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Vol. 32, No. 11

edge

olleges consider major educational changes

by Singalex Song Thorn Reporter

Rose-Hulman may become involved in the creation of a new accrediting system that would be necessary because of the dramatic changes in the delivering of higher education in the twenty-first century

With the cost of a college education rising at an astounding rate, traditional universities may no longer hold a monopoly on higher learning in the future. Instead, they would share this with "Virtual universities," "corporate colleges," and other non-residential, less expensive alternatives to the traditional college.

Rose-Hulman president Samuel Hulbert commented that there have been drastic changes in the business and industrial communities as well as within the health care system in the last several years, all driven by economics.

Noting how quickly the changes in health care came to pass, Hulbert made the observation that the cost of a college education is increasing at a rate twice that of inflation. This rate faster than the average family can keep up, and a trend that Hulbert believes is incapable of continuing for much longer.

In addition to the rising cost of a traditional college education, cor-

accredited ing programs. One example is the General Motors Institute (GMI), owned by the GM corporation. "What will happen to traditional, private higher education environments, if colleges no longer have a monopoly on conferring certificates of competency for employment degrees," asked Hulbert.

His comments relate to a Lilly Foundation grant proposal devel-

oped by the Independent Colleges of Indi-ICI) that ana(seeks funding to react to educational changes.

According to

the ICI report, within the next is the non-pragmatic learning for decade education will be dramati- intellectual development. Knowldeclate calculation with the trianal international edge edge edge instruction neede delivered from institutions other certai than colleges and universities.

There are over 75 colleges that currently exist where a person could get a degree without setting foot on campus, two colleges that give degrees without offering any courses, and more than 450 "corpo-rate colleges" like GMI in the United States

These institutions offer a cheaper porations are increasingly provid- and more convenient alternative to

educational the traditional residential univer-' these same institutions will eventusity. Corporate colleges such as ally impede on the traditional col-GMI also tend to offer a more leges' territory of offering a full focused education, with knowledge education, less expensively. focused education, with knowledge that is more immediately practical for specific corporate jobs.

James Eifert, Dean of Faculty, commented that credentialing, learned. In addition to this, people knowledge, and education are the are finding it necessary to go back three reasons why people go to to school for further credentialing school.

According to Eifert, "Education

Traditional colleges are fearful that customers would prefer places that provide only knowledge, credentials, or a combination of both, more cheaply.

needed in order to be able to do

certain tasks, and credentials are

what enable a person to gain accep-

nomic class.

of both, more cheaply.

post-graduation credentialing process is the useful information

Eifert plans to go on leave next year in order to spend time with various corporate colleges to examine the issue more in depth

Eifert commented that currently

Eifert questions if the universities

want

or the corporate

this, and if tradi-

tional universi-

ties such as Rose-

Hulman would

involved in this

to

sector will

soon

after it's

do

get

people are finding some knowl-

obsolete

on a regular basis.

"I want to see how they do things and what the interface should be between corporate colleges and traditional universities," said Eifert. In the state of Indiana, traditional colleges have banded together to face the potential coming changes posed by less expensive competitors.

One idea is to have each state student is paramount.

system to evaluate educa tional offerings by business and industry. Rose-Hulman, ISU, the local campus of Ivy Tech State College, and St. Mary-of-the-Woods College have asked to be considered as the evaluators for courses in Indiana.

Although Rose-Hulman has not committed to anything as of yet, there is the possibility that it might be involved in evaluating the train ing that goes on at corporate colleges, in effect "accrediting" these institutions. Despite the inevitable changes that will occur in higher education in the near future, Hulbert remains partial to the traditional residential university.

"I am hopeful that Rose-Hulman's niche will remain important, and that we will become an institution that's even more personalized, with faculty members acting more as coaches than lecturers. I really like the college campus and I think it is a very special place," said Hulbert.

Hulbert added, "Rose-Hulman needs to go out and lead. With all the changes in health care, the cus tomer did not always benefit. We must not forget about the student and drift into a system driven solely by economics, because the



Dean Eifert may go on sabbatical next year to learn about accreditation or corporate universities. by Mike Kosloski

by Vu Thu Pham Thorn Reporter

James Eifert, vice president academic affairs and dean of the faculty, plans to go on sabbatical next year, which he expects will last approximately six months to one school year.

Currently Eifert is trying to decide what to do during his sabbatical. One possible plan involves working with the Accreditation Board for Engineering & Technology, Inc.(ABET). ABET is responsible for accrediting the engineering programs at Rose-Hulman and many other engineering institutions.

While working with ABET, Eifert would have opportunity to visit other engineering institutions and evaluate their engineering programs.

Eifert's other plans include working for the National Science Foundation or visit corporate universities to learn their positions on technology and write a book about it.

According to President Samuel Hulbert, Eifert has not clarified his intention for sab-

batical. Eifert has until January 7, 1997 to enter his proposal to the school board along with all the faculty on campus.

As for Eifert, he said he is looking for sabbatical work that is interesting, chal-lenging, brings good exposure to Rose-Hulman and pays well.

Eifert believes that going on sabbatical could be a new trend for staff members.

Traditionally, [sabbatical is] only for faculty but not for staff members. I think [sabbatical for staff members] is an important way for our staff members to take a leave to go and see how others do their job or my job. It's a good investment for Rose-Hulman [to improve work performance],' said Eifert.

According to Eifert, not only will staff members have a chance to "recharge their information base" on sabbatical, but involvement with national organizations such ABET and visiting other colleges would bring national visibility to Rose-Hulman.

Hulbert will not comment on Eifert's replacement for the next year until Eifert finalizes his proposal.

Falented freshmen class earns highest average GPA

by Pete Anderson

their first ten weeks of classes earning the highest average GPA of all classes.

The 392 members of the freshman class

students received the lowest GPA for the cumulative 2.984. Thorn Reporter The freshman class, considered to have seniors (326) received average fall term at 2.818. The juniors (286) and seniors (326) received average fall senses to attend Rose-Hulman, finished respectively.

As for cumulative GPAs, the freshman have the highest at 3.104. The senior The 392 members of the freshman class class ranks second at 3.012, followed had a GPA under 2.0 while arned an average first semester GPA of closely by the juniors at 3.001. The soph-4.0. The senior class had 19 st 3.104. The large sophomore class of 439 omore class is lagging behind with a 4.0 and 28 earn below a 2.0.

The sophomore class had the most students earning a 4.0 this term (30), but they also had the most students earning GPAs under 2.0 (65). The junior class had the fewest with a 4.0 (11) and the fewest under 2.0 (11). Twenty-eight freshmen had a GPA under 2.0 while 26 earned a 4.0. The senior class had 19 students earn

The 471 students belonging to fraternities put up a GPA of 2.890 for the fall term and have a cumulative 2.967. The 81 members of Pi Kappa Alpha put up the best grades for the past term with a 3.054. The Triangle fraternity, with 55 members, has the highest cumulative GPA at 3.118, followed closely by Pi Kappa Alpha at 3.080, Chi Omega (25 members) at 3.077 and Fiji (70 members) at 3 036

tance into a particular socio-eco-Eifert believes that currently only traditional colleges offer education. However, traditional colleges are fearful that customers would prefer places that provide only knowl-edge, credentials, or a combination

This is coupled with the fear that

The Rose Thorn · Campus Events · December 13, 1996

Today and Tomorrow

- Fri., Dec. 13—Admissions' On-Campus Visitation Day, 1-4:30 p.m.
- Fri., Dec. 13-Rose-Hulman Women's Club
- Cookie Exchange, Christine Cudney's Home Fri., Dec. 13-Women's Basketball, at Greenville Invitational, Greenville, Ill.
- * Rose-Hulman vs. Lincoln Christian College, 6 p.m.
- Fri., Dec. 13-Career Services Interviews: Cummins Engine Co.
- Sat., Dec 14-Men's Basketball, at Millikin. University, Decatur, Ill., 7:30 p.m. (Game Reports On WSDM-FM, 97.7)
- Sat., Dec 14-Women's Basketball, at Greenville Invitational, Greenville, Ill.
- * Consolation Game, 1 p.m.
 * Championship Game, 3 p.m.

December 15-21

- Mon., Dec. 16-Facilities Dept. Holiday Party, Moench Hall Auditorium, 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 16-ASCE Winter Banquet (Speaker: Scott Rouse of Fink, Roberts & Petrie), Boston Connection Conference Center, 6 p.m. (Reservations Required)
- Mon., Dec. 16-Men's Basketball, Centre College, Shook Fieldhouse, 7:30 p.m.
- Mon., Dec. 16—Learning Center Supplemental Instruction Programs.
- Berzsenyi's Calculus II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m. Tue., Dec. 17-Women's Basketball, at Earlham College, Richmond, 7 p.m.
- Tue., Dec. 17-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.
- Wed., Dec. 18-President's Administrative
- Council, North Room, 8 a.m. Wed., Dec. 18—ROTC Holiday Party, Faculty/ Staff Lounge, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wed., Dec. 18—Learning Center
- Supplemental Instruction Programs,
- Berzsenyi's Calculus II, G-221, 7-8:30 p.m. Thur., Dec 19-Tour Of Alumni Center, 4 p.m. (Call Ext. 8114 If Planning To Attend)

- Thur., Dec. 19-Hulman Union/Residence Hall Staff Holiday Celebration, North Room, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thur., Dec. 19—Women's Basketball, IU-
- East, Shook Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.
- Thur., Dec. 19—Explore Engineering, Concrete Cylinder Busting/Tour Of Alumni Center, 7 p.m.
- Thur., Dec. 19-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., Dec. 20-Christmas Vacation Begins After Last Class
- Fri., Dec. 20-Men's Basketball, at Eureka College, Eureka, Ill., 7:30 p.m.
- Fri., Dec. 20-Christmas Vacation beginsafter last class

Winter Quarter at a Glance

- Jan. 4 Men's Basketball, Elmhurst College, Fieldhouse, 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 6 Winter Quarter Classes Resume, 8:05 a.m.
- Jan. 8.- Men's Basketball, at DePauw
- University, Greencastle, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 9 — Women's Basketball, St. Mary's
- College, Fieldhouse, 7 p.m. Jan. 11 Men's Basketball, Hanover
- College, Fieldhouse, 3 p.m.
- Jan. 11 Women's Basketball, at Hanover College, Hanover, 1 p.m. Jan. 13 — Martin Luther King Day Jan. 13 — Admissions On-Campus Visitation
- Day, 1-4:30 p.m. Jan. 14 SGA Senate Meeting, GM Room,
- 5:30 p.m.
- Jan. 14 Women's Basketball, at Anderson University, Anderson, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 16 Recyclable Engineering Contest, Hulman Union, 5 p.m.
- Jan. 18 Midterm Reports Deadline,
- Opera, Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 18 Women's Basketball, DePauw
- University, Fieldhouse, 1 p.m. Jan. 18 — Swimming, at Principia College,



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In Memory of Scott Alexander The Thorn would like to say good-bye to our friend. Scott Alexander who recently passed away due to complications associated with diabetes Scott was the Campus Editor of the Thorn for the last year. All of Scott's friends will greatly miss him.

Elsah, Illinois, 1 p.m.

- Jan. 21 Registration For Spring Quarter
- Jan. 22 Men's Basketball, Anderson University, Fieldhouse, 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 23 Women's Basketball, at Oakland
- City Invitational, 8 p.m. Jan. 24 — Final Date To Drop Course
- Without Penalty
- Jan. 25 Women's Basketball, Manchester
- College, Fieldhouse, 1 p.m. Jan. 25 Men's Basketball, Manchester
- College, Fieldhouse, 3 p.m.
- Jan. 25 Swimming, Benedictine University, 1 p.m.
- Jan. 28 SGA Senate Meeting, GM Room,
- 5:30 p.m. Jan. 29 — Winter Quarter Blood Drive, North Room
- Feb. 1 Mom's Day Feb. 7 Army ROTC Dining Out, St. Mary-
- of-the-Woods College, 6:30 p.m. Feb. 8 - Fine Arts Series, Pianist Richard
- Glazier, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27 End Of Winter Quarter, 5 p.m.

More Winter Quarter Events

Feb. 15 — Regional Mathcounts Competition, Hulman Union

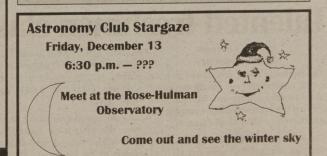
Feb. 15 -Alumni Basketball Game Admissions On-Campus Visitation Day, 1-Feb. 17 —

- 4:30 p.m. Feb. 19 — National Engineers Week's Visitation Day
- Feb. 21 Spring Quarter Fee Payments Deadline Feb. 24 Final Exams For Winter Quarter Begin, 8

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.



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Registrar's Office, 11 a.m. Jan. 18 — Fine Arts Series, IU Chamber

a.m.

The Rose Thorn . News . December 13, 1996

Preparation will help at career fa . will be able to search the available by contacting the Career Services summer internships. by Kevin Kaminski

Thorn Reporter

The Career Services center is continuing to assist students in job placement through a variety of new and updated services.

According to Bill Lindstaedt, director of career services, the Career Services center will soon enable freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to post their resumes at a designated place on the World Wide Web. The on-line resume manager is scheduled to be completed by the end of January.

The Career Services center will be contacting students after the Winter break with information on this system. Employers will able to view the resumes of the students that have posted them on the system. In addition, employers

resumes using fields such as aca- center for assistance. demic major and geographic location

The system will also allow "fuzzy searches" through which through which the employer will list various criteria ranked in importance and the system will return the closest matches to their specifications. This will allow employers to search for resumes of students that most closely meet their criteria.

Additional features on the web page will be links to top employof Rose-Hulman graduates, how-to guides about resumes, and a general advice section.

Although the on-line resume manager is not ready for expan- for students will be held to sive use, students wishing to post vide pointers about the career

additional forthcoming An event from the Career Services center is the upcoming career fair which will provide an excellent opportunity for students to talk with potential employers. event will be held in the auditorium on January 28 and 30.

Mass mailings and invitations are being used to target a variety of companies from across the country. A goal has been a set of 60-70 companies at the fair this year. Last year 57 companies were present.

During the week prior to the career fair, a series of workshops for students will be held to protheir resumes may currently do so and information on obtaining

Lindstaedt recommends doing several things to prepare for the career fair. Students should pre-pare many copies of resumes to give to representatives. Dressing up may make a better impression The on potential employers

In addition, Lindstaedt suggested that students prepare a quick 30-second speech themselves. This spee about speech intended to spur conversation with the employer and make the employer more interested in the student.

"You have a very short time to get out your best points. Students need to be aggressive at the career fair and sell themselves," said Bill Lindstaedt

Lindstaedt stated that even those students that do not desire a job with the career fair employers are encouraged to attend the career fair. It will allow students to talk to representatives from a variety of companies. It also allows students the opportunity to make an impression on the recruiters at the fair. These recruiters will likely return next year and possibly remember the student at that time when he or she is searching for a job.

Job placement this year has improved from previous years. partially due to economic growth. Entry-level positions for engineers are up a few percent from last year. Currently, about 97% of last s graduates are placed in a position. (The Career Services center considers "placed" to mean working in a field relating to the graduate's major, in graduate school, or in the military.)

Of last year's graduates that

within their major, 13% went to graduate school, and 3.5% are in the military

Page 3

The majors currently in highest demand are computer science, electrical engineering, and computer engineering. A possible rea-son for this is the surge of smaller technology-based companies that have begun to sprout up in recent years.

Mechanical engineering majors are still in high demand. The demand for chemical engi-neering majors has not been greatly increasing ever since the last economic recession. A possible explanation is the segment of the employment market that hires a majority of those students is large companies, which are not presently increasing in size

A suggestion for chemical engineering majors in order to work around this obstacle is to not limit the job search to only large compani

Lindstaedt offered suggestions for obtaining summer internships. Starting a job search by January or earlier is important.

In addition, students should have a good resume. Students are encouraged to have the Career Services center examine their resumes before posting them.

The Career Services center requests that students submit their resumes, so they can be forwarded to interested companies. Linds-taedt estimated that as little as one-half of undergraduate students give a copy of their resumes to the Career Services center.

Panhellenic Council President honored here at Rose. by Craig Miesse

SGA Publicity Director

Student Government Association(SGA) president Shawn Eads has selected Shawn Eads has selected sophomore Michelle Clark as November Rose-Hulman the student leader of the month.

Michelle was nominated by Donna Gustafson for her work as President of the Rose-Hulman Panhellenic Council. As president of this new organization, Michelle was instrumental in the development of a constitution and by-laws, and organizing the named first women's fraternity rush month.

by Thu Vu Pham

Thorn Reporter

Rose-Hulman has recently

purchased a new 40,000 square

foot off-campus building from

foot off-campus bankruptcy court because Computing

Devices(ACD), the original

owner of the building, declared

The building is located south f interstate 70 and 46th street

at Aleph Park., which is the sec-

bankruptcy last year.

Clark, a chemical engineering major from Robinson, Illinois, plans on attending graduate school possibly to study law. Michelle currently serves as executive director on the SGA executive council

Clark is a charter member of Chi Omega's Women's Fraternity. She is also a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and the Society of Women Engineers Michelle is the first female in Rose-Hulman's history to be named student leader of the

Bankrupt company leaves behind building at Aleph park man at Aleph Park is currently

being leased to two companies. said Dean James Eiftenants," ert.

President Hulbert and Dean Eifert hope that leasing Aleph Park buildings to new companies will encourage outside interaction with Rose-Hulman outside students through research and projects.

"Project work for off campus customers will become a very ond building that Rose-Hulman common thing or even a owns in Aleph park. The first requirement for every engineerbuilding owned by Rose-Hul- ing program," said Eifert.

building serves two purposes We are actively looking for for the school. First, the ACD building will serve as temporary place for possible research projects for students, until the new Center for Technological Research with Industry is ready to house those projects.

> Then the ACD building can be campus customers.

of use as a business venture in which tenants can deal directly with the new facilities on campus. This may result in more projects commissioned by off-

Rose Bureaucrat

by Catherine Miller **SGA Publicity Committee**

On December 10, the SGA ing this quarter.

Toby Eiler, Kara Pritt, and high school on January 18, Michael Dean, all of whom 1997. The "Science Rose recently attended the National Conference on Student Ser-vices(NCSS) Leadership Conference, served as keynote speakers. They shared what they had learned about leadership and themselves. The three o suggested that SGA bring leadership speakers to campus. President Shawn Fads announced that Michelle Clark has been selected as Student Leader of the Month for November for her work with the Rose Panhellenic Council.

Treasurer Stuart Busby reported that the General Fund stands near \$60,000.

During New Business, funding requests were heard from both the Ultimate Club and Alpha Chi Sigma. The Ulti-mate Club asked for \$1767 to pay for transportation costs of attending three tournaments a user logs on to Netscape. in the fall quarter and to par- President Eads spoke on ticipate in three more this behalf of the policy and the spring. This amount was determined pay for gas and wear. The from students about miscon-Finance Committee recom- duct. The policy was finally mended \$0.20per

instead,, and the Ultimate Club was granted \$1140.

Alpha Chi Sigma presented met for its first regular meet- a request for \$944.56 to hold a science trivia contest for local 1997. The "Science Rose Bowl" would pit twelve teams against each other in a Jeopardy style format. Prizes will be given to the top three teams and participatory prizes to all twelve teams. The total request also paid for mailings and meals. The Finance Committee's recommendation of \$950 was discussed and approved.

The revised Home Page Policy was brought before the senate again. The changes in the policy and necessity were debated and methods of transmitting the information to students were suggested. Some ideas included more presentations to freshmen classes or seeing the policy appear when using \$0.31 per mile to need of a warning to students mile approved.

UN team will represent t Argentina

The United Nations team traveled in to Butler University in Indianapolis to participate in the Butler Model United Nations Security Council Conference on November 7-9.

Rose-Hulman delegates representing The Republic of Rus-Rose-Hulman team, was sia, France, South Korea, and selected to serve as President Egypt participated along with of the Council. Gould repre-11 other universities from Indi-senting Russia received an ana and Illinois.

In this United Nations simulation, participants utilized their knowledge of interna-tional relations through debate on current issues of concern in the international arena of foreign affairs.

Delegates gain skills in diplomacy and negotiation, and acquire first-hand knowledge

Rose-Hulman Model of the difficulties encountered in forging comprehe multi-lateral agreements. comprehensive

Lucas Amodio, Ted Gould, Randy Schmidt, Robin Brown, and Ana Witaszczyk repre-sented Rose-Hulman. Amodio, and four year member of the senting Russia received an award as the "Best Delegate" in Council.

The Rose-Hulman Model United Nations team will com-pete in the Midwest Regional Model United Nations conference held in St. Louis, Mis-February 26 through March 1, 1997.

This conference will simulate the major bodies of the United

Nations including the General Assembly, the General Assembly Committees, the Security Council, and the International Court of Justice. Rose-Hulman will be representing the nation of Argentina in this conference.

Participation in the Model United Nations is open to all Rose-Hulman students. Meetings are held in room 202A, Moench Hall, on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM.

More information about this activity can be secured from team members or Dr. Thad Smith, faculty advisor in the Humanities and Social Studies The department. team is coached by Martha Cornelius.

According to Eifert, the ACD

Michelle Clark

The Rose Thorn . Opinions . December 13, 1996

Letter to the Editor **Rose defends its class**

am writing in response to Michael Bickel's recent column in which the admissions office was accused of misrepresentation, deceit and lies. Needless to say, our office prides itself on presenting Rose-Hulman's academic and co-curricular programs in an accurate and fair manner. It is never our intent to purposely misrepresent any aspect of the Institute

In particular, we spend a great deal of time discussing the opportunities afforded by Rose-Hulman's Humanities and Social Sciences Department. Over the four years that a student attends Rose-Hulman, he or she has the chance to take a wide variety of courses within the HSS Department. It is true that not every course is available every quarter or even every year; but during a student's four years, vast and varied courses are offered. I do not believe that that opportunity is inaccurately portrayed by the admissions office.

In so far as Rose-Hulman's class sizes, our usual response is to discuss class sizes in terms of what constitutes a small classroom environment and the number of students in Rose-Hulman's largest class. Obviously, there is a variance in class sizes; but for the most part, Rose-Hulman is able to offer students classes of modest size and that is the message the admissions office attempts to portray. I do not recall ever indicating chat 80% of Rose-Hulman's classes are under 20. To accuse us of lying about class sizes is totally unfair.

Finally, I want to assure your readers that our admissions office takes its mission of recruiting good students very seriously. We con-tinue to attract outstanding students. The academic profile of our 1996 freshman class is incredible. Our standards are not dropping and to even suggest that Rose-Hulman is not attracting the "best and brightest" is absurd.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to discuss our admissions program.

Regards,

Charles G. Howard Dean of Admissions

The Rose Thorn 5500 Wabash Avenue

Terre Haute, Indiana 47803-3999 Phone: (812) 877-8255 Fax: (812) 877-8362

"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 at

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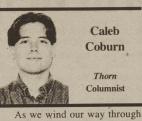
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The Rose *Thorn* welcomes letters and comments from its readers. We request that all letters to the editor be less than 300 words long. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, clarity and length (if over 300 words). All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature, class year and phone number. All submissions will be confirmed before publication. Letters may be sent by electronic mail to *Thorn@Rose-Hulman.Edu*, but still must contain the writer's phone number for confirmation. For prompt publication, letters should be typewritten or printed by computer. All letters for an issue of the *Thorn* must be received before noon on the Tuesday prior to publication. to publication

We would like to remind our readers that the views expressed in the Thorn do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone other than the

Web Page: http://www.rose-hutonan.edu/Users/groups/Thom/HTML/index.html



December, Christmas inevitably

gets closer and closer. At the

same time, our thoughts shift

more and more to the holiday season that we are amidst. Unfortunately, for many of us,

we see the holiday season in the

wrong light. We do not see this

time of year as it was originally

meant, which is entirely too sad. As a young boy, I

would

How

con-

what

should

people and writing out Christmas

cards to people we never talked

trate on what Christmas was sup-

posed to be. It was a time when

we'd get together with friends and family and enjoy one

another's company. But instead

of seeing that togetherness we

We never did concen-

can remember the anxiety and sleep-less nights caused by

the gifts under our Christmas tree. I

can remember try-

ing my hardest to go sleep on Christ-

mas Eve just so the

come earlier. Then, my sisters and I

would jump out of

bed as soon as one of us was awake,

prod my parents out of bed, then rip into

ever, never in my childhood did I ever

In my house,

and in many others,

we approached Christmas in the

our presents.

experience

sciously

Christmas

to much.

and

really be about.

morning

What Christmas should really be about

and cards.

So, what is Christmas really about? It is about exactly what I previously said: friends and family. It is a time that is set aside every year by almost everyone in this nation for that. But instead of seeing what is there, we see ourselves buying things to show people how we care about them. This is not what Christmas is about. I show how I care to someone through my everyday life; it doesn't take a holiday to show that. For instance, I show one of my best friends how much I care and appreciate her by sending her e-mail or simply telling her how much I do care about our friend-

wrong way. We would spend all of the season buying gifts for other

holiday spending; is much more personal than that.

This country has become obsessed with consumerism. We no longer see the good- natured human side of things any longer. We've added so much things any technology to our lives that we try to have life styles so full of shared as a family, we saw gifts useless rituals that no one has

time any longer to see what is in front of us. With this commer-cial obsession continuing yearly without being noticed, wonder we are still able to live like we do without going insane. Societies seldom remain intact without an emotional backbone holding them together.

As a result of all of this, I cannot remember a Christmas season since the start of high school that I've enjoyed. (Before then I was too young to care.) This season has always put a bad taste in my mouth because it just didn't seem like anyone was celebrating for the right reason. But I intend for this coming Christmas to be different for me.

> So how do we It's simdo that? ple, actually. We look at the bright side of life. We look at really the only true thing we've got in our thing our friends lives: and family. With-out them, what is point of any-ig? We look at the thing? love shared the between us all, and with that comes hap love, happiness. In addition to this, the one thing that many of us fail to at is ourlook selves.

So, I say to hell with buying gifts sending off eless Christoff and senseless mas cards. The only gifts I ever want or ever desire

to give are from the ship. Care doesn't come from heart. I've already gotten some (as well as given some), but I can give or get gifts anytime. What truly makes this holiday special is the people we spend it with. So, for once, I'm going to see to that, and I'm going to be happy.

> Caleb Coburn (ME '98) does not make his home in Oak Ridge, TN, birthplace of the atom bomb. He enjoys spending his time mountain biking (when it's time mountain bising (when it's warm out), playing hot sounds on his radio show on WMHD, and drinking fine coffee over pleasant conversation at the Coffee Grounds. He currently dislikes all prejudicial people, including bisection and is striving to convert himself, and is striving to convert the whole of society to be happy.

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The Rose Thorn · Perspectives · December 13, 1996

The roller coaster ride in the vast theme park of college life Michael Bickel Bickel Michael B



I feel fortunate to have expe rienced college from many different perspectives. I acquired these perspectives by listening and watching other people and thinking about myself. Some of my perspectives have helped me appreciate the world I live in. However, some have severely limited my college experience. I would like to challenge others not to get stuck with these perspectives.

I used to think that college was a revolving door, and I was superman. This was an impres-sion that I partly made up. I also observed people going through college. Some were intimidated, most were excited, and everyone said it was different on the other side. For other people, college was simply a transition from one place to another.

For me, college was a chance to change quickly, to show the world who I really was. All I needed was a few minor adjustments in order to be taken seriously. When I walked out of my sheltered world through the college door I would be invincible.

Now I see that college is like a theme park. There is a lot to do and see and a lot of fun to have, but many people never get past the concession stands. If they do, they might get stuck in one area and not see anything else, or be so impatient waiting in lines that they forget to enjoy

favorite experience rather than their own. Anyone could tell you what is there, but few could tell you what you really want to do there.

When I last visited a theme park, I went on all the major roller coasters. This was be-cause the two friends I was with told me that the roller coasters were the best part. When I came to college, I looked for people to tell me the best way to do things. In the first case, I ended up doing things I liked right away. In the second case, I didn't.

My expectations for the theme park were based on what I was told by my two friends. These friends had not only been there before, but also knew me very well. They were people I could communicate well with, and people I could trust. Still, my expectations were very open about what I would experience. Based on this preparation, I had an excellent time.

When I came to college, I had other expectations. These were based on friends, guidance counselors, parents, admissions offices, and teachers. Of these, only my parents and a few friends knew me very well. Only a few people I knew had even heard of Rose-Hulman; none had attended. I did not in-terview at any colleges, nor did I visit. Consequently, what I found out about college wasn't all I needed to know.

I was responsible for finding out what I needed to know, but of course I didn't know what that was. I came to the right World and asked Disney World employees what I should know about their park, I could hardly expect a personalized answer. Yet this was what I did when I went to college.

ible though. Find a role model who is having a better time than you. Find out what exactly what activities are available for you; there is more than you know. nt to college. If you are bored to death, If you are bored to death, Michael Bickel is currently in exile in Peru for his extreme politi-cal ideas. We are trying to find out who is posing as him at RHIT and writing these columns portraying him as interesting, humorous, and thoughtful. Michael Bickel is none of these things! He is a dangerous of these things! He is a dangerous ortiminal who will devour your mind like tofu and make you his slave. Be careful of him.

The sisters of Tri-Delta welcomes our new members. We are excited to be able to share our sisterhood with you. Congratulations! Kathleen Faulkner Julie Nordmeyer Shanna Rogers Christine Winters Denise Beemster Melissa Howell · Kristi Pratt Kristin Roth *****************

Only stories can be uncovered while hunting for ghosts at the Woods



I had heard rumors that Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College was haunted, and I decided to do a little investigation concerning this claim. I attended a bonfire at the Woods where some seniors told the incoming freshman some of their personal paranormal experiences as well as some ghost stories that have been passed down from year to year. There were some stories which occurred only once and could've happened any where, but the most convincing stories were about the reoccurring incidents that had been witnessed by some of the students present.

Probably the most popular story is the one about the faceless nun which has been seen by a handful of students floating down a hallway in the main dorm, LeFer. The story behind the faceless nun is that a sister supposedly died be-fore she had a chance to finish painting her self-portrait. It is believed that she is still trying to find someone to finish painting her face so that she can rest in peace. There were several girls still at the Woods who have seen the faceless nun, but it is usually seen only by one person at a time.

occur on the fourth floor of LeFer because it is right below the attic which is locked with multiple locks and is an off-limit area. During the war, numerous girls Hall are playful, but the ones in haunting the conservatory were music majors be-

whenever they heard that their boyfriend was killed, and many went up to the attic to do it. There are many unexplained noises in the attic such as footsteps which are commonly heard heard from the fourth floor. Also, voices, noises of running, roller skating, or knocking on doors have been heard outside in the hallway when there was no one else there. I was shown an impression of a face which suddenly appeared on a fourth floor wall over the past summer.

Girls have also d that they've heard their said names called out when no one was around. Water in some bathrooms somehow turns on by itself. Compact disks were being stolen from one girl, and she had enough when her wallet disappeared while she was in the room. She announced that she was going to leave and that her wallet better be there

Most of the paranormal quirks when she returned. When she be exorcised. These rooms have cur on the fourth floor of LeFer came back, all of her CD's were holes drilled through the walls stacked in a pyramid with her wallet sitting on the top.

Most of the ghosts in LeFer



the conservatory have reportedly been a little bit more aggressive. The conservatory is where the music majors practice their instruments. Some say they've been practicing at night and had objects fly at them when they played a wrong note

Some rooms in the conservatory were so bad that they had to

above the doorway so that these spirits could supposedly escape. It is believed that the ghosts

> cause pianos have been reported to start playing even when someone has been the only person in the building.

Besides the ghosts in LeFer and the conservatory, there have also been other paranormal phenomena reported around campus. A couple of girls were taking an evening stroll, and decided to walk through the Sisters of Providence Cemetery when they noticed something different on the statue of Jesus. blood

They saw blood dripping from his hands, feet, and his eyes looked as if He were crying.

Next to the Church of Immaculate Conception, there is a winged statue holding a spear which is known to the students as the Winged Warrior. The security guard initially thought that some students were playing a practical

joke when he noticed that the Winged Warrior was missing, but then he realized how impractical this would be. He later reported seeing the Winged Warrior supposedly walking around campus, and then return to his pedestal to his frozen position.

I took an evening tour around the campus with a Woods student searching for anything out of the ordinary, but we found nothing. I did find out that Saint Mary-ofthe-Woods has a lot of very interesting history behind it, and it is a beautiful and eerie campus.

I can't say whether any of these ghost stories in my article are true or not, because I am still skeptical of them. The fact that some rooms have been closed down or exorcised, and that there are so many people who've witnessed something out of the ordinary says to me that it is possible. Whether you're a skeptic or believer, ask some Woods students what they've heard or experienced and then decide for yourself.

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.

Page 5

"Greenville Tourney up for grabs," says

The Rose Thorn · Sports · December 13, 1996

by Matt Wernke **Sports Reporter**

Rose-Hulman women's The basketball team are bound to see lots of familiar faces when they travel to the Greenville College Invitational this weekend. The Engineers, fresh off a tough , 73-65 loss to Greenville Tuesday night, will play Lincoln Christian College in the first round of the tournament.

However, the second game will St. Mary-of-the-Woods against Greenville. So, no matter the outcome of either game, the Engineers will have the opportu-nity to avenge one of their five losses in either the championship or consolation game.

'I think the Greenville Tournament is up for grabs - whoever puts two good games together will be the winner," Engineer head coach Wanda Schwartz said.

The tournament, held in Greenville, Ill., will tip off at 7 p.m. EST Friday with Rose's game against Lincoln Christian. Action will resume Saturday with the consolation game at 2 p.m. and the championship at 4 p.m.

The Angels of Lincoln Chris-tian are 4-7 this season and are led in scoring by two sophomore guards, Amanda Siddens and Kari Flood.

'Lincoln Christian is a deliberate team, so we will try to force the tempo against them,' Schwartz noted.

The Woods won their next two

games after defeating the Engineers December 3, and have raised their record to 5-6. Greenville improved to 3-2 with their victory Tuesday night.

Rose had a height advantage over Greenville in every position but center, but the Panthers' center Susan Fischer used her size to score 27 points and help Greenville pull away in the final minutes

"[Fischer] had her way in the Schwartz tonight," lamented.

The Engineers had the Shook Fieldhouse crowd on its feet with a little over five minutes to go. when a Sarah Gordy layup pulled Rose to within 60-58. However, Panthers called timeout and the put Fischer, who had four fouls, back into the game, and Greenville went on a 12-4 run which sealed the victory.

Rose fell only three points short of their record for most points in a game, set last season against the Woods

The loss dropped the Engineers to 1-5 on the season, but they put four players in double figures the first time ever. Sophomore Bessie Fulk poured in 18 points, a career-high, to lead the Engi-neers. Amanda Speich had 17, Gordy scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, and Holli Krumbein tallied 10.

"We did do some things really well tonight," said Schwartz. 'Our reaction to their switching defenses was excellent, and our

Sonhomore center Sarah Gordy shoots over the St. Maryof-the-Woods defense in a game earlier this season.

combination on the floor for the final few minutes (Fulk, Speich, Gordy, Krumbein, and Becky Smith) really worked well together." well

Rose traveled to Elmhurst College last Saturday and came away with a disappointing 92-58 loss.

Speich led the Engineers with a season-high 22 points, and grabbed seven rebounds as well. Gordy scored 14, and Fulk ten in the defeat.

Reserve Cory Braun led Elmhurst with 18 points in only 19

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Rifle team on target

by Michael Ray Head Rifle Coach

The rifle team participated in 2 major matches over the quarter break and had several high points.

At the Walsh Invitational, the largest indoor match in the country, sophomore Rich Price fired a personal best 1080 in smallbore sophomore Bryan Rushing had a personal best in air rifle at 365.

Overall, the team shot 4280 in smallbore and 1435 in air rifle, which was good enough to place them 19th in the nation in the first poll. The following day the team shot

at the Buckeye Classic at Ohi State. Senior Mark Fields shot personal best and a new school record in smallbore with 1132.

He was followed by Brya Rushing who shot a personal bes of 1103. The team finshed 8th i smallbore with 4343 and 11th i air rifle with 1393.

Unfortunately, one of the to members couldn't attend th matches because of a famil emergency, but the sophomore are picking up some ground s things are looking good when th season resumes in January.

Classified Advertisements

FOR RENT:

d efficiency for rent. Call for details 232-3405

House Mates Wanted \$300 plus deposit per bedroom and your share of electric, cable & phone bills plus a share of housekeeping/ lawn care gets you superb, quiet, country living; kitchen privileges, etc. No indoor dogs or smoking please. Larry or April @(812) 235-9629 or Susan @ (812) 894-3511.

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Bedroom Duplex. Appliances included w/ dishwasher. 1-1/2 baths. Newly decorated \$455/ month. 111 S. 18th St. Call 235-8573 afternoons or 232-6479 ever

EVENTS:

Worship Planning Team to

service. Now at <u>6:00 p.m.</u> each Wednesday night at United Ministries Center, 321 N. 7th St.

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH Worship: Sun. 10:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m. College & Career class: Sun. 9:30 a.m. 25th & Margaret Avenue. Transportation available 466-5144

Thirteenth annual Rose-Hulman ski trip to Ski Cooper, Leadville Colorado. March 2 to March 7, 1997 Cost is \$425. Includes 5 days lift tickets, 5 days ski rental, 5 nights lodging, 5 continental breakfasts, 4 evening meals. See Dr. Ditteon, CL-108, x8247 for additional details. \$100 non-refundable deposit is due December 13, 1996.

FOR SALE: House for sale: 580 S. Brown. 4 BR 2-

create our monthly student-led worship 1/2 BA, 1/2-acre lot, 2366 sq. ft., very large master suite, lots of storage, near Meadows. Shown by appointment, 235 7557

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ustom Screen Printed T's, sweats Low Prices, fast service, free art work. SWAG'S APPAREL 232-6947. Visit our showroom at 2950 S. 7th. Sept. and Oct. White T-Shirt Sale. Call 232-6947. TUTORS:

Sr Chem E interested in tutoring. Available for MA, CM, CH classes. Any costs negotiable. Call Dave at 232-

POLICIES:

The Rose Thorn offers classified advertisements less than 30 words free Rose-Hulman students, faculty, and student organizations. For submissions

of more than 30 words, each additiona word is \$0.10.

All other classified ads are \$3.00 for th first 30 words, then \$0.15 for eac additional word. Payments must be mad in advance; corrections at our expense o first week only.

The Thorn reserves the right to refus advertising which the editors judge to b discriminatory on the basis of race religion or sexual orientation, or the promotes violence, illegal activities or in bad taste

Submissions may be made at the Thor office, through the *Thorn* Box 2034, be email-ing *thorn@rose-hulman.edu*, or b calling the *Thorn* at ext. 8255. Deadlin for submissions is 5 p.m. the Wednesda prior to publication. Runs over one wee must be renewed weekly by contacting th Thorn office, unless prior arrangements have been made

The Rose Thorn • Sports • December 13, 1996

Sixth man could be key in Centre game Monday

by Joel Gillespie **Sports Editor**

The Rose-Hulman men's bastball team hopes to use their ellar performances in last weekd's Rose-Hulman Invitational a takeoff point for the rest of e season. The Engineers' skills Il be put to the test again this eek, as they travel to Decatur, , to take on

illikin Unirsity on urday. d will bat-

Centre ollege in a home ge Monme

Kent Murphy

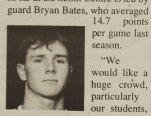
y. In the Engineers' thrilling 95-96 season, one of the most art-stopping games had to be ose's 105-91, double-overtime tory over Millikin. Although eir 1-3 record may not indicate the Big Blue will be a tough allenge for Rose this time ound, as well.

'Millikin has been up and wn," commented Engineer ad coach Jim Shaw. "They won DePauw, and played very well do that, but they have also yed poorly at times.'

The Big Blue boast a 6-8 post ver, Eric Smith, and also have alented point guard, Adam Pronce. Smith and Provance have mbined to average 35.6 points r game so far this season.

That kind of inside-outside sori lance makes a team a bigger ncern," Shaw warned.

Centre College will come margining into Shook Fieldhouse



the last four meetings.

would like a huge crowd, particularly our students,

play. The heated rivalry between

the schools, which the Colonels

have dominated over the years,

has taken a turn in the Engineers

favor of late, with Rose winning

New coach Tim Littrell is 1-3 so far at the helm. Centre is led by

season

"We

have

who Joe Puthoff been MIA so far." Shaw stressed.

Tipoff will be at 7:30 p.m.

Rose used two very quick starts to dominate what was supposed to be stiff competition in the Rose-The Engi-Hulman Invitational. neers jumped out 10-0 on their way to a 75-45 victory over Con-cordia on Friday, and then they built a 15-0 lead against Albion and coasted to a 71-54 win.

The victories improved Rose's record to 6-1 on the season. Senior forward Troy Halt, who was named tournament MVP, also earned ICAC player of the week honors for the second consecutive week

Rose played their best game of the season to date in the victory over the previously-undefeated Britons of Albion.

basketball in just about every area," Shaw praised. "I want to em-phasize that we didn't do anything

Monday night with a new coach we're not capable of doing each and a fast-paced, pressing style of night out.'

> After the 15-0 start, Albion went on a 9-1 run to close the gap to 16-9. However, that was the closest the Britons would get, as Rose stretched its lead to 39-20 at halftime.

Rose led by as many as 27 points in the second half on their way to the 17-point victo-

Halt scored a career-high 25 points and pulled down ten rebounds in the game. Senior Kent Murphy and sophomore Bryan Egli also cracked double figures for the Engineers, with 14 and 12 points, respectively.

The Engineers employed a suffocating defense, great rebounding, and balanced scoring to pummel the Concordia Cougars in the first game of the

cent from the floor in the game, and did not score a point until 5:42 had run off of the clock. Despite missing many layups, the Engineers used a 52-29 rebounding advantage to get

double figures, with 14, but

Freshman Patrick Grace came off the bench to score "We played extremely good nine points, while Halt, Murand freshman Chris Meredith each had eight counters.



Page 7

Sophomore guard Bryan Egli leaves another hapless opponent in the dust.

o 71 Albio

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wim team seventh at DePauw Invite

by Don Cole **Sports Reporter**

n their last competition before ristmas break, the Rose-Huln men's swimming team made trek up to Greencastle last ekend to swim in the DePauw vitational.

This is their fifth year of comition in the meet, and they ced seventh out of ten teams, improvement over last year's alq-t-place finish.

ndividually, Sean Valentine beced fourth in the 100-meter

breaststroke. Jeff Somers placed how he thought the rest of the seaninth in the mile and finished fifth in the 50-meter freestyle.

Eric Panhorst came in seventh in the 200-meter backstroke. The relay team of Valentine, Eric Panhorst, Matt Jackson, and Jim Meyer placed fifth in the 400meter freestyle relay

Overall, coach Randy Jensen said, it was a pretty good performance. He mentioned that the team was pretty tired after Thanksgiving break, and also that g they did better than last year.

When Jensen was asked about th

son would go, he replied that if they can stay healthy, and "train like we have these past couple weeks after Thanksgiving," the swim team could move up a couple of spots from last year in the conference meet.

Jensen also commented that many of the distance swimmers this year did not have much expe-



Vrestlers finish up pre-Chr

by Joel Gillespie **Sports Editor**

Eight Engineer wrestlers comed at the 16-team Wabash Invional last weekend in wfordsville. The grapplers l return to action after Christ-

Sophomore Donnie Stash and shman Jon Lachowitzer both ced in the tournament. Stash gan by winning his first three tches, two by fall, to advance the semifinals.

the match, and Stash had to won by fall.

medically forfeit his last two matches. He ended up with a sixth-place finish at 150 pounds.

Lachowitzer, wrestling at 158, began well also, picking up a 7-0 first-round victory. A tough second-round decision sent him to wrestlebacks, where he won two and lost one to finish in seventh place.

Heavyweights Paul Drury and Kris Verdeyen won a match However, Aaron Bomer of apiece for the Engineers. The two idelberg defeated Stash, 10-9, met in wrestlebacks, where Drury apiece for the Engineers. The two

Wabash
istmas slate
at will help out the team.
ore comfortable in that role, and
et more experience, they will ge
ence in high school, but as they

Invitational

Results

150- Donnie Stash, 3-1,

150- Mike Kosloski, 0-2

158- Jon Lachowitzer, 3-2,

177- Lathan McLaughlin,

150- Travis Ihnen, 0-2

275- Paul Drury, 1-2 275- Kris Verdeyen, 1-2

142- Rob Roush, 0-2

6th place

7th place

0-2

tournament.

Concordia shot only 27 permany of those misses back.

Egli was the only Engineer in twelve players scored in the game for Rose.

