

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

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THE ROSE THORN

Vol. 32, No. 15

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Friday, Jan. 24, 1997

Sigma Nu moves into house on campus

by James Tedrick
Thorn Reporter

The number of on-campus students increased by 21 Friday as members of the Sigma Nu Fraternity moved into their new house on campus, located directly behind the other on-campus houses on fraternity row. The new house is partially unfinished, but is expected to be completed by the beginning of next school year.



Sigma Nu fraternity members recently moved into a new house near other on-campus fraternities. Construction is nearly complete.
Photo by Chris Hansen.

After trying to find a suitable spot for the house, the site behind the other fraternities was selected. Ground was broken in 1995, construction began in April 1996, and the rooms needed for this year were completed this winter. The members of the chapter helped with some details of the construction, such as painting and wiring telephone and network lines.

the house, including the kitchen, most of the upper floor, and the pool room will not be completed until next fall, the rooms currently available are sufficient for the resident portion of the chapter.

When the house is fully completed next school year, housing will be available for 40 active members.

The brothers are pleased with the new house, citing many improvements over their old house in Terre Haute.

"We can have larger parties

because there is a lot more room, and it's more convenient because it's a lot closer to campus," said Scott Schwab, a sophomore mechanical engineer.

Steve Huwe, another sophomore ME, also appreciated some of the minor improvements. "The water heater is definitely an improvement, we can take warm showers now."

Sigma Nu's former house, at 831 South Center St., has been sold to an ISU fraternity. For the building to remain a fraternity house, continuous ownership by a fraternity is required by Terre Haute regulation. Sigma Nu, the third fraternity founded at Rose-Hulman and the second oldest remaining, moved into the Terre Haute house in 1953, after residing in several previous houses in the area.

of several years of attempting to establish an on-campus presence and strong commitments from their alumni. Several alumni were heavily involved with the house, including Morris Cleverly, '62, who provided the house design and was the general contractor in its construction, local alumni Terry LeGrange, '83 who acted as project coordinator and director, and Bill Olah, '74, a Terre Haute attorney. Also vital to the construction was the late Ernie Plott, who left a contribution to his chapter.

Bill Sisson, Sigma Nu faculty advisor, explained, "[This] would not have been possible without Ernie Plott leaving the chapter, in his will, a sum of money for the express purpose of building, and/or maintaining a house."

Though several portions of

The new house is the result



Bryan Egli leads Rose into action tomorrow against ICAC rival Manchester. Egli exploded for 26 points against Anderson Wednesday night. Action tips off at 1 p.m. tomorrow with a Rose-Manchester clash in women's play followed by the men's contest.

Passerby prevents parking lot theft

by James Tedrick
Thorn Reporter

Shortly after winter break, five portable CD players were stolen from automobiles on Rose-Hulman campus parking lots. The portable CD players are easily visible in many cars.

According to the Rose-Hulman campus security office, the automobile break-ins were unusual in several ways. Since 1989, of all break-ins that have happened, all but two occurred on Speed residence hall parking lot. Speed lot is visible from the highway, and is the easiest for people coming off the highway to reach.

Of the five automobile break-ins recently reported, only two were from Speed. Two more robberies took place in the Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) fraternity house parking lot, and the fifth occurred in the common park-

ing lot near Blumberg, Scharpenburg, and Mees residence halls.

The recent automobile robberies occurred in the late night or the early morning. Break-ins in the ATO lot and the common parking lot happened during the early morning hours of January 5. After these incidents were reported, a Rose-Hulman security officer conducted an inspection of all the parking lots.

The first incident in Speed lot occurred the night of January 5, and the second occurred on night of the 6. In all the crimes, the only item stolen was the portable CD player attached to the stereos in the car.

"These guys went for the high end stuff, the Panasonics and Kenwoods," elaborated Security Officer John Wolfe.

Mike Ellis, a sophomore chemical engineering major prevented a possible automo-

obile break-in during the early morning of January 12. Ellis was returning to the Triangle fraternity house after sledding. When Ellis passed Speed lot, he spotted two men looking at the cars, one of which had a hammer.

Ellis contacted the campus security office via the Speed lot emergency call box, and an officer reported promptly. The officer confronted the young men, obtained their identification, but did not charge them with any crime, as none was committed at the time. There have been no further incidents since.

The security office advises students to take their portable CD players with them, as well as any other valuable item. The security office also suggests students check their cars periodically during the week. If you see anything suspicious, use the emergency call boxes or call the security office at x 8911.

Circle K is ready to roll for charity

The Rose-Hulman Circle K, which is a member of Circle K International, is an organization devoted to involving college and university students in campus and community service while developing members into quality leaders and citizens.

Circle K aspires to better our world through its international membership of over 10,000 college students on more than 500 college campuses in eight nations.

Circle K International, in conjunction with Kiwanis International, is participating in a worldwide service project to eradicate the world of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (I.D.D.) by the year 2000. Currently, over \$106,000 has been raised, and it takes only ten cents to save one of the 1.5 billion people who are affected by these disorders. The cure, iodized salt, is inexpensive, but the problem still affects millions of people to this day.

Members of the Rose-Hulman

Circle K are actively participating in this international campaign.

Therefore, they have organized a skating party fund-raiser at the Terre Haute Skate Center on First Street in Terre Haute tonight from midnight till 3 a.m. The admission is \$4 and skate rentals are free. Both conventional and in-line skates are permitted and there will be half-pipes and ramps available. The donation of each person who

attends may save the lives of 30 people affected by I.D.D. Over 80 people attended the last skating event, and over 100 people are expected to attend tonight.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Rose-Hulman Circle K service chairman, Craig Pohlman by phone at 877-8896 or e-mail to Craig.S.Pohlman@rose-hulman.edu. You can also contact the president, Morgan Hawker, at 877-8679.

'Crowd pleaser' performs tonight

The Rose-Hulman Student Activities Board (SAB) is sponsoring an appearance by stand-up comedian/musician Rich Ramirez tonight at 8 p.m. in the North Room of the Hulman Memorial Student Union.

Ramirez is described as having a refreshing, "glad-to-see-you" approach, a plethora of vivid characters, strong humor and gentle delivery. He is also noted for making sharp observations about everyday life.

"Ramirez is a very funny guy, plain and

simple," said Bronx Journalist Chris Ryan. "[Ramirez is] a guaranteed crowd pleaser every time out, and a comic to keep an eye out for," added Good Time Editor John Blenn.

Ramirez has been touring colleges for four years and he has also appeared on A&E Comedy on the Road, VH-1 Stand-Up Spotlight, NBC Showtime at the Apollo, BET - Comic View, the Apollo Comedy Hour and the movie *Punchline*.

News Briefs

The Rose-Hulman electrical and computer engineering department was contacted recently by detectives Scott Seliger and Bill Bergherm of the Terre Haute Police Department for help with an imaging process problem related to a recent robbery. Faculty members Wayne Padgett and Ed Doering have taken on the project.

John Robson, institute librarian, is seeking input regarding the usefulness of having the Britannica encyclopedia available on line to the Rose-Hulman campus community. The availability of the material on line is temporary pending reaction from faculty, staff and students.

Today and Tomorrow

- Fri., Jan. 24—Final Date To Drop Course Without Penalty
- Fri., Jan. 24—Bituminous Quality Assurance Program, Olin Hall, All Day
- Fri., Jan. 24—Learning Center/Logan Library Open House, Faculty/Staff Dining Room, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 24—Circle K Skate Party, Skate Center of Terre Haute, 12 a.m.-3 a.m.
- Sat., Jan. 25—National Society Of Black Engineers' "Future Of America Day" (Campus Tours & Science Demonstrations), Throughout Campus, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Sat., Jan. 25—Women's Basketball, Manchester College, Shook Fieldhouse, 1 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
- Sat., Jan. 25—Men's Basketball, Manchester College, Fieldhouse, 3 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
- Sat., Jan. 25—Swimming, Benedictine College, Terre Haute North, 1 p.m.
- Sat., Jan. 25—Rifle, at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, Noon
- Sat., Jan. 25—United Ministries Center, Day In Indy, 9 a.m. (From Center, 321 N. Seventh St.)

January 26-February 1

- Sun., Jan. 26—Rifle, at University of Akron, Akron, Ohio, 9 a.m.
- Mon., Jan. 27—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Program, Berzsenyi's Calculus II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—Career Fair, Moench Hall Auditorium, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—Winter Quarter Blood Drive, North Room, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—Computer Science Seminar, "Why Am I Obsessed With Cancellation," Remli Sengupta of Rose-Hulman, G-222, 3:25 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—Conference On Teaching & Learning, Hulman Union, Indiana State University, All Day
- Tues., Jan. 28—Toastmasters International Organizational Meeting, Hulman Union, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—Verbal Self Defense Workshop, "Four Basic Principles Of Verbal Self Defense," Heritage Room, Hulman Union, 7 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Programs, Erwin's Chemistry II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.; Kirtley's Physics II, G-219, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 31—Take Five, Shook Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.-Midnight
- Fri., Jan. 31—Drama Club, "1940's Radio Hour," Moench Hall Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 31—Swimming, Millikin University, Terre Haute North Swimming Pool, 7 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 31—Track, at University of Notre Dame/Indiana University Invitationals

- Instruction Programs, Erwin's Chemistry II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.; Kirtley's Physics II, G-219, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—Women's Basketball, at Franklin College, Franklin, 7 p.m. (ICAC)
- Tues., Jan. 28—Rifle, Western Intercollegiate Conference Postal Match, Auditorium Rifle Range, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 28—United Ministries Center Workshop, "Questions Of Faith And Life," 321 N. Seventh St., 5 p.m. (For Upperclass & Graduate Students)
- Wed., Jan. 29—Winter Quarter Blood Drive, North Room, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Wed., Jan. 29—VALIC Representative Mark McQueen Will Answer Questions About Supplemental Retirement Annuities, Lobby, Hulman Union, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wed., Jan. 29—Conference On Teaching & Learning, Hulman Union, Indiana State University, All Day
- Wed., Jan. 29—Men's Basketball, at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, 7:30 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
- Wed., Jan. 29—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Program, Berzsenyi's Calculus II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Wed., Jan. 29—United Ministries Center Seminar, "All About Life," 321 N. Seventh St., 7 p.m.
- Thur., Jan. 30—Career Fair, Moench Hall Auditorium, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thur., Jan. 30—Education Seminar, "The Role Of Higher Education In Economic Development," Dede II, Indiana State University, 1-4 p.m.
- Thur., Jan. 30—Conference On Teaching & Learning, Hulman Union, Indiana State University, All Day
- Thur., Jan. 30—Women's Basketball, St. Mary's College, Shook Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.
- Thur., Jan. 30—Learning Center Workshop, "Using Power Point," Julia Williams and Susan Smith, L-130, 4:30 p.m.
- Thur., Jan. 30—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Programs, Erwin's Chemistry II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.; Kirtley's Physics II, G-219, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 31—Drama Club, "1940's Radio Hour," Moench Hall Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 31—Swimming, Millikin University, Terre Haute North Swimming Pool, 7 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 31—Track, at University of Notre Dame/Indiana University Invitationals

- Fri., Jan. 31—Wrestling, at Monon Bell Classic, Crawfordsville, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri., Jan. 31—Career Services Interviews: Comed Sat., Feb. 1—Mom's Day:
- * Bookstore Open, Hulman Union, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - * Women's Basketball, Hanover College, Shook Fieldhouse, 1 p.m. (Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
 - * Men's Basketball, Franklin College, Shook Fieldhouse, 3 p.m. (Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
 - * Candlelight Dinner, Main Dining Room, 5:30 p.m. (Reservations Needed)
 - * Drama Club, "1940's Radio Hour," Moench Hall Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- Sat., Feb. 1—Wrestling, at Monon Bell Classic, Crawfordsville, 9 a.m.

February 2-February 8

- Mon., Feb. 3—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Programs, Berzsenyi's Calculus II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Mon., Feb. 3—Career Services Interviews: Burgess & Niple
- Tues., Feb. 4—Learning Center Workshop, "Internet Use," Pat Carlson of Rose-Hulman, L-130, 4:30 p.m.
- Tues., Feb. 4—Verbal Self Defense Workshop, "Listening Skills," Heritage Room, Hulman Union, 7 p.m.
- Tues., Feb. 4—Women's Basketball, Anderson University, Shook Fieldhouse, 7 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
- Tues., Feb. 4—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Programs, Erwin's Chemistry II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.; Kirtley's Physics II, G-219, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Tues., Feb. 4—Career Services Interviews: York International
- Wed., Feb. 5—President's Administrative Council, North Room, 8 a.m.
- Wed., Feb. 5—Men's Basketball, DePauw University, Shook Fieldhouse, 7:30 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
- Wed., Feb. 5—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Programs, Berzsenyi's Calculus II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Wed., Feb. 5—Career Services Interviews: Krannert Graduate School/Purdue University; Modine Manufacturing; Siemens Energy & Automation; National Air Intelligence Center, Rockwell
- Thur., Feb. 6—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Programs, Erwin's Chemistry II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m.; Kirtley's Physics II, G-219, 7-8:30 p.m.

February 2- February 8(continued)

- Thur., Feb. 6—Career Services Interviews: VLSI Technology, Tellabs
- Fri., Feb. 7—Swimming, at DePauw University, Greencastle, 5 p.m.
- Fri., Feb. 7—Wrestling, at Wheaton Invitational, Wheaton, Ill., TBA
- Fri., Feb. 7—Career Services Interviews: Advanced Automation Technologies, Inc.
- Sat., Feb. 8—Fine Arts Series, Pianist Richard Glazier, 7:30 p.m.
- Sat., Feb. 8—Track, Vincennes University, Shook Fieldhouse, Noon
- Sat., Feb. 8—Men's Basketball, at Hanover College, Hanover, Ind., 3 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
- Sat., Feb. 8—Swimming, at Eureka Invitational, Eureka, Ill., 10 a.m.
- Sat., Feb. 8—Wrestling, at Wheaton Invitational, Wheaton, Ill., TBA

Submissions To Campus Events

Events may be published in *Campus 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 *Campus Events* in the *Rose Thorn* on Friday.

Make sure to stop in the bookstore to enter the drawing for a big teddy bear.

Drawing is February 13.



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Always Close to Home

Student-organized career fair sets record

by Thomas Hill
News Editor

Students seeking employment have the opportunity to meet representatives from a record total of 61 companies at the 1997 Rose-Hulman career fair on Tuesday and Thursday in the Moench Hall Auditorium.

The career fair committee, which is headed by sophomores Leland Keyt and Donnie Stash and is composed of about

40 students, was heavily involved in organizing the career fair.

Jan Ford, assistant director of career services and employer relations, said the career fair committee has "done a heck of a job. They did a good job on follow-up with companies from last year. They've been really active developing contacts."

Ford believes that working on the career fair committee is an excellent

opportunity for students to develop networking, organizational and leadership skills.

Activities the career fair committee was involved with include mailing flyers and career fair information to prospective companies, communicating with companies interested in the career fair, working closely with companies planning to attend the career fair, publicizing the career fair to students and faculty, creating career fair pamphlets, and providing space, tables, booths, chairs and food for the career fair.

Ford explained that many of the companies that will attend the career fair have been recruiters in the past. New companies at the career fair will include Airtex Products, Belden Wire & Cable, Cellular One, Grain Processing, Inc., Milestone Contractors, Otis Elevator, Summit Group and Tellabs.

Bill Lindstaedt, director of career services, encourages students to attend and emphasizes that students should perceive the career fair as a networking opportunity. Students shouldn't expect

to receive a verbal job offer straight-away, explained Lindstaedt.

According to Ford, companies attend the career fair to promote their image to Rose-Hulman and to meet a large number of students, which they might consider for future job openings.

Career services would not distinguish between companies visiting on Tuesday and Thursday, believing students would only visit the career fair on the day the companies they are interested in plan to attend.

Lindstaedt said recruiters have called and made offers six months after meeting a student at the career fair.

"Recruiters have even asked to meet again with students they talked with a year ago," added Lindstaedt.

Lindstaedt said that the 1997 career fair will be the best ever thanks to the work of Ford and the students in the career fair committee.

Opportunity for biomedical research

Students who are interested in an opportunity to do hands-on research guided by a top-notch medical professional are encouraged to apply for the 1997 summer research grant program at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

Summer student research program positions will be awarded to college juniors, seniors, graduate, medical, nursing and hospital administration students who want to develop biomedical research skills at a major medical facility. Six of the positions are made available through a fed-

eral grant for minority students.

Students will be paired with physicians and research staff and will be involved in every phase of research, including design, data collections, analysis and oral and written presentations.

The students are paid an hourly wage for the 12-week program. So far the program has involved more than 90 students from 25 colleges and universities. Applications are due Feb. 21. For additional information contact Sandy Wasovich at (317) 929-8861.

Six students will compete in SGA primaries

by Craig Miesse
SGA Publicity Director

Primary elections for the 1997-1998 student government association (SGA) president and vice president will be held on Tuesday in the student commons. The final election is scheduled for February 4.

The three candidates running for president are Michael Dean, Craig Lyjak, and Bryan Towne. The three candidates for vice president are Stuart Light, Ed Ransom, and Chris Repa.

Michael Dean is a junior mechanical engineering major from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Dean believes that the president must provide leadership for the SGA senate and represent the student body in all forms.

Dean says that if he is elected he will initially clean up many of the internal problems of the SGA, turning it into a "well-oiled machine." He then plans to make the SGA start working for the student body as opposed to just monitoring clubs.

Dean's leadership experience includes serving as the leader of the Open Forum, a group of students trying to improve the workings of the SGA. Dean has been the president and head coach of Rose's Volleyball Club, a member of the Quality of Education Committee, and is a member of the College Republicans.

Craig Lyjak is a junior mechanical engineering major from Memphis, Michigan.

Lyjak has served class president and as SGA publicity director. Lyjak is a member of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity.

Bryan Towne is a sophomore electrical engineering major from Chillicothe, Ohio.

Bryan believes the SGA president should act as a liaison between the faculty and the students. Towne would like to increase student-faculty relations as well as increase the power of the students in decisions regarding changes in their curriculums.

Bryan's leadership experience includes serving as high school student body president, and Pi Kappa Alpha midwest region vice president. Towne is an Eagle Scout and is involved in the Rose-Hulman Jazz Band.

Vice presidential candidate Stuart Light is a sophomore computer science major from Indian Harbour Beach, Florida.

Stuart believes that the vice president should act, when needed, as a mediator between factions and expedite progress of and through the senate.

Light hopes to bring a distinctly non-political

mind set to the SGA executive committee and a fresh perspective to long-standing problems.

Light has been involved in Rose-Hulman Drama Club, Jazz Band, and the Anime Club.

Ed Ransom is a sophomore mechanical engineering major from Huntington, Indiana.

Ransom serves as treasurer/fiscal assistant of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. Ransom believes the role of the vice president is to help the president achieve his goals.

If elected, Ransom plans to hold open forum discussions with the president and the student body to get "real" feedback on students' issues and concerns.

Ransom would like to work with career services to push for more engineering opportunities for undergraduates. As a member of the SGA executive council, Ransom would like to get involved in finding more financial aid for Rose-Hulman students.

Christopher Repa is a sophomore chemical engineering major from Tinley Park, Illinois.

Repa sees the role of the vice president as a liaison between the student body and the administration.

If elected, Chris would run the SGA senate meeting effectively and would try to inform the student body of what is going on with the senate.

Repa is currently the secretary of the student activities board (SAB), the SGA parliamentarian, a member of the 1996 and 1997 career fair committees, vice president of the College Republicans, and a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

Companies Attending Career Fair '97

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Airtex Products | Indianapolis Power & Light |
| Allison Engine | Kimball International |
| Ander森 Consulting | Logicon RDA |
| Belden Wire & Cable Company | Logikos, Inc. |
| Beloit Corp. - Paper Machine Group | Marathon Oil Company |
| BSA Design | Mead |
| Cellular One | Milestone Contractors |
| Cinergy Corp. | Milliken & Company |
| ComEd | Modine Manufacturing Co. |
| Copeland Corporation | National Security Agency |
| Cummins Engine Company | National Starch & Chemical |
| Delco Electronics | Northrop Grumman |
| Delphi-E | Otis Elevator |
| Dwyer Instrument, Inc. | RDS, Inc. |
| Essex Group, Inc. | REA Magnet Wire |
| Federal-Mogul | Ritron, Inc. |
| Fisher Controls | Sagian |
| Ford Motor Co. | Software Engineering |
| Freudenberg - NOK | Professionals, Inc. |
| G.E. Aircraft | Software Artistry |
| G.E. Appliances | Solar Turbines Incorporated |
| G.E. Plastics | Summit Group |
| General Motors Truck Group | Tellabs |
| Grain Processing, Inc. | Tenneco |
| Great Dane Trailers, Inc. | Texas Instruments |
| Guardian Industries | Thompson Consumer Electronics |
| Honda of America Mfg., Inc. | TRW Automotive Electronics |
| Huber, Hunt & Nichols, Inc. | TTC |
| Hughes Information Technology Systems | Underwriter's Laboratories, Inc. |
| Hughes Defense Communications | UOP |
| International Centers for Telecommunication Technology, Inc. | WEI |
| | Whirlpool Corporation |

CORRECTION

Photographs of Bill Lindstaedt, Bill Sisson and Ron Reeves were misidentified in the January 17 issue of the Rose Thorn. The Thorn apologizes for any confusion or inconvenience this error may have caused.



Bill Sisson



Bill Lindstaedt



Ron Reeves

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President's position reflects America's taste for "wafflers"



Pete Papavasiliou

Thorn
Columnist

Earlier this week, Bill Clinton was re-inaugurated as President of the United States of America following an incredibly extravagant and almost laughable rock concert in his honor. He was re-elected by a sound margin last November, largely due to the fact that for the last four years, America has done quite well for itself.

The United States continues to be the dominant military power in the world. Thanks to the inflationary policy of the Federal government, our economy has been growing for quite some time; jobs have been created, and interest rates have stayed low. The signing of NAFTA, although it was more of a managed banking agreement

than a free trade pact, has, nonetheless, created a much larger, more competitive trade region in North America. And of course the relative successes of our foreign policy in such places as Bosnia, Israel, and the halls of the United Nations are not to be overlooked.

Whether or not Bill Clinton himself is responsible for all this affluence, the last four years does seem pretty rosy. Still, President Bill Clinton has, in addition to a high approval rate, an almost equally high disapproval rate. A good many Americans, and a much higher proportion of Rose-Hulman students, would even go so far as to say that they hate the man.

One of the biggest

these accusations come from within Mr. Clinton's own party. It would seem that Bill Clinton's actions are up for bids to the faction with the highest population. Because of this "vote with the most" track record, many would say he is unfit to lead America.

What is wrong with letting the majority have their way? Isn't that the cornerstone of American culture and of its democratic society? Have we not learned that the way to prosperity is through compromise and understanding of others?

Look at American history. We know that because people often disagree, the founding fathers established a system in

which the elected officials of the nation are chosen by majority vote. Legislation in Congress can only be successful by a majority vote, except in certain cases such as international treaties, which require a two-thirds majority (except of course in the case of NAFTA.) Voting and the entire concept of democracy revolves around majority rule. Maybe Bill Clinton seems to understand this better than anyone?

Another of the convictions Americans hold dear is the value of compromise. If there is a dispute between two people, two factions, or two nations, there must always be some middle ground that the parties can agree to. Thus, we have glorious examples of compromise in our history. We knew slavery was wrong, but, if a man counts as three-fifths of a person, that is better than not being a person at all. If we can't convince Native Americans to give us their land and we cannot kill them all, then we just convince them of the mutual benefits of living in badlands in South Dakota. There were those who knew it was wrong . . . but there is always a compromise.

Bill Clinton understands this doctrine perfectly. Many have

Letters to the Editor

SGA: more than meets the eye

I am writing in response to Dave Hile's article "Power, Recognition Come as Perks for SGA President" in last week's *Rose Thorn*. For years I have read *Thorn* articles that do nothing but "lighten spirits." I have been the butt of many jokes in the Top Ten List, as well as that infamous picture of myself addressing the SGA Senate last year. With a good sense of humor, I took none of that personally. Instead I took it all in good fun. However last week's article was nothing to laugh about. What was supposed to have been a serious article, turned out to be petty remarks which put down the positions and the organization of which I put much time and effort into for three years. As a former student body vice-president and president, I appreciate Hile's intentions for writing the article — to encourage students to run for SGA president and vice-president — but I am offended by the reasons that he lists as why a student should run for the positions.

He tries to encourage students to run based on his opinion that the SGA president immediately becomes the most prominent student, and that "no action is needed to warrant the new accolades, but that "the position itself brings admiration." He also adds that one should run for other "perks" such as the high number of Honor Key points the president would receive. When I ran, I never even considered the amount of Honor Key points that I would receive! In short, Hile makes out the position of SGA president as a "do nothing" job, and that it is nothing more than a mere resume builder.

Speaking for myself as well as my predecessor, Rob Wallace, and my successor, Shawn Eads, I can tell you that the job of SGA president involves a lot more than people think. Many, many hours are spent each week on the job. This includes actual SGA meetings, different student/faculty committees, administrative committees, as well as handling business between clubs or individuals. Hile states that the presidents of the past "may not have made a difference in your life at Rose-Hulman." I feel that this may be due in part that those individuals do not acknowledge the work of the SGA, or simply do not even want to notice the work of the SGA. Or could it be because it is the *Rose Thorn* who does not publicly give credit to the SGA when it is deserved? May I remind you that Rose-Hulman would not have an organized co-op/internship program, or a Spanish language program, just to name a few, if it were not for the constant persistence of the SGA.

For those of you who are considering running for any of the SGA positions this year or in the future, do not do it because of Dave Hile's petty reasons. If you do, and win, I can guarantee that you will be in for a rude awakening. Do it for the same reason that I and others in the past have done it. Do it because you have a genuine interest in the SGA. Do it because you feel you can make a difference in the lives of the students. Do it because you want to be involved in this community at a higher level. Do it because of your love for this school.

By the way, if the *Thorn* is, like the Editor-in-Chief stated, "forever in debt to the SGA," then how about printing some articles promoting all the good things SGA has done, or is trying to do, instead of the bad?

Sincerely,

Ashvin Lad
Former SGA President
Class of 1996

Top Ten Tasteless

I am sorry to say that the top ten lists have become increasingly offensive and decreasingly humorous over the past few weeks. If you can't find creative, clean humor, please do not insult us with lewd and vulgar allusions to disgusting habits and offensive behavior. I want (and I hope you do to) a school paper that I can be proud of, not one that prints trash. I would rather not see a top ten list if it can't be kept clean. That being said, I would also like to congratulate you for the many fine articles and features that you do publish. I especially enjoy reading the editorials and opinions. Keep up the good work!

Thank-you and blessings,

Jacob Stoltzfus, (CH '00)

theorized that a true democracy, where everybody votes on every issue, would be superior to our republic, where only elected representatives have a voice. Because the populace would speak directly on all issues, the decisions would be a truer representation of the desires of the citizenry. Doesn't Bill Clinton's consultation of telephone polls serve a purpose somewhere along these lines?

So in a nation where the majority is always right, everyone should have a voice, and compromise of one's principles is heralded as a virtue,

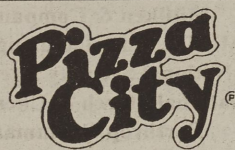
Bill Clinton should be the perfect man to lead. Nearly every decision includes the opinions of roughly 2000 citizens who have had their voice heard by telephone. He almost always sides with the popular opinion, and if popular opinion changes, he is more than happy to accommodate it.

So quit bickering about our President being a "waffler." We live in a land of majority, a land of compromise, and a land of democracy; Bill Clinton is exactly the kind of president we should expect.

We live in a land of majority, a land of compromise, and a land of democracy

complaints towards the current president is that he is a "waffler," a man who's policies are based more on the outcomes of opinion polls than on any set of values or on his own convictions. Many of

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Cheese	1.95	4.80	5.90	7.00
1-item	2.30	6.30	7.40	8.50
2-item	2.65	7.10	8.30	9.50
3-item	3.20	7.90	9.20	10.50
4-item	3.50	8.70	10.10	11.50

Additional Menu Items

Sandwiches	.....	\$3.45 & 3.95
Bread Stix - w/Cheese	.....	1.50
Garlic Knots, Cinnamon Knots or Butter Knots	.....	1.60
Garlic Bread	.....	1.45
Garlic Bread & Cheese	.....	1.95
Hot Wings (10 pcs.)	.....	3.50
BBQ Wings (10 pcs.)	.....	3.50
Full Spaghetti	.....	2.99

Works Items: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onions, Green Olives, and Green Peppers.

Ingredients: Pepperoni, Sausage, Mushrooms, Onions, Green Olives, Black Olives, Green Peppers, Pepperoncini, Jalepeno Peppers, Ham, Beef, Canadian Bacon, Fresh Bacon Pieces and Anchovies.

SPECIAL: 2 sandwiches for \$5.90

Ham & Cheese - Ham, Provolone, Mozzarella, Parmesan	.....	\$3.45
Hoagie - Ham, Salami, Provolone Cheese, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions, Spices	.....	3.45
Stromboli - Pizza Sauce, Sausage, Cheese, Spices	.....	3.45
Barbeque Stromboli - BBQ Sauce, Sausage, Cheese, Spices, Onions	.....	3.45
Pepperoli - Pizza Sauce, Pepperoni, Cheese, Spices	.....	3.45
Submarine - Pizza Sauce, Salami, Canadian Bacon, Cheese, Spices	.....	3.45
Gyro - Lamb & Beef, Onions, Tomatoes, Sour Cream on Pita Bread	.....	3.45

Roast Beef - Roast Beef, Onions, Provolone Cheese	.....	3.95
Turkey Club - Turkey Breast, Fresh Bacon Bits, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Onions & Mayo	.....	3.95
Meatball - Meatballs, Spaghetti Sauce, Cheese, Spices	.....	3.95
Italian Beef - Served with onion & provolone cheese on our Fresh Sub Bun	.....	3.95
Pork BBQ Sandwich - Served with onion on our Fresh Sub Bun	.....	3.95
Beef BBQ Sandwich - Served with onion on our Fresh Sub Bun	.....	3.95
Chicken BBQ Sandwich - Served with onion on our Fresh Sub Bun	.....	3.95
Steak Hoagie - Steak, onions & provolone cheese on our Fresh Sub Bun	.....	3.95
Reg. Salad	.....	\$1.45
Chef Salad	.....	\$3.50
Drinks	.....	95¢
Pitchers, Soft Drink	.....	2.75

Ex. Veg. - 30¢ Ex. Cheese - 50¢ Ex. Meat - \$1.00
Prices include Tax

RECEIVE \$1.00 OFF ANY 12", 14" OR 16" PIZZA WITH THIS

Living like an Engineer



**Caleb
Coburn**

*Thorn
Columnist*

One of the few disadvantages I've found as a result of studying to be an engineer is thinking like one. Not that it is entirely a bad thing, but thinking like an engineer all the time is not good. The importance of developing this thinking process is very beneficial and helps immensely as a graduate seeking a good job, but I don't like this to intermingle with my personal and social life. It goes back to the old philosophy of leaving your work at your job while leaving your personal life at your home.

College for me is, not only about learning about a profession, but also learning about life. I look at college as being a prep school for real life. We begin to live on our own, do our own things, and take responsibility for our actions. Part of this development is to think on our own. I never imagined, though, that I would actually begin to think like an engineer in all areas of life.

I first came across this problem when I was a freshman two years ago. At the time, all of the ME's were taking our first true engineering course in Statics. Most of us were also in Calc III. This led to a double dose of vector math and similar stuff. Well, that was all fine and dandy until it started to affect my social life.

One night at a party while in a state of inebriation, I was walking around seeing the force and velocity vectors of where I moved. I'm not sure if it was because of all of the beer I had drunk or because I'm a nutcase, but sure enough, it was happening. And I didn't like it.

Another example of how this engineering thought process has entered my life is my brain. I look at my brain and all the thought processes buried in it as a gigantic, super-fast computer. I hate to think of it like this because it seems like something a "computer geek" would do. The analogy fits astoundingly well, though. For instance, I can remember a great deal of things. I don't remember them as words though, but as pictures and sounds. If I come up with something and I can't at first, I'll stick the thought in my 'background processes,' where I subconsciously think about things. Maybe 15 minutes later or maybe 15 days, I'll think of it, but usually I'll come up with it.

Not too long ago, a friend of mine asked me about a call she had made long distance. Not only did I tell her the call was to my mother's house, but I also told her the date and the exact time of the call. The call was made during our Thanksgiving break, two months previous to when she asked me about it. It's scary how I relate to this computer analogy so well, but I think it is because of what I have learned and experienced

here at Rose-Hulman. My reasoning as to why I can remember when the call was made is that I stored it up in my 'computer' (and also because I remember things very well dealing with this particular friend of mine.)

Another aspect of my life that has been effected by studying this field has dealt with varying situations because much of engineering deals with analyzing and explaining why things happen or what makes things work. Growing up to know the difference between this engineering aspect and any other aspect, I have continuously analyzed everything in my entire life. Numerous times this has led to over-analysis of situations in which there wasn't anything to start.

I worried about stupid little things because I sat down and tried to figure out what was going on, like a good engineer would do. But you can't do this with real life. Many things that happen in life don't have explanations (or ones that we can understand), so trying to obtain one is impossible. This process leads to worry and stress, which I don't think students at Rose need to deal with in addition to their already stressful classes.

Sometimes, I'll also find myself making jokes dealing with engineering subjects. This seems quite depressing to me. Not because my friends and I do it but because of the connotation associated with engineers doing this. Sometimes you can't help it though. And who is to say that we should? I mean, if your friends are a bunch of engineers, and whatever you say is worthwhile, then why not?

What I'm trying to say is that it can be nice, and it can be something else. If I'm bored, I can go somewhere and just try to figure out how something works or what makes "this or that" stay together. I can look at my mountain bike and figure out ways to improve upon its design. I only like to do this when I'm bored though: extremely bored. Maybe part of that is because analyzing things in this fashion comes very natural to me, as does learning about it all. Still, it's nice to leave that stuff behind whenever I'm riding through the woods or hanging out with friends.

Caleb Coburn (ME '98) is from America. He would like to congratulate his friend AV on being born and making it through last year without his roommate going (more) psycho and killing everyone. He would also like to say that he doesn't live with any pets and is amazed with the efficiency of parking at Rose-Hulman. "Yeah, I got to park almost as close as the guys in Skinner do," he says. "Indeed, yes."

George Carlin: a Funny Philosopher or just a Filthy Comedian?

The best medicine to cure almost any foul mood is genuine laughter. I love to laugh, and I really love to hang out with people who can make me laugh. George Carlin is my favorite comedian because not only does he get me rolling in laughter, but he also makes me think. He puts a lot of thought and intellect into his work, and I consider him a humorous philosopher more than a comedian. He can be offensive at times, but it is all in good humor because there is always a point in what he is saying.

Carlin believes that you can joke about anything because it all depends on how the joke is constructed and what the exaggeration is. He is not afraid to joke about touchy subjects such as abortion or rape as long as the joke is constructed correctly.

His example of how rape could be funny is to imagine a cartoon character raping another cartoon character. His exaggeration is in the situation of the rape and not the actual act of rape itself. Every joke needs one thing to be blown way out of proportion, and this is easily done by combining two things that you would never think of being together. You never think of rape in cartoons, and the way Carlin says this makes it sound funny even though "you're not supposed to joke about something like that." After Carlin pointed out how every joke needs an exaggeration, I've realized how a lot of funny things have something blown out of proportion.

Carlin is an excellent observer. Some of my favorite bits are his observations on the things you never see such as "you never see a really big, fat, tall Chinese guy with red hair." Then there are the things you never hear such as, "Dad, you really ought to drink more" or "Hand me that piano." Then there are the things you just don't want to hear such as "I'm pregnant, you're the father, and I'm going to kill all three of us." A common occurrence that one could care less about hearing is

someone announcing publicly that they have to use the rest room.

"I'll be right back. I gotta take a dump..."

"Never mind. Do what you have to do and leave me out of it! And don't describe it when you come back."

"Boy you should've seen..."

"Never mind!"

"It set off the smoke alarm..."

"Never mind!"

Carlin does a lot of material on words such as commonly used redundant phrases such as final destination or any word with the prefix of "pre".

"What does it mean to pre-board a plane? To get on before you get on? ... An oven can only be in two states. Heated or non-heated. Pre-heat is meaningless."

After Carlin spouts off every racial slur you could imagine, he claims, "There is absolutely nothing wrong with any of those words in and of themselves. They're only words. It's the context that counts. It's the user. It's the intention behind the words that makes them good or bad. The words are completely neutral. The words are innocent"

Words are just words, and it is the meaning behind them that really counts. Carlin received a lot of publicity from the "Seven words you can't say on television". He analyzed each of the seven obscene words that were banned from the airwaves in a monologue which was broadcast over the radio in the late 70's.

The Federal Communications Commission took the case to the United States Supreme Court, but the radio station claimed that Carlin had a constitutional right to have his monologue broadcasted. The court decided that it could only punish the station if it was broadcasted when children were potential listeners. There were additions to Carlin's list of seven words, and over time some of these words have been dropped. Thanks to Carlin, words such as "fart", "turd", and "ass" are no longer censored.

*Kent's
Krib*

by:

Kent Bye



Carlin has some great material about how we've become so politically correct these days that we can't even call people blind anymore. They've become "optically challenged." He agrees with some of the word changes such as changing spokesman to spokesperson, chairman to chairperson, and mankind to humankind.

While he agrees with some, he also thinks that we are getting a bit carried away. He says, "You'd call that thing on the street a person-hole cover. What would you call a ladies man? A person's person? That would make a He-Man an It-Person. Little kids would be afraid of the Boogieperson. They'd look up to the sky and see the person in the moon. Guys would say 'Come back and fight like a person,' and we'd all sing *For It's a Jolly Good Person*. That's the type of thing you'd hear on Late Night with David Letterperson!"

Carlin is more than just another comedian. He is an outspoken individual who is not afraid to stand up for something in which he believes. He has many good ideas; ideas that he claims kept him out of the really good schools, but still good ideas nonetheless. If you're looking for a good laugh and something to think about, then I'd recommend listening to a bit of George Carlin.

Kent Bye (EE '98) considers himself a Renaissance man who believes in living life to the fullest. He plans on publishing a book someday and it is his goal to meet as many different people as possible.

Skate Party!

Friday, January 24th

Midnight - 3 am

Skate Center of Terre Haute

(behind Super K-mart on 1st St.)

Fundraiser for Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD)

\$4

Free Skate Rentals
(Skates and Blades)

Ramps and Pipes available

for the more adventurous

Sponsored by Rose-Hulman Circle K

Top Ten Excuses for not going to the Basketball Games this weekend

10. Have to wait in line to buy those *Star Wars* tickets.
9. I'll catch a game in Shook next year.
8. Saturday afternoons are meant for chess.
7. I was reading the *Thorn* and completely lost track of time.
6. I'm afraid I'll be visiting your mom. We're playing Canasta. Naked.
5. I'm waiting for everyone else to leave, so I can steal stuff out of their rooms.
4. Sorry, Sigma Nu house-warming party.
3. I thought I might reorganize my homework files.
2. Gotta download the new version of *Red Alert*.
1. I'm in the middle of a 3-Day Bender.



Bendolini brings magic to Shook

World-renowned magician and entertainer, Leonard Bendolini, will bring his unique blend of hypnotism and escape artistry to Shook Fieldhouse tomorrow. Audiences are always blown away with a stunt where Bendolini, "The Great" convinces the crowd that they are not at a magic show, but actually at a basketball game. The hilarity kicks off at 1 p.m.

By: BOB VOROS
1-24-96

Warning: the following strip is the beginning to a plot.

President Bill Clinton looks for alternatives to costly Washington spending.

Ducks!

Excuse me

Ducks, sir

Our major problem with our national security is the costly technology that we utilize.

True, true

Well, I propose a solution to the utilization of smart missiles and other such devices. . .ducks

uhn-huh,

Control system: bio-technical integration

Propulsion: compressed air tank

Alternate Propulsion

Stealth exterior

Fuel

Environmentally conscious waste

CENSORED

Well...

How much will it cost

\$15,000 a duck

Sold!

Payload device: armature and linkages

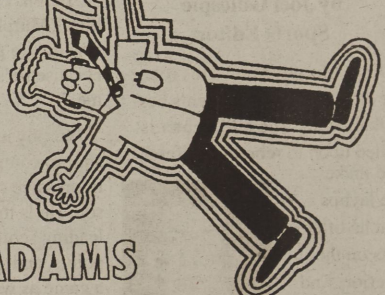
Easily constructed

The proposed design will allow us to control ducks by remote and allow them to carry deadly payloads.



DILBERT®

BY
SCOTT ADAMS



WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY THIS YEAR, MOM?

OH, NOTHING. I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED.

OH, C'MON. THERE MUST BE SOMETHING YOU WANT.

WELL, ONE THING. BUT IT'S SILLY.

YOU JUST NAME IT.

OKAY.

I'D LIKE A HOME ENTERTAINMENT THEATRE WITH A FIFTY-INCH SCREEN, "THX" SURROUND SOUND AND A 600 KBPS SATELLITE LINK TO THE NET SO I CAN VIEW ADULT PICTURES DURING THE COMMERCIALS.

I WAS THINKING MORE ALONG THE LINES OF A NEW TOASTER OVEN.

OH, THAT'S EXCITING. I'LL PUT IT NEXT TO MY OTHER ONE AND WATCH THEM FIGHT IT OUT.

THERE'S A REAL DARK SIDE TO THE INFORMATION AGE.

OH, AND ABOUT THE GIFT OF LIFE I GAVE YOU; YOU'RE WELCOME.

SCOTTADAMS@AOL.COM

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