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News Briefs

By Alex Clerc

Merkel becomes Germany's Chancellor

For the first time in history, Germany's leader is not only from the former eastern states, but also a woman.

Angela Merkel replaced Gerhard Schröder as Germany's Chancellor Tuesday. Merkel will lead a Cabinet evenly divided between the left and the right; her conservative Christian Democrat party (CDU) beat Schröder's Social Democrats (SPD) by a razor thin margin in the general election two months ago.

Australian to be executed in Singapore

Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said today that the execution by hanging of a convicted Australian drug smuggler will be carried out as planned on Friday. The prisoner, 25-year-old Nguyen Tuong Van, received the mandatory death sentence after he was caught with about 14 ounces of heroine at Singapore's Changi Airport in 2002.

Singapore is one of Australia's strongest Asian allies and Australian Prime Minister John Howard has vetoed calls within the government for boycotts over the execution. However, Loong has rejected calls of clemency from Australia and five personal appeals from Howard to stop the execution.

Countries race to claim the Arctic

Scientists have predicted that by the end of the century the entire Arctic Ocean could melt into open water. This could uncover vast reserves of oil and natural gas — according to a study from the U.S. Geological Survey, up to a quarter of the world's undiscovered reserves could be in arctic regions of the world.

In response to these speculations, the United States, Canada, Russia, Norway, and Denmark are staking claims to the Arctic Ocean more aggressively. The result is good for scientists: "The scientific community is seeing a renaissance in Arctic research," says Garrett Brass of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission.

Engenius competition winners announced

Angela Smiley
Assistant News Editor

On Wednesday, November 30, Engenius Solutions announced the results of its first design competition. The three winners were Robert Tauber, T. J. Kelley, and Ryan Schipper, all Rose-Hulman students. They will split \$5000 in funds earmarked for the further development of their designs, and as many as three additional student submissions may receive comparable funding. Engenius, a student-run organization which focuses on developing designs into marketable products, sponsored the contest to solicit those designs and raise student interest in working on them.

The first place prize winner, sophomore civil engineering major Ryan Schipper, submitted a design for a flood prevention device which the panel felt held particular potential because of recent flooding disasters. He will receive the largest pool of development funds (\$2500), and like the other winners he will work with Engenius on an ongoing basis to complete and implement his design.

T. J. Kelley, who will receive \$1500 in development funds, received the second place prize. "I came here as a



Ken Meyer / Rose Thorn

Chief Executive Officer Bob Bright speaks with contest winners (from left to right) T.J. Kelley, Ryan Schipper, and Robert Tauber.

freshman with an idea... that I really wanted to design and build, but I didn't have the technical know-how or funding," Kelley explained. He felt that his winning design, an alarm clock which uses changing light and sound levels to simulate sunrise, "probably wasn't the one that I liked the most, but it was the most useful." In fact, the

alarm clock was one of several designs that Kelley submitted to the contest. He was pleased for the opportunity to develop his invention, but also expressed no desire to settle down; his current plan is to "get this thing going and designed so that I can move on to another project."

Robert Tauber, a junior biomedical engineering major,

submitted the third place design and will receive \$1000 in funds towards future product development. The design was created by Tauber and another Rose-Hulman student, junior software engineering major Wesley Winham, and was inspired by a conversation about measuring obesity.

Continued on Page 3...

Clubs committed to serve

Alex Clerc
News Editor

Whether it's cleaning up litter in front of the school or building homes for the Terre Haute community, service clubs at Rose-Hulman perform many helpful projects. Featured in this article are the projects of some of the most prominent service clubs on our campus.

The service committee of Residence Hall Association (RHA) organizes Give Up a Meal (GUAM), setup for the campus blood drives, and one large project every quarter. This fall, RHA put on a Halloween party at Ryves Hall youth center which had an attendance of about 85 kids.

Junior mechanical engineering major Arron Foreman, the chair of RHA's service committee, said, "I keep

working with the service committee because I believe that we here at Rose have some of the brightest minds in the world and that is something that we should use to help others. Plus, I really enjoy it."

RHA is open to any on-campus resident and meets Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the Worx.

Senior mechanical engineering major Matt DeVries is the president of Alpha Phi Omega (APO), a coed service fraternity. One of APO's most recent service projects was the Pie-a-Prof on Saturday, November 5. The money raised through this event went to gulf coast hurricane relief. "The coolest project this year," said DeVries, "was helping build a tiger cage for the Exotic Feline Rescue Center in Center Point, IN... it was amazing being able to be within inches



Fred Webber / Rose Thorn

Matt DeVries helps Assistant Professor of Computer Science Mike Wollowski clean up after being pied at the Alpha Phi Omega pie-a-prof.

of a 500-pound cat with only a chain link fence separating us."

Alpha Phi Omega meets ev-

ery Thursday night at 6:30 in the Heritage Room.

Continued on page 3...

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
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Classifieds

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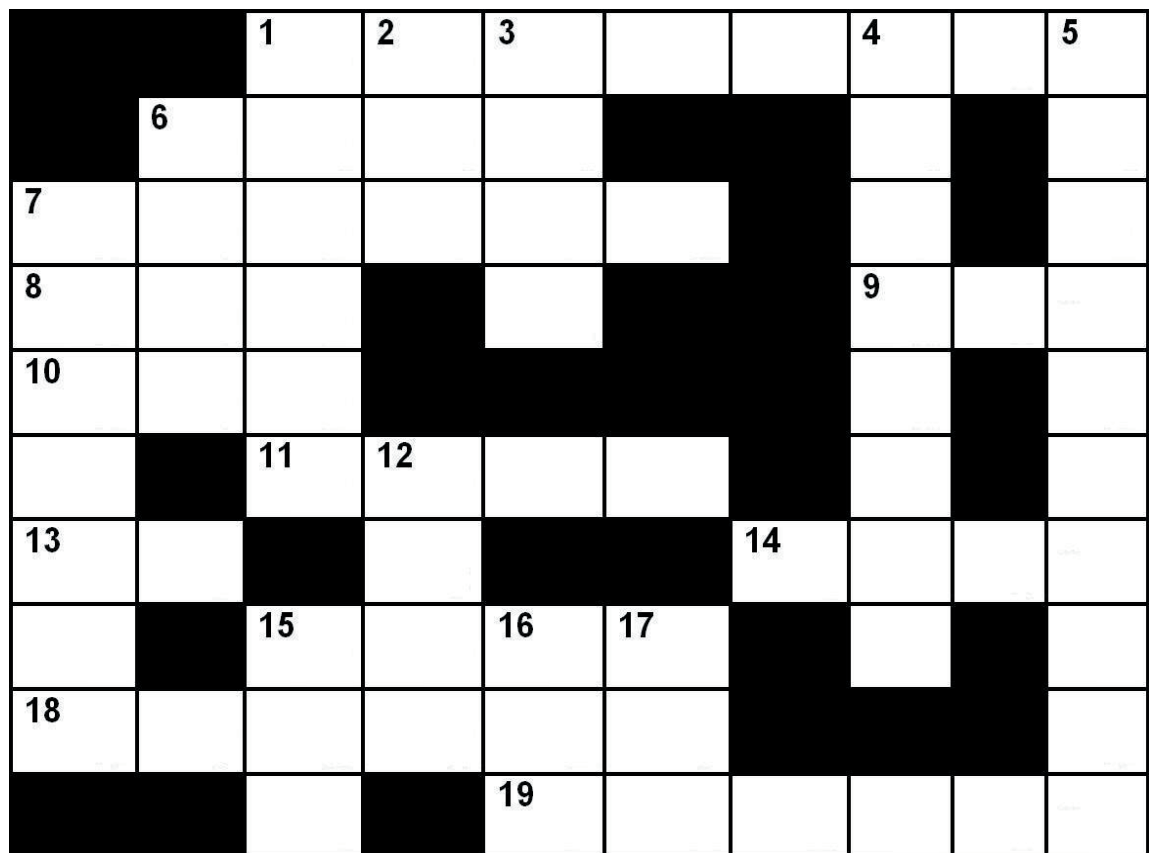
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Crossword Puzzle

Jim Sedoff
Staff Writer



Clues

Across

- 1 Done, ended, kaput; as in Fall Quarter
6 A boozier who prefers France and California to Germany
7 Starting this quarter and this season
8 Group promoting conservative values, but flying military club wants abbr back
9 Fun card game involving Italian singles
10 Can mean small, but in Greek it means pledge that is taken under one's wing
11 Although Terre Haute does not get as much, Alaska and Minnesota are known for this
13 Most likely this will be turned off as the heaters and furnaces come on
14 Used to be called Waters... because of the constant flooding in Crapo basement?
15 What you hope your old textbooks will be after this week, so you can buy new ones
18 Next Thanksgiving, don't eat bread. Stuff it up this bird!
19 The non-romantic language of angry heavy metal bands and some operas

Down

- 1 Before Thanksgiving this week rattled nerves across campus
2 For CSSEs, it means a whole number in code
3 French for Christmas
4 One of many ways to spell the eight-night Festival of Lights
5 Christmas is known for this, for which Rose has a campus-wide competition
6 The Net can be accessed through the 802.11x network, called WLAN or this
7 Rollbacks on prices and -according to some bumper stickers - morals.
12 Think cubbyhole, or corner... Most likely a place where you want to hide
15 _____ Lanka, South of India
16 This part of the bird is popular both at Thanksgiving and county fairs
17 Used for coloring dresses and food

For last week's solution, visit the Humor section of the Thorn Website at <http://rose-hulman.edu/thorn>

Same great stuff...cooler packaging.

Check out our new webpage coming soon!

<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/thorn/>

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"Working to keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information."

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The Rose Thorn welcomes and encourages comments from its readers. We request that all letters to the editor be less than 600 words in length.

THE DEADLINE FOR CONTENT SUBMISSION IS 5 P.M. TWO DAYS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

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The editors reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar, length, and factual errors. The editors reserve the right to accept content changes submitted after deadline.

All letters must contain the writer's signature (electronic form is acceptable) and contact information (e-mail address and/or phone number).

The views expressed in the Rose Thorn are those of the original author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Rose Thorn staff or Rose-Hulman community.

Survey shows key reasons freshmen pick Rose-Hulman

Rose Hulman News

A survey of Rose-Hulman's 2005 freshman class indicates that the quality of the college's engineering and science degrees and the academic reputation Rose-Hulman has earned are the two most important reasons freshmen enrolled at Rose-Hulman.

The survey was completed by 92 percent of the freshmen class. It was created and compiled by the Rose-Hulman Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment. The survey also sought responses from freshmen about their career plans, what they expected to occur during their academic career, the highest academic degree they would attain, and the quality of their high-school education.

Eighty-nine percent listed the quality of engineering and science programs as very important to their decision to attend Rose-Hulman. Next most important was academic reputation, quality of faculty, career services, academic facilities and personal attention.

The results of the survey included the following:

- 99.7 percent anticipated being satisfied with attending Rose-Hulman.
- 99.8 percent anticipated being able to find a career/job in the field for which they were trained.
- 96.6 percent anticipated being actively involved in at least one extracurricular activity.
- 94 percent reported they had access to a computer whenever they wanted prior to coming to Rose Hulman.
- 91.7 percent anticipated seeking opportunities to engage in serious conversation with students of a different race or ethnicity.
- 75 percent intend to attain an academic degree higher than a bachelor's.

Engenius solutions, from Page 1

"He [another student] gave Consome statistic about how many people in America were obese," recalled Tauber. "We looked up how they determined it on Google." The search turned up a lack of inexpensive and accurate Body Mass Index (BMI) measurement devices, a situation which Tauber now hopes to correct.

These winning designs were chosen from 60 entries created by 30 individuals, and were selected by a panel of faculty and staff judges with experience in design and product development. According to Dr. Daniel

Moore, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and chairman of the Engenius Solutions organizational board, the volume of entries was "a good sign."

Junior mechanical engineering major Michael Shepard, Engenius Solutions' Managing Director and the contest's primary coordinator, also indicated that he was impressed with the level of participation. "I think the responses have been absolutely wonderful," he remarked during the awards presentation. Shepard indicated that Engenius plans to pursue even non-winning submissions

by providing two to three with substantial funding and around ten others with 'sandbox' funds, small sums intended to allow designers to further refine their creations. However, he also stressed that Engenius would continue to solicit ideas on an ongoing basis. "We're not going to close shop after this year," he remarked. "There is a high probability that we'll have another [competition]... and our door is open, if they [students] want to talk about an idea they have."

"I knew there were ideas," Shepard remarked. "It's just a matter of getting them out."

Service clubs, from Page 1

The meetings, said DeVries, are open to anyone and there is a fall rush and a spring rush for people who want to join. "Service brought me in, but brotherhood keeps me here. We are more than just friends; we are brothers with the same sense of brotherhood as a social fraternity," said DeVries of his experience with Alpha Phi Omega.

With over 20 full members this year, Circle K has done many projects, including a highway cleanup and homework assistance at the Vigo County Public Library. Senior mechanical engineering major David Radue is the president of the club.

"I have had the most fun with Relay for Life which we participate in every spring. It has proven to be both a service activity

and a chance to relax, hang out with friends, and enjoy a stress-free Saturday." Last year's Relay for Life raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the fight against cancer.

Meetings for Circle K are Wednesdays at 5:45 in the Faculty Dining Room. "We make an effort to keep our meetings relaxed and enjoyable, and once a month we spend our meeting time in Chauncey's to provide a change of pace. We also do a number of social events, both within the club and with other clubs," said Radue.

Habitat for Humanity has over thirty active members and holds one fundraiser every quarter and one workday every quarter.

Junior chemical engineering major Courtney Nickles is the

president of Habitat. She said of Habitat for Humanity, "I wanted to join a group that I know makes a difference in people's lives every day. It is also fun to get away from Rose and get to work on a house and meet Rose students I would have never met otherwise."

Nickles also added, "Anyone is welcome to join... just get on the Rose-Hulman Habitat website and e-mail the secretary to be added."

There is even a group of students trying to form a new service club: a Rose-Hulman chapter of the Lion's Club. Department Head of Physics and Applied Optics Charles Joenathan has recently agreed to serve as the faculty advisor for the group. The group is still in the process of becoming officially recognized.

Professors find new home at Rose

Benjamin Mann
Staff Writer

In the same way a pin setter resets the lane after a perfect strike, Rose-Hulman must continually add new professors to keep the institution in top running shape. This is the fourth in a series of articles dealing with new and visiting professors in the Rose community.

J. Peter Hawkins, Visiting Assistant Professor of Applied Biology and Biomedical Engineering, was an undergraduate at Kalamazoo College in Michigan and received his Doctorate at the University of California in Berkeley.

"This is a dream job," he says about teaching at Rose. "I am surrounded by inspiring and encouraging teachers." Rose is different than most schools as it puts teaching over research for professors.

"Ask good questions in class to keep us on our toes," he encourages all students; it is as much of a learning experience for the teachers as it is for the students.

Lisa Kaczmarczyk, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Software Engineering, is a new professor this year. She attended Tufts University, a private university in Massachusetts, received two Master's degrees from the Northeast University in Boston and from the University of Oregon, and her PhD at the University of Texas in Austin.

She is excited about the amount of undergraduate research available at Rose, and the amount of

effort Rose puts into undergraduates. She has great interests in environmental issues and she says, "Rose gives the opportunity to combine new ideas with computer science," and she hopes to find new ideas to use computers in relation to environmental issues.

"Rose is so dynamic. There are a million things going on... and ideas bouncing around," she says. Elsewhere, it is more difficult to do new things in research, but Rose allows professors and students to try out new ideas.

Alexandru Hening, Visiting Professor of Physics and Optical Engineering, has worked all around the world. He received all of his schooling at the University of Bucharest in his home country of Romania. As a professor and as a research scientist, he has worked in Hungary, Russia, Cehia, UK, Italy, Sweden, Japan, and now the US.

He compares the grades of most students of most schools as a bell curve. There are good students and bad students. This same graph made with Rose students looks more like a brick. "Most all the students are very good. There are very few students who are not." To those students, he suggests that they work hard and remember that other students and professors are here for them.

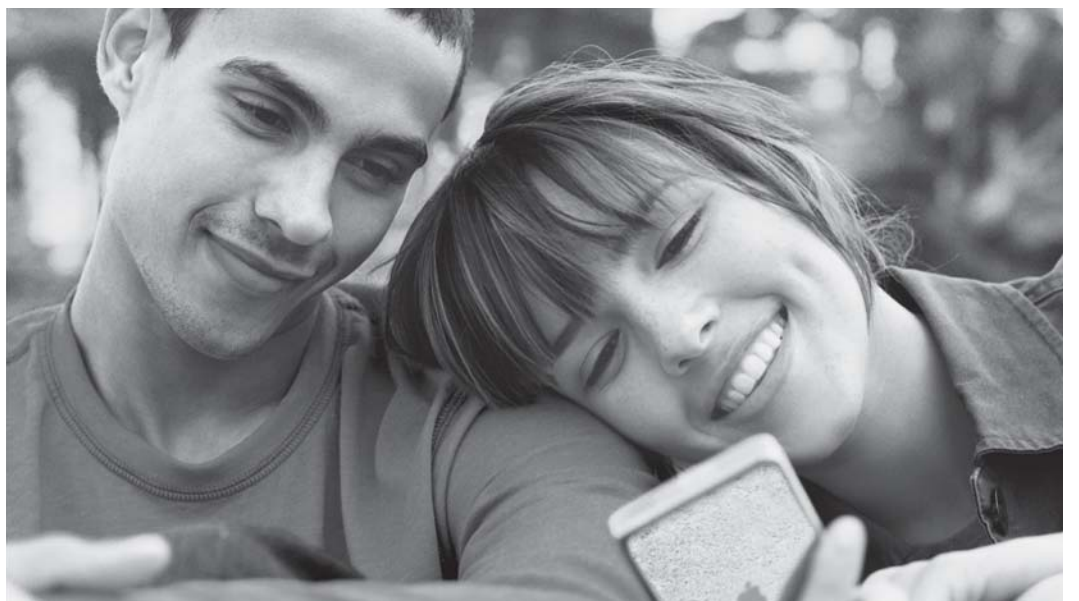
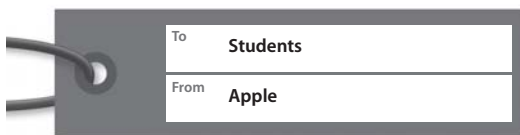
Also, all students should know why they are learning. "I became a scientist to see the world and discover it: physically and scientifically. My reward is knowledge."



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Out In Theatres

Aeon Flux

Starring Charlize Theron
Directed by Karyn Kusama
Rated PG-13

First Descent

Starring Shawn Farmer
Directed by Kemp Curly
& Kevin Harrison
Rated PG-13

The Kid & I

Starring Tom Arnold
Directed by Penelope Speeris
Rated PG-13

Out on DVD

*March of the Penguins**Mr. & Mrs. Smith**Sky High*

"CSI" - 5th Season

Out on CD

The Darkness - *One Way
Ticket to Hell...And Back*

Box Office Tops

1. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*
2. *Walk the Line*
3. *Yours, Mine and Ours*
4. *Chicken Little*
5. *Rent*

Potter is full of emotion

Patrick Barrett
Staff Writer

On my most recent trip to the local cinema, I had the pleasure of being accosted by a teenage girl who mistook me for someone else and probably thought I was high on X. However, once I sorted out the pubescent Potter fan, I sat down to enjoy my movie, but was only greeted by more horny teenagers running around playing grab-ass. The fact of the matter is, Harry Potter and his friends have become horny little teenagers and simply let their raging hormones get the best of them, which they do frequently in the most recent addition to the movie series, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*.

Let me start by saying I haven't read any of these *Harry Potter* books, but I do know that the 4th book is incredibly long and therefore the movie clearly doesn't have everything. Actually I've been told the first 200 pages of the book are glossed over in the first 10 minutes of movie. That's right; we don't get to see the Quidditch World Cup. You know, that fun game that Potter always wins as the seeker.

Well the best seeker in the world is in this game and he can't even win it for his team.

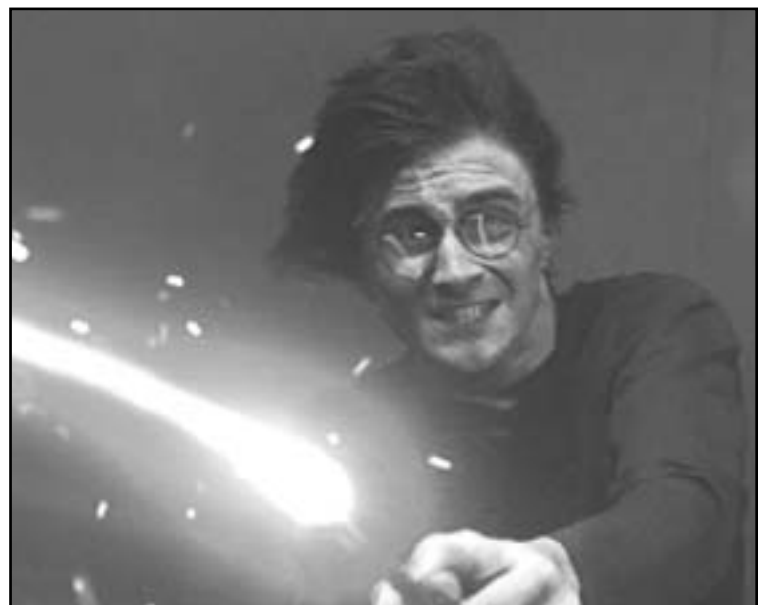
Anyway, maybe *Potter* fans are upset that 200 pages were nearly ignored, but to me the movie seemed fairly complete, and all the basic plot seems to be there.

The main part of this film follows the Triwizard tournament. Anyone who is 17 or older can dare to enter this challenging contest by entering his or her name into the Goblet of Fire, which I guess

Besides the basic flaws ... it's a great film. If I may be so bold, the best of the four.

decides who actually gets to participate. A student from each school gets chosen. But this year somehow a fourth player gets the pleasure, who isn't even old enough and didn't enter himself. However the Goblet of Fire is some "binding magical contract" so he just has to play anyway. Instead of figuring this mystery out they decide to just let it occur.

I do have a couple problems with the series. At one point Harry Potter and his friends are camping in a tent before the Quidditch game. I saw their tent and correctly assumed that the space inside was magically bigger inside. Then when multiple people went inside Harry Potter looked awfully confused as to



<http://movies.about.com/library/weekly/blharrypotter4picsjj.htm>
Daniel Radcliffe has grown into a sorcerer who is actually a little bit intimidating in his angrier moments.

how this could be before entering and discovering himself. He seemed overwhelmed with how amazing this tent was and said he loved magic. For a kid who's been through the first three *Harry Potter* movies he impresses easily.

Secondly after three films of Harry Potter saving the day and being a nice kid with much integrity, many are quick to call him a liar. Even his own friend Ron doesn't believe him. How many times does a guy have to tell the truth for people to start believing

him? It just doesn't add up.

The movie turns out to be a very exciting one. Full of emotional parts far beyond the other three. *Harry Potter* is the man. Full of loving and tender moments, with a great twist at the end. If you haven't seen it yet, do see it at least on DVD. For the rest of you, if you've only seen it once you're behind me, and I'm not even that big a fan. Besides the basic flaws which may be cleared up in the book, it's a great film. If I may be so bold, the best of the four.

Shining Force Neo offers nothing new or old

Michael Jones
Entertainment Editor

The effects of nostalgia can be considerable for anyone with a past they look back on with fondness. The things we did for entertainment when we were young often never go away — kids' movies still hold an important place, music never loses its power, and old video games are just as entertaining now as they once were. Look no further than the number of people who still play Nintendo just as much as Playstation 2 or Xbox.

That being said, it seems like too many game developers don't understand this concept.

Shining Force Neo is just another example of a game that could've had massive nostalgic appeal, but failed to deliver. Place it right in there next to the *Castlevania* series, which still has yet to release another side-scroller like *Symphony of the Night* on Playstation, and the *Metroid Prime* games for Gamecube, which were enjoyable but couldn't quench the longing for another *Super Metroid*. I mean seriously, think about how cool it would be if Nintendo just released *Mario 4*.

The *Shining Force* series thrived on a tactics/strategy-based battle system during its days on the

Sega Genesis and Saturn systems. Players controlled a high number of allies who were all uniquely useful. For *Neo*, Sega actually decided to move into a real-time, action based fighting system. What this amounts to is that you hack away at uncountable enemies while you have no control over your allies. Think of it as a sword and sorcery version of *Dynasty Warriors* without all the combo moves. The result is that battling feels not only uncontrollable, but unintelligent. Outcomes of a fight pretty much depend on the stats of your characters, not strategy. Fighting is extremely repetitive, and offers nothing different from every other action RPG out there.

Back to your allies. As mentioned above, you used to control a lot of characters during battles. In *Neo*, not only do you not control your allies during combat, but you're only allowed to have 2 in your party at a time. On top of that, you don't control their abilities or equipment. So even though party members fight intelligently, you don't feel like they're your responsibility at all.

The story is pretty much classic RPG material. Max, the main character, wants to become a Force (a strong warrior who protects those weaker than him).

After his training, Max returns home to Greensleeves to see his father and childhood friend Meryl, who Max continually denies any romantic intentions toward. Predictably, the town gets attacked by monsters and the story of saving the world unfolds from there. The most annoying thing about the plot is that it tries to spell everything out for you, leaving little to the imagination.

Dialogue also runs into the same problem. Characters often repeat a point like you didn't catch the implication the first time around. One specific example that comes to mind is a dungeon where monsters are taunting that their master is going to put someone "in his stomach". Meryl responds by asking them if he's going to eat them, like it wasn't obvious enough. The dialogue is also voiced over, but I actually ended up turning it off because a couple of the voices are very irritating, so it actually doesn't end up adding much to the game.

Nothing in *Shining Force Neo* particularly separates it from other action RPG games. The graphics are decent, but not great. The sound and music aren't anything to get worked up about. The story is typical and fighting is repetitive. So it begs this question: If you're not going to do anything original in a series, why not just leave it the way it was? At least then you're appealing to those players that loved the originals. Instead Sega has released a game that isn't new or old enough to be interesting.

Madonna has beat-filled fun

Louis Virtel
The Dailey Iowan (U. Iowa)

Madonna made her first musical mistake in a decade with 2003's *American Life*, an album billed as a biting political statement that in reality was a call to believe Madonna had somehow seen it all. After striking out, Madonna returns to striking a pose with her newest disc, *Confessions on a Dance Floor*.

It's difficult to believe *Confessions*, touted on her website as an album with "no ballads, no message, just dance," isn't a crafty version of pandering to fans and critics who found Madonna too clinically serious with her last LP. Calculations aside, the album still grooves with tracks that meld into one another like remixed cuts on a DJ's playlist. Strutting from the start on the ABBA-sampling sugar high of "Hung Up," the album's first single, Madonna is invigorated and plucky, the way one might remember her from the rodeo disco of 2000's "Music". While much of the album's sound is layered and pulsating, too much of it wears the same layers. The mellow songs on *Confessions* become mere segues between the album's exciting moments.

Packing as much sass as her \$2,000 diamond eyelashes, the line also indicates Madonna's now-routine belief in her own hype. Continuing a trend begun on 1998's self-consciously mature but powerful *Ray of Light* and kicked into grating gear on

2003's *American Life*, Madonna readily sings oft-repeated words of praise regarding her career and plays them off as novel or defiant. The 21st century marks an era of Madonna in which the superstar spends most of her time singing about superstardom. This mode of songwriting makes these poutier tracks reactive and worlds away from the exhilaration of past Madonna pearls such as "Open Your Heart" and "Vogue." That isn't to say "Confessions" lacks fun, because razzle-dazzle romps such as "Jump" and "Push," (the latter of which dares to sample the Tom-Tom Club and Madonna's own "Like a Prayer") and "I Love New York" (which dares to rhyme "York" with "dork") keep heads thumping.

The album's most mysterious moment, "Isaac," named for the track's male voice, combines an Eastern meditation with exotic strings. It's not as moving as Madonna's previous "spiritual" songs, such as "Frozen" and "Secret," but it's the most energized moment on *Confessions*, aside from "Hung Up."

Even if Madonna needs super-slick production to prove she can still have fun, her plea is not a nuisance during the majority of the album. The fact is, audiences can still have fun, and *Confessions* provides careening beats, aeronautical atmospherics, and Madonna's empowering command. The iPod generation finally receives a chance to get into the groove with pop music's kinkiest Kabbalist.

The art of someone else's mail

Gregory Weir
Humor Editor

Early this week, I received a package. Inside was a rubber-banded bundle of mail addressed to a Sgt. Maria Vasquez of Arlington, VA. I eagerly opened it and closely examined each piece; the advertisements, the letters, and the academic journal on cryptozology. It was about what I expected.

What was scattered across the deck in my dorm room was Issue 17 of *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*, a literary journal originally intended to publish only works rejected from other magazines. Over the years *McSweeney's* has evolved into a periodical that is avant-garde and pretentious apparently because it's fun to be that way. Previous issues have included a collaboration with They

Might Be Giants, a volume dedicated to graphic novels (graphic short stories?), and, in the case of issue number 16, a comb.

McSweeney's charm, its tongue-in-cheek pretentiousness, is unfortunately also its biggest weakness. Some of the stories included in the issue (and yes, they're there, turning up in the most interesting places) come across as dull and academic, and one entire group of yeti-related false narratives is well-crafted enough that I have yet to see the joke or the point.

There are gems, however. One graphic short story about a pair of human shields during Operation Iraqi Freedom is moody and haunting, a certain satire of a particularly bothersome division of the Department of Homeland Security is hilarious, and the

McSweeney's
Quarterly Concern
Issue 17

Rating: 4/5 stars

Cost: \$22.00
\$55.00 for
subscription



Gregory Weir/Rose Thorn

Every piece of mail appears to be authentically sent through the postal system.

bundle contains a prospective periodical, an envelope entitled Envelope, filled with reproductions of new art, several of which are very excellent.

All things considered, I made a good choice when I began my subscription to *McSweeney's* with Issue 17, and I would recommend a subscription to anyone

who is interested in good literary works with a big helping of good-natured pretentiousness thrown in. Keep in mind, however, that the subscription will start with Issue 18, so if you want your own bundle of mail, you'll have to order it separately.

For more information, go to <http://www.mcsweeneys.net>.

Spoiler Warning

Issue 17 includes:

- An ad from Pantalaine for clothing designed for more than one person.
- A letter with photographic evidence of red cars and perch.
- A letter with a Nigerian scam and a short story.
- An issue of the *Yeti Researcher*.
- An issue of *Unfamiliar*.
- A sausage-basket catalog
- A large envelope, called Envelope.
- A helpful luggage contents checklist.



http://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/walk_the_line

Joaquin Phoenix, as Cash, plays to inmates in *Walk the Line*.

Cash becomes human in *Walk the Line*

Marissa Weltmer
Daily Titan (Cal-State Fullerton)

Johnny Cash: a legend, a songwriter, father, husband, adulterer, drug addict and a religious man. Cash could do anything and be whoever he wanted to be.

Walk the Line captures the beginning of Cash's life and career. The movie depicts his childhood and his rocky relationship with his father, his interest in music as a child, and the departure from his home when he left for the Air Force.

The movie is based on Cash's autobiography and personal stories passed down to his son John Carter-Cash, who is Johnny Cash and June Carter's son.

Joaquin Phoenix eerily becomes Johnny Cash. His attitude, demeanor, guitar playing, and even his voice are just like Cash's own. Before Cash and Carter died they were working with the screenwriter. Cash reportedly specifically wanted Phoenix to play him.

Reese Witherspoon played June Carter and brought the humor and strength that epitomized the country starlet.

The movie followed the troubled road that brought the pair together, from buying his first guitar to convincing his first wife to marry him, as well as his inspiration for *Folsom Prison Blues* and living a life in front of the public eye.

There were great expectations for the film and it surpassed them. The most important detail was the music. Phoenix seemed to encompass Cash's persona and it seemed as if legend himself might have been in the movie.

The movie helped describe the personal troubles Cash, including his drug problems. It delved into the personal love story of Cash and Carter and all the passion they had for one another.

It goes through the evolution of their relationship, including his first wife's struggles with his infidelity. Although it was difficult to take positively, it seemed natural watching Cash and Carter's story unfold, even though Cash had a wife and family.

The movie's continued theme is music and its importance in Cash's life, with the appearances of Elvis Presley (Tyler Hilton) and Buddy Holly (Jonathan Rice).

As the audience watches the legend's life unfold onscreen, Cash becomes human. He felt despair, happiness and had pitfalls like everyone, however fantastic his life may have been. But the movie does hit an abrupt end and leaves the audience wondering about the life Johnny Cash spent with June Carter, as well as his well-publicized troubles after her death. Despite this minor nit-pick, *Walk the Line* is an incredible movie and one worth seeing.



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9,000 burning cars can't be wrong



Here's
your new
opinion

Aaron Meles
Opinions Editor

Earlier this month, the hill-sides of France were on fire for nearly three weeks as race riots rocked nearly 300 towns and cities across the country, consuming almost 9,000 cars and multiple public buildings in fire-bomb-induced pyres. According to The Associated Press, the riots were allegedly triggered when two immigrant teenagers died while fleeing from the police in a suburb outside of Paris known to have a high North African Muslim population. However, the unrest soon spread to neighboring towns, and soon the riots had nothing to do with the two deaths that originally started it.

A far more deeply-seated issue was being violently protested in France: racial discrimination. The BBC reports that while the French unemployment rate for those of French origin is 9.2%, the rate for those of foreign background – even after adjusting for educational qualifications – is 14%. (Compare this to the United States' 5.5% unemployment rate.)

This number has little to do with the motivation of the immigrants. Most French retail and hospitality employers will not hire Muslims based on the belief that customers of French

descent will be less receptive to an employee with foreign ancestry. In a recent study, the pressure group SOS Racisme also discovered that "some companies believe that to be responsible for marketing you must have roots in mainland France over several generations to understand the French consumer attitudes." In fact, citizens of Arab descent find that they are not only excluded from the job market, but from most facets of French social life as well, such as popular night clubs.

It is a comfort to me that the country that seems to spearhead the European campaign of anti-Americanism has finally had to experience a terrifying nationwide emergency. Furthermore, while France has shown that it can be quite outspoken when it comes to informing other countries how to deal with worldwide problems such as the Iraq War, it was completely helpless to respond to one contained within its own borders.

Not only has the French government proven its ineptitude at handling crisis, but French culture has also failed to live up to the internationally accepting and diverse picture that the nation's global cage rattling implies. While the U.S. has had its share of civil rights problems in the past, France seems decades behind, harboring extreme racist attitudes that are most obvious in hiring practices.

It is also shocking that the French government has been either unwilling or unable to respond to such blatant societal problems. Legislating a law to amend this problem would be relatively easy, and it is hard to imagine any politician who

would oppose such an obvious step for civil rights.

Three weeks of rioting have exposed a gaping wound in French society. Not only is the government's capability of handling a national emergency severely handicapped, but it has ignored the plight of thousands of immigrants who cannot overcome the persecution of their fellow countrymen. In the following months, the French people will have a lot of work to do in ensuring that their society is truly egalitarian. Hopefully, the world will take the insults and verbal attacks of the French government even less seriously than they did before.



<http://direland.typepad.com>

Like this car, young immigrants in France are burning for equality

1000 Words by Erin Hudson



Half-time boreDome

Ryan Schultz
Staff Writer

As part of the deal to use Rose-Hulman's facilities, the Colts also agreed to sponsor two full-tuition scholarships for minority students to Rose-Hulman. Terrific. I think that's very generous of the Colts, even though the scholarship will never apply to me. Now apparently, part of that deal was to air a short commercial during the home games in the RCA Dome that told the world that the Colts had this scholarship. Great idea for publicity... and a great prop to Rose.

Rose's web site has a new video feature where you can watch this advertisement. So, being the curious fellow I am, I clicked on the link and watched the video (as I suggest you do before you continue reading).

Long story short, that video is about as interesting as the topic it covers. Don't get me wrong, if I were lucky enough to have

earned a nearly-free ride to Rose, I would be ecstatic. But the video itself is dry, boring, and lacks the punch that I feel it would need to make a half-time "I'm gettin' me another Bud" crowd actually look up and pay attention. Even in my own room I was wondering when it was going to end!

If I were going to design a video, I would make it as flashy as possible and still have the minority scholarship be the focus. Loud music, loud graphics, neat transitions, the whole shebang; I would have it up there. That type of ad is the only way to possibly hold the attention of 57,837 rabid Colts fans.

I suppose it's too late now to do anything about it for this football season, but maybe, just maybe, if the Colts make it to the Superbowl, the Rose spot will air on national television. That would be uber. If not, there's always next year to release a more jazzed-up version.

A rant on butter

Gregory Weir
Humor Editor

For a long time, I thought that the crumbs in the butter at the student cafeteria were just the result of laziness or a lack of respect for other students. However, after discovering Monday morning that there was butter on the wrong end of the knife, I realized that these difficulties could only be attributed to gross butter-related incompetence. In the interest of improving butter conditions and promoting better butter knowledge and techniques, I've

written up a list of some helpful butter tips.

- The typical utensil to use for the butter is a knife. You hold onto the rounded "handle" or "grip." The flattened and sometimes sharp and/or serrated end is the "blade," and should be used to get the butter.

- The proper butter technique is to scoop up some butter with the communal knife, then scrape it off with your own knife. Your own knife is the only utensil that should be used to spread butter on anything.

- Never, under any circum-

stances, use a knife that is dirty with crumbs or jelly to acquire butter.

- Use care to avoid spilling or dropping anything into the butter. We all have clumsy moments, but a little bit of care will prevent most incidents.

- Do not pick up butter with: bread, meat, drinking glasses, bananas, your mouth, other students, or acid core solder.

I hope that these tips will create a better communal dining experience for everybody. Enjoy your meal, but remember that others need to enjoy theirs after you!

Does your professor gesture
menacingly with a riding crop?
E-mail: opinions@rose-hulman.edu

Rose-Hulman handles Cal Maritime, earns CalTech Tourney title

Rose Hulman News

The Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology women's basketball team captured its first ever tournament championship with a 69-37 victory over Cal Maritime in the championship game of the CalTech Thanksgiving Tournament on Saturday.

Junior Rebekah Forsyth led Rose-Hulman with 22 points on 11-12 from the field, while sophomore Jill Floyd added 20 points and a career-high seven rebounds.

Sophomore Candace Procter helped ignite the Engineer offense with a school record tying 10 assists, knotting the mark by Molly McKeown in a 2002 win over Millsaps.

Rose-Hulman set another school record by shooting 62.5% from the field as a team in the win, including a 19-26 performance in the first half for 73.1%.

Other key contributors for the Engineers included junior Suzy Carlson with nine points and three assists; senior Anna Guy with five points, four rebounds, four assists and four steals; and sophomore Katie Tharp with seven points and two steals.

"It's exciting to get our first ever tournament victory, and I



Rose-Hulman News
Jill Floyd had 20 points and a career-high seven rebounds in the victory.

think the players are really happy. Hopefully we have turned the corner with two solid performances this week, because next weekend will be a challenge," said Rose-Hulman head coach Tony Hill.

Rose-Hulman improved to 2-3 on the season and returns to action in their Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference openers at Rhodes and Hendrix this weekend.

Second half spurt falls short in 61-54 loss to Franklin

Rose Hulman News

Franklin College senior Nick Kane scored 31 points and the Grizzlies withstood a second-half charge to earn a 61-54 victory over Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in men's basketball action on Tuesday night.

Kane finished 10-15 from the field and 11-16 from the foul line with nine rebounds and three blocks to lead the Franklin effort.

Senior Munchie Muskeyvalley paced Rose-Hulman with 16 points and a game-high eight assists in 40 minutes of action.

Junior Jason Bednarko added nine points, senior Brennan Dunville scored eight points and freshman Nathan Hedrick had a career-high seven points for the Engineers.

Franklin held the Engineers to just 29% from the field in the opening 20 minutes to earn a 23-16 halftime advantage. The Grizzlies led by as many as 11 points in the opening half, before Rose-Hulman scored four straight points to

close the opening 20 minutes. Nathan Hedrick pitched in with a career-high seven points for the Engineers.

The second half turned into an offensive shootout, with Franklin shooting 65% from the field and Rose-Hulman hitting 50% of their attempts. The Engineers relied on an 11-3 run to open the second half to claim a 27-26 lead on a three-pointer by Bednarko at the 16:54 mark.

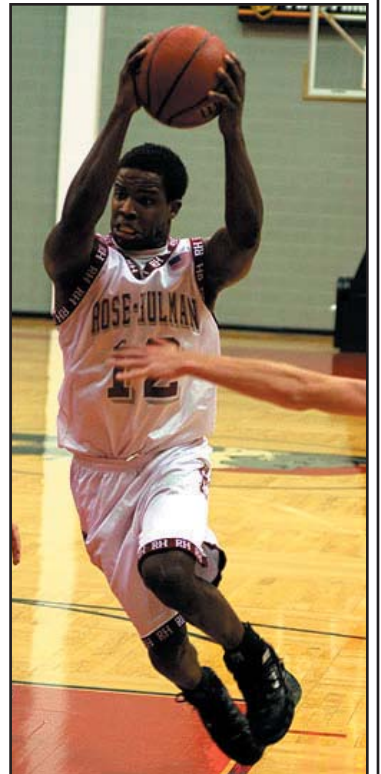
The Engineers pushed the lead to three points at 33-30 on a trey by Muskeyvalley, then added three-point leads at 35-32 on a layup by Dunville and 37-34 on a field goal by junior David Yaraschewski, who had a team-high eight rebounds. Rose-Hulman pushed the lead to as many as six on a three-pointer by Muskeyvalley with 5:44 remaining.

Franklin answered with 10 straight points to claim a 56-50 advantage with 1:45 remaining, with Kane scoring five straight to close the rally.

The Engineers closed to within four points on a pair of free



Rose-Hulman News
Nathan Hedrick pitched in with a career-high seven points for the Engineers.



Rose-Hulman News
Munchie Muskeyvalley had 16 points and eight assists in the narrow loss.

throws by Dunville with 1:26 left, but the Grizzlies hit five free throws down the stretch for the final margin of victory.

Franklin improved to 2-1 on the season, while Rose-Hulman dropped to 2-3. The Engineers open the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference season with a trip to Rhodes on Friday and Hendrix on Sunday.



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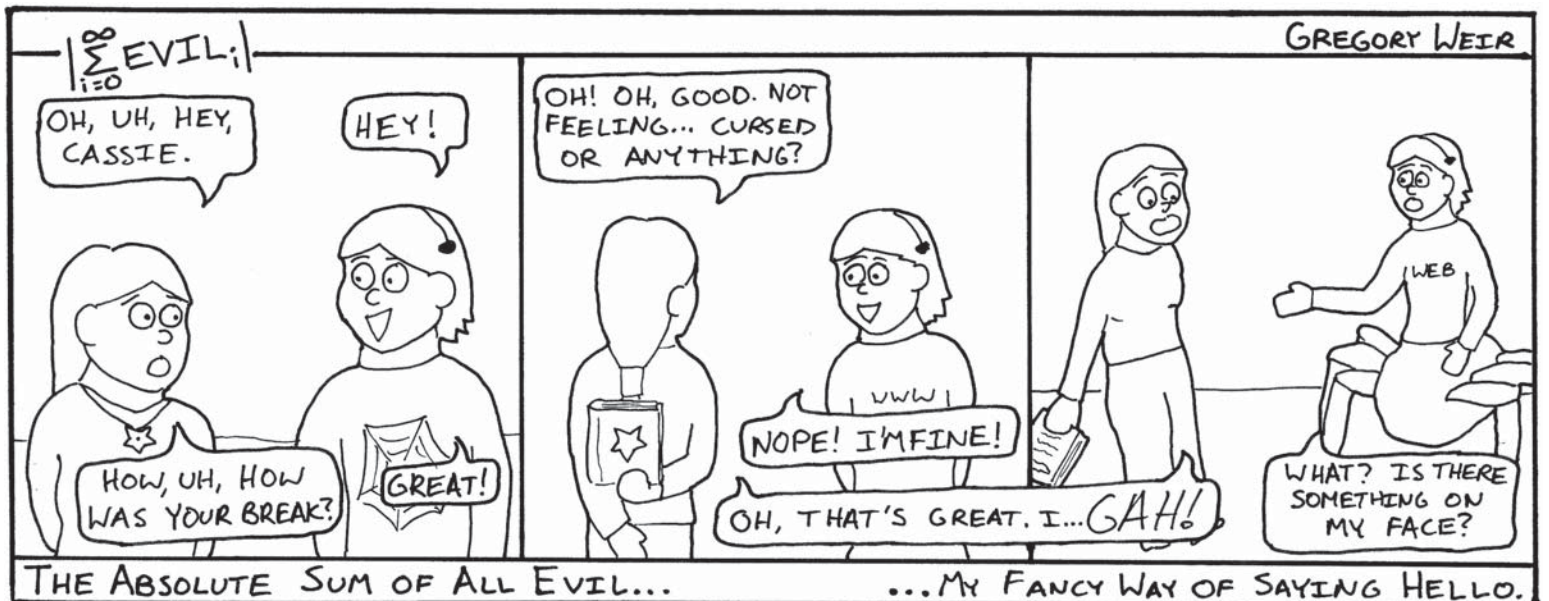
Computer Science Lab F225

This Day in History

In 1954, Senator Joseph R. McCarthy is condemned for conduct unbecoming of a senator by the Senate. But as we all know, it is a Communist plot, and when McCarthy ferrets out the evildoers, his reputation is restored for all time.

In Addition

Until further notice, code 56K78G4 is no longer in use. Contact your usual base station for new codebooks, encryption software, and crypto-bobbleheads. Additionally, station 34R may have been compromised. Act accordingly.



Hail to the Keith

Alex Clerc
News Editor

all, the next leader of Rose-Hulman should have a deep understanding of our school.

The decision of who our next president should be is not an easy one. Few worthy external candidates have come forward so far (among them being Mikhail Gorbachev and that guy who played MacGyver). For the class of '07, the next president will be the fourth school leader they have had. This time around, wouldn't it be nice if instead of conducting a lengthy national search for our next big cheese, someone would rise from our own ranks and become an internal candidate? After



Alex Clerc / Rose Thorn
If Keith is chosen, he pledges to reduce Rose tuition to zero.

But who among us could be president? Evidently, someone thought I could and nominated me. While it is true that I possess the intelligence, charisma, muscle tone, and cojones (that's Spanish for balls) needed for this position, a few weaknesses will prevent me from being an effective president (these include my record of public indecency, my crippling addiction to anime porn, and my embar-

rassing flatulation). No, I can't be president. But I know someone who can. Everyone on campus knows him, and if you're on the meal plan, you probably need his services every single day. No, I'm not talking about Dr. Bob from Health Services (though that would be a good guess). I'm talking about none other than Keith from the ARA.

Would Keith be an awesome president, or what? He has charisma, style, a sense of humor, and everybody knows him – after all he's worked here for 23 years. We need to get Keith out of that red shirt and into a suit. We need a president we can trust, relate to, and even joke around with. The students want it; nay, the students demand it! I'm not even going to recognize our next Commander in Chief unless I'm hailing to the Keith!

The useful advice of John Dullard

Philip Becker
Staff Writer
(writing as)
John Dullard
Advice Columnist

Hello Rose-Hulmians! It's John Dullard, back for another action-oriented quarter chock full of advice. No, please hold the applause.

Monday I stepped out of my dorm and sucked in a sweet breath of crisp winter air. It was time for my second quarter this year, which makes it just enough to run the dryer. I began to walk to class and the cold really hit me. My winter coat wasn't very effective, so I read the bottle and realized it was meant for waxing cars. Seasonal products constantly confuse me.

But as I approached Moench, I felt something slap against the back of my head. It slowly oozed down the back of my neck. It was like when I was in elementary school and people would act like they cracked an egg on your head by thumping you with their fist and running their fingers down your face. Well, with the slight difference that the closest person to me was 30 yards away. He stared at me with an icy glare (I think he should have worn a hat of sorts). In his left hand they had a carton and in his right they were tossing an egg, presumably taken from the carton. Emblazoned across his sweater were the expertly stitched words, "I heart Alex Clerc." Except he had a heart-shape there instead of the word itself. I thought it was cute.

So I said to this fine fellow, "Yeah. I like his stuff too. You know I work on the paper with him?" *FWAP* Yeah, that's the sound of his egg smashing against my forehead. I thought back to this trick I picked up from the late Mr. Miyagi. I extended both my arms and lifted my left knee, "You want some of this, pretty boy?" Well, I would have said that, but as if orchestrated by the lifting of my knee, 80 people came out from every conceivable place armed with eggs and T-shirts with the same words written on them.

After the carnage was over, I sat wallowing in eggs. One of the most beautiful girls I've ever laid eyes on walked up to me. She knelt down next to me and looked me into the eye to say, "I think it's time we see other people."

"But we aren't even dating," I said in a manner that exhibited my confusion. "I saw you checking me out at lunch the other day, and it makes me feel awkward," she informed me and then walked out of my life forever. I sat there stunned.

I called back to her, "ROOOOOOSE GOGGLES!" But it was too late; she was out of earshot. Then it started to rain. This was going to be a rough quarter.

So I was wondering if anyone had any advice on how to convince a teacher to count "worst day ever" as an excused absence when I smell like eggs?

Send your advice to
flipside@rose-hulman.edu,
subject: "Help for John!"

Wacky Prof Quotes

"The man at the gun show said that his biggest seller was the leather restraints. He showed me how to use them."
-- Prof. Stienstra, who now knows how to use restraints

"...just sitting there saying, 'come... do me!'"
-- Prof. Evans, on doing

"The harder I suck, the greater the mass flow."
-- Prof. Mech, who must have a low mass flow

"I'm trying to be less confident."
-- Prof. McMurdy, you fail

"Usually if you smack it, it works better. Just like a kid."
-- Prof. Stienstra, who is a horrible person

"You're gonna go home crying!"
-- Prof. Ferguson, stating course objectives

"On your evaluations, if you want to say 'Throne sucks', say something they don't know, like 'Throne sucks because...'"
-- Prof. Throne, because he can

"So when I'm deciding final grades I start thinking, 'are you the guy that made me sweaty?'"
-- Prof. Evans, who gets sweaty

"All constants are named George."
-- Prof. Rader, who's creative

"I love you and appreciate you, and you're very special to me."
-- Prof. Ferguson, who likes his students

"Also remember my good friend Gonorrhoea. I'm only saying that because it's interesting to look at."
-- Prof. Coppinger, who likes looking at gonorrhoea

"Why don't we just all take our clothes off, huh?"
-- Prof. Bryan, keeping an informal classroom atmosphere

"Size matters, but how big does it have to be?"
-- Prof. Inlow, on the central limit theorem, maybe

Send your prof quotes or other humor material to
flipside@rose-hulman.edu

Entry 121

Little did I know when the events began to occur that by the end of the month, I would be trapped in this place, my food supply slowly dwindling and the notes of the mad caretaker my only reading material. What sort of mind would generate such ramblings? I will attempt to reproduce such in this journal, but my steady hand does not begin to approximate the horrific scrawl of that lazy-eyed hermit. However, an excerpt follows.

The walls of caroling draw between, their mouths twisting the clarion call of sickness, a cry of "cluran dun chackal, turan du dach, schultchi tor!" As the dreamies drop downward, the clinging of nearly graniting, the curled fear-lesless drink deeply of their pain.

Top ten ways to lose the weight you gained over break

Aaron Meles
Opinions Editor

1. Take up nerd running – it's a fast, efficient, aerobic way to get to class and gain the respect of your fellow students all at the same time
2. Make a documentary about your body's reaction to eating nothing but ARA for a month
3. Try dying to lose that unseemly 21 grams you just can't seem to shed
4. Go to the SRC, watch people work out, sit on a stationary bike for five minutes, then awkwardly leave
5. Start using cigarettes: eating them has little nutritional value, but oh, do they fill you up
6. Burn massive amounts of calories by doing all your homework with one of those giant half-inch diameter, foot-and-a-half long pencils
7. Carry around a bottle of fragrant Scum Pond water in order to help induce vomiting after every meal
8. Use Hertz as an example of how not to look in order to be avoid being a reprehensible example of a human being
9. Reduce your mouse sensitivity so your hand has to move faster and farther to get to where you want to click
10. Lose your appetite by looking at the syllabi for all your new classes at once