

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Rose-Hulman Scholar

The Rose Thorn Archive

Student Newspaper

Spring 4-8-2020

Volume 55, Issue 18 - Monday, April 8, 2020

Rose Thorn Staff

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, library@rose-hulman.edu

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Recommended Citation

Rose Thorn Staff, "Volume 55, Issue 18 - Monday, April 8, 2020" (2020). *The Rose Thorn Archive*. 1242.
<https://scholar.rose-hulman.edu/rosethorn/1242>

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Second Person Ever Cured of HIV

Hope Grows as Progress is Made Towards a Cure

Colin Beach
Rose News Editor

Despite the global pandemic of COVID-19, the work of scientific communities is ongoing and now brings good news in this time of panic. Last month, the United Kingdom proudly announced the second patient ever to be cured of human immunodeficiency virus (better known as HIV). Current cases of HIV are kept under control by a combination of drug treatments, but eradicating the virus completely from the body is a whole step above.

HIV is responsible for the debilitating condition known as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). The disease is caused by HIV's retroviral infection of immune cells, changing their genome and crippling the person's immune system. Commonly classified a sexually transmitted disease, HIV rose to pandemic status in the 1980's (38 million people globally now live with it) and still remains a major health risk in third-world



Adam Castillejo, the second person to be cured of HIV, aspires to be an 'ambassador to hope'.

Image Courtesy of BBC

countries. Though deadly if contracted, antiretroviral medications are able to limit destructive HIV replication and can prevent transfer to others.

However, it wasn't until 2007 that a patient was completely cured of HIV. Timothy Ray Brown (known as "the Berlin patient" be-

"Most of the involved parties were acting with limited or misleading information."

fore allowing his identity to be released) was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia late in life and, upon stem cell transplant, was cured of his HIV/AIDS as well. The cells transferred to Brown came from a donor with a specific genetic mutation causing HIV resistance, allowing him to defeat the virus. He no longer requires drug treatments either, as all signs of the virus in his body are gone. Because of this past success, the same method was tried on the United Kingdom patient. The person suffered from Hodgkin lymphoma and also required a stem cell transplant. Seeing the opportunity, doctors provided cells with no CCR5 gene, eliminating production of a protein that HIV uses for host entry. After the transplant and a 30-month span of no antiretroviral

drugs, blood samples declared the patient cured.

Stem cell transplants have proven successful in the treatment of numerous diseases and is a rapidly growing field of research. However, in the case of HIV, genetically-modified transplants remain high risk and are used as a last resort for patient who have other diseases (for example, the leukemia and lymphoma of the two cured). This method requires continued research in efficiency and compatibility, and in the meantime current medications allow for management of HIV/AIDS. There is still a long way to go to see if this treatment can become widespread, but scientists will strive for the cure of disease, no matter the crisis.



Timothy Ray Brown, known as 'The Berlin patient', was the first patient to be cured of HIV almost a decade ago.

Image Courtesy of Forbes

Letter from the Editors:

As you readers may notice with this issue, we at The Rose Thorn (because of the new remote education) have decided to condense all issues into four pages for the rest of the academic year. The new page formats are as follows:

- Page 1 - Rose & World News
- Page 2 - Entertainment & Lifestyle
- Page 3 - Opinions
- Page 4 - Flipside

Despite less content, we still commit to producing high-quality articles for you readers. We also hope that our continued publishing helps provide you with stories that report on the good of the world and help you in this time of high stress. If you have any questions or comments on the new format, or would like to submit a piece (with the free time you might now have), please feel free to reach out to us. Best of luck to everyone.

- The Rose Thorn staff



Page 2: **Crafts to Do at Home**

Page 3: **Online Classes**

Page 4: **Flipside**

You decide what's newsworthy.



Fun Crafts to Do at Home!

Fun Projects that'll Get you Off the Couch

William Kemp
Editor-In-Chief

Some of you out there, like me, are probably getting a little burned out of the eat, sleep, work, play video games, eat some more... that whole cycle. I mean really, this online stuff is the same old Rose but with your friends a couple hundred miles away from you sitting behind a computer screen just like you. However, this isn't the case for everyone. I found myself quite lucky that I got to live with my best friend, Sarah Wood, a nursing student at Spalding University in Louisville, KY during this mess. I love her creative and fun ideas and thought I might share one

with you.

Sarah is the definition of a plant mom. Right now, in the living room alone, she has 22 different types of plants. Her thumbs are so green it's incredible, but after that many plants and pots, the basic, orangish pots get pretty boring. So, Sarah, being her usual self, fun-ifies some of her pots with paint. If you too are plant savvy and have some extra pots laying around, all you'll need are some paints, and maybe a best friend to bring along too.

We went to our local park and, after walking around a little bit, found a spot to lay out our stuff and get creative. We had so much fun being outdoors (while practicing so-



Flowerpots Sarah and I painted
Image Courtesy of William Kemp

cial distancing) and with out paint, we were there all afternoon. The best part about it is what you paint is up to you! It's a very minimal project but

spending time with your best friend and flowerpots is a fantastic way to pass the time.

Altered Carbon Seasons 1-2 Review

A very Spicy Review

Jonathan Kawauchi
World News Editor

With the current global situation, I finally found time to dive into Netflix's flagship original science fiction series, Altered Carbon. To my own pleasant surprise, it turned out to be a true piece of science fiction, focusing on the impact of new scientific discoveries on the human condition. At some point in human history, mankind discovers the technological remnants of a forerunner civilization referred to as "The Elders". Harnessing these materials with a rudimentary understanding of the long extinct civilization's science and culture, humans learn to use their technology to essentially digitize human consciousness in a singular biomechanical implant known as a 'stack', allowing for the transfer of physical bodies and potentially allowing for immortality through continually cycling through physical bodies over time. The show takes place well after this technology has been established, allowing it to center its main themes around the societal, political and military ramifications of the end of human transience. All this in an ambitious world established on rich lore, with clear inspiration from its dystopian sci-fi predecessors like Blade Runner. At least, this is certainly the case in season 1.

Season 1 opens with its protagonist, Takeshi Kovacs, waking in what appears to be a coroner's room. In a body that is not his own, he discovers that he is a man out of time. Nearly two centuries after being hunted down and killed by police forces for his involvement in the radicalist group known as the Envoys, a group dedicated to halting the development of stack technology, he learns that he was brought back from death to do a job for one of the richest men in the world, Laurens Bancroft. During a 24-hour window between uploading and backing up his own stack, Bancroft's stack had been destroyed. The existing Bancroft has no memory of those 24 hours before his death, and believes that he was murdered despite police investiga-

tions pointing to a suicide. Hearing of the skills of the Envoys, Bancroft buys Kovacs' stack and employs him on a whim to track down his murderer.

On paper, the premise is interesting enough, while in practice it does take about two episodes to build up its momentum. The show splits its interest early on between Bancroft's murder, Kovacs' past and the current state of the world. This leads to some initially clunky pacing, but eventually the show blends the three interests together into a fascinating mystery.

By the midpoint, the show has so many points going for it. The side characters are magnetic and full of personality, with a highlight of the show being Chris Connor as an AI compan-

are featured heavily throughout the story as well, since only the hyper-wealthy have access to custom made bodies while lower class murder victims may have to wait for soonest available body of whatever the government finds on hand. Other than stack technology, humanity has begun colonizing the stars and, as previously mentioned, created fully self-actualized AI that are treated as second class citizens. Altered Carbon's first season touches on all these elements throughout the story, asking a variety of questions aimed at class and power structures.

I ended up getting hooked on Altered Carbon early into the first season, as the deep world building and

ing and technology, the narrative focus is geared towards character drama as many of season one's characters are left behind and many of season two's characters are ghosts of Kovacs' past. The result is more of action-drama series, with the science fiction elements feeling more like an aesthetic than a core structure.

For some viewers, this will be a fine shift, especially for those who were invested in Kovacs' past and the history of the Envoys, but for me it was a turn away from what had drawn me into the series.

That's not to say I didn't enjoy the series. Connor's Poe is still around and gets his own subplot. There's a larger emphasis on character dynamics, with plenty of contrasting motivations and ideologies that adds empathetic depth to many of the antagonists. This season closes all the lingering plot threads revolving around Kovacs from the first season, and brings them to a satisfying close. However, rather than outmaneuvering and outsmarting the antagonist like in end of the season one, the season two finale's climax is literally just an almost-comical hand-to-hand brawl. So season two, not necessarily worse, just different and definitely not to my taste.

The end of the show sets up a third season and several details about it have been released, but I have no idea where the writers could take the show from this point onwards. I would have been happy with the end of the show being the season one finale. I would have been okay with the show ending on season two. I'm cautiously optimistic for season three, not because of the changes in season two, but because of the solid foundation laid in season one. I'd hope for a return to form, in some capacity, to the sociological and class emphasis from season one, perhaps exploring more implications of stack technology, AI or space colonization. I'll probably check out season 3 regardless of what I hear, simply because I know there is potential, however the quality of the show could go either way.



Promotional posters of Altered Carbon from Seasons 1 and 2

Image Courtesy of Netflix

ion to Kovacs modelled after Edgar Allan Poe. The mystery builds intrigue as Bancroft's class and political status opens many potential suspects, while the technology of the time supports the possibilities of answers unimaginable in modern times. The world building overall is the best part of the show, with extremely creative implementations of stack technology such as the military applications of having a reserve of uninhabited bodies ready for use by soldiers anywhere they might be needed. The class-based consequences

diverse inspection of societal conditions in the far future is part of what I define as, and love about, good science fiction. Unfortunately for me, Altered Carbon's second season was, to put it simply, different. Not an unnatural change in plot, as the narrative expands in a natural direction, but a shift in focus.

The second season refocuses heavily on Kovacs' past with the Envoys and the current political structure of the space colonies, but rather than maintain its attention to world build-



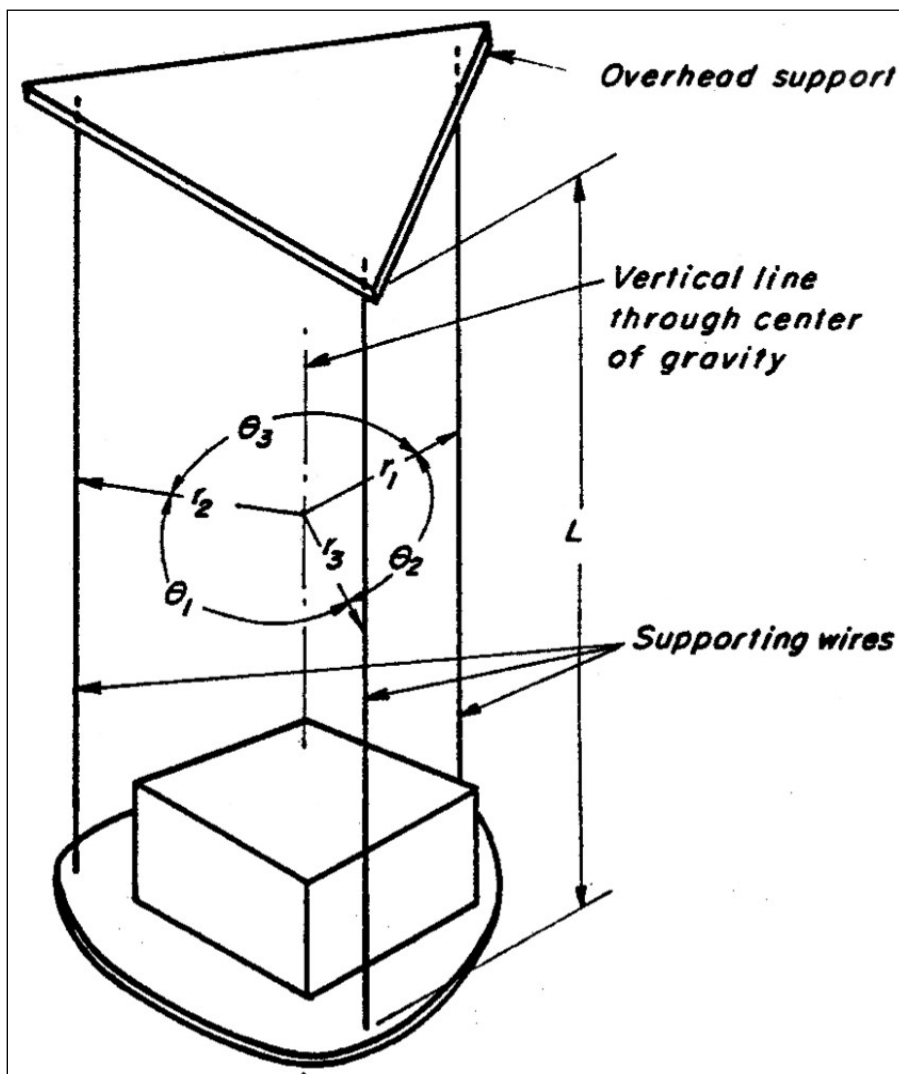
Positive Outlook on Project Classes

Ingenious ideas from professors provide hope for Spring Quarter

William Kemp
Editor-in-Chief

Two of my four classes were heavily group and project based and had us going to the KIC quite often later in the quarter. Now with us being online, I am somewhat nervous as to what tricks my professors are going to pull out of their sleeves. However, with some of the progress I've made in a few of my projects, it has turned out to be quite fun.

In ME321, Measurements, we expected two main projects for the quarter. Now with everyone being solo and stuck behind a computer screen, the projects had to adapt big time. Now as you'd expect, measurement systems is all about taking measurements. I bet I just blew your mind, wow. Anyway, to adapt to the online lifestyle and still keep engaging projects, the professors behind this class offered five very unique at home projects and encouraged us to possibly think of our own. These projects included measuring internal energy of your body, speed of sound, ultimate flexural strength of wood,



Trifilar pendulum
Image courtesy of wheelfanatyk.com

measuring young's modulus using a three point bend test, and finding polar moment of inertia of an object using a trifilar pendulum. I don't know about you, but personally I've never thought about doing any of these with the stuff that's laying around my house. Nevertheless, each project task came with a recommended set up, all with things that you could probably find in your broom closet or bathroom. What Drs. Meyhew, Cloutier, and Constans have done is truly ingenious.

ME480 on the other hand I found to be quite a bit more challenging. From what I understand, all of the projects are to remain very similar to pre-online, but without the groups of four. These projects, as of right now, require no physical assembly or testing, nor is it as large of a scale as ME321, but it still requires a monstrous amount of analysis. This sort of work, though, is honestly quite expected at this point. It's also been quite nice to be feverishly busy, like usual, instead of stuck on the couch doing nothing all day.

Not So Positive Outlook on Classes

Difficult transition to online learning is discouraging for the future

Aidan Moulder
Opinions Editor

Oh boy, let me tell you, this quarter is going to be really bad. I'm glad to be home, I truly am, especially seeing how this

learn has been basically destroyed. My parents constantly tell me "school takes priority" but then turn around and make me go on a run, or walk with them on a local trail, even if I have an important assignment

own house to be. When I was still living in Percopo, I built a huge desk that fit my entire desktop PC and basically every school supply I needed. Now, since I don't have the space back home, I'm confined to a micro-

the piece of furniture that's actually livable isn't even my own room: it belongs to my inconsiderate teenage brother.

Basically, it will be a freaking miracle if I make it out of this quarter with a decent



My workspace is really more of a fatal traffic accident of gaming devices, wires, and school paraphernalia just waiting to happen.

Image courtesy of Aidan Moulder

COVID-19 situation has developed over the past few weeks. However, life is so different in my household that things are already really rough. There are so many distractions that I never had at school, and my ability to

due within a few hours. I also have responsibilities that pull me away from my studies that are taken care of for me at Rose.

Another factor, and probably the worst part about all this, is how uncomfortable I find my

scopic "desk" that's much too tall and very cramped, can't hold everything I need on the surface, and has drawers full of useless items with no other place to go. To make the matter even worse, the only space available to fit

grade in any of my classes. I guess if things don't work out I'll probably just start a podcast or something. I'll be sure to put my Twitch and Youtube channels in the Thorn at some point if it comes to that.



WACKY PROF QUOTES

“If only I could speak cat, I could learn the mysteries of the universe”

-Dr. Ludovici

“Okay new class policy: no kissing, no hugging, no smooching, no contact of any kind. In fact, no coughing. Put your arms out and if you touch someone else, you're too close.”

- Dr. Wollowski

“Let’s take a quick break and go spread some germs.”

-Dr. Hartner

“You know what wakes me right up? Meth.”

- Dr. Bryan

“I’m gonna have to be pretty thick, I think.”

- Dr. Rickert

“Children, don’t bother daddy when he’s in his closet.”

- Dr. Brackin

“I would like you all to get jobs, because by then you’ll be paying taxes and I’ll be paying much less.”

-Dr. Grigg

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

Heard ‘Round The Country

“I do not want any more Arians in my house!”

-Random Mom, who is justifiably fed up with the Arians and their Antics

BREAKING NEWS: New Virus Discovered in Phoenix

Q. Pitt

With the USA entering what could very well be the peak of the COVID-19 outbreak, the world was shocked by the discovery of a new virus, found in Phoenix.

This new virus, named ARVID-20, was discovered late last Friday night in Phoenix, Arizona when a young man by the name of John Johnson broke lockdown to visit his girlfriend across town. His girlfriend, Maddie Maddison, is a licensed Lint Collector and had just gotten off her shift at the LaundroMat. Early in the visit, Johnson fell and began twitching uncontrollably.

Maddie immediately took her ‘just-a-close-friend’ to the closest hospital. Once properly examined and tested, doctors began to explain to Maddie what was going on with John. He had contracted a new disease, named ARVID-20, or Arizonavirus Disease 2020, and had most likely already spread it to most people he had seen that day. As if on queue, Maddie fell to the floor and began to uncontrollably twitch as well.

TOP TEN

Things We Do Not Miss During the Quarantine

1. The food at the Bone
2. The geese at Speed Lake
3. Living with a roommate
4. Terre Haute, Indiana
5. Large email chains
6. The Math Department
7. Freshmans
8. SGA Drama
9. Walking for more than two minutes
10. 5:00pm hall dinners
11. Waking up before noon
12. Civils
13. Human Interaction
14. No ice cream at Beanies
15. Waking up before 2:00
16. Pub Safe telling you “no”
17. Public bathrooms
18. Sweet Corn Ice Cream
19. Twin XL mattresses
20. Living on a schedule
21. High School 2.0
22. Not being able to park

Joke of the Week:

Why was the student immune to COVID-19?

He had just purchased McAfee’s new and much improved virus protection.

I was able to quickly speak with Danny Daniels, an Epidemiologist from the Phoenix CDC, about the dangers of this new disease. I first asked for a run down of symptoms and stages of this disease and here they are:

- 1- Patients will likely begin to twitch uncontrollably
- 2- Patients will then enter a state of euphoria, with a loss of pain and awareness of surroundings
- 3- Patients will then get the sudden urge to drink vast amounts of iced-tea and lemonade
- 4- Patients will then begin to lose feeling in their fingertips and will only be able to utter the word “moist”
- 5- Patients will lay unconscious and quiet, except for the faint sound of buzzing coming from their ears

According to Daniels, if the patient does not receive iced-tea and lemonade while still conscious, they will die. So far they have barely been able to keep up with the spread of the disease. The CDC hypothesizes that this is a waterborne pathogen and are urging people to not drink water, but iced-tea and lemonade instead.

Supplies from the National Stockpile of Iced-Tea and Lemonade were stopped before shipment, with one White House ‘Official’ claiming that the National Stockpile is for the National Government and that the States needed to use their own Stockpile.

AriZona Beverages refused to respond to my questions.