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News Briefs

By Lissa Avery

Cancer surpasses heart disease as top killer

Cancer has become the leading cause of death among those under the age of 85 in the U.S., rising in numbers above heart disease for the first time, according to the American Cancer Society.

In 2002, almost 20,000 more Americans died of cancer than of heart disease, according to the cancer society's annual report. No more recent data than that of 2002 is available.

The death rate from cancer has dropped by approximately 1.5 percent per year for men since 1993 and by almost 0.8 percent per year for women.

Earthquake warning systems promised by world leaders

Japan and the U.S. have vowed to institute earthquake and tsunami warning systems. Japan in particular is working on placing a system in the Indian Ocean, while the U.S. wishes to expand it to be worldwide.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has proposed a warning system for the Indian Ocean that would cost over \$30 million and would take approximately a year and a half to implement.

Livejournal loses power over weekend

The servers housing popular blogging host Livejournal (<http://www.livejournal.com>) lost power last Friday evening thru Saturday.

Although Livejournal has recently been purchased by Six Apart, the makers of Movable Type — arguably the most popular blogging user-hosted software on the market — Six Apart's other hosted services were not affected by the outage.

Friday
Cloudy 31 Hi / 26 Lo
Saturday
Wintry Mix 34 Hi / 11 Lo

Provided by www.weather.com

Tsunami: What can we do to help?

Lissa Avery
News Editor

Friday, January 14, a Rose-Hulman faculty and student panel was convened to discuss the tsunami that hit southern Asia in late December, with the fundamental question of "What can we learn, and what can we do to help?" Local channel 10 was also present to film the panel, which was sponsored by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Elsie Pawley Fund.

Panel members included Adi Kapoor, a student who was in India when the wave hit, Anton Dias Perara, a student from Sri Lanka, Alicia Cecil, Assistant Professor of Applied Biology and Biomechanical Engineering, and Jim Hanson, Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering. The panel was moderated by Sam Martland, Assistant Professor of History and Latin American Studies.

Kapoor focused on the damage done to the fishing communities and raised the question of what could have been done to get word out before the wave hit. He related the destruction of an entire

village washed away with the exception of a temple built in cement. He also mentioned reports of lost children and family members as the wave receded. Kapoor is in the process of setting up a donation fund so that Rose community members can donate to help in recovery from the tragedy.

Dias Perara told of the destruction in Sri Lanka. According to Dias Perara, it may be ten years before Sri Lanka recovers its infrastructure and rebuilds to current levels. He gave statistics about the degree of destruction and also related stories of families and homes lost.

Cecil spoke of the disease risk that inhabitants of southern Asia are and will be facing as a result of the tsunami. The most immediate health concerns will be contaminated food and water and close-quarter living. However, many of the dangers will come as time progresses, including diseases carried by insects that will use the remaining stagnant water as a breeding ground.

"How did we let this happen?" Hanson asked. "How did we put the poorest of the



Lissa Avery / News Editor
Alicia Cecil discussed the biological dangers faced by those currently in southern Asia, including the lack of danger of corpses and the risk of an outbreak of measles and polio.

poor in that situation?" Quoting the first fundamental canon of the National Society of Professional Engineers Code of Ethics: "Hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public." He discussed the ethics involved in reconstructing the devastated areas, particularly in terms of the obligation of engineers to rebuild the infrastructure better than it was before the tsunami hit. Hanson also raised the crucial questions of "Who

pays?" and "Who gives up the land?"

Martland spoke briefly on behalf of Alexis Nathaniel, who was not able to attend. He gave a brief history on the tsunami warning system currently in use by scientists and brought forth the question: "How can we convince people of the warning system's importance, despite its failures in the past?"

Continued on Page 3...

Glass Halo to audition before major record labels

Bridget Mayer
Staff Writer

In two weeks, five Rose-Hulman students will travel to St. Louis to audition in front of some of the biggest recording names in the music industry. The members of the band Glass Halo, formed five years ago on campus, will perform two original songs in front of recording companies that include Columbia, Atlantic, RCA, Sony, and Virgin Records, as well as several independent labels, in their quest to obtain a recording deal.

The band, which describes its sound as "melodic guitar riffs and driving drum beats with dynamic vocals and a trademark violin sound", played for students last Saturday night in the Kahn Room.

Rose-Hulman graduate Eric Arnett (mechanical engineer, 2003), lead vocals and rhythm guitar, founded the band in the fall of 2002 when he met drummer



<http://www.glasshalo.net/>
From left to right: John Baughman, Dave Grodski, Eric Arnett, Aaron Wunderlich, and Dave Evans.

Dave Evans, a senior mechanical engineer. Arnett later contacted senior electrical engineer Aaron Wunderlich, a skilled violinist who played football with him.

The four students played together through the 2002-2003 school year, developing

their sound and learning the ins and outs of a rock band. When the band felt the need for a guitar player, Arnett took it upon himself to find another member; he discovered a lead guitarist in Dave Grodski, sophomore mechanical engineer. Grodski

also sings backup vocals. The band found its bassist at the beginning of last year in John Baughman, a sophomore electrical engineer who has been playing since the age of fourteen.

Since these five members came together in 2003, the band has written more than twenty original songs and played at numerous venues, including Sonka's, The Tap Room, as well as a concert at DePauw University and Rose-Hulman's Open Mic Night. Their favorite venue, however, is the first bar they played at—The Verve in downtown Terre Haute. They also enjoy playing for fraternities.

"The fraternity shows have been really energetic — they're also much more personal. Typically people stand closer to the stage, dance, sing and have a lot of fun, and we do as well," said drummer Evans on behalf of the band.

Continued on Page 5...

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
Wrapping up the panel.	Kung Fu Camelot and a capella.	Ich brauche meine Freiheit.	Wintry mix of sports news.	Cold Fusion is not just a language.
Page 3	Pages 4 & 5	Page 6	Page 7	Page 8

Upcoming events

					Friday	Saturday
					January 21	22
					* Final Date To Drop Winter Quarter Class Without Penalty * Student Activities' Laser Crystal "Clearly You" Momentos, Kahn Rooms, Hulman Union, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	* Japanese Culture Festival, Kahn Rooms * Fine Arts Series, A Night of A Cappella (Featuring The University of Illinois' Xtension Chords & Indiana University's Ladies First), Hatfield Hall Theater, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		* SGA President/Vice President Online Elections	* Winter Job Fair, Lobby & Kahn Rooms, Hulman Union, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.	* Career Services' Company Information Session: Guidant	* Deadline For John T. Royse Award & Moench Commendation * Drama Club Play, "Proof", Hatfield Hall Theater, 7:30 p.m.	* Triangle's Vigo County SADD Games, Arena, Sports and Recreation Center, 4-9 p.m.
30	31	February 1	2	3	4	5
	* Celebrate Engineers Week Event: * SGA Serving Doughnuts & Hot Chocolate, Commons, Moench Hall, 8-11 a.m.	* Deadline For SGA's Student Leader of Winter Quarter Award Nominations	* Celebrate Engineers Week Event: 'Rose-Hulman 2015' Student Conversation Forum, Kahn Room, Hulman Union, 7-9 p.m.	* Celebrate Engineers Week Event: Tossing Out Foam Fingers/U.S. News #1 T-Shirts at Women's & Men's Basketball Games	* Mathematical Contest in Modeling, Crapo Hall * "Worldview: Perspectives From 5 Women" Art Panel Discussion, GM Room, Moench Hall, 4:30-5:30 p.m.	* Mathematical Contest in Modeling, Crapo Hall

Classifieds

Apartments and houses

Available January, 1-4 Bedroom Apts & Houses. Starting at \$335/month. ROI Apts. 232-2466.

Ford Escort for Sale

Car for sale. White Hatchback Escort 1992; 102,000 miles. Minor cosmetic damage. Relatively new tires. \$550 or best offer
Contact: Luke.Stark@rose-hulman.edu or call 877-0727

Room for Lease

Room for lease for March-May. \$300/month includes utilities. Call (812) 201-6285 or email sutherjn@rose-hulman.edu

Female Algebra 2 Tutor

Tutor needed for 11th grade Algebra 2 student. Female applicants preferred. Call Bruce at 812-872-2466.

Apartment for Rent

4 bedroom, 2 bath, dishwasher, central air. \$200 per student. East location has full basement with washer and dryer. 1 block off Wabash. 812-232-0372. Ask for Phillip or Mary Kay Wilson.

Algebra 2 Tutor

Seeking Algebra 2 tutor for two high school students Wednesdays after 6 p.m. or on weekends. Contact Molly Reed at mjr@vigoschools.com or 217-826-8700 for more information.

Worship

Worship with music, prayer, and reflection in White Chapel Sunday, January 23, 6:00 p.m. Led by United Campus Ministries, 321 N. 7th St. Campus Minister: Jack Diel, Jack.A.Diel@rose-hulman.edu.

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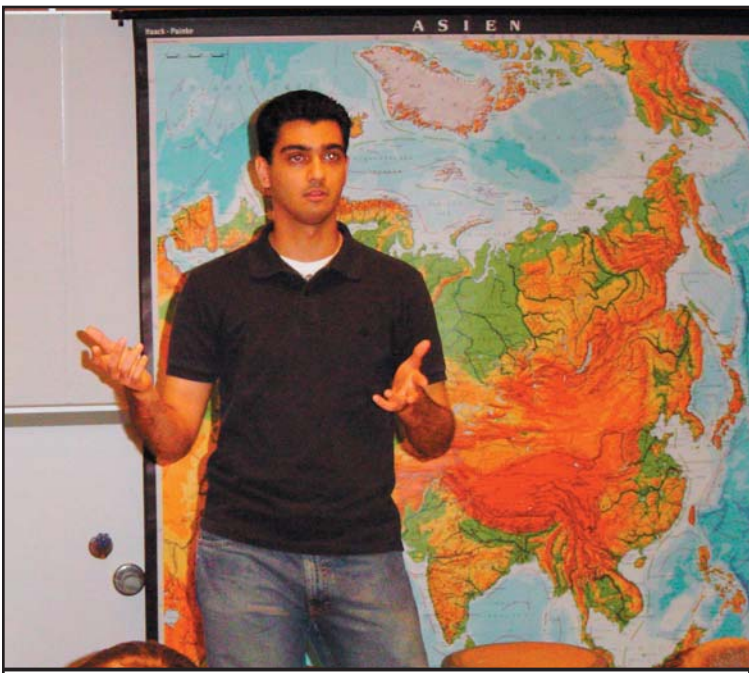
The Rose Thorn is printed Fridays during the standard Rose-Hulman quarters.

The deadline for content submission to the Rose Thorn is 5 p.m. two days prior to distribution. All content should be submitted to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or to the Thorn Office (Union room 249).

Editors reserve the right to accept new content or content changes submitted after deadline. The Thorn reserves

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Editors reserve the right to condense or edit submissions for clarity, space limitations, grammar and spelling mistakes, and factual errors. Letters to the Editor must be signed and include contact information: phone number, e-mail address, and the major and class of the author.



Lissa Avery / News Editor
Adi Kapoor is attempting to start a Rose-Hulman-based donation fund in order to get assistance to those in southern Asia that most need it.

Tsunami, from Page 1

During the question-answer session, the audience and panel discussed the political aspects of rebuilding—particularly the Sri Lankan government's hesitancy to rebuild the base of the Tamil Tigers and the possible government interference and corruption that may keep donated funds from getting where they will do the most good.

The possibility of a warning

system also had high priority in many people's minds. The audience and panel deliberated the feasibility of a warning system for such a poor area of the world, although no true conclusion was reached. Discourse also covered the possible lower-cost solutions for damage control in future situations and the fundamentals of the poor-rich problem plaguing south Asia.



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Making a difference by being different

Rose-Hulman News

It's not every Fortune 500 chief executive who is as comfortable talking about the coefficient of friction as he is the company's earnings ratio. Then, Steve McCracken takes pride in being different.

Since April 1, the 1975 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology mechanical engineering graduate has been the top executive of Owens-Illinois, Inc. (O-I).

The corporation is the largest manufacturer of glass containers in the world, with leading positions in Europe, North America, Asia Pacific and South America. About half of all glass containers made worldwide are manufactured by O-I, its subsidiaries or licensees, whether you're talking about spaghetti sauce, jams, juice, beer, wine or spirits. Customers include Coors, SABMiller, Anheuser-Busch Diageo, Heinz and Nestle's.

O-I is also a leading manufacturer of health care packaging and specialty closures, including tamper-evident caps and dispensing systems.

The company reported 2003 net sales of \$6 billion.

However, McCracken was brought in to reenergize O-I, improve its Fortune 500 standing (now No. 298), redefine its market presence and regain investor confidence. He's the first CEO in O-I's 101-year history not from the glass industry.

"O-I has great potential, but the company has underperformed," admitted the 51-year-old executive during a telephone interview from his office on the 27th floor of the firm's Toledo, Ohio, headquarters. He has introduced a financial turnaround and cultural transformation agenda that could pave the way for O-I to nearly double in size to \$10 billion in annual sales by 2014. The firm reported third-quarter profits of \$69 million, more than double than a year earlier.

McCracken's early success hasn't gone unnoticed. Forbes magazine named O-I as one of its five turnaround candidates for the year, largely because of McCracken's restructuring ef-



Rose-Hulman News

Steve McCracken is the top executive of Owens-Illinois, Inc., a glass container manufacturer.

forts.

"O-I needed new insight on how to run the company better," states George Staphos, an industry analyst with Banc of America Securities in New York City. "Thus far, I'm impressed, but it's still early."

Richard Crawford, vice president of O-I's European Glass Integration Team, adds "Steve has brought a global perspective to our organization that is consistent with our global growth efforts within the worldwide glass industry. He has challenged us to look for new growth segments."

McCracken brushes aside such praise, stating that the corporation is reaping the benefits of good business decisions, several made before he arrived; a strong leadership team; and quality work by more than 31,000 employees worldwide.

"My appointment was a signal that the board of directors wanted change," he says. "Change is hard. It's going to be a multi-year process, but we're off to a great start. It's been a lot of fun so far."

McCracken's style is approachable and team-based. He's con-

sidered a quick study and decisive. Immediately upon his arrival, he conducted a Town Hall meeting for all employees at the worldwide headquarters to calm anxieties about the leadership change. The outsider also exhibited confidence in O-I by buying a substantial quantity of company stock. He believes top officers should be linked financially to their companies.

"To get people to change, people have to know the reason for the changes. You can't make progress with a non-motivated work force," he says. "Once you get something started the energy is contagious and the coefficient of friction is lowered to the point where momentum is on your side."

McCracken and his wife of nine years, Judy, are the parents of three daughters and one son. "Rose-Hulman provided me a strong foundation in understanding the analytical approach to decision making."

Later, he adds, "I like to gather as much data as I can, and then a decision is made, and I have to live with it."

Spoken like a true engineer.

Have You Joined the Conversation?



What do we want Rose-Hulman to be in 2015? Participate in the "Rose-Hulman 2015: A Conversation About Our Future" initiative. Share your thoughts, ideas and dreams about the future of Rose-Hulman.

It's easy to participate:

- An Online Discussion Forum, and an individual private response form are accessible at www.rose-hulman.edu/conversation
- E-mail responses to conversation@rose-hulman.edu
- Fax responses to 800-513-0096
- Mail your ideas to CM 14
- Or, leave a voice mail message at 800-282-0598

The campus community is also encouraged to provide group feedback as well as individual responses. Help shape the future of Rose-Hulman. Join the conversation!

Out This Week

In Theaters

Assault on Precinct 13
Directed by
Jean-François Richet
Starring Ethan Hawke
Rated R

Are We There Yet?
Directed by Brian Levant
Starring O'Shea Jackson
Rated PG

On DVD

Catwoman

Cellular

The Forgotten

Friday Night Lights

"Kung Fu" Season 2

Box Office Tops

1. *Coach Carter*
2. *Meet the Fockers*
3. *Racing Stripes*
4. *In Good Company*
5. *Elektra*

Flying Daggers in the house

Jacob P. Silvia
Entertainment Editor

I must say that I am most impressed with Yimou Zhang's latest film: *House of Flying Daggers*. The film stars Takeshi Kaneshiro (*Onimusha 3*), Andy Lau (*A World Without Thieves*) and Ziyi Zhang (*Hero*, *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*), who bring familiar faces (for fans of martial arts films) to the screen. Like most Hong Kong Cinema films released to the states, this film blends many genres, including martial arts, romance, and a hint of detective.

The story focuses on two police deputies, Jin (Kaneshiro) and Leo (Lau), who are given the task of assassinating the new leader of the House of Flying Daggers, a group of revolutionaries who use their trademark throwing daggers to play Robin Hood in the late T'ang Dynasty. They get a lead that a brothel has a new girl, a blind girl who dances very well. Knowing that the former leader of the House of Flying Daggers had a blind daughter who disappeared shortly after Jin and Leo killed him, Jin visits incognito to discover the blind Mei.

Realizing she may be the former leader's daughter, they figure they could use her to get to the new

leader. Leo has his men arrest Mei and pretend to arrest Jin, so that no one realizes that Jin was working for them. Jin stages a breakout, rescuing her, and having her take him to the House of Flying Daggers. All the while, Leo and his men are on their trail, presenting faux-yet-realistic fights with Jin to convince Mei that he is, in fact, on her side.

Soon, however, the General discovers that a member of the House of Flying Daggers is on the lam. He sends his own police to handle the matter. Not recognizing Jin, they fight to kill. Jin, swayed by the recent budding of his love for Mei, comes to accept the fact that with the General's men, it's kill or be killed. All the while, he consults with Leo for advice on how to handle the situation. He even admits to having fallen in love with Mei.

Things get worse as jealousy raises its ugly head. A love triangle concretely manifests itself as one of the more artful Mexican Stand-offs I have ever seen in film. It's Mei versus Leo versus Jin versus Mei. It is about this time that we discover everyone has their dirty little secrets, and no one trusts



us.imdb.com
Andy Lau and Takeshi Kaneshiro face off in the martial arts/romance film *House of Flying Daggers*.

anyone else.

I thought the film was wonderful. It seemed to be more martial arts than romance at times, but all in all, it satisfied my moviegoing needs. The martial arts scenes were particularly amazing, including stunt horses as well as some really wonderful choreography. Granted, a lot of computer-generated special effects appear in this film (a detraction to film purists), the CG was not the primary focus, as it is with so many American popcorn films these days.

If you're in the mood to see a wonderful martial arts/romance film, I suggest you go see *House of Flying Daggers* at your next earliest convenience. It'll be like watching *Are We There Yet?*, only good.

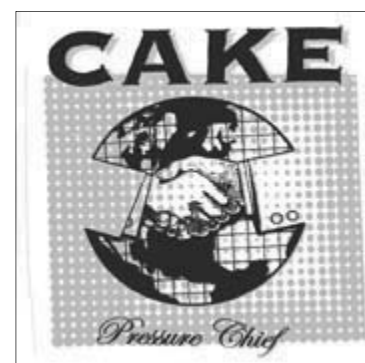
Cake's Sound is Stale

Mike Jones
Staff Writer

While I'm not as familiar with all of Cake's releases as some fans, I have had the chance to hear all their albums at some point. Like most, I first heard the band when they released *Fashion Nugget* in 1996, and have since at least noticed when another of their albums appears. Admittedly, Cake has probably seen the height of their fame pass, given that their style of alt-rock has virtually disappeared from the mainstream. After hearing their newest album, *Pressure Chief*, I've decided that Cake is one of the most consistently mediocre bands around.

The album's opener "Wheels" is a political ditty about air pollution. It is unexpectedly irritating for a Cake song. Being repetitive is fine in the right place, but repeating annoying verse and chorus lines is generally not a good action plan. My advice is to skip this track and move on to the rest of the album. The first release off *Pressure Chief* is "No Phone". Although this is one of the better songs on the album, its sound is unlike the rest. In fact, it's mildly disappointing to listen to, since it is really the only step in a new direction for Cake on *Pressure Chief*. Some tracks are amusing both lyrically and musically. "Dime" merely discusses the issues of being a dime these days. "End of the Movie" is short melody that's sort of about films (maybe). Both are good, simply written songs. "She'll Hang the Baskets" is a surprisingly engaging song, and shows uncharacteristic warmth from a band whose song writing is often tongue in cheek. Fans can relate to the lyrics, and the vocal lines are more memorable than the rest of the album. A cover of Bread's "Guitar Man" appears midway through the album. Although this is a fairly enjoyable song, I have a hard time accepting covers released on an LP. Cake has done their share of covers, and it only seems to hurt the credibility of their albums.

The bottom line is that I don't enjoy this album the way I used to enjoy *Fashion Nugget*. These aren't bad songs, but there almost isn't any reason to listen to them because they sound like anything else by Cake. You could just as easily replace *Pressure Chief* with a copy of one of their older albums. Don't get me wrong - I still like Cake, but they haven't evolved as a band since 1994. They had a fresh sound in the early and mid 90s, but they have 5 albums with the same style and sound. It's starting to get stagnant. I can't see the band moving anywhere with their signature sound from 10 years ago. Then again, maybe the members of Cake enjoy their status as a niche band. I guess being consistently mediocre is better than being unpredictably bad.



The short and sweet on Monty Python's Spamalot

Bob Schulein
Co-Editor-in-Chief
Stephen Pierce
Webmaster

Bob and Steve went to the Sunday, January 16 2pm show of *Monty Python's Spamalot* in Chicago, thanks to the Drama Club. *Spamalot*, written by Eric Idle and directed by Mike Nichols, is "A New musical lovingly ripped off from the (1975) motion picture *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*." The production is a parody of King Arthur tales. *Spamalot* is currently showing in Chicago, and will hit Broadway February 14.

Steve: *Spamalot* was pretty good. You definitely have to be a fan of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* or at least be familiar with it.

Bob: I don't know - I don't like a lot of Python's prior material, but heartily enjoyed *Spamalot*. So many people quoting Python in high school ruined the movies for me. Luckily, there was a lot new

in the play for me to enjoy.

S: I thought everybody's performance was really good, though Arthur wasn't great - played by Tim Curry.

B: I agree. I thought he was really stiff. Who knew he could sing, though!? But, overall I felt he wasn't right for the part. The other big name guys (Hank Azaria and David Hyde Pierce) blended in with the cast very well.

S: David Hyde Pierce was awesome! He was definitely animated and fit the role of Sir Robin. He also played the parts of Villager #1, Guard #1, and Brother Maynard.

B: Sara Ramirez, as the lady of the lake -

S: - DIVA!

B: - stole the show everytime she was on stage. She had a tremendous singing voice and had a presence I could feel from the nosebleed section. The world will definitely be seeing more of her soon.

S: Her character was completely new to the stage, but I thought it fit very well with the story. The ensemble cast kept the Python-esque humor. It was different to see the show on stage than on film. There were new interpretations of some sections too.

B: Like the addition of singing. I usually hate musicals, but this one drew me in with its energy and humor.

S: Aside from the Python humor, the play poked fun at itself and Broadway. It was good to see the actors not take themselves so seriously. Songs such as "You Won't Succeed on Broadway" and "Whatever Happened to my Part?" were particularly funny.

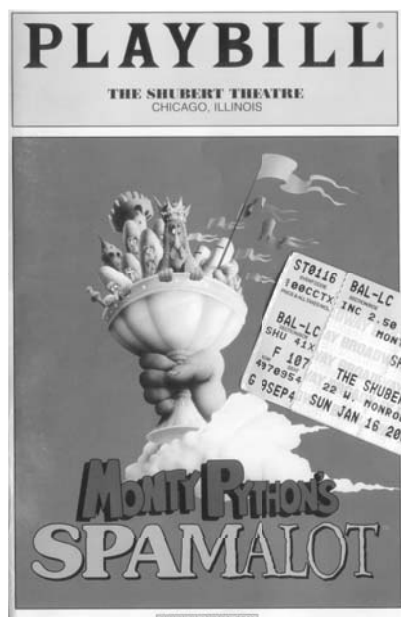
B: The song lyrics were very witty and their performances were breathtaking.

S: Yeah, they incorporated the Python humor into a unique style that was their own. Some songs were taken straight from the movie, but most were completely new.

B: I noticed Eric Idle, of the original Python cast, wrote the entire play himself while the movie was written by the entire troupe. With this play, Idle proved that he can more than stand on his own.

S: I was a little worried at the beginning of the play that not much new would be added. The first ten minutes were basically the same as the intro to the movie. When the corpses jumped up and started singing, I knew we would be in for surprises.

B: I get really irritated by the wordplay jokes that go on far too long, and occur far too often in Python's repertoire. This forced "witty" humor totally leaves me cold and there was an excessive amount of it near the beginning. Luckily, the humor got more fast paced and was placed on a stage filled with dancing people and colorful props.



Collegiate Groups to be featured in a capella concert Saturday at Rose-Hulman

Dale Long
Rose-Hulman News

Two of the Midwest's most outstanding and crowd-pleasing collegiate a capella groups -- the University of Illinois' all-male Xtension Chords and Indiana University's all-female Ladies First -- will showcase their musical talents in a special concert on Saturday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology's Hatfield Hall Theater.

Tickets for the show, part of Rose-Hulman's Fine Arts Series, are \$8 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens and non-RHIT students, and \$5 for youths (10 years old and younger). Persons can purchase tickets in the Hatfield Hall ticket office from 1-5 p.m. weekdays or reserve tickets by calling (812) 877-8544.

The Xtension Chords and Ladies First have earned national and regional honors in the International Championship of Collegiate A Capella (ICCA), and have recorded CDs under the titles "Rollin' Up The Sleeves," "No Purchase Necessary" and "Straight No Chaser."

Both groups offer a style of a capella that uses "vocal percussion," producing a percussion sound with a person's vocal chords. They achieve this effect through the complex and creative use of skills known within a capella circles as "spitting" and "breathing." Combine this vocal arrangement with intricate physical movements (similar to barbershop choruses) and you have an entertaining performance.

In fact, you can expect the unexpected from the Xtension Chords. This high energy group of 12 students combines an unusual style of four-part harmony and bungee cord-style choreography. Critics have described them as "the oldest bunch of five year olds around" and "talented... yet idiotic."

"The more contemporary style of a capella provides a perfect outlet for group members to express their talent for performance and musicality," states group Alan Chang, a senior marketing major from Flossmoor, Ill. He has been a member for three years. "I couldn't imagine what college would be like without the group. The Xtension Chords are undoubtedly the most talented group of musicians I've ever worked with. But most importantly, they are 11 of my best friends."

Eleven of the 12 members are from Illinois. Only one member majors in music. Four students are majoring in engineering or computer science, while others study philosophy, honors biology and psychology, architecture, health administration and speech communications.

Meanwhile, IU's Ladies First features 14 female students that were chosen through competitive campus auditions. The group was formed in 1999 and has performed throughout the country as musical ambassadors of the IU Alumni Association.

Most Ladies First members desire to continue displaying their musical talents while studying for careers in elementary education, business marketing, journalism and music performance. First-year member Jenn Berg dreams of performing on Broadway, while junior Trinity Villanueva is a piano performance major.

"The people and talent in this group are amazing," states student director Ruth Hartke, a senior vocal music major from Newburgh. "Ladies First has been such a blessing for me because these girls are so fun and such great friends."

As children of the 1980s, the Xtension Chords and Ladies First perform Top 40 songs made popular during the past 20 years. Through clever arrangements (written mostly by group members), these songs have been adapted to a capella. The Xtension Chords' performance at Rose-Hulman will include Josh Gracin's popular "I Wanna Live," "I Just Can't Wait to be King" from Disney's "The Lion King", and Rockapella's familiar "Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?", all arranged by member Jeff Grider; Rick Springfield's "Jessie's Girl," Eric Clapton's "Wonderful Tonight" and Billy Pilgrim's "Insomniac."

Meanwhile, IU Ladies First specializes in Rhythm & Blues arrangements. Saturday's show will include The Indigo Girls' "Galileo", For Real's "You Don't Know Nothin'", Lucy Woodward's "Get What's Good For Me", Bonnie Raitt's "Let's Give Them Something To Talk About", Britney Spears' "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?", Jean Knight's "Mr. Big Stuff", Mariah Carey's "Hero" and Geri Halliwell's "It's Raining Men".

Both groups will be using Saturday's concert as a final tune up for this year's ICCA Midwest district competitions at Michigan State University (Jan. 29 for the Xtension Chords) and Penn State University (Feb. 5 for Ladies First).

Glass Halo from Page 1

The musicians like to see audiences standing close to the stage, singing and dancing to the music; they feel it gives them extra motivation to put on a good show. Although there is no Glass Halo fan club yet, fans may request to be added to their mailing list on their website; they may also keep up with the band's activities on their weblog and even on The-Facebook.com.

While the band does play covers—their favorites include Dave Matthews, Metallica, and Pearl Jam—the members agree that they much prefer to play the songs they have written themselves. "After the shows people always ask us about our originals. As a band, we get a far bigger kick out of a good response to an original than to a cover." Each song the band produces is recorded in a home-built studio at Arnett's house in Ohio, with the exception of the violin. This component is recorded via direct-line pickup, which translates the audio signal from Wunderlich's violin to an amplifier.

At the audition, Glass Halo will play two original songs for seven major record labels and various independent labels. They are not the only musicians auditioning—about one hundred bands will play over a three day period.

Fortunately, no one in the band is nervous; every member has played the chosen songs for at least a year and a half, and they feel the songs demonstrate the unique sound of the band. Curious listeners may find these pieces, "Rhiannon's Song," "Change Your Ways", and others on the band's website at <http://www.glasshalo.net>. If Glass Halo does acquire a contract, the band's next moves depend on who that contract is with. Although smaller labels and larger ones each have their advantages, the members are not picky about who expresses interest in their music—they are excited just to be able to audition. "It's really too early to say at this point where we'll end up. The five of us are in it for the ride, not the destination," said Evans.

While the band has been busy searching for a record label, it has also been working on an album. Scheduled to be released by the end of February, "Written in the Margins" is Glass Halo's first album; its ten tracks are in the final mixing stages of production. The name of the album comes from an analogy to Arnett's favorite book, Mark Z. Danielewski's House of Leaves. In the novel, a character writes a letter in which the document's message is spelled out in the

first letter of every word in it. To understand the letter's meaning, Arnett wrote the message in the margins of the book's pages; he related this experience to his broader experience as an engineer.

"Most people see us as engineers; they see us as good with numbers and basically lacking any creativity beyond designing circuit boards and motor mounts. They see what's written in the letter. But that's not what this album is about. This album is about the parts of our lives that not everyone sees. It's about love. It's about frustration. It's about death, suicide, friendship and hope. It's about all of the emotions that we don't know how to release other than through music, and so, it's about the parts of our lives that are written in the margins."

The inaugural album contains several personal songs with meaningful messages for the band's members. "We've lost several friends we'll never forget during the course of writing this album, and it really goes out to them," noted Evans.

"Written in the Margins" will be available for purchase at all of Glass Halo's performances, on Amazon.com, and at the band's website.



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Ben Franklin said it once...



At least
I have
opinions

John Kropf
Opinions Editor

Yesterday marked the beginning of a second term for President George W. Bush, probably the most controversial president in recent U.S. history. As one of the more important parts of his re-election campaign focused on the "necessity" for congress to make the USA Patriot act permanent, I felt that the act warranted some investigation.

The day the USA Patriot act passed – with virtually no debate – was a sad day for our legislative system. The act was dangerous for America because of its civil liberties implications, and the precedent that its passage has set about congress' willingness to trade civil liberties for perceived safety.

The USA Patriot Act, otherwise know as the "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act" is a complex piece of legislation containing 1,016 sections and amending over 15 federal statutes. The amended laws included ones governing criminal procedure, computer

fraud, foreign intelligence, wire-tapping, and immigration. The act was a tool used to give the federal government more power than they had before to investigate people, by subpoenaing such benign records as books checked out at a library. The legislators who supported it, which was most of Congress, declared that it was a victory for the United States government because law enforcement was given new tools to fight terrorism, supposedly to make us all safer. But those who value their civil liberties are concerned. Some fear that the act will be overused just as about every increase in the scope of government has before. History has already dictated a disturbing trend. Though the original stated purpose of the law was to fight terrorism, that actually wasn't written anywhere in it. In September, 2003 The New York Times reported that a Congressional study had found hundreds of uses of the Patriot act in prosecuting crimes that weren't terrorist related. The civil-libertarians were vindicated in January and September 2004, when federal judges declared sections 805 and 505 unconstitutional. Some of the amendments that were part of the Patriot act were set to expire on December 31, 2005.

The Patriot act has bigger implications than its infringement on our civil liberties, however. The Patriot act has set a precedent for the United States gov-

ernment to pass laws aimed at stripping the citizens of their civil liberties for their own good. That is never good. Indeed, new legislation of the same type has already been spawned. Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah spearheaded the Domestic Security Enhancement Act of 2003 (sometimes referred to as PATRIOT II), which sought to extend the powers of law enforcement to unprecedented levels, while suspending or eliminating judicial review of those powers. The new act hasn't been passed, but parts of it have been appended to other bills, such as the Intelligence reform bill and the Senate spending bill, and passed.

The USA Patriot act signals a sad day in the history of the United States of America. It will be the beginning of the end for the system of checks and balances if we're not careful. Civil liberties are our most important possessions because they are freedom. Our ability to do what we please, or say what we want, that Americans cherish so much are all protected by our civil liberties. And when our civil liberties are under attack by our own government, the issue is not how vulnerable our country is to terrorism, but how we will justify fighting wars in foreign countries to give the gift of freedom, when we can't manage to keep it for ourselves. Freedom isn't free – but I don't mean that in the clichéd sense. To be free, you must be willing to accept a



Attorney General John Ashcroft

<http://lee.org>

certain amount of risk. Without the willingness, one can never truly be free, because there will always be an external body there to prevent people from doing what is risky. Freedom requires a mindset of personal responsibility and acceptance of the laws of chance. Without that, society can never be free. The U.S. citizens' act of accepting the Patriot act is the people's way of tell-

ing the government that they're afraid of what may happen, and they're willing to give up some of their freedoms so that they won't be scared. That may be a price society is willing to pay, but I'm not willing to pay it. In the immortal words of Benjamin Franklin, "Those who desire to give up freedom in order to gain security, will not have, nor do they deserve, either one."

Letter to the editor

I was heartily disappointed by the article printed on Friday, January 14, 2005 entitled 'The real cost of attending Rose.' This topic has so much potential that it is a shame to leave the readers with only this skimming of the subject. The figures put out by Rose are not the story here; the story is the rest of the cost, which is never discussed, despite the headline's indication.

Let the readers hear what students such as myself have found the cost to really be. I expected to see a break down by average cost of food (Aramark or otherwise), housing (on or off campus), tuition, books, and fees, as well as transportation, and interest accumulated on student loans. Instead, I found myself reading the standard nonsensical numbers put forth by the Financial Aid and Admissions departments. The article claims that the estimated expense is \$40,600 for freshmen, but in less than the time it takes me to write my rent check, I've found a number quoted by another Rose department to be closer to \$35,600. With numbers varying so wildly, the article should have at least quoted several sources and compared their legitimacy.

Additionally, I find the stu-

dent quotations within the article misleading and a misrepresentation at best. One of three student quotations in this article (that's about 33.3%) was from a student who hadn't 'had to take out any student loans yet,' while 77% of the class of 2004 took out at least one loan during their time at Rose. This, and all data in this letter, comes from the Common Data Set 2004-2005 that I obtained from the Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment website in under 10 minutes. I shouldn't even have to discuss the inappropriateness of the student quotation involving cocaine sales.

Perhaps if the article was researched more than perfunctorily, readers would have been interested in reading more than the headline without the author resorting to such infantile gimmicks as drug references and clichéd phrases like 'chump change'.

In short, I feel that the piece lacked the substance promised by the headline, and I would love to see a reprisal of this article in a future issue of the Rose Thorn.

Respectfully,

Odessa Goedert
Computer Engineer,
Class of 2005

Freedom not what it used to be

Ethan Guagliardo
The Reveille
(Louisiana State U.)

(U-WIRE) BATON ROUGE, La. - I've always been impressed by a saying I heard in my younger years: "If you're young and a Republican, you don't have a heart, but if you're old and a Democrat, you don't have a brain." This has always struck me as something which rang with some truth, supported by my own experience and the changes I've seen over time in my own beliefs.

Democrats view the phrase as an endorsement of the cold selfishness of Republicans justified on the basis of a rational calculation of self-interest of the type Ayn Rand might endorse. While this may contain some truth I doubt it's something a Republican, who generally identifies himself with Christianity (which I take to be antithetical to rational selfishness), would agree with.

The romantic absolutism of liberalism generally fades as the years bring experience and experience brings an acceptance of compromise in life. Man is guided by truths he regards as universal, but these truths are derived from the ground of experience in all its color and variance.

The history of this preconception regarding the Romanticism of Democrats probably began with Woodrow Wilson, the Democratic party's first progressive president, whose ill-fated

League of Nations was based on his grand and noble vision of a brave new world set against the "barbarism" of the past. Of course, Mr. Wilson forgot that he quite recently presided over the most atrocious war ever fought in human history had just ended. A likely candidate, it seems, for putting the heart before the brain.

The warm and fuzzy Democrat continued of course with the New Deal of Roosevelt and the Great Society of Johnson, but then something happened. Starting with Reagan, it's the Republican party which has focused on idealism over realpolitik. Reagan denounced Carter as a pessimist, and most recently George II won an election because of his "big ideas" over Senator Kerry's nuances.

Recently Bush, when asked about his future legacy in an interview for CBS news, said that he hoped he would be seen as having expanded "freedom at home and abroad." This is an admirable goal. After all who can argue with freedom? That would be un-American.

But does anyone stop and think about what freedom means, or why it even should be valued? Is freedom going to Walmart and being able to decide whether you'll purchase Coors or Budweiser?

The truth is that Bush, far from being a master strategist deeply in tune with core American values, is performing a political sleight of hand in the grand

tradition of Mr. Wilson. Take the notion of freedom in Christianity or any major religion for that matter. Of course you have some sort of freedom, but true freedom only comes through submission to God and virtuous choice. In choosing a sinful path, the individual enslaves himself.

Instead of the self-sacrifice, the suffering of hard work directed toward a good end, which guided the principles of Americans until the World War II generation, now we have "freedom." But this freedom is merely the freedom of comfort, the freedom to have enough money to choose our indulgence.

This has become the "American way," defended by the blood of our soldiers in Iraq. We stick a noble term to our actions, but our self-identification has little to do with reality.

The most depressing thing about the situation is that neither the Democratic nor the Republican party is in touch with the reality of America's position in the world. We are not a Republic of citizens, but a Republic of consumers, and we use Hollywood lingo and grand notions of the U.S. as world redeemer to justify our efforts to keep the spigot flowing.

The funny thing is that we are so wrapped up in self-deception that we rarely pause to face ourselves.

I guess that makes Bush kind of liberal, though I doubt he'd see it that way.

Rose Sports Rundown

Last week's sports scores

Men's Basketball (9-7, 3-2 SCAC)

Jan. 14	
Rose-Hulman	46
vs. Southwestern	63
Jan. 16	
Rose-Hulman	55
vs. Trinity	72

Women's Basketball (9-7, 2-3 SCAC)

Jan. 14	
Rose-Hulman	71
vs. Southwestern	57
Jan. 16	
Rose-Hulman	59
vs. Trinity	71

Swimming & Diving

Jan. 15
vs. Monmouth (Ill.) and Vincennes U.
Men - 1st
Women - 1st

Track & Field

Jan. 15
vs. Wabash Collge
Men - 2nd

Teams in bold denote winners

Winter sports update

Andrew Twarek
Staff Writer

Swimming and Diving

Both of Rose-Hulman's swimming and diving teams defeated Monmouth University (Ill.) and Vincennes University Saturday. The men earned 87-26 and 89-23 victories, while the women, wrapped things up with 67-30 and 70-28 wins.

Junior *Chrissy Guidi* set a new school record for the second time in as many meets. This time, she improved the 400-yd Individual Medley mark to 5:19.93. On the men's side, *Tyler Marler* set a new school record in three-meter diving with 186.37 points.

The Rose-Hulman men placed first in 12 of the 13 events on the afternoon. Leading the Engineers was freshman *Jacob Sorenson*, who topped the 400-yd Individual Medley in 4:32.10 and the 500-yd Freestyle in 4:58.92.

The trio of junior *Aaron Knox*, sophomore *Dan Freve*, and freshman *Adam Effinger* competed together on both winning relay teams, joined by Sorenson in the 200-yd Free Relay and freshman backstroke *Zach Tatlock* in the 200-yd Medley Relay.

Standing out for the Rose-Hulman women were seniors *Jes Frank* and *Alison Hasbargen*, who each earned an individual win and contributed to both relay victories.

Sophomore *Erin O'Connor* joined them on both relay teams, while sophomore *Elaine Kratz* swam the in the Medley Relay and freshman *Anita Isch* opened the Freestyle Relay for Rose-Hulman.

On the diving board, *Emily Tim-*



Andrew Twarek / Staff Writer
Chrissy Guidi set a record 5:19.93 in the 400 IM, her second record in two weeks.

perman scored 161.02 points in the win, and *Rachel Selby* tallied 146.70 in second place.

Basketball

Rose-Hulman's men's basketball team dropped a pair of conference games in Texas last weekend. They were defeated by Southwestern 46-63 and Trinity University 55-72.

In the Southwestern game, *Brian Bibb* scored 13 points, including 4-4 at the freethrow line, and recorded six rebounds to lead the team in both categories.

Against Trinity, junior *Kareem Lee* led the team with 12 points and six boards, while senior civil *Philip Griffith* scored 11 points and grabbed seven rebounds. *Jason Ludwig* pitched in with nine points, four assists, and three steals. The Tigers shot 67% from the field to top the Engineers.

On the women's side, Rose-Hulman topped Southwestern 71-57 before dropping the Trinity game 59-71.

Over Southwestern, sophomore *Rebekah Forsyth* set a single game scoring record with 32 points, and pulled in a game high 15 rebounds. *Suzy Carlson* and freshman *Jill Floyd* also scored in the double figures, with 17 and 12 respectively. Carlson was 9-10 at

the line, while *Floyd* hit 4-5 from behind the arc.

Forsyth led Rose-Hulman against Trinity, scoring 23 points and tallying 15 boards. *Carlson* hit for 11 points and dished out five assists.

Track and Field

The Engineer men's track team dropped their season-opening indoor track meet to Wabash College 77-66 last Saturday.

Freshman *Thomas Rieves* stood out for the Engineers, winning both the Men's High Jump (at 6'-2 3/4") and the 60-Meter Dash (in 7.20 seconds).

Placing in a pair of field events was sophomore *Ryan Schipper*. He took top numbers in the Pole Vault, leading all competitors with a 14-3 3/4" clearance, and placed second in the Long Jump with a distance of 20'-3 3/4".

Rounding out top field scores for Rose-Hulman, freshman *Nate Bloss* totaled 37'-1 1/4" to place first in the Triple Jump.

In the running events, the Engineers were led by sophomore *Charlie Williams* who won the 3000-Meter Run in 9:20.89. Seniors *Ben Leonard* and *Brian Page* each earned a second place finish.

Upcoming athletic events

Men's Basketball

Friday, January 21
Rose-Hulman vs. Hendrix
8 p.m.

Sunday, January 23

Rose-Hulman vs. Rhodes
1 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Friday, January 21
Rose-Hulman vs. Hendrix
6 p.m.

Sunday, January 23

Rose-Hulman vs. Rhodes
3 p.m.

Track & Field

Saturday, January 22
Rose-Hulman Quad
Noon

Rifle

Saturday, January 22
Rose-Hulman vs. Purdue (w/ Illinois St.)
9 a.m.

Games in bold denote home games

Rose-Hulman Intramural Volleyball Standings

Andrew Twarek
Staff Writer

The Engineer athletic teams are active this winter, but even more students across campus are busy in the SRC playing sports.

Winter intramural sports, which include volleyball and basketball, are beginning to wrap up for the quarter. Play-offs in some leagues have already begun, and all intramural champions will be crowned by February 10.

Current standings in all volleyball leagues are below. Watch for basketball standings next week.

(Win-Loss-Tie-Forfeit)

	W	L	T	F
GREEK LEVEL A				
Seal Team 6	5	0	0	0
You Got Served	3	2	0	0
Dingers	3	2	0	0
Pike Gold	3	2	0	0
Trillville	1	4	0	1
ATO	0	5	0	1

	W	L	T	F
GREEK LEVEL B (1)				
Fiji Aces	3	1	0	0
E.I. Gas	3	1	0	1
Delta Sig Green	2	2	0	0
Lambda Chi	0	4	0	0

	W	L	T	F
GREEK LEVEL B (2)				
AXΣ	4	0	0	0
Pike Garnet	3	1	0	0
Delta Sig White	2	2	0	0
Chi Omega	1	3	0	0
Tri Delta	0	4	0	3

	W	L	T	F
INDEPENDENT B				
The Big Mix	5	0	0	0
S.W.A.T	4	0	0	0
New Res 2	3	2	0	0
Your Mom	2	2	0	0
The Simpsons	1	3	0	0
Spikers-1	0	4	0	0
InterVarsity	0	4	0	4

	W	L	T	F
INDEPENDENT C				
Jobbers	5	0	0	0
Tankstars	4	1	0	0
Sets on the Beach	2	3	0	0
Little Hoodlins	2	3	0	0
Confusion	2	3	0	0
Poole Party of 12	0	5	0	4

	W	L	T	F
RESIDENCE HALL B (1)				
Toolbox	5	0	0	0
Do it for Sammy	5	0	0	0
D Zero	2	3	0	0
BSB 2	2	3	0	0
Deming 2	2	4	0	0
D-1	1	4	0	0
S.W.A.T	1	4	0	0

	W	L	T	F
RESIDENCE HALL B (2)				
New Res 2	4	1	0	0
Speed Killers	4	1	0	0
New Res 1	4	1	0	0
Speed 3	2	3	0	0
You Got Served	1	4	0	0
BSB 3 Chickies	0	5	0	0

	W	L	T	F
RESIDENCE HALL C				
Skinner	4	1	0	0
Sammy	4	1	0	0
Hit Squad	3	2	0	0
Speed 1	3	2	0	1
Pumas	2	3	0	0
Lonsamoron	1	4	0	0
Blum	1	4	0	0

Standings current as of Wednesday, 1/19

Forsyth Named SCAC Player of the Week

Rose-Hulman News

TERRE HAUTE, IND. – Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology sophomore forward *Rebekah Forsyth* (Farmersburg/North Central) has been named the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Week for the first time this season and the third time in her career.

Forsyth set a single-game women's basketball school record with 32 points in a 71-57 victory over Southwestern University on Friday night. She provided a 23-point, 15-rebound effort in Sunday's 71-59 loss at nationally ranked Trinity.

For the week, *Forsyth* averaged 27.5 points, 15.0 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 2.5 steals per game to lead the Engineers to a 1-1 record. Last season, *Forsyth* was named the SCAC Newcomer of the Year and captured first-team all-conference recognition.

Rose-Hulman stands 9-7 on the season and 2-3 in league play. *Forsyth* leads the squad in scoring (16.1 ppg), rebounding

(10.3 rpg), blocked shots (9) and steals (37) entering this week's action. She needs 17 points this weekend to move into the top five in school history in scoring and ranks fourth at Rose-Hulman with 432 career rebounds.

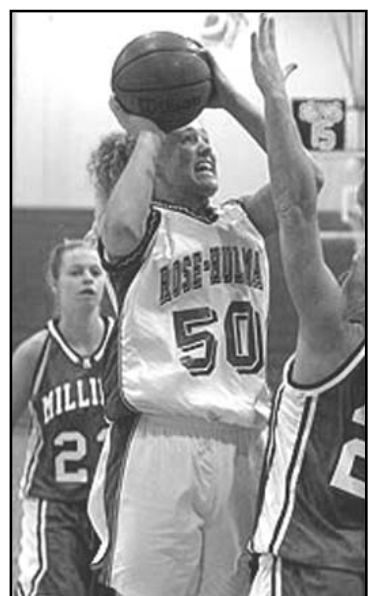


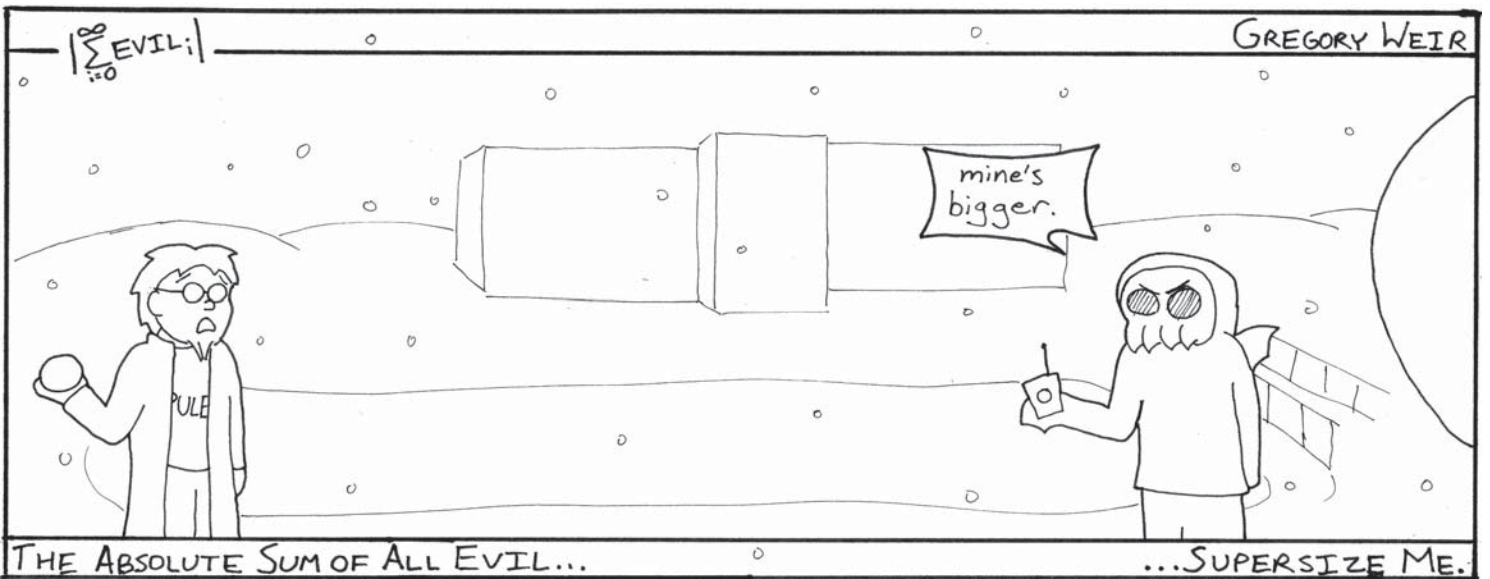
Photo courtesy Rose-Hulman Sports
Rebekah Forsyth drained a new record 32 points last week.

This Day In History

In 1924, Vladimir Lenin dies, leaving behind the bustling and successful Communist nation, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

In Addition

They said it couldn't be done. They said it was impossible. But they were wrong. Oh, so wrong.



How the EPA Ruined the World

Alexander J. Clerc

Thanks a lot, EPA, for ruining the world. Ever since the 70's you've been whining and moaning about air pollution this and toxic waste that. Now here in the 00's you've finally gone too far.

Since I was a little child you have been bombarding us with doomsday predictions of global warming. The threat of global warming scared us all in to reducing our CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O emissions. We even had to give up our beloved chlorofluorocarbons! And it was all to nurture back to health that treacherous ozone layer. Now the ozone is back with a vengeance, and we will realize that we should have finished it off when we had the chance.

Thanks to the EPA (and the EPA's cronies like Greenpeace and the Kyoto Protocol) the U.S. spends billions of dollars every year trying to reverse the effects of global warming. But what the EPA hasn't been telling us is that our efforts are actually working. Global warming is well under control. Too well...

In my infinite wisdom (that is, wisdom with cardinality aleph-null), I have determined through a simple experiment called going outside that the world is too darn cold. If there is one thing the world needs, it is more global warming.

The numbers don't lie! Over the last six months, we have seen dangerous drops in global warmness. It's below 30° F outside! Wasn't it like 50° two weeks ago? If these trends continue, by my calculations it will be -221° six months from now, -483° a year from now, and a chilly -1830° on my graduation day (± 10°).

The EPA (which is probably in cahoots with the mitten industry) has caused an environmental over-protection catastrophe that not even President Bush was able to correct. And you thought the CIA was out to get you...

Top Ten Reasons I'm Keeping Cold Fusion a Secret

10. The oil companies are paying me to keep it on the down low.
9. Engenious Solutions told me it was a terrible idea.
8. I have to wait for the guy who swore me to secrecy to die.
7. Hertz bet me I couldn't shut up about it.
6. The final phase of its development requires someone else to give up the secret to hot fusion.
5. While testing it out over Christmas Break, my Christmas tree suddenly burst into flames and gave me the eleventh commandment: "Thou shalt not cool fusion."
4. NASA would just crash it into the surface of Mars.
3. It is the only thing capable of stopping my DEATH STAR and plans of galactic domination.
2. Allows me to keep blackmailing the Illuminati.
1. The last time it was tested was in the fifteenth century, disastrously turning the Earth from flat to round.

-Aaron Meles

Wacky Prof Quotes

"Maybe its over in West Terre Haute; that's kind of minus infinity."

--Prof. Eccles, on the geographical location of log 0

"We're not going to grab your head, slam it to the table, and yell NO!"

--Prof. Throne, on questions during a test

"Why do certain students have a slimy coating on their surface?"

--Prof. Cecil, on biological peculiarities

"All grades are done by magic."

--Prof. Eccles, on the grading process

"It tastes great! But you have to be man enough to drink it...or woman enough. My wife drinks it too. You can decide which one you are."

--Prof. Throne, on Tab Cola

"The Ruskies had it! God bless 'em."

--Prof. Fine, on titanium submarines

"Some of them smell like gravy...but not any gravy you'd ever like to eat."

--Prof. Cecil, on bacteria mediums

"If you don't try to stab yourself, you don't know if you're right or wrong."

--Prof. Richards, on problem solving techniques

"Go ask them if you can be on their project team. If you get rejected all that can happen is that you end up in therapy. But don't worry, if you get rejected you can still have chocolate!"

--Prof. Azhar, on group projects, depression, and treats

"You can solve any problem with clear mind."

--Prof. Mu, on grasshoppers or something

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

FOX'S Herbig's Pun of the Week

Microsoft's latest release, Windows Marshmallow, was a flop because it had too much GUI.