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THE ROSE THORN

Vol. 31, No. 28

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Friday, May 17, 1996

Commencement Issue

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Class of 1996



Repeat ICAC champs lose first NCAA tourney game

by Joel Gillespie
Sports Editor

In their first NCAA tournament action since 1992, Rose-Hulman committed five errors and squandered an early 2-0 lead on their way to losing to Ohio Wesleyan, 10-2. The Engineers are still alive in the double-elimination Mideast Regional, with a game at 3:30 p.m. (Indiana time) today in the loser's bracket. Rose will play the loser of the Marietta-Allegheny game which was completed late last evening.

Engineer head coach Jeff Jenkins was disappointed by the loss, but he hasn't given up hope for the rest of the tournament. "[The tournament] is double-elimination for a reason. We still have a chance to come back," he stressed.

The game began on a high note for the visiting Engineers. Catcher Kyle Curry hit a two-run double in the top of the first inning, scoring Bryan Egli and Eric Tryon to give Rose an early advantage.

Staff ace Eric Tryon started the game for the Engineers despite being beset by

the flu. Tryon didn't have his best stuff on this especially humid day, and was roughed up by the Bishops for five runs in four innings pitched.

In the bottom of the first inning, Wesleyan's Ryan Missler belted a two-run home run over the left-center field fence to even the score. The Bishops picked up another run in the fourth to take the lead, and then they exploded for five runs in the fifth off Tryon and reliever Andy Cain to take control of the game.

Rose was unable to mount much of a rally against Wesleyan pitcher Scott Oberschlake, delivering only two hits after the first inning. Jenkins commented, "We can't celebrate after a half-inning, and I think some of us did."

Jenkins cleared the bench when the game got out of hand, giving many of

the younger players a taste of regional action. Brad Rudolph finished out the game on the mound for the Engineers, giving up Wesleyan's final run.

Ohio Wesleyan didn't make any mistakes to help out the struggling Engineer bats, committing no errors in the game. "I'll give Ohio Wesleyan a lot of credit, they made every play," Jenkins noted.

Matt Sims will start the do-or-die game for the Engineers tomorrow. Rose needs to liven up their bats and clean up their defense if they want to qualify for the NCAA national tournament. The regional winner will advance to that tournament, to be held from May 23-28 at Salem, Virginia.



HOW SWEET IT IS!
Engineer seniors Kyle Curry (left) and Clinton Hiatt celebrate their second consecutive ICAC tournament title.

Society offers perks to students

by Jay Shannahan
Thorn Reporter

Jess Lucas, vice president of student affairs, received a very favorable response when he proposed forming "The Rose-Hulman Society" to the SGA Senate.

Students who join the society would agree to take responsibility for their actions and to dedicate themselves to achieve their full potential, successfully complete their degree program and continue to support the institute after they graduate.

Members of this society will benefit from lifelong aid from Rose-Hulman in seeking employment, gaining admission to graduate school, or in any other reasonable requests.

Lucas came up with the idea while talking to Brent Robertson, president

of the alumni association. Lucas and Robertson agreed that something was missing from the campus, which inspired the idea for the Rose-Hulman society.

Lucas commented, "Membership in a college as a student is more than just being a student. It means that you're accepting membership in a special group of people."

The society is still in the planning stages. Details such as membership requirements are still unresolved. Lucas requests that students with suggestions or comments contact him. Students can either stop by his office, call him at x8230, or E-Mail him at Jess.Lucas@Rose-Hulman.edu.

Friday, May 17

Thesis Defense, "Automation Guidelines For EDESUR, A Newly Formed Argentine Distributing Company," Ken Roth, CL-119, 8 a.m.

Baseball, at NCAA Division III Mideast Tournament, Marietta, Ohio:

- Winners Of First Round Games, 11 a.m.
- Losers Of First Round Games, 2:30 p.m.
- Loser Of 11 a.m. Game vs. Winner Of 2:30 p.m., 6 p.m.

(WMHD-FM 90.5 Will Broadcast Rose-Hulman's Games) Reception For Margaret Ying & Logan Library Staff, Faculty/Staff Dining Room, Hulman Union, 4 p.m. International Student Reception, North Room, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 18

Baseball, at NCAA Division III Mideast Tournament, Marietta, Ohio:

- Championship Game, Noon
- Championship Game (If Necessary), 3 p.m.

(WMHD-FM 90.5 Will Broadcast Rose-Hulman's Games)

Sunday, May 19

Last Supper Before Finals, Main Dining Room
Bump Day At Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Monday, May 20

Start Of Final Exams For Spring Quarter, 8 a.m.
Deadline For Senior Grades, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, May 21

Institute Meeting To Approve Graduates, E-104, 12:30 p.m.
Institute Meeting To Discuss PTR Issues, E-104, 5 p.m.
Track, at NCAA Division III National Championships

Wednesday, May 22

President's Administrative Council, North Room, 8 a.m.

Thursday, May 23

End Of Spring Quarter

Friday, May 24

Faculty/Staff End Of Year Dinner/Dance, Main Dining Room, 7 p.m.
Army/Air Force ROTC Commissioning Ceremony, North Room, 1-4 p.m.

Saturday, May 25

Commencement, Shook Fieldhouse, 11 a.m.

1996 - 1997 Calendar**September, 1996**

Sun.-Tue., 1-3 — Freshman Orientation
Mon., 2 — Labor Day
Tue., 3 — New Games, 5 p.m.
Tue., 3 — Cookout, 6 p.m.
Tue., 3 — Dance
Wed., 4 — Freshman Registration
Wed., 4 — Ice Cream Social, 6:30 p.m.
Wed., 4 — Activities Fair, 7 p.m.
Thurs., 5 — Classes Begin, 8:05 a.m.
Thurs., 5 — Terre Haute Business Night, 8 p.m.
Fri., 6 — SAB presents comedian, Jeff Marder, 8 p.m.
Sat., 7 — Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
Sun., 8 — RHA Movie, *Jurassic Park*, 7 p.m., North Room of the Union
Mon., 9 — Registration Deadline
Tue., 10 — Fraternity Rush Opens, 6 p.m.
Wed., 11 — Final Date to Add a Class
Fri., 13 — Fraternity Rush Informals
Sat., 14 — Rosh Hashanah
Sun., 15 — Fraternity Rush Informals
Mon., 16 — Closed Fraternity Rush
Wed., 18 — Fraternity Rush First Formal Invites Out
Sat., 21 — FAS *The Local Girls* (vocalists)
Sun., 22 — Fraternity Rush - First Formal Invites Due
Sun., 22 — Yom Kippur
Sun., 22 — RHIT Faculty/Staff Family Picnic, Deming Park
Mon., 23 — Closed Fraternity Rush
Mon., 23 — Yom Kippur
Fri., 27 — Fraternity Rush, First Formals
Sun., 29 — Fraternity Rush, First Formals
Mon.-Mon., 30-7 — Closed Fraternity Rush

October, 1996

Sat., 5 — Homecoming
Sat., 12 — Midterm Progress Reports Due, 11 a.m.
Sun., 13 — RHA Movie, *Seven*, 7 p.m., North Room of the Union
Mon., 14 — Fraternity Second Formal Invites Out
Mon., 14 — Closed Fraternity Rush
Mon., 14 — Columbus Day
Tue., 15 — Registration for Winter (Classes in Session)
Thurs.-Fri., 17-18 — No Classes
Thurs.-Fri., 17-18 — Closed Fraternity Rush

Sun., 20 — Fraternity Rush Second Formal Invites Due
Sun., 20 — Closed Rush
Mon., 21 — Final Date to Drop Course Without Penalty
Mon., 21 — Closed Fraternity Rush
Fri., 25 — Fraternity Second Formals
Sat., 26 — Dad's Day
Sun., 27 — Fraternity Second Formals
Mon., 28 — No Fraternity Contact with rushees
Tue., 29 — Fraternity Bid Tuesday
Thurs., 31 — Halloween

November, 1996

Sat., 2 — FAS *The Audubon Quartet plus Eli Eban* - clarinet
Tue., 5 — Election Day
Mon., 11 — Veteran's Day
Mon., 18 — Final Exams Begin, 8 a.m.
Thurs., 21 — Fall Term Ends, 5 p.m.
Mon., 25 — Final Grades Due, 9 a.m.
Thurs., 28 — Thanksgiving

December, 1996

Mon., 2 — Classes Begin, 8:05 a.m.
Wed., 4 — Registration Deadline, 4 p.m.
Thurs., 5 — Hanukkah
Fri., 6 — Final Date to Add a Class
Fri., 6 — Hanukkah
Sat., 7 — FAS *Europa Troubadours* (ethnic selections)
Fri., 20 — Christmas vacation begins after last class
Wed., 25 — Christmas

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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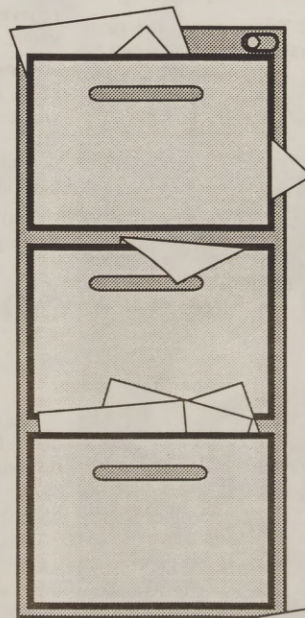
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Task force aims to boost graduation rate

by Pete Anderson
Thorn Reporter

The Taskforce on Improving Student Persistence has looked into ways to improve student persistence at Rose-Hulman and will present their findings to the Board of Managers on May 23.

Student persistence has been an area of concern for the past few years. Only 71 percent of students at Rose-Hulman go on to finish their degree program.

The task force included three students including Karl Ammerman, a senior computer engineer, Mike McLaughlin, a sophomore computer science major and Chris O'Malley, a junior.

The task force also has six faculty members. The students are joined by Mark Ball, professor of chemistry, Dale Bremmer, professor of economics, Christine Buckley, professor of mechanical and biomedical engineering, John Rickert, professor of mathematics, Susan Smith, professor of english and director of the learning center and Ruth Waite, professor of

electrical and computer engineering.

Three staff members on the task force are Brian Dyer, associate director of admissions, Tom Miller, assistant dean of students and John Robson, director of the library.

Robson said, "We looked at the Rose-Hulman environment, both in the classroom and outside of the classroom to see what we could do to improve academic and social aspects. The impression on whether [students] are going to stay or leave is made in the first term."

The task force has adopted the slogan, "The success of an institution and the success of its students are inseparable."

Robson elaborated, "The better the school, the harder the students will work to graduate."

Robson hopes suggestions of the task force will help about a third of those students who would not currently complete their degree programs bringing the graduation rate up to 80%.

The task force developed a Persistence Plan, consisting of many components.

First among these components is

consensus. The Rose-Hulman faculty and staff must agree that student persistence can and should be improved.

The task force also recommends creating a new position, called a persistence advocate, to monitor the total student experience at Rose-Hulman.

Educational co-curricular activities are suggested by the task force. An educational co-curricular activity, allows the freshman to see first hand what an engineer does by working with upperclassmen in the same major and a faculty member on a project. While the role of the student may be minimal, the student obtains experience with what they will be doing in a career. The student realizes that all the work they are putting in a engineering project is worth the experience gained.

Robson would like to get the parents more involved in the educational process. Robson wants parents to understand that attaining a high retention rate is really difficult.

Another component of the persistence plan deals with advisors. The task force believes that faculty advisors, resident assistants, sophomore

advisors and work-study advisors could help some of the "drop-out prone" students by being more developmental and informative and playing an active and caring roll to students.

The task force plan also investigated the academic pace of the students. Some students have not had as much experience with calculus as others, and all students are at a different level, yet they are all placed in the same class. Providing more "on-ramps" or levels in which students can start studying a subject at Rose-Hulman will accommodate more students.

According to Robson, "Some students have a good high school background and don't succeed, and then some students who didn't have as good a high school, didn't have calculus, do succeed. What's the difference between these two people? Attitude and motivation."

High ranking Republican, alumni earn honorary degrees

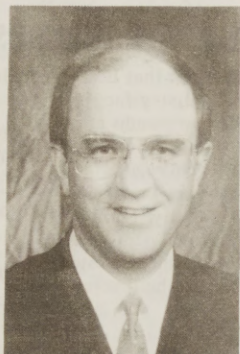
Rose-Hulman will award honorary degrees on May 25 to Randall Tobias, chair-

man of the board and chief executive officer, Eli Lilly and Company, Indiana 7th District Congressman John Myers; and to four Rose-Hulman alumni who have been corporate engineering leaders.

Tobias will also deliver the commencement address during the 118th Rose-Hulman graduation ceremonies that begin at 11 a.m. in Shook Memorial Fieldhouse.

Congressman Myers will be presented with an honorary doctor of humane letters degree by Rose-Hulman President Samuel Hulbert.

Tobias and four alumni will receive doctor of engineering honorary degrees.



Randall Tobias

The engineering honorary degree recipients include Willard Holland, president and chief executive officer, Ohio Edison Company in Akron, Ohio, Niles Noblitt, chairman of the board of directors, Biomet Inc. in Warsaw, Indiana, William Small, vice president, Westvaco Corporation in Richmond, Virginia and Richard Raab, retired president, Interface Associates, Inc. in Baltimore, Maryland.

Myers is completing a 30-year career in public service as a Republican congressman representing Indiana's seventh Congressional District. Myers is the third most senior Republican

member of the House of Representatives and he has served as the top Republican on the House Ethics, Post Office and Civil Service committees. Myers also served on the Appropriations Committee since 1970.

Tobias was named chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Eli Lilly and Company in 1993. Tobias had previously been vice chairman of the board of AT&T.

Holland is a 1966 Rose-Hulman electrical engineering graduate. Holland serves as chairman of the board and CEO of Edison's subsidiary, Pennsylvania Power Company, in addition to leading Ohio Edison as the top executive.

Noblitt, a 1973 Rose-Hulman graduate, co-

founded Biomet, an international company for the design, manufacture and marketing of surgical implants and orthopedic-support devices.

Small was elected vice president of Westvaco, six years ago and he is also general manager of the Westvaco Folding Carton Division plant which serves the packaging needs for a variety of consumer products.

Raab was vice president of the Roper Corp. before creating Interface Associates. Interface is an international export trading and consulting company.

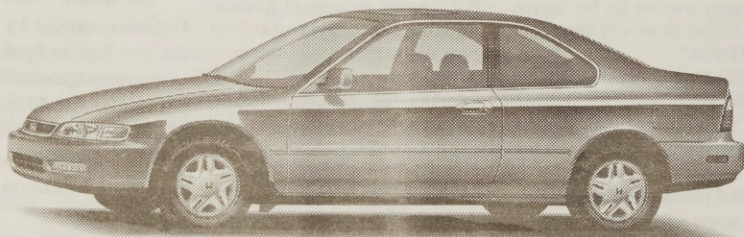


John Myers

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Brothers' tarnished fraternity image through words and actions

Matt Gumbel
Features Editor

Last November, I wrote an article which explained my opinion about fraternities. My original opinion was that they are not about making friends, but about buying friends. However, as Paul Simon wrote in his song *The Boxer* "Still a man hears what he wants to hear, and disregards the rest," and few people saw this view of mine. Instead most people interpreted my article as saying that fraternities are merely drinking organizations.

Well, I have put off commenting to most people and promised to write a year-in-review of fraternities.

At the beginning of the year, I didn't have the most positive image of fraternities, due mainly to the activities during Rush. While this view was formed in a short time period, I had the entire year to gain a new perspective.

Much has happened to influence my views of fraternities and certain students at Rose-Hulman. I have talked to several people and many more have talked to me. Actually, they would send me messages by computer or leave voice mail in which they shared their

opinions of me. Most of them did not have the *honor* or *integrity* to sign their names to their thoughts. While my ideas may not be shared by everyone, I am always willing to attach my name to them, and I do not attempt to make personal attacks at anyone.

In talking to various people, I have learned a lot, and my feelings have changed...some. I have seen brotherhood and togetherness on the floor this year, as pledges have become brothers. Still, most brothers have constantly reminded me about the connection between alcohol and fraternities.

I was able to form my new view by listening to brothers during the year. Some brothers would tell me about the various service and philanthropic projects their fraternity was working on. Many, many more brothers would tell me about the party that just happened over the weekend.

I realize that there is not much to talk about at Rose besides homework, so *anything* that happens is news-worthy. However, when I say they talked about a party, it wasn't just a party they talked about. Usually they also mentioned the number of their

brothers who "got completely trashed" or the "wild time they had with the women." I even talked to several brothers who don't drink. Still, they would tell me about how drunk their "big brother" was that night. It was a rare occasion that I was told about a good party and alcohol was not mentioned. To the casual observer, when drinking is all the members can talk about, it does not bring a good picture of the organization to mind.

I realize that there is more to a fraternity than wine and women

You must remember, drinking for most members of a fraternity is *illegal*. I'm not going to preach. I just wouldn't think that an organization who breaks at least one law per social function would still be allowed to operate. After all, what is this teaching the brothers? Is the school trying to teach that breaking laws is all right if you don't get caught? Or are they trying to prove that the law doesn't apply to everyone?

I realize that there is more to a fraternity than wine and women. Pi Kappa Alpha has Moench Criterion, Lambda Chi Alpha has Run

for Kids' Sake, Delta Sigma Phi has the Basketball Marathon, and the list goes on. However, more than 90 percent of the brothers I would talk to told me about the parties and the drinking. So these stories formed my opinion of the group.

However, it was not just the *words* of members that helped form my opinion, it was also their *actions*. An organization is represented mainly by its members and their actions. When I see certain brothers being disrespectful to others, it reflects on their fraternity. This is especially true when they are wearing shirts signifying their allegiance.

I'm not the only one who associates groups by their members' actions. The actions of a particular fraternity are so notorious that when a friend of mine wanted to rent a house, the first thing most landlords asked was "Are you a member of ___ fraternity?" The landlords had so much trouble with those brothers, that they wouldn't rent to anyone who was a member.

At the beginning of the year, I thought that "when reduced to the simple facts, fraternity brothers are nothing more than drinking part-

ners." I realize now that fraternities are about more than drinking. Brothers have told me this repeatedly. They do a great service to the community and to the campus throughout the year. They not only provide a place where college men can belong, they also provide a brotherhood that can last a lifetime. However, it is difficult seen this side of the organization when the members mostly talk about the drinking.

Next year I will be a Sophomore Advisor, and I can guarantee that none of my views will be displayed before or during Rush. I do not want to interfere with fraternities and their activities. However, I do have this suggestion for all current brothers: remember that everywhere you go, and everything you do represents your fraternity, on-and off-campus. Represent your organization by the good things it does. Talk about the service projects and brotherhood, instead of the drinking and women. Treat others with respect.

Social fraternities are not for everyone. However, there are a lot of men who are not interested in joining simply because of the manner in which they are represented. Keep this in mind if you ever start wondering how a fraternity got the image it has.

The Rose Thorn

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

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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 original author.

Web Page: <http://www.rose-hulman.edu/Users/groups/Thorn/HTML/index.html>

Professor's termination raises questions

Michael Pruett
Thorn Columnist

As her five year teaching career at Rose-Hulman draws to a close, Beverly Pestel questions the circumstances surrounding her termination.

In October of 1994, Beverly Pestel, associate professor of chemistry, was informed by James Eifert, dean of the faculty, that her contract would not be renewed for the 1996-1997 school year.

According to the Faculty Handbook, "[the] Institute is not requiring her final contract, Pestel asked the Faculty Affairs Committee to review the items discussed in Lewis' evaluation. The committee deemed that the subjective nature of the evaluation did not lend itself to investigation.

However, Pestel has been given many reasons for her termination, none of which she feels are sufficient.

According to Pestel, Eifert cited an evaluation by Dennis Lewis, then chair of the Chemistry Department, as the primary reason for her non-renewal.

Pestel recounts pressing Eifert for a specific reason, saying that she was told she "could not get along with her colleagues." Pestel did not believe this to be true.

Following this meeting, Eifert met individually with members of the Chemistry Department at Pestel's request.

"He told them that the department chair had recommended that I not be renewed; he told them that as the dean, he concurred with that [recommendation] and that I had been told I would not be given a contract for 1996-1997. After saying all that, he then asked them if they wanted me as a long-term colleague," Pestel claims.

Pestel points out that Eifert did not poll chemistry faculty until December, two months after he had told her that she "could not get along with her colleagues."

Furthermore Pestel adds that the number of faculty opinions was less than the total number of faculty in the department. Pestel did not understand the discrepancy.

It was not until January of 1995, after having asked Eifert for her 1993-1994 Annual Personnel Evaluation and Recommendations report several times, that Pestel received a copy of Lewis's evaluation.

In March of 1995, after receiving her final contract, Pestel asked the Faculty Affairs Committee to review the items discussed in Lewis' evaluation. The committee deemed that the subjective nature of the evaluation did not lend itself to investigation. Furthermore, the committee stated that "Dr. Pestel's 1993-1994 Annual Personnel Evaluation and Recommendations report did not 'initiate' the non-renewal decision."

In the fall of 1995, Pestel approached President Samuel Hulbert concerning her non-renewal. Pestel recounts that Hulbert offered several negative reasons for her non-renewal.

After countering these remarks, Pestel recalls that Hulbert then stated that in retaining a faculty member, there must be an overwhelmingly positive reason to do so.

"So I said, 'Why wasn't I told this before, Sam?'" recounts Pestel.

Pestel served as Coordinator of the General Chemistry I Program for both the 1992-1993 and the 1993-1994 school years.

Lewis makes the claim in Pestel's 1993-1994 evaluation that "the program failed to function, largely due to Dr. Pestel's dictatorial methods."

However, in Pestel's 1992-1993 evaluation, Lewis wrote that "Beverly has made a significant contribution to this program... [and] has also done an excellent job as Coordinator in both of these courses."

Pestel notes that Lewis had evidence for the latter statement as he was a member of the team during the 1992-1993 school year, but has no direct knowledge of her function as Coordinator during the 1993-1994 school year.

In an April 14, 1995 memorandum concerning Pestel's request, the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) expressed concern that Dr. Pestel "did not receive a copy of her 1993-1994 Annual Personnel Evaluation and Recommendations report until January of 1995."

The memo noted that "[the] FAC is troubled by the highly charged tone and personal nature of the language used by the chairperson of the Department of Chemistry in Dr. Pestel's 1993-1994 Annual Personnel Evaluation and Recommendations report."

The committee also expressed concern at the fact that "certain criticisms expressed by the chairperson of the Department of Chemistry in the [report] relative to problems in years prior to 1993-1994 had not been included in her Annual Evaluation and Recommendation reports for those previous years."

Eifert would not say whether Pestel's non-reappointment was due to her performance or to staffing needs. Neither Eifert nor Hulbert would comment further.

ARA red sauce has its consequences



Mike Kosloski

Thorn
Columnist

Lately, I have been contemplating something that has been nagging me most of the year: Why is the food at the Union so incredibly hideous? I know this makes it sound really awful, but let's face it, *it is*. It really could stand to be healthier, too.

With every meal, you can go over and get some ice cream and read the gripes of the common student about anything food-related. One would think that this fact would cause some sort of stir in the management. It would, for sure, if it were some sort of establishment that we actually paid as we walked out, such as a restaurant.

Having worked as a cook in a family restaurant for a part time job in high school, I realize what a pain it is to have a customer complain about the food. In that situation, the customer is right and you have to change the way you do something in order to please them. In a restaurant, you please the customer or you don't get paid.

The food service here at Rose does not suffer from this problem due to the fact that the vast majority of "customers" eating at the Union have already paid for their meals (or will when the loan comes due). If we all went somewhere else for supper or ate breakfast in our rooms from our own stash of food, they would still

be paid, and therefore could care less if we made their jobs easier by not showing up at all. After seeing what some people do to their trays just before placing them on the rack, I am positive the dish crew would be happier.

Most of the time, we students limit our complaints to "the food is too cold from sitting out too long" or "bring back the pineapple juice" (both should be heeded). I have decided, over the course of my first year here, that the taste is the least of the problems associated with the food we eat everyday.

While taste is obviously a major factor, making the food healthier would be a *bigger* improvement. Japanese chefs believe, last I heard, that food

of only the meats. Food as simple as pasta is drenched in oil. While it is a very good way to keep the noodles from becoming dried out from sitting out too long, it is a good indication that they already have. The desserts are in a class by themselves. The ice cream and sherbet stand out as the healthiest available and, as it turns out, probably the most frequented.

Two out of three of my sisters (and probably the other one, too) would be having fits if they were forced to eat ARA. One is almost a vegan — an *extreme* vegetarian — and would be in a starvation-induced coma by now. If you live with such alternative eating habits, you would generally have to make your own meals in order to get a substantial meal, especially if you're physically active.

Another of my sisters is a pre-med, tri-athlete, so you can probably guess how health conscious she is. The third is an art teacher. I really can't tell you how she would react, but it probably wouldn't be good. If you're just a nice healthy person who likes good, healthy food, you've got almost as many problems as the vegetarian.

All in all, I believe that the average Rose student increases his or her blood pressure and cholesterol/fat percentages to nearly astronomical amounts while here. It's a good thing that Rose students can most likely look forward to a good job with a well paying salary. We can be almost certain that we will have enough money for health club memberships and silly mail order contraptions from TV. We will more than likely need these to get ourselves into a relatively healthy life-style after spending years eating ARA.

The taste is the least of the problems associated with the food we eat everyday

must look good before it can taste good. While aesthetics of food is not a bad thing, I would prefer it if I did not have to look out for heart disease and high cholesterol.

During wrestling season, in order for me to eat relatively healthy meals and keep my weight down, I made it a habit to get what has been described as a "rainbow meal" at ARA. In other words, it had a lot of colors.

Unfortunately, this meal consisted, and still does, of a tray full of fruit and vegetables with the odd meat product occasionally thrown in. I would only add the meat if it were not dripping in grease or hidden among the famed sauces of the Rose food service. At the Union it is extremely difficult to pick up some kind of coagulated dead animal without it being fried or dripping with grease or just plain unrecognizable.

This is not a characteristic

Letters to the Editor Rose requirements questioned

It is with great reservation that we submit this letter to the *Thorn*. We have not taken any sort of poll that would allow us to say that our feelings are representative of the entire senior class. While we tried to contain our feelings of contempt, amidst the circulating rumors of preferential treatment because she [Beth Knoy] was related to a member of the board. The overwhelming amount of undeserved press has pushed us over the edge, and forced us to voice our opinions.

We feel that we have been let down by sacrificing the standards that made it so selective for us in the senior class to get accepted. One of the things that made Rose-Hulman so special was the tight bond that we have developed over the four years that we were here. This bond is so special due to the hard work that each of us has had to demonstrate in order to survive the difficulty of this school. While we are sure that students at other colleges have had to work hard, we feel that there is no way that IUPUI or any other school offers the same intensity that Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology does.

There is a great deal of prestige associated with obtaining a degree from Rose-Hulman. This prestige comes from the hard work that it takes to both be accepted to the college and the work that the students must do to survive the four years. We felt this prestige could not be obtained by everyone. Were we wrong? This past year Rose accepted a Senior transfer student, who will graduate with the rest of us. This person could not have had the same experience at their previous college as they would have had at Rose-Hulman.

It should be understood that we do not have any harsh feeling towards Beth. Undoubtedly, she has the intelligence to be a student at Rose, as well as a successful engineer. We just feel that we have been betrayed by our school, by allowing anyone to receive a Rose degree in one year. We would feel the same way rather the student in question were male or female. We feel that the senior year is the easiest of the four years here at Rose and no student should ever be allowed to transfer in with a 0.0 G.P.A. to take only the courses of the senior year. Is Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology really Rose-Hulman junior college?

In conclusion, we feel that this transfer in is an unfortunate attempt by Rose-Hulman to rush the first female student through graduation. The school should review this incident with great care. The females that are new to Rose-Hulman as well as those consortium students that started last year deserved the right to say they were the first females that graduated from this school. Instead they will be forced to say that they are the first females to finish four years of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Respectfully Submitted,
Todd Hubbell, et al.

Where else in town are you going to play Free Pool all day Friday Free Hotdogs 3pm-7pm

**Specials:
Thur. - Sat. 64oz. Pitchers only \$4.00 ...Not those WIMPY pitchers the other guys give you.**

**Mon. Import Night
Tue. \$1.00 Longnecks
Wed. 16oz Mugs only 75 cents.**

Wine Coolers \$1.25 EVERY DAY

Free pool daily 11am - 2pm & 1am - close

**Wiseguys
Uptown Pub**

**10 North 6th Street
1/2 block South of ISU
Must be 21 to enter**

Lock your doors or you'll be sorry



Pete Papavasiliou

Thorn
Columnist

It's the end of the quarter again, and as you're all studying and preparing for your summer activities, I'd like to give you a word of warning: lock your doors. Let me explain...

When I transferred to Rose last year, one of the things I was most surprised by was the "open door" policy in the residence halls. On-campus residents were encouraged to keep their doors unlocked, as a measure of openness and trust.

This was a very foreign concept to me. At the University of Illinois, where I began my college

career, leaving your door unlocked was like offering your possessions to your neighbors. Crime was rampant over there, and if someone stole something while you were out of the room, your peers would shrug and say, "shoulda locked your door."

So when I got to Rose, and they told me not to lock my door,

didn't trust anyone else. For most of the year, the rest of the hall went on leaving their doors open with no major incidents, while I locked mine and received condemnation.

Vindication came, however, and it came during finals of spring quarter. Things began disappearing from peoples' rooms. Books,

were quite gracious when they were living with us. It would be foolish to commit an offense when the victim lived right next to you. When they were ready to skip town, however, their true colors revealed themselves. They slipped into peoples' rooms, grabbed some enticing items, and fled to their getaway cars, parked outside the hall, ready to take them to whatever other town they lived in.

I repeat my warning: lock your doors. Now that we're all set to leave Rose for a three month vacation, thieves will be far bolder than they have been all year. Guard your books, calculators, CD's and cash; they are easy to steal, highly liquid, difficult to identify as yours. If you should have something stolen this week, and you stubbornly refuse to guard your possessions, remember: you were warned.

When they told me not to lock my door, I thought they were crazy

I thought they were crazy. I went on locking my door, and on several occasions locked my roommate out of the room. Many of the residents in the hall took offense to my actions; some even claimed I was untrustworthy because I

compact disks, cash, and other commodities were stolen in broad daylight thanks to the open door policy.

Things started disappearing because people were leaving town. The petty thieves among us

Senior anticipating future, but not so sure about tomorrow

Frank Pfeiffer
Editor Emeritus

Today I'll attend my last class at Rose-Hulman. I'll turn in the last homework assignment; I'll listen to the last boring lecture. I'll hear the bell ring and ask someone "What hour is this?" Today I'll fill out one more loan repayment voucher and fax one more resume.

Tomorrow, I think I'll sleep in. I'll get up around noon and channel surf for awhile. Then I'll start gathering up things and preparing for the journey. I've collected a lot of stuff since I first left Lynn, Indiana, in a beat up old truck that I put together myself. I've collected a lot of memories and made a lot of friends, and I'll have to say good-bye to them tomorrow.

The day after tomorrow, I'll prepare to go home. The truck will be loaded, and it's a long, but familiar road. I drive a different truck now — a bit newer, a bit nicer. I've got to get that damned piano out of the house somehow and onto the truck. I can't imagine how, but it seems like it has grown since I brought it to the house nine months ago. I hope it doesn't rain the day after tomorrow.

One week from tomorrow, I'll walk with my friends, in the sight of God and my loved ones, and pick up my diploma. It's about time. This is the first time Mom has seen Rose-Hulman, and I hope she gets to meet Sam Hulbert and all of my professors. I know she'll be impressed, and "those wonderful people at your school" will be

mentioned in her next dozen letters. I'll shake a hundred hands, wish a hundred good-byes, and breathe a hundred sighs one week from tomorrow.

Two weeks from tomorrow, I'll be introduced to a crowd by the principal of my high school. I will, for the third time, bend the ears of a hundred eager parents as I present my scholarship to an eager young student. A friend and I decided after we graduated high school to give our own scholarship. The first time I presented it, I had to wear a suit to my last final here, and drove straight home to make the ceremony. Our scholarship is given to a student pursuing a degree in education, because he and I deem education of the utmost importance to the future of this nation. I never prepare my speech, so wish me luck two weeks from tomorrow.

One month from tomorrow, I'll finally have the computer on my desk tuned to my liking. The autoexec.bat will load just what I need, and Windows will have a program group called "Frank". I'll remember the secretary's name, and ask for more pencils. I thought I wouldn't bother her again, and then I remembered those pencils. She's very nice and forgiving of the new guy, as are all the people in the office. I'll have a magnetic dot that I can move to "out" when I go to lunch one month from tomorrow.

One year from tomorrow, I'll take a vacation. I'll stop by the old school to say hello and good-bye again to some old friends, their tassels sticking to their tear-streaked cheek. They'll meet Mrs. Pfeiffer, and catch my eye to wink their approval.

"The job's going great. I just got a raise. I've bought a house near shopping and schools." They'll know, now, where I've been, one year from tomorrow.

Ten years from tomorrow, the kids will come along. I'm much more proud of that alumni hat now, mainly because it keeps my head from getting too much sun. Sam is still president, and campus looks less like Sherwood Forest. There are two buildings on campus called "The New Building", and they're clearing the way for another. I hope Sam doesn't make any bald jokes at me ten years from tomorrow.

Twenty-five years from tomorrow, the sun will be shining on a warm breezy morning in Terre Haute. We showed up early, and stop at the tent by the field-house for refreshments provided by the alumni association. I want to drink in the scene and remember it forever, but memories blur what I see before me and I search the crowd for perhaps one person I know. The four years are over, and my son grips the hand of the president firmly and returns to his seat. The speeches won't be any shorter twenty-five years from tomorrow.

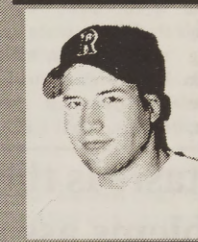
Fifty years from tomorrow, I'll seat myself at a round table. The new Union

looks nicer than the old one, but I wonder if the kids like the food yet. The coat I wear is like a dozen others in the room, and I see I'm not the only one who can't match pants to the red plaid. As the guy speaking at the function preaches the glorious future, my thoughts steal away to the glorious past — to simpler times — and I miss the papers and the lectures and the noise. This school was good to me, and I intend to be remembered here fifty years from tomorrow.

Today, someone will ask me, "So what are you going to do tomorrow?"

"I haven't a clue."

Can't stop sands of time



Eric Schmidt

Thorn
Columnist

Before I start, I'd like to congratulate Rose baseball on their textbook ICAC championship. Rattle the Cage, Rose!

"Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat."

— Theodore Roosevelt

Congratulations, Rose Seniors. You've earned it. I, too, am about to embark on a new life, and as I see the sunset of my time here approaching, I fear that I may never make it back. I know that life has a way of creeping up on you and sweeping you away from where you've been, and sometimes no matter how hard we try, we can't return.

I will not forget. If memories are treasures, then I am rich with the memories of Rose, and you people have made me so. I pray that the road of time and travel brings us back together somehow, if only for a moment. May you all continue on the road to success and happiness. Peace and love.

Hourglass

Welcome to the edge of time
The place where I've found peace of mind
And realized that my dreams may yet come true.

The sand has all run through the glass
I see the finish line at last
And now I'm glad that I have followed through.

And though I know that I'm not done
I still have races yet to run
And still have hourglasses left to drain—

I'll make my mark upon the earth
My deeds will be of pride and worth—
And people round the world will know my name.

Eric Schmidt (ME '99) hails from Colorado Springs, Colorado. He has been an inspiration to the paper and to the school. His poetry has made many emotions clearer and brought to light many issues we all must face. He and his poetry will be missed when he leaves Rose-Hulman to pursue a career in the Air Force. We at the Thorn wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors and hope he returns for visits often. Thanks Schmitty!

We need you...

...to tell us that you like Eric Schmidt's poetry. This will be his last poem in the *Thorn*. He will be transferring to the Air Force Academy next year. He thinks no one reads his poetry and he is unappreciated. Please help us show him otherwise. Call (x8255) or write the Rose Thorn office (see staff box on Page 4) to tell us that you like Eric Schmidt's poetry and how much you will miss him. Thank you.



Kent Bye

Thorn
Columnist

This past weekend, I jumped out of a perfectly good airplane from a height of over 16,000 feet which translates to screaming towards the earth at 120 miles per hour for around 75 seconds of free fall. There was a guy strapped to my back doing all of the work, and I was just there along for the ride of a lifetime. Going skydiving makes you think about a lot of things in your life, and second thoughts are bound to arise especially when you have to sign a waiver claiming that your family can't sue the place even if they intentionally try to kill you.

My original plan was to go skydiving, and then tell my parents, but I decided to tell them after my first attempt was foiled by a combination of bad weather and another couple who had priority because they were going to get married while skydiving. My mother made it pretty clear that she would rather have me doing anything else other than leaping out of an airplane, but she knew that I'd want to do this sooner or later on my mission to always try something new and different. When I told her that the rain prevented me from going the first time and that I was going back again, she told me, "Well, I hope it rains."

I waited for more than eleven hours over a period of two days for the weather to finally clear up, and I had plenty of time to think this whole thing over. I was shown plenty of skydiving videos, and I had plenty of exposure to people who had jumped out of an airplane hundreds of times. I had to sign every right to my life away, and then get all suited up in the jump suit, helmet and harness. There was only a couple of minutes of training required for a tandem jump, because there

was an experienced skydiver strapped to my back who was going to be in complete control of everything.

Skydive Indiana had a "boogie" that day where a lot of skydivers came to jump out of a special plane called a "King Air" which could hold up to 22 people at a time. It could also reach a higher altitude much faster than the other planes. When it was finally time to go, I was the first to board the plane because I was going to be the last one to jump. As the airplane took off I looked out the window and watched the surface of the earth transform into a myriad of little green and brown rectangles. We flew through the clouds, and I thought about how I was about to hurl myself out of the plane and fall through these clouds in just a couple of minutes.

The pilot gave the command to jump when we were in position, and the door flung open with the loudest gush of air I've ever heard. It was time to go, and there was no turning back. I scooted towards the door as the other 16 people lined up and jumped out of the plane. I put my feet at the edge of the door, put my hands on the grips on my chest, and leaned my whole body outside the airplane into a freezing wind until the jump master decided to jump.

We did a flip out of the plane, and a drogue parachute was released after we were stabilized in order to slow us down to the speed of one person. Then he tapped me on the shoulder to indicate that it was all right to spread my arms out for the free fall of over two miles. Cold air was gushing into my face and my ears were constantly popping, but it was a completely awesome ride. When he yelled, "Pull," I leaned my head back and watched the parachute as it opened slowly, and I felt safe knowing that the parachute had opened even though I was still 3000 feet in the air. We did spins on the way down and floated down for what seemed like forever. We talked about how to land, and flared ten feet from

the ground to slow down for a stand-up landing. My ears were ringing like I had just got back from a loud concert, and it took a couple of hours before my hearing returned to normal.

Going skydiving makes you think about some things about your life that really should be everyday thoughts. I woke up on Saturday morning thinking, "Wow, today I'm going to jump out of an airplane, and this could be the last time I wake up in this bed." I knew for a couple of months that I was going to go skydiving, but it wasn't until a couple of days before I actually went that the implications of the whole matter really hit me.

I thought to myself, "If indeed I do die this weekend, have I really accomplished everything I wanted? Is there anything I need to say to someone before I leave? How would it change the people who know me if I did die? Who would go to my funeral? How many people would be at my funeral that I didn't even know?"

My mind was going crazy on Friday thinking about all these things, because I haven't experienced everything that I wanted in my life yet, and there was no way to tell everyone everything that I had to say. If I did die, news of my death would be heard all across my home town and here at school, and my parents would be a complete wreck. There is no telling who would go to my funeral, but I would hope that it would be very well attended by anyone that I've somehow touched.

These kinds of thoughts don't usually come up until death is staring you in the face such as when you're about to jump out of an airplane, but sometimes you need to be reminded of these kinds of questions in everyday situations. There are so many risks of dying in everyday life such as every time we get into a car, walk down the street, or even attend classes with a chance of a bomb exploding. Why not go skydiving every once in a while? You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.

Top 10 Excuses given by seniors for not having a job

10. GPA's too high; I'm overqualified
9. "D" may be for diploma, but "F" is for freetime
8. Can't print my resume, "Ah, watzup wit da ink heya"
7. Because then I'd have to pay back all those loans
6. Two words: un employable
5. Interview? What interview?
4. Still finishing some IC homework
3. Must see next year's *Manx* Cliffhanger
2. SGA didn't censor my web page in time
1. But, I've been an Editor all year

Courtesy of Thomas Hill

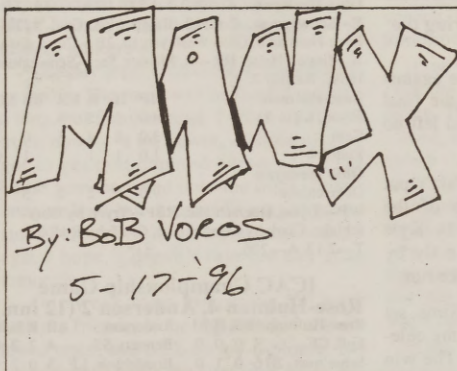
RIP

Frank Pfeiffer

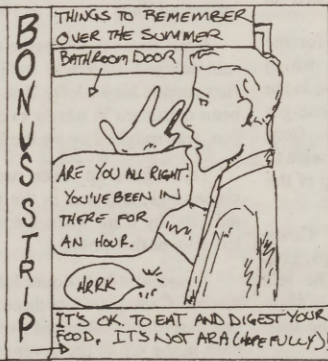
April 7, 1995 — April 4, 1996

"We put out once a week and we only use the big ones."

Frank describing his Dilbert

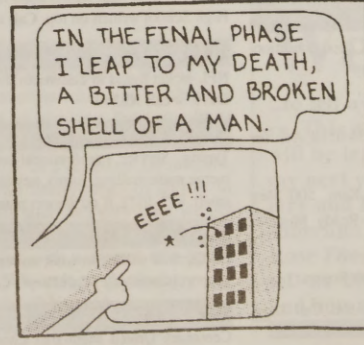
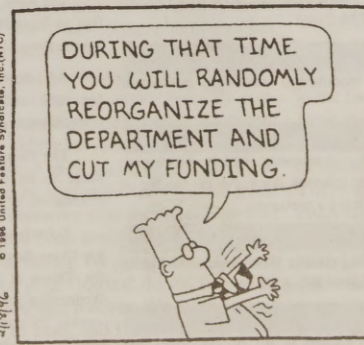
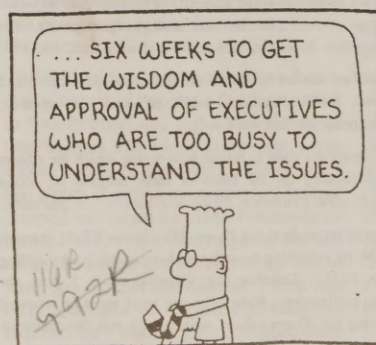
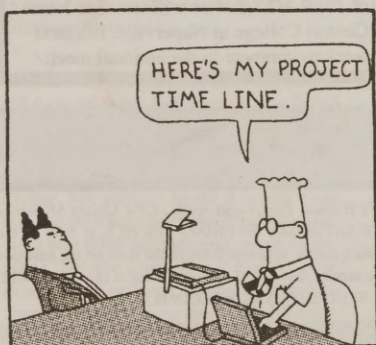
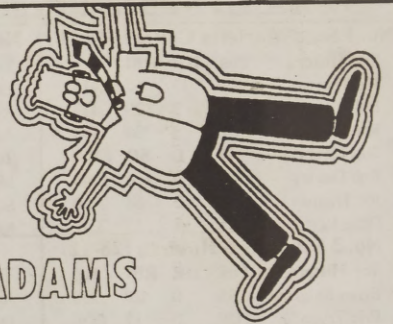


NEXT YEAR: THE GUMBALL BRISTS INCIDENT (IF I STILL REMEMBER THEM)



DILBERT®

BY SCOTT ADAMS



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