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News Briefs

Greek organizations acquire new members

Tuesday marked the end of the male Greek organizations' seven-week drive for new members.

According to Mike Martin, a Graduate Assistant, Alpha Tau Omega gained 21 new members; Delta Sigma Phi gained 19 new members; Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) gained 26 new freshmen; Pi Kappa Alpha acquired 20 new recruits; Sigma Nu has 11 new members; Lambda Chi Alpha gained six new members; Theta Xi got five new pledges; Triangle gained 22 new members.

Recruitment, the new member drive for Rose-Hulman's two female Greek organizations, completed October 5. Fifty-eight women went through Recruitment, including one senior and 52 percent of the freshmen women. Twenty-eight of the 110 freshmen girls accepted bids from Chi Omega; thirteen accepted bids from Delta Delta Delta. These numbers were slightly lower than last year's; then, sixty-four girls went through recruitment, and of these, 49 accepted bids.

By Bridget Mayer

Local polling locations

Rose-Hulman resides in Precinct 9E. If you reside on the Rose-Hulman campus or close nearby and are registered to vote locally, you may do so Nov. 2nd at

Central Christian Church
4950 East Wabash Avenue
Terre Haute, IN, 47803.

If you reside in a different nearby precinct, you may obtain polling place information from the Vigo County Voter Registration Office at (812) 462-3393.

By Angela Smiley

Article correction

Last week, the *Rose Thorn* ran a News Brief titled "Race for the Cure team raised over \$600" that contained inaccuracies.

The team was lead by Merry Chambers, the Secretary of the HSS Department. Although several members of the team ran as "phantom" runners due to the timing of the race, seven members ran or walked in the race.

By Lissa Avery

Friday
Showers 74 Hi / 62 Lo
Saturday
AM T-storms 68 Hi / 41 Lo

Provided by www.weather.com

Campus groups tackle election

Bridget Mayer
Staff Writer

For the past several weeks, the news media has been reporting to the American public on the upcoming presidential election. While large-scale coverage like this happens during every presidential election, most students will be given their first chance to vote while they are in college. In order to increase awareness about the election and provide accessible information about the candidates' positions, the Humanities and Social Sciences Department and several clubs have offered several opportunities this fall for students to delve into American government and politics.

Anneliese Watt, Associate Professor of English, is teaching a course titled Presidential Election Rhetoric, in which students organize a mock campaign and hold debates.

The students prepare their own responses to current issues in the presidential campaigns; they also learn the media used by candidates

to convey their messages — brochures, websites, television advertisements, to name some. Students then examine this year's election to identify how John Kerry and George Bush utilize similar messages.

The Student Government Association (SGA) has also been encouraging students to get involved. With the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), the SGA sponsored a one-week voter registration and absentee ballot drive. Laptops and a printer provided by IAIT were set up in the Commons for students to access websites that allowed them to register to vote as well as request a ballot; all the forms necessary could be printed, and SGA made sure they were mailed. Approximately 200 students used the voter drive to participate in this year's presidential election.

SGA President Jake Klug said, "It created a campus buzz about the election... they were also informed as to how simple, in most cases, it is to receive an absentee ballot." He also believes the vot-

ing process of SGA meetings encourages the organization's members to vote. The SGA will also be sponsoring a forum in Chauncey's on November 2, the day of the election. There will be coverage shown on the televisions in Chauncey's all day, and members hope the forum will allow students to voice their opinions on the candidates and election process.

NSBE President Whitney Cotton remarked that NSBE "definitely encouraged all of its members to register or request an absentee ballot."

As for the political persuasion of Rose-Hulman's campus, many students believe their peers are somewhere between political extremes — neither extremely conserva-

tive nor very liberal.

"Honestly, I don't really care for either opponent, and I think most people will vote for Kerry because they don't like Bush, but Kerry's not that good either," said Jen Barker, a sophomore Bio-

Many students believe their peers are somewhere between political extremes — neither extremely conservative nor very liberal.

medical Engineering major.

Mechanical Engineer Paul Meyer had a different opinion: "Most students will vote for Bush —

this is a relatively conservative school, and engineers are conservative by nature." He voted by absentee ballot and remarked that it was quite simple, although he would like to see online voting as an option in the future.

Although the deadline to register for this election has passed, it is still possible to send in an absentee ballot.

Presentation explores President, media relations

Angela Smiley
Staff Writer

This week, the HSS department and the Elsie Pawley fund sponsored another lecture aimed at informing members of the Rose-Hulman community. Students and faculty alike poured into the John T. Myers Presentation Room to hear Martha Joynt Kumar, a Professor of Political Science at Towson University in Maryland, discuss the relationship between the White House and the media. It was scheduled conveniently for students in Anneliese Watt's Presidential Election Rhetoric class, who attended the lecture Tuesday afternoon and had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Kumar over lunch earlier in the day.

The primary responsibility for arranging the visit belonged to Dr. Terrence Casey, Assistant Professor of Political Science and one of Kumar's former students, who wished to invite a lecturer to speak

about the interactions between the President and the media and the nature of White House coverage.

He felt Kumar was uniquely qualified for this task because she has received grants from the Ford Foundation and the Pew Charitable Trust to pursue studies of the White House, including examining transitions in its occupancy and its communications operations.

Kumar has spent much of the past six years following the activities of the White House Press Corps and researching the ways in which presidents have handled their communications operations. She feels that the presence of reporters in the White House plays a significant role in its daily life. The public is often unaware of the extent to which the media is ensconced in the presidential home: for instance, its north portico is host to permanently stationed camera equipment, and the entire White House was equipped with fiberoptic

cable under the Clinton and Bush administrations so that live broadcasts could be made from anywhere inside.

The trend over the past fifty years, says Kumar, has been towards a closer working relationship between the President's staff and the media. "When Johnson was President, it took six hours to go live," she reflected; "when the military actions began in Afghanistan, the press was given fifteen minutes' notice."

Kumar also pointed out that because of the unique constitutional role of the presidency, the President must use the media to gain Congressional support for his initiatives. The media's ability to influence popular opinion can have an indirect effect on other elected officials.

Presidential appearances have vastly increased in number over the latter half of the twentieth century: where Eisenhower gave public remarks about 800 times during his terms, Clinton spoke on

almost 4800 separate occasions. Despite this, even the minutiae of the Presidents' appearances are carefully managed to project the right presidential image. One technique the current president's staff is using to assist in this is the inclusion of descriptive words, dubbed "captions", in background art and wallpaper during televised events. They also designed new stage settings and podiums to improve the visual impression of the president during these events.

Many feel that the most important part of the White House's communication efforts is the staff chosen to coordinate them, and Kumar herself spent a great deal of time discussing the efforts of these dedicated strategists; however, she also suggested that the president's own nature was more important to the end results. "You can have people with complementary skills, but in the end, they really do reflect rather than complement the President."

Sports

Red Sox and fall sports wrap-up.

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Entertainment

Looking for something to do next month? Yeah, write.

Pages 4 & 5

Opinions

And then to the White House... yeah!

Page 6

Flipside

Come look at our shafts.

Pages 7 & 8

Upcoming events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	November 1	2	3	4	October 29	30
		* Election Day	* Students' Meningitis Vaccination Clinic, Hulman Union, Noon to 7 p.m.	* ASME's Distinguished Lecture, "Renewable Energy & Sustainability," Ian Arbon, Presen. Room, Myers, 2:30-4:15 p.m.	* Drama Club Play, "Epic Proportions", Hatfield Hall Theater, 8 p.m.	* Lambda Chi Alpha North American Food Drive Bag Pick Up, Noon to 3 p.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	*Admissions' On-Campus Visitation Day				* Fine Arts Series, Organ Concert, 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	* 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Rose-Hulman High School Mathematics Contest
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
* Last Supper Before Finals, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	* Fall Quarter Final Exams	* Fall Quarter Final Exams	* Fall Quarter Final Exams	* Fall Quarter Final Exams	* Thanksgiving break	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				* Thanksgiving		


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Portrait of a Red Sox fanatic

Julia Williams
Guest Writer

On Wednesday evening, October 27th, I was sitting in section 276, row 19, seat 22 in Busch Stadium. I was there when Johnny Damon hit a lead-off homerun to begin Game 4 of the World Series. I was there when Keith Foulke tossed the ball underhand to Doug Mientkiewicz for the final out. I was there to witness the Red Sox's first World Series victory since 1918.

Those who make their living by commenting on sports will make much of the end of the so-called Red Sox Curse. I have tried not to ascribe to the notion of a curse, despite all the evidence to the contrary. When Aaron Boone hit a homerun in the 9th and ended the Red Sox's chance to go to the World Series last year, the curse seemed to be in play as it had been in 1986, in 1967, and in 1946.

But no curse, no matter how longstanding, could resist the comeback from 3 games down that the Red Sox achieved against the Yankees in the ALCS last week.

I like to think that the curse has now been transplanted from Boston to the Bronx.

In some ways, Boston's achievement is both the most universal and the most personal of all their victories. Fans across the United States and around the world celebrated last night, overjoyed and disbelieving at the same time. Finally the Red Sox had earned the title they deserved. But for many Red Sox fans, the victory has private significance. I often tell people that I am a Red Sox fan by marriage.

When my husband and I met in 1986, the last time the Red Sox went to the World Series, I was not a baseball fan. We were in graduate school in Atlanta then, and Nick took me to my first baseball game in Fulton County Stadium -- back in the day when the Braves were terrible and tickets were cheap entertainment. It became clear early in our relationship that the Red Sox were going to be a part of our life together. Nick was born in northern Maine and always was a Red Sox fan. He remembers watching the 1967 World Series, he can

recite statistics on every player, and he will forgo sleep in order to watch a West Coast matchup. So I had a choice: I could either be a baseball widow, or I could swear allegiance to the Red Sox Nation.

Eighteen years later, my identity as a Red Sox fan is deeply ingrained. Anyone who has been in Moench Hall may have noticed the Red Sox shrine that I maintain on my office door. This display is, I can admit now, only one of the rituals I perform as a Red Sox fan. When the Red Sox won the Wild Card spot this year, I bought a Boston Wild Card hat. I wore it during their first two games against the Yankees. The Sox lost those games, so I took off that cap and never let it touch my head again.

Beginning in Game 4 of the playoffs, I would leave the living room and watch the rest of the game upstairs, sitting on the floor, pounding the carpet. Each time I watched the end of the game upstairs, the Red Sox won. When Jake Klug and Aaron Baldauff (my two favorite students) offered me their tickets to the game on Wednesday afternoon, I seri-

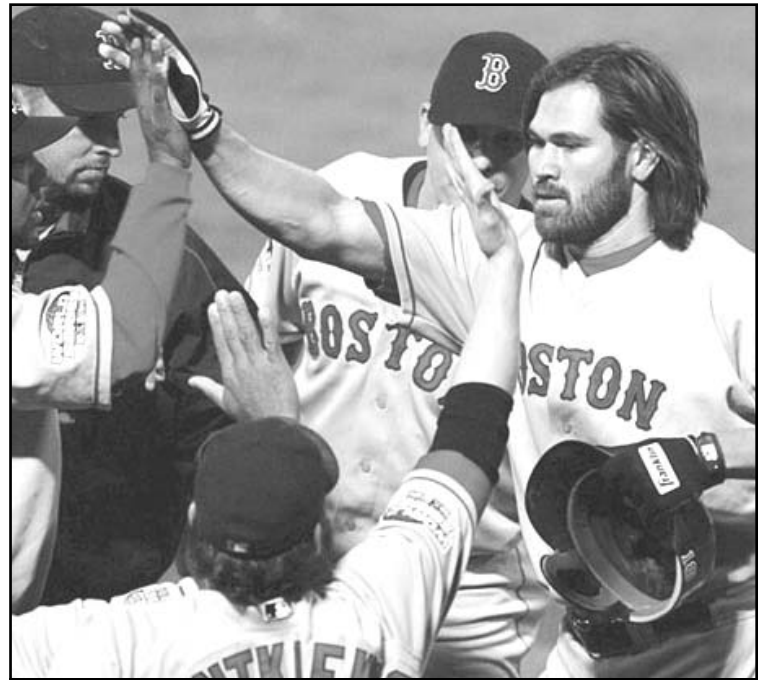


Photo courtesy <http://boston.redsox.mlb.com>

Johnny Damon celebrates after hitting the lead-off homerun in game 4.

ously considered staying here because my presence would upset my end-of-the-game ritual. But the outcome of Game 4 has convinced me otherwise.

I guess the final question is,

was it worth it? When the Yankees beat the Red Sox 19-8, I might have wondered if being a Red Sox fan was worth the pain and heartbreak. Today, I am sure that it was.

Rose Sports Rundown

Last week's sports scores

Football (4-4, 1-3 SCAC) Oct. 23	
Rose-Hulman	7
at U. South	15
Men's Soccer (7-10, 2-6 SCAC) Oct. 22	
Rose-Hulman	0
at Trinity	2
Oct. 24	
Rose Hulman	0
at Southwestern	3
Women's Soccer (11-6-1, 5-3 SCAC) Oct. 22	
Rose-Hulman	0
at Trinity	5
Oct. 24	
Rose-Hulman	2
at Southwestern	3
Volleyball (11-20, 6-7 SCAC) Oct. 24	
Rose-Hulman	3
vs. Sewanee	1
Rose-Hulman	0
vs. Depauw	3

Teams in bold denote winners.

A hodgepodge of Rose sporting action

Andrew Twarek
Staff Writer

Rose-Hulman's volleyball team split for a 2-2 record in the SCAC Eastern Divisional No. 2, held at Hulbert Arena last weekend. They defeated Sewanee and Oglethorpe to finish third in the event. The Engineers took one game from Centre, and fought fiercely against the Tigers, but were defeated in both matches. The Engineers travel to Denison University for a four-team tournament this weekend, before the season comes to a close at the SCAC Cross Divisional No. 2 at Millsaps College the following weekend.

The last few games of the season are always the hardest on the soccer field, and this year was no different. Rose-Hulman traveled to Texas to take on Trinity (both women and men are ranked No. 1 nationally) and Southwestern last weekend. On the men's side, the Engineers held Trinity to just a 2-0 victory, and dropped a 0-3 decision to Southwestern. The women held the Tigers to one goal in the first half, but lost 0-5. Southwestern scored in the last four minutes of the game to beat Rose-Hulman 3-2. The Engineer soccer teams have three remaining games collectively. The men take on Wabash College on Tuesday, November 2, while both teams wrap up their season at home against Depauw on Saturday, November 6. Senior Day starts at noon as the men face the 6-7-1 Tigers, and

the women play the 8-3-2, 19th ranked Depauw team.

The Engineer Football squad dropped a tough 7-15 game at Sewanee last weekend. Rose-Hulman scored a first-quarter touchdown, which was set up by an Adam Helmerich interception. Sewanee's defense held them scoreless for the rest of the game, however, and managed to produce a safety after placing a punt on the one-yard line. Quarterback Cameron Hummel made three huge running gains in a 72-yard drive at the end of the first half, but the Engineers were unable to convert in the red zone. Jake Vieck made a big play to block the extra point attempt after Sewanee's fourth quarter touchdown and keep the Engineers within eight points, and added a team-high 14 tackles and a pair of sacks. Rose-Hulman has a bye week this weekend, and they travel to Depauw for a 1:30 p.m. game on November 6. Their final game of the season is the following week, as the Engineers take on Centre College on Senior Day, November 13.

The Rose-Hulman cross-country teams haven't run any home events since September, but they are still active. This month, the men earned a second place finish of 11 teams at Earlham and 10th of 18 at Millikin. The women placed sixth of 10 at Earlham and brought home a fifth place in the 18 team field at Millikin. Both teams travel to Jackson, Mississippi for the SCAC Championships on Saturday, October 30.

After last season's record performance, the women's basketball team looks to improve on their 11-15 year. They also finished a best-ever 7-8 in the conference under first year head coach Tony Hill. Freshman center Rebekah Forsyth was named SCAC Newcomer of the Year and was a member of the DIII News Freshman National Team. They begin their season with a Tip-off Classic at St. Mary's College (Notre Dame, Ind.) on November 19th.

Preseason reports are in: the Engineer men's basketball team is selected No. 15 nationally by DIII News. Their 19-8 finish last year was the single largest turnaround in program history, and they earned a second place finish in the SCAC standings at 11-3. All five starting members of the team, as well as the top nine scorers return for the 2004-05 season, led by SCAC Player of the Year Philip Griffith. Rose-Hulman travels to Daytona Beach, Florida for the Embury-Riddle Tip-Off Tournament November 19th.

The Engineer swimming and diving team has started off their season already but doesn't kick it into high gear until Christmas Break. Tonight, they host the University of Chicago for the first dual meet of the season. Rose-Hulman competed with several Missouri schools at the Lindenwood Invitational earlier this season. On November 6th, Wabash College and St. Mary's College travel to Terre Haute for the Engineers' last home event of 2004.

Upcoming athletic events

Men's Soccer
Tuesday, Nov. 2
Rose-Hulman
vs. Wabash
3:00 p.m.

Swimming
Friday, Oct. 29
Rose-Hulman
vs. U. of Chicago
5:00 p.m.

Volleyball
Saturday, Oct. 30
Rose-Hulman
at Denison
9:00 a.m. (vs. Denison)
11 a.m. (vs. Ohio Wesleyan)
3 p.m. (vs. Case Western)

Friday, Nov. 5
Rose-Hulman
at Millsaps
2:00 p.m. (vs. Southwestern)
7:00 p.m. (vs. Millsaps)

Men's and Women's
Cross Country
Saturday, Oct. 30
Rose-Hulman
at SCAC Championships
10:00 a.m.

Games in bold denote home games

Out This Week:

Movies:

Saw

Directed by James Wan
Starring Cary Elwes
Rated R

Ray

Directed by Taylor Hackford
Starring Jamie Foxx
Rated PG-13

I Heart Huckabees

Directed by David O. Russell
Starring Jason Schwartzman
Rated R

Birth

Directed by Jonathan Glazer
Starring Nicole Kidman
Rated R

DVDs:

Mulan: Special Edition

"That '70's Show" Season One

White Chicks: Unrated

The China Syndrome

The Guns of Navarone:
Suberbit

Top Three Films:

1. *The Grudge*
2. *Shark Tale*
3. *Shall We Dance*

No hard feelings toward *The Grudge*

Jacob P. Silvia
Entertainment Editor

I am not the biggest fan of supernatural horror movies. When it comes to them, I am dichotomous: I disbelieve the content of the films, while at the same time I am terrified that the ghosties will get me.

This is not because for some reason I believe that ghosts exist and are hungry for my eyes, but rather because I have an overactive imagination as well as sleeping issues, causing me to see things that aren't there most of the time.

Thus, me seeing the new horror film, *The Grudge*, was perfect—perfect for terrifying the living daylight out of me.

The Grudge is a remake of the Japanese film *Ju On*. It is the first American remake of a Japanese film to have the same director. The *Ring* franchise almost had this, yet *The Grudge* came out a bit sooner than *Ring Two*. Either way, the Japanese movie creators have this knack for making things just a bit scarier than anything I've seen before from the American creators.

The Grudge tells the story of a nurse (Sarah Michelle Gellar) who must fill in temporarily for her coworker, who has

mysteriously gone missing. Her job is to care for an American woman with slight dementia. It is then that Gellar's character, Kare, realizes that something very weird is happening, from finding a Japanese boy locked in a closet to seeing strange things in the corner of her eye. When a billowy black apparition seeps from the ceiling and takes the life of her ward, Kare begins investigating the occurrences of this house.

Do not for one moment think that there are no other characters in the film. The chronology of the film jumps around like a Tarantino film, going back in time a few years, to just a few hours, helping establish what exactly is going on in the lives of these people, most of which are dead by the time Kare's story begins.

After some investigation and talking with a detective responsible for finding out what happened that night, Kare discovers the reason for the strange happenings: years ago, a man killed his wife and son, followed by himself. This, having been done in a fit of rage and sorrow left the spirit in a state of disease as it left its mortal vessel. Thus, it left a stain on the world, touching everyone who entered the house, marking them for a

somewhat terrifying death.

The movie itself was pretty well made, as well as using all the standard conventions of horror including musical builds, creepy derivations on the human form, memorable scary noises the baddies make, and such, as well as fulfilling a sub-goal of horror films: to make you too afraid to do certain things when you get home. These

include: showering, sleeping in a bed, answering the telephone, or going into new houses.

If you want to see a movie that is plenty scary and may give you a few nights of restless tossing and turning sans sleeping, you

should definitely see *The Grudge*. However, if you are easily scared, like me, I suggest you go see a happy movie, involving bunnies and puppies. *The Grudge* just might be too scary for some people.



A melange of fright for Halloween night

Army of Darkness

Josh Annin
Sports Editor

At first glance, *Army of Darkness* appears to have been made in the seventies, with its cheesy special effects and B-movie plot. Amazingly, *AOD* first hit the big screen in 1993. What better way to celebrate the tenth anniversary of this groovy cult classic than by watching it on Halloween?

The plot is centered around Ash, a charismatic hero who is time-warped into the Middle Ages to fight the army of darkness. Armed with only a chainsaw for a hand, a 12-gauge shotgun, and witty

catch phrases, Ash introduces the people of the 13th century to the dirty, street fighting warfare of the 20th century. In one of the most memorable scenes of the movie, Ash opens up the trunk of his car, which was transported back in time with him, and pulls out two textbooks labeled *Chemistry 101* and *Steam Plant Production*. With the help of these books, he is able to design weapons to defeat the army.

AOD is the best horror-comedy ever made, and it will keep you laughing throughout its entire 81 minute life. Don't let your Halloween be without it.

Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2

Jacob P. Silvia
Entertainment Editor

I must say, when I think scary movie, I think *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2*. This classic, directed by Tobe Hooper, has the best role of Dennis Hopper I have ever seen. In *TCM2*, he plays a former Texas Marshall, Lefty, who must rescue Vanita Block (Caroline Williams) from a family of twisted cannibals. Not only did this movie entertain me, but it too redefined my views on chili, chainsaws, and the family unit. Well done, indeed.

The "Dead" Trilogy

Bob Schuelein
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Each entry in George A. Romero's classic "Dead" trilogy rank up there on my all-time favorite movie list. While the effects of 1968's *Night of the Living Dead* are a little cheesy by today's standards, the film retains its claustrophobic sense of dread. The over-the-top gory effects of 1978's *Dawn of the Dead* are just one reason to love the original zombie movie set in a shopping

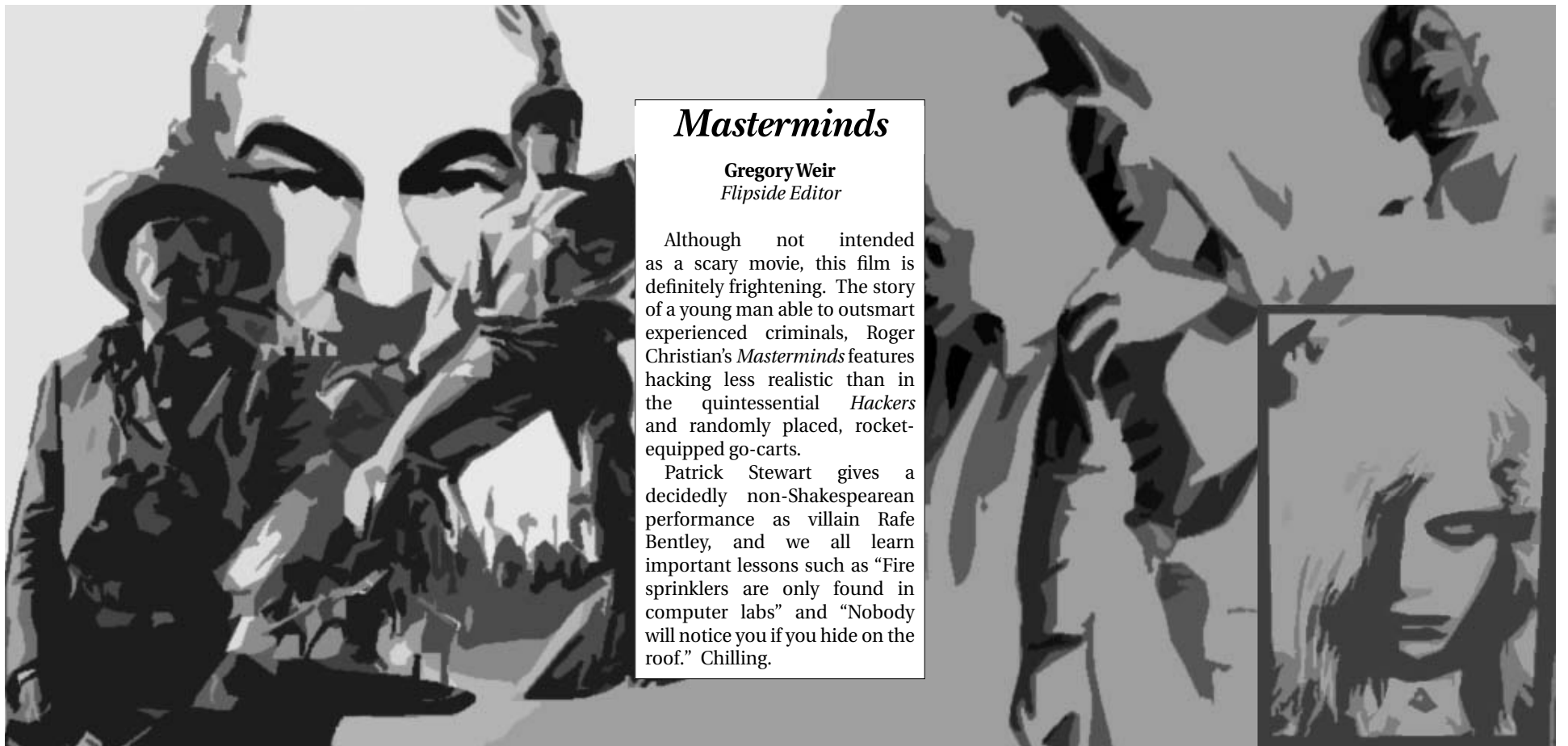
mall. The consumerism allegory is another, while the crazy zombie designs are perhaps the best. *Day of the Dead* (1985), while lacking the amount of zombies from the first two, creates the greatest sense of horror by showing the psychological meltdown of humanity in crisis. If you like your zombies slow and bloody, Romero's movies are the best place to look. Also check out the Italian made "sequel" to *Dawn*, Lucio Fulci's *Zombi 2* for more gory fun.

Masterminds

Gregory Weir
Flipside Editor

Although not intended as a scary movie, this film is definitely frightening. The story of a young man able to outsmart experienced criminals, Roger Christian's *Masterminds* features hacking less realistic than in the quintessential *Hackers* and randomly placed, rocket-equipped go-carts.

Patrick Stewart gives a decidedly non-Shakespearean performance as villain Rafe Bentley, and we all learn important lessons such as "Fire sprinklers are only found in computer labs" and "Nobody will notice you if you hide on the roof." Chilling.



Rose-Hulman Drama Club Presenting 'Epic Proportions' Next Two Weekends

Dale Long
Rose-Hulman News

Leave it to a group of budding engineers, scientists and mathematicians to pull off replicating such biblical events as the parting of the Red Sea, the Burning Bush and the Ten Plagues in less than two hours.

That all will happen during Rose-Hulman Drama Club's performance of the comedy play "Epic Proportions" on Friday and Saturday, along with Nov. 5-6, at 8 p.m. in the Hatfield Hall Theater. Tickets are \$8 for all guests and free for all Rose-Hulman students. Tickets can be reserved by calling (812) 877-8544.

Think "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" meets "The Ten Commandments" and you will have a good idea of the hilarity involved in this play, written by David Crane (co-creator/writer of "Friends" and "Frasier") and veteran Boston theater director Larry Coen. Their knowledge of actors, directors and comedy are reflected in this fast-paced satire of a movie production.

At the heart of the epic are Benny (sophomore Robbie Phelps) and older brother Phil (played by junior Nick Cramer). Benny is a movie-star wannabe who has left the family farm to go to the Arizona desert in pursuit of his dream of stardom. He lands a job as one of thousands of extras in the biblical movie epic "Exeunt Omnes" ("Everybody Out") being directed by D.W. Dewitt (sophomore Brandon Javella). Phil comes to bring Benny home, but gets caught up in the movie-making magic.

Along the way, the brothers also fall in love with the assistant director Louise Goldman (junior Alicia Gehlhausen). They eventually end up directing and starring in the film.

All manner of disasters and catastrophes evolve to curse the movie set -- from the building of the pyramids to the fall of Rome, from gladiators struggling to take part in battle to the parting of the Red Sea, all seen through the eyes of the unsung heroes, the extras (AKA the audience). Accentuating the story is a collection of exotic costumes, from togas to a gold-

tinted Egyptian queen gown to gladiator gear.

But, as the play's introduction promises, "This is a story about a lot of stuff."

"This is a brilliantly-written comedy and we're having a great time presenting it," says Phelps, who transferred to Rose-Hulman after being a theater major, emphasizing in stage direction, at Webster University (Mo.). He hopes to utilize a mechanical engineering degree to become an imagineer at Walt Disney Company.

"I wanted to get back to my theater roots and this play seems to be the perfect fit for my talents," states Phelps, who effectively uses facial expressions in several hilarious scenes in the play. "I don't consider my acting great, but, because of my directing background, I know what the director wants."

In this case, the Rose-Hulman Drama Club Director is Bunny Nash, with Greg Stump serving as technical director.

Billed as the "cast of thousands" (including the audience) are 29 Rose-Hulman students



Dale Long / Rose-Hulman News

Looking For Stardom: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology students (from left) Robbie Phelps, Alicia Gehlhausen and Nick Cramer play the lead roles in the drama club's production of the comedy "Epic Proportions."

who play various roles in the movie/play. The cast includes Mercedes Reeder, a junior from Terre Haute, along with seniors Elizabeth Deaton, Katie Lefler, Rebecca Martin, Ben Mertz, Elaine Mindrup and Veronica Ramieri; juniors James Baxter, David Kaiser, Justin Jennings and

Bob Prescott; sophomores David Bander, Christian Gage, Paul Grande, Kristin Miller, Christina Shook and Nick Slabaugh; and freshmen Samantha Dick, Caleb LeNoir, Chandra Lesniak, Peter Lonjers, John O'Grady, Sarah Rice, Joe Trout and James Wilkerson.

NaNo-What-Now?

Jacob P. Silvia
Entertainment Editor

For those of you who enjoy any reason to write, I have wonderful news for you: November is the official National Novel Writing Month.

A contest of sorts has been established to test one's writing fortitude. The rules are simple: starting November first, ending November 30, an author must write 50,000 words or more.

To fully appreciate this task, one must look at the numbers. 50,000 words in 30 days breaks down to 1667 words per day. Assuming a 60 words per minute typing speed (which most of us have thanks to the joys of instant messaging), one should only have to write 28 minutes per day. Just think: half an hour a day for 30 days yield a novel. That is pretty sweet.

The style of writing is not defined. It could be fact, fiction, free-association,

stream of consciousness, or anything else involving words. If you can write words, you can take part in the NaNoWriMo.

The organization dedicated towards promoting and informing has a website complete with forums. One can find this site at <http://www.nanowrimo.org>.

The forums provide opportunity for authors to bounce ideas off of each other, and have general chat with a united topic. Other utilities of the website include a word counter, so you can copy and paste your text into a field, submit and have an official word count, to determine if you made the 50,000 word cap. If you make it, you can get a nifty little badge to put on your website or blog.

If you're interested in taking on this great task, I recommend that you do so. We should form together and share our works with each other after the fact in some massive novel sharing program. Or we could all try to get published.



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Election excitement



I tell you
what to
think!!!

Brandon Hathaway
Opinions Editor

I am excited for next week. Two big things are happening: I expect to hear back from most of the graduate schools I have applied to, and we will elect the next President of the United States. Interestingly, even though the graduate school decisions will likely shape the rest of my future, I am more excited about my first presidential election.

Even more interestingly, the candidates are not the best the United States has ever seen, and we have been inundated with political ads, but I'm still excited. I filled out my absentee ballot this week, and I have been reading the papers, but I do that anyway. I love it, though. I love hearing about it, I love reading about it, I love talking about it.

I am not particularly thrilled about the negativity that shows

up in the attack ads, though. This year seems especially negative, but I'm not convinced that this is the worst. Angry publications have long been a staple of American politics, and there probably isn't any way around it. What makes making a decision even more difficult is, especially considering the vastly expanding channels from which information can be obtained, how hard it is to find correct answers.

Partly, I point to the media, but it's not entirely their fault, even though it allows candidates to say things that are misleading and let them get away with it. Examples are myriad, but I'll give you one from each side: during the third debate, George Bush said, "Gosh, I just don't think I ever said I'm not worried about Osama bin Laden,"

when he did in fact say so during a press conference in 2002, but the press really let him get away with that. The other party did bring it up, but neither party has a large enough supply of credibility to point out falsehoods.

Similarly, in the second debate, John Kerry said, "I've never changed my mind about Iraq." During the Democratic Primary debates, Kerry did say, "I think it

was the right decision to disarm Saddam Hussein, and when the President made the decision, I supported him, and I support the fact that we did disarm him." On the campaign in early September, John Kerry accused George Bush of fighting the "wrong war in wrong place at the wrong time." Kerry's statement also went largely unchallenged.

The attitude of the media is to report things the candidates say without actually passing judgment on the accuracy of those statements, in order to maintain journalistic integrity. It seems that this is problematic, because we need to know that these statements are both wrong. The public needs to be told by the press that President Bush did in fact say that that he's not worried about bin Laden. The public needs to be told by the press that John Kerry has been inconsistent on Iraq. If the press would bring these up more forcefully, the politicians would not be able to say them as often.

The press isn't entirely to blame. They do report on fact checking, but not really enough. Part of the problem is the public attitude, too. The cable news networks wouldn't be so successful if people didn't watch. The newspapers respond to local opinion.

The public is really quite powerful, especially when you consider how close this race is. The public is not only powerful, but also important, which is really the point of this whole election idea,



after all. And that is why I love it. Everyone has the chance to talk about something that is really important and affect its outcome.

There are other races taking place on Tuesday, as well, and even though the presidential election has been getting most of the attention, local elections, like state house, are probably as important, if not more so, than the presidential one, because their decisions affect day to day life more. State government controls property tax, education, disaster relief, and so on. The disaster relief is probably less interesting to you Mid-

westerners right now than it is for Floridians, but you get the idea.

I know that not everyone is as giddy as I am for election season, but it is important, even those lower ranking ones. Fortunately, this year the attention has been so great that I am confident most folks will take it seriously. The most exciting part is that I have about the same likelihood of predicting which graduate schools will accept me as I do predicting which candidate will win the White House. Just be careful about what they say on their way inside.

I know not
everyone is as
giddy as I am,
but the elections
are important,
even the lower
rankings ones.

DeMOCKracy

Brandon Javella
Guest Writer

So here we are, divided as a nation once again in a pseudo civil-war. North Vs. South, Left Vs. the Right, it's all the same game. Slavery is now replaced by the virtual slave labor created by poverty level wages, imperialist America, and the "laissez-faire" attitude that has encouraged upper-class sovereignty. Even now, in an age of hyper-information and connectivity, the common man is not entrusted with public policy. In the meantime, "His boy Elroy" and "Rosie" are cleaning up the constitution by eliminating our liberties and encouraging a scourge of corporately controlled government, corporate controlled media, corporate controlled resources, corporate controlled lives, and a corporate controlled political system with a method of election that is a mockery of democracy. To make matters worse, corporations receive handouts and are held unaccountable for their crimes (human and legal) that cost millions of people their livelihoods and dignity. Enron, the homogenization of American farmers, and even the closing of the United Airlines Base in Indianapolis a few years back are all telltale signs of a decline in accountability for corporate power. It would appear that we are descending into the very thing we fought for independence from: the sovereignty of the few or of the one.

To make matters worse, we continue to try and police the world when we've got enough problems of our own to take care of. You want to win the peace, Mr. Bush?

Guarantee free healthcare to every American citizen, eliminate poverty wages, and encourage more paid vacation and family time for our citizens. We've got our own problems with eating disorders, obesity, cults, televangelists, drug dependants, divorces, and excessive gamblers. If we have peace at home, we can encourage peace elsewhere.

You want to fight terrorism? Devote more funding for education systems here and abroad. Continue to make America an example for other nations to look up to. I firmly believe that the best long term weapon we have against "terrorists" is a progressive and civic-minded education. A war on terror is one that will be won over time with funding for programs to educate and nourish the disadvantaged. It will certainly not be won in four more years. In the short term we need to remain vigilant, not out for vengeance.

You want to sniff out weapons of mass destruction? Snuff out our own and make peace with the UN. We cannot be hypocrites in this sense or we will be laughed at by our allies and hated more passionately by our enemies.

You want to leave no child behind? Stop testing them to death and let them learn at their own pace! And fund all American schools more completely! It is a

sad fact that American schools are starving for funds, especially inner city schools.

You want to end gay marriage? Sorry to say, but there is little hope for that kind of discrimination unless you fundamentally change what America stands for. It's inevitably going to happen because we are a progressive country interested in the liberties we were founded on which imply that all people were created equal and should be treated as such.

Maybe the Marriage Amendment will succeed in the short-term due to the current political climate, but I would be surprised and saddened if in my lifetime gay marriage were not legal in the

states. And for those who agree, don't settle for some lame civil union. Homosexuals and their allies should settle for no less than the ability to make a legally binding lifelong promise of love to a person regardless of their gender. When we reach the day when gay marriage is not only legal, but socially acceptable, it will be a beautiful thing. If it surprises you that I am happily heterosexual, please investigate this issue further on your own.

We will never win a psychological war on something we disagree with (drugs, homosexuality, terrorism, etc ...) by taking away people's free will with bullying legislation that extends the gov-

ernment's control on the choices we make by threatening us with unequal rights or jail time. You will simply create an incubator for rebellious attitudes that will eventually overpower the fascist voice of hate. Learn from the story of Jesus. Befriend the ones you disagree with and treat them as an equal. Then allow them to come to you for advice should they seek it.

None of this seems that complicated to me. It's not an issue of what is right and what is wrong. It's an issue of protecting the liberties of people in this country. Some people forget that we were founded on simple guiding principals that guarantee freedoms and protect minority rights. Sometimes the needs of the few outweigh the needs of the many. The sovereignty of the selfish few brought us to the place we are now, and we need to figure out a system that encourages people to trust the president more than they trust Ronald McDonald. The aware and misanthropic would probably request a *coup d'état* that would result in an intellectual fascism. However, that philosophy holds the same arrogance that bothers me when we try to police the world and install DeMOCKracy.

Alas, there is hope. Our voices do still have some power in this country. We're still miles ahead of many nations, but we must listen to Dr. Gonzo and "Arm ourselves to the teeth." It doesn't stop with voting in this election. A constant passion for civic duty and a strong social conscience are necessary features for an active citizen in a democracy. If you don't actively pursue intelligent solutions to our nation's problems and encourage our representatives to execute them, we will all suffer and become victims of the tyranny of the few.

My challenge to you for the next few days is to become informed about as many different presidential candidates as you can. Go to Vote Smart (<http://www.vote-smart.org/>) and learn about as many candidates as you can stand. It's a great destination for unbiased election information. Check out the "Voters Self Defense Manual." Votenerd.org is another good place to start for 3rd party options. Notnader.com should follow closely. Listen to their speeches, the information is out there on the web. Maybe it's not on prime time TV yet, but that's the beauty of the [www@10](http://www.10.org). And please ... trust the common man, but fear him equally.

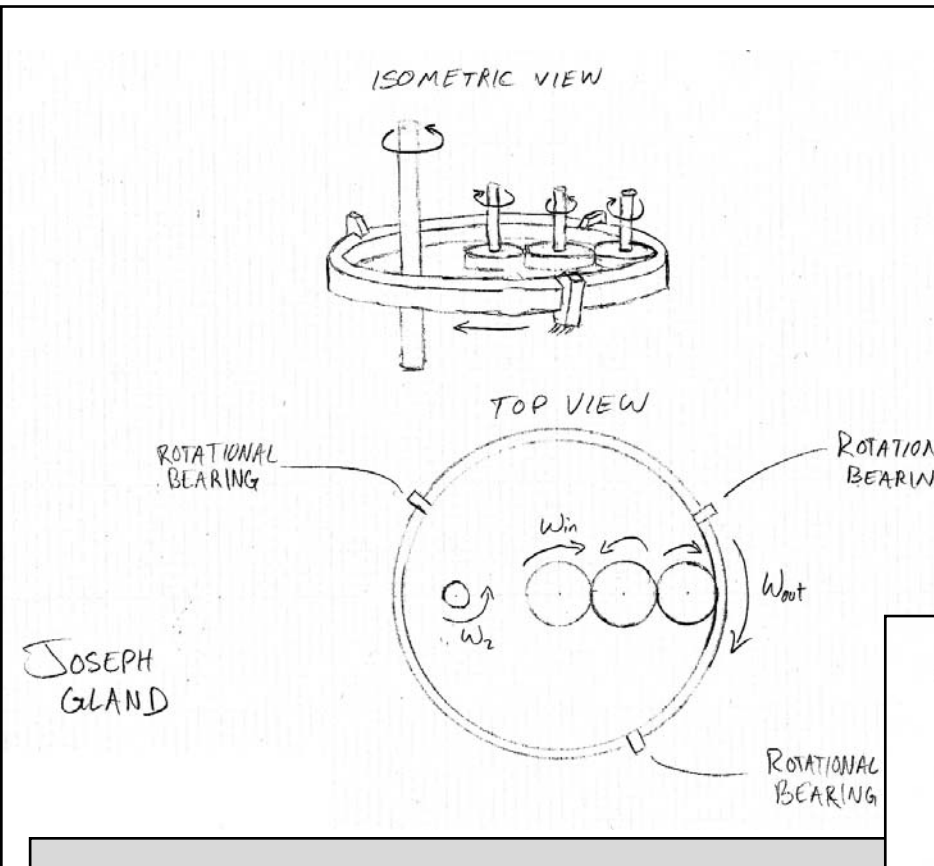
Corporations
receive handouts
and are held un-
accountable for
their crimes that
cost people their
livelihoods and
dignity.

ISU Campus Republicans in conjunction with MustHaveInfo.com will be showing FahrenHYPE 9/11 on Monday, Nov 1 in Holmstedt Hall room 102 at 7pm. This movie is a piece made to counter Michael Moore's Fahrenheit 9/11. This event is free.

FLIP FLOP

Shaft Passer Contest Results

The results are in, and we couldn't pick just three!
Here are some of the best submissions:



JOSEPH
GLAND

A small slit is made across the shaft to allow the spokes to pass. On the two new faces of the shaft magnets are attached such that as one shaft turns the other turns with it. The spokes are to be made of a material that does not impede magnetic fields.

Kyle McCarthy
Junior ME

Each spoke has a hinge at the central hub attachment point and connects to the outer rim of the gear wheel with a quick-release mount. A colony of elves wearing cute little red hats is then installed on the gear at a ratio of two elves per spoke, with half the elves on the rim and the other half on the hub. As a spoke approaches the rotating shaft the rim-elf assigned to that spoke deftly detaches it and the hub-elf raises it up like a drawbridge so that it will clear the rotating shaft. As soon as the shaft has passed, the elves lower and reattach the spoke more swiftly than you could ever imagine! In fact, so lively do the elves work that only one spoke is detached at any one time. Periodically, the elves are fed magic gumdrops. Those unfortunate elves unable to keep up with the workload are taken away by the ogre, never to be seen again. At higher RPMs it is recommended that the elves be outfitted with velcro-soled shoes to keep them from flying off.

John Gardner
Assistant Professor of Spanish

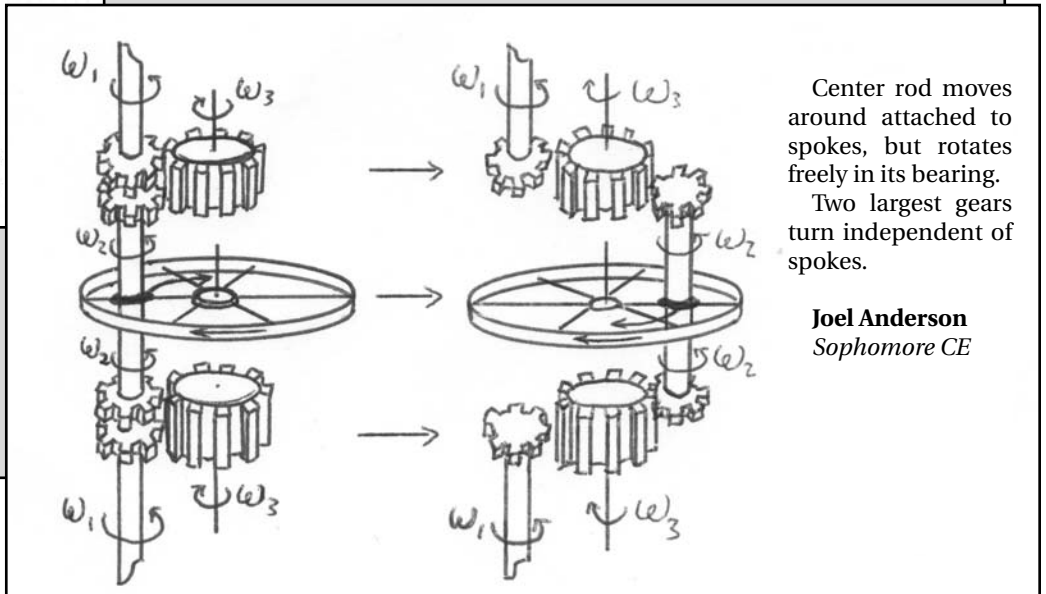
In case you forgot:

You have a spoked gear. You have a rotating shaft that passes through it, preventing it from rotating. Make a rough design of a device to attach to the shaft or spokes so that both parts can pass through each other and still transfer power. The only constraints on the design are the laws of physics.

This is not a joke.

The shaft has to not just translate but oscillate into and out of the plane of the rotating gear. This means it can not provide constant torque or power to whatever it is connected to on the other side. Also while retracting it has to completely come out of the plane of the gear. This frequency of oscillation has to be related to the angular speed of the gear so that the rod is in and out while the gear moves from one spoke to the next.

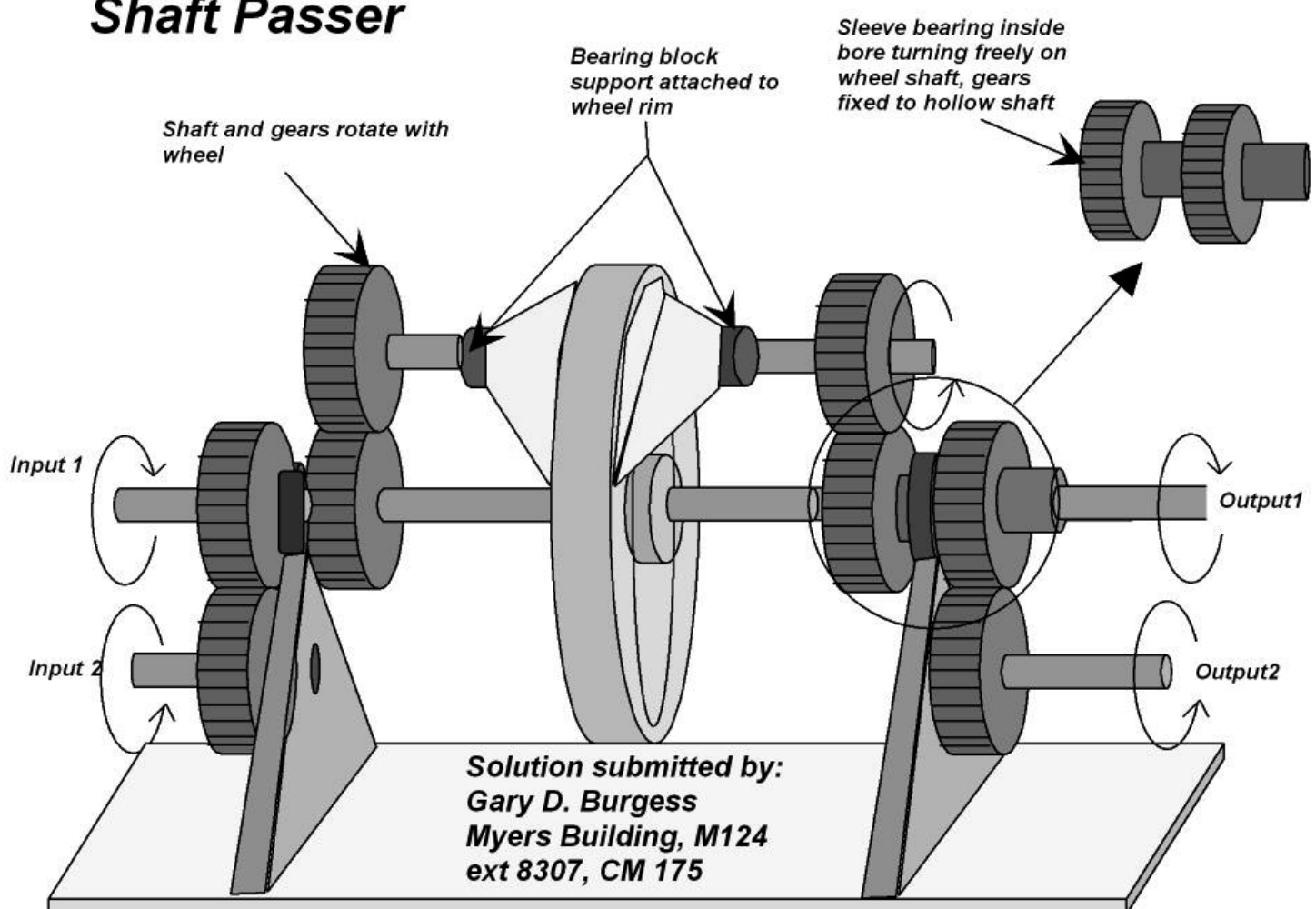
Maarij Syed
Professor of Physics and Optical Engineering



Center rod moves around attached to spokes, but rotates freely in its bearing. Two largest gears turn independent of spokes.

Joel Anderson
Sophomore CE

Shaft Passer



Solution submitted by:
Gary D. Burgess
Myers Building, M124
ext 8307, CM 175

Wacky Prof Quotes

- “It’s like majoring in Sociology; it’s really wrong.”
--Prof. Leader, on improper integrals
- “Gotta stop the shakes somehow...”
--Prof. Throne, justifying his TAB addiction before a fix
- “I don’t drink TAB because I’m pretty sure it raises your body’s estrogen level.”
--Prof. Herniter, on why he’s better than Prof. Throne
- “Milk is not a question.”
--Prof. Minster on the importance of drinks with cookies
- “And then you pull the wall away, and the water molecules are like ‘whoa!’”
--Prof. Livesay, on pranks to play on roommates
- “The French loved interferometers ... uh, I guess they still do. I don’t know.”
--Prof. Bunch, making harsh generalizations
- “I used to say there was no such thing as a stupid question and then I started teaching here.”
--Prof. Milanovic, encouraging classroom participation
- “Hey, $\pi/4 = 2!$ That means $\pi = 8!$ ”
--Prof. Bryan, on believing everything that Maple tells you

Send your prof quotes or other humor material to flipside@rose-hulman.edu

My Confession Alexander J. Clerc

“Nearly half the USA’s expected supply of flu vaccine won’t be delivered because British health authorities suspended Chiron Corp.’s license to make it, company officials said Tuesday. The announcement... raises concern about whether there will be enough vaccine...” (U.S. Flu Vaccine Sliced in Half, USA TODAY).

I have a confession to make. The shady press release of “British regulators” causing the major vaccine shortage this winter is a lie, a fraudulent tale my friends across the pond invented to cover for my mistake. The truth is that I am responsible for the flu shot deficit.

The explanation? Sometimes fall break can get a little crazy and we can have a little too much fun. Sometimes we might even do things we regret the next day. Sometimes, I’m partying at my house with the top executives of Chiron Vaccines, and we’re all tipsy on root beer and candy corn, and the guys get out 48 million doses of influenza vaccine, and everyone dares me to chug them and I do.

Although I am glad about my immensely reduced risk of catching the flu this season, I am really sorry about causing a national healthcare crisis. As a self-imposed penance, I will jump into the giant meat grinder (like the one from The Wall!) the ARA uses to mix the waffle batter. This way I’m guaranteeing myself a painful, humiliating death, a demise befitting a vaccine-guzzling scoundrel like me. And, fortunately for you, the waffles next week will be enhanced due to the addition of my vaccine-rich bodily fluids. Why, I’d bet a few bites of a hearty Alex waffle with some chunky Alex syrup are all that you need to stay flu-free this winter. Good-bye cruel world, and bon appetite!

Hansen's Herbig's Pun of the Week

My laptop is three times as expensive as my old car, but it’s more difficult to get around town in. It’s a really hard drive.

Top Ten Worst Halloween Experiences

10. Learning the hard way that pumpkin carving knives are very, very sharp.
9. Finding out why you shouldn’t trick or treat at places with their lights out.
8. Exiting the haunted house with less people than you entered with.
7. Seeing the guy dressed as Bill Clinton come downstairs with your girlfriend.
6. Trick or treating at Hertz’s room.
5. Getting conned into dressing up as Abraham Lincoln only to find out your best friend is going as John Wilkes Booth.
4. Forgetting to notice that the primary ingredient in that last candy bar was “razor blades.”
3. Showing up uncostumed to a costume party and no one notices.
2. Being unable to find your ailing friend just as the guy dressed as the grim reaper leaves the party.
1. It’s Sunday night and you still have more homework.

--Aaron Meles

Looking for your shaft passers?

Check out the all-new limited-time-only **FLIPSIDE PAGE 2**

Simply unfold the paper and examine the back of this sheet. We had so many entries, we needed **ANOTHER PAGE!**

This Day in History

In 1929, Black Tuesday collapses the stock market, bankrupting thousands and bringing about the end of civilization as we know it. And stuff.

In Addition

When the bell rings, please advance to the counter, present your identification, and move on through the door. It is perfectly safe.



THE ABSOLUTE SUM OF ALL EVIL...

...YOU SPOONY BARD!