Climate Change and Snake Population

The Annual Rose-Hulman SCUDE Competition

Jonathan Kawaschi

News Editor

In the last issue of the Thorn, the front page presented information on an opportunity to travel to Cuba for spring break of 2019. In the past week, yet another opportunity to travel the world and experience other places has been put on front on the front page, the Rose-Hulman to Istanbul.

I have seen a notice on the bulletin board near the stairwell in Crapo, advertising for a trip to Istanbul. As I walked by, I glanced at the notice and noticed that the trip was being offered by students eager to get to their class around the world. The opportunity to travel to Istanbul for the second year that the competition has existed, is an opportunity to be missed.

The competition is one that the students who are enrolled in the class will join Drs. Gardner and Minster as they host the annual competition. Using Differential Equations, the students will model the results with past problems involving the spread of viral marketing, drug metabolism, and understanding table tennis.

This year’s problems are just as diverse, asking how warning 7,000 year old old clubs affected the ratio of male to female humans, pathogenic modeling the results of both the problems and different climates today. The climate change affects the population dynamics of pine snakes.

While the specific problems involving classes such as pine snakes are based on specific academic studies with reference equations and reading material, abstract problems such as table tennis problem become more of a thought exercise, leading to a variety of hypothetical solutions and models.

A group of students with no experience in competition sites, scores out of 5 are assigned by the judges to determine the ranking for teams scoring 4 or higher and a meritorious ranking for scores of 3 or higher. In order to make the opportunity for Rose students to skip a week, their knees that you are interested in the competition, the competition is really meant to allow students to push themselves and test their understanding of modeling outside of the classroom setting.

If you have any interest in SCUDE or similar math competitions such as the up coming MCM in January 2019, contact Dr. Koza or Dr. Weyland of the Mathematics department for more information.

The opportunity came up again this past week, so it would seem that the competition is becoming a regular event on campus.

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Walking England

Another Opportunity to See the World

Jared Gibson

Page 4: The Handmaid’s Tale and Venom
Page 5: What’s new in Virtual Reality?
Page 6: Hiring Reform
Page 7: Sports!

“The relatively new competition gives students the chance to model real world scenarios with differential equations...”

Walking England

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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.

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, 5500 Wabash Ave, CM 5037, Terre Haute, IN 47803 - 3920 • Thorn@Rose-Hulman.edu

The Pen is mightier than the sword, join us. Tuesdays at 5:15 in O259.

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Come to our C-Think info session on Thursday at 7:30 in M103 for the answer!
For more info contact: hendritc@rose-hulman.edu

Advertise with the Rose Thorn! Contact: Thorn-Biz@rose-hulman.edu

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apartments for rent
3 bed, 2 bath Condo on
lake for rent

Classifieds
2
Trigger warnings: sexual assault

In a climate where sexual predators are being exposed on what seems like a weekly basis, is easy for our eyes to glaze over and let the horrifying stories line up too often. We quickly lose touch of the impact each incident has on the victims, desensitized by the unrelenting flow of information that is the media. In the same way, images of car bomb explosions or incomprehensible refugee children anesthetize us to the helplessness those countries feel. Monthly headlines depicting hurricanes as monthly occurrences numb us to the harsh reality of climate change. However, for the hundreds of young athletes abused by the USA Gymnastics team doctor, Larry Nassar, our horror movie was their crushing reality.

When accusations against Nassar as a serial child molester flooded the headlines last year, the USA Gymnastics organization appeared to have reacted with appropriate swiftness by cutting ties with him back in 2015. In a recent NBC News segment, however, Olympian Aly Raisman revealed that the sport's organization's response to her fellow victims' complaints had been sluggish and insincere. Raisman met with USAAG officials in the summer of 2015 to corroborate her accusation that the girl's use of the organization was the first step. The treatment can be traced back to 1993, when she was first grooming her for sexual assault, and the reaction was just as superficial as Fran Sepler's.

Prior to Nassar's eventual downfall, the girls also needed to expose the individuals that had turned a blind eye to their underhanded activities over the years. USAAG's cultural tight seal around Nassar's case started to crack this April when yet another USA gymnast, McKayla Maroney, disclosed that her abuse had begun years before she was an Olympian. Silenced by Nassar's assurances and their organization's indecisiveness, many of the girls did not even process their experiences as abuse until other stories began to surface in 2015.

Fortunately, recent events have brought the narrative to a satisfying close. USA Gymnastics President Steve Penny, one of the executives that was unresponsive to Raisman's concerns in 2015, stepped down in March 2018, triggering a cascade of resignations from high-ranking USAAG officials. Penny was arrested on October 17, 2018 for tampering with evidence related to the Nassar case. Mary Boesky, the interim president, resigned that same day. All 18 members of the USA Gymnastics board will resign at the re-quest of the Olympic Committee. Perhaps these are the types of measures that will provide the drastic restructuring the sports organization desperately needs.

What is the takeaway for sexual assault victims and allies alike? I believe it is best encapsulated by Aly Raisman's own words in a chilling court appearance: "You know what, Larry? I have both power and voice, and I'm only just beginning to use them."

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Dana Nafzi

World News Editor

American Scandal
Recent Revelations Reopen the Nassar Wound

D Gregor McDonald

World News Editor

The Key News Story

Recent exposés have long been part of the daily news cycle, creating an interesting tension between the unrelenting flow of information and the ongoing cycle. While some stories go viral and others fade into the background, the unrelenting flow of information is a reality that we must grapple with as a society.

The media's role in shaping public opinion is often controversial, with some arguing that it is a force for good that holds powerful figures accountable, while others believe it is a tool that is used to manipulate public perception. In the case of the recent exposés, the media has been criticized for focusing too much on the lurid details of the allegations, while overlooking the broader context.

However, as the Nassar scandal continues to unfold, it is clear that the media's role in shaping public opinion cannot be underestimated. The media's ability to expose the truth and hold powerful figures accountable is essential in fighting against corruption and injustice. As journalists, we must continue to strive for an unwavering commitment to truth and fairness in our reporting, even in the face of criticism.

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Dana Nafzi

World News Editor

News 3

You decide what's newsworthy.

VOTE!
Mid-term elections have the power to shape national policy. Make sure your voice is heard next Tuesday, November 6th.

(Not registered? Go to your Secretary of State's website to learn about your state's same-day registration policy!)
The Handmaid’s Tale

Is it really a far-fetched future?

Dahil Bima
Entertainment Editor

Imagine a society where women’s rights are stripped away from them. Where they are re-oppressed and can no longer control what they say, what they wear, what they read, or even their own identity. Margaret Atwood’s dystopian novel, The Handmaid’s Tale, gives a window to see what that world looks like. The book was published in 1985 by Margaret Atwood who wrote it as a pre-cantered future for women and their rights. Although it was not as popular back in the day, it is gaining a much larger momentum in the present day due to the relatable “extreme” themes that the book discusses, which is why I found this book a terrifying necessity to read.

The book tells the story of a handmaid, Offred, who is someone whose sole purpose in this constructed society is to bear children for those who cannot. In this society, there is a very low fertility rate due to radioactive pollution, so those who are still fertile, the handmaids, are forcibly assigned to bear children for men in power whose wives cannot, and Offred is one of those handmaids, hence the name of Fred. The book is set in the near future, parallel to two stories within, the story of the handmaid Offred and the story of the other women living in this society: Domestics (The Mar¬maids), Sexual Toys (The Jeze¬bels), Prison Guards (The Aunts), the wombs (The Handmaids), and those who do not fit in any of the categories (Unsouls). As the reader, you are exposed to Offred’s personal thoughts about the regime, the commander, the wife, and mostly, escaping from the command¬er’s house.

I personally enjoyed the book, because it felt like a well—written nightmare that gave me a nudge and helped me think about my own society and how I fit within it as the woman I am. The Handmaid’s Tale brings to light many of the issues women face today, but displays them with a twist. Many of the issues discussed in the book felt like Atwood took a part from the reality of how women are living and stretched it to an extreme worst case scenario, which I think was an effective thought provoking method.

What I found personally interesting is the disparity among the readers, as there is not much of a spectrum; either they absolutely loved it or abso¬lutely hated it. But Atwood ad¬dresses this with a twist. Many of the issues discussed in the book felt like Atwood took a part from the re¬ality of how women are living and stretched it to an extreme worst case scenario, which I think was an effective thought provoking method.

I found this book a terrifying neces¬sity to read. It is worth reading to see what that world looks like. The book brings to light many of the issues women face today, but displays them with a twist. Many of the issues discussed in the book felt like Atwood took a part from the reality of how women are living and stretched it to an extreme worst case scenario, which I think was an effective thought provoking method.

Overall, The Handmaid’s Tale definitely was terrifying to read, because of the parallels that can be drawn from the constructed society to the present day of women’s experiences. However, it is not a necessary eye-opening piece of literature for women and men.

Aidan Noggler
Staff Writer

Marvel has cranked out yet another solo superhero movie, this one starring Tom Hardy as the anti-hero Venom.

Venom is alright. I think there are definitely many things that could have and should have been changed, but for the most part they’re only small issues. Despite its flaws, the film is en¬tertaining and fun. The plot is basic and predictable, but that’s what was expected in a superhero movie, so it’s not really a bad thing in this case. The CGI serves to make Venom look real¬ly cool (or better than he was in Spider-Man 3, at least), and also puts a giant aerospace facility in the side of a mountain in San Francisco (Don’t let Elon Musk get any ideas!). The score wasn’t particularly memorable, but when the credits rolled, a spicy new Eminem track started play¬ing, so that was worth the wait.

There are two big issues that I had in Venom: the pace of the plot and the film’s comedy. Before the former, it felt like Venom wanted to be on-screen for no longer than two hours, so it decided to move very quickly when it should have taken its time. This resulted in a very disappointing final battle between Venom and the film’s antagonist, Riot. This scene should have been fleshed out much more than, say, the car chase scene earlier in the movie. The next big issue was the film’s attitude. When I say that, I mean the movie couldn’t decide what it wanted to be. It couldn’t choose to be a serious movie or a funny one. At times, it felt like Venom wanted to be like Deadpool, a movie with detailed vio¬lence and intense action, all punctuated with a wisecrack from the hero. However, Venom didn’t deliver in this regard, and instead seemed to bounce back and forth between action and comedy, and this uncertainty was definitely noticeable throughout most of the film.

Overall, Venom is worth watching at least once. Like I said earlier, it’s definitely funny. Anyway, in the end, my room¬mate has a good way of sum¬ming it all up: “You have to watch Venom like you’d play a Call of Duty game: turn your brain off and enjoy it for what it is.”
Virtual reality has come a long way in terms of its feasibility and accessibility to the common person. A few years ago having one of these expansive systems would set you back a pretty penny and you would have to vacate a room in order to have all of the necessary sensors and peripherals needed to use the device correctly. As with all technology breakthroughs have been effortless in the realm of virtually reality as competition and innovation has fostered much progress in the community.

Oculus is the Oculus Quest and Rift. The Go is a high-quality standalone Virtual reality Device aimed at those who want to watch VR content. It can be used for watching movies or even using a selection of apps made for the device. These can also be stored directly on the device as it has two versions one with 64 Gb of storage and the other with 32 Gb. It has one remote is completely wireless and is $199 MSRP.

On the opposite end the Spectrum is the Oculus Rift that serves as a Virtual Reality peripheral to a computer. With two controllers this device will definitely meet all of your needs as long as you have a computer strong enough to drive this beast. This Version starts at $490 MSRP. Oculus also made the surprising announcement with the unveiling of the new Oculus Quest. This product takes all of the setbacks of previous VR gaming and throws them out the door. This new product is completely wireless and requires no dedicated room to set up sensors and at the same time this new product does even require a console or computer to drive it as it is essentially its own standalone console.

This machine has strong enough internal hardware that it can run complete games in full VR for hours making this almost a new competitor in the console wars or at least we will see how it fares. It is much more powerful than the Go while having the same selection of games that the Rift offers, although one will probably run those games on the Rift at a much higher quality. Having said that the Quest is the experience VR for the common person as it is not been simplified down to the point where anyone can use it and eliminates the need for an expensive computer. The Quest starts at $400 which is a bit steep until you think of it at a standalone console which makes the price much more feasible.

Virtual reality has come a long way in the past decade from its inception to the beginning of its commercialization. Anyone who has not tried the experience is truly missing out on one of the most enjoyable aspects of technology today as you can insert yourself in to multitude of situations using only a specialized screen utilizing a gyroscope.

With the introduction of products such as PlayStation VR and the Oculus Quest one can only hope that Virtual reality is here to stay and isn’t some fad that comes and goes as I believe that it is truly a revolutionary step forward in the realm of Gaming.

**Recipe Courtesy of Trisha Yearwood**

### Ingredients
- Cooking spray
- 8 ounces elbow macaroni, cooked
- One 12-ounce can evaporated milk
- 1 1/2 cups whole milk
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) of butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Dash of pepper
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- Two 10-ounce bricks sharp Cheddar cheese, grated (about 5 cups)
- Dash of paprika

### Equipment
- Money
- Slow cooker

### Directions

In a large 4-qt slow cooker sprayed with cooking spray, mix the macaroni, evaporated milk, milk, butter, salt, pepper, eggs and all but 1/2 cup of the grated cheese. Sprinkle the reserved cheese over the top of the mixture and then sprinkle with paprika. Cover and cook on low heat for 3 hours and 15 minutes. Turn off the slow cooker, stir the mixture and serve hot. If you don’t have a slow cooker, grease a 9-by-13-by-2-inch pan with butter, add the mixture and bake at 350 degrees F for 50 minutes.
RHIT Football

Hailey Hoover
Sports Editor

In the game against Defiance the Rose-Hulman Football team came out on top. The Engineers were able to get a lead early and keep that momentum throughout the rest of the game. The team is now sitting at a record of 4-4 and 4-2 in the league.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Football</th>
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Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

RHIT Volleyball

Hailey Hoover
Sports Editor

In their match against Defiance the Rose-Hulman Volleyball team came out on top. This win has brought the team to second seed in the HCAC Tournament. For this they will have a bye in the first round. The team’s record has improved to 17-11 and in conference play to 7-2.

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Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

RHIT Men’s Soccer

Hailey Hoover
Sports Editor

Against Transylvania, the Rose-Hulman Men’s Soccer team ended regulation and overtime all tied up 0-0. Pascal Schlee got 7 saves to increase the total to 9 shutouts for the season.

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Standout Performers
Michael Simmons
Pascal Schlee

RHIT Women’s Soccer

Hailey Hoover
Sports Editor

Rose-Hulman’s women’s soccer team ended regulation against Transylvania with a 1-1 score thanks to a score by Alyssa Taylor, assisted by Jessica Wells. In double overtime the Transylvania women’s team was able to score one to get the win.

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Standout Performers
Katie Demert
Alyssa Taylor
Jessica Wells

RHIT Sports Schedules

RHIT Men’s Soccer

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<td>Aug 31: Principia</td>
<td>Sept 4: Greenville</td>
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<td>Oct 20: Manchester</td>
<td>Oct 24: Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 24: Anderson</td>
<td>Oct 27: Transylvania</td>
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RHIT Volleyball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31: Central</td>
<td>Sept 4: Webster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31: Chicago</td>
<td>Sept 7: MacMurray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 1: North Park, Cornell College</td>
<td>Sept 8: Birmingham-Southern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 5: Webster</td>
<td>Sept 11: St.Mary-Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 7: MacMurray</td>
<td>Sept 14: Concordia Chicago, Milliken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 8: Birmingham-Southern</td>
<td>Sept 15: Macau, #1 Calvin</td>
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<td>Sept 11: St.Mary-Woods</td>
<td>Sept 19: DePauw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 14: Concordia Chicago, Milliken</td>
<td>Sept 21: Texas Lutheran, Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 15: Macau, #1 Calvin</td>
<td>Sept 26: Manchester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 19: DePauw</td>
<td>Sept 29: Transylvania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 21: Texas Lutheran, Williams</td>
<td>Oct 3: Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 26: Manchester</td>
<td>Oct 6: Bluffton, Hope</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 29: Transylvania</td>
<td>Oct 10: Franklin</td>
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<td>Oct 3: Anderson</td>
<td>Oct 17: Franklin</td>
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RHIT Men’s Soccer

<table>
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<td>Sept 4: Principia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 9: Trine</td>
<td>Sept 9: Indiana St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 12: Greenville</td>
<td>Sept 11: Greenville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 15: Milliken</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 19: Defiance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 6: Defiance</td>
<td>Oct 10: Hanover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 13: Earham</td>
<td>Oct 17: Franklin</td>
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<td>Oct 17: Franklin</td>
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RHIT Women’s Soccer

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**WITCHY PROF QUOTES**

“Get ready for the best law in chemistry: Beer’s law. It’s Wednesday, might need me one of those later.”

- Supernatural Stephanie Poland

“if the calorimeter had a tongue, you’d be home free.”

- Eerie Edward Mottel

“Yeah, that’s life man. The layers are all connected.”

- Bone-chilling Buffalo

“If you screw up the educational part, no amount of memes will save your presentation.”

- Batty Buffalo

“Use your Aristotelian logic to untangle THAT syllogism!”

- Blood-curdling Brad Burchett

“There is nothing more important than a clean nose.”

- Macabre Micah Taylor

“Well if there’s anyone that wants to kill me, I will be making appointments outside my office after this.”

- Monstrous Micah Taylor

“You are not a thermometer, you are a thermostat!”

- Impish Igor Minevich

“If you’re going to ask if you can turn in late homework, ask in private, not in front of the entire class. That way I don’t look soft.”

- Murderous Marc Herniter

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**Spooky Soup**

**Feast On My Children**

Hi, my name is Kaelyn and this is my spooky soup recipe.

Unlike stone soup, the pioneers did not ride these babies for miles. It’s almost Halloween, which is like my third favorite holiday (if me all you want but Christmas is superior 100%), so it’s time for the soup that defines the autumnal season for me. You know? That time of year when the leaves are turning the color of my hair and the soup that defines the autumnal season for me. You know? That time of year when the leaves are turning the color of my hair and we all bust out the sweaters that have been gathering dust for like half a year (you might want to wash those tbh).

**Ingredients**

1. 3.75 quotas bone broth - Which bones? You decide.
2. 1/2 gal of the screws from Kaelyn Bock’s metal spine - She has a Weekend Wednesday this week, so you can collect your screw then. Bring something to bribe her with and also a scalpel. *While supplies last.
3. 0.0036 gallons of chopped hard salami
4. 1 plastic skeleton who’s ribs and arms are missing - You know who you are, Kevin.
5. 1 really cheap bottle of black nail polish - Don’t drop in Walmart.
6. An artificial pancreas, for flavor
7. Dash of nutmeg - Optional, but adds a wonderful earthy note that just screams Autumn.

**Directions**

1. Get your best and biggest pot, because you’re in for a bumpy ride. Pour in the broth, the titanium screw, the artificial pancreas, and the nutmeg if you choose to use it. Bring to a rapid boil, then let sit for ten minutes.
2. While the base boils, sauté the skeleton and salami in the nail polish until evenly coated and the internal temperature of the skeleton reaches 667 degrees Kevin (not Kelvin, subtract 1 for Fahrenheit).
3. Serve warm with a side of toasted pumpkin bread for a really special Halloween touch.

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**Top 10 Spookiest Costumes**

1. Purdue Swag
2. Helicopter Parents (couple’s costume)
3. Fortnite Default Skin
4. A Large Container of Oral-B Ploss - You wouldn’t be bleeding if you flossed regularly.
5. A Transcript
6. A Potential Nice Man
7. Randomly Assigned Group Partners
8. Safety Jim Saying “Sock it to me.”
9. Speed Bump
10. Non-donating Alumni

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**FREE CANDY**

**IT’S HALLOWEEN WITCH**

Directly anyway. Mirk drakar knows where the bigandy bars are given out.

Tel: 773-330-2389

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**HEARD ROUND CAMPUS**

“... Hillary Clinton is a demon because she smells like sulfur.”

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