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Rose-Hulman Scholar

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Administration discusses underage drinking...

Ryan Schultz
News Editor

When it comes to alcohol, Rose-Hulman is no different than many other schools throughout the nation; it's present and it's readily available to students of all grades and ages. This rampant availability, coupled with the drinking that occurs in the residence halls by underclassmen, begs the question: what exactly does the administration think about all of this? And what do they do to care for the students?

The official policy on alcohol consumption on Rose's campus is given in the academic handbook: "The Institute believes that the development of self-discipline, individual responsibility and respect for law will be enhanced by entrusting to students a greater responsibility for compliance with State law and by the removal of complete prohibitions which are not enforceable in practice."

Erik Hayes, Director of Residence Life, summarizes the policy as follows, "If you're under 21, alcohol is not allowed."

However, as is common in many of the residence halls on campus, the official rules do not always apply. Hayes explains, "We do not have a policy where we actively go door-to-door on a Friday night to check and make sure people are not drinking. We'd rather have them here, instead of off campus, for their own safety." Hayes is quick to point out that leniency does not mean that students are free to roam the hall, beer in hand: "Alcohol is not allowed in any of the public areas on campus. Doesn't matter if you're a minor or not."

One of the common misconceptions on campus is that the administration is more-or-less lackadaisical toward minors consuming alcohol on campus. Pete Gustavson, Dean of Students, explains that that perception could not be

farther from the truth, "We have stricter policies now than we did 20 years ago."

So, if the policies are stricter than they once were, what action is taken against students who choose to drink? "That could go anywhere from a verbal warning from myself," Hayes explains, "to, for a large disruption, community service, a letter of apology, and contacting that student's parents. We will also put drunk students on probation for the rest of a quarter if they are being disruptive and people are trying to sleep."

Hayes is quick to point out that

since the RAs do not actively search for alcohol in rooms, "generally, if you're getting caught drinking, you're being busted for something else."

And that "busting" comes from students who are disrupted by those who choose to drink. While Hayes (and RAs) normally encourage students to settle their own conflicts (like if somebody is listening to their stereo too loud), the policy drastically changes when it comes to dealing with students who are intoxicated. "We don't encourage students to go to the

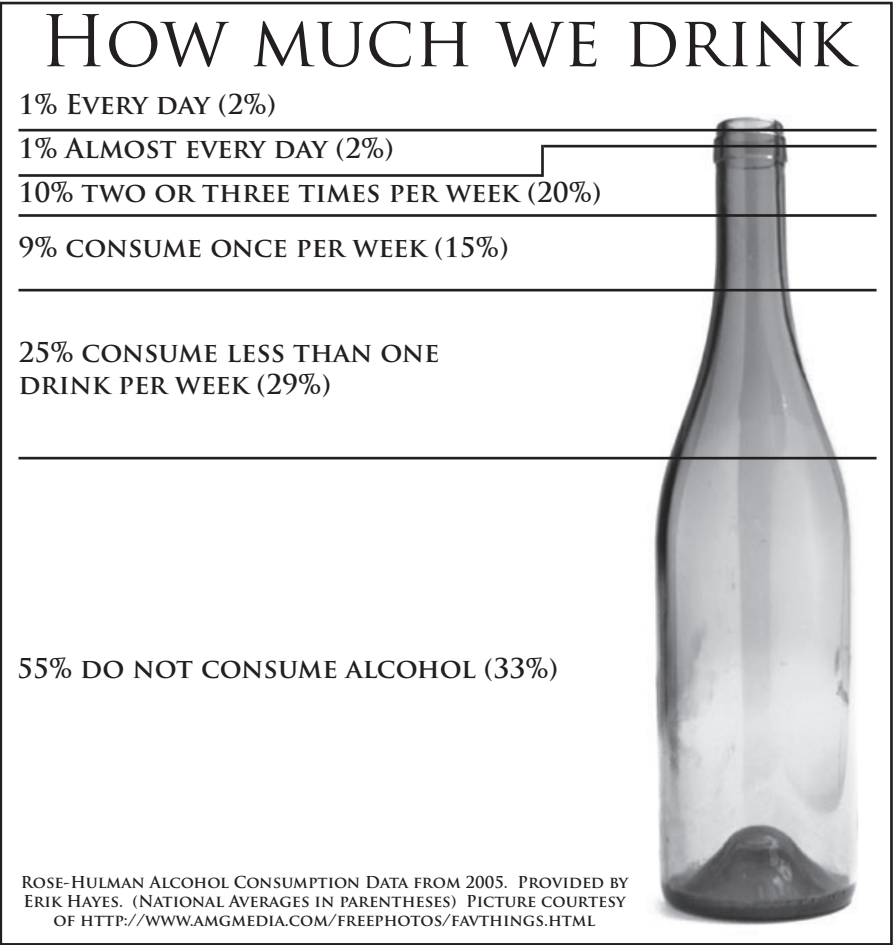
source in that case," said Hayes. "If it's a repetitive thing, students can go to their RA anonymously and the RA will settle the problem." Hayes also points out that different floors develop different personalities over the course of the year, giving the RAs better insight into how to handle each of the individual situations as they arise.

All RAs are trained in CPR and are also trained to handle alcohol poisoning. "The RAs have a list of what to do and what not to do when somebody might be intoxicated," Hayes explains. "I tell them that they don't make enough money to judge whether or not somebody is in trouble, so the first thing they do is call me, I call public safety, and we come over to check on the student. I've had teams of students stay up all night to make sure that the person in trouble doesn't take a turn for the worst. The RAs know the signs and they know who to call."

But sometimes, more drastic measures must be used to protect a student. Hayes explains, "If it's to the point where the RAs feel [a student is] in danger, we take them to the hospital, contact their parents, and then the student is required to take a weekend alcohol education course in a program that is well-established in Terre Haute. In the past, we've even sent students to Alcoholics Anonymous."

While on campus, students have dozens of opportunities for educating themselves about the risks of alcohol consumption. Hayes said, "I have a whole file on alcohol education. And students can always go to the counseling service for more information."

"Our primary goal is to keep our students safe," Hayes explains. "Our students are good students. When you come to college, you're going to be exposed to drinking. If a student is going to drink or experiment with alcohol, I would prefer for them to be on our campus. We can check on them."



...while freshmen learn firsthand

Jessica Rogers
Staff Writer

Lissa Avery
Editor-In-Chief

Many schools have punishments for underage drinking ranging from a verbal warning to required rehabilitation and the possibility of expulsion. The Student Handbook at Rose reminds students that "it is unlawful for any person to sell, furnish, give or cause to be sold, furnished or given away any alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of 21 years." However, Rose supports a generally lenient policy on alcoholic beverages that is stated in the Handbook as, "Alcoholic beverages may not be used by students on the campus except within the privacy of their own living quarters."

Ellen Morrison, a freshman biomedical engineering student, believes the policy

makes campus safer because it gives students the freedom to call their Resident Advisor (RA) without fear of punishment if they have been drinking. This keeps drunken students from feeling a need to drive home. It also allows the RA to address any potential problems with alcohol abuse in the halls and permits students to have a freedom to stay on campus rather than leaving to drink and attempting to come back.

Freshman civil engineering student Andrew Palmer has a different look on the policy. "I think it's weak, but I don't know how to fix it." He feels that it is too easy to drink in residence halls due to a lack of serious consequences.

Other schools have a little or no tolerance policy and Palmer believes that Rose should do something about the leniency. He feels drunken students are a

distraction to people who do not drink, since as long as a student is not drinking in the hallway and has their door closed, RAs typically do nothing to stop it.

The policy can also lead to peer pressure problems. "I was sick of defending myself to everyone," says chemical engineering student Mandy Kronmiller. She had never consumed alcohol prior to coming to Rose and took her first drink on her 19th birthday, after the pressure from friends got to her. "Back home, I was always really busy and didn't have time to think about drinking. None of my close friends did it and it was never an issue."

The big question is: If freshmen are all under twenty-one, how do they get alcohol? When asked about alcohol access, both Morrison and Kronmiller commented that all you need is an upperclassman.

"It is super easy for girls to get alcohol," commented Kronmiller, "They don't have to pay at parties ever." Morrison also commented that guys will buy alcohol for girls but if a person wants "the good stuff" they have to buy it themselves.

Many students interviewed, even those who refrain from drinking, agreed that the pressure of the workload of Rose may be a reason their peers drink. They also agreed that if a student was responsible about their alcohol consumption, their academics would not be negatively impacted by their drinking.

According to Rutgers Health Services, the human body can metabolize approximately one alcoholic drink an hour. In that time, judgment can be impaired and a lack of coordination can lead to injuries. There are also the potential legal consequences of drinking underage, including heavy fines and loss of one's driver's license.

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
SIG looks at some pretty greek letters.	Like Chinese food?	Who is the man that would risk his neck for his brother man?	Rose tops Manchester.	"That's not drug abuse, that's a side effect of being the Fonz."
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Classifieds

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Hanjie puzzle

Jim Sedoff
Staff Writer

									2,2
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1 2 11 11 2 6 9 7 1

Complete the puzzle by shading in squares based on the numbers given below the grid and to the right. As an example, for the first line, there should be two sets of two squares colored in, separated by at least one empty block. If there is no second number, then there is only a single group of shaded boxes.

Don't forget to use the numbers on the bottom to determine how many boxes should be shaded in that column.

You should have a pretty picture at the end.

Interested in journalistic writing?
Want to write about sports?

Join the staff of the Rose Thorn on Wednesdays in Olin 157 at 5:15 for newspaper talk, pizza, soda, and a generally great time.

The Rose Thorn

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“Working to keep the Rose-Hulman community informed
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And then there were three...



Christina Davis / Rose Thorn
Members of SIG discuss the merits of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority before the meeting Tuesday night.

Ryan Schultz
News Editor

After last quarter's decision to allow Sorority Interest Group (SIG) to pursue recruiting a sorority to Rose's campus, SIG's efforts have finally come to fruition. This Tuesday, the group's first candidate, Kappa Kappa Gamma (Kappa) made their formal presentation to the community of Rose-Hulman. The next sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi, will give their formal presentation next Tuesday. The half dozen sorority representatives first spoke to faculty and staff Tuesday afternoon. That evening, the representatives spoke to interested members of the student body. The capacity crowd included members of SIG, independent and affiliated women, independent and affiliated men, fraternity advisors, and some faculty. The delegation's presentation consisted of a comprehensive overview of the many facets, privileges, and qualities that set Kappa apart from other sororities. Throughout the presentation, the ambassadors covered a wide variety of topics including the

bureaucracy of a Kappa House, the safety and security guidelines for social events, the leadership aspect that Kappa encourages, the communication with nationals, and the chapter expectations. The delegates emphasized the competition, leadership, and academic excellence that are core tenets of the Kappa philosophy. "We want to be competitive," said Joan Cohen, one of the national representatives, "we are ambitious." Kappa expects the house to maintain an average GPA of 3.2, which is the national average for Kappa. When Stefani Vande Lune voiced concern that a GPA of 3.2 seemed like a "tall order to fill for Rose," the Kappa representatives explained that the guidelines are later adjusted to meet the needs of "each specific community." Despite the competitive nature of Kappa as an organization, the delegates also explained that the (soon to be) three greek houses must work together to be successful. "We were impressed by the family feeling of Rose," said Cohen, "and we believe that Rose-Hulman and Kappa's goals run parallel."



Christina Davis / Rose Thorn
The GM room was filled to capacity with a wide variety of women and men from the Rose-Hulman student body, as well as advisors, faculty, and other staff.

More about Kappa Kappa Gamma

- Badge – Key
- Colors – Light and Dark Blue
- Jewel – Sapphire
- Flower – Fleur-de-lis
- Animal – Owl



Kappa has 131 collegiate chapters and nearly 300 active alumnae associations.

Founded by six women at Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois, on October 13, 1870.

More than 200,000 Kappas have been initiated since the organization's foundation.

(Source: http://www.kappakappagamma.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Learn_About_Kappa/Facts/Facts.htm)



Christina Davis / Rose Thorn
Representatives from Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority speak to members of SIG and the rest of the capacity crowd at the formal presentation Tuesday evening.

Race: The Power of an Illusion

How the myth of race took hold and retains its power.

Diversity Council



Olin 167 - 4:30 p.m.

Episode 2—Thursday, March 23
The Story We Tell, Dr. Peter Coppinger

Episode 3—Tuesday, April 4
The House We Live In, Dr. Ella Ingram

Snacks will be served



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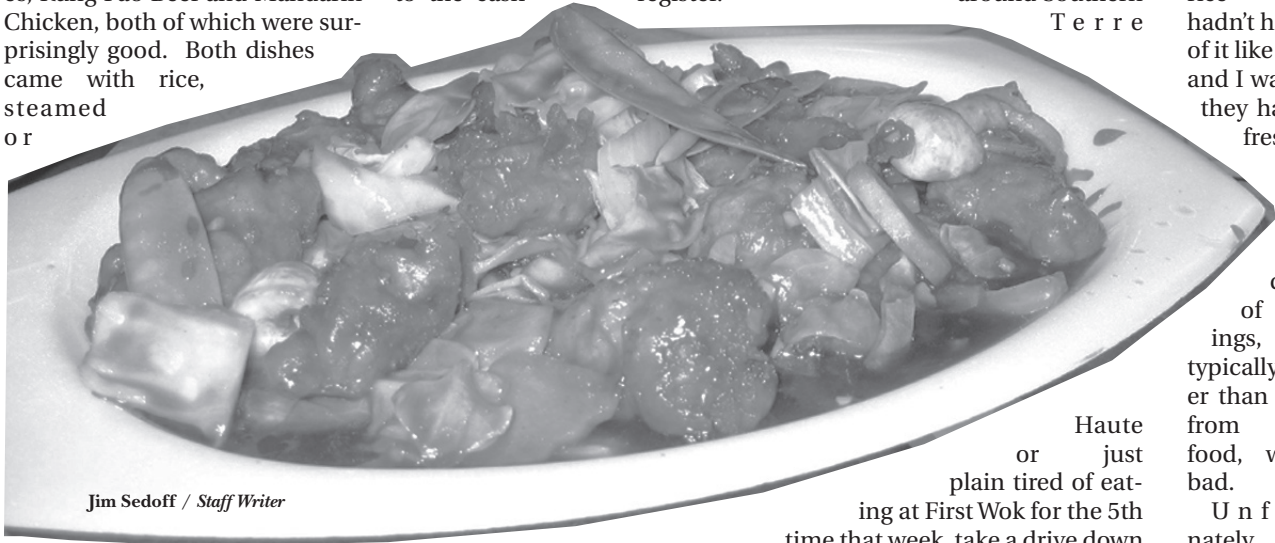
Kung Pao Royal Mandarin Express

Jim Sedoff
Staff Writer

According to the cashier, Royal Mandarin Express' most popular dish is General Tso's Chicken. However, I did not come to take the path most commonly traveled, but rather to try some of their lesser known dishes. In other words, I did the "blind circle and point to the menu" technique to order the meals. I had two friends, Michael Siegers (a sophomore physics major,) and Matt Long (a sophomore software engineer,) come along with me to share in two different dishes, Kung Pao Beef and Mandarin Chicken, both of which were surprisingly good. Both dishes came with rice, steamed or

rice with some scrambled eggs mixed in. I am used to having some common vegetables and occasionally meat mixed in, with soy sauce giving the rice that familiar light brown color I have grown accustomed to. This is not to say it was bad; in fact, it was still quite delicious. As for the appetizers, Siegers commented, "[The crab rangoon is] very sweet. It's better than First Wok!" and eventually added that the rangoon at Royal Mandarin Express has more filling. The egg rolls were just as good and went well with the sweet and sour sauce that was offered next to the cash register.

pea pods, carrots and cabbage), as did the Kung Pao Beef (zucchini, green peppers, onions, peanuts, water chestnuts, and celery). Long confessed that "it's the first time I've ever had Kung Pao Beef." We all agreed that it was kind of spicy and placed it around mild to slightly hot. Both dishes had distinct flavors from each other and, thankfully, from other restaurants. Overall, the restaurant was very clean and surprisingly not that busy. So what's the call? If you are craving for some Chinese and happen to be near Baesler's, around Southern Terre



Jim Sedoff / Staff Writer

fried, and an appetizer, either a crab rangoon or an egg roll. The fried rice, disappointingly in my opinion, was only white

Siegers liked the fact that the Mandarin Chicken had several different kinds of vegetables (baby corn, onions, water chestnuts, mushrooms,

Haute or just plain tired of eating at First Wok for the 5th time that week, take a drive down to Royal Mandarin Express and enjoy! The employees are more than happy to invite you in and serve you a great meal with a smile.

Happy Dragon could make you a vegetarian

Angela Smiley
Assistant News Editor

For those who don't know it, Happy Dragon is a Chinese buffet/delivery restaurant near the intersection of 3rd and Farington. I took a visit there to sample the food. My lunch started out promising: I was very pleased with the white rice (which hadn't had the life steamed out of it like much of the rice I eat), and I was delighted to see that they have a nice selection of fresh fruit. In fact, a lot of their foods seemed appealing: their vegetables were of a reasonably high quality, and their blend

of seasonings, while typically sweeter than I expect from Chinese food, was not bad.

Unfortunately, things quickly turned ugly, since all of these foods were drowned in large quantities of grease. My first

warning was when I bit into an eggroll and grease ran down my arm. This turned out to be a recurring theme through the entire lunch.

I went into Happy Dragon a grease junkie; I came back a vegetarian.

When I sought out the dishes that should have been greaseless, such as the vegetable lo mein, I was disappointed by the undercooked quality of much of the selection. In

fact, this was borderline true of many of the meat dishes as well - I was able to eat the sweet and sour chicken if I stripped off the grease-soaked breading (which I was too afraid to try — it squelched when I dug my fingers into it), and the meat itself was not of poor quality, but I had to discard several pieces to find the ones that were well-done.



<http://www.weddingthings.com/Merchant2/graphics/oriental>

I went to Happy Dragon a grease junkie; I came back as a vegetarian. If you're a vegetarian (or want to become one), you should try Happy Dragon. All others, stay away.

8 China Buffet has variety

Gregory Weir
Humor Editor

What people look for in buffets is variety, not quality, and China 8 Buffet fits the bill. The food isn't bad, but the central strength of the establishment is how many different foods you get for your money. There's a wide assortment of dishes available, from "traditional" Chinese meat-and-veggie-chunks-in-sauce to more unusual things wrapped in leaves and steamed. Don't go there for the General Tso's; it's only so-so. The Hawaiian-themed Ba Ba Chicken was good, though, and they cook fish pretty well. They've also got a nice spread of side dishes and fruit, including weird specimens like lychees and longans, and a decent dessert bar. Other special features included the grill, where

they'll cook up a noodley dish of your own devising for you, and the sushi, which is decent and all-you-can-eat.

Speaking of value, the prices are reasonable, although higher for dinner. I suggest going at lunchtime Monday through Saturday, when an adult can get all the food he wants for \$5.75 plus the cost of drinks. Both the service and cleanliness of the restaurant were spectacular for a buffet place, and the décor is pretty. When we were there, there were several families, but the dining area is open enough that we weren't bothered by the childish shrieks.

The food at China 8 Buffet isn't amazing, but the prices and selection are great. It's a great stop for a big Saturday lunch before doing the necessary shopping on 3rd Street.

“You haven’t had First Wok?”

Christina Davis
Staff Writer

Last Sunday, for dinner, I went to First Wok with two friends. With the intention of sharing our plates, we ordered Sweet and Sour Chicken, Beef with Broccoli, and General Tso's Chicken.

The food was quite appetizing — most likely due to the amount of grease. Each dish came with a side of filling fried rice. The Beef with Broccoli was full of flavor, and I would recommend trying this dish at some point. The General Tso's Chicken was spicy

but overall was average. The Sweet and Sour Sauce, provided for the chicken, was too runny and left much to be desired.

Additionally, the overall setting was not impressive. The walls were bland. The cashier, who did not smile once, was not very welcoming.

The food was tasty and plentiful at a reasonable price. Taken as a whole, First Wok is a quality restaurant, despite the quality of the decor and cashier.

First Wok is located in the Kroger Plaza near the corner of 25th and Wabash.

Panda Garden: Extraordinary!

David Chen
Staff Writer

Located on S. 3rd Street (south of I-70, in front of Burlington), there is a nice gem of a Chinese food eatery called Panda Garden. I personally couldn't tell how nice it was inside from the mediocre exterior. If you like Chinese food, vegetarian or not, this place accommodates people of all taste and it's easy on your wallet.

First, the environment brought my jaw down with its chandelier, four-corner ceiling purple lights, and exuberant decorations adorning the wall, projecting a semi-intimate dining experience on its patrons. Even though this place is quite affordable for college students, it certainly didn't look so from its exquisite setting. Carryout is available, but if possible, do take the time to dine in and absorb the setting.

Second, its menu boasts the usual offering of Chinese entrees such as dishes from all the main meat, both meats, a huge selection of chef's specialties, a nice

range of appetizers, and a nifty section just for vegetarians. I don't believe they serve any desserts, but they surprisingly serve "your favorite beer & wine".

There were even baskets of fried dough with sauce at every table for you to snack on while you wait. Extraordinary! I dined on the Empress Chicken lunch and one appetizer, which were both great. The egg drop soup was perfectly creamy, undiluted-like, and contained corn. As for the fried rice, it was more flavored than First Wok's, giving it a more satisfying taste. The service was nothing to write home about though.

Third, the prices rival that of First Wok's with its lunches' not exceeding \$5.50 and the rest of its menu exhibiting approximately the same prices. I paid nine dollars for my meal excluding tips.

Overall, I highly recommend this culinery to anyone looking for a great Chinese food experience. Everything is great about this place except for the 15-min driving distance from Rose. You won't be disappointed.



David Chen / Staff Writer

Panda Garden also has affordable lunch specials.

Out In Theatres

Find Me Guilty
Starring Vin Diesel
Directed by Sidney Lumet
Rated R

She's The Man
Starring Amanda Bynes
Directed by Andy Fickman
Rated PG-13

V for Vendetta
Starring Natalie Portman
Directed by James McTeigue
Rated R

Thank you for Smoking
Starring Aaron Eckhart
Directed by Jason Reitman
Rated R
Limited Release

Summer Storm
Starring Robert Stadlober
Directed by Marco Kreuzpaintner
Rated R
Limited Release

Out on DVD

A History of Violence
Good Night, and Good Luck

Through the Fire

Box Office Tops

1. *Failure to Launch*
2. *The Shaggy Dog*
3. *The Hills have Eyes*

4. *16 Blocks*

5. *Madea's Family Reunion*

From the vault: *Marquee Moon*

Mike Jones
Entertainment Editor

I'm reaching far back this time, to an album that's been hailed by critics and devoted fans since its release, but has never been embraced by radio. Television's *Marquee Moon* has an interesting combination. It's been heralded as one of the greatest rock albums of all time by a variety music aficionados such as Rolling Stone, VH1, and Pitchfork Media, while at the same time receiving essentially no radio play and remaining relatively unknown to the general public. This is only made stranger by the fact that the album is so easily accessible—much more so than *The Wall*, for example.

Marquee Moon could be labeled an “old” album. It was released in 1977, but for the most part—like all great classic albums—it still feels fresh. Only a few songs seem dated, the most obvious of which is opener “See No Evil.” This is the only place on the album where it's clear that Television were Rolling Stones fans. Tom Verlaine's vocals resemble Mick Jagger's in nearly every way, all the way down to the lyrics. Even though Verlaine

is from New York, there's even a hint of a London accent.

The dated portions of *Marquee Moon* don't significantly subtract from the album's huge influence on today's music. Many songs were very forward-looking and innovative. Anything from the tight rhythm guitar used by Interpol to the weird spaceship guitar effect used by the Strokes can be found on *Marquee Moon*. In fact, it's easily arguable that the Strokes wouldn't even exist if not for “Venus.” Television utilized a rhythm guitar that was often just as interesting as the lead.

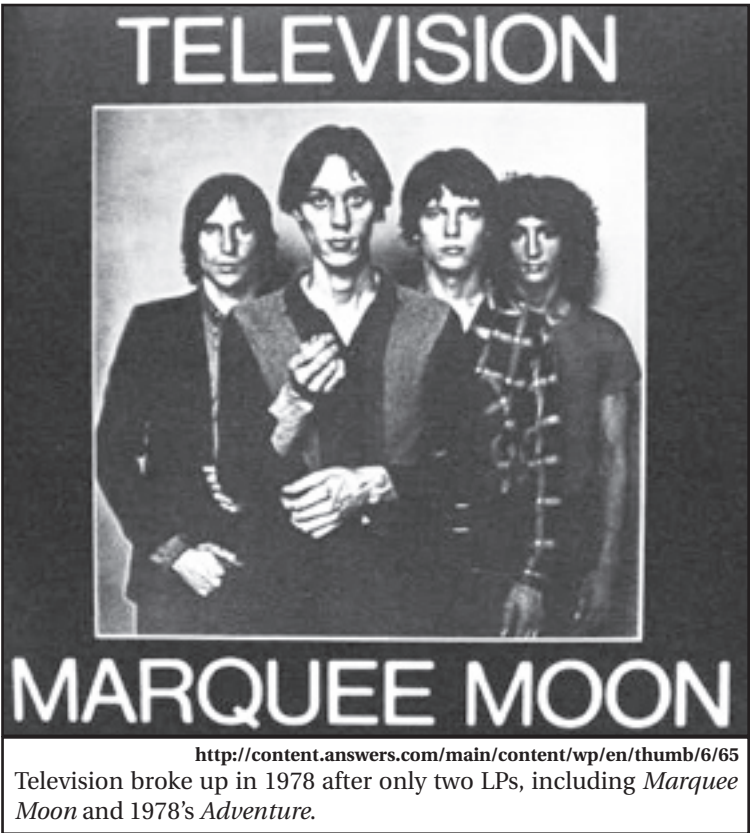
The album basically revolves around the ten-minute title track. Aptly placed right in the middle, it opens with some of the best intertwining guitars of all time. “Marquee Moon” is the clearest departure from the punk roots of Television. Verlaine opens with a gloomy memory - “I remember how the darkness doubled”, thus showcasing the vast difference between his lyrical style and other punk front men of the time. The track is content to let the mood linger, providing five minutes of jamming through the center.

For the most part, “Venus” and

“Marquee Moon” are the two best tracks. The remaining songs aren't quite as strong, which is why I personally think *Marquee Moon* is a bit overrated by critics. The verses of “Torn Curtain” feel like they're missing something. It's more minimalist than anything else on the album, lacking the layers and tempo that make much of *Marquee Moon* great. The rest of the song picks up the verses' slack, though.

But there's no denying the influence. *Marquee Moon* urged those involved in the punk scene to push themselves further, to grasp for more of an artistic vision than the Sex Pistols or the Ramones. Verlaine's message wasn't the same as Johnny Rotten's. He spoke for the artist, not the anarchist. The guitar work of Verlaine and Richard Lloyd was punk enough to be raw and immediate, but visionary enough to be different.

Which makes the lack of radio play for *Marquee Moon* all the more confusing. There's no doubt that many of these tracks would easily fit right in on “The River” or “The Monkey.” But I guess that's just the lot this album will con-



stantly have to deal with. It's remained vastly underappreciated and underplayed by radio. Since it's approaching the 30-year mark it seems unlikely that its status will ever change, though. It's a shame to see such a good album in the clearance racks.

V for Vendetta discomfoting yet provocative

Devon Dickau
Daily Bruin (UCLA)

“There is no coincidence, only the illusion of coincidence,” gravely says the masked hero of *V for Vendetta* halfway through the film.

It is certainly no coincidence that a film written and produced by Andy and Larry Wachowski of *The Matrix* would feature such dialogue, along with a few impressive action sequences, spectacular pyrotechnics and an always-adept Hugo Weaving. That much is par for the course.

But the film is notable for the questions it raises. Is it coincidence that the flag for a futuristic London bears a symbol reminiscent of the swastika? That the aforementioned hero -- the concisely named V -- is, in fact, a terrorist? Or that characters in the film draw noticeable parallels to Western politicians?

Unlike other recent comic-book-based movies, *V for Vendetta* is a political thriller of science-fiction proportions. Set in 2020 in a totalitarian England, rooted in over-the-top commentary of Western government and riddled with visual metaphors, *Vendetta* is successfully both action-packed and politically confrontational.

Based on the graphic novel created by Alan Moore and David Lloyd, the film begins and ends with the Nov. 5 fireworks celebration of Guy Fawkes Day. Fawkes, a Catholic conspirator who tried to blow up Parliament in 1605 and was eventually hanged, serves as an ongoing symbol throughout the film and an inspiration for V and his deeds.

The plot follows the masked murderer as he skillfully and systematically avenges what we learn is a painful personal history in a neofascist state of Big-Brother-like laws run by Chancellor Adam Sutler (John Hurt). And though V's vendetta against

this society is innately personal, it becomes one of universal importance, first enthralling the strong-minded Evey (Natalie Portman) and eventually the entire city.

Even as his face is hidden by the mask's disturbing smile, Weaving plays V convincingly. His rich and charismatic voice conveys an interplay of sarcastic wit and gleeful malevolence. The actor's background in stage drama undoubtedly informs the theatrical movements of a man who views society as his own personal stage.

Though Portman loses her flowing locks halfway through the film, her performance only gains intensity. Her English accent isn't faultless, but she continues her knack of emerging as the heart of her films.

Despite these performances and a remarkably intelligent script, *Vendetta* is mostly devoid of human emotion. The story may be character-based, but London 2020 is conspicuously inhuman. Giant speakers line the streets announcing the nightly curfew. Television, more than human contact, is the most prominent method of communication. Any controversial, multifaceted remnants of human history have been banned -- anyone who owns an African statue or a copy of the Koran is a sinner at best.

Thus, though it carefully investigates issues of morality, tyranny and individuality and sometimes delves into the personal and painful histories of its characters, the film does not elicit emotional reaction until its climax, when the anxiety building throughout the film is suddenly and finally relieved.

Ultimately, given a powerfully fitting musical score by Dario Marianelli, vibrant cinematography by the late Adrian Biddle and a restrained downplay of special effects, *V for Vendetta* is downright strange -- quietly discomfoting, yet refreshingly provocative.



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Russ Feingold is a wimp



Here's
your new
opinion

Aaron Meles
Opinions Editor

Senator Russ Feingold's latest vendetta to pass a resolution of censure against President Bush is a fool's errand that will cost the Senator a shot at the Presidency rather than guarantee him one. By making such a public fuss about his plans to verbally reprimand the President, Feingold is demonstrating his belief that words are more powerful than actions, a conviction that is becoming all too common in today's politics of

investigations and bipartisan finger pointing.

Earlier this week, Senator Feingold, a Democrat, introduced the idea of a censuring President Bush in response to the public outcry over the investigation of the administration's use of illegal wiretaps to fight the war on terror. However, a censure resolution is merely a written reprimand, accomplishing nothing but documenting the Senate's disapproval of the President. It is an action so inane that it hasn't been used since Andrew Jackson was President.

Now, don't get me wrong: President Bush deserves to be held accountable for his administration's actions, but merely dealing out a scripted scolding is a waste of the Senate's time. What Feingold is proposing is a publicity stunt designed



Associated Press
Senator Feingold ponders what he will refuse to confront next.

to make him look like a fearless crusader against the Bush administration, all the while masking the fact that he lacks the political clout to really do

anything about it.

If he really believed in taking action against the questionable wiretapping programs of the administration, he would initiate measures that would get something done, like working on getting more of his party voted in for this year's midterm elections or passing legislation that would prevent similar domestic wiretapping programs in the future.

However, Senator Feingold is too lazy for that; he would much prefer to gain the public's attention by going down with his ill-fated proposal of censure. Not even his own party supported the resolution when it was brought before Congress this week, leaving him to stand alone as the champion of his foolish bill.

As Senator Feingold vies for a

shot at the Presidency soon, he will promote himself as the antithesis of President Bush, just like every other Democrat that runs will. However, I hope that you will always bear in mind how he has demonstrated his advocacy of this claim. If Feingold continues with his current strategy come election time, he will be similar to John Kerry in that his only positive attribute is that he isn't George W. Bush.

Instead of attempting to do something to remedy the problems of the current administration or ensuring that they won't be repeated, Feingold decided that the best way to fight President Bush was to attempt to give him a rhetorical rap on the knuckles. I know that he is not the kind of man I want running a country with as many problems as ours.

Letter to the editor

It's common to point to victims of rape or incest as an emotional argument for abortion. It's a relatively small issue in comparison to the larger issue of abortion in general; almost every third baby conceived in the US is aborted each year (about 1.5 million), versus a couple of hundred pregnancies as a result of rape annually in the entire US. But, to those that are victimized by rape and subsequently become pregnant, their right or lack of right to an abortion certainly becomes significant. It is logical to assume that a rape victim would not want to have the baby, or that they should not have it. The facts, however, do not bear out that assumption.

In reality, absolutely no one has to raise a baby after giving birth. The list of parents who would like to adopt is many times longer than the number of chil-

dren who are waiting for adoption. Giving the baby up for adoption is certainly a kinder option than killing it. The baby will live, the mother will live, and their respective qualities of life will not be much decreased – at least in comparison to letting one of them be killed for the peace of mind of the other. There has never been a case in which a convicted rapist was allowed to keep the child conceived during rape.

Even if you don't believe that a fetus is "alive" and don't have a moral problem with abortion, the facts still favor bearing the child to term. Abortion is massively unhealthy for a woman. It is an interruption without warning to a complex and delicate physiological process, and the resulting damage to a woman's body and mind is permanent. After an abortion or miscarriage, many

women develop what is called "Post-Abortion Syndrome", a malaise characterized by depression and feelings of intense guilt and loss. A pregnancy lasts 9 months. The ill effects of an abortion, however, last a lifetime.

The bottom line is this: our interest should not lie solely in the immediate interest of the mother. The quality of life of the mother will, in the long run, be much better if she chooses to deliver the baby. And it goes without saying that the baby will have a better life.

All of the facts I've presented here can be found on www.abortionfacts.com, and in innumerable other locations both online and in print. You don't have to believe me; do the research.

Nick Slabaugh
Computer Engineer
Class of 2007

1000 Words

by Erin Hudson



The Patriot Act: preventing police from getting *Shafted*

Alex Clerc
News Editor

I consider myself a liberal person – I usually disagree with the Bush administration, I usually vote Democrat, and the candidates I vote for never win. But while most of my fellow liberals continue to blast the recently renewed Patriot Act, in my opinion, the Patriot Act is one of the best things the Bush administration has done.

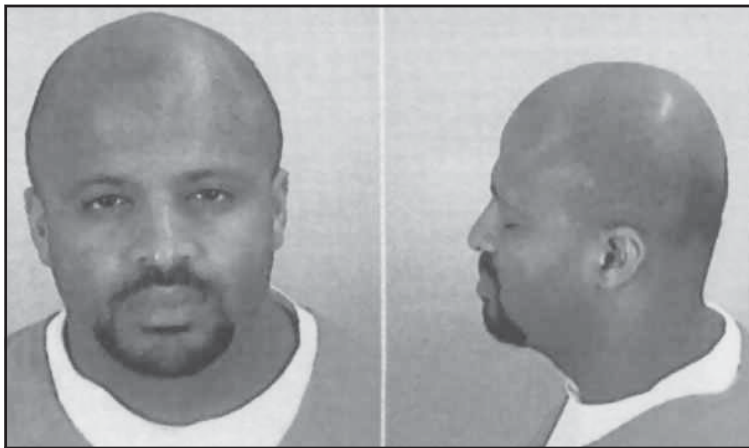
The Patriot Act, which came out six weeks after 9/11, is about 300 pages long and includes several provisions organized into ten categories. These categories of provisions include enhanced surveillance procedures, protecting the border, and removing obstacles to investigating terrorism.

Before I actually read a summary of the Patriot Act, all I knew about it was what I had heard, and I've usually heard the Patriot Act described like this:

"The Patriot Act gives the FBI the power to listen to your phone calls and spy on all your financial transactions." – some interview on NPR

"The Patriot Act is horrible. It basically throws half the Bill of Rights out the window." – anonymous internet blog

"I really think the Patriot Act vi-



http://www.coranix.com/114/zacharias_moussaoui.jpg
Zacarias Moussaoui, an al-Qaeda operative whose personal computer could have prevented the 9/11 attacks if the right tools had been accessible by law enforcement officials.

olates our Constitution. It was, it is, an illegal act." – Peter Camejo

"The Patriot Act's business records provision is the seed stock of a Police State." – The Cleveland Plain Dealer

But after reading a summary of each provision in the Patriot Act, I really feel that the naysayers are exaggerating.

First of all, the Patriot Act does not give the FBI the power to listen to your phone calls and spy on all your financial transactions, because they already could. Fur-

thermore, they don't care about the phone calls and financial transactions of 99% of the population, including you.

What the Patriot Act does do is remove certain approval requirements for officers to perform surveillance, thus expediting investigations. And fear not: the FBI still needs the approval of a federal court to perform invasive things like wire taps, the seizing financial and business records, and any "sneak-and-peak" searches (searches performed

unbeknownst to the searchee).

Anyone who has ever seen *Shaft* knows that too many bad guys get away because of the bureaucratic red tape restraining our law enforcement agencies. The 9/11 report cites numerous intelligence failures due to bureaucratic stalling as well. A gripping example of this is the Zacarias Moussaoui case.

Moussaoui, a French citizen of Moroccan descent and an al-Qaeda operative, was the only terrorist indicted in the U.S. for the attacks of 9/11. He had been taken into custody by the FBI on August 16, 2001 – nearly a month before 9/11 – while attending a flight school in Minnesota. Moussaoui, who would have been the twentieth 9/11 hijacker, pleaded guilty to his involvement in the conspiracy in 2005.

Think about it: over three weeks before 9/11 happened, we had one of the al-Qaeda hijackers in custody. What an opportunity we had to prevent this tragedy! But the Justice Department bureaucrats had to forbid Minneapolis FBI agents from searching Moussaoui's computer until the proper approval could be granted.

Virtually mummified by red tape, the Justice Department

couldn't approve such a search for over a month. By "protecting Moussaoui's civil liberties", we lost a potential opportunity to prevent the worst attack on American soil since Pearl Harbor. This is why the Patriot Act was written and passed: to protect Americans by not wasting time in critical terrorism investigations.

The Patriot Act isn't perfect, but the latest version passed by the House this week has made some important corrections to prevent its misuse. It gets us nowhere to make outrageous exaggerations about the Bill of Rights being negated or America becoming a police state. The fact is that our law enforcement and national security in this country is not as good as it could be. We have the opportunity to learn from the terrible mistakes of 9/11 and I'm glad we're taking it.

**Any objections
to this week's
Republican theme?
e-mail:
opinions@rose-hulman.edu**

Sports Briefs

by Mike Ferguson

WBC round 2

Korea beat Japan on Wednesday night in Round 2 action of the World Baseball Classic. This win was significant for the United States who, on the verge of elimination, were granted a new life due to Korea's win. In Pool 2 action, Cuba advances to play the Dominican Republic in the finals.

NFL teams spring cleaning

In a recent flurry of activity, NFL teams have been shuffling players around in order to set their squads for the fall. Among the notable transactions were Willie McGinest, who signed with the Cleveland Browns; Edgerin James, who signed with the Arizona Cardinals; and Donovan McNabb, who was traded to the Miami Dolphins.

NCAA tourney starts

The NCAA men's basketball tournament started yesterday. Among the bracket-busters were The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee upsetting Oklahoma, Alabama upsetting Marquette and the twelve-seed Montana beating the five-seed Nevada.

Prior may miss opening day

The Chicago Cubs' Mark Prior strained his shoulder and may miss the beginning of the 2006 regular season.

Rose-Hulman tops Manchester in home opener

Rose Hulman News

The baseball team opened its home baseball season with an 8-6 victory over defending Heartland Conference champion Manchester College on Saturday.

The Engineers scored twice in the first to take a 2-0 lead, then Manchester answered with four runs in the second. Rose-Hulman reclaimed a 5-4 lead with three runs in the third, before the Spartans scored once in the fourth to force a 5-5 tie.

Rose-Hulman junior reliever Brad Otto and Manchester starter Tyler Wolfe locked into a pitchers duel until the seventh, when Rose-Hulman scored one run on a bases loaded walk to senior Jeremy Hochstedler to take a 6-5 lead.

Rose-Hulman added two insurance runs in the eighth inning to gain an 8-5 advantage, courtesy of an RBI single by Hochstedler and a wild pitch by

Spartan reliever Shaun Carrico.

Manchester rallied in the ninth to close within 8-6, courtesy of consecutive singles by Zach Bireley, George Mallett and Brock Treesh. Sophomore Sam Deters came in with the bases loaded to hold the Spartans to one run on an RBI ground out in earning his first college save. Senior Josh Nash ended the game with a barehand throw to first on a slow ground ball to retire Manchester's Zach Scott.

Nash paced Rose-Hulman's offense with three hits, including a pair of doubles. Senior Keith Felton and junior Tim Braun each added two singles in the victory.

Otto picked up the win with four innings of one run relief, allowing four hits with a pair of strikeouts. Deters pitched the ninth with one strikeout for the save.

Rose-Hulman improved to 5-4 on the season, while Manchester dropped to 4-3. The Engineers Mount Union College for a doubleheader on Saturday.



Rose Hulman News
Josh Nash had three hits and a key game ending play in the field.

Furious rally lifts softball to split at Manchester

Rose Hulman News

The women's softball team scored four runs in the seventh and eighth innings to earn a thrilling 12-9 win over Manchester College to highlight a softball twinbill split on Saturday.

Manchester relied on a strong pitching effort to capture the nightcap by a 9-1 score.

In game one, sophomore Katie Frey launched a three-run home run in the seventh inning to help Rose-Hulman complete a rally from 8-0 behind to force extra innings with an 8-8 tie.

In the eighth inning, the Engineers scored four times to secure the win. Sophomore Erin Locke started the rally with a single, and sophomore Katie Yiznitsky added her fourth hit of the day with a double to score sophomore Ashley Montgomery and give the Engineers a 9-8 lead.

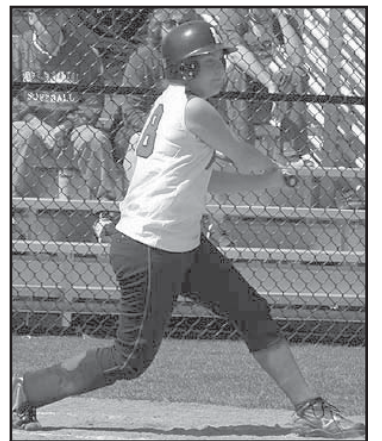
Frey and freshman Jennifer Pint added consecutive singles to make the score 11-8, then junior Nicole Sanders reached on a fielder's choice to bring home the final run.

Frey finished 3-5 with a home run, a triple, two runs scored and four RBIs to lead the offense. Yiznitsky added four hits, including a double, while freshman Margaret Kelly pitched in with three singles in the win. Sophomore Katie Maggard picked up the pitching win with seven strikeouts.

more Katie Maggard picked up the pitching win with seven strikeouts.

In the nightcap, Manchester scored five times in the fourth and three in the fifth to earn a 9-1 victory. Holly McEathron led the victors with three hits, three RBIs and two runs scored. Sanders had a double and a single to lead Rose-Hulman's efforts.

Rose-Hulman (4-6) has postponed its home opener, scheduled for Sunday against Franklin, due to a wet field caused by recent heavy rains. The Engineers return to action this Saturday at Hanover.



Rose Hulman News
Katie Frey blasted a three-run home run to force extra innings.

Bring on March Madness

Christopher Anastasia

The Parthenon (Marshall U.)

It's just a sheet of paper. Freshly printed in its black-and-white glory, sitting beside me. In terms of presentation, it really couldn't be more mundane.

On the other hand, what's printed on that piece of paper...

It beckons you with its jumble of names, numbers and bracket bars, singing its siren song of upsets, last-second shots and cut-down nets. Yes, it is time to celebrate the NCAA College Basketball Tournament.

The Final Four.

Honestly, I'm a little jazzed just typing that. I can't imagine the adrenaline rush of those who are currently filling out their brackets. It makes you think that they themselves were suiting up in the games.

People point to creations like fantasy sports and the sharp increase of online sports betting as ways that fans feel connect them to the sporting events that they cherish. The problem is that fantasy sports require a near-obsession with statistics, and gambling, in any form, is nothing to be trifled with.

No, the power of the bracket is its inclusiveness. As prevalent as the "bracketologist" has become, anybody can fill out a tournament slate. The level of knowledge necessary is really pretty minimal, and the only "skill" needed is the ability to follow a flow chart.

(Oh, and just as an aside, how does one become a "bracketologist" anyway? Is there a school? If it's just a made-up title, I'll have one too. How about "columnologist" appearing on screen when I'm on television? No ..., OK then, moving on.)

The drama is what people remember about the Final Four. After the bragging has been done and the glass slippers fitted, the memories that linger are about desperation shots and epic comebacks. For good or ill, a player's legacy can be forged in the fire of the tournament.

No concrete rooting interest is needed. If your alma mater is a No. 1 seed, congrats. If you are only interested in seeing if a rival school from the north can make a run again, you're in as well. Don't know what is being matched up in a matchup zone, but like a team's colors, get on the bus, next stop Indianapolis.

Hoops newbie next to seasoned fan, side-by-side, eyes glancing between glowing television screens and the fading dreams of their little brackets that could. Each shot either sealing one's fate or raising the stakes. On the line is no championship trophy, at least none sanctioned by the NCAA.

It's why I just printed out three brackets. One for me to fill out, and one for my wife. She isn't really a college hoops fan, but the excitement of the process has pulled her in. I'm not too proud to admit that she did better than I last year. Sure, I called West Virginia's miracle Elite Eight run somehow, yet upsets to Kansas, among others sunk me like a lead balloon.

The third bracket? That is where I list the actual winners. Is this a concession that my own "sheet of integrity" will be a scribbled out mess by the Sweet 16? I hope not, but even if it is, I will just as surely do it all again next year.

Another bracket. Another whirlwind of buzzer-beaters and upsets. Another dance.

Let the games begin.

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The Rose Thorn

FLIP SIDE

Volume 41, Issue 19

One bourbon, one scotch, and one Mountain Dew Code Red.

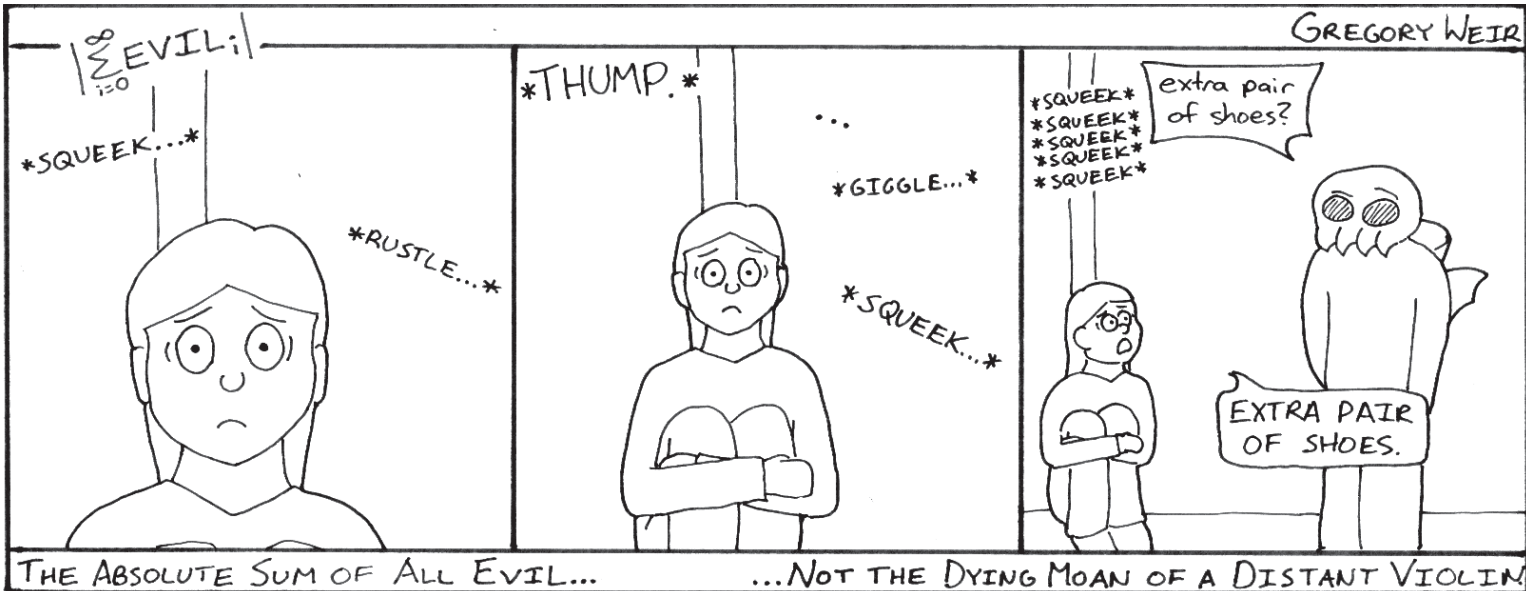
Friday, March 17, 2006

This Day in History

In 1776, the British army makes a strategic withdrawal from Boston in an attempt to prevent loss of civilian life due to the attacks of American terrorists led by the infamous "General" Washington.

In Addition

Pay close attention. This is not just an issue of the Thorn. I've chosen you, the one reading this, as the one who will prevent the catastrophe that destroyed my world. It's too late for us, but you can prevent our dark future from ever happening.



Laking: A neglected tradition

Matthew Melton
Staff Writer

Once again, the birds are returning north, it's finally getting warmer, and the most important season of the year is once again starting. No, not that baseball thing; it's laking season! Once again we can throw people in the lake without worrying about minor side effects like hypothermia or turning into ice cube.

Sadly, laking has been kind of slow this school year. For starters, a certain group of "wise fools" (I'm not naming any groups) failed to lake any of the poor freshmen's bonfire ties. Railroad ties are the easiest thing to lake — they don't fight back! (If they do, I suggest cutting back on the Mountain Dew. A lot.) It hasn't been too bad since then, but there definitely could have been more people enjoying the

It's amusing for everyone, and this spring, we need to make it a regular event.

fun of being asked for their wallet, cell phone, glasses, keys, calculator, pocket protector, jump drive, Armani sweatshirt (wait, that's not Rose), remote missile launcher, tricorder, lightsaber, etc., then being dragged, kicking and squirming, to the pier, and being gracefully tossed into the lake of questionable contents like a sack of potatoes. It's amusing for everyone, and this spring, we need to make it a regular event.

People need to be thinking about being laked like thinking about getting killed in RHA Assassins. There should be a continuous line of people on the pier all day long waiting to lake the people that are currently laking someone else. People should stop being paranoid and instead empty their pockets as soon as anyone gets nearby. Then, we start it all over again next year with the bonfire ties!

Now, a few short tips for laking. Numero uno: Always remember to empty the lake-ee's pockets. I know I'd be really ticked off if I got thrown into the lake with my tricorder, and I'm not alone on that one. Numero dos: Be wary of RAs! It's their job to stop you from laking. This can be fixed by distracting your RA, laking someone when he's not around, or my personal favorite, lake him first, then the other guy. Numero Tres: Birthday = laking. No excuses. Thank you, Facebook! Other than that, have fun, and remember: the lake needs you!



Ken Meyer / Rose Thorn
She can't be over 19.

More airballs?

Ken Meyer
Photo Editor

This whole "supporting the team" has gotten way out of hand. When the basketball season ended, I thought I'd hear the end of the stupid "airball." Then I heard that people chant at baseball games too! This is the last straw; I'm tired of hearing about airballs! It's bad enough making fun of somebody for missing the basket, but now you're making fun of people for hitting the ball? How pathetic is that?

You might as well just jump up and wave your hands around in the air.

I just don't get it! How is yelling every time somebody hits the ball helping the team? Do you think it's going to help the baseballers on your team run faster, or make our opponents run slower? You might as well just jump up and wave your hands around in the air for all the good you're doing the team! Enough is enough. Stop embarrassing our school and our team with this "airball" nonsense! Let's put this behind us like civilized engineers, and go build a bridge or something!

The vulgarity of war

Ryan Schultz
News Editor

Apparently not satisfied with the Mother of All Bombs (aka MOAB), the U.S. has invented a new semi-nuclear-fuel-cell-powered bomb that will flatten cities without that nasty, rash-causing nuclear fallout. This new bomb, similar to its nuclear (and vastly inferior) predecessors, the A-bomb and H-bomb, is affectionately referred to as "the F-bomb." "We just felt that it was the perfect name for it," said Dr. Heidebergschroedermcdougal. "I mean, what would you say if you looked up into the sky and saw a gigantic flash so bright your retinas turned into Campbell's yummy tomato soup? I know what

word I'd be dropping right about then!"

As it turns out, when an F-Bomb detonates, it also sucks up all sound: primarily, the frequencies that constitute the mother of all curse words. Interestingly enough, just a week ago, while we were trying to decide whether to print a certain word in the paper, a test was being conducted at that very instant in New Mexico... spawning more of those weird hills that have eyes and eventually sucking up our desire to be true to the original quotation.



So, long story short, when you hear on the news about America's inevitable victory in Iraq, thank the F-bomb for ushering in a new era of modern decency and civility.

Top ten ways to get away with underage drinking

Gregory Weir
Humor Editor

10. Pretend to be drunk all the time, so they won't be able to tell.
9. Ask your parents to give you the booze — it's even legal.
8. Forget the Nalgene and go with a "glucose" I.V.
7. Remember: a keg looks deceptively like your sedentary roommate in the right light.
6. Do it in Taco Bell; no one will even notice.
5. Only drive on the wavy roads.
4. Dress up like Mark Twain, because he's been legal for 149 years.
3. Just stack the empties in your window... no one will know.
2. Sneak swigs from the lab ethanol. Mix it with acetone for an extra kick.
1. Do what Hertz did. Steal wine cooler from the hobos.

A safer St.

Patrick's Day

Alex Clerc
News Editor Emeritus

I remember how I celebrated last St. Patrick's Day. I played a drinking game that involved filling a Nalgene bottle with cheap vodka, bringing it to all my classes, and taking a swig every time I wrote π . Converting from degrees to radians had never been so much fun.

Wait a second... that was how I celebrated π Day last year! What the heck did I do on St. Patrick's Day? Maybe I still had that coma I caught on π Day.

Luckily, I've matured over the last year, and now I realize that alcohol should only be used in moderation. After all, alcohol is a potent poison. Entire species have been wiped out by alcohol, including leprechauns, unicorns, and even a few species of dinosaurs (most notably the Pterodrunktyl, Tricerashots, and Crunkasaurus Rex).

Because of the dangers of alcohol, I'd like to suggest the following alternative ways to have a safer St. Patrick's Day but still have fun:

- Celebrate Irish culture by drinking Shamrock Shakes and listening to Flogging Molly.
- Finally come out and tell all your friends that you're Gaelic.
- Celebrate Irish culture again by bobbing for potatoes in a giant bowl of Lucky Charms.
- If you still insist on reaching a state of chemical revelry, you could always cook up some special St. Patrick's Day brownies. The special ingredient, of course, is a little Cambodian four-leaf clover.



Montage by Alex Clerc / Rose Thorn
The mighty Crunkasaurus Rex

Wacky Prof Quotes

"Why is this thing so slow? Other than the obvious 'it's a piece of shit.'"
-- Prof. Carlson, on her laptop

"All the time I get e-mails for wiener cream."
-- Prof. Zoeteway, on her Internet usage habits

"We're going to ease off, because we've been pounding Franklin pretty hard."
-- Prof. House, after pounding a forefather

"We talked about solving this circuit with iteration, with Maple, and graphically. These ways all suck."
-- Prof. Goldman, telling it like it is

"It's because he's old, isn't it?"
-- Prof. Zoetewey, on Prof. Pickett

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