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THE THORN

Working to race this summer

From rose-hulman.edu/news/

Even though the temperature in Terre Haute has been near freezing, the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Solar Phantom race team has summer on their minds as they construct a new solar-powered car for a national cross country road race next July.

The Solar Phantom VI will be a brand new car built, designed and tested by student team members. The molds that will form the lightweight exterior body should be completed by mid-December. The team will then concentrate on building the interior body, and the mechanical and electrical systems. A rolling chassis is planned by late January and the encapsulate solar cell panels should arrive in late February. This timeline will allow for road testing in early spring.

"It's been a lot of hard work, but a labor of love for team members. The working assignment list seems to be getting longer each day," said Team Leader Brad Beron, a junior chemical engineering major.

The construction process is nothing new for the 30-member team. The Solar Phantom VI will be the fifth car that students have

constructed -- each one being designed to excel against North America's top engineering colleges.

"We're utilizing our technical experience to construct the car at a more rapid pace than past years," states Chief Mechanical Engineer Bobbie Burke, a junior from Bloomington. "Each of our cars have improved upon previous models and, hopefully, that will happen again this year."

Rose-Hulman's team is coming off its most successful period in solar car racing, finishing third in Sunrayce 99 (Washington, D.C., to Orlando, Fla.) and winning the 2000 Formula Sun Grand Prix in Topeka, Kan.

Next summer's challenge may be the most ambitious in the team's 10-year history. The team will first defend its title at the 2001 Formula Sun Grand Prix on May 9-11 at the new Kansas City Speedway and then compete in the first American Solar Challenge, a 2,300-mile race from Chicago to Los Angeles on July 15-25 along historic Route 66. Performance in the Formula Sun Grand Prix will set the starting lineup for ASC.

The Solar Phantom Race Team is still looking for financial sponsors to underwrite the costs of



rose-hulman.edu/news/

Solar Phantom VI in production: Solar Phantom team members Pete Mobley, Bryan Hunt, Lindsey VanSchoiack, Kristin Davies, Bobbie Burke, Susan Hare, Jeff Lloyd and Klynt Gerde work on completing the mold that will form the exterior body of Rose-Hulman's new solar car.

purchasing solar cells for the car. More than 780 cells will provide the solar energy needed to compete in the race. Each cell costs \$10. Donors will receive a special

certificate with the number of the cell being sponsored. Persons should contact the Solar Phantom office at (812) 877-8495 or send donations to the Solar Phantom

Race Team, Campus Mail 2023, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, 5500 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47803.

SAB brings relief for winter's blahs

Nicole Hartkemeyer
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday, hypnotist Frederick Winters paid a visit to Rose and performed in front of students in the main dining room. The Student Activities Board who scheduled and set up the event made the show possible.

The show was full of entertainment as student audience members volunteered to attempt to be hypnotized in front of the crowd and once under hypnosis, asked to perform tasks these normally conservative individuals would never do under their own control.

Winters first asked who in the audience had been hypnotized before and from that group a volunteer was selected to undergo a quick hypnosis. The chosen person was told that his new name was "Spanky". After he woke up and was being asked questions everything went smoothly until he was asked what is his name. Here the volunteer then replies, "Spanky." Following this scene, a large amount of laughter erupted

from the audience.

Winters then called a large group of volunteers up to go under hypnosis. To this group, Winters suggested that everyone believe they were in a movie theater where the audience responds to several different types of movies. He also suggested that they believe that the members of the real audience were actually animals in a petting zoo. When the volunteers started petting the audience, Winters would say a phrase to remind them that they were not in a petting zoo. This brought many expressions of confusion to the volunteers.

Winters also at one point suggested the volunteers believe that

the members in the audience weren't wearing any clothes, and then turned the tables. Winters suggested that they think that they themselves were not wearing any

clothes. Reactions included the volunteers running around to find a place to hide. The entertainment was plentiful as Winters gave a well appreciated performance.



Don Harrington / Thorn

Resident Hall Assistants David Allen (BSB 1) and Seana Giardini (Mees 4) under hypnotic suggestion laugh hysterically.

Editor's Note Town Hall discussion

Dear Reader,

Last night, in the Kahn room Louis Turcotte, IAIT vice president was available for discussion on the topics of the internal and external networking systems here at Rose Hulman.

Due to the wide spread relevance of this subject the Thorn will hold to publish a more indepth article in next week's issue.

We will address as much of the subject as possible and address it as objectively and factually as possible in order to properly represent all those who pertain to the sides of the issues about our Rose networks.

Thank you,

David Shafer
Rose Thorn news editor

OPINIONS

Letters to the Editor
IAIT
A response to Geen

Pages 4 & 5

ENTERTAINMENT

Pete & Pete on *Snatch*
Word Search

Page 6

SPORTS

A word about rifle
Track home honors

Page 7

FLIPSIDE

A brief word
Black Boxes?
Caterpillars for CE's

Page 8

WEATHER WATCH

FRIDAY

Rain and Snw./Hi 38-Lo 26

SATURDAY

Mostly Cloudy/Hi 29-Lo 20

information courtesy The Weather Channel

CAMPUS CALENDAR

					January 26 Take Five, SRC 7 p.m. - Midnight	27
28	29	30 Volunteer Organization Fair Kahn Room 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	31 Swing Dance Lessons Multipurpose Room SRC 8 p.m.	February 1	2 Basketball vs. Millsaps College, Hulbert Arena Women 6 p.m. Men 8 p.m.	3
4 Basketball vs. Oglethorpe Univ., Hulbert Arena Women 6 p.m. Men 8 p.m.	5	6 Winter Quarter Blood Drive Kahn Room 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	7 Winter Quarter Blood Drive Kahn Room 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	8	9 Drama Club Show, "Travels With My Aunt" Moench Auditorium 8 p.m.	10 Drama Club Show, "Travels With My Aunt" Moench Auditorium 2 p.m. "Radio T.B.S." 8 p.m.
11 Drama Club Show, "Radio T.B.S." 2 p.m.	12	13 RHA/NSBE Film Series, "Remember the Titans" Hulman Union 7 p.m.	14	15	16	17 SAB Finals Relaxation Drama Club Show, "Travels With My Aunt" Moench Auditorium 8 p.m.

"Beat the Winter Blues"



New Residence Hall Lecture Series

Sponsored by the
Rose-Hulman Learning Center
and the Office of Student Affairs

Financial Planning

Tuesday, January 30th, 2001 at 4:30 p.m.
in the New Hall Classroom

Holocaust Survivor to Speak

Mrs. Eva Moses Kor

Mrs. Kor, a survivor of Dr. Josef Mengele's deadly genetic experiments on twins at Auschwitz Concentration Camp, from 1944-45, will speak on:

"Echoes from Auschwitz, Lessons for Today"

Sunday, Feb. 4th, 2001
Hulman Union
Kahn Rooms
4:30 P.M.

SUBMISSIONS

Events may be published in *Events* by any organization or individual. Information on club meetings, lectures, speeches, and athletic events, including announcements of times and locations may be submitted to *Campus Calendar*, in care of Dale Long, associate director of communications, at Box 14 or extension 8418. More detailed articles containing plans, agendas, and specific information should be submitted to the *Rose Thorn*.

All submissions must be made by Wednesday at noon in order to be published in *Events* in the *Rose Thorn* on Friday.



President

Casey Behringer is a junior mechanical engineering major from Mazomanie, Wisconsin. Behringer is currently RHA president and has held other leadership positions while at Rose Hulman.

Behringer wants to make SGA effective again.

"Projects will happen on time. No more wasting time in committees over trivial information."

Behringer also wants to see the students have more of an impact on Rose Hulman and its larger decisions. Behringer wants SGA to be more respected by administration and students.

"I have great communication, organization, and planning skills. I have seen Rose grow a lot while I have been a student, and I have the desire to make it even better."

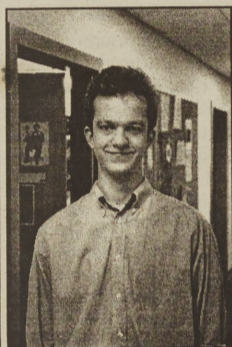


Vice-President

Will Ackerly is a sophomore computer engineering major from Washington, District of Columbia. Ackerly has served two years as a SGA senator, district representative, and a member of the Finance Committee.

Ackerly will give particular priority to effective communication between the new Student/Administration Liaison Committee, the Administration, and Faculty. Ackerly is committed to maintaining all the ways in which SGA works effectively already.

"I am an active member of the Rose Hulman community who wishes to create and maintain clear and open lines of communication as well as an avenue for change, where change is needed."

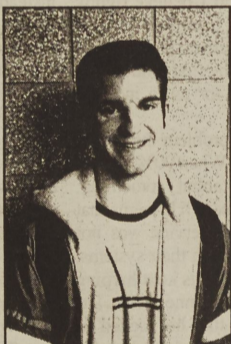


Benjamin C. Giant is a sophomore mechanical engineering major from Shelbyville, Indiana.

Giant plans to work with aid of the president, in order to bring back greater purpose and responsibility to the senate. Giant wants to instill more pride and enthusiasm in being apart of SGA by endowing the senate with more responsibilities and duties. These might include more voice in board meetings, policy input, improved student body representation, etc.

"The sole attribute that gives me the right to run for this position is my undaunted creative ambition: 'desire' if you want it condensed into one word. I want nothing more than SGA to excel where it has struggled and forge ahead in its responsibilities."

Giant feels he is the best choice for the position, and he wants to help improve the school and SGA.

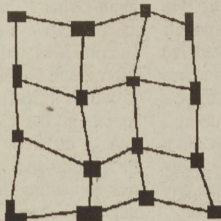


MATH CORNER PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Problem:

On his daily stroll through campus, Bib visits each building exactly twice by walking only on the paths shown in the diagram below. When he returned to his office, he told Alose that he had visited the buildings in the order

AONHKLECFBPIMGDJMLNHJKDGPBFIEOAC.



After a little thought, Alose said, "You're not quite right." Bib responded after reconsidered his statement, "You are right, I carelessly transposed two successive buildings at exactly one point in the order."

Without knowing which building is which on the map, name the transposed buildings.

(Each building on campus has a letter as its name, and Bib did not list the building where his office is located.)

Contest Rules:

1. Contest is open to all students at Rose-Hulman.
2. The best solution as judged at the next Math Club meeting will be awarded two new dollar coins. (See solution criteria below)
3. In case of a tie, each winner will be awarded a new one dollar coin.
4. Solutions must be submitted by 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday to David Finn at G 213.
5. Eligible Voters: All students at the Math Club meeting during 10th period on Wednesday in G 220.
6. If no correct solutions is submitted. No prize will be awarded.

Solution Criteria:

- Solution must be correct.
- Solution must be documented or explained.
- Clarity of solution. Solution should be easily understood.
- Elegance of solution. Number of steps should be minimized without affecting clarity.

Available on the web at

<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/~finn/mathcorner.html>

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My perception of the Town Hall Meeting follows:

At first (the time during which Mr. Turcotte presented), I was a little disappointed. Nothing real was being said and it all sounded like standard Administrator Drivel. Then the questions started and things really got interesting. Certainly I agreed with the vast sentiment that improving the internal network before even touching the external one seemed insane. Especially since the proposed changes amount to a massive upgrade of what we currently have. However, I admit that what we have sucks and the points raised about getting a fatter pipeline to the outside world without making sure that we can handle it internally were valid. I don't think we'll appreciate the internal advances until we have a bigger pipe to the Internet, though. Heck, I don't think I've ever complained about the internal network itself; maybe some of the machines

on it (DNS, email, sliderule, etc.), but the network has been A-OK in my book.

One of the important points raised throughout the evening was that it seemed as though the people at IAIT had never even considered the possibility of asking students what was going on. Sure, there's the "IAIT Satisfaction Survey", but that's not done very often and it didn't ask questions like, "How much would you be willing to pay for a better Internet connection?" Rose is full of technically competent people who would be perfectly willing to help out (UNIX administration, tracing down denial of service attacks, figuring out what the Internet connection is being used for, etc.), but it sounded as though this was a new concept. Granted, Waters fired all the student managers last year (Mr. Turcotte was not here at that time), so whether they intend to follow up on this or not is an open question.

I have mixed feelings about the

whole event. I am happy that channels of communication were opened and that things seemed to flow smoothly. More information about what's happening at my school is always a good thing; Mr. Turcotte was willing to offer any information we asked for, a policy of which I had not been aware. People in the Computing Center have a different perspective than the students and it's always good to hear something different - it might make you change your mind about some things (the internal network upgrade being a good example of this).

There were, however, a lot of things that went wrong this evening. For example (not necessarily an exhaustive list):

1. Mr. Turcotte continually asked for "the facts" but when questioned about his decision to upgrade the internal network without also simultaneously upgrading the external connection, he based it on "anecdotal evidence" and "his

experience".

2. Mr. Turcotte insulted Dr. Wollowski of the Computer Science department by declaring, "I will give the data [network statistics] to you in a format you can understand," belittling him and offering nothing in the way of apology.

3. Dialogues during the evening seemed to indicate that children and grandchildren of the Board of Trustees merely have to complain about something [the internal network] and it gets fixed; mortal Rose students, it seems, must work infinitely harder to produce results.

4. Mr. Turcotte always referred to "future plans" of examining the network services and facilities to determine what needed to be upgraded, but he never talked about what he had done to familiarize himself with the network now. He always pointed out that he had only been here six months, yet never pointed out what he had bothered to learn in those six months. Questions like, "Why are we doing

things this way?" do not appear to have been asked by Mr. Turcotte; those are left for "future investigation".

5. Mr. Turcotte continually interrupted people, even when asked not to.

6. Mr. Turcotte indicated his concerns regarding privacy of students and censorship, which seemed to conflict with the censoring of the popular student site EvilRHASP (evilrhasp.epsilon.cx). EvilRHASP is a clone of the (now defunct) RHASP student picture lookup page, which integrates other useful functions such as a meeting scheduler.

I look forward to further communication between the student body and IAIT; tonight was a positive first step (minus some issues) towards future cooperation.

Nathan Froyd
CS 2002

Dear Editor,

Last night I attended the IAIT "town meeting." While I commend Dr. Turcotte for hosting the event, I was very disappointed with what I heard. He started the evening with a short presentation showing general statistics about the help desk, and talking about future plans and goals. He paid special attention to the new \$700,000 upgrade to Rose's internal network. Strangely, however, none of his plans included upgrading Rose's connection to the Internet.

I definitely agree with him, the new network infrastructure is an important and monumental step for Rose, but I can't understand his timing. First, the internal network, while not perfect, doesn't seem to be that big of problem. I mean, with the new network it will take 3 seconds to download your e-mail instead of 4; rarely is it a source of noticeable speed problems. Furthermore, we won't be able to take full advantage of it until the wiring in the dorms is also upgraded at a cost of around \$200,000 dollars per building. So even if the upgrade gets completed on-time, (this summer) we won't see the benefit until Facilities can afford an extra million dollars to re-wire the buildings.

Meanwhile, the Internet is slowed to an unreasonable crawl. Almost everyone at the meeting last night seemed to think it was an important issue, except Dr. Turcotte. He did agree that there was a problem, but was not willing to make any decisions until he collected data on how we use the Internet to determine if we really need more bandwidth. Right now, our Internet connection consists of two T-1s providing 3Mbit/sec.

By comparison, were a commercial ISP serving our campus, it would require 9Mbit/sec (minimum) to provide us with the speed of a typical dial-up modem. If IAIT were a commercial ISP, they would be bankrupt. Apparently this isn't reason enough for the number one engineering college in the country to provide its students with decent Internet access.

Worse yet, Dr. Turcotte stated that it would take minimal effort (a "phone call") to get as much bandwidth as we want. He did make the point that we, the students, would have to pay for it in the end, but by his numbers, the cost is less than \$5/month for a 9Mbit pipe. He also admits that the most he has explored the idea of upgrading the Internet was the discussion last night. But that is ok, they just started analyzing our network connection today, so he should gather enough data in about 14 weeks. In the mean time, the local campus network is his top priority.

And how did he decide that the internal network was what really needed fixing? Did he do an analysis of the internal network? Did he even look at the IAIT satisfaction surveys? No, he personally decided based on "anecdotal evidence." Apparently a room full of frustrated students isn't anecdotal enough to affect his attitude towards the Internet connection. I am glad that IAIT and Dr. Turcotte are communicating with the students, but I wonder if that communication is two-way. The plain and simple truth is that our Internet connection is inadequate, but is that message getting to the administration?

Logan Bowers
CPE 2003

Dear Editor,

Dr. Turcotte held a town meeting last night in the Kahn room. The room was packed with students, professors, and administrators. Some of whom wanted to voice their opinions and some that were just interested in what had to be said. It was obvious that many people had some gripes for our computing services people here to hear.

The meeting began with a presentation by Dr. Turcotte about what had already been planned in terms of current network upgrades. These seem to be a good idea for the long run but I believe they answer very few of the immediate problems we have with our network. He also spent some time telling us about all of his challenges. For example, he also showed us a breakdown by type of help desk tickets. Not surprisingly, many of the requests stem from Internet related problems.

The floor was then opened for questions. Many people complained, and I believe rightly so, about the problems with bandwidth on the connection to the outside Internet. Dr. Turcotte told us that this meeting was the first time he had seriously looked at the need for us to increase bandwidth on campus.

I believe that this is a big problem that needs to be fixed. One student said "When 90% of your customers are complaining about something: Don't you think you should fix it?" It seems that before this meeting our IAIT service was not proactively finding problems with their systems. Fortunately, after so many students kept harping on the same issue of Internet connectivity, Dr. Turcotte seemed to indicate that he needed to talk to Dr. Hulbert about additional funding for Internet bandwidth. I hope that this meeting has opened up some communication channels that can make a difference, and that the students and professors were not just talking to the wall.

More specifically on the issue of bandwidth, people asked how they would decide when they would upgrade the network. It seems that Dr. Turcotte's original intentions were to look at the

current usage (academic vs. pleasure) after he had installed the new internal network equipment to decide if we really need the bandwidth. Dr. Wollowski, a computer science professor, asked how he would evaluate the purpose of current network use. Wollowski stated that some traffic his students put through may look like pleasure traffic because he assigns his students to do many things on the Internet that many not seem academic, in order to study the Internet itself. Dr. Turcotte did not have an answer for this issue. However, there seemed to be a consensus among many people there that IAIT should not be making judgments about what we should and should not do. Dr. Turcotte seemed to agree and stated that he was against censorship.

Later Dr. Wollowski told me he thought the question of how much bandwidth we need should not be: How much should we have? But instead we should have the best possible connection to the Internet so that the students here can invent the next big thing.

After the meeting Ryan Johnson e-mailed, "In fact, I thought Dr. Turcotte did a pretty good job at everything except considering his audience — who were highly technical people. Several times during the night he made comments that seemed condescending, even though I don't think he meant to be." He was referring to a moment during the meeting when Turcotte told Dr. Wollowski that he would work to put information into a format that he could understand.

Many questions came up about various problems we have with our campus computing facilities. The answers attempted to give confidence that the computing center is slowly looking into the various problems. I hope that this meeting and further conversations will result in better computing services in a timely manner.

Paul Kappler
EE 2001

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The Rose Thorn

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

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

Writers **Tony Bergstrom, Nat Bowe, Court Caldwell, Curtis Geen, Joshua Gregory, Nicole Hartkemeyer, Jason Meyer, Jennifer Phelps, Laura Slaybaugh, Peter Smith, Dustin Van Tassel, Peter Webb**

Photographers **Kyle Gossman, Susan Hare, Mike Shaul**

Cartoonist **Chris Dupin**

The Rose Thorn welcomes and encourages comments from its readers. We request that all letters to the editor be less than 300 words in length.

E-mail is the preferred method of communication. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, clarity, and length.

All letters must contain the writer's signature (electronic form is acceptable) and contact phone number to confirm the letter before publication.

ALL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOON ON TUESDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION

The views expressed in the Thorn are those of the original author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Thorn staff or Rose-Hulman community.

Where'd the Bull go? It never left

Jennifer Phelps
Staff Writer

After reading the article "Where'd the Bull Go" in last week's issue of the *Thorn*, there are some points that I would like to take issue with. The author made some decent points, but what he did was compare apples to Volkswagens. Yes, there is an energy crisis and yes the market is not doing as well as some would like, but there is very little correlation with each other.

First of all, I would disagree that we are headed for a recession. While I am not proclaiming to be an economist, I do believe that people are raising alarms over something that is just not going to be that big of a problem. In many ways, these alarmists remind me of all of the Y2K furor - much ado about nothing.

What I believe we are seeing is more of a market correction than a full-blown recession. Granted that the past few years have been ones of unprecedented economic growth in our country, and this growth has mainly been fueled by the tremendous number of dot.com companies that have burst onto the stock market in the last few years. So we have had literally thousands of people investing billions of dollars causing the market to expand in leaps and bounds. Now the dot.coms are no longer earning as much as possible, corporations are not growing as fast as they have been, the result of which has been a little slow down in the economy.

You can't have the tremendous increases like we have seen go on forever, or you would see an economic meltdown. Any-

thing that happens after these past few years of white-hot growth is going to seem slow, because there is a cooling period from extremely hot to warm, but the fact is it is still warm. The current energy shortage only adds a tiny bit of jitters to the market in the current situation and is not, as you say, causing the economy to become a bear.

Let's deal with the energy crisis part. Now, I do agree that nuclear power is underused in the United States. Why? I believe it is because when you even so much as whisper the words nuclear or radiation or radioactive to the general public, people flip out. The general population elects representatives who are very much in tune with that feeling and the result has been blockage of the construction of any new nuclear power facilities along with the closing of several existing facilities. Yet the general public remains largely ignorant of the real facts about nuclear power.

There is a nuclear power plant fairly close to my home and you would be surprised at the local pressure to power down this facility because of fear of radiation. Yet, these same citizens think nothing of traveling on a trans-Atlantic trip by jet airplane and exposing themselves to a higher dosage of radiation than the daily amount they receive by living next to a nuclear plant. You know that suntan everyone tries to get? Say thank you to radiation supplied by the sun for that one. But how many people know that?

Speaking of energy, what are the consequences of limiting industry's exploration within the United States? Cleaner air and

water? Slightly higher prices so that we can make our planet a little nicer and safer chemically to live in? Let me ask you this, do you understand the consequences of giving up our natural resources to industry? I know that on some hot summer days you can stand 4 miles from the outside of New York City and not see the skyline through all of the haze and pollution. The same thing happens in Los Angeles.

We have closed mines throughout many areas that essentially are worthless. Now let us take some of the land that has been designated as national parks, which is the only land that is left for industry to explore, and give that up as well. Pretty soon we will live in a place where all that is out there is some space between houses and industrial plants. I don't want to see that.

Instead of arguing about exploring our natural resources, we should look at ways

we can use technology to handle this. Solar energy is free and gravity will be around. These things can produce energy that is readily available, and more importantly, not harmful to the environment and is relatively cheap.

The last disagreement that I have is with calling President Bush "The Executioner" and former Vice-President Gore "the Environmentalist?" I would say that Mr. Gore has a better track record than most on environmental issues, but I wouldn't go so far as to say that he is an environmentalist. I would also tell you that what President Bush did was to follow the law set down before him in the state of Texas. He let the courts and juries, fellow citizens of all those condemned, do what they feel is right in the eyes of justice and the Texas legal system. I guess that would make President Bush an executer - of the laws of Texas.

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X	Y	X	F	T	Q	S	B	R	P	T	D	D	O	D	N	H	L	U	X
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For submissions of more than 30 words, each additional word is 15 cents.

All other classified advertisements are \$3.00 for the first 30 words and 15 cents for each additional word. Payments must be made in advance.

The Rose Thorn reserves the right to refuse advertising which the editors judge to be discriminatory on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, or gender.

Submissions may be made at the *Thorn* office, through campus mail addressed to the *Thorn*, by e-mailing thorn@rose-hulman.edu or by calling the *Thorn* office at extension 8255. Deadline for submissions: 5p.m. the Wednesday prior to publication. Runs over one week must be renewed weekly by contacting the *Thorn* office.

Pete & Pete: *Snatch* a ticket to Ritchie's latest

Peter Smith
Peter Webb
Staff Writers

Snatch

Brad Pitt
Benicio Del Toro
Rated R, for strong language, violence, and some nudity
Runtime: 104 minutes
****, *** 1/2

Pete W: Guy Ritchie has got to be the luckiest man on earth. Not only is he married to Madonna, but he has just written, produced, and directed *Snatch*, one of the best crime-based comedies to hit theaters in quite some time. With actors like Brad Pitt and Benicio Del Toro on his payroll, it is clear that Ritchie has arrived. *Snatch* is a strong follow up to his last film, *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, but it seems to me that the films are almost too similar, from the setting, to the accents, right down to the movie posters.

Pete S: That doesn't mean it's not a good film, Pete. When the film started, I didn't think it was going to be that good. Guy Ritchie seemed to be overusing cliché visual effects, such as those in *The Matrix*, that tend to appear everywhere lately. But soon he shows that he is not a "me too" director, and the film really takes off. The effects give the movie an almost alive feeling. Ritchie really made it work.

Pete W: I agree that the visual effects in this film are good, but

it's the characters that really make it shine. In my opinion, that's what really separates it from *Two Smoking Barrels*. In that film, none of the characters really stood out. In this one, they all do, and it all starts with names like Bullet Tooth Tony, Boris The Blade, and Franky Four Fingers, all of which follow the classic Dick Tracy formula.

Pete S: Exactly, one character that really stands out is Bullet Tooth Tony, played by Vinnie Jones, who steps up into a speaking role from his previous mute performance in *Gone in Sixty Seconds*. Proving that with or without dialogue, he is still a badass.

Also, Brad Pitt's portrayal of an unintelligible Irish gypsy is hilarious. I'm not usually a big fan of Pitt, but in this movie he shows himself to be a talented actor. Without being able to understand what he says, you get a feel for his character, and his facial expressions are always good for a laugh.

Pete W: I couldn't agree more, and it's these kinds of roles that I really like to see Pitt in. Not a leading role at all, but a quirky supporting character with a lot of room for improvisation.

I have to point out that this is the kind of film that will inevitably be compared to *Pulp Fiction*. For the most part, such comparisons are silly. Both films are full of quick dialogue and violent action but the similarities end there. That being said, Ritchie seems to make several subtle references to the film that started the genre, and there are enough of them that it seems unlikely it's just a coincidence.

Pete S: While I don't think that



Brad Pitt stars as the unintelligible Mickey in Guy "Better Known as Madonna's New Husband" Ritchie's new film, *Snatch*.

www.imdb.com

the violence is anywhere near as grotesque as in *Pulp Fiction*, there are some similarities. There is a fixed boxing match, a briefcase everyone wants, and an all powerful crime boss.

Similarities aside, this is a film at which the audience has fun. No one in the audience seemed bored. I didn't see the indigo watch lights flicking on and off throughout the theater, like a fireworks display celebrating the impending freedom of all the people there.

Pete W: Yes, that's the best thing about this movie, there is never a dull moment. It's fun from beginning to end. Even the title is a never-ending source of great jokes, even if we can't print them here. For instance, there is the time that I asked Pete if he wanted to go see--well, we should probably be wrapping this up.

Overall, I really like this movie and on a scale from zero to four stars, where four is classic and zero is *Leprechaun 5: In the Hood*, I give this movie three and a half stars, definitely a must see.

Pete S: I give it four stars. I liked it a lot, and I recommend it to everyone. I bet you'll want to see it again, and then buy it on DVD when it comes out.

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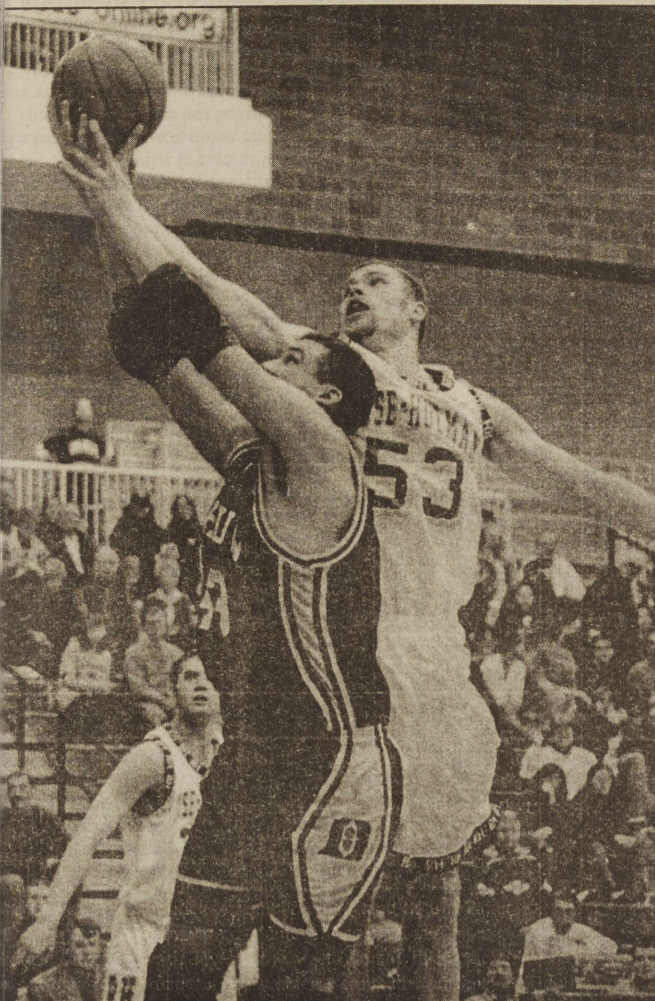
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Basketball teams hit the road for SCAC games



Don Harrington / Thorn

After a week's rest, the Rose-Hulman basketball teams will be back in action this weekend when they travel south to face SCAC rivals Hendrix and Rhodes.

The Rose-Hulman men won meetings against both teams earlier in the season at Hulbert Arena. Additionally, the Engineers have never lost to Hendrix.

The women's team is still looking to notch their first conference win of the season. The

team lost to Rhodes by only three points earlier in the season.

Radio broadcasts of this weekend's action will be available on WSJX-AM 1300 and WSDX-AM 1130. Tonight, coverage begins at 8:30 p.m. for the men's game. Sunday's coverage kicks off at 1:30 p.m. and both the men's and women's game will be broadcast.

Sunday's game vs. Rhodes will be the first broadcast of a women's game this season.

Five School Rifle Records Fall in Xavier Match

Michael Ray
Rifle Team Coach

On Saturday the rifle team lost to #4-ranked Xavier at home by a score of 5989 to 6124 despite shattering three team records and setting 2 individual records.

The team records for both smallbore and air rifle were beat by 16 points and the aggregate record by 63 points with 5989. Sophomore Mike

Raffay moved the individual smallbore and aggregate marks up a few more points from where he set them earlier in the season. Raffay led the team with 1153 and 377.

Freshman Jason LaBella also had 377 in air and 1121 in smallbore. Sophomore Hans Nelson was close behind with 1107 and 371 while freshman Ruth Jacobson tied him with 1107, an excellent performance for

her very first smallbore match, and fired a 376 in air.

"I'm really proud of the team and Mike and Ruth especially for such good performances in the first match back from break," commented Coach Michael Ray (EE '93). "We still need to work on keeping focused throughout the match and refining our positions, but this is an excellent start to the second half of the season and should prove

that we can perform well. This match will boost our confidence and carry us into Sectionals with even more desire."

The team travels to Purdue to take on the Boilermakers

on the 27th. Rose easily defeated them earlier in the season at home.

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Men's and women's track team take top honors at home

The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology men's track and field team earned top honors at its own Quadrangular Invitational on Friday evening, while the women placed second in the meet held at the Sports and Recreation Center.

Sophomore Andrew Schipper vaulted 16' 0" to improve upon his automatic qualifying time for the NCAA III Outdoor National Championships to be held in March. Schipper's vault was the third-best leap in school history.

Other first-place honors for the Rose-Hulman men included junior David Berty, with an effort of 40' 8 3/4" in the shot put; junior Jason Bowe with a 19' 8 3/4" leap in the long jump and an effort of 41' 8 1/4" in the triple jump; sophomore Andy Crisman with a vault of 6' 0" in the high jump; junior Matthew Cosby with a time of 7.9 seconds

in the 55-meter high hurdles; and freshman Eric Arnett with a time of 52.9 seconds in the 400-meter dash.

On the women's side, freshman Rachel Reich narrowly missed breaking her own school record in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:03.6 to earn top honors. Sophomore Anna Burgner won individual honors in the 55-meter high hurdles with a time of 10.1 seconds, while senior Maggie Lowry placed first in the shot put with a throw of 36' 10 1/2" and junior Erica Snyder earned a victory in the 55-meter dash with a time of 7.65 seconds. The 4-x-400-meter relay team of Reick, freshman Beth Emborsky, Burgner and Snyder earned first-place honors with a time of 4:37.7.

Rose-Hulman returns to action next Saturday at the University of Chicago Invitational.

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The Rose Thorn Flipside

Volume 36, Issue 15

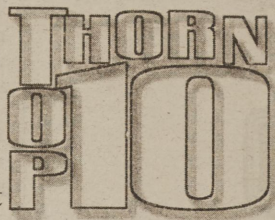
The "Ranting Whilst Drunken" Edition

Keeper of the Cheese, MA

Friday, January 26, 2001

Top Ten Courses *Not* to Take Next Quarter

submitted by the Dark Lord of Humor



- 10 Anything at eight o' clock in the morning.
- 9 Learning to Love Biochem with Dr. Molly Kule
- 8 How to Crack Jokes with any Hose Prof
- 7 The Joy of Integration with Dr. Cal Q. Luss
- 6 How to Become a CS God with Dr. Linux
- 5 Physics: Australian for a Required Course that Lowers GPA's with Dr. Foster
- 4 Why We're All Crazy and What to Call It with Dr. Schizo
- 3 The Correct Pronunciation of Laplace with Dr. Maple
- 2 How to Make Mud with Dirt & Water with Dr. N. Civil
- 1 IFYSCEM..... Whoops, too late, mouha.... mouhahaha!

A Brief Word From the Staff

Pathetic Scum.
Insolent.
Gullible.

No single adjective that I spew from my lips can summarize my view of you, the reading public. New words would have to be added to the English language in order to communicate my disgust, horror, outrage, and amusement at your reactions to the ongoing inclusion of black boxes as substitutes for humor.

The feedback I received from many was one of amusement! People enjoyed seeing a question answered by a large, nonresponsive black box. You also requested more comics....

This level of crapulence is intolerable. You will, of course, get exactly what you ask for. I simply can't think of anything more evil to do to you. But be warned: continued enjoyment of this tripe will lead to **DIRE CONSEQUENCES**.

-The Dark Lord of Humor

Administration Discusses Plan To Increase Student Learning Rate, Decrease Sleep



Here we see a poor sleep deprived SA from Speed 3. Poor little Martin, he seems to be drooling a little on his D.E. homework there. Look at the little tyke, you just can't help but feel sorry for him. Oh well, that's what he gets for being short, er... I mean a sophomore. Heh, riiiiight.

TERRE HAUTE, IN -

Hose-Rulman students were not surprised last Tuesday to hear of Administration's newest plan: to make us lose even more sleep through Chinese torture and other techniques involving a higher volume of homework and more frequent occurrence of testing, among other things.

IRPA, the Institutional Reamers of Pathetic Apes, issued a report:

We here at the IRPA have assessed that student learning is not increasing at a pace that will keep Hose-Rulman ahead of the competition. We don't really think the whole Quarter system thing is working out, so we're going to implement a Sextet schedule very soon. With this system, we will cram in 5 terms of learning fun along with one term off for summer break. We realize this may seem stressful to some students at first, but hey, we're #1!!!

Construction Workers Break Ground, Wind on Site of Auditorium and Alumni Center

Civils gather in droves to drool over the "cool" equipment moving dirt around. See story, "Caterpillar, mmm...." on page 12.



Dark Lord Runs Into Creative Wall Turns to Web, Drink For Relief

TERRE HAUTE(AP)

Frustrated by writer's block, the Dark Lord of Humor turned to outside inspiration for humor.

Wednesday morning found him looking at various web comics and online forums for inspiration, to no avail.

"This is pure drivel!" bellowed the Dark Lord. "Why haven't my winged humor monkeys submitted any content? The deadline is tomorrow!"

Frustrated, he had a score of his minions executed, and typed the word "humor" into a search engine. He was foiled moments later by severe network congestion that prevented him from finding any results.

Sources report him saying, "How evil. I wish I'd thought of it." He then drank some "Slappy's Malt Liquor," and screamed Dark Lord-esque profanities at his slaves and brothel girls.

In frustration, he called upon his armies of lawyers and snake warriors to lay waste to Rose and the surrounding countryside. "Let the streets run red with the blood of the miserable cattle!" cackled the Dark Lord.

Destruction was narrowly averted when his Robotic Monkey Butler pointed out that he did not, in fact, employ such armies.

The monkey butler is currently being held in cell block AA-23. His termination is scheduled for Tuesday.

The Dark Lord was last heard drunkenly screaming at the campus voice recognition system (x6000):

"Hordes of Visigoths I need to speak with.... No! I do not want to be connected to the Math Office!"

Fresh From the Quotes File:

First Wok egg rolls are like hot oil wrestling... only without the wrestling.

-- Colin Hill

I have an entire directory of monkey sounds.

-- Matt Sheehy

If a man really wants to make a million dollars, the best way would be to start his own religion.

-- L. Ron Hubbard

All parts should go together without forcing. You must remember that the parts you are reassembling were disassembled by you. Therefore, if you can't get them together again, there must be a reason. By all means, do not use a hammer.

-- IBM maintenance manual, 1925

Somebody forgot the clothes on her Barbies!

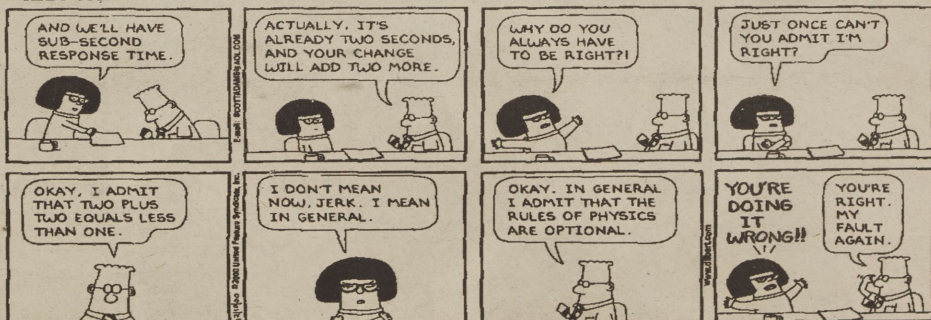
-- Dustin Sapp, to Kubota-sensei

Or, to put it another way, if you see a long line of rats streaming off of a ship, the correct assumption is *not* "gosh, I bet that's a real nice boat now that those rats are gone."

-- Mike Sphar

DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



Nabisco Releases "Barbeque Flavored" Communion Wafers

"Cool Ranch" and "Nacho Cheese" flavors soon to follow.

Send Complaints to "thorn@rose-h..."

This Week In History:

2012- California
Colgate first markets Caffeinated Toothpaste

See "Morning People" -Page 10

Amish Scientist Finds Link Between Churning, Cancer

Study suggests that frequent churners have 15% greater chance of cancer

See "Butter Radiation" -Page 11

The Rose Thorn

for

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(Vol)

16
(No.)

Feb-01
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