personally, I went to see it because I enjoy Elmore Leonard, who wrote the book upon which the movie is based.

In defense of the people who did not “get it,” the movie was not blatantly advertised as “The Sequel to *Get Shorty*,” so I suppose they are mostly blameless for not understanding what was going on in the film. For those of you who saw it and didn’t get it, here’s a quick crash course.

First off, some vocabulary:

shylock *n.* a loan shark. From *The Merchant of Venice*.

vig *n.* the interest on a loan.

Mumo *n.* former crime boss (deceased c. *Get Shorty*).

Secondly, here’s a quick biography of Chili Palmer (Travolta):

A former loan shark who, while picking up some lost cash in LA, discovers the joy of filmmaking and decides to become a producer, leaving his mob connections behind. However, the mob connections, having been left behind, begin to pursue him. Having had guns pointed at him several times in his life, he is perfectly comfortable when it happens while he’s in movies. His first major picture is a quasi biographical film called *Get Leo*, starring Martin Weir (DeVito). After an acquaintance dies of natural causes (shot to death in front of a restaurant), Chili takes it upon himself to help his widow (Thurman) cope with his death. During this time, he discovers that the record label she now solely owns is in serious financial trouble. Who better to sort out finances than good old Chili Palmer, former “shylock.” The only problem is that the music industry is a whole lot closer to his former mob life than were movies. He must make the best

of impossible situations while he tries to give everyone what they want (money).

Be Cool focuses on Palmer and company as they try to revive a record label while being beset on all sides by aggressors (an angry urban music promoter/remixer and his pet rap group as well as some Russian gangsters and rival record label execs). They get a very talented singer and want to record her hits. The only problem is that the label does not have enough money to mass produce this album, and thus has to find ways of getting their new artist out in the open and her name on the streets, all while owing monies to several angry and armed parties.

There’s something about the comedic crime movie that appeals to me. Maybe it’s the fact that organized crime is a real and dangerous thing, but movies like that draw caricatures of these dangerous individuals, magnifying their flaws if they’re “bad” and



making them the kind of criminal we’d want to be if they’re “good.”

There were some aspects of the movie, however, that I did not enjoy. Firstly, though they did make a funny joke regarding the PG-13 rating of the film, the movie may have benefited from an R rating. Not necessarily because I want more violence and language, but more so because I think the R rating allows the ambience to be more fitting than that of a PG-13 world. Of course, that is just my lowly opinion.

If you want to see a particularly funny organized crime flick, and have seen *Get Shorty*, or can promise me that you *will* see *Get Shorty* before seeing its sequel, you should see *Be Cool*.

Be Cool is not too hot

Bill Waite
Copy Editor

Be Cool is supposed to be the sequel to *Get Shorty*, but the two movies have little in common; the only person involved in both is John Travolta. *Get Shorty*’s director, Barry Sonnenfeld, was replaced by E. Gary Gray, and screenwriter Scott Frank (*Minority Report*, *Out of Sight*) was replaced by Peter Steinfeld (*Drowning Mona*, *Analyze That*). MGM hired second-rate talent behind the scenes, and we got stuck with a second-rate movie. Most sequels don’t live up to fans’ expectations, but *Be Cool* is the most disappointing sequel since *Weekend at Bernie’s 2*.

Be Cool stars John Travolta as Chili Palmer, a movie producer who gets tired of the movie industry and wants to break into the music business. When Chili sees Linda Moon (Christina Milian) performing in a nightclub, he offers to be Linda’s manager, and teams up with Edie Athens (Uma Thurman), owner of NTL records, to produce Linda’s debut album. Linda wants Chili as her manager, but her current managers, Nick Carr (Harvey Keitel) and Raji (Vince Vaughn), won’t let her go. When Chili tries to get Linda’s contract, Nick tries to kill Chili.

Chili also has to contend with two gangs demanding money from NTL Records. NTL owes \$300,000 to producer Sin LaSalle (Cedric the Entertainer), and Sin wants to collect. The Russian mafia wants protection money, and when Chili refuses to pay up, they put a hit out on him. With three gangs out to kill him, Chili has to fight for his life while working to produce a hit album.

It sounds like an exciting plot, but Steinfeld somehow manages to strip the screenplay of any excitement, uncertainty, or conflict. When Chili meets Linda Moon,

she already has dozens of professional-quality songs written, and is just waiting for someone to record them. About halfway through the movie, Steven Tyler of Aerosmith agrees to sing a duet with Linda, and we already know how the movie will end. Linda will have no trouble becoming a star, but we still have to watch her go through the motions. We end up sitting through 2 live performances and 3 scenes where Chili and company just sit around listening to recorded music. These scenes are painfully boring, and all we can do is sit there and wait for them to end.

Even when Chili is being hunted down by three gangs, it’s hard to stay interested. When the Russian mafia puts a hit on Chili, he decides to confront the Russians in their own headquarters. He finds himself staring down the barrels of three guns, but Chili doesn’t panic. He simply tells the Russians, “I wouldn’t shoot me if I were you,” and the Russians put their guns away. In about a third of the scenes, Travolta has several guns in his face, but he never seems to be in danger; the guns feel more like fashion accessories than deadly weapons. Without the pretense of danger, even the action scenes are tedious.

Be Cool’s only saving grace is the supporting cast. Vince Vaughn is great as Raji, aka Roger Lowenthal, an insecure small-time gangster who

thinks he’s black. Vaughn usually plays stronger characters, but in *Be Cool*, he shows us that he can be vulnerable. In fact, the funniest moments come when we see Raji’s weaknesses. The black white guy is a common archetype, and Vaughn’s version is nothing special, but when Raji is threatened or insulted, Vaughn’s reactions are priceless. The Rock also shows his range as Elliot Wilhelm, a bodyguard/aspiring actor who might be gay. Vaughn and The Rock have some funny moments, but they can’t make up for 90 minutes of tedium. The bottom line: *Be Cool* is really really boring. Don’t watch it.



Dwayne Johnson plays an atypically flamboyant character *Be Cool*.

Do old albums still sparkle or fade?

Mike Jones
Staff Writer

Over the years my musical tastes have developed in a way that forces me to explore the relatively obscure and unknown for tunes that excite me. But in my younger days, my preferences leaned more toward some of the very popular bands of the time (Green Day, Weezer, etc.) Despite the shift in partiality, many of these older albums still hold a unique place for me personally. Case in point: Everclear’s 1995 release *Sparkle and Fade*.

I was first exposed to *Sparkle and Fade* when I was only twelve years old. Given that the songs deal with issues ranging from drugs, divorce, promiscuity, and abandonment, it’s not an easy album to relate to at such a young age. Even so, I was drawn to the grungy and zealous riffs, the passionate vocals, and the overall catchiness of the album as a whole. Through the years, the album has come to mean completely different things to me, lending new reasons to continue listening as I grow older. What remains the most important aspect of the album is Art Aleksakis, whose factual narratives tell stories about his experience growing up, and his very long addiction to drugs. These aren’t the usual moaning, metaphorical stories, though. Aleksakis gives vivid interpretations of drug use in “Strawberry”, an ethereal melody with streaming vocals. In “Heroin Girl”, he describes his relationship with a girl. He is still resentful of others who judge their union, despite her encouragement of their drug

use and despite her untimely death, illustrated in the powerful bridge. The list of lyrically intriguing songs on this album is nearly as long as the track list, while the number of musically excellent songs matches it.

Back in 1995, Everclear had an absorbing mix of Nirvana and The Pixies in their music. Their usage of the crescendo rock song is notable, as is the obvious grunge influence. The songs remain musically exciting even today, with a mix of hard hitting tracks (Nehalem, Chemical Smile) and softer melodies (Pale Green Stars, My Sexual Life.) “The Twistinside” builds up into a nearly gratuitous, but still good, climax with Aleksakis proclaiming “I don’t wanna do this anymore!” In “Summerland” the guitar demands attention, while the drum tracks fit surprisingly well despite the simplicity.

But Art’s lyrical style remains the achievement of this album. He moves again and again upon every listen.

So what’s the point of reviewing an album that came out ten years ago? If you’re like me, you’re looking for new music constantly (maybe when you should be doing other things). In the middle of

all the looking and drooling over the new bands coming up, it’s very easy to forget the albums that allowed your interest in music to flourish. It’s not necessarily about this album in particular, but you probably have your

own *Sparkle and Fade* packed in your old CD case. If you do, take some time out of listening to The Arcade Fire and Iron & Wine to remember the albums that birthed you.



Radio frequency and you



At least
I have
opinions

John Kropf
Opinions Editor

A few days ago, I saw a post on arstechnica.com describing the brand new policy of Brittan Elementary School in Sutter, California. The policy requires that all students wear a badge while on school grounds, each containing a unique Radio Frequency Identification chip that stores the child's name, photo, grade and school ID number.

Radio Frequency Identification chips are microchips that can be programmed to hold any sort of information. They are very small, and need no power source of their own, because the energy of the radio waves from a reader provides enough electricity for them to broadcast their signal. Wal-Mart uses them to track inventory, and many companies are looking into using them as a cheap and easy way to store electronic metadata on the items which that data is about.

The school's stated rationale for the new rule is to keep the students safe while at school. The new system was supposed to allow the school's staff to determine when a non-student was in the school (because the intruder wouldn't have a badge), and that

it would allow the school to identify children in case of an emergency.

However, safety wasn't the original reason for the system. It was conceived to simplify attendance taking and potentially reduce vandalism. To take attendance, the badge signals would be processed by readers around each classroom door when a student entered or left a classroom. The principal, Earnie Graham, has stated that he would like to add barcodes to allow the students to use the badges to check out library books, and pay for meals in the cafeteria.

Not surprisingly, many parents and civil libertarians are worried about the privacy implications this policy would have, but Graham doesn't seem to care. The system was imposed with no parental input. Graham stated that children could be disciplined for boycotting the badges, whatever the reasons for doing so.

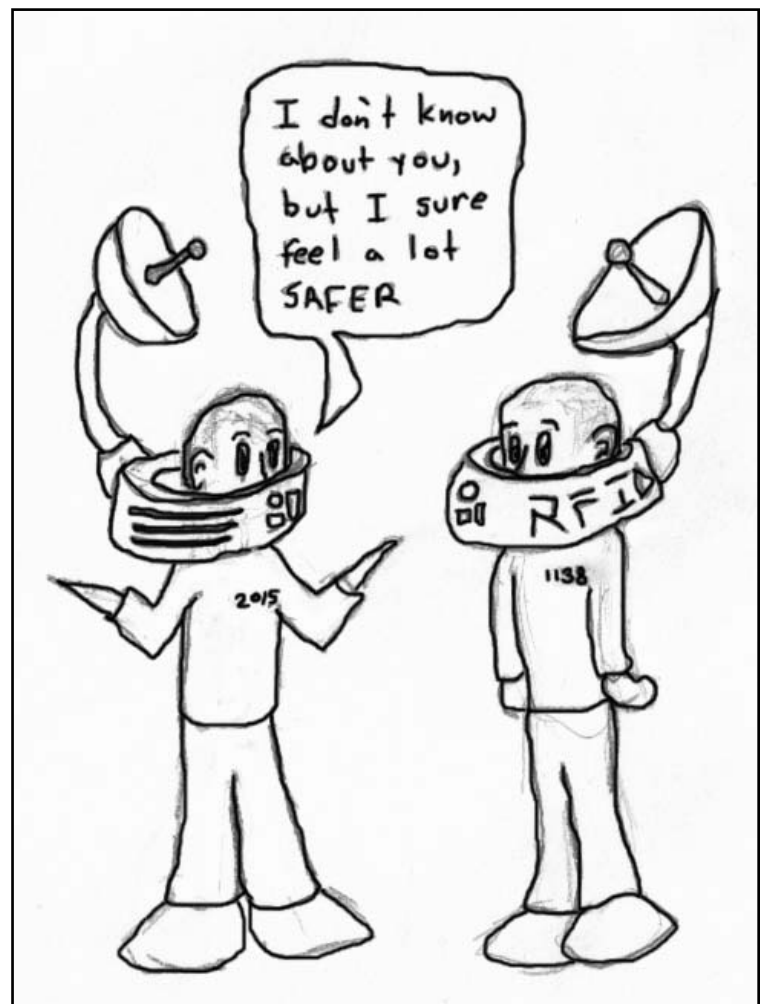
What I find most disturbing about this initiative is that a government institution is implementing a policy which affects minors, who aren't educated or mature enough to understand the basic civil liberties they will be giving up. Public schools are where a child receives the majority of his or her socialization in society. Elementary school is the beginning of a person's contact with peers and with societal norms. Whatever environment exists for a child at school, will have profound affects on the kind of adult he or she will become. The school

bell, for instance, was conceived as a way to make children more accustomed to an environment punctuated with a bell or whistle according to a certain schedule, which happened to be the way in which factories operated at the time.

I must say, then, that I'm troubled more by the implications of where it seems this directive is heading than I am about the loss of civil liberties it will cause right now. I don't want to live in a world where I'm tracked every moment of the day, yet this program seems to be leading us in that direction.

This move seems especially shady precisely because the school didn't contact parents before deciding to go ahead with it, especially since the people that would be affected by the measure are minors. When I was in Jr. High, I had to have my parents sign a permission slip allowing me to use the internet.

What makes this seem even more asinine, though, is the way in which the principal dismisses the concerns of students and parents. Graham maintains that he has the power to set rules promoting a positive school environment, and if he decides that badges will make for a better school, then badges will be used, whether anyone wanted it or not. Not only does he dismiss legitimate concerns, but he suggests that some older students' objections are only the whining of fashion-conscious teens, stating "You know what it comes down to? I believe junior high



Just what it looks like

Jacob P. Silva

students want to be stylish. This is not stylish."

Some parents don't have a problem with the measure because of the extra safety they feel it offers. But I've already made my feelings about the tradeoff of safety for civil liberties known.

As a final note, the school has been forced to drop its program because the company that was to provide the technology pulled out of the agreement. But the implications coming from the plan's existence are too ominous to ignore.

Politics should not play role in study abroad

Jacqueline Deelstra
Daily Trojan
(U. Southern California)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES - Sometimes I look around and wonder what college students are being taught. Are we being taught to be more tolerant and more culturally aware than previous generations, or are we receiving only a narrow view of the world that does not challenge us to do better?

My latest disenchantment with education came from the South Orange County Community College District's decision to cancel its study abroad program in Spain. District trustees explained that their decision to cancel the 14-year-old program was because the country is now dangerous and because Spain's new Socialist government decided to remove its 1,300 troops from Iraq. This move fulfilled the new government's election promise to undo the unpopular decision to send troops to Iraq made by the former conservative government.

According to the Los Angeles Times, trustee Tom Fuentes, who spearheaded the move to end the program, gave this explanation: "Spain has abandoned our fighting men and women, withdrawing their support. I see no reason

to send students of our colleges to Spain at this moment in history."

Fuentes is the former head of the Republican Party in Orange County. So is it simply a coincidence he made a highly political decision to alter educational opportunities available to students in support of Bush administration policies? My guess is probably not.

Professor Carmenmara Hernandez-Bravo, who is in charge of the colleges' study abroad program, said she is baffled by the trustees' decision.

"I'm still in shock," she said. "I cannot believe a community college can put this much politics into academics."

My thoughts exactly.

The district, which includes Irvine Valley College and Saddleback College, and serves nearly 35,000 students, attempted to give some reasons other than politics for ending the program, though the reasons have rather sizeable holes.

Fuentes cited the Madrid train bombings in March 2004 as a reason to be concerned for student safety. The problem with using that situation as an excuse is that the district allowed students to go to Spain last summer, just three months after the bombings. Fuentes said in rebuttal that "the

terrorist situation is all the more prevalent and obvious today."

According to the L.A. Times, trustee Marcia Milchiker, who voted to keep the program, also was a little confused by Fuentes's decision to bring up this concern now.

"Obviously the bombing in Madrid was before last summer's trip," she said. "No one stopped them, and so bringing this up now is strange."

Strange or just inappropriately political?

The other reason given was the large cost of the program, though the Florence, Italy, program chosen by the trustees as an alternative has a higher per-day cost. The Santander, Spain, program was 37 days, costing \$119 per day. The Italy program is 14 days at a cost of \$204 per day.

Study abroad allows students go to countries with different cultures and ideologies, thus getting the chance to test their beliefs and decide what they think

works best. It allows students to deepen their understanding of culture and the world. How are we, as a young people in a globalized society, supposed to understand the world around us if we are only able to travel to countries that supposedly like us?

As a service to the trustees, who, perhaps might be in search of another option, I will put some of USC's overseas offerings through their test of desirable political ideology and see what we are left with.

Of course, the extremely popular USC Madrid Center and Bilbao programs would be out of the question.

With the French and Germans obviously not being political allies of the United States, you could also scratch all programs from those countries for the same reason. If you are considering a program in Poland, I know while Bush did praise it once in his State of the Union address as a great ally, sadly they, too, have pulled their troops out of Iraq.

If you move away from Europe

and over to Asia, China probably would not be a good option -- you would not want your students potentially coming in contact with communists. The Middle East I suppose does not exactly fit in the category of being sympathetic to American activity abroad.

So what about something in our own hemisphere? Brazil probably would not be a good choice. Current leader Luiz Inacio "Lula" da Silva has done everything but praise Bush's policies.

I could go on, but I am sure by now that you get the point. Not every government is going to agree with U.S. policies, and politics are not a good reason to limit the educational and cultural opportunities for students.

In regard to the district's safety concerns, I certainly am not for sending students to study abroad in war zones or extremely unstable countries, but the possibility of a terrorist attack has not caused Americans to flee our own cities, so why should it scare us away from foreign cities?

Of course the students of the South Orange County colleges have the option of going to Spain or any country through an outside study abroad program, but that does not undo the closed-mindedness that has been exposed these trustees.

Have an opinion? Send a letter to the editor.
E-mail opinions@rose-hulman.edu

Rose Sports Rundown

Last week's sports scores		
Baseball (7-5, 4-0 SCAC)		
<u>March 5</u>		
Rose-Hulman	9	
vs. Oglethorpe	6	
<u>March 5</u>		
Rose-Hulman	13	
vs. Oglethorpe	0	
<u>March 6</u>		
Rose-Hulman	12	
vs. Oglethorpe	8	
Softball (2-6, 0-0 SCAC)		
<u>March 3</u>		
Rose-Hulman	0	
vs. Loras College	2	
<u>March 4</u>		
Rose-Hulman	3	
vs. Univ. of Dubuque	4	
<u>March 4</u>		
Rose-Hulman	4	
vs. Augustana College	3	
Men's Tennis (1-4)		
<u>March 4</u>		
Rose-Hulman	2	
vs. Lake Superior	7	
Women's Tennis (4-4)		
<u>March 4</u>		
Rose-Hulman	2	
vs. Lake Superior	7	
Teams in bold denote winners.		

Women's basketball team completes record-setting season

Andrew Twarek
Staff Writer

The Rose-Hulman women's basketball team finished the 2004-05 season with a historic performance. The squad earned a 13-13 record to finish at a team-best .500 and beat five opponents for the first time ever. Two members of the young team were All-Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Team selections and records fell all over the scorebook.

Fightin' Engineer head coach Tony Hill led the team to its best mark ever, marking a two-game improvement over last year's record. Hill has tallied 24 wins in his first two years with the team, making him the winningest coach in the history of the program.

This season, five teams fell to the Engineers for the first time in the team's history. Rose-Hulman defeated long-time foes Anderson, Hanover, and Mt. St. Joseph—who had combined for a 24-0 record against the Engineers—and claimed the Clabber Girl Trophy for the first time in 11 meetings with St. Mary-of-the-Woods College with a convincing 78-65 victory.

In conference play, Rose-Hulman faced Trinity University in the final matchup of the regular season, defeating the No. 5 team in the nation 91-88 in overtime. The Tigers fell for the first time in 11 meetings between the teams.

Hill wasn't content with the team's 6-8 finish in the SCAC, but was very pleased with the conclusion. "We let some conference games get away this season, but the Trinity game was the biggest in school history."

Two sophomores for the Engineers earned spots on the All-SCAC teams for their outstanding performances: Rebekah Forsyth on the

first team and Suzy Carlson on the second team All-SCAC.

Forsyth broke three single-season records with her efforts this year. She tops the leaderboard in rebounds (312), field goals (169), and points (451) in a season. Forsyth recorded double-doubles in 16 games this season, averaging 17.3 points and 12.0 rebounds per game.

Carlson paced the Engineers and the nation in three-point shooting. She hit 63-113 from behind the arc, for an amazing season average 55.8% three-point shooting. This percentage is good for the fourth best the NCAA Division III has ever seen, and makes her the best three-point shooter since 1993. Carlson leads NCAA players of both genders in any division in the statistic and will likely be the national three-point shooting champion.

Carlson said of her effort, "I tried not to watch the statistics during season, but I guess I was aware of it. My 3 point percentage is a credit to the team, because they were the ones creating opportunities for me to get excellent looks at the hoop."

The young Engineer team has only three juniors and a pair of sophomores. The freshman class



Photo Courtesy Andrew Twarek

Sophomore Rebekah Forsyth.

Upcoming athletic events	
Baseball <u>Saturday, March 12</u> Rose-Hulman vs. Concordia - 11 a.m. Manchester - 4 p.m.	
<u>Sunday, March 13</u> Rose-Hulman vs. Concordia - 11 a.m. Hanover - 4 p.m.	
Softball <u>Saturday, March 12</u> Rose-Hulman vs. Manchester 1 p.m.	
<u>Sunday, March 13</u> Rose-Hulman vs. Franklin 1 p.m.	
Tennis <u>Friday, March 11</u> Rose-Hulman vs. Franklin 5:30 p.m. (Wabash Valley Tennis Center)	
<u>Tuesday, March 15</u> Women's Tennis vs. DePauw 4:30 p.m.	
<u>Thursday, March 17</u> Men's Tennis vs. Greenville 5 p.m.	
Games in bold denote home games	

Winter intramural results

Josh Annin
Sports Editor

Before quarter break, the winter intramurals (basketball, volleyball, racquetball, and Sno-ball softball) came to an end.

The basketball intramurals were composed of ten leagues, four of which were independent. The points issued depended on the type of league.

Independent leagues received no points for their teams. The winners of the level C leagues in both Greek and Residence Hall each received 10 points. The winners of the level B Greek and Residence Hall league each received 20 points. Finally, the winners in the level A leagues receive 30 points.

The volleyball intramurals were composed of only seven leagues, with only one being

independent. The scoring followed the same scheme as for basketball.

The racquetball intramurals consisted of an A, B, and C level, each split into single and doubles. A-level teams received 15 points, and B-level teams received 10 points.

Finally, the champion of Sno-ball softball was Dingers, from the Triangle Fraternity. They received 30 points.

2005 Volleyball Intramural Playoff Champions		
League	Champion	Pts.
Residence Hall C	Sammy (Appts)	10
Independent C	Tankstars	0
Residence Hall B div. I	Toolbox (New Res)	20
Residence Hall B div. II	New Res 1	20
Greek B div. I	F.I. Gas (Sigma Nu)	20
Greek B div. II	Alpha Chi Sigma	20
Greek A	Seal Team 6	0
2005 Raquetball Intramural Playoff Champions		
Level	Name(s)	Pts.
A (Singles)	John Paz (Blumberg)	15
A (Doubles)	Pat Roby/Dan Janosik (BSB)	15
B (Singles)	Stephen Kennedy (Triangle)	10
B (Doubles)	Corey Blevins/Steve Kennedy	10
C (Singles)	Ron Zuckerman (Independent)	0

2005 Basketball Intramural Playoff Champions		
League	Champion	Pts.
Independent B div. I	Beisball	0
Independent B div. II	Superior Generals	0
Independent C	Gators	0
Co-ed	The Beavers	0
Greek C	Dingers (Triangle)	10
Greek B	Fiji Sophomores	20
Greek A	Triple Teamers (Fiji)	30
Residence Hall C	BSB 2	10
Residence Hall B div. I	S.W.A.T. (Sharp)	20
Residence Hall B div. II	New Res 2	20

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如果你能够读这，你大概是中国的
Alexander J. Clerc

Good news –Virus magazine has named my body the number one vacation spot in America! I’m the perfect vacation getaway for pathogens from all walks of life.
Because it’s viral tourist season in my bloodstream I haven’t been feeling like my usual vibrant self this week. I don’t have the energy to do anything! This week I missed my outing with the ornithology club, I skipped yoga at the Y, and I even slept through the monthly PETA (that’s People for Eating Tasty Animals) meeting. All I did for the last four days is eat, sleep, and do homework for all my wonderful engineering classes.
And I discovered that when I stopped doing everything else, I had a lot more time to spend on my studies. No more doing everything sloppily and at the last minute; I was actually getting things done early. I thought to myself, “Maybe I should only do homework from now on...”
And then, in another Nyquil-induced hallucination, I was visited by my guardian engineering angel (just like in the movie *It’s a Wonderful Mechanical Pencil*). My G.E.A. said that he had noticed my ultra-studious habits this week and showed what my life would be like if the trend continued. Truly terrifying. As it turns out, you can only write “Find”, “Given”, and “Analysis” so many consecutive times before you begin to lose your soul. Do yourself a favor today – drop that mechanical pencil, close that laptop, call up some friends, and go play outside.

- Top Ten Things Rose Students Did During Break
10. Invented a device to end world hunger, then promptly forgot it all in a wine-cooler-induced blackout

9. Broke into your dorm room when everyone else was away and hid a dead hamster in your underwear drawer

8. Finally told their mom that the haircut she got in 1996 makes her look like a poodle

7. Replaced their arm with a life-sized animatronic Dr. Midgley

6. Discovered that there is something called “culture” that one can get at city-funded institutions

5. Burned their professors in effigy, if by “effigy” you mean “a 1976 AMC Gremlin”

4. Cried when they discovered their childhood bedroom had been turned into a “rumpus room”

3. Slept

2. Were videotaped for two different editions of *LARPers Gone Wild*

1. Defended a defenseless town of farmers from the invading horde of raiders come to steal one of each set of twins

This Day In History	In Addition
In 1818, <i>Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus</i> , by Mary Shelley, is published. For the last time, it’s the scientist, not the monster.	Why do you torment me so? Our forbidden love can burn brighter than the light of a thousand Zippos, if you only let it.

The Absolute Sum of All Evil will return.
There was a minor incident involving the White Chapel and what Cthulhu called “a science experiment.”
The administration called it “several hundred pounds of high explosives and a rather incensed civil servant.”

Wacky Prof Quotes

“Get out your pillows so you can put your heads down without hitting the hard surface of the table.”
--Prof. Eccles, who is boring

“Werner von Siemens be damned; he made enough money anyway.”
--Prof. Eccles, on rich people in hell

“I don’t remember what I do. Hell, I’m lucky to still be awake at my age.”
--Prof. Graves, who is really old

“...wobble, wobble, wobble, twing!”
--Prof. Graves, imitating a Fourier series

“I was lobotomizing the ferret, and my mom walked in.”
--Prof. Minster, who tortures animals

“If I were going to a conference on theoretical computer science, well, I would be wearing basically what I am wearing now except I would have washed them more recently.”
--Prof. Mutchler, who wears dirty clothes

“Number 3 has too many words. We will skip it.”
--Prof. Martensen, being wordy

“Nothing’s better than a six pack of beer and some AutoCAD on a Friday night.”
--Prof. Sutterer, who has no life

“Aldehydes - if you look at them, they will oxidize. If you don't look at them, they still oxidize.”
--Prof. Lewis, covering all the bases

“Why would you want to leave Scheme? It’s like leaving paradise!”
--Prof.Wollowski, on his recursive Eden

“Does this add up to 100? Thank God.”
--Prof. Lewis, having trouble with addition

“We need to be smart engineers.”
--Prof. Artigue, on not breathing sulfuric acid vapors

“No, but I have stock in the company, so I think you should have it.”
--Prof. Herniter, telling us to buy MathCAD

“According to my records, I’m Sherman. If you have anything to the contrary, let me know.”
--Prof. Sherman, having an identity crisis

“The hardest part about this class will be staying awake, because I am very dull.”
--Prof. Sanders, who is very dull

“That’s progress, and we don’t allow progress.”
--Prof. McKinney, on civil engineering

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

Herbig’s Pun of the Week

Doctors should bone up on their anatomy.
It could decide whether someone liver dies.