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Stop, Communicate, Listen

How My Rose-Hulman is Shaping Campus Communication

Lauren Wiseman
News Editor

Students will clearly remember the inception of My Rose-Hulman, the new intranet for the campus community. Doing away with SharePoint, all-campus emails, and the list of links on the campus homepage, My Rose-Hulman was meant to bring the campus together and simplify the lives of students and faculty alike. Even though this was the goal of the site, some student organizations have experienced declines in participation, sounding the alarm. With these potential problems and with a new era of connectivity on the horizon, My Rose-Hulman and its implementation illustrate one key fact:

“We’re definitely taking everyone’s feedback...and seeing if it makes sense for the broader community...”

Communication is critical.

When asked about the implementation of My Rose-Hulman, Internal Communications Manager Hayley Kuepers said, “Overall, it’s gone quite smoothly.” She cited users who have found the site easy to navigate. Kuepers went on to say My Rose-Hulman is an improvement on the previous intranet, which was not technically an intranet to begin with. “People had expressed frustration with finding information” through the old list of links on the Institute’s website, and Kuepers believes My Rose-Hulman offers a comprehensive solution to those frustrations.

Senior Director of Communications and Marketing Paul Shepherd added, “I think it [the implementation] went better than expected.” The numbers show a sharp increase in users since the site launched back in December. “We’ve had a 350 percent increase in unique users,” Shepherd explained. He said the news stories showed hundreds of unique users, with one story showing roughly half the campus had viewed it.

Unfortunately, measuring the number of users on the site has proven to be tricky. Shepherd broke down

how the metrics for the site worked. “The metrics identify unique users,” he said. These “unique users” could mean users visiting on their mobile devices, laptops, or even different browsers, so it can be difficult to see exactly how many people are using the site.

However, those who have used the site have offered feedback to Shepherd and Kuepers. “We’ve gotten two different kinds of feedback, primarily,” Shepherd said. One kind is positive feedback, with users expressing satisfaction with the site’s intuitive design. The other kind of feedback revolves around suggestions for improvement. Shepherd cited the hour clock and the academic week tracker as examples of suggestions implemented into the site. Kuepers added the bulletin board categories came as a result of a user’s idea.

“We’re definitely taking everyone’s feedback,” Shepherd said, “digging into it, and seeing if it makes sense for the broader community...do we have the resources to make it happen?”

My Rose-Hulman continues to move forward and become a major player in day-to-day life at Rose. As with any new facet of life, change can sometimes be difficult. As all-campus emails have been phased out, some clubs have been struck with a downturn in participation. One such organization is Rose’s Ink literary magazine. Dr. Taylor, faculty advisor for the magazine, spoke with The Rose Thorn about the decline in submissions for the 2017 issue.

Since Dr. Corey Taylor’s first year as an advisor in 2007, Ink had seen a steady increase in submissions, from 81 for the 2007-08 to a record 227 for the 2015-16 edition. However, for the 2016-17 edition, the number of submissions plummeted to 91. “It’s difficult to say it’s just for a single reason,” Dr. Taylor said, “but I have to say the new way we communicate with the campus is a major contributor.”

He went on to say, “I think for better or for worse, email has been the way we communicate with each other.” Dr. Taylor pointed out emails are quickly deemed important or irrelevant based on a subject title; and he mentioned how individuals could opt out of SharePoint if they so choose. All-campus emails were the way Dr. Tay-

lor advertised Ink: the submissions, the release, and the release party.

However, with My Rose-Hulman becoming the chief form of notification, Dr. Taylor said the magazine crew is utilizing some tried and true methods while still following the new all-campus email guidelines. “Ink also used to rely on just good old word of mouth,” he said, and he mentioned the Ink staff will ramp up efforts in that regard, as well as pouring more effort into the Facebook and Instagram pages run by their social media team.

“I understand the need for a centralized location,” Dr. Taylor said, but he felt the rollout could have gone smoother. He added that in three or four years, My Rose-Hulman will be a way of life. That “way of life” will hold true for the incoming freshmen, especially. Kuepers and Shepherd are creating a Class of 2021 page. Before students even arrive on campus, Kuepers said students will be exposed to the tools My Rose-Hulman has to offer.

Shepherd made it clear he understood the frustrations, though, but he cited a different frustration from a few years ago. “Before this intranet project began, there were a lot of surveys done here on campus,” he explained. These surveys revealed that the campus community felt they were being “inundated with noise,” with an endless stream of emails. “When you’ve done something for twenty years one way,” Shepherd said, “and when you [change] those behaviors, it takes some time to adopt and for that shift to take place.”

There are some solutions on the horizon to reach a compromise. Shepherd mentioned the Communications office is considering a daily digital newsletter, to “pull in the most recent news items, the most recent events, and the most recent bulletin board items” from the site and send it out as a digest. These newsletters could be tailored to students, faculty, or staff. The important aspect Shepherd and Kuepers are still carefully considering is, “Does that [idea] work for the campus at large, and how do we implement that with the resources we have?”

With the survey extended, the Communications office will receive an influx of comments. Ideally, these comments will help the office refine the site and make it a valuable asset for the campus community. The hope is that while My Rose-Hulman continues to shape campus communication, Rose-Hulman itself will continue to shape the website.

“It’s a resource,” Shepherd said, “but it’s also a place where we can collaborate as a community, engage as a community.”



Page 4: World of Tomorrow and Command and Control

Page 5: Check out the latest in Lifestyle!

Page 6: Taxes and wage inequality

Page 7: RHIT Tennis advances to HCAC Championship

The Rose Thorn
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Do Some Good

Tri-Delta Events, Memorial Runs Around the Corner

Lauren Wiseman
News Editor

It seems that lately, people are confronted with negativity from all sides. National conflict, mounting frustrations among nations, all of it can wear a person down. For college students, looming exams can also do a number on the psyche. However, Rose-Hulman students have a variety of charity events up and coming to help distract from the deadlines and put some positivity back into the world.

Tri-Delta is hosting three

“Ben’s family wanted to commemorate how he gave back to the campus community.”

charity events, beginning May 8. To help raise money for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, Tri-Delta is hosting a Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A. From 5-9 p.m. on Monday, May 8, for every customer who brings in the flyer emailed to the campus, Chick-fil-A will donate to the hospital. On Wednesday, May 10, the charity event continues at Buffalo Wild Wings for Eat Wings Raise Funds night. Presenting a ticket means BWB will donate 10 percent of the purchase to St. Jude’s. Then, this weekend, Tri-Delta’s Teeter Totter a Thon will be happening at Baesler’s Market from 6 p.m. on Friday until 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Also on May 13 is the Ben Chilton Memorial 5K. Organized by RHA, the run is meant to honor the memory and respect the name of Chilton, who passed away in a heartbreaking war with cancer. Because Ben gave so much to the campus community, all donations from the event will be put into a scholarship named after Chilton. Questions can be directed to Kyle Rhodes or Josh Palamut-tam, and sign-ups are availa-



Spirit Night is just one charity event Rose’s Tri Delta sorority is hosting this upcoming week.

Photo Courtesy of My Rose-Hulman

ble on My Rose-Hulman.

Rounding out the upcoming charity events is the ASCE Golf Tournament. The 21st tournament for ASCE, it will take place on May 20 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Teams of four can compete, and the winning team has a bevy of prizes to their name at the end of the tournament. The event is to raise money for Habitat for Humanity, and so

the cost of admission will help that endeavor. For students, the cost is \$35, and for non-students, that price is \$70. The event will also have raffle prizes and door prizes.

Even with a harsh reality bearing down on people day to day, there is still a measure of positivity in the world. Some of that positivity is right here on campus, and Rose students help make that possible.

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Photo by Marc Schmitt



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Our Mission Statement:

We are Rose-Hulman's independent student newspaper. We keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information.

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WEEKLY MEETINGS occur at 5:15 p.m. on the first through ninth Tuesdays of each academic quarter. All members of the Rose-Hulman community are welcome to attend.

SUBMISSION of articles, photographs, art, and letters to the editor is encouraged. Submission may be made by email to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or in person to Percopo room 031. The submission deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday.

THE RIGHTS to accept submissions or changes made after the deadline, to edit submissions in so far as the original intent of the submission remains unaltered, and to reject submissions deemed inappropriate for print are reserved by the editors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR should be no longer than 600 words in length and must contain the writer's (electronic) signature.

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News Briefs

Joseph Lee

Staff Writer

Settlement Reached in Johnson and Johnson Case

Lois Slemp of West Virginia, has won a total of \$110.5 million after suing the company Johnson & Johnson. The verdict is the fourth in a series of claims that the baby powder causing ovarian cancer. Slemp was diagnosed with cancer in 2012, and blames it on the talcum powder in the products.

The primary culprit in question is talc, a mineral commonly found in cosmetics, paints, and plastics. The controversy comes from several small studies that link talc with ovarian cancer from about 20 to 40 percent increased risk.

However, other studies have found no link between the compound and cancer. Therefore, there is not a definitive conclusion that can be made yet. However, various experts are cautious on the claim on talc, stating bigger studies should have shown the link between talc and cancer, similar to the smaller studies.

Furthermore, theoretically, there should be more ovarian and cancer cases due to the amount applied on babies. One thing is clear: the court system is currently in favor of the claim.

Michigan Proposing Marijuana Legalization

One by one, it seems states are legalizing the recreational use of marijuana. In Michigan, the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana like Alcohol submitted a petition to legalize recreational marijuana use.

However, there will be some restrictions. Only up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana may be purchased, and only up to 10 ounces can be kept in homes. Furthermore, individual communities can choose whether marijuana businesses could be allowed. Marijuana growers will be taxed and will be classified with one of three categories: 100 plant growers, 500 plant growers, and 2,000 plant growers.

The proposed legalization is also meant to combat the "failed prohibition government programs." These government programs have led to the arrest of roughly 20,000 people a year in Michigan alone.

However, this attempt has been made before. In 2016, a similar attempt was made, but the organization behind it, MiLegalize, failed to get the issue on the ballot.

First Female Usher at White House Fired

Angella Reid, the first woman and second African American to be the chief usher at the White House, has been fired. It is unclear on the reason, but Reid commented, "I think it's best if the White House explains."

Unfortunately, the White House staff is not stating much. They did say it was a transition due to the new administration. This is unusual, given this particular job usually involves a long tenure, and the last known person in a similar position to be fired was back in 1993.

Principal Deputy White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said, "We left on very good terms and wish her the very best and certainly hope for great things for her in the future."

People who knew Reid doubt her release was due to any action she performed. The only comment made that might be negative revolved around her bossier nature in comparison to other ushers. However, some speculate the fence-jumper in 2014 may have factored in her release.

Unemployment Lowest in Decade

The U.S. unemployment rate fell to the lowest level in the decade, roughly 4.4 percent. This is the lowest unemployment since May of 2007. Approximately 211,000 jobs were added in April, and average hourly earnings rose by 2.5 percent, now hovering at \$26.19 an hour.

Such development starting calming down fears that began to rise over the state of the economy. The job growth happened to areas in mining, manufacturing, leisure and hospitality, education and health, and business services.

While this increase in job numbers may prove hopeful, the secretary of Labor warns that there are still "challenges ahead," such as providing equal opportunity for all Americans. Furthermore, graduates continue to enter a weaker economy in comparison to the past, which is still a troubling issue.

What do LEGOs have to do with the Internet?

Marc Schmitt

Editor-in-Chief

The internet is increasingly becoming the center of economic activity in the modern economy. Chris Riley, Head of Public Policy for Mozilla, came to Rose-Hulman on April 18 to speak about internet policy challenges that affect huge amounts of global economic activity.

The structure internet poses a fundamental challenge between openness and intellectual property. These opposing ideas are at the heart of policy disputes about the internet. Riley points to net neutrality and copyright protections as policy building blocks or LEGOs for the internet.

Internet policy is a relatively new concept and has only recently become intensely fought over. The primary reason is that the internet was small and inconsequential so corporations and governments paid no attention. Riley spoke of small self-governing groups that built the internet, where it was difficult to be "a bad actor," a troublemaker. That is no longer the case, as the internet is now a market place where trillions of dollars of transactions are made each year.

Since becoming an integral marketplace for the world, competition policy is the next big issue in internet policy. The increasing concentration of services in internet giants like Google and Amazon is decreasing competition on the internet. Riley notes how the culture in Silicon Valley has changed from an attitude where startups strived to make it on their own, where now it is a race just to get acquired by one of the giants. Though internet giants are not behaving aggressively monopolistic, Riley argued that they have growing capability to behave in such a way.

There are many ways for internet giants snuff out competition. Riley argued that companies are building vertical silos of services and infrastructure, where users and developers only use that company's built-in services. Though building infrastructure silos creates efficiency benefits, Riley is concerned about the high potential for companies to abuse their position. The proliferation of platforms poses the same risk, where companies could refuse to let their competitors have access to the dominant platform.

The internet's unique ability to connect everyone in large networks begs the question of who controls access to the network. This

is where competition policy is really concerned. If 90 percent of users, which could potentially be billions of people, use a single platform, then the company who controls the network could keep out competitors. Riley warned that conventional anti-trust enforcement may not be sympathetic to these types of arguments.

Riley highlight several approaches to the question of internet competition policy. The first approach is to enforce existing anti-trust laws, which could mean breaking up companies that are behaving uncompetitively. Ongoing anti-trust probes in the European Union against American internet giants, like Google and Microsoft, are good examples.

A better approach is to balance open interoperability and vertical integration. Riley knows the benefits of vertical integration are difficult to argue against, so creating policies that keep these silos open to competition is key to keeping the internet fair. Encouraging open application programming interfaces (APIs) is another way to maintain open interoperability and competition.

Most import, however, is organized action by users to encourage companies and governments to behave in a fair and open manner. Users can tip the scale in the direction of openness.

In closing, Riley emphasized that there are many policy options out there for maintaining a fair and open internet. Students who are interested in internet policy as a career path no longer must get a law degree. Engineers are increasingly becoming part of policy making in the private and public sector. Needless to say, internet policy will continue to be of great importance.



Chris Riley is Head of Public Policy for Mozilla.

Photo Courtesy My Rose-Hulman

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World of Tomorrow

Evelyne Maquelin

Copy Editor

Quite possibly one of the shortest titles Netflix has to offer, *World of Tomorrow* packs centuries of existential crises, technological quandaries, and potential human rights violations into just 16 minutes and 27 seconds. An emotional and mental whirlwind, this film is well worth the 32 minutes and 54 seconds of your time.

World of Tomorrow tells the story of toddler Emily (Winona Mae) who receives a visit from herself, or rather, a clone of a clone of herself (Julia Pott), 227 years in the future. As the original Emily, she still has all of her memories intact, and in search of a very specific relief, her great-grand-clone whisks her away to the future with some questionable discount time travel. There she regales her infantile DNA source with the story of their lives, and how the impending destruction of earth threatens all of it.

“Don Hertzfeldt... poured his heart and soul into this straight-forward exposition of technology and science fiction”

Unique in practically every regard, this mind-bending film has a quirk for everyone. Don Hertzfeldt, writer/director/ animator/uncle for *World of Tomorrow*, poured his heart and soul into this straight-forward exposition of technology and science fiction. From time travel to uploading consciousness, Hertzfeldt cuts through the crap fed to us by mainstream science fiction writers and offers an honest look at the implications of these technologies, all while maintaining a certain whimsy.

Shooting stars, for example, though beautifully animated and mesmerizing in



Emily v.4 stands at the edge of the earth with her clone boyfriend, David.

Photo courtesy of Vimeo.com

their own right, are the bodies of discount time travelers who just barely missed earth burning up on reentry. It's a terrifying and gruesome concept, but the fact that we, the viewers, find them beautiful nonetheless speaks to something greater. It reveals our morbid fascination and admiration for technological advancement, regardless of its consequences, and our total passivity towards the death of strangers.

This motif of conflicting revelations continues throughout *World of Tomorrow*, leaving you at the end in no uncertain terms, confused. So much is hurled your way in such a short time, that to truly understand what Hertzfeldt is trying to convey with this perplexing short you may need to watch it two, maybe three times. Actually, my friends and I watched *World of Tomorrow* four times, pausing at particularly heavy moments to

discuss and dissect Hertzfeldt's work. It becomes, effectively, a feature-length film that stays with you throughout the day, week, and, though only time will tell, the rest of your life.

At the same time, Hertzfeldt strikes a nice balance between intense, mind-blowing scenes and quick, comedic wit. From great-grand clone Emily's deadpan reactions to literally everything, to her curious relationship history, *World of Tomorrow* caters to the here and now with its charm and amusing sequences.

So gather your friends, fire up the TV, and don't give them any context. Relax as you are whisked away alongside young Emily on a journey of self-discovery and reflection, and get ready to hit the replay button.



Command and Control

Marc Schmitt

Editor-in-Chief

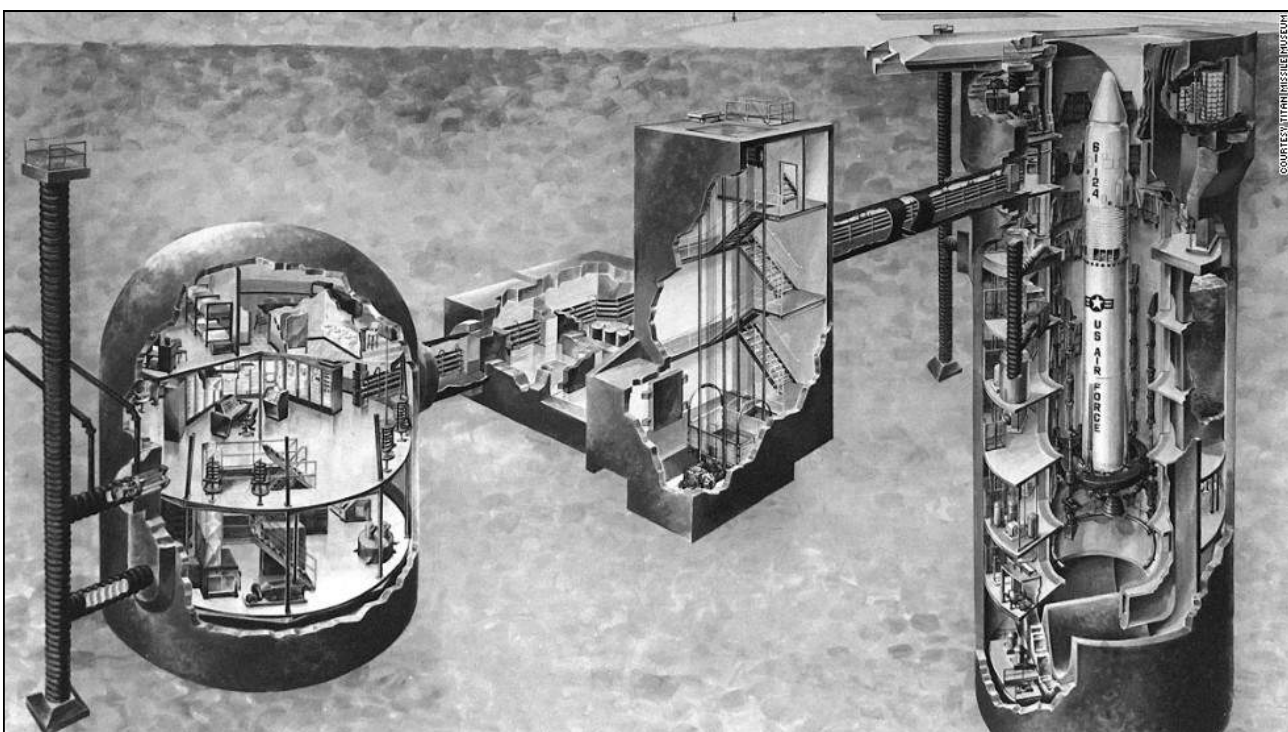
The United States has possessed nuclear weapons for 72 years, yet the history of our arsenal is relatively unknown. Eric Schlosser has taken on the task of digging up the secretive past of America's most lethal weapons. In “*Command and Control*,” Schlosser tells the minute by minute story of the 1980 Damascus Accident, where a Titan II missile exploded in its silo in Kansas. Throughout the book Schlosser weaves in a detailed history of the development of our nuclear arsenal and the nuclear challenges facing American leaders.

Since the first nuclear bomb was produced, the United States has struggled to control its most powerful weapons. The dilemma between military leaders who needed nuclear weapons to always detonate and civilian leaders to never accidentally detonate has plagued America's arsenal. Throughout much of twentieth century, military leaders' have won the argument, and safety has played a minor role compared to the weapon needs of the military. It is no coincidence that thousands of accidents have occurred where nuclear detonation almost occurred.

The most notable example of America's gamble with nuclear safety happened in Goldsboro, North Carolina, 1961. A B-52 bomber en route to the United Kingdom loaded with two hydrogen bombs crashed after a midair refueling. During the crash the two hydrogen bombs landed in fields near Goldsboro. Luckily neither bomb had detonated, but it was found that gravitational forces had armed the bombs and that a single switch had not been turned to the ready position.

Schlosser counts hundreds of incidents where nuclear detonation almost occurred. By the end of the book, readers are left knowing we are lucky to have survived the cold war without an accidental or intentional nuclear detonation.

What is more exhausting is the extent to which military and civilian leaders knew about the safety dangers of nuclear weapons. In many cases, military com-



The Damascus Accident occurred at a Titan II missile silo, pictured above, in rural Arkansas.

Photo courtesy of CNN

“A techno-thriller of the first order.”

manders refused to put safety devices on nuclear weapons for fear that they would not work when the time came to use them. Without the life and death reality of the cold war, this position seems wholly unjustifiable.

Schlosser follows several scientists who advocated over decades to get safety improvements into the American arsenal. Their limited success is a reminder of the unbending nature of the military, and the dangers of giving up civilian control of nuclear weapons.

Though the safety of the American arsenal has improved, just how safe our nuclear weapons are is unknown. What

is known is the age of the weapons in our arsenal, and it does not inspire confidence. Schlosser's deeply reported book makes clear that we do not have a good track record. More attention should be given to maintaining the safe keeping of weapons that could still wipe out the entire planet.

Schlosser's excellent book is a techno-thriller of the first order. It paints a chilling picture of the past that reminds readers of the seriousness of the cold war, and just how close we have come to our demise.



THE THREE PILLARS: AMUSEMENT PARKS

The Engineering Art Museums of the Midwest

Seun Ladipo
Lifestyle Editor

This week on the lifestyles page, we are making a triumphant return of the three pillars for the first time this spring. With summer around the corner we thought there was no better way to ring in the season than talking about the best amusement parks that aren't too far from Terre Haute. These three parks in question would be none other than Holiday World, Six Flags St. Louis, and Kings Island.

To start we have Holiday World, the Midwest staple, located in Santa Claus Indiana. This park was inception on the third of August in 1946 and was originally called Santa Claus Land. This name was then changed to Holiday World after the 1983 season.

Holiday World is known for its holiday theme as it is split into four distinct sections, each representing a popular American Holiday. Those holidays being Christmas, Halloween, Thanksgiving and the Fourth of July.

Holiday world has a large selection of family friendly rides, five



“That was a reasonable amount of fun”- anyone after they ride this ride

Photo Courtesy of Kings Island

roller coasters, and two water slides making this park friendly for anyone who wishes to visit. The park is open from May to October for anyone interested and is about 2 hours and 30 minutes from Rose-Hulman's campus. Tickets to Holiday World can be as low as 30 dollars if looking to purchase online.

Next up we have Six Flags St. Louis located in Eureka, Missouri. This gigantic park is double the size of Holiday World although it has a few less rides than its competitor does. Six Flags has 40 rides compared to Holiday World's 51 rides although Six Flags has nine roller coasters as compared to Holiday World's five. Six Flags St. Louis also operates for a few more months as it is open from March to December.

This park is much newer than Holiday World as it opened in 1971 as one of the first of three parks opened by the Six Flags Entertainment Corporation. These other two parks was opened in Texas and Georgia. Since then Six flags has become one of the largest amusement park companies in the world.

For those interested Six Flags St. Louis has also partnered with DC comics and has a section of their park dedicated to the events and characters in the DC comics Universe. This is also a Looney Toons themed park for anyone with younger siblings visiting the park, or maybe you like Looney Toons a lot, that's cool who am I to judge.

Six Flags St. Louis is about three hours from Rose-Hulman's campus if you are planning to go before the quarter ends. Tickets can be as low as 44 dollars if buying a singular ticket.

Lastly, we have the one of the illusive giants of the Midwest, Kings Island. Kings Island, located in Mason Ohio, is much larger than the



“AHHHHHHHHHHH” - rider of this ride

Photo Courtesy of Holiday World

other two parks boasting 364 Acres of space in the park, over three million visitors from the spring to the fall.

This park has more rollercoasters than both Holiday World and Six Flags St. Louis combined measuring out at 15 total. To add to that this park is also the newest of the three parks being opened in the year of 1972. Kings Island is a part of the Cedar Fair line of parks meaning it has areas dedicated to Oktoberfest and Snoopy if you are into that kind of stuff (once again, who am I to Judge).

Admission to this park also comes with free admission to their soak city waterpark, which has an assortment of slides for people of all ages



This ride looks cool, too bad its temporarily closed....

Photo Courtesy of Six Flags

to enjoy.

Tickets to King Island are around the same price as Six Flags St. Louis as they are also around 44 Dollars for a daily pass for one person.

Having said all of that I hope I have given you some more choices for things to do in the last weeks of school or over the summer for those of you in the Midwest. I find that all of these parks have their pros and cons and as long as you are with friends or family, you should have tons of fun no matter which one you choose!

Upcoming Sneaker Releases

Seun Ladipo
Lifestyle Editor

Parley X Adidas Ultra Boost pack—May 10

Nike Womens Air Max 95 Fiberglass and Liquid Lime —May 12

Air Jordan 4 Pure Money—May 13

Nike Air Max 97 Metallic Gold—May 18

Nike Flyknit Racer Macaron Strawberry—May 19

Nike Flyknit Racer Macaron Lavender—May 19

Nike Flyknit Racer Macaron Blueberry—May 19

Nike Flyknit Racer Macaron Pistachio—May 19

KITH X Adidas Ace 16+ Ultra Boost Vapour Pink —May 19

Air Jordan 13 Low White Metallic Silver —May 20

Adidas NMD XR1 OG— May 20

Air Jordan 11 Low Barons—May 27

Adidas Ultra Boost 3.0 Bronze —May 31



If someone buys me these I will pay your tuition.

Photo Courtesy of stockx.com

Equality for None (But fairness for all)

Thaddeus Hughes

Opinions Editor

The modern liberal cry of equality has been ongoing for some time. In the U.S., the Gini coefficient (which is used to measure economic inequity) has been on a significant uptick from the 1960s. Globally, this trend is the opposite, but here at home, it seems to be the rich get richer, and the poor poorer. Does this signal American decline? Perhaps, but not in the way that we see it.

Many will propose the argument that while poor Americans are disproportionately worse off than the rich, they live in a better standard of living than they did even ten years ago due to tech-

So, what really is unfair, and what should we be looking for in an economic system? We have many notions that hard work should be rewarded, but isn't robbing a bank potentially hard work? Indeed, what we want to reward is not only hard work, but that which also benefits others around us. Formally, we could say that value generation should be rewarded- creating wealth rather than merely amassing and consuming it. This is the fundamental difference between the hard day laborer and the Ebenezer Scrooge. It is not their desire for money, for the day laborer very much desires material good, but the way by which they go about pursuing this goal which marks the distinction between wealth generation and consumption.

Lobbying does exactly that. Having tighter and closer connection to government power simply on the basis of knowing someone in office seems off-putting to say the least. While a corporation may have more at stake than an average citizen, the press of skilled lobbyists outside the door can often overwhelm phone calls and messages from average citizens handled by a secretary. At a certain point, trying to make your voice heard over everyone else's proves to not create wealth. Is this something we should reward with political influence? Sadly, rampant corruption has shown that despite our current laws restricting campaign donations, many politicians treat their office and influence as a means to gather more money.

While lobbying and monetary donations in politics is well-discussed, other issues which are even more detrimental to rewarding productivity receive much less airtime. The general thought process is that business would only ever desire deregulation, but this couldn't be further from the truth- many industries would love to craft regulations that disproportionately benefit them. This can be found in almost any government agency and usually manifests itself in either complicated and nearly arbitrary rules, or extremely cost-intensive requirements that are easier for established companies to abide by.

This use of government regulation to hold onto sectors of the economy is referred to as "regulatory capture", and notable examples include FDA drug licensing, EPA rules regarding fracking, and various agricultural subsidies. While companies naturally face competition, when they latch hold of regulatory agencies or legislators, they can use the monopoly of government to avoid such competition. In the process, they amass and destroy wealth rather than create it. While many federal agencies and regulations have started well-meaning, the effect of lobbying and crafty business, over time, can turn such regulations into money-making machines, rather than consumer protection.

Such has been ongoing for some time, and much theory and activism has gone towards rebelling against such injustice, to the point that we see the symptom of such injustice, massive wealth inequality, as the pivotal enemy to combat. Far from finding the root of evil, we've only found the leaves.

If we really want to produce a more just and fair society, our focus must not be on equality, but on rewarding wealth generators, rather than demoting them.

It is not desire for money, but the way by which we go about pursuing it which marks the distinction between wealth generation and consumption.

nological advancements and increased buying power. However, something still stinks about this - almost as if the poor are being bought off.

While the march towards 'equality' may seem noble, it is immediately outcast when we consider our real desires. The ultimate concern we have isn't equality, it's fairness. In this regard, we are far from pragmatic: the means and ways of an economic system speak far more to us about the values it upholds than do the outcomes.

Even polling indicates this belief that wealth should be unequally divided. 92% of americans believe the wealth distribution within the U.S. should ideally be skewed, with high wage earners having slightly more than double the lowest (<http://www.businessinsider.com/inequality-in-the-us-is-much-more-extreme-than-you-think-2015-6>). If equality were the goal, then why should we stop at this distribution? Truly, we do not desire the dreariness of equality.

As the scholar C.S. Lewis wrote in Miracles, "A world in which I was really 'as good as everyone else', in which I never looked up to anyone wiser or cleverer or braver or more learned than I, would be insufferable."

Having a fair and just economic system is not a guarantee of happiness, and is most certainly not a guarantee of equal outcomes, but it is a near necessary condition to leading meaningful lives. We do not need perfection, but we want to be generally rewarded for our productivity; the value we add to others' lives.

So what is causing this unfairness? Well, quite simply, unproductive behavior is rewarded. A major source is from monopoly- when an effectively entire sector of something is controlled by one entity, the need to be as productive in order to ensure continued existence, declines. There is no competition- no need to charge lower prices, or offer better service. If you're thinking about internet service providers, Microsoft, or other businesses, great, you know what I'm talking about. If you're also thinking about public utilities like water and electricity, even better. But even government itself (which has tasked itself with regulating monopolies) owns a monopoly on force: police, and military. Unsurprisingly, many in business would like to have some of that force, as it proves to be very powerful.

AHCA Aches

Marc Schmitt

Editor-in-Chief

The American Health Care Act is a strikingly unpopular piece of legislation. Before the original version of the AHCA died in March, a Quinnipiac Poll put support for the bill at only 17 percent, while 56 percent of Americans opposed the bill.

The version of the bill that passed the House on Thursday, May 4, contained amendments meant to give states more freedom in setting healthcare rules. The result is a piece of deeply flawed legislation that is difficult to support from either end of the political spectrum.

What is clear from the House bill is the urgency that has gripped Republicans. The Republican leadership have convinced themselves of the necessity of passing any legislation to appear as repealing and replacing Obamacare. This is a dangerous strategy, likely to cost them in the upcoming 2018 midterm elections.

The House bill is an ugly sausage that was assembled solely to get enough votes to pass. In effect, House Republicans were kicking the can down the road knowing that the Senate, with a less conservative ideological makeup, would produce a more palatable bill to their voters. The final legislation signed by President Trump is unlikely to look like what was passed on Thursday.

At issue, however, is the opposition this has stirred against Republicans. They have broken many of the promises they made about how they would govern.

Republicans passed a hugely consequential bill that few members have read in its entirety, which brings to memory Nancy Pelosi's infamous line, "we have to pass it to see what's in it." The representatives who voted for the bill are now dodging explaining their controversial vote. Of the 217 Republicans, none accepted a lead spot on morning news program over the weekend.

Republicans voted on a piece of legislation that affects over a fifth of the US economy without receiving a cost analysis from the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The Twitter account of the House GOP asked days before the Affordable Care Act (ACA) vote if Democrats would wait for a CBO analysis.

Before the vote, Republicans spent no time reaching out to constituents or stakeholders. All told, only two policy sessions were held during the creation of this bill. Hardly the same could be said of Democrats, who held months of town halls and meetings with industry stakeholders before putting the ACA up for a vote.

Though hypocrisy is pervasive on both sides of Capitol Hill, the political consequences for the controlling party are clear. Democrats lost their House majority in 2010 and have not gained it back since because of their health care vote. Republicans would do well to learn from Democrat's mistakes.

PRO?

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Sports



NBA Playoffs

Blake Powell

Sports Editor

It's almost time to see the Cleveland Cavaliers rematch the Golden State Warriors. The previous two NBA finals has included both the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Golden State Warriors. It isn't set in stone yet because both teams still have to earn their way to the NBA Finals but it looks as if they will end up facing off again.

Cleveland swept the Indiana Pacers 4-0 in the first round and looking to sweep the Toronto Raptors in round two as they lead 3-0. Cleveland is 7-0 in the playoffs so far and it looks as if they may enter the finals with no losses. Cleveland will face the winner of the Washington and Boston series. Boston currently leads this series 2-1 and are expected to win as they are the one seed in the Eastern Conference.

Golden State also swept their opponent in the first round 4-0; the Portland Trail Blazers. Golden State is up 3-0 in their series against the Utah Jazz. Like Cleveland, Golden State is undefeated in the playoffs this year and are looking to make a third straight finals appearance. Golden State will face the winner of the San Antonio and Houston series. San Antonio currently leads that series 2-1 but one of their stars, Tony Parker, was injured in game three and won't be returning this season.

San Antonio has a history of being great in the playoffs as they have a very fundamentally sound team year after year and a great coach to lead them. However, game four will be the first playoff game for the San Antonio Spurs without Tony Parker since 2001.

Boston and Washington have had a very intense series and it wouldn't be surprising if the series went to game seven. John Wall is trying to make one of his first playoff runs while 5'9" Isaiah Thomas is playing through the death of his sister and a lost tooth.

The rematch between Cleveland and Golden State could be a series for the ages but they both still have a couple teams in their way. In the next few weeks history can be made with three finals in a row featuring the same two teams or a new team will rise to the top.



The rematch of the century.

Photo by neosportsinsiders.com

RHIT Tennis

Blake Powell

Sports Editor

The team advances to the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship with their 7-0 win over Anderson University. Rose-Hulman will play Earlham for the title game and the winner will advance to the NCAA Division III Tournament. Rose-Hulman is on track for its third straight trip to the NCAA DIII Tournament.

The team won its three doubles 8-1, 8-0, and 8-0 to begin off the day. In singles play, the Engineers counted on straight-set victories by Georges Adam, Austin Perry, and Andrew Schiffman.

The Men's and Women's teams seek to join the NCAA DIII Tournament that begins next week. The Women's team won the conference last fall by defeating Hanover 5-4 at West Indy Racquet Club.



Group hugs in the shower tonight.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

RHIT Track

Blake Powell

Sports Editor

Trey Sykes recorded the 5th ranked triple jump in NCAA DIII this season to lead eleven top-five finishes at the Indiana State University Twilight Meet.

Sykes record a jump of 48'11" to beat Division 1 triple jumpers and win the event. Sykes jump sits as the second farthest jump in Rose-Hulman history and will most likely qualify Sykes for the NCAA DIII Outdoor Championships in late May.

Rose-Hulman had two runner-up finishes with Josh Hennig in the 400-meters, Andrew Okruch in the discus throw and Ben Wewe in the javelin.

Rose-Hulman will return to action at the Harrison Dillard Twilight Meet at Baldwin Wallace University of Friday.



Sykes crushes it at the ISU twilight meet.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

RHIT SPORTS BOX SCORES

RHIT Baseball

Blake Powell

Sports Editor

The Engineers lost both games in a double header against Mount Saint Joseph at the University of Cincinnati. Mount Saint Joseph improved to 21-18 overall and 15-11 in conference play. Rose-Hulman dropped to 18-21 overall and 16-10 in conference play. Rose-Hulman currently stands at third in the conference with one game left in the season against Franklin.

BASEBALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	FINAL
ROSE-HULMAN	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
MSJ	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	4	X	7

Standout Performers

Conner Shipley— one single and one RBI

Chris Sokoloff—pitched four scoreless innings

Logan Schiessle—three hits and two RBIs

Drew Schnitz—one hit and one run

Ryan Stachowski—one hit and one run

RHIT Softball

Blake Powell

Sports Editor

The Fightin' Engineers lost on their senior night finale against Franklin college in a double header. Rose-Hulman honored seniors Dreyer, Eckert and Lake prior to their final home game. The Fightin' Engineers won a total of 63 games during their college era. The Fightin' Engineers finished 11-25 overall, while Franklin improved to 24-15 and 9-6 in conference play.

SOFTBALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	FINAL
FRANKLIN	2	3	0	1	0	2	0	8
ROSE-HULMAN	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	4

Standout Careers

Maddie Struble—two singles

Morgan Dreyer—one double and one RBI

Jessica Will— one single and two RBIs

Ellissa Eckert—one single and one RBI

Janel Lake— one scored run



Thank you to the seniors for their commitment over the years.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

Intramural Standings

Ultimate Frisbee

Softball

Greek B

TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
Delta Sig	5	1	0	6	W1	1st
Pike Garnet	3	2	0	5	W2	3rd
Pike Gold	1	5	0	6	L2	5th
ATO B	1	4	0	5	L4	4th
Sigma Nu	4	2	0	6	L1	2nd

Residence A

TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
Disk Guys	2	4	0	6	W2	5th
Diskpicable D2	4	2	0	6	W2	3rd
BSBackhand	6	0	0	6	W6	1st
Floppy Disk	4	2	0	6	L1	3rd
FruitOfTheBloom	0	6	0	6	L6	8th
Deming 1	1	5	0	6	L1	7th
DiskIt4TheBiscuit	5	1	0	6	L1	2nd
404SpeedNotFound	2	4	0	6	L1	5th

Combined A

TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
ATO A	4	1	0	5	W4	2nd
Pike	1	4	0	5	L1	6th
Sigma Nu	3	2	0	5	W1	3rd
Phi Gamma Slam	0	5	0	5	L5	7th
Wood Elves	2	2	0	4	W1	5th
Mouserat	3	2	0	5	L1	3rd
Triangle A	5	1	0	6	W3	1st

Combined B

TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
Ball is Life	2	3	0	5	W1	5th
Pass the Napkin	5	1	0	6	W2	2nd
Fast	4	1	0	5	W3	2nd
Brokebat Mountian	4	0	0	4	W4	1st
Inglorious Batters	3	3	0	6	W1	5th
Pike B	0	6	0	6	L5	10th
Pitch me baby 1 ...	1	3	0	4	L1	8th
Hitsquad	2	3	0	5	L1	4th
Deming Peachers	1	3	0	4	L1	8th
Deming Double P...	2	3	0	5	L1	5th

The Throwback Issue

Top 10

Things That Have Happened Recently

September 1, 1989

May 7, 2017

1. Taking advantage of a rare lapse in Insecurity vigilance, the infamous parking lot bandits make off with six inches of each parking space.
2. Rosem-Hosem annexed by Terrible Hole. In return, they stop sending us South and North Vigo grads.
3. ISU classes resume. Thousands of Hoosiers flock to ISU, increasing the average IQ of Terrible Hole and the average IQ of the rest of the state.
4. Tom Mauler belly-flops in Speed Lake.
5. The Rosem-Hosem gets a sponsor, Big Shoe.
6. SAB to sponsor spitting contest to refill Speed Lake.
7. VAX graphics improved by the timely acquisition of 30 Etch-a-Sketch devices.
8. Rosem Fraternities reavow support for Michelob Dry Rush.
9. Rosem installs new hoopless basketball courts at Speed, proudly stating, "We think we have something unique, here."
10. Speed Dam fixed with materials at hand. Templeton reports "placement" of those unemployed graduates from last year.

1. CSSE department gets their first shower of the year by accidentally walking outside this past week
2. During an especially memorable registration period, two students compete in death match for coveted class spot.
3. Student overloads 48 credit hours. Transcends to God status, starts new religion.
4. Hose-Thron Editor in Chief picks fight with staff over quality of Greek yogurt. Staffer almost cares.
5. Percopo 4 found in BSB basement. New housing options open for fifth-year seniors.
6. Respectably sized "fish" "found" in Speed "Lake."
7. Humanities Major found attending Rose, bio department blamed for allowing experiment to escape.
8. Civil Curriculum updated to involve Lincoln Logs. Disgusted CE's leave en masse, quoted saying, "This is pushing our limits. It's too hard."
9. Backpack stolen. Whole campus is shutdown during Federal Investigation.
10. Freshmen attend Career Fair. Disillusioned with career prospects.

Explanation

This issue of the Flipside is brought to you mainly through the past. Everything published here has been painstakingly recovered through the use of a telephone box, some jank television antennae, and a wad of chewing gum.

"ROOMIES" comic credit goes to an artistic contributor of the early 2000's.

The credit for Dr. Thom's picture goes mainly to him for having a face. Good job sir. Keep it up.



Photo Courtesy of Rose-Hulman

WACKY PROF QUOTES

"If you were playing a board game - they were all the rage when I was your age..."
-Dr. Laxer

"And Berlin at that time was a rockin' place. It was Party City..."
-Dr. Wollowski

"Did I mention the time I got banned from Wikipedia?"
-Dr. Chang

"The first three are related to our favorite game Pacman! ... It used to be an arcade game in case you didn't know."
-Dr. Wollowski

Dr. Thom's Throwback

Did your prof say something hilarious or just great out of context? We want to hear about it! Send your quotes with who said it to thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu.