Removing the tuition waiver for students could drastically reduce the number of students pursuing graduate degrees.

Graphic Courtesy of Dallas News

Personal Statement Workshops

Jared Gibson
Staff Writer

"But fear not, for unto us a personal statement workshop is born."

season.

The Rose Thorn is here! Christmas decorations are visible all over campus. From the innumerable strands of Christmas lights zestlessly inter-twined in the branches of the trees lining Wabash in ways that the combined efforts of the physics and math depart- ments could never explain, to the quirky, 3D-printed Christmas decorations that only engi- neering or science professors would even own, it is unenda- ble. However, it’s important to remember that Rose students are aware, work does not stop even after a few days before Christ- mas, and finals, homework, tests, and projects that stu- dents are working on in mid-December should be one im- portant consideration. What do I do? I can’t go home. The holidays are the best time to apply to graduate school, a fellowship, or an REU. They will need to collect letters of recommendation, dust off their resumes and writing skills, and come up with some personal state- ments that will give them the best chance of winning the position. But fear not, for unto us a personal statement workshop is born.

Well, actually, two personal statement workshops. The first will be held during 4th hour (1:10-4:10) in O259 on Tuesday, December 12. The second will be held on Thursday, December 14 (2:45-5:15) in the GM Room.

The first will be led by Professors Doanar and Squares, while the second will be an overview of the typical personal state- ments from different disciplines. Participants will be led through brainstorming prompts and provided with ideas for peer writing groups. So, if you are looking to get ahead on your graduate school, fellowship, or REU applica- tions, here’s your chance.
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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ISSUES of The Rose Thorn are published on the second through ninth Mondays of each academic quarter.

WEAKLY 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 Percofo 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.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED herein are those of their respective authors and with the exception of the Staff View do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or the Rose-Hulman community.
Reverse Advent Calendars

In the spirit of the holidays, a common tradition is the “advent calendar.” Now it is commonly known that this is a countdown to Christmas in which a small present or a piece of candy is received each day of December until the holiday.

However, there is a new reinvented version of the concept that is gaining popularity. It is known as a reverse advent calendar, which is not the most creative of titles but it gets the point across.

Reverse advent calendars have you pick an item in which you will then do- over the example of these people and will have the advantages as others, especially during this time of year. So follow the example of these people and start your own Christmas tradition this year.

The first two weeks of December have been an incredibly controversial and important period for the Supreme Court as it faces multiple contentious issues.

One of these large issues the Supreme Court discussed was the Trump administration highly controversial immigration ban from the six muslim majority countries of Chad, Iran, Syria, Libya, Somalia, and Yemen.

The immigration ban is now in its third form after being stopped by federal appeals courts, revised and then stopped again.

The ban has been highly controversial policy as many like the ACLU view it as immigration discrimination based on nationality like the government to create that art. While the free expression clause of the first amendment states that, the federal government cannot prohibit the free exercise of any religion and the defense used the free speech clause by stating the wedding cake as it would violate his own religious beliefs.

The couple sued Phillips based on how anti-discrimination laws and discrimination laws, while Phillips said that he has no problem with race, religion, sexuality or national- ity. While the free expression clause interact with each other.

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The ban is still under judicial review by the 9th court and 4th court appeal courts, however on December 8th the Supreme Court announced in a 5-3 decision that the ban would be allowed to take effect while under judicial review. Also, the action means that if the appeal courts come to side against the ban the policy would still not be blocked until the Supreme court makes a decision on the case (if they find the case has merit, which they likely will).

The Supreme court’s action can be viewed as a major victory for the Trump administration, both as it allows the white house to move forward with the ban and it also makes it quite likely that if the decision reaches the Supreme Court the justices will support the ban’s continued existence.

The white house’s immigration ban is a highly controversial policy as many like the ACLU view it as immigration discrimination based on nationality and an evolution of Trump’s campaign promise to end all Muslim immigration to the United States of America for a period of time until which the safety of each immigration is guaranteed.

The second major case the Supreme Court has looked at this month is the Masterpiece Cakeshop vs. Colorado Civil Rights Commission case, where a homosexual couple is suing the owner of a Colorado cake shop for not making a wedding cake for them in 2012.

Jack Phillips, the owner of the cake shop has stated that he has no problem making cakes or other bakery goods for the couple, however he cannot make the wedding cake as it would violate his own religious beliefs. The couple sued Phillips based on anti-discrimination laws, while Phillips defense is based off the free exercise and free speech clause of the first amendment. Colorado anti-discrimination law states that private businesses cannot discriminate based on race, religion, sexuality or nationality. While the free expression clause states that, the federal government cannot prohibit the free exercise of any religion and the defense used the free speech clause by stating the wedding cake is an artistic product and therefore the defendant cannot be forced by the government to create that art.

Whichever side the Supreme Court agrees with, it will have major effects on how anti-discrimination laws and the first amendment interact with each other.
Entertainment 4

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS
INTERVIEW WITH (A FEW) VAMPIRES

Lauren Wiseman
News Editor

"Vampires have had a pretty bad rep," explains 79-year-old Viago. "We're not those moody old creatures who live in castles. And while some...most of us are...a lot...but...there are also those of us who like to flat together in really small countries like New Zealand. Such is the case for a passel of vampires in the 2014 mockumentary What We Do in the Shadows."

There is not a lot to say in terms of plot, but Taika Waititi and Jemaine Clement’s horror comedy makes up for it in spades. The three vampires the documentary follows feel like real people, and never once did the dialogue feel like it was written or rehearsed. Even with the goofy accents and costumes, I had no problem believing these three vampires really did live in Wellington together.

Waititi is adorable as the foppish and fastidious Viago, obsessed with laying down towels before feeding and making sure someone does their house chores. Clement plays Vladislav as a washed up parody of Gary Oldman’s interpretation of Dracula, and somehow manages to make an 862-year-old Vlad the Impaler-type a lovable guy. Johnny Reck rounds out the trio as Deacon, the "young, rebellious boy" of the group, and a former member of Hitler’s secret Nazi vampire army (did you know that? I didn’t know that!).

Even the non-vampires fit seamlessly into the expose of this bizarre Wellington subculture. The werewolves ("not swerwolves," they constantly remind each other) form a hilarious pack of dudes who just want to see a pair of jocks when the full moon comes around. Stu, a human who finds his way into the vampires’ lives as a sort of personal ‘IT’ guy, isn’t even acting. And I mean that. Waititi brought Stu Rutherford onto the set of the project after Rutherford hooked up a router for Waititi’s mother.

What We Do in the Shadows is ultimately a string of clever vignettes that either subvert established vampire lore or use the established lore to increase just how funny a given situation is. In one scene, the vampires draw pictures of each other because they have no reflections to consult; in another, they’re watching sunrises on YouTube because they cannot go out in the daylight.

Even amidst all the laughs, there are some genuinely heartfelt moments. Like the humans around them, these vampires have people they love, others who have broken their hearts, or people who leave their lives in gruesome ways. For a movie all about the undead, there were some good messages in there about living your life to the fullest.

It has been a long time since I genuinely laughed out loud but at a movie, but What We Do in the Shadows quickly became one of the funniest movies I had ever seen, and potentially one of my top ten movies ever. A concept is only as good as its execution, and I think What We Do in the Shadows executed it perfectly.

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Morgan McDonald
Staff Writer

Science-fiction, horror, plot twists that make you dizzy. The Twilight Zone is the perfect Netflix binge watch for the dramatic Rose student. If you love shocks and surprises with a not-so-hidden moral message, this show is for you.

The Twilight Zone was filmed in the 1950s and 1960s, so you it is in black and white and the special effects are not of the highest quality. Each episode is unrelated (so you won’t get caught up in cliff-hangers) and features strange events occurring in the universe. The event is usually a consequence of a character’s choices and attitude towards life and is made to encourage the viewer to contemplate the situation. Many episodes result in a mind-blowing reveal that, after a late night of homework, seem pretty extravagant.

Though this show can touch on some very serious topics, it can be very humorous and full of excitement. The episodes are eerie and interesting. I would highly recommend this show to anyone who was looking for an entertaining, dramatic, and comedic show.

Netflix has all of the episodes of The Twilight Zone and you won’t regret watching any one of them.

P.S. I have watched 47 of the over a hundred episodes, and have loved every single one!
An Engineer Abroad
A Visit to the Indianapolis Museum of Art

Thomas Hall
Staff Writer

I am an engineer, why on earth would I ever be interested in such a waste of time and space as art? I mean I chose to go to an engineering school not some h Hippie-dippy liberal arts school because I actually believe it or not want a job. Well first off you are wrong. Art stands to stir our emotions and stimulate our souls. Art is about more than what is actually there and with time to really interact with the fine pieces that Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) has to offer. IMA itself is a great place to get started on your journey into fully appreciating art due to their wide selection spanning from Van Gogh to a Lancia Stratos HF Zero.

As well as an entire floor dedicated to modern art if that is more your thing. Currently, they have an exhibit on street art from New York in the ‘70s and ‘80s with some truly special pieces from Keith Haring, Air Force 1, Dunk, Zoom Vaporfly, Converse Chuck Taylor, Blazer and Air Max 97. This collaboration called “The Ten” showcases ten iconic Nike shoes, both historical and contemporary. These shoes in this collection are the Air Jordan 1, Air Presto, Air Max 90, Air Force 1, Air VaporMax, Hyperdunk, Zoom Vaporfly, Converse Chuck Taylor, Blazer and Air Max 97. The popularity of this collection is almost unprecedented in the sneaker community as this collection has been in the public spotlight of sneaker heads ever since it was announced. I believe that this collection was a perfect storm as three of the shoes in this collection (Air Jordan 1, Air Force 1, and Chuck Taylor) are the top three best selling shoes of all time. This paired off with the fact that they were designed by Off White, one of the most popular fashion companies in the world at the moment, really led way for some serious potential.

Stratos HF Zero.

Photo Courtesy of King-smg.com

The shoes have iconic words written on them showcasing the technologies that Nike has developed throughout the years along with other basic parts of the shoe. Words such as “Air”, “shoelaces”, and even “Foam” are plastered throughout the collection in a very artistic manner.

“Anyone willing to spend enough to get the entire collection better be ready to give up their first-born child.”

Most of the shoes in the collection are black and shades of white apart from the Air Jordan 1 which is in the iconic Red, Black, and White Chicago colorway. Translucency along with rough textures are a definite trope of this collection as they are strewn throughout every shoe in this collection. Another key point of The Ten is that they all have a small red zip tie label on them and a small orange tab somewhere on the body of the sneaker. These serve as a birthmark of sorts as these shoes are all in the same collection.

These shoes all released separately with pieces ranging from $130 to $250 retail. Although this being a very limited release they sold out everywhere within moments of their actual release date. Due to reselling and the popularity of this collection pairs are selling at an average or $500, with some going as high as $1500. Anyone willing to spend enough to get the entire collection better be ready to give up your first-born child.

The fruit of the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA).

Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia

What are Those?
A look into the Off-White x Nike Sneaker collaboration

Sean Ladipo
Lifestyle Editor

On November 9th, 2017 Nike and Off-White released their latest sneaker collaboration. This collaboration gained much popularity among social media and the sneaker community alike and turned out to be one of the most popular collaborations of the year.

This collaboration called “The Ten” showcases ten iconic Nike shoes, both historical and contemporary. These shoes in this collection are the Air Jordan 1, Air Presto, Air Max 90, Air Force 1, Air VaporMax, Hyperdunk, Zoom Vaporfly, Converse Chuck Taylor, Blazer and Air Max 97. The popularity of this collection is almost unprecedented in the sneaker community as this collection has been in the public spotlight of sneaker heads ever since it was announced. I believe that this collection was a perfect storm as three of the shoes in this collection (Air Jordan 1, Air Force 1, and Chuck Taylor) are the top three best selling shoes of all time. This paired off with the fact that they were designed by Off White, one of the most popular fashion companies in the world at the moment, really led way for some serious potential.

These theme of this collaboration is heavily centered around the deconstruction of each shoe. This concept in my opinion was a bit overy at first glance but once I got a look at the entire collection I fell in love with this idea. You too could own this collection for the price of one arm and one leg.

Photos Courtesy of Nike.com

The Lancia Status HF Zero.

Photo Courtesy of King-smg.com
Andrew Hovind
Stapleton, Colorado

In 2002 the Obama Adminis-
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Knight. Mayfield went beating out Trevor the Sooners after ing quarterback for was named the start-team. Mayfield had to main in 2014 and walk would enroll at the staff. due to a leaving the program Year. standing season and earn Big 12 Confer- terback position. man to start a season opener at the quar- Mayfield is the first walk quarterback for Texas Tech following a man to start a season opener at the quar- Mayfield is the first walk quarterback for Texas Tech following a
The week’s horoscopes have been read in the goose poop littering the sidewalks. Failure to comply with the advice below will result in the spawn of Satan’s left butt cheek, the geese, descending upon you and your loved ones in a fury only matched by that of a frat boy being asked to be the sober one two weekends in a row.

**Aries:** You’ve been doing the same thing, and words aren’t quite lining up. A clue to something being wrong will involve their new tendency to kiss threateningly. Invent an exorcist who specializes in goose possessions.

**Taurus:** Your parents have become involved in the water fowl condition. There is no escape. Proceed to viciously beat them when they get too close. Take charge and show everybody that you are a proper golden goose.

**Gemini:** You are here to help by supplying you with malleable goose poop for sculptures.

**Cancer:** You have a goal in mind and nothing will stop you. Take charge and show everybody that you are a proper golden goose. Just remember to hide your golden eggs from Rose-Hulman, as it might incite them to raise your tuition.

**Leo:** The general public might be quick to point out your flaws. Just remember to hide your golden eggs from Rose-Hulman, as it might incite them to raise your tuition.

**Virgo:** You are here to help by supplying you with malleable goose poop for sculptures.

**Libra:** You’ll start to notice that some people’s actions and words aren’t quite lining up. A clue to something being wrong will involve their new tendency to kiss threateningly. Invent an exorcist who specializes in goose possessions.

**Scorpion:** You have a dish to dish out money on presents. Just remember that you are a broke college student and your mom loves handmade gifts. The geese are here to help by supplying you with malleable goose poop for sculptures.

**Sagittarius:** You’ll start to notice that some people’s actions and words aren’t quite lining up. A clue to something being wrong will involve their new tendency to kiss threateningly. Invent an exorcist who specializes in goose possessions.

**Capricorn:** Your stress levels are reaching critical. Try to partake in some Gosling Tested, Goose Approved™ activities, like hissing loudly at people who try to get close and then proceeding to viciously beat them when they get too close.

**Aquarius:** There’s strength in numbers. In order to get the study room you want, gather your gaggle together and take no prisoners.

**Pisces:** Your actions and words aren’t quite lining up. A clue to something being wrong will involve their new tendency to kiss threateningly. Invent an exorcist who specializes in goose possessions.