Union’s Patio Expansion
Mussallem family donates for new student space

Dara努夫
World News Editor

Months after the completion of the Union renovation project, the Hulman Board of Trustees have approved a new expansion to the Union, this time to its exterior. As depicted in the 3D render- ing below, the glass-walled pavil- ion will be constructed on the oth- er side of the windows looking into Chauvency’s. With sliding doors on all sides, the space will accommodate the unpredictable weather conditions characteristic of the Midwestern climate. The majority of the area on the roof will be dedicated to what was de- scribed as “a sustainable green space of plants.” This not only complements the Living Wall in the Union, but also hints at a fu- ture of ecologically-minded ex- pansion projects here at Rose.

The inside flat screen and AV equipment will allow students to host movie nights or give presen- tations, and the outdoor seating and full-function grill will provide another place to kick back during the warmer months.

The project arose from the generosity of the Mussallem fami- ly, who provided the $8 million advance that kick-started the ini- tial Union renovation in 2016. Their most recent $3.5 million donation will see project through to its completion by Homecoming this year. The campus seemed equally surprised and intrigued by the new development following Rob Coons’ announcement last Tuesday, and will no doubt be class the completion of the Hulman project.

“Greenhouse” concept expansion to the Union Image Courtesy of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

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Page 5: Geneva Auto Show
Page 6: Overpriced Textbooks
Page 7: Sports!

Rose reacts to extra time between classes

William Kemp
Rose News Editor/Business Manager

2019’s Spring Quarter is here and brings new and exciting opportu- nities. Many of which may fall into the extra five minutes between classes. As I’m sure everyone already knows, Rose-Hulman is try- ing an extended ten minute pass- ing period. Among several rea- sons, the one that stands out the most is for students to be able to walk from Olin to the new bridge building (aka. Kremer Innovation Center). Despite the added time, however, there are still some mixed opinions on the matter.

During the first couple days of class there was definitely an awkward silence waiting for class to start. Professors would stand at the front of the classroom sipping tea, some trying to make some sort of conversation with the stu- dents. All while students shuffled in trying to find a seat next to someone they knew. For the first two days especially, it was very rare for someone to walk in late. In one of my classes in particular, the majority of the students came in at a full sprint, out of breath, apologiz- ing profusely for being late. I didn’t know that they were actu- ally more than a 2 minutes early. Laughter ensued as the two stu- dents both face planted into the ground and cried out to the Rose- Hulman gods.

Unfortunately, this trend did not continue later in the week. Some students still somehow managed to be late to class. Before the passing period change, there may have been some sort of ex- cuse for being a couple minutes late. Now however, it is possible to walk from Perope all the way to the KIC in less than ten minutes.

In my opinion, it would take the exceptionally skilled student to be more than a couple of minutes late to a class. After talking with several stu- dents, many favor the ten minutes, while some think it’s simply a waste of time. While I agree the extended passing period has seemed like an eternity for some classes, I can definitely see how it could prove extremely help- ful later in the year. With this quarter only having one week under its belt, there aren’t really a ton of questions or concerns from the content in most classes. As the quarter progresses, however, the content is only going to get more and more challenging. The ten min- ute passing period could be used to ask questions before/after class, which may prove very helpful to a lot of students.

Many professors have had a lot to say about the passing period as well, again mixed emotions. Chemistry professor Dr. Mottel says, “I’d rather have a 55 minute lecture than a ten minute passing period.” I think a lot of students and professors can agree that an extra five minutes would be help- ful, but it would continue to make talking one on one with a profes- sor before/after class more chal- lenging. Other professors have said that they’ve had time to go make tea, run to their office, and to the bathroom, and still be on time for class. All of which they couldn’t do last quarter.

So far the extended passing pe- riod has been very helpful in al- lowing extra time to prepare for class. It’s also been less mentally straining not having to rush from class to class. Even still, the ten minutes may seem like a long time now, but this project is just the start of the quarter goes on. There is definitely a balance between how much ma- terial and how much free time each class needs. Hopefully as the quarter goes on that balance will become more obvious and present itself as a new opportunity to- wards student’s success. There will likely be more updates on the mat- ter towards the end of the quarter, so be up to date with the latest news from the Rose Thorn!

Rose-Hulman students taking a leisurely walk to class with five extra minutes at the start of this snowy spring quarter

Photo Courtesy of Rose-Hulman’s Instagram Page

The Rose Thorn Meet Tuesdays 0259 5:00pm
Riddle of the Week: What is it that when you take away the whole, you still have some left over?

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

Last Weeks Answer: Your Breath

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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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Join the Rose Thorn!
When: Tuesday’s at 5:00 pm
Where: Olin O289
Join us for our Second meeting this Quarter on March 12th!!!
Share your opinions, write an article for next weeks issue, or get the inside scoop on the latest news!
You decide what’s newsworthy.

Tuesdays at 5:00 in O259

News

Sunshine Week 2019
Embracing Open Government, Open Information, and Free Press

Jonathan Kawachi
Staff Writer

Going back through U.S. history, with journalists such as Upton Sinclair uncovering public health issues of the meat packing industry or Chris Hamby exposing lawyers and doctors conspired to deny coal miners benefits from black lung disease, investigative journalism is a necessary piece of society that can shine the light over any illicit dealings and maintain power in the hands of the public. Free information and democracy must go hand in hand if government and the justice system to be of, by and for the people. In other words, it’s your right to know. This also happens to be the theme of Sunshine Week 2019.

In 2005, the American Society of News Editors and Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press launched an annual initiative which dubbed March 10th – 16th as Sunshine Week, a week dedicated to promoting open government and pushing back against excessive official secrecy. Freedom of information is a cornerstone of the free world, allowing for an informed populace and creating an accountable government.

Whether you’re a professional journalist or a blogger, a legal professor or a student reporter, or even just a private citizen, participation is encouraged from all walks of life, and participation can be done in a multitude of ways. As a result, the organization was dissolved less than one year later. This Sunshine Story is simply one of many that highlights the potential for government incompetence and the necessity of transparency laws. Without such laws, public funds that should go to schools, public health and the well beings of citizens can be stolen by an evil few.

More information, including success stories, resources and instructions on how to use the Freedom of Information Act, can be found at the official website: sunshineweek.org.
Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper's very, very intimate performance of "Shallow". Image Courtesy of IMDb.com

Olivia Colman accepting the Oscar for Best Leading Actress. Image Courtesy of IMDb.com

The rest of the game is a typical Far Cry game. You can sneak into cult compounds, and the player takes the role of a character named "Piper". You are given a variety of weapons, and you must use them to clear out the cultists and liberate the area. The graphics are excellent, and the gameplay is smooth and engaging. However, the level design is a bit repetitive, as most of the areas are similar.

The game also features a number of side missions, which can be completed at any time. These missions range from simple deliveries to more complex tasks, such as infiltrating enemy bases and stealing valuable items. The side missions provide a good break from the main story, and they also help to develop the characters and the world of the game.

The overall experience is a mix of action and story. The game is quite challenging, and the player must use a variety of strategies to succeed. However, the story is engaging and well-crafted, and it provides a good context for the actions of the player.

If you are a fan of open-world action games, Far Cry 5 is definitely worth a try. The graphics, music, and gameplay are all top-notch, and the story is compelling and well-written. Overall, a highly recommended game!
**Geneva International Auto Show**

**An update on your dream car(s)**

Thomas Hall  
Staff Writer

This past week was one of those most important auto shows of the year: the Geneva International Auto Show. The show is held annually in Geneva and is often referred to as the biggest automakers show of the year, where newest and coolest stuff is unveiled. Here are my Top 5 releases from this year’s show.

1. **Koenigsegg Jesko:** This new model from the small Swedish hypercar manufacturer promises to be its most insane yet. It boasts a new version of Koenigsegg’s V8 making 1200 horsepower on ERG and only a measly 2490hp of pump gas. They have also completely rethought how transmissions are made with their new gearbox having 9 gears and 7 clutches which means it can change from any gear to any gear instantly. In track mode the extensive active aero means it produces an actual ton of downforce at 170mph; however, with the top speed aero they believe the Jesko will break the 300 mph mark setting a new fastest production car record.

2. **Ferrari F8 Tributo:** The F8 Tributo is the replacement for the outgoing 488GTB. The new car now makes 710 horsepower from the same 3.9 liter twin turbo V8 from the previous car. The F8 Tributo has also dropped using the carbon fiber in part to the new Italian engine cover which is meant to evoke the classic F40. Ferrari has said that this will be the last V8 powered car from them without the aid of hybridization meaning the F8 will most likely become a collector’s item.

3. **Pininfarina Battista:** The old world coach builder from Italy Pininfarina has decided to go out on its own and develop a new super EV. Although it looks like a Ferrari in so many ways, you can be forgiven for thinking that Pininfarina has designed cars for Ferrari for decades as well as the Coke-a-Cola Freestyle Machines. The Battista is said to produce over 1900 hp out of its electric motors and will do 0 to 60 mph in under 2 seconds which is only possible because it is extremely uncomfortable yet really fun. Pininfarina also claims a range of 280 miles per charge.

4. **Polestar 2:** Now something with a much more reasonable price tag, the Polestar 2. The second car from this all-electric Volvo spin-off company is aimed to compete directly with the Tesla Model 3. It offers over 400 horsepower and range of 310 miles on a full charge. Instead of using a native multimedia software Polestar is utilizing Android Auto to power the entirety of the center stack which means google assistance will work perfectly as the voice recognition software. Although Polestar 2 has a starting price of $46k, Polestar has promised a subscription model will be available instead of traditional purchasing.

5. **Lamborghini SVJ Roadster:** For this year’s Geneva show Lamborghini has cut the roof off the Aventador SVJ. However, this minor change could prove to be the last Lamborghini of an era because reports have said that any new Lamborghini will most likely be the naturally aspirated V12 without hybridization that the company has been known for since 1966 with the Miura. This potentially last iteration of the V12 will produce 770 horsepower. Only 800 will be made making it a likely collectible in the decades to come.

**Sources from top to bottom:** Automobile Magazine, Motor1, Rob report.

**ROOT?**

**Board games are a lifestyle**

**Rithvik Subramanya**  
Flipside Editor

Root is a two to four player board game in which four different factions try to gain control of the woodland and win by reaching thirty victory points. It was released in 2018 by Leder Games, who had also released Vast, another asymmetrical game.

Each faction has different abilities, different ways of scoring victory points, and a different start on the board. The Marquis de Cat starts in control of most of the clearings of the forest, and tries to build an engine where they produce wood to build more buildings, scoring points, while making more warriors to keep their enemies in check. The Eyrre Dynasties starts in a similar spot, as well as the Vagabond, but can expand explosively with the “root decree”, an ancient order where they must take multiple actions in a specific order (Recurrut more troops, move, battle, and build the roots that score them points). However, if they can’t complete one of the actions in their decree, they fall into turmoil, and must select a new leader to help them achieve victory. The Woodland Alliance doesn’t even start on the board, but can spread sympathy for their cause. When they have enough sympathy on the board, they can revolve against the other factions and try to forge a new leadership for themselves. The Vagabond is a lone traveler, who completes big quests and trades with the other factions to gain victory points.

The biggest hurdle in playing this game is the fact that all four of the factions play and score differently. Each player must know the rules, not only for their faction, but for the other three in the game. However, once you get over this hurdle, the game has almost limitless possibilities. There are so many ways that each faction can work, forming alliances with other factions, or just declaring war on them. I’m sure the game has a lot of replayability.

Despite the asymmetrical starting positions, in the games that I’ve played, all of the factions have won, showing how well balanced the game is. If every faction doesn’t work together to keep the others in check, one player will run away with the game. This forced cooperation while each player is competing with each other is what makes the game so fun to play.
Opinions

Why $206.25 is Too Much for One Book

Colin Beach
Staff Writer

With the start of the new quarter, new classes, and new classes means having to buy new textbooks. Sometimes one book can be used multiple times, but more often than not each class has its own required book. I don’t believe the problem is having to go and purchase all the needed books (our bookstore is one of the best), but rather the price. College textbooks, especially here at Rose, already cost a lot of money. And when trying to sell them, we get back less than half what was paid while the book is resold at a high price yet again. Something in the system needs to change.

It’s your opinion. Share it!

PRO?
CON?

Email Us: thorn-opinions@rose-hulman.edu

Image via The Daily Universe

One example of how reading makes one a better person

Image via youthtravelguide.com

Jarrod Gibson
Editorial Entertainment

The benefits of reading are incredible and manifold. Reading trains our brains to process information more quickly, increasing overall intelligence. Reading increases one’s vocabulary, allowing one to express their ideas in more than one way. Not entirely unrelated to the previous benefit, reading goes hand-in-hand with writing. Great writers were often voracious readers, and writing, much like reading, is its own set of advantages. Each of these benefits deserves a discussion of its own, but the most important benefit has yet to be mentioned: compassion. In the course of this piece, my hope is to demonstrate in what ways reading, in its ability to increase one’s capacity for compassion, makes those who practice it better people.

First, however, it must be accepted without objection that compassion makes for a better person. If this poses a problem to you, the following argument will fall miserably, and I urge you to discontinue reading this piece in reading it nor that of anyone else, for that matter.

Most—if not all—Americans know Dr. King for his Life He Lived, not for his articles. He articulates his hopes for the realization of the dream of a universe in which everyone is equal, but few can actually do so. Reading gives us a different perspective than what we are used to in everyday life. For example, we could step into the shoes of an Afghan boy in Khaled Hosseini’s novel, The Kite Runner. Narrowly escaping the political turmoil into which his country is plunged, this boy realizes that later in life to right his wrongs only to find that an extremist group called the Taliban has taken control. In the process, Hosseini paints an unbelievable portrait of modern Afghanis in which guilt and suffering are the focus. When the novel is a novel and the events that occur within it are fictional, they still reflect reality, and in doing so dispel misconceptions about the Middle East. Afghanistan was controlled by the fundamentalist Taliban at some point, and at first, the citizens were happy. Finally free of overseas European and American influences, they could return to running their own country however they pleased. However, these hopes of freedom were soon crushed when the Taliban swept to power, and eventually all who opposed them.

So, when we come into contact with people who have read The Kite Runner, we are better equipped to see them as people like you and me instead of terrorists wanting the death of America and all her citizens. Thanks to Hosseini’s portrayal of Afghan culture, we are also better equipped to see a woman wearing hijab and speaking Farsi without it stirring up that primitive fear upon which the rotten part of nationalism feeds. Simply because they dress differently than you Westerners and speak a different language does not mean that they are participants in some twisted plot to destroy America. Of course, these extreme examples and many of you may have no problem in recognizing that Middle Eastern people are people too, with the same basic desires and necessities as you and me. In that case, the novel offers us a chance to discourage these fear-motivated reactions when expressed by people around us.

This is but one example of how books can increase one’s ability to empathize with others, and the general lesson holds for others, too. Whether it is fiction or nonfiction, reading

nourishes the soul, the person, and the world around them.
After an hour of getting the field ready due to poor weather, the RHIT baseball team was ready for the home opener of the season. They started off very strong with six runs in the second inning, lead by Conner Hellbling with a homerun and Josh Mesembrink with an RBI triple. Unfortunately, the poor weather did not stay away for very long causing a rain delay at the top of the fourth with a final score of 7-1.

Spotlight:
Luke Buehler

Luke Buehler has been named HCAC Baseball Pitcher of the week for his outstanding performance during spring trip. He pitched nine scoreless innings, with 13 strikeouts. In Buehler’s career, he has struck out 85 batters in 122 innings of play time.

RHIT Track & Field

Spotlight:
Caleigh Kintner

Sports Editor

One female and four male standout athletes reached all-region status. The all-region standouts include Eric Facable with a weight throw of 58’ 10”, Aaron Lannoy with a regional best time of 1:56.05 in the 800 meter run, Nick Palmer with a pole vault of 15’ 9 3/4”, Lauren London with a school record long jump of 18’ 3 3/4”, and Cameron Prisby with a pole vault 14’ 11”. Nick Palmer is representing Rose-Hulman in the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field National Championship this weekend in Boston.

RHIT Softball

Caleigh Kintner
Sports Editor

Spring trip started out a little rough for RHIT softball. In the first game of the spring trip they lost to Saint Mary’s (Minn.) with a score of 5-0. The team rallied back though in the second game against Northern Vermont—Johnson to get their first win of the season with a score of 14-5. They went on to lose the next three games, but ended that streak against Cabrini with a score of 4-2.

RHIT Men’s Tennis

Caleigh Kintner
Sports Editor

The RHIT men’s tennis team traveled to DePauw. Unfortunately, they fell 6-3, Austin Perry and Ben Strate were victorious with a 8-6 win at No. 3 doubles, Ian Landwehr picked up a 7-5 win at No. 1 singles. Grant Stamper accounted for a third win at No. 6 singles.

RHIT Men’s Tennis

Caleigh Kintner
Sports Editor

Luke Buehler

Nick Palmer

Comer Hellblng

RHIT Softball

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Our amazing historians at The Rose Thorn Flipside have unearthed a long-lost historical record - our current President, Rob Coons, actually helped negotiate peace agreements with Dr. Evil. The conflict occurred when the biology and optical engineering departments refused to help engineer sharks with laser beams attached to their heads, which was promptly met with the threat of Moench hall being destroyed with a satellite laser. After coming to the realization that a ransom of lion's worth was all that was required, Coons was able to use funds saved by not installing AC into speed halls to pay this paltry ransom. Coons was required, of dollars was all that thousands, rather than millions, of dollars was all that was required, Coons was able to use funds saved by not installing AC into speed hall to pay this paltry ransom.

Top 10

1. SETTINGS -> DEVICES -> DELETE the thermostat
2. Zip ties
3. Duct tape it
4. Saw the thermostat in half
5. Flex tape it - Hi, Phil Swifft here with Flex Tape! The super-strong waterproof tape! That can instantly patch, bond, seal, and repair! Flex tape is no ordinary tape; its triple thick adhesive virtually welds itself to the surface, instantly stopping the toughest leaks. Leaky pipes can cause major damage, but Flex Tape grips on tight and bonds instantly! Plus, Flex Tape’s powerful adhesive is so strong, it even works underwater! Now you can repair leaks in pools and spas in water without draining them! Flex Tape is perfect for marine, campers and RVs! Flex Tape is super strong, and once it’s on, it holds on tight! And for emergency auto repair, Flex Tape keeps its grip, even in the toughest conditions! Big storms can cause big damage, but Flex Tape comes super wide, so you can easily patch large holes.

Did your prof say something hilarious or just great out of context? Did you hear something amazing on your jaunt about the fine halls of this institution? We want to hear about it! Send your quotes with who said it to thorn.flipside@rose-hulman.edu or fill out this nifty google form: https://goo.gl/forms/bB339sx6GHohggYt1

Happy Spring Quarter! Only four more weeks until break!

Any uncredited work above can be attributed to me, Rithvik Subramanya.