

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Rose-Hulman Scholar

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Faculty vote: no confidence

Alex Clerc
News Editor

The Rose-Hulman faculty voted "no confidence" in President Jack Midgley in a special meeting Tuesday. The motion to pass the resolution of "The Faculty of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology has no confidence in Dr. John J. Midgley to continue as President of the Institute" passed with a vote of 87 for, 42 against, and 2 abstentions.

The meeting lasted from 4:30 p.m. until close to 7. As a matter of confidentiality, the faculty voted not to disclose the details of the debate. Clifford H. Grigg, faculty chairperson pro tempore, said that "the atmosphere of the meeting was extremely professional. Everyone was courteous and took the matter very seriously. I am very proud of my colleagues."

Clyde Willian, the chairman of the Rose-Hulman Board of Trustees, released the following statement following the special meeting of the faculty: "President Midgley has assured the Board of Trustees that he is absolutely committed to working with the faculty to resolve the concerns that are being discussed. The Board is fully aware of the issues presented by the faculty and others. President Midgley has promised to work very hard to improve communications, trust, and increase his accessibility on campus. He has committed to working with the community in an atmosphere of open, respectful dialogue to resolve differences."

President Midgley released a statement following the special meeting as well: "I'm committed to listening carefully to the faculty's opinions and ideas about the current and future plans to enhance this outstanding Institute. One of the most valued traditions at Rose-Hulman is the vigorous discussion of ideas. I understand that there is still work to be done and welcome the full participation of the campus community as we address these issues. We are all working for a common goal which is to provide the best education possible for our students."

Friday
Mostly Sunny 74 Hi / 49 Lo
Saturday
Partly Cloudy 78 Hi / 52 Lo

Provided by www.weather.com

Midgley responds to criticism

Alex Clerc
News Editor

Lissa Avery
Editor-in-Chief

Bob Schulein
Co-Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

On May 5, 2005, the *Rose Thorn* interviewed Rose-Hulman President Jack Midgley to discuss criticisms the campus community has leveled against him during his first year at Rose. The full interview is available on our website, <http://www.rose-hulman.edu/thorn>.

Two-thirds of the faculty voted "no confidence" in your leadership Tuesday. Why do you think they did so?

I want to spend some time fully understanding all of the faculty points of view that were reflected in that meeting. Clearly, I have a better job to do in communicating with the faculty and the staff and the students and I am looking forward to continuing that work. It takes a long time to build the communication channels that produce trust and clear, factual communication. A lot of that work is still ahead of us and



Bob Schulein / Co-Editor-in-Chief Emeritus
Dr. Midgley has an open-door policy and says he is happy to talk with anyone, face-to-face, about their concerns.

I am going to work very hard personally to get it done.

Why do you want to be the president of Rose-Hulman?

I wanted to come to Rose-Hulman because I believe that this is a very important institution for our country. I think that our success as a nation depends on being able to educate the finest undergraduate engineers, scientists, and mathematicians in the world... I would like to be part of that great work. That is why I think this opportunity is so important.

What did you think of the rally? Do you think that was done in an appropriate manner?

Oh, it was great. Yeah, it was a great event. And I congratulated everybody on what I thought was a very well run event. Those kinds of events are part of college life. They're part of a college campus.

What do you want to happen to the Homework Hotline?

Homework Hotline is an important program for Indiana and for Rose-Hulman... We, the institution, and I, person-

ally, am totally committed to the continued operation and success of Homework Hotline, and we have gone back to the Lilly Endowment with a proposal for new funding - this happened several months ago.

Is Homework Hotline going to be purely online based?

No one's talking about moving to a purely online Homework Hotline, nor does that make sense. In Indiana, the clients - the students that Homework Hotline serves - many of those students use Homework Hotline because they do not have access to broadband internet and a high-speed computer. So the phone-based service is a vital part of what Homework Hotline is all about, and I can't see that evolving. The question is "can we supplement?" not "can we replace?"

Do you think Rose is in a crisis right now?

No. I think Rose is in the midst of a very, very difficult and extended leadership transition. And that's not a crisis, that's just a fact... Our institute is financially sound. We have a wonderful faculty and staff.

Continued on Page 3...

Rally continues Midgley debate

Alex Clerc
News Editor

About 400 students, faculty, and staff gathered last Friday to protest against Rose-Hulman president Jack Midgley. The "Hit the Road, Jack!" rally was organized by students in response to Midgley's alleged lack of integrity and respect for students and staff. The gathering was located in front of Hatfield Hall and included a roadblock, a tent, a stage, a sound system, and free food and t-shirts for all in attendance.

A light rain fell as the students mingled and chatted. At about 3:40 a hush fell over the crowd as seniors Adri Platt and Justin Milks approached the microphone to begin the speeches. Platt and Milks said that they organized the event to "demonstrate our support for Rose... We're here to declare that the president is not upholding our values." Four scheduled speakers followed

to share their experiences with Midgley.

Senior Jon Fruchte, who spoke first, described an incident in which Midgley cancelled a dinner with the Triangle fraternity at the last minute, disappointing the eighty-some Triangle members who wanted to meet him.

During Fruchte's speech, Midgley arrived at the rally, taking his place in the far left of the second row. Midgley nodded and applauded with students as Fruchte continued.

Fruchte believed that Midgley's snub was a symptom of a lack of respect and integrity. "Administrative changes can be understood and financial cuts may be justified, but there is absolutely no room in this institution for an unethical person," said Fruchte.

Graduate Assistant Mike Martin spoke next, focusing on other appointments Midgley missed and reminding the crowd of the nine top admin-



Andrea Brown / Layout Manager
Julia Williams speaks at Friday's student rally on behalf of staff members who are fearful for their jobs.

istrators who have resigned this year. Martin also read four letters from anonymous members of the staff who did not reveal their identity because they "feared losing their jobs".

Brian Dougherty, the electrical engineering manager of Rose-Hulman Ventures, followed Martin. "We are all divided," warned Dougherty. "It doesn't matter what the cause of our divisions is. We need to

come together and unite."

Julia Williams, Associate Professor of English and the last scheduled speaker, spoke on behalf of staff members who had been "bullied and intimidated by Dr. Midgley." Williams testified that staff members whom she had known for 13 years have been confiding in her since President Midgley took office.

Continued on Page 3...

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
Chuck Howard retires after 37 years.	Dr. Dre is better when he isn't Ben Folds.	Two drink minimum.	Mandy Hecker runs... a lot.	You don't understand the crippling social issues that I have!
Page 3	Pages 4 & 5	Page 6	Page 7	Page 8

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

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O157 5:15 p.m.

The Rose Thorn welcomes and encourages comments from its readers. We request that all letters to the editor be less than 600 words in length. THE DEADLINE FOR CONTENT SUBMISSION IS 5 P.M. TWO DAYS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

All content should be submitted to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or to the Rose Thorn Office (Hulman Memorial Union room 249).

The editors reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar, length, and factual errors. The editors reserve the right to accept content changes submitted after deadline.

All letters must contain the writer's signature (electronic form is acceptable) and contact information (e-mail address and/or phone number).

The views expressed in the Rose Thorn are those of the original author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Rose Thorn staff or Rose-Hulman community.

Midgley, from Page 1

We have excellent students who are getting jobs at record rates and at top salaries. It would be hard to characterize any aspect of that as a crisis.

Many Ventures staff members are unhappy with how Ventures was rearranged. Do you have plans to smooth things over?

I think we are working very hard — there are a lot of faculty right now and Ventures staff working very hard to enhance how that program affects the lives of our students. What we're trying to get to is a program where the kind of project experience that we count on from Ventures is available to virtually every Rose-Hulman student — not just a few, but many, many more — and where that program has a much closer relationship to the academic curriculum of Rose-Hulman. That's why we've moved that program into Academic Affairs, so that the faculty have an opportunity to shape its future directly.

How do you respond to accusations at the rally and About-Midgley.com that you've been rude to staff and that you've missed meetings many times a week on several occasions?

Well, I have tried never to be rude or discourteous to people in my life. But I do have a very direct

personal style, and I think it's possible that people have experienced me in that way. On every occasion when I'm aware that that has happened, I have been the first to apologize, and to try to make sure that we're communicating effectively. So I hope I have not left a single person out.

What about the missed meetings or scheduling mishaps?

I think that this year, there have been times when I was simply not aware of a scheduled meeting, because there are folks on campus who know that the President is always supposed to be at or comes every year to event A or B or C. And there have almost certainly been times when those kinds of expectations were present, and I just didn't go to a meeting because I didn't know that I needed to be there. There are other occasions when I may simply have had a conflict and we didn't reschedule a meeting in time.

What mistakes do you think you've made this year?

I think I have not spent as much time as I would have liked with our students. I've been teaching this quarter and that's been fun, but many students have told me that they would like to see a little more of me, and I want to

figure out a way to do that that the students find rewarding and interesting and that lets me learn more about them. So I'll try a lot of different ways, and anybody who has a suggestion about how I can do that better, I'd be really happy to hear from you.

The evidence suggests that there is a partnership or work on establishing a partnership with ISU, yet you've stated that there is no partnership.

Well, today we don't have a partnership with Indiana State... When someone says 'partnership' to me, what I hear is a formal relationship that has objectives and an organization; we are a long way from anything like that.

If it's decided that you'll leave Rose-Hulman, what do you think will be next for you?

Oh, I don't think about that. I don't spend a moment thinking about that.

What did you think of the rally? Do you think that was done in an appropriate manner?

Oh, it was great. Yeah, it was a great event. And I congratulated everybody on what I thought was a very well run event. Those kinds of events are part of college life. They're part of a college campus.



Andrea Brown / Layout Manager

Chuck Howard at his farewell banquet.

A Farewell to Chuck

Lissa Avery
Editor-in-Chief

After 23 years as Rose-Hulman's Dean of Admissions and 37 years at Rose, Chuck Howard is retiring. He has affected the admission 80% of the living alumni and worked for three Rose-Hulman presidents.

"Most admissions people are young," said Howard. The job is stressful, particularly at a school as tuition-driven as Rose, where filling the freshman class is crucial. Admissions staff must work hard to recruit new students. Before becoming Dean of Admissions, Howard visited around 150 high schools a year, primarily in the fall months. After Howard became dean, the number lowered to 25 to 30 schools a year.

Admissions is hard work, but the Rose community makes it rewarding, said Howard. The Admissions Office does receive its due thanks, and Howard was thrown a retirement party on Sunday, May 1. The party was organized by Bill Eccles and Dave Voltmer, Professors of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Sue Dayhuff, Secretary of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, and Ron Reeves, former Vice President for Development and External Affairs.

"The party was very touching," Howard said. "I was humbled. I was overjoyed by what people said." The program was emceed by Bryan Taylor, Director of Publications and Webmaster who kept things lively with jokes and "Chuckisms"—phrases heard often by those who work around and with Howard. Several speakers recounted stories, shared jokes, and praised Howard's ac-

complishments.

"In 1980, he stood in this dining hall and shook my hand and said to me, 'Welcome to Rose-Hulman.' As we all know, that handshake is a warm welcome," said Tom Miller, Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Several others commented on the famous Howard handshake.

"I'm a people person," Howard said, "whether it's prospective students, families, or current students."

Howard is happy to be retiring, but says he will miss talking to students and "being around the students that work [in the Admissions Office]—the A-Team." Two A-Team members, Megan Lafferty and Mike Reeves, spoke at the retirement party; they gave a report on the campus-wide food drive for the 14th & Chestnut Community Center that had been conducted in Howard's name. The food drive raised over \$500 dollars in cash and food for the center, which was supplemented with an additional \$500 from Rose-Hulman's men's fraternities.

Howard is optimistic about Rose's future: "I think Jim Goecker will do a wonderful job." Goecker is currently Associate Dean of Admissions and will become Dean upon Howard's departure. All of the current Admissions staff, including Goecker, were hired by Howard, who picked them in part for their desire to stay in admissions.

According to Howard, "many people consider an admissions position a stepping stone" for another position, like one in student affairs. This is not true at Rose, and Howard is confident that his staff is dedicated to working for the office of admissions.



Benjamin Mann / Staff Writer

Rally, from Page 1

"Staff are now paranoid, afraid, nervous, and they've become increasingly so because of the actions of Dr. Jack Midgley... Treating staff with respect is one of the core values of our community."

Williams insisted that it is Dr. Midgley who needs to adjust to Rose-Hulman's culture, not the other way around. "[Midgley] is trying to change us, to substitute his values for ours, and that change is what we are rejecting today."

As Williams left the stage and Platt tried to bring the speeches to conclusion, a student from the crowd yelled out, "Why don't we let Dr. Midgley defend himself?" Additional cries from students of "Let him speak!" drove the student organizers to comply.

Midgley began by thanking the organizers for a well-organized and respectful rally. Midgley acknowledged the disagreements dividing the school and asserted that "the very best way to handle a disagreement, especially with someone you don't know, is face to face, with facts, and in an atmosphere of respect for everybody and love for the institution that's involved."

As Midgley spoke, a few students in the crowd shouted, "Show by example," and "Actions speak."

After the speeches had officially ended, students gathered around those faculty and staff who were eager to talk openly about their experiences with Dr. Midgley. Particularly large groups were huddled around Williams and Dougherty. Meanwhile, a ring of about fifty students gathered around

Midgley to talk face-to-face.

Dougherty spoke out against Midgley's ability to lead: "[Midgley] has in ten months destroyed much of what has taken a century to build. His management style is abusive and ineffective. Worst of all, he is dishonest, petty, and a terrible image to have in front of our school."

Midgley stood in the rain and later in Hatfield Hall answering student questions one by one for over an hour.

One student was concerned with all the appointments Midgley has missed. Midgley responded, "If I missed an appointment, and I know I've missed the appointment, then I do make a very good effort to apologize and reset the appointment. It may very well be the case that I've missed appointments that I did not know I had."

Yet another student asked why so many top administrators had left and why so many things were changing.

"Rose-Hulman is not a museum; it is more like a garden. It is going to change and grow all the time," Midgley answered. "People make decisions about their careers in all different stages of their life, and very often when there's a leadership change, you see a lot of the second-level leadership depart."

But parent Lon Farr, the father of sophomore Lon Farr, disagreed with Midgley: "This isn't what I view as being customary to academia. It is customary in American corporations." Farr also told Midgley, "I think when you give answers, your answers talk in circles. You sound

like a corporate CEO."

Students attended the rally for a variety of reasons. "I attended the rally because I really had no first hand experience with the president other than shaking his hand once, and I thought that I should get to know more," said freshman Dan Carey.

Senior Kyle Schroeder said, "I attended the rally because I don't think that Dr. Midgley is capable of leading Rose Hulman as president."

Senior Bryan Barker represented students who were opposed to the rally. He wore a shirt he had made that said, "You can Pick Anyone Apart."

Barker disagreed with the rally because of aboutmidgley.com. "I got on there and the arguments seemed pretty ridiculous. They were such petty little things," said Barker.

Milks hoped that students gained information: "The Rose-Hulman community is under-informed. As students, we don't see all that goes on behind the scenes... This is one of the first times that we as students have had a chance to discuss these issues with faculty members openly."

Platt was thrilled with the student turnout. "I am overwhelmed! It is amazing that this many people care." She had only been expecting about 50 students to show up instead of 400.

As for Midgley, he stated that he learned a lot and was happy with the rally. "I am very pleased that we had the kind of orderly, respectful conversation that we had."

Fall '05 SA List

Deming		Blumberg	
Basement	David Donovan David Weldon	4 th Floor	Samantha Sheets Katie Zack
1 st Floor	Jeff Kennedy Danny Keller		
2 nd Floor	Simon Leavitt	BSB	
Attic	Adam Effinger Kyle Overmyer Tyler Masterson	1 st Floor	Joe Tolsma Jake Conway
		2 nd Floor	Chris Valenta Kyle Vettters
Mees		3 rd Floor	Karen Kirchman Rachel Selby
2 nd Floor	Ryan Pepmeier Justin Parks		
3 rd Floor	Ashley Erffmeyer Erika Haskins	Speed	
		1 st Floor	Ben Lauer Caleb LeNoir
Scharpenburg		2 nd Floor	Tommy Buetow Terrence Whittington
3 rd Floor	David Lui Kevin Zekis	3 rd Floor	Daniel Goodwin Nathan Scherwinski
4 th Floor	Joe Trout James Wilkerson		

Out This Week

In Theatres

House of Wax

Directed by Jaume Serra
Starring Elisha Cuthbert
Rated R

Kingdom of Heaven

Directed by Ridley Scott
Starring Martin Hancock
Rated R

Brothers

Directed by Susanne Bier
Starring Connie Nielsen
Rated R
Limited Release

Crash

Directed by Paul Haggis
Starring Don Cheadle
Rated R
Limited Release

On DVD

*National Treasure**The Phantom of the Opera*

"Star Trek: Enterprise"
First season

Box Office Tops

1. *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*
2. *The Interpreter*
3. *xXx: State of the Union*
4. *The Amityville Horror*

Hitchhiker not left by side of road

Jacob P. Silvia

Entertainment Editor Emeritus

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy is a work in progress. Being the dynamic creature that it is, one can always expect a different flavor of it every time a new one is released. This much is true with the recent theatrical release of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, which was directed by Garth Jennings, written by Douglas Adams, and stars Martin Freeman, Zoëy Deschanel and Dante "Mos Def" Smith.

Previous iterations of *The Guide* include a BBC radio drama, a book, a text-based adventure game, a BBC miniseries, a series of comic books, and a towel.

As mentioned earlier, each iteration of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* is in some way different. This is not because "the industry" got its hands on it, tore it to shreds, and then reassembled it into a less funny, or quite possibly, more American version. The truth is that every time Douglas Adams would reforge *The Guide*, he would alter a thing here or there, or quite possibly go in an entirely new direction, depending on how he felt about the medium for which he was writing.

Because of this, several fans of a previous iteration of the *Guide* feel as if they have been cheated. This is not the case. If you are a hardcore fan of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* but feel like

the movie was "too different," then you are not really a "hardcore fan" of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. If you were, you would realize that the book is not the definitive version, nor is the radio drama, the miniseries, nor is even the towel. Since *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* is ever changing, ever expanding, ever making itself once again new, the definitive edition would have to be an omnibus of the *Guides*, being the definitive edition as a whole.

If you have never experienced *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, I must suggest that you start your experience with one of the earlier versions, such as the radio drama or the book, and not jump headlong into the theatrical release without knowing what to expect.

You might be saying to yourself, "But I thought each version was different, thereby I can watch this movie, having seen no other version, and thus, I will be as well off as one who has read and seen every other version, because, again, each version is different." This is not a good way to think. Granted, each version is different, but the universe remains the same. The same rules apply: the universe is big, Vogons don't like hitchhikers, the Pan Galactic Gargleblaster is like having your brains bashed in by a slice of lemon wrapped around a gold brick, and your towel is your best friend (direct quotes taken

from one version of the *Guide* or another).

So, you would benefit greatly from understanding just what is going on while you're watching the movie. Otherwise, it may seem like just a bunch of random British silliness.

The movie, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, chronicles the tales of Arthur Dent (Freeman) and his good friend Ford Prefect (Mos Def) as they escape from a soon-to-be-demolished planet Earth.

They meet up with the President of the Galactic Federation, and relative to Ford, Zaphod Beeblebrox (Sam Rockwell), and too with the only other Earthma—err Earthperson, Arthur's former love interest, Trillian (Deschanel). I'm sure I'm missing someone, overlooking someone, or something. I remember Warwick Davis (*Willow*) and Alan Rickman (Snape from *Harry Potter*) being in the movie in some joint effort as a single character or something. I'm sure it'll come back to me.

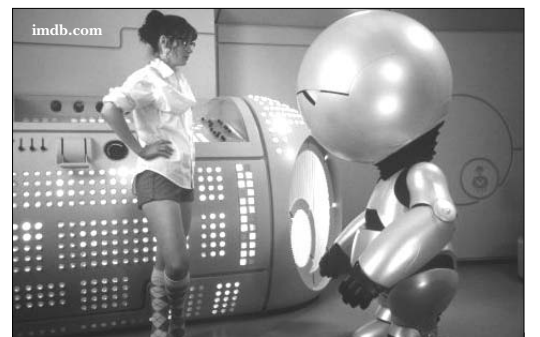
Either way, the gang is on a quest to find the Question to the Answer to Life, the Universe, and EVERYTHING. It will make them rich, it will make them famous, it will

give everything a bit of meaning.

Of course, every good movie has conflict. This, being one of those, has conflict: the nefarious Vogon fleet in conjunction with the Galactic Federation, want to reclaim President Beeblebrox, who has kidnapped himself.

Filled with action, adventure, science fiction, comedy, drama and romance, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* provides action, adventure, sci-fi, comedy, drama, romance, and more.

If you find yourself craving more out of life, more meaning, more confidence, more silliness, you should make a point to see *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, or at the very least become acquainted with the series. If you consider yourself a science fiction aficionado, you will never to be complete without adding this one to your repertoire.



Trillian talks with Marvin, the paranoid android.

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Trent Reznor returns bearing *Teeth*

Mike Kulick
Daily Collegian
Penn State

Anyone familiar with Nine Inch Nails (NIN) knows that the waiting is the hardest part. With one-man mastermind Trent Reznor, taking long spans of time between albums is quite normal, and he's continued with this tradition -- it's been five and a half years since the last album of new material, 1999's double-disc opus "The Fragile."

Next to the upcoming Guns N' Roses album, NIN's new CD, "With Teeth" -- which hits stores on May 3 -- has been the highest-anticipated rock album of the 2000s.

So does it live up to the immense hype? That all depends on if the listener can deal with the fact that Reznor's lightened up a bit -- and has less of a dark cloud surrounding his music these days.

With Teeth is the most accessible album of the band to date, next to its pop-infused debut "Pretty Hate Machine." This may deter some of the fans that tend to worship NIN's best-selling industrial album

"The Downward Spiral" (the new single "The Hand That Feeds" is an infectious dance-pop song). However, Reznor did do away with the long moments of somewhat self-important ambiance that plagued *The Fragile*, leaving a meaty 13 tunes that seem to sound like a happy medium between the mostly upbeat "Pretty Hate Machine" and the introspective "Fragile" discs.

The wall of aggressive noise that made "The Downward Spiral" a hit can still be found here on occasion. Songs such as "You Know What You Are?" hit the listener with a punch to the eardrum, and the title song also delivers, as Reznor shouts, "You've finally found a place where you belong."

It does indeed seem as if Reznor and company have found a place where they belong -- outside of the bleakness of a downward spiral, and into slightly greener pastures.



Folds' *Songs for Silverman* needs saving

Mike Jones
Entertainment Editor

After hearing Ben Folds' amazing cover of a Dr. Dre song - I am forced to omit the name because I can't write it in the paper - I hoped that his new album would be just as good. If you've heard the cover, you probably share my enthusiasm for it. It is completely cool, after all. The cover doesn't appear on *Songs for Silverman*, and I was initially glad to see it left off. Covers are almost always bad for an LP as far as I'm concerned. But after hearing the rest of the album, it seems that Ben Folds could have used any good song he could come up with.

I'm not really sure what to say about this one. Sure, it sounds like Ben Folds. But it just doesn't feel like Ben Folds. There's a complete lack of courage on this album, in more ways than one.

First off, even though no covers appear on the album, it might as well be full of them. Full of Ben Folds covers, that is. There isn't a thing that sounds even a little bit new. "Jesusland" would probably

be a really good song, except that it sounds just like "The Ascent of Stan", which is a really good song. The same issue arises with "Time", which sounds similar to "Narcolepsy" from *The Unauthorized Biography of Reinhold Messner*. Not one song jumps out as being completely original and daring.

The lyrical content is unimpressive, and most of it seems to be taken from songs he's written in the past, which is just too easy. "Bastard" pokes at know-it-alls, just like "Rockin' the Suburbs" and a slew of other Folds' songs. "Late" is a tribute to Elliot Smith that might have worked lyrically, except that it's not subtle at all. Folds even sings Smith's name, which is too explicit an appeal to the listener's pathos. Many of the songs deal with aging, much the

same as Folds' last album *Rockin' The Suburbs*.

Songs for Silverman isn't musically impressive either. Where Folds used to be robust and relentless on the piano, the tracks on *Songs for Silverman* lack all vigor in that area. The only two tracks with any kind of energy are "You to Thank", which does have a very good piano solo in the bridge, and "Prison Food", the closer to the album. I know that Ben Folds has always concentrated on piano, but nothing else on the album stands out at all. The drum tracks only keep very simple beats. The guitar and bass tracks never really add anything to the songs, and basically, I don't have anything else to say about them because they don't really do anything. Maybe the Dr. Dre song is

Album:
Songs for Silverman

Artists:
Ben Folds

Produced By:
Ben Folds &
John Mark Painter



Ben Folds' *Songs for Silverman* is his first album in over three years pitchformedia.com

looking pretty good now, not to mention how good Folds' former albums look.

I don't want to be so hard on Ben Folds, because I really do respect him as a musician. Plus, he's just such a nice and cool guy. I've been a fan of all his albums in the past, but that's probably a big part of the reason I'm not

that fond of *Songs for Silverman*. Being familiar with his previous albums only makes it more difficult to deal with the lack of movement here. It definitely sounds like Ben Folds, but it doesn't feel like his other albums feel to me. It feels like maybe it's time for Folds to move onto a new style.

Greekstock: music and food for a good cause

Bridget Mayer
Staff Writer

A day of peace, love, and music drew a small crowd this past Saturday at Greekstock, an all-day music fest held on the grounds of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. The event was a joint effort by members of Rose-Hulman's Greek community to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Volunteers from FIJI and Pi Kappa Alpha, caterers from Ambrosini's Italian American Restaurant, and five local bands put on a show worthy of a much larger crowd than was in attendance.

Alex Greve, a sophomore mechanical engineer and organizer of this year's event, was quite pleased with the performance of the bands he recruited. "I loved it. I thought it was a fantastic concert. All of the musicians were talented and put on a great show". Musicians included junior software engineer Brandon Javella, the Rose-Hulman band Glass Halo, and regional favorite Richard Hardesty.

Greve put over 150 hours of work into organizing the event, from scheduling the bands to designing the website (www.greekstock.org) to stage set-up. "The most difficult part of the planning was the part that didn't work out. We would have liked to have a licensed alcohol vendor at the event. It's not that we wanted a drunken party, but having alcohol at a live concert is just the nature of the beast. Even the police security officers asked us why we didn't have an alcohol vendor".

Greve admitted that "Rich Hardesty's performance had to be everyone's favorite part of the event...his lead guitarist is phenomenal. Rich definitely

increased his fan-base on Saturday." It didn't hurt that Hardesty handed out multiple copies of his albums to fans in the crowd. Although most in attendance arrived in time to see just him, the crowd remained quite small. "I'm pleased with the turnout," Hardesty told fans. "We're just making up the set list as we go, which is perfect for you guys. Sometimes obnoxious turnouts aren't as cool as the smaller ones...it's more personal this way." Indeed, the band shared a few personal moments with onlookers, playing a song dedicated to a late friend, and later trying out new songs and lyrics; at one point, the backup vocalist freestyled a very funny, if profane, bridge for almost a minute. The look on the drummer's face showed that, this was not a common occurrence in their set. Greve mentioned that future Greekstocks may see a few different bands, although Hardesty would probably be invited back. "We may look at some of the same bands that played this year; Rich Hardesty said he'd love to come back. We will be looking for a change in lineup though."

Despite having the attendance of an ice cream stand in January, Greekstock had all the potential to be a huge event; as one woman put it, "A lot of people are missing a really good concert." An event volunteer pointed out the four portable restrooms that had been delivered for concertgoers, commenting facetiously that "they're hardly used!" Greve noted that in the past, Greekstock involved members from almost every fraternity and was hugely successful. "We'll see how it plays out next year. Yes, we're gonna do it again."



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Exaggerated reactions



At least
I have
opinions

John Kropf
Opinions Editor

As many have probably heard, the Indiana State Excise police raided a party at Rose last week. While they were fully within their right to do so, that incident has precipitated some new and tougher rules on campus.

Anyone who throws a party at which alcohol is served on campus is affected by these new rules. These rules make it clear that the Rose administration will impose its own sanctions on any organization caught allowing minors to consume alcohol. While Rose is fully within their right to do this as it is against the law for those under 21 to drink, I'm saddened to think that events on this campus have reached the point that would encourage this kind of in-

tervention from Rose.

College is traditionally a place to have experiences that we've never had before. It's a place to learn about parts of life we hadn't been able to experience at home, and it's a chance to learn that we're responsible for our actions. While those who had to face the police learned this lesson only too well, part of me feels that they shouldn't be able to dictate what the rest of us may and may not do.

I'm not a fan of current alcohol or drug laws. I believe that drug prohibition in any form doesn't work, and those who pretend it does are only fooling themselves. I know from personal experience, even before college, that illegal substances and or activities are only too attractive and accessible to those who are supposedly being prevented from

accessing them. Prohibition in most any form is ineffective no amount of government regulation will prevent people from doing what they're determined to do. Empirical evidence has proven this time and time again.

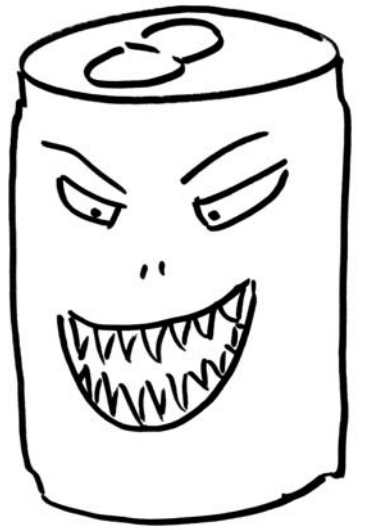
Prohibition in the 1930's was an excellent example. Today's drug war is just as good. In both situations, the government wasted huge sums of taxpayer money to combat problems that the government created by banning substances that the citizenry proved they wanted.

The way to control abuse of these substances is to hold the people who abuse them accountable for their actions. People who are arrested for driving under the influence are allowed to get their driving privileges back much more quickly than they should be. That's the problem with

the current thought climate in America. Too many resources are focused on the wrong part of the problem.

Even these new rules, which I'm sure are designed to keep Rose-Hulman out of the newspapers (at least the bad sections), are focusing on the wrong part of the problem. Instead of holding accountable the individuals who over-indulge in these activities, Rose has decided to punish everyone who might be connected with events like this. Group punishment has never been an effective way to teach people the error of their ways. Group punishment doesn't work because it's too general for offenders to feel personally responsible and because it has the potential to incite anger, more often than remorse.

I've found my time at Rose-Hulman to be a great experience. I hope that part of what's made it the learning experience and opportunity for growth it's been for me isn't dying, because Rose is afraid of bad press. Bad press will find you no matter what you do. And people will continue to



do things they're not supposed to. The idea should be to find a way of letting those who go overboard know that they've done so, and allow them to take responsibility for what they allowed to happen. The imposition of harsh penalties for minor infractions teaches nothing to anyone. Instead it makes people bitter. I only hope that Rose can find a way to maintain a safe campus environment without sacrificing students' freedom.

The imposition of
harsh penalties for
minor infractions
teaches nothing to
anyone.

Humanities: The dying fields

Andrea Runyan
The Stanford Daily

My dad has a saying: "The fact that people ask whether you believe in something is a good indication it doesn't exist." A Google search for "Does God exist" pulled up 103,000 Web sites, but a search for "Does Clinton exist" "did not match any documents." You'd think someone would be wondering. I think that also goes for whether things matter. If people keep debating whether something is important, then maybe its days are numbered.

Thus, I noted one of this spring's courses: "Does Literature Matter?" Granted, I'm not taking this course, and I can't speak about its content, but the title amuses me.

I do know that my I-Hum lectures and sections addressed this topic. My professors debated whether literature mattered, whether it's worth studying the humanities, etc., and they always came up with the same answer: yes.

Of course they're going to say that the humanities matter, after staking their intellectual and professional value in them, just as most psychotherapists and their patients will say that treatment helped. Who would voluntarily devalue their own profession or admit that something they've put extensive time and money into doesn't matter?

The question is not "Does it matter?" but "Does it matter very much compared to other things?"

"Does X matter?" is almost a pointless question, because in a chaotic world, everything matters. You've probably heard the saying about a butterfly causing a hurricane. Maybe someone's book on the symbolism in "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" will inspire a teenager to buy her first lit-crit book upon which she will become interested in scholarly

pursuits and do well enough in school to come to Stanford University, where she will start out as a humanities major but realize that the humanities aren't really going anywhere and thus switch to management science and engineering, make several million dollars and donate it all to the Rewilding Fund to preserve wild spaces. So yes, I'll agree with the world's humanities scholars -- studying the humanities matters.

But how much do the humanities matter compared to other things?

In science and engineering, a common way to find out whether something matters is to remove it, at least in a simulation, and see how things are different.

Imagine the world without literary criticism. I'll grant that it would lack some of the good aspects of lit crit, but I don't know whether it would be so different. But then imagine the world without computer science or biology.

And for courses, imagine a Stanford education without the gender studies requirement or without I-Hum. If you performed a long-term study on students with and without the humanities General Education Requirements, I'm not sure you'd find much difference. If there were a noticeable difference, I'd expect it to be that the students who weren't forced to take humanities would read more after college.

I'm sure that plenty of people have had great experiences in their I-Hum and humanities courses. There must be scores of students who think they got something out of their required courses.

Yet the question is not "Did they get something out of these courses?" but "Did they get more from them than they would have gotten from other courses?"

I hinted at this to my I-Hum teaching fellow. "I-Hum is bad for my education," I said. She didn't see how this could be true. But it seems to me that even if we're getting something out of our humanities GERs, we're getting less out of them than we'd get from other uses of our time, energy and course credits.

General requirements "hurting" students? How can that be, you might protest. But I think it's happening even now. Someone I know from my stochastic processes class said one reason American students are so far behind their foreign counterparts in science and technical subjects might be that we're held back by all these breadth requirements.

And there are other ways general requirements can hurt students. They create the situation I hoped I'd left behind in high school -- students taking courses they'd rather not be in. Besides being hard on teachers, taking courses just to fulfill requirements leads to the unpleasant feeling that you're being forced to learn something you don't think is important and trying to squeak by while diverting as little time and effort as possible from things that actually are interesting and important to you.

So what's my solution?

Easy. The same way that honors work in a major is optional, GERs should be optional. Just as students can decide whether fulfilling honors requirements and earning the distinction will benefit their education, students should be allowed to decide whether they want to earn distinction in each of the GER areas.

As for people who keep arguing that the humanities really matter and people need to study them, I dedicate this quote from "Hamlet": "The lady doth protest too much, methinks."

Am I selling out?

Eva Liao
Temple News (Temple U.)

As city college kids, I'm sure we're all familiar with Urban Outfitters, the alternative urban-styled retail store that sells shirts that read "Come to Philly for the crack."

It's a haven for those who enjoy dressing unconventionally, whether you're a hipster, tree-hugger, rebel or an emo-tastic artist of some sort. When the business first started, it actually used to be sort of cool. But now Urban Outfitters is what Abercrombie & Fitch is to frat boys and surfers -- just another corporation manufacturing items based on stereotyped target audiences. I should know. I work there. And as a person who feels it is paramount to work for something I love and believe in, working at Urban has often made me feel like a sellout.

I applied for the job thinking I would be able to work somewhere more lax and less corporate than most companies. While the stores may appear that way, behind the scenes the business is run by Richard Hayne, founder and president of Urban Outfitters. Hayne is actually a rich, conservative Republican who, according to Philadelphia Weekly, has donated more than \$13,000 to the Republican Party.

Now before I say things that could potentially get me fired, let me make a disclaimer: I like my job. I love the people I work with and the atmosphere is always fun. Folding clothes isn't so bad when you've got Grandmaster Flash playing in the background.

Let me also point out that I have no qualms with the political agendas of other people. Or at least not to the point where I judge them based on their party preference.

But I do have a problem with corporations who blatantly make an effort to appear liberal, rebellious and unique when in fact they are quite the opposite. As a result, I feel that the company has created

a front, and as a representative of Urban, I contribute to that front. I feel I've become a sell-out who is representing a company that is no longer based on principles I agree with.

Maybe I sound a bit melodramatic, but I've never been comfortable being paid to do something that I didn't simultaneously feel passionate about. And as Urban becomes more and more of a pit stop for suburbanites and rich college kids, I find myself grinding my teeth through a weak smile.

A few weeks ago, I had a customer frantically upset because he was too short to fit into a pair of \$170 Seven brand jeans. He told me he had to have them because "in this city, Seven jeans mean something." It took me a few seconds to digest the absurdity of this remark, and when I did, I had to try deathly hard to act polite without throwing up in my mouth.

It's situations like these that remind me of what Urban is now compared to what it was when it first started. It was a small store based on anti-war and anti-corporation efforts, bringing affordable uniqueness into the homes of college students. Now I look around the store and notice "vintage" goods being priced for four times what they're worth and I wonder if I'm in the wrong place.

But I remind myself that it's only a part-time job to hold me over during college, and when the time comes to choose a career, I will be sure to dedicate myself to something I passionately love. In our society, we all know we have to acquire jobs that generate cash flow in order to be considered productive members of society. For most of us, this means trying to find a career without selling our souls to the devil.

The most that we can ask for is to be paid handsomely to do what we love. Because my job at Urban Outfitters currently contradicts both these standards, it is a continuous reminder of why I must work toward building a profitable career I love.

Rose Sports Rundown

Last week's scores

Baseball (21-14, 10-4 SCAC)

May 1
Rose-Hulman vs. Manchester College
Game 1: 13-9
Game 2: 4-5

May 4
Rose-Hulman 5
vs. Hanover 4

Track
April 29
Rose-Hulman Twilight Meet
11 Top Fives Each

Upcoming events

Baseball
Saturday, May 7
Rose-Hulman vs. Greenville
Noon (2 games)

Sunday, May 8
Rose-Hulman vs. Thomas More
Noon (2 games)

Hecker works hard to balance school with cross country and track

Andrew Twarek
Staff Writer

Engineer sophomore Mandy Hecker has stepped up to become the top mid-distance runner Rose-Hulman has ever seen. After making the change from tennis to cross country and track, her work ethic and determination have helped her break records in the 800- and 1,500-meter events.

In high school, Hecker was a tennis player. Managing the men's team in the fall and playing during the spring women's season, she also competed on the basketball team. If that didn't keep her busy enough, "I started cross country my junior year, but wasn't too competitive at the time. It was relaxing and fun," she said.

Hecker looked to continue her athletic career after high school, expecting to compete in tennis and cross country. For her college choice, she narrowed the search to small engineering schools. Rose-Hulman impressed her, and it didn't hurt that "my uncle went here for a year."

"Mandy came out last year for cross country, liked running and got better and better," said Engi-

neer head coach Larry Cole. As the only freshman on the cross country team in her first quarter at Rose-Hulman, Mandy put up fast times. She placed third on the team in two meets and second in the final two events of the season. But what would she do in the winter, though? "I wanted to stay in sports, and track was a good opportunity," she said.

Cole is very impressed with Hecker's work ethic. "She's the epitome of a Div. III student-athlete. She's a great student, she competes all three seasons, she enjoys coming to practice, and she works very hard at what she does," Cole remarked.

It certainly isn't easy studying mechanical engineering at the No. 1 undergraduate engineering school in the nation and running three seasons each year (cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track). "It's hard to balance class load and running...as well as have fun," said Hecker.

She does get a little rest in the autumn: "We are off from Halloween to the beginning of winter quarter." However, Hecker trains on her own and keeps in shape during the month of November, which she does because "it's relaxing. That's why I'm out here running."

This fall, Hecker ran in every cross country meet, placing second on the team each race. She put up a 20:25 at Earlham to earn a spot among the top five fastest women in the team's history.

On the track, she competed in the 800-meter and 1,500-meter runs, and was a part of the 4x400-meter relay team. During the indoor season, Hecker notched down the school record in the 800 three times to 2:27.15. Her outdoor efforts this season brought the school record in the 800 down to 2:24.83—three seconds faster than her seventh place effort at the SCAC Championship meet in 2004. (She upped her place to sixth in the Conference meet this year.)

Hecker really broke out the 1,500-meter run last spring. The previous best time was 5:06.98 set five years ago, but Hecker broke that easily with a 4:57.27 in the Rose-Hulman Early Bird Meet last March. Twice more she lowered that record, running a 4:52.59 in the SCAC Championship to place third in the conference.

"SCAC distance runners are always regarded as some of the best in the nation. Third [place at the conference championship] is a great accomplish-

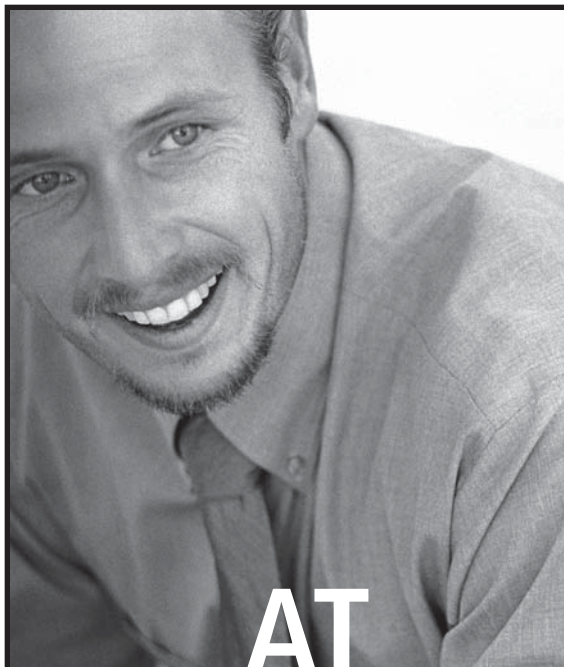
ment," said Coach Cole, who is confident that this is the fastest 1,500 any woman has run for him in his 25 years of coaching.

"The turning point in her year was when we had her start training with the men. That brought her to the next level. A couple of guys have taken her under their wing, running with her in practice and helping train her. Tim Hasler has been a big help to Mandy," Cole emphasized.

Hecker has enjoyed the interaction on the track and field team. Her favorite part of this year is simply "hanging out with people—they're the ones I hang out with on and off the track. The boys and girls on the team have gotten real close this year."

Though hard to tell from a soft-spoken interview, Hecker "is one of the most competitive women I've coached. She's taken her competitive nature from tennis," said Cole. "She will continue getting better as a junior and senior."

This summer, Hecker will be working as an intern with Eli Lilly & Co. in Indianapolis. Watch for her next fall though, as she'll be the most experienced runner on the cross-country team and surely more records will follow.



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FLIP SIDE

Wacky Prof Quotes

- "I'm going to beat your head in over and over again."
--Prof. Holden, threatening students
- "Am I on crack?"
--Prof. Minster, who really wants to know
- "Shit...I forgot to pass those back...Shit...I forgot to enter your grades...Shit"
--Prof. Rader, being punctual and responsible
- "Wrong! Oh, wait, I'm supposed to encourage you... good try!"
--Prof. Christ, encouraging his students
- "I can see it on the evaluations now: 'He always says "good" when there are no questions because he never gives us a chance to ask questions."
--Prof. Herniter, making a prophecy
- "Ties are a communist plot to subvert American society."
--Prof. Cornwell, who only drinks grain alcohol and rainwater
- "When you go to present, always check your fly."
--Prof. Merkel, on effective presentations
- "Is the square root of the nastiness bigger or smaller than the original nastiness?"
--Prof. Martensen, examining nastiness
- "I don't wear my glasses, except when I'm driving. If I don't... I hit things."
--Prof. Evans, who is scary
- "If you need to go to sleep at night you should just record a couple of these lectures."
--Prof. McInerny, who is soporific
- "I would lock my kids in the back room and watch South Park all weekend."
--Prof. Christ, on why he wants to stay at home
- "I have to go to a faculty meeting today. If you think I'm dull, you should listen to them."
--Prof. Sanders, insulting the other faculty
- "Mmmmm, exploding beer... Ah, ah, ah..."
--Prof. Devasher, detonating stuff again
- "He can do that with the godlike power of Tim."
--Prof. Martland, on Tim Prickel's superpowers

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

Herbig's Pun of the Week

Dogs make the best doctors because they know how to heel even the most apawlling injuries.

The Tinkertoy Tomorrow

Alex Clerc

After the success of my xx15 forum, I've decided to give up my future career in electrical engineering and become a historian. Being a historian will be lots of fun, and the best part about it is that I won't have to change my major. Know why? Because electricity will soon be a thing of the past.

All the fancy-pantsy digital electronics we know and love today like digital watches, laptops, and calculators will all go the way of the slide-rule within the decade. The future is in micromechanical computing – using tiny gears and shafts to do the work of digital circuits. This idea is very real: in the 1970's a group of students at MIT built a computer that could play tic-tac-toe – and they built it entirely out of Tinkertoys and fishing line. This Tinkertoy tic-tac-toe supercomputer consisted of about 10,000 tinkertoy parts and was powered solely by a hand-crank. The monolithic device stood over eight feet tall and it never lost a game to anyone. Ever. Google it if you don't believe me.

Now imagine if this device could fit in the palm of your hand. I've been in the MEMS lab and have seen for myself the things they can make – things so small that I couldn't even see them. Soon the MEMS people will begin building Tinkertoys mere nanometers thick to construct the Micro-Tinkertoy Tic-Tac-Toe Supercomputer (the MTTTTS, for short). And when the MTTTTS comes, the Tinkertoy microprocessor won't be far behind.

As for the electrical engineers, they'll either become Tinkertoy engineers or curators of digital museums. Our age, the digital age, will be remembered by our descendants as a dark, backwards, Tinkertoyless time. Alas... the digital circuits and computer architecture I study today will be the thing of museums in the Tinkertoy tomorrow. Thanks a lot, MIT.

Top Ten Questions On the Campus Housing Application

10. Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist party?
9. On average, how many times do you attempt to summon demons into your room?
8. Do you see dead people?
7. What is your opinion on the geopolitical ramifications of antidisestablishmentarianism on sub-Saharan microeconomics?
6. Do you shower regularly? How regularly?
5. If you had to describe yourself in one word, would it be "salubrious" or "ductile"?
4. On a scale from one to Hertz, how annoying is your alarm clock?
3. Would you consider yourself "fun" or are you, in fact, fun?
2. Do you have a tendency to sleepwalk or sleep-set-things-on-fire?
1. What would you do for a Klondike bar?

-Aaron Meles

This Day In History

In 1937, the airship *Hindenburg*, the largest dirigible ever, catches fire while docking in Lakehurst, New Jersey. This marks the birth of the "New Jersey Curse."

In Addition

Okay, folks. You do all realize that I'm joking, right? This is the humor page, after all. There's even a big disclaimer at the bottom. I don't mean any of it... except about you, jackass.

