Champions of Magic!

Hatfield host’s Great Britain’s top magicians

Alyssa Russell
Guest Writer

This last Thursday (October 17th), Hatfield Hall held a magic performance that was a night to remember. The performers of Champions of Magic had quite a line up of illusions for the audience members, including myself.

Starting off the night was the performers Young & Strange, re-enacting one of their very first tricks, placing a person, specifically Young, into a cardboard box and piecing the box with sharp wooden spears, which Young, miraculously, survived. Afterwards, the mid of fog and lights, the other performers, Kayla Dresher, Alex McAleer, and Fernando Velasco performed some very memorable and stunning illusions.

Alex McAleer stunned the audience with a brilliant segment of mind-reading two of the audience members. He started off by asking both of them to come up with a name of something they know, and he would ‘read’ what they were thinking. Within minutes, McAleer was able to write out exactly the names that resided within both of the audience members’ minds. To make it more impressive, McAleer also managed to draw clearly on a map the place that one of the audience members was thinking of (making the travel route spell out the city “London”).

Close up magic, performed by Kayla Dresher, followed up the previous performance. Clearly throughout the show she was having trouble figuring out how an audience member kept picking out the 5 of clubs out of the deck of cards.

Stunning the crowd with dangerous illusions was Fernando Velasco, in which he performed a daring act—escaping the ‘jaws of death’ while restrained in a straight jacket. And, for his most daring performance, Velasco re-enacted Harry Houdini’s Water Torture Cell performance. He was shackled with handcuffs, suspended upside down, and cuffed at his heels. He managed to escape a cell filled to the brim with water and pop out between a row of audience members.

As one of the final illusions demonstrated that night, Young & Strange demonstrated a brand-new act in which they made a mode of transport (or in this case a sailboat) appear onto the stage while having 4 audience members, including myself, act as a human wall. Amidst the confetti, disappearing acts staged to look like ‘80s in Las Vegas, the fire and electricity flash bangs, the show was a smashing success and a beautiful night to remember. I’m looking forward to the next incredible performance at Hatfield Hall!
The Pen is mightier than the sword
Tuesdays 5:00p O259.
US Troops Withdraw from Syria

Kurdish Forces Left in Shambles

Jonathan Kawaschi Staff Writer

The week ago on October 6th, President Trump ordered the largest troop withdrawal from Syria, further stoking unrest in the region.

"As US troops erase their presence in the region, Russian troops are moving in."

The sudden withdrawal of the last 1,000 US troops from Syria necessitated severe steps to minimize potentially damaging effects. Last Wednesday, US troops in the Laforce Cement Factory Base was vacated and bombed the base to destroy munitions and other supplies inside as Turkish Troops advanced on the base.

Before the declaration of the Turkish Incursion, Trump released several vague threatening tweets in an attempt to dissuade Turkey from militant moves in the absence of a US military presence. The day after his announcement to remove US troops, Trump tweeted:

"As I have stated strongly before, and just to reiterate, if Turkey does anything that I, in my great and unmatched wisdom, consider to be off limits, I will totally destroy and obliterate the Economy of Turkey (I've done it before!)

The day afterward Turkey invaded northern Syria. Trump also sent a strongly worded letter to Erdogan to end the hostile behavior towards President Brunson. Trump had worked hard to solve some of your problems. Don't let the world down. You can make a great deal. General Maloum is willing to negotiate with you, and he is willing to make concessions that they could have never have made in the past. I am confidently enclosing a copy of his letter to me, just received.

History will look upon you favorably if you get this done the right and humane way. It will look upon you forever as the devil if good things don't happen. I don't want to be the one to say that. Don't be a fool! I will call you later.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Trump

As Erdogan ignored the messages and continued operating in northern Syria, Trump further responded by ending a $1 billion trade deal and imposing economic sanctions like a 50% tariff on Turkish steel. Domestically, the withdrawal lacks support from both sides.

The US House denounced the decision in a 154-60 vote last Wednesday, with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell calling the move a “grave strategic mistake.”

Last Monday, Kurdish forces make a significant decision to deal with the Syrian government, marking a major shift in the eight-year-old conflict. For the first time in years after the Kurds established a relatively autonomous region in northern Syria, the Syrian government sent troops to the entire Syrian-Turkish border.

Before any significant exchanges occurred, Voice of America’s Pence brokered a deal with Turkey for a five-day cease-fire agreement last Thursday. The purpose of the deal is to allow Kurdish forces to ensure an orderly withdrawal from a 20-mile safe zone along the Syrian-Turkish border, where Turkey plans to resettle 2 million Syrian refugees that live currently living in Turkey. However, as the cease-fire period continues, it’s clear that the deal is faltering and a compromise cannot be reached.

According to an interview producer NPR, the agreement was not what the SDF was initially told. Order to evacuate, but Turkish forces have not opened the door. Erdogan had also stated that if the Kurdish forces do not retreat by Tuesday, then Turkey will resume its offensive.

Within this month alone, there have been 200 civilian casualties and 200,000 displaced. While there were less than 1,500 US Troops in the region, their presence clearly maintained a stable power dynamic between the SDF and Syrian government.

"If we stay on this path, it will be catastrophic for the Syrian government, marking a major shift in the eight-year-old conflict. For the first time in years after the Kurds established a relatively autonomous region in northern Syria, the Syrian government sent troops to the entire Syrian-Turkish border."

As US troops erase their presence in the region, Russian troops are moving in. Videos of abandoned US bases are already showing Russian troops settling in. Essential repositioning of their US Russian power brokered the region in the past. When asked about it, Trump said that he does not mind the Russian presence, “Russia’s tough.” Trump said. They can
Joker: A Different Perspective

A Critique of DC's New Origin Story

Matthew Supp
Staff Writer

From the very first scene, I knew that this movie was going to end up being a disappointment. The attempt at a political narrative—one in which political virtue produces political vice—was simply too ambitious for the film to grasp it. The only piece of evidence lies in the fact that Joaquin Phoenix's character, Arthur Fleck, makes a connection with political rhetoric: the idea that the European Union embodies the progress of the West. Even though he crosses centu-
ries and continents in this book, several themes remain constant. History and its importance for the present are empha-
sized throughout. Accordingly, what historical narrative is necessary for us to determine what is good and what is good for public life. We must resist the bias that understanding

Is Democracy Dying?

The Road to Unfreedom: A Review

Janell Gogan
Entertainment Editor

It is a mistake to assume that the Russian government has made any move towards a competitive system as a component of the U.S.S.R. to the Russian Federation that exists today. The failure of communism scattered in a series of Russian oligarchs cajoling in Ukraine, as well as other areas of the former Soviet Union. This is why it is important to realize that the fall of communism means something different. It is not just about dissolving the Soviet Union; it is about the collapse of a system based on personal gain.

The script and dialogue are written AGAINST the rich, and does so by having Thom-
dear mask serve as a symbol of the movement against the rich, and does so by having Thom-
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time for others. When we fail to acknowledge histo-

History serves both as a record of what has happened and a guide to how we can make what will happen better.

This is a movie that wanted to start this conversation about the treatment given to the single blue tear running down his face, the sight of Arthur crying through the makeup, that this was going to be a dark movie. The

The lighting perfectly relates to the dark qualities of Arthur, Joker in Batman, and other time-leaders. It helps to define the dark figures moving through his mind. Joaquin Phoenix gives yet another great performance as the Joker. He is the Joker for all characters. He physically and mentally, and had me crying while he's down, and does so by literally showing him one of the worst scars in recent memory for a movie of this caliber. But honestly it is a good movie. It is carried by a great performance by Joaquin Phoenix, but in reality, it's a movie that is too serious and ambitious to be taken lightly.

Jared Ghosn

The Road to Unfreedom: A Review

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A Digital Artist at Rose-Hulman

Attending Rose-Hulman as a freshman is one thing, but attending Rose-Hulman as a freshman and a passionate digital artist is another story. Now, my life as an artist may not be as interesting as being an engineer, but it sure is a passion I've kept alive for four years now. My drawing career began about seven years ago, and when it started I wasn't sure what kind of artist I wanted to be. My first year in high school led me to dabble in two digital art courses that the online public school offered. Because my school was over the computer, I had a lot of online access most of the day that allowed me to practice more on computer than on paper. As I progressed and found that I wanted to continue my artistic journey, I upgraded from my mouse to a graphic tablet and continued studying art from then onward.

"Everyday I come up with experiments I want to try: colors, composition, and storytelling within a single image."
Separating Art From Artist

Should we stop giving controversial artists our support?

Anonymous
Guest Writer

When you have been swimming for as long as I have (10+ years), you are guaranteed to be a part of so many different teams. In that time, you discover what makes one team good and, more importantly, what makes another bad.

Just to clarify, I am not mad at anyone, rather I am noticing that some type of change needs to happen. The Rose-Hulman Swim and Dive Team is not well known compared to other sports teams, and few people know what goes on in and out of the pool. We practice six out of seven days, have a meet every week or so, and do so for five months of the school year. We all work hard, but sometimes it doesn’t feel like it pays off. The events I showed to love is now more stressful due to how I must sociate and pass. I don’t always feel the same excitement in races that I used to. It may be that college swimming is radically different than high school or club, or that we have been swimming for so much of our lives that we are getting tired out. Maybe, or maybe it is that.

The best practice comes from variety, working different strokes and techniques. But at current practices, sometimes it is the same stuff every week. The distances or intervals may change, but in the end it all feels the same. Some of us are losing our motivation to work hard consistently. I came from a background heavily focused on technique and drills, and hate at Rose-Hulman I have seen practices that seem to have no effect on helping us improve. Even with a team of just three, beginning to get injuries or having old ones come back even worse. What used to be a team of fifty swimmers and divers has seen a drastic reduction in numbers. Partly because of not enough incoming freshman, but also from multiple people dropping out that can no longer stand what practices have become. We have just one senior male swimmer, our facilities could use a few improvements, we must pay for our own required team equipment which is true, however, I think that it is much larger than that. Artists produce their work and feel empowered by their fan’s reactions to their product. As much as we would like to separate the art from the artist, the art is a physical composition of a part of the artist that will always reflect who they are as a person. By not supporting them, we are taking away the artists the power to flourish and use their platform to do as they please, especially in cases like the influential R. Kelly.

However, this separation can get very hard to do so, things are because we realize that humans make mistakes and nobody is immune to that. However, where can we draw the line to separate the art from the artist and take action when needed?

Some Thoughts On Rose-Hulman Swimming & Diving

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However, this separation can get very hard to do so, things are because we realize that humans make mistakes and nobody is immune to that. However, where can we draw the line to separate the art from the artist and take action when needed?
The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology women’s golf team relied on four all-conference performances to dominate the field and claim its first Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference championship this weekend at Bluffton Golf Course. Rose-Hulman earned its first conference championship after six consecutive second-place league finishes.

Four Rose-Hulman players finished in the HCAC championship top five as the Fightin’ Engineers won by 39 total strokes. Rose-Hulman won the team title with a score of 660, easily outdistancing Transylvania in second (699) and Manchester in third (706) in the nine-team event. Namuunaa Nadmid won the HCAC individual championship with rounds of 78 and 81.

Nadmid earned all-HCAC honors for the second consecutive year after placing fifth in the 2018 HCAC championship. Lauren Conley finished in a tie for second place with rounds of 74 and 90. Conley is a two-time all-HCAC performer with finishes of second in 2019 and eighth in 2017. Rachel Zhang earned a fourth-place finish after two rounds of 84. Zhang earned her second career all-HCAC honor after placing third last season. Caitlin Coverstone also placed in the top five with rounds of 81 and 88. Coverstone captured her third career all-HCAC award, after finishing tied for first in 2017 and fourth in 2018. Rebecca Su added a top 20 finish for the Fightin’ Engineers with scores of 89 and 90 for 17th place. The tournament was played in extremely windy and challenging conditions at Bluffton Golf Course.

“I was really nervous, it’s my senior year and I wanted to do my best for the team. The team has been in 2nd place in the competition for 7 years in a row. I felt like I haven’t been doing my best recently, but taking home the win was really something special.” - Rebecca Su, Senior
WACKY PROF QUOTES

“I don’t want to be popular. I want to be unknown and hated – feared!”
- Dr. Amir Danesh

Student: “Good morning and welcome to week 3. What are you going to do this week to add value to your community?”
Dr. Amir Danesh: “That’s a stupid question.”

Student 1: “Yo dog! Do you have that lit data, dog?”
Student 2: “Yeah I have that lit data, dog! You wanna see it, dog?”
Dr. Amir Danesh: “Can I see your data, dog?”

“You know it’s a good day when your instructor’s threatening violence at you.”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Wait until you see the virgin sacrifice!”
- Dr. David Chapman

“I’ve got 99 problems, and Maple is 98 of them.”
- Dr. Manda Riehl

“It’s a good thing these markers are non-toxic; they’re giving off a lot of fumes up here. I’m so wasted.”
- Dr. David Chapman

“I’m not giving you a high five! That’s discrimination.”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Someone google that hairy drum!”
- Dr. David Chapman

“Is it even there?”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Wait! How did you backspace forwards?”
- Dr. Jody Jensen

“IS THAT THAT DOES?! IT BACKSPACES FORWARD!”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Say we have an ant walking around in the xy plane. Why would an ant be walking around in the xy plane? Why the hell would I know, he’s an ant; what else is he going to do?”
- Dr. Kurt Bryan

“I like how none of them are like ‘I hate genocide.’ It’s just Chemistry, damn that Chemistry.”
- Dr. Amir Danesh

“Don’t give me the delete button!”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Get rid of that box!”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“I know you were all distracted by the gift bomb so please download the m file now.”
- Dr. David Chapman

“Great day when your instructor’s threatening violence at you.”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Dr. Amir Danesh: EVERYTHING!!
Student 2: On what?
Dr. Amir Danesh: IT BACKSPACES FORWARD!!”

One email by a professor promoting an interesting club.

EIT Introduces New Email Removal Policy

One hundred and thirty six replies.

Now the worst disaster since the 2020 water tower explosion.

Well, EIT (and the rest of campus) has seen you send “unsubscribe” tens of times to the bounce in a terribly thought out effort to save yourself the pain of all 2 minutes of work by looking up how to remove yourself from the bounce or just muting the thread. In order to remove this terrible amount of work that students have to do to save themselves a few notifications, EIT has implemented an artificial intelligence system that will automatically remove you from the associated list by updating your standing at the school!

Now, if you get an email from the Rose Thorn bounce (I don’t want to get yelled at by an actual club) and you reply “unsubscribe” to the bounce or just remove yourself from the bounce in a terribly thought out effort to save yourself the pain of all 2 minutes of work by looking up how to remove yourself from the bounce, you will be automatically removed from the bounce list by an artificial intelligence system that will automatically remove you from the associated list by updating your standing at the school!

“You know it’s a good day when your instructor’s threatening violence at you.”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Wait until you see the virgin sacrifice!”
- Dr. David Chapman

“Is it even there?”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Birds Nest
20. DJ Hut
21. Rotz Lab
22. Hybrid Physics 2 Course Lab Area
23. Rose Donor Muzzoleum
24. Combat Robotics Arena
25. Greenhouse
26. Fish Bowl

Heard ‘Round Campus:

Student 1: “Wait! How did you backspace forwards?”
Student 2: “Did you mean the delete button?”
Student 1: “IS THAT THAT DOES? IT BACKSPACES FORWARD?”

“WHAT’S IN THE BOX?!”
- Dr. Amir Danesh

“’I know you were all distracted by the gift bomb so please download the m file now.’”
- Dr. David Chapman

“I know you were all distracted by the gift bomb so please download the m file now.”
- Dr. David Chapman

Student 1: “Should we sing?”
Student 2: “That’s a stupid question.”

“IS IT A BOMB?!?”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

“Is it a bomb?!”
- Dr. Kyle Claassen

Good luck with seventh week! Remember to do your homework and stuff. Please send an email with questions, concerns, or content to the Thorn Flipside Editor rithvik.flipside@hulman.edu. Disclaimer: The Flipside is purely for fun! Any uncredited work above can be attributed to me, Rithvik Subramanya.