

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

## Rose-Hulman Scholar

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The Rose Thorn Archive

Student Newspaper

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Fall 8-29-2003

### Volume 39 - Issue 00 - Friday, August 29, 2003

Rose Thorn Staff

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# Welcome to Rose-Hulman!

To the Class of 2007: Welcome to Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. Rose-Hulman's only reason for existing is its students. Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology is an outstanding educational institution. I believe it is the most exciting place to be in undergraduate engineering and science education. In 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 *U.S. News & World Report* listed us as the Number 1 engineering school, among those that give the baccalaureate and master degrees, but do not give a Ph.D. degree. Also, in 2000, 2001 and 2002 *U.S. News & World Report* reported rankings of departments. Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering were all ranked #1. We weren't ranked #1 in Agricultural Engineering, but of course, we don't have Agricultural Engineering. Rose-Hulman, known as Rose Poly for the first 100 years of its life, has always been on the frontier of engineering and science education. In the 1880's the first degree ever given in Chemical Engineering was given right here in Terre Haute at Rose Poly. We have excellent minors in European Studies, East Asian Studies and Latin American Studies. We live in a very competitive world. We believe it is essential that our students have some understanding and appreciation for non-Western culture. The Institute offers International Exchange Programs with: University of

Stuttgart, Germany; University of Magdeburg, Germany and Kanazawa Institute of Technology, Japan. A revolution in the teaching of mathematics is occurring and Rose-Hulman is leading the revolution through the use of computer algebra programs and the use of computer workstations in the teaching of calculus and differential equations. We were the first in the country to have the entire freshman and sophomore sequence taught with the aid of Computer Algebra Systems. We were the first college or university in the world to require all incoming students to have laptop computers. I would like to say a few words about our faculty. Our faculty has been selected on the basis of their ability for and commitment to teaching. Every faculty member has been selected on the basis of four criteria:

1. Dedication to undergraduate education;
2. Ability to communicate in and out of the classroom with students;
3. Enthusiasm for teaching;
4. Technical competence.

The faculty of Rose-Hulman love to teach. A number of the faculty is nationally and internationally known scholars, but their primary love is classroom teaching. At many educational

institutions the freshman are taught by graduate students. You will never have a graduate student as a classroom instructor while you are here at Rose-Hulman. We use the very best classroom faculty in freshman and sophomore classes. Here are some facts about our faculty: We have 1 faculty member for every 11 students; A few statistics about our faculty:

- 99% have Ph.D's
- 42% drive compacts
- 19% don't wear neckties
- 27% are overweight
- 31% are losing their hair
- 98% bathe regularly

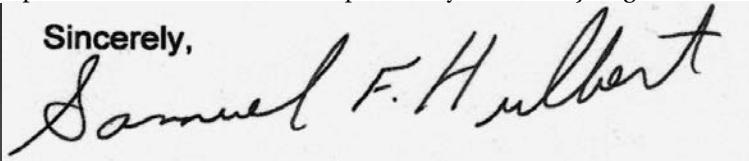
Their one common denominator is that they all love to teach. At this time I would like to review with you our educational philosophy. Our goal is to provide an education that balances science and engineering with communication skills and humanistic studies. Rose-Hulman is a world leader in the use of project-based learning. Our goal is to provide every student the opportunity of working on

a significant real problem. "I hear...I forget; I see...I remember; I do...I understand" - Confucius So that you will have an awareness of the world around you and the impact of technology of society, we require a significant introduction to the humanities and social sciences. We stress oral, written and graphical communication skills. We attempt to provide extra-curricular - co-curricular activities for all student interests with maximum opportunities to participate. Some of our best teachers are coaches, music directors, club advisors. We will try to give you an appreciation of the visual and performing arts. We have one of the country's finest watercolor collections. We will bring to the campus during the year a wide variety of performing arts programs. We believe in giving the students a great deal of freedom and we have very few rules. The main rule is to always be a good campus citizen and don't infringe upon the rights of any other person. Obey the law of the land, including alcohol and marijuana. Although we have few rules, we expect those we have to be obeyed. We insist upon good citizenship! The Institute values its reputation for moral leadership

as much as its reputation for academic excellence and expects all persons associated with it to maintain the reputation. The Institute's Code of Ethics is simple and direct: Rose-Hulman expects its students to be responsible adults and to behave at all times with honor and integrity. We believe in trying to influence your values. We emphasize the values that have made this country the greatest in the history of civilization -- Belief in God, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, hard work, honesty, loyalty, patriotism, the free enterprise system and respect for diversity. You are going to receive an excellent technical education. We are even more concerned about your moral, ethical, social and cultural development than we are about your technical education. We believe that whatever man can dream, the engineer and scientist will eventually be able to accomplish. What the world needs is people who can dream bigger and better dreams. We want to nourish your creativity. Rose-Hulman is a warm and fuzzy place, a caring nurturing place. Rose-Hulman is a community of citizens with shared values. You have come to a very special place to go to school, that with your arrival just got better.

“Rose-Hulman’s only reason for existing is its students”  
--President Samuel Hulbert



Sincerely,  
  
Samuel F. Hulbert  
President

## Rose-Hulman looks to the stars

A new area minor in Astronomy is now being offered by the Physics and Optical Engineering Department. Faculty who will be serving as advisors for this minor are Richard Ditteon, Galen Duree, Elaine Kirkpatrick and Maarij Syed. Questions regarding the new minor may be directed to any of these professors. The Astronomy minor is open to all Rose-Hulman students in any major. Courses in the minor include PH230 Introduction to Astronomy and Astrophysics, PH240 Planetary Science and Cosmology, PH310 Introduction to Relativity and PH322 Celestial Mechanics. In addition, four hours of independent study in astronomy

are required. These credits may be taken by enrolling in PH270/470 Special Topics in Physics, PH290/490 Directed Research or PH460 Directed Study with the approval of one of the Astronomy Advisors. Introduction to Astronomy and Astrophysics is offered every Fall, but enrollment is limited to 24 students due to laboratory space. Planetary Science and Cosmology is a new course that will be offered for the first time in the Spring. In the future, Celestial Mechanics and Planetary Science will alternate years. The independent study courses may be taken at any time, but usually only for one credit per quarter. The courses may be taken in any order.

The Oakley Observatory will be hosting an open house on Friday, September 5 beginning at 8 p.m. The observatory is located on the east side of campus off Hunt road. The observatory houses eight permanently mounted telescopes with computer control and CCD cameras. Several telescopes have filters for viewing the sun. Most of the telescopes can be operated remotely. Currently, Rose-Hulman students are conducting research on asteroids. They are measuring the brightness of asteroids as a function of time to determine the asteroid's rotation rate. Rose students are responsible for discovering 33 asteroids.



Opinions	News	Entertainment	Flipside	Weather
This one's just for you, Freshmen.	"Major" information.	Music just for you.	Over-hyped and poorly written humor for our benefit.	Friday T-storms Hi 83/Low 63 Saturday T-Storms Hi 76/Low 55 <small>Provided by www.weather.com</small>
Page 3	Pages 4 & 5	Page 6	Page 8	



# Campus Calendar

			27	28	29	30
					Mission #1: Fiesta Friday  Dinner in MDR 6-7 pm  The Ultra Violets Speed B-Ball courts 8pm - 12am	Mission #2: Unleash Your Inner Monster!  Hatfield Hall Auditorium 8:00 pm
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mission #3: Outdoor Adventure 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  Mission #4: Nite at the Races SRC 8:00 pm	Laptop Distribution Hatfield Hall 8-11:30 am Mission #5: History and Traditions Hatfield Hall 7:15 - 9:00 pm	Mission #6: The Faces of Rose Hatfield Hall 9:00 am Mission #7: Beach Party Deming Lawn 8-11:30 pm	Mission #8: Ethics Session 9:45 am - 12:15 pm Hatfield Hall Mission #9: Activities Fair Union Upper Level 7 pm - 9 pm	First Day of Classes	SAB Presents: Comedian Pete Dominic Main Dining Room 8:00 pm	SAB Presents: Mentalist Christopher Carter Main Dining Room 8:00 pm
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Outdoor Movie: Mr. Deeds Speed Lawn 8:00pm		Thorn Reporting Seminar  Olin 157 6:00pm	Thorn Editing Seminar  Olin 157 6:00pm	Thorn Page Design Seminar  Olin 157 6:00pm		

## A message from SGA

Derek Trobaugh  
SGA Publicity Director

The SGA Senate would like to welcome the Freshman class of 2007. You have chosen an excellent school to pursue your education. Rose-Hulman's Student Government Association is a powerful voice on campus. Not only does SGA sponsor over 25 clubs and campus organization, but we also act as a liaison between students and administration. All clubs are open and welcoming new students for the upcoming school year. If you want to know if a club is on campus or are interested in forming a club contact Stefani Vandelune the Club Relations Director at stefani.vandelune@rose-hulman.edu or check the SGA website at www.rose-hulman/SGA/.

This year SGA will have a different look. At the last meeting of the 2002-2003 school year, a new bylaw was passed that reduced the number of students on Senate. For each district, ever 42 members of said district will elect one senator. All members of social fraternities will only count towards their organization numbers. Therefore, if you are a commuter

or an upperclassman living on campus and you are a member of a social fraternity, you are only eligible to run for a senate position representing your social fraternity. A future hand-out will explain the full details of this new senate format.

Here's a list of upcoming SGA events:

**September 2** - SGA Info session. 4:00-4:30 for students A through Kraut and 4:45-5:15 for students Kropf through Z. Find out about clubs and organizations at Rose.

**September 3** - Activities Fair - Stop by the SGA booth and receive a free gift and learn about what Rose-Hulman's SGA has to offer. Also, you can pick up petitions for class president and for being a senator for your residence hall. After the Activities Fair, we will have an information session for you to ask questions about being a senator or being the Freshman Class President.

**September 10** - Information session for upperclassmen. This session will discuss the new format for senate.

**September 12** - Petitions due for Senate positions and Freshman

Class President.

**September 13** - Tailgating at Rose football game. Come out and receive some free food and support the football team.

**September 16** - Elections for Freshman Class President and SGA senators. Elections will be done online or be in the commons. Information will be posted later about where to vote.

**October 10** - Sign-ups due for 5v5 tournament.

**October 23** - Tailgating at volleyball game versus St. Mary's.

**October 24-25** - 5v5 Soccer Tournament. Sign-up sheets will be posted later.

If you have any questions feel free to contact any member of the executive committee. They are Natalie Morand - President, Cheryl Fang - Vice-President, Jake Klug - Treasurer, Nichole Parke - Executive Director, Derek Trobaugh - Publicity Director, Stefani Vandelune - Club Relations Director, and Ron Zuckerman - Secretary.

Welcome again and I hope you enjoy the school year.



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\*Offer not good on weekends

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**Under Construction**  
The Rose Thorn is underconstruction. If you notice any problems with our print, pictures, or any number of things that involve printing please e-mail us.

**The Rose Thorn Freshman Orientation Staff**  
Editors-in-Chief: Bob Schulein and Luke Stark  
News Editor: Nicole Hartkemeyer  
Editor Emeratus: Rachel Lukens

**Thank you:**  
Dr. Richard Ditteon for the Astronomy story.  
Drew Wright for permission to reuse his work.  
Bryan Taylor for his help in reforming our paper.  
And anyone else I may have overlooked.

The Rose Thorn is always looking for new members to help in any aspect. We need help in obtaining information, photographs, and advertisements. If you wish to join, us please attend one of our seminars after school starts, or a meeting. We understand the obligations of homework,

and only ask for what you can give. If you take on a responsibility with The Rose Thorn, we simply ask that you let us know that you can not fulfill it with enough time to meet our deadline.

Contact:  
thorn@rose-hulman.edu

## The Rose Thorn



# Freshmen, this newspaper is all yours



I tell you what to think!!!

Brandon Hathaway

Opinions Editor

All right freshmen, this newspaper is all yours. The entire issue is dedicated to your gigantic incoming class, so enjoy it. Next week it's back to the regular grind of standard issues, and every one has to share those.

You've probably already heard a lot about this place that you've decided to make your home away from home for the next four years. The reputation of Rose-Hulman has certainly made its way into the forefront of the news, especially to prospective students. You may have heard that Terre Haute is boring and smells bad; both of which are true. There are also some stereotypes that you'll run into about personalities and aspects of the town. Some of those can be assuaged, and some of them none of us can escape.

For example, we are all pretty

much doomed to be socially inept. The popular ones of us are those who manage to look people in the eyes while talking to them. And I am not one of those.

Some of the drawbacks of the town can be minimized by not traveling into it very often. For example, exposure to the smell that emanates from the west side of town. There's not much that can be done about that. Escaping the lack of activity in the area, though, can be combated. Although it does not look like it on the surface, a lot of stuff goes on around campus besides schoolwork.

Every now and again live music can be found due to the efforts of various campus organizations, most of which is surprisingly good. I encourage you to go, since the turn out is traditionally like that of a Klan rally in Harlem.

The clubs around are also easy to join and cover pretty much any interest you may have. If not, you can create your own, which is very easy to accomplish.

I also understand the Greek life is pretty big. I myself did not pledge, but everyone should rush. You get to meet upperclassmen and get free meals. One of the most critical rules of college



is never ever turn down free stuff, especially food.

You can also write for the newspaper. I hear that's not a bad deal either.

Many of you will just sit in your room and become engrossed in the computer life that people tend to be so friendly towards. "Counterstrike" and "WarCraft 3" will capture a sizable portion of you from the "social" scene. "EverQuest" too.

You will find out about the "Rose Goddess" on your own. No newspaper writer should spoil

that, certainly not in the freshmen issue.

You have probably noticed that I have not mentioned much about classes. So here goes. The transition to Rose-Hulman classes from high school classes is very smooth. The structure will make it very easy; there are no exotic time schedules and nothing in the evening. Computer Science classes tend to be a little wild, but then again, it suits them nicely. Engineering courses, especially mechanical, are very predictable, and others

only get crazy when they have labs and computer classes.

The class difficulty will depend entirely on what you are prepared for and willing to give. Everyone should be able to succeed. Do not interpret that to mean that this place is not hard. It is very hard. Sophomore year you may even want to cry, but do not be ashamed. Everyone does. This place works very hard to have resources available if you have trouble. But I am sure you have heard all about this from recruiting material. I think I knew more about the Learning Center before arrival than I know now, and I work for them. They have very good marketing people there.

You'll learn a lot of stuff from your SAs, like which professors to take or where the mall is. Some things you will be able to figure out from intuition, like why first hour classes are so easy to get into and why so many guys are lonely; and some you will have to discover by experimentation, like which nights to go to the Worx and how close you can safely get to a Hautian.

That's all I've got for you in your very own freshman issue. Enjoy your first year. You'll miss it next year.

## Rule #6: Everyone wants to hunt

I think I'll start this with a quick letter of introduction to the freshmen. Welcome to Rose. I hope you all came here for the educational aspect of college and not the social one. But either way, you're starting a long, hard road through tough times. Way to make your life hellacious for the next four years.

As for me, I am going to be a senior this year, which gives me a joy you will hopefully be able to empathize with one day. I originally started writing for the Thorn in the opinions section and was later asked to do this column, which I was more than happy to do. I don't claim to be an expert in dating but since I've been at Rose, I've dated a wide variety of girls. I have dated girls who are down with the freaky shit. On a side note, I personally believe everyone should try playing with handcuffs at least once in their lives.

I have even had the pleasure of dating the really preppy girl who needs constant attention. I'm not saying I know everything about women. Come on, I'm a guy, that would be breaking a standard rule of nature. However, I can sometimes figure out their "logic" and I believe that I can pick the good ones from the bad ones. And as always, I encourage feedback. If you disagree with something I say, write me an email. My name is at the top of the column and as long as you limit the vulgarity, I'll try to get it printed. And now we'll start the usual way with a simple rule of dating.

Rule number 6: Everyone wants to hunt. It's more fun to chase after someone than to actually get them. This isn't how I feel. I personally like the security of having a girl who loves me, especially if she's a cutie. However, I do know the thrill of the chase. In fact, there are a good many people who thrive on this and can't get enough of it. That's why it's important to watch who you give your heart to. People can be downright cruel for their own amusement.



Ask Dr. Love

Kevin Spontak  
Staff Writer

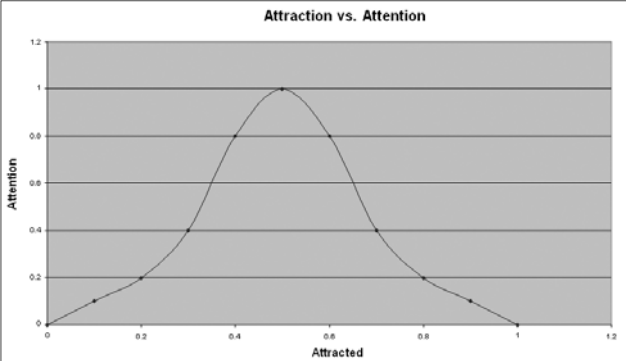
Going along with the rule of the week, let's begin. "Girls always want the guy they have to fight for. And when they get him 100%, they no longer want him. Men, keep your women fighting." Said so true I don't even need to add anything.

"I mean it's human nature. We're hunters, we like to hunt. We go out, hunt. Kill. Eat. Have our little powwow around the camp fire. Then we go out the next day and hunt some more. It's not like you sit around saying, 'Wow, I'm full for the next few months.'" For those of you who haven't figured it out, anything in quotes I'm directly quoting from a source I am leaving nameless. I love writing these articles; I don't have to do much. I do agree though. Many a time in relationships, I have been tempted to begin another "hunt." I have never gone, but I have been tempted. It's just the way things go.

"You need to tell them that the way to do it is get them hunting. If you're giving too much attention and they seem to be lessening, you need to back off. You know what I'm saying: You need to reciprocate their interest. If you had a graph:

"You want to keep them right at that peak. Not too attentive but enough so to keep them attracted." I love my friends. See, I would never have thought to put a graph in here. That's just so cool.

I have to admit though, I don't agree with my friend here. I say, if a girl is only interested in you because she had to work to keep you, then she was never really interested in you. Neither one of you have any business in a serious relationship. I personally hate relationship games and being less attentive to a girl because you want to keep her interested is just that. I personally say, if that's what she wants, she needs to be put to the curb. That is unless she's really, really cute and likes to get naked all the time. In that case you hold on for dear life as long as humanly possible and thank God for the opportunity.



## Some advice from your friendly Rose Thorn staff

Freshmen, welcome to the Rose Thorn. This issue is dedicated to you, the class of 2007.

We have worked hard on this paper all summer in order to give you the best freshmen issue possible. This issue marks the first appearance of our new look. We have reworked everything in this paper from the logo on top of page 1 to the font of the text you are reading right now.

We would like to see this look grow and change with you over the next four years. We encourage feedback, both positive and negative. Since this look is new, we will need to tweak it over the upcoming weeks. Send us your thoughts at [thorn@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn@rose-hulman.edu).

Every Friday, you will see people walking around with the paper. Though it may not seem like it at first, there is plenty more to the paper than the Flipside.

Our paper is here for you to express any feelings and opinions you may have. The Rose Thorn is the voice of the student body of RHIT. As such, we encourage you to use the paper to your advantage. There is more to Rose than engineering, and the Rose Thorn is a great way to explore your creativity.

Whether you would like to be a regular writer, or photographer, or if you have an idea for a features page, come to a Thorn meeting (Wednesdays after 10th hour in Olin 157) and try your idea.

The Rose Thorn is more than just a newspaper. It's a family of dedicated, hardworking students who give a lot and get a lot from their work. Working for the Rose Thorn is a great way to meet

people, make connections, and fill in gaps in your resume.

Our staff encourages all of you to get involved on campus even if it's not with the Rose Thorn. We would like you to keep in mind that your four years of college ahead of you will be short. We hope that each of you makes the most of it. Remember that many years from now, you are not going to think back on college and remember how much homework you did or how much time you spent on that lab report. You are going to remember the exciting, adventurous times you had and the great friends you made. So make it a point to have plenty of fun with your work.

Consider yourselves lucky you are attending a school with extremely specified areas of study. You will most likely have a great deal in common with a lot of students even if you have different backgrounds. The more outgoing you are the greater the chances will be for making lifelong friends and gain personal connections for a future job or friend.

Congratulations to all of you for enrolling in an extremely challenging school. Everyone has what it takes to make it, but it requires a great deal of hard work and dedication. We want you to not only learn new things in the classroom, but have great and memorable experiences. Your continued readership and interaction will be greatly appreciated by our staff. We look forward to growing along with you during the next four years.

Many years from now, you will not remember how much homework you did or how much time you spent on that lab report.

# Introducing your “major” choices

Going to college is definitely a time of choices. Before you even get here you have to make many choices, whether to go to college or not, where to apply, what college to finally choose, etc. Well once you get to college, the choices continue, you have to decide who your friends will be, what clubs to join, and probably most importantly what major you want to spend the next four years working in. Some students know when they get here, some don't. More end up changing majors before finding the one that is right for them. But everyone has to choose and the easiest way to make that decision is to be informed. Knowing what exactly each major entails, and comparing it with your own interests, goals, and plans will help you to avoid a mid-college major change. Unfortunately for us, going

to Rose requires students to declare a major by their sophomore year. Because of the fast-pace and high amount of requirements for each major, choosing a major late or changing majors can lead to a few extra quarters or years of school to complete. Freshman year is the time to look into all your options, even if your one of those students that has picked a major already. Engineering and science are difficult fields, most of what you will learn you will have had no prior experience with in high school. Make sure your not one of those students that doesn't know what your getting yourself into until it's too late. Be prepared by getting as much information on each of the majors as possible. Faculty members in the different departments will be happy to answer any questions or concerns you

may have about a particular department. In addition, your academic advisor is there to guide you through the process of choosing a major. Each department at Rose-Hulman has its own webpage and can be accessed through the main Rose-Hulman page. These webpages are an excellent source of information; you can see exactly what the

class requirements are, see who belongs to the faculty and staff, location of the department, and much more. The current job market may play a role in your decision as well. The Career Services Department can provide you information on the job market for the various majors at Rose, looking at past graduate job statistics, average salary, common employers, and job locations. The next section of this issue gives you a head start on your major research and takes a quick look at the differences between the majors Rose offers. The information includes the department size, what you may end up actually doing in the job market, and typical employers.

## Department of Chemical Engineering

The undergraduate program in chemical engineering undertakes to prepare individuals for careers in the chemical process industries. These include a variety of manufacturing industries, such as the pharmaceutical, petroleum, plastics, food, as well as environmental related waste management. Opportunities in the process industries are found in a variety of activities, including design, development, management, production, research, technical marketing, technical service, or engineering. Eight full-time faculty teach in the department. Five to ten percent of students spend one year in industry as coop. Students are required to take 24 credits of electives in addition to the humanities and social sciences. The chemical engineering profession is rapidly changing and knowledge of specialty areas has become essential in the real world. Technical elective courses are intended to provide an opportunity to introduce students to a specialty area in science and engineering and help them to expand their knowledge and expertise in new areas of chemical engineering. Although a minimum of eight

credit hours are required in an area of concentration, students are encouraged to take all the 24 credit hours of electives in an area of concentration, such as, Engineering Analysis (for students who would like to pursue a graduate degree), Chemistry and Life Sciences, Biotechnology, Material Science, Mathematical Modeling and Simulation, Computer Applications, Semiconductor Materials and Devices, and Environmental Management. In many cases students can use their electives to take a package of courses toward an area minor such as, biochemical engineering, applied biology, biomedical engineering, chemistry, environmental engineering or toward a certificate in semiconductor materials and devices. Undergraduate students have the opportunity to work on a research project under the guidance of one of the departmental faculty members. Students who are interested in learning about research should talk to members of the faculty to define a project of mutual interest and then enroll in CH499, Directed Research. Credit hours of CH499 can count toward a technical elective.

## Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering

The Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new freshman students. The department offers two undergraduate degrees, one in computer science and one in software engineering along with a minor in computer science. There are eleven dedicated faculty in the department who enjoy interacting with students. Over two hundred students are majoring in the department, with a wide range of interests in computing. Graduates pursue varied careers with large corporations (Microsoft, IBM, Texas Instruments, Eli Lilly & Co., etc.), consulting firms (Crowe Chizek, Anderson

Consulting, etc.), small start up companies, and graduate school for further education. This year the department occupies newly renovated space on the second floor of Moench Hall in the F section. There are two large labs with a variety of computer workstations for our students to use. A student chapter of the ACM sponsors our programming teams and hosts seminars throughout the year. The first chapter of UPE (the computer science honorary society) in the state of Indiana is located in our department. Feel free to ask any faculty member in the department for more information about our programs. We wish all the best of luck in your studies at Rose.

## Department of Civil Engineering

The civil engineering department is the smallest engineering department on campus. Roughly 30 civil engineering students graduate each year along with a couple of masters' students (in environmental engineering). The small department size is an asset, allowing its students to establish close relationships. They are often found working together on campus during the daytime hours in the CE Learning Center (Olin 222). Civil engineering appeals to students for a number of reasons. Some students are interested in working on large "signature" projects that will last for decades if not for centuries like the Golden Gate Bridge, the Sears Tower, or the Alaska Pipeline. Others are interested in outdoor work in building construction or environmental monitoring. Still others are interested in serving mankind

with safe, reliable water supplies or energy efficient transportation systems. To augment their major, civil engineering students may minor in any of the programs available on campus, but economics, environmental engineering, and the consulting engineering certificate program are particularly popular. Careers in civil engineering are diverse in location, type of work (planning, design, or construction), and employer (public or private sector jobs). Two of our recent graduates went to work for Hensel-Phelps and are involved in the construction of the Clinton Library in Little Rock, Arkansas and the new American Embassy in South Africa. Four recent graduates are working for Los Angeles County on various problems in southern California including water supply, transportation gridlock, and nonpoint source pollution.

Other graduates have gone to work for the Peace Corps and the Appalachia Project to serve those with great needs. Other recent employers include Frito Lay (plant engineering), Cives Steel (fabricators), Sandia National Labs (engineering research), Koch Pavement Solutions (highway pavement research and design), and various consulting firms all over the Midwest. Still other graduates have gone on to obtain advanced degrees at Vanderbilt, Georgia Tech, and UC Berkley. Civil engineering is not only people-centered, it is also relatively recession proof. When the country is in a recession, like it has been for the last few years, what does the federal government do? It invests in infrastructure. The infrastructure construction provides jobs immediately (especially to civil engineers), and it serves as a long-term investment in people and companies.

## Electrical and Computer Engineering Department

The Electrical and Computer Engineering Department covers the wide spectrum of engineering everything from computer chips to power lines. The lab-based curriculum gives students a solid combination of practical engineering branching from theory. Students with a degree in Electrical Engineering or Computer Engineering find employment in a wide range of fields including power distribution, communication systems, electromagnetic

compatibility, acoustic design, signal processing, production test design, control systems, instrumentation, Micro Electrical Mechanical Systems, embedded system design, and many continue their education at the graduate level. They can do anything from design a cell phone to a 27,500 horsepower motor the size of a house. Significant employers include Intel, Northrop Grumman, General Electric, Honeywell, General Motors, Boeing, Xetron, Cinergy, the CIA, and the military.

The ECE Department requires students to join a professional organization and participate actively for approximately three years. Students in the past have joined SWE (Society of Women Engineers) and a student chapter of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc). IEEE requires students to participate in nine professional development activities they sponsor on campus. The ECE Department also supports a student chapter of Eta Kappa Nu, an honor fraternity of electrical engineers.

## Mechanical Engineering Department

The mechanical engineering curriculum is designed to prepare students for productive careers in industry, government, education and private consulting as well as for graduate study. Thus, it is based on the fundamental principles of science and engineering. These provide a strong foundation that enables students to apply what they have learned to the complex technological problems of today and to teach themselves the new technologies of tomorrow. Since mechanical engineering is a broad field of endeavor, the curriculum offers a strong technical elective program to allow each student to craft a broad educational experience and to develop the flexibility to pursue diverse career goals. No less than any professional, the mechanical engineering graduate must work within the social and environmental context of our world. To be

effective and successful, he or she must be aware of the roles of engineering and science in solving complex technological and social problems as well as of the impacts of social and environmental factors on engineering activities such as design. To foster this awareness, the curriculum allows the student an unusually wide choice of social science and humanities electives and emphasizes the links between society and engineering through courses such as Engineering Systems Design. The final two years of the program stress the design and analysis of systems, machines and their components, and the transfer and transformation of energy. The required courses provide the basic mathematical and scientific fundamentals underlying the practice of mechanical engineering, while 12 to 20 units of technical elective courses allow flexibility

in adapting the program to the interests and abilities of the individual student. The student is not encouraged to specialize in a particular area but rather to seek a broad background in basic engineering principles. For the student who wishes to pursue a career in the field of aerospace engineering, however, extensive sequences of courses are available as elective offerings. The strength of any department is its faculty. The mechanical engineering faculty is committed to providing a dynamic and innovative learning environment and to maintaining and increasing their technical competence in a rapidly changing world. Stereotypes notwithstanding, they understand that people are more important than things. Thus, they encourage each student to seek them out when he or she has academic problems or needs guidance in career planning.





## Department of Physics and Optical Engineering

The physics curriculum is designed to develop a strong foundation in classical and modern physics which will serve as a basis for future specialization, for additional study at the graduate level, and for design and development work in industrial laboratories. Those seeking employment upon completion of the B.S. degree are encouraged to take advantage of the area minor programs in optical engineering, solid state physics/materials science, electronics or the double major programs.

Very often, the physics majors will have electrical engineering, computer science or mathematics

as their second major. The curriculum emphasizes basic physics concepts, and includes extensive work in mathematics and related areas. Humanities and social science courses help provide a balanced education. The background provided is valuable for those students who plan further training in law, medicine, or business. Laboratory facilities are available for work in optical engineering, acoustics, X-ray diffraction, nuclear physics, solid-state physics and low temperature physics.

Fiber optics, lasers, optical computing, holography, integrated optics, and robotic vision are only a few of the newly

developing technologies which require persons educated in optical engineering. Examples of industries which make use of optics are: audio/video discs, telecommunications, automated industrial inspection, and automated manufacturing processes.

The Department of Physics and Optical Engineering offers B.S. (Physics), B.S. (Optical Engineering), and M.S. (Optical Engineering) degrees. The department also offers, at the undergraduate level, an Area Minor in Optical Engineering and Physics for students majoring in any of the major programs at Rose-Hulman.

## Department of Chemistry

The Department of Chemistry strives to offer a strong foundation in the principles and techniques of chemistry that is necessary for majors in chemistry, chemical engineering, applied biology, and biomedical engineering. These techniques are also applicable to all Rose students. Recent changes to the curriculum attempt to make more advanced areas such as biochemistry and molecular biology as well as

environmental chemistry more accessible to anyone interested in a second major or a minor or just some additional coursework in chemistry.

The department consists of three staff members and eleven faculty, most of whom are engaged in a number of different research interests that benefit chemistry majors who graduate and enter such areas as graduate schools, testing laboratories, chemical and instrument sales, or the pharmaceutical industry.

## Department of Mathematics

The mathematics department consists of nineteen teacher-scholars who are dedicated to excellence in undergraduate teaching and curriculum development for students of mathematics, science, and engineering. Beyond our basic teaching program we pursue an active program of undergraduate mathematics research and mathematics project work which prepares students for careers in industry, business, government, and further study in graduate school.

The faculty are engaged in a variety of scholarship, research, and professional service activities that range from traditional research-scholarship and support for undergraduate mathematics

research program to participation in national mathematics organizations, as well as public outreach in high school mathematics competitions.

We are particularly proud of our innovations in the use of computers in the teaching of undergraduate mathematics, our Fast Track Calculus Program, our contributions to undergraduate mathematics research through our Undergraduate Math Conference, NSF-REU, Technical Report Series, and the Undergraduate Mathematics Journal. However, we are most proud of the continuing success of our students in mathematics competitions, student research, conference presentations, and as alumni.

## Humanities and Social Sciences Department

With 19 full-time faculty and over 150 courses listed in the Undergraduate Bulletin, the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences is one of the largest academic departments on the campus at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. In addition to courses specific to their degrees, Rose students must take nearly 20% of their studies in the humanities and social sciences, reflecting the Institute's commitment to a liberal education in engineering and the sciences.

The department offers an

economics degree, a certificate of proficiency in technical translation in German, a management studies certificate, and area minors in 16 different areas. The humanities and social sciences (HSS) component of the engineering curriculum constitutes a significant portion of the total educational program.

Rose-Hulman takes pride in being an institution which provides a liberal education in the sciences and engineering. While its primary aim is certainly to ensure that its graduates are technically

prepared for their careers, it also recognizes that professionals must be problem solvers within the context of a larger societal whole and that their adult lives are not completely circumscribed by their professional roles.

Future professionals, as do all students, need a broad background of knowledge and the capacity for independent thought as part of their course of study. With this recognition, the Rose-Hulman educational philosophy fits squarely within the Western educational tradition.



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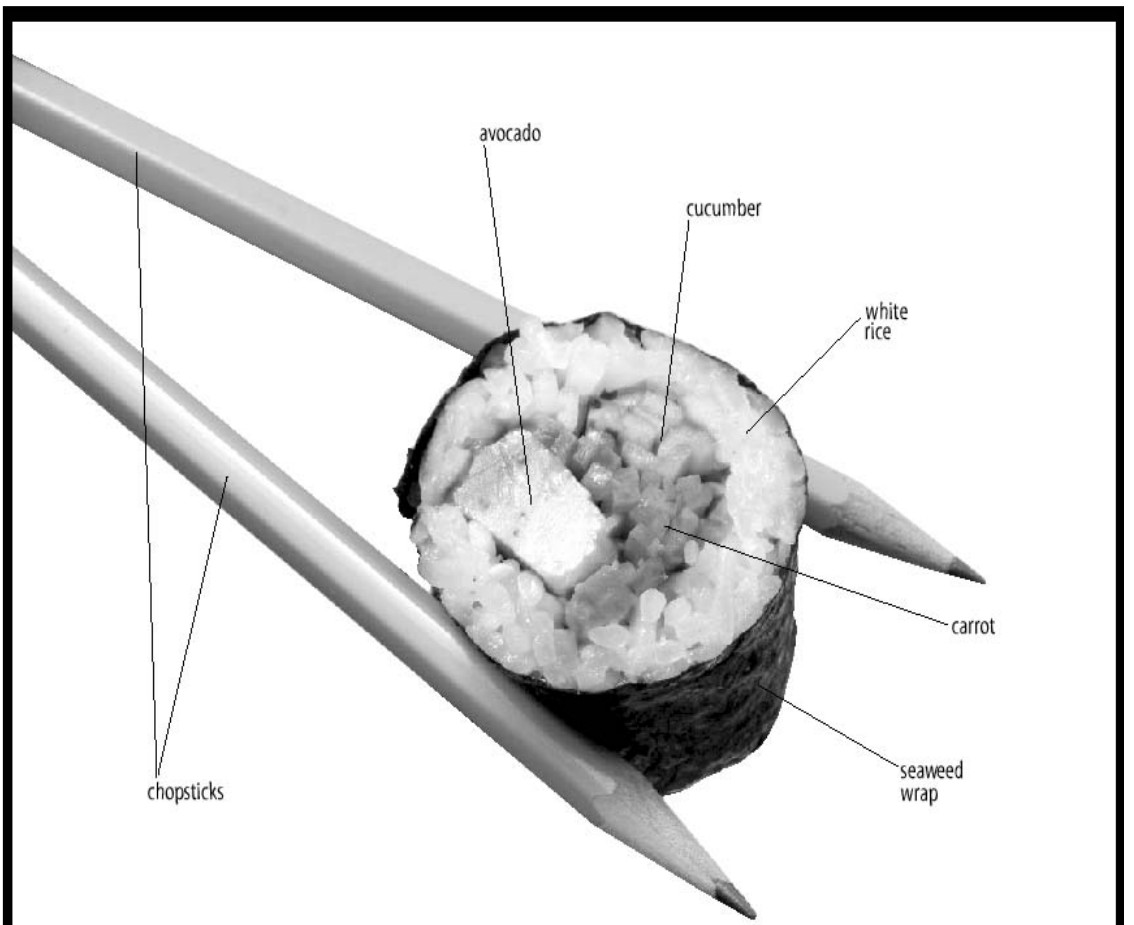
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# Freshman Guide to Music in Terre Haute

Drew Wright  
Entertainment Editor Emeritus

Alright freshmen, now that you are all moved in and ready to start your college career and tackle all that is Rose-Hulman, I know the first question on your mind (it was for me anyway) is where can I listen to some music around here? Well, that question is about to be answered in the form of an extensive (yeah right) music guide for you, the Rose-Hulman freshman.

For starters, it might be worth mentioning some, emphasis on some, of the bands around the area that it would be worth your precious time to check out. Since I am partial to the harder stuff, I think I will start there. First up is Terre Haute band, deadofwinter ([www.deadofwinter.org](http://www.deadofwinter.org)). They play an intensely driven brand of hard rock combining elements of metal, hardcore, indie rock,

and emo that sometimes get lumped into the "emotional metalcore" genre.

As you read this, they will be finishing up work on their first full-length album that will be released independently in the fall, titled "The Indifference of Good Men." Be sure to catch their live show at all costs, as it is fun for the whole family. Stay tuned to the Thorn for any information regarding their upcoming shows.

The next band that I would like to introduce to you all is a solid black metal outfit that goes by the name of Dreaming of Dragons ([www.dreamingofdragons.com](http://www.dreamingofdragons.com)). They have played several of the larger American festivals, including an appearance at one of the world's premier extreme metal festivals, the Milwaukee Metalfest. They, too, have recently finished recording a full-length album, but I am not sure on any kind

of release date. If you are into symphonic black metal, but tire of the constant, cheesy keyboard work of bands like Cradle of Filth, then be sure to give these guys a listen. Keep an eye out for them as they frequently play bars around the Terre Haute area.

You say the loud stuff isn't exactly your cup of tea? Then here are a couple of bands that might tickle your fancy. Canterbury Effect ([www.canterburyeffect.com](http://www.canterburyeffect.com)) is probably one of the better-known bands in the area, having released an album on Pluto Records a few years ago and recently completing a leg on the Warped Tour. Theirs is an upbeat indie rock/emo/post hardcore style that might be loosely (very loosely) compared to current media darlings, Thursday.

Sharing a drummer with Canterbury Effect and playing a similar, though mellower, brand

of rock is The Graveyard Heart. Currently, this great young band only has about five songs, but they are constantly writing new material and are even looking to record sometime in the near future. The high point of this band, to me anyways, is the incredible voice of their lead singer, whose gospel-like vocals add another layer to the already well-structured music. This is definitely a band to be on the lookout for in the upcoming years.

Still not satisfied? Be sure to check out all of the music series events that Rose and ISU put on, including symphony orchestras, jazz bands, and choral productions. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised in all of the opportunities that you might find on a weekly basis.

Now that you know a few of the local bands, you need to know where you can see them play. Venues here in Terre Haute

are few and far between, so I am going to concentrate on some of the best regional places to catch a show. Indianapolis is the closest city, so that is a good place to start.

Apart from the huge arenas and amphitheaters sprinkled throughout the city, Indianapolis has a few good smaller venues to see some lesser-known bands in a more intimate environment. The largest of these is The Emerson Theater ([www.emersontheater.com](http://www.emersontheater.com)). Located on the east side, this all ages venue can hold about 400 people and features local and national hard rock and metal acts. The crowds are usually a good size, but the venue rarely sells out.

Also on the east side is Festivilla, a small room with multiple stages in the corners that focuses on punk and hardcore acts, mostly local. The sound is usually pretty sub-par, but the community atmosphere and great bands more than make up for that. For rock acts, The Patio ([www.thepatio.ws](http://www.thepatio.ws)) is a pretty cool place to see some of your favorite bands.

If you feel like driving a little more, Chicago is chock full of great venues. Any trip to Chicago would be incomplete without stopping by the legendary Fireside Bowl. Housed in an old condemned bowling alley, hence the name, the Fireside is unofficially referred to as the CBGB's of the Midwest. Bands of all types frequently play the Fireside and it is truly an experience to see a show there. While in Chicago, also be sure to check out the Metro ([www.metrochicago.com](http://www.metrochicago.com)), an old theater that has been transformed into a kick-ass, medium sized venue with fantastic sound.

Okay, we have talked about bands and venues. Now I think we should look at what's probably the best thing about music in a college town, the radio stations. Beholden to no one, these stations are free to play some of the best music out there: alternative, punk, metal, you name it - all commercial free. I think I am going to start with Rose-Hulman's own station, WMHD 90.5 FM, "The Monkey". The Monkey plays a complete mix of music, with nightly slots concentrating on recent releases, loud rock, and electronica. You will be able to find charts for these respective genres in the Thorn in the weeks to come. Be sure to listen up to hear lots of great music from some extremely talented independent and commercial musicians.

If WMHD does not quite do it for you, Indiana State's station, WISU 89.7 FM, might have what you are looking for. During the days, WISU features extensive jazz and blues programming, while their nightly programming focuses more on modern and hard rock. WISU also plays a considerable amount of hip-hop over the weekends.

Phew, that about covers it! Congratulations if you made it through this far. Please be sure to check back with the Thorn every week for music news, show listings, and album reviews. Next week I will give my exclusive summer festival wrap-up! You know you are excited. Until then, have a wonderful first week of school and remember, nothing accompanies all night study sessions like some great music.

Editors note: This was published in last year's freshman issue. Links were verified as of August 1, 2003.



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# The Rose Thorn

# FLIPside

Volume 39, Issue 0 “Proudly entertaining and annoying the Rose-Hulman community since some time before now.” Friday, August 29, 2003

## Top Ten Reasons You Came to Rose

- 10 With a name like Rose, it has to have chicks
- 9 One day you’ll want a spiffy plaid jacket
- 8 You always wanted to bash the ‘Bash with your booming bass
- 7 You heard a rumor that Health Services gives out free drugs
- 6 R.ich H.usbands I.n T.raining
- 5 Underwater basket weaving was full, this was your second choice
- 4 Purdue had Neil Armstrong, but Rose had the guy with 70 gigs of shared porn
- 3 Engineers get all the hot dates
- 2 You heard about the great bon-fi...er...wait...nevermind
- 1 You simply had nothing better to do with \$37,000 + tax

## A warm welcome from Hammy

Welcome to Rose-Hulman you lucky SOB,

I’d like to give you the REAL breakdown of Rose. The school only loves you for your money and only cares about your eventual job placement for future national rankings. If you really want to stay at Rose, you need to earn a good GPA... or buy one.

Every professor is given two instructions at the beginning of the year. The first is to be as nice as possible to your face, making you think they are there for your benefit. The second is to find the most efficient way to screw you over and break your spirit daily.

You’ve always heard college is the time for partying and sexual liberation. If you are a guy, you will have no hope of getting a date for at least the next four years. If you are a girl, you will spend the next four years surrounded by a mob of horny dorks who want nothing more than to get in your pants and then ditch you for the nearest Nintendo.

The person you will be closest to is your love-

able roommate. You may have had visions of hours spent together in video gaming ecstasy, intense arguments of Star Wars vs. Star Trek, and becoming the best of friends. Wait for reality to strike. You’ll consider yourself lucky if your roommate takes a shower more than once a month, isn’t a porn addict, and says more than three words a day.

And don’t forget the people at IAIT. We aren’t quite sure what they do down there, but they sure can cut my bandwidth down in a hurry. Oh, and don’t trip over the wires...we might lose Internet connection for a week.

Ah, now for the ARA. You may think your first trip to the ARA is a nutritious and delicious feast for your body. But you will soon find yourself subject to the most horrid stomach aches and foulest bowel movements this side of the bubonic plague unless you only eat food labeled “Lucky Charms.”

Don’t let the first good meal fool you. They do that so your parents will

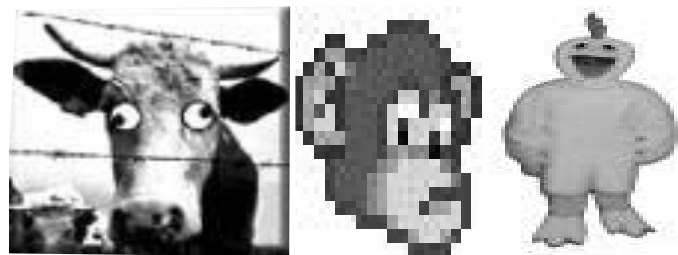
continue to send money. The moment that last check is in, welcome to cardboard and water. Aramark prides itself on serving the most nutritious and delicious meals...once a year.

What about extra-curriculars? Just so you know right now, the best frat on campus is GDI. All the other frats and sororities bought their friends and sent everyone else packing. Don’t even get me started on the service fraternities. And clubs? The club with the most membership has 3. And they’re all conjoined at the waste.

Your sports teams are a living, breathing joke. Your student government is a fascist, power-hungry, money-hording dictatorship. Your student newspaper is nearly propaganda written by uninventive, insecure losers with nothing better to do than bash themselves in their own paper.

So that about covers the real Rose. Welcome to Rose-Hulman.

Sincerely,  
Hammy Sulbert



Yes, those are totally random pictures. It’s better than a black box...and we do have a tendency to use black boxes to get your attention.

## Welcome Master of the Universe!

The Flipside Staff has come upon secret information that suggests the one and only HeMan will be attending our fine school.

We can only assume that he is here to protect and to learn. We hope he left his battle cat at home because it’s definately not flushable.

We believe that HeMan choose this school to learn to better fight Skeletor and his minions. We know that being a Fightin’ Engineer will

definately make HeMan a stronger foe to the forces of evil.

We also believe that Skeletor may be attending another engineering college in Indiana (I’m sure you can guess which.) Our only concern is that Skeletor may find that HeMan is here, and do damage to our beloved institution.

**Welcome HeMan!**

We hope you enjoy your stay here, and we look forward to seeing you in action.

## Flipside Explains Rose’s Majors

### Civils

These are the guys you’ll see this fall taking the best class here at Rose, Surveying. Honestly, it’s like they just hand out credit hours to stand around and look at stuff. Sure, they claim there’s more to it than that, but we just don’t trust the kind of people that live by the creed “Shit flows downhill.” If your idea of a fun time is learning how to make impressive outdoor structures, usually for other people to drive on, be a Civil.

### Chem-E

For some reason, a whole lot of Chemical Engineering majors are girls. As you’ll soon become painfully used to, women are sparse at Rose. So, if you want to be surrounded by as many gals as is possible here, be a Chem-E. Although if that’s really your chief interest, go try Veterinary Technology at Purdue, where the girls hold a 30:1 advantage.

### CS(SE)

Recently renamed to CSSE (commonly pronounced ‘Sissy’ by our Mechanical Engineering buddies), the CSSE department holds claim to the most interesting students here at Rose. These people spend most of their time hunched over a computer in a dark room until 4 AM, desperately trying to prove that a final project can

be completed in one night. If the sun itself is your archenemy, or if you want chicks to dig your l33t skills, be a CS.

### ME/EE/CO

For about a quarter of the campus’ population, it’s Sophomore year. The wailing and gnashing of teeth coming from New Hall, and the guys living on the on-campus Fraternity houses should become loud enough to be heard from the SRC by sometime winter quarter. We’re not really sure what the difference is between these three majors, mostly because they all look the same to our staff, which is 100% CS. Materials, conductors, electrons... the Jedi craves not these things. If Sophomore Curriculum sounds like a fun challenge, go for it. We’re not sure why these are the among the most popular majors here, but it’s probably got something to do with the drugs they slip into the cafeteria food.

### Math

No longer considered as useless as it once was, Math majors are the kind of guys that make you want to change your password regularly. If you like wrapping your squishy gray mind around fun concepts that give the rest of us nightmares, then you may be just the hack to go work for the CIA. Or, there’s always the traditional Math major, whom exists solely to create more Math majors. If you like perpetuating evil this is your major.