

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

## Rose-Hulman Scholar

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The Rose Thorn Archive

Student Newspaper

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3-24-2006

### Volume 41 - Issue 20 - Friday, March 24, 2006

Rose Thorn Staff

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#### Recommended Citation

Rose Thorn Staff, "Volume 41 - Issue 20 - Friday, March 24, 2006" (2006). *The Rose Thorn Archive*. 1302.  
<https://scholar.rose-hulman.edu/rosethorn/1302>

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# Jakubowski named Institute President

Lissa Avery  
Editor-in-Chief

It is my pleasure to announce that Gerald Jakubowski is the new president of Rose-Hulman.” Bob Bright, Chairman of the Rose-Hulman Board of Trustees, introduced Jakubowski, vice president of Arizona State University, provost of the ASU Polytechnic campus, and professor of engineering, as the thirteenth president of Rose-Hulman. “He has a passion that Rose-Hulman sought,” Bright continued. Jakubowski opened his talk at the press conference last Friday with a bit of history on St. Patrick—who was the patron saint of engineering—and superstitions involving the number 13. “I’m not going to be superstitious,” Jakubowski said of his position as the thirteenth president of the institute. “Lynn [Jakubowski] and I are excited to be joining the Rose-Hulman community.” He was selected after a six-month na-

tional search performed by a search committee and consultant Bill Funk of Korn/Ferry International. He will assume the presidency on July 1. His accomplishments include the conversion of the former Arizona State University East campus into what is now ASU Polytechnic campus during his tenure as provost. Prior to his position at ASU, he served as the Dean of the College of Science and Engineering and professor of mechanical engineering at Loyola Marymount University. One of the central questions posed by the audience was about Jakubowski’s plans upon arriving at Rose. He replied, “It would be very presumptuous to have a plan as to what I’m going to do. [...] I need to listen and learn.” Among the things he plans to consider is the second phase of the “2015: A Conversation About Our Future” undertaking. He also asked the question, “What are we going to do to make sure [our peers] don’t catch up with us?” He emphasized that Rose should



Dr. Jakubowski was named the new President of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology last Friday. He will take office in June.

not rest on its laurels, but work to progress. When asked how he would assist in the Rose-Hulman’s community’s healing from the wounds of Jack Midgley, the last president of Rose, Jakubowski said, “Rose is such a strong community. We’re not going to look to the past. We’re looking ahead to the future.”

### Cold War supply cache discovered

A supply cache dating back to the Cold War has recently been discovered in the base of the Brooklyn Bridge. Some of the containers inside the cache were dated back to 1957 and 1962 when Russia launched its first satellite and the Cuban Missile Crisis was at it peak. The most notable items in the cache include empty drums meant for drinking water and high-calorie crackers with instructions to eat 10,000 calories per person, per day. The Department of Transportation said the area where the cache was located was used mainly for storage and they had no hint that such a cache existed.

### Samsung’s solid-state hard drive

Samsung has created a new hard drive that does not contain any spinning disks. The drive has a 32 GB capacity and consumes only 5% of the power required by normal hard drives. The new drive also weighs half and can upload and down data faster and quieter than the current drives of today. Samsung expects the new solid-state drives to replace all current hard drives in use in portable computers.

### In other news... Windows Vista delayed until 2007

## News Briefs

By Kyle Kamischke

# Second prospective sorority visits SIG

David Chen  
Staff Writer

In continuation of its effort to create a third sorority on campus, Sorority Interest Group (SIG) hosted the second of two candidate sororities to come on campus for consideration. This past Tuesday, SIG’s second candidate, Alpha Omicron Pi, gave their own presentation one week after SIG’s first candidate, Kappa Kappa Gamma. Staged in E104, Alpha Omicron Pi’s four sorority representatives spoke to a packed crowd. Prior to this talk, they had already met and spoken with several members of SIG. All the representatives were directors of key functions for Alpha Omicron Pi and they spoke to interested members of Rose’s community. Throughout the presentation, they emphasized how impressed they were with Rose, its tight-knit community, its female students’ crucial role in the school, and its female students already possessing all of Alpha Omicron Pi’s quality values. Alpha Omicron Pi went over a wide range of topics that showed to the Rose body who they are and what they stand for. This included the history of Alpha

Omicron Pi since its establishment in 1897, the process it holds when considering colleges for new chapters, its seven principles and values, and its core values of “Service, Leadership, & Education”. One presenter named Lori Belew told what she called “Lori’s story” to highlight key events in her sorority life. For example, she told of a time when she regretted joining Alpha Omicron Pi until another member helped her feel valuable and useful in the sorority. Alpha Omicron Pi presented much information about its core values of service, leadership, and education. For example, it participated extensively in an event called “Strike Out Arthritis” to raise awareness for juvenile arthritis. Alpha Omicron Pi has a wide variety of programs to educate its members not just on leadership, but on hazing and alcohol, marketing, self-esteem, and more. The sorority also has what it called “Standards of Excellence”, a series of traits every chapter should excel on in order to become a strong chapter. Finally, the group outlined to Rose-Hulman on how it will build a new chapter from the ground up if chosen as Rose’s third sorority. With over 3,100 alum-



Senior Katy Messman discusses Alpha Omicron Pi with the expansion committee at Tuesday’s SIG sorority recruitment meeting.

nae within a 75-mile radius of Rose, Alpha Omicron Pi will count on alumni support as part of its plan to start a new chapter ready for recruitment this fall. “All the members of SIG have been very impressed by both sororities,” said SIG secretary Amanda Rohde. Once the members of SIG make a decision, they will inform the Rose Panhellenic Council, and the chosen third sorority will be asked whether it is still interested to establishing a new chapter here at Rose-Hulman.

News	Entertainment	Opinions	Sports	Flipside
Greek perspective on drinking at Rose and a fluorometer Page 3	Soft with a hard edge Pages 4 - 5	Iraq, abortions, and chinese food Pages 6	Effinger, Sports Briefs, Softball, and Baseball Page 7	Beware the walrus mafia. Page 8



Classifieds

Now Renting Studios

Now renting studios, one to 6 bedroom units on or near S. 6th Street. We specialize in rennovated grand historic homes and providing charming, well managed residences for our tenants at competitive prices and a good value for your dollar. Check us out on the web at Sharpflats.com or call us at 817-877-1146.

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Are you looking for the convenience of walking to class but longing for a place of your own? Check us out at Sharpflats.com. We are located at Wabash and Hunt Road (the 1st stop light east of campus). We have efficiencies, studios, and one bedroom units. They start at \$325 for efficiencies, #375 for studios and that includes all utilities. The one bedroom units start at \$425 plus electric. We offer wireless internet, laundry facilities, off street parking and great maintenance, friendly management and housing to fit your budget. Please contact us at 812-877-1146.

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1729 S Center St. Nice 2 Bdrm Upstr. No Pets. \$550 1 Occ. \$600 2 Occ. + Dep, Utl Pd. 812-235-0008

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House for sale or rent. 13 minutes from campus. 3 bedrooms, washer/dryer, nice deck, garage, central air. 800/month + utilities. 574-268-8881. kates54@yahoo.com

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Hiring Servers at European Grill. 5th and Margaret. Walk in interviews, 2-4:30 Daily. 244-0335

Ideal for couple

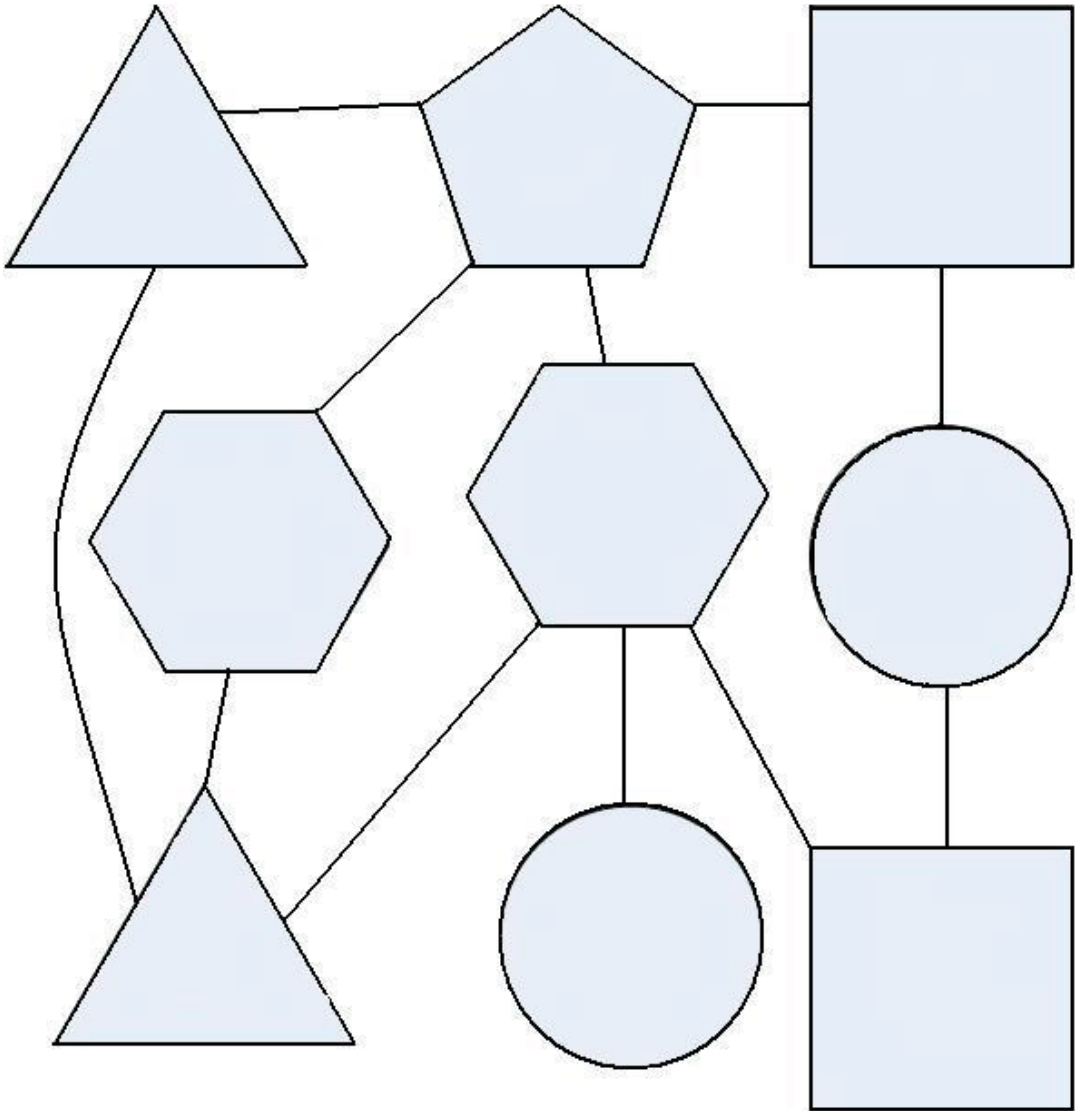
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Self-storage. State of the art, well-lit, gated, dry, full-time on-site manager. Competitive pricing. Close to campus. 2420 Spring Clean, 812-243-9052.

Number link

Jim Sedoff  
Staff Writer



Complete the puzzle using the following rules:

- 1) Each digit, (1-9), should appear only once in the puzzle.
- 2) Triangle: digit is first digit of the product of neighboring digits.
- 3) Square: digit is last digit of the product of neighboring digits.
- 4) Pentagon: digit is first digit of the sum of neighboring digits.
- 5) Hexagon: digit is last digit of the sum of neighboring digits.
- 6) Circle: There are no restrictions on number.

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.

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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

All content should be submitted to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or to the *Rose Thorn* Office (Hulman Memorial Union room 249).

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.

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

The Rose Thorn is published on Fridays  
first through ninth week each quarter

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# Greeks at Rose discuss drinking scene

## TRIANGLE

“The possession, use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages, while on chapter premises, during an official fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, must be in compliance with any and all legal agreements and the applicable laws of the state, province, county, city or property lease agreement...” The policy continues to discuss the buying of alcohol for a minor: “No chapter members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor.” —Matt Childs, President of Triangle

## ΔΔΔ

“Delta Delta Delta does not promote underage drinking. Alcohol is prohibited in the sorority house at all times and at all events except for our formal—those over 21 are allowed to drink responsibly. Members are not to drink alcohol in letters, regardless of age, and new members are required to participate in an online course called AlcoholEdu which helps them ‘make safer, healthier decisions about alcohol,’” —sophomore chemistry major Amanda Gehring, Delta Delta Delta’s Property Manager.

## ΠΚΑ

“The possession, use and/or consumption of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, while on chapter premises, during an official fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, county, city and university.”

## ΑΤΩ

“The possession, sale, use or consumption of alcoholic beverages, while on chapter premises, during a fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education...”

Frederick Webber  
Staff Writer

It’s Friday. What are you doing tonight? Some students will do homework. Others will catch up on missed sleep or drive home. Others head to their social fraternity houses to hang out. Some underage students in social fraternities tonight will consume alcohol. But why? Rose offers many clubs and activities to participate in as well as the SRC. But, some students drink anyway. “I started drinking during spring break of last year,” said one sophomore greek. “Sometimes I like the feeling of getting a buzz. I like the way it tastes.” When asked what brothers say, he joked, “Can I have one?” adding that “I’ve never been pressured into it. It’s always been my choice. Everyone’s pretty cool with it, and they were cool when I didn’t also.” Brothers in other men’s social fraternities feel about the same. A junior mechanical engineer from a different greek chapter said that he started drinking winter of quarter sophomore year. “I can tell you why I started. Sophomore Curriculum. It was a good way to temporarily forget about it.” His brothers “don’t condone it, but they don’t have a problem with it. They don’t encourage it, but they won’t turn me in.” Both had a story to tell, though. The junior ME told this story: “So one night, we had a drink-off. (This is going to discourage underage drinking.) You take as many shots as you can before you pass out and you take a tally on your arm. I

remember 1 through 18. I woke up with 24, and with lots of random objects thrown onto New Res lawn. The result is, nothing good is coming, except good memories or lack thereof.” The sophomore greek told about a past break. “One time I got drunk on the beach and I decided I had to pee, but I didn’t want to do it in the ocean or the sand dunes so I went back to the house. My friends didn’t know I’d left, and they went around asking if anyone had seen their ‘little drunk friend.’ And people were like, yeah, he went that way.” One member in social brotherhood Adelphia had this story: “I drank too much. I stuck my finger in one of those door frames and kept walking. It started bleeding, but because I was drunk, I just held it. My friend made me go wash it off. I was watching the blood spiral down the sink, and apparently it didn’t agree with me. I passed out, fell over backwards, and hit my head on a dresser. My eye stayed open when I was passed out, and everyone pretty much assumed I was dead. When I came to, they asked, ‘Where are you?’ and all I could get out was ‘U.S.A’ and apparently that was good for the night. The next morning, I was scuba diving at 10 am.” So, the students that drink in the described situations are violating their national policies. What do students think about it? The aforementioned sophomore explained, “I do it responsibly, so I feel ok doing it.” Mike Lapsley, president of Delta Sigma Phi, commented that “I think leaving out the profes-



Christina Davis/ Rose Thorn  
This was taken in the room of a student on campus.

## Why do you drink?

Men:

It was homecoming night and we were bored.  
– sophomore CHE greek  
  
I just do social drinking.  
– junior Adelphia EE

Women:

My brother had graduated from college and didn’t want his little sister going to college not knowing her limit, especially with a school of mostly guys.  
– sophomore ME independent  
  
Because I want to.  
– sophomore greek

Photo Credit: [http://www.istockphoto.com/file\\_thumbview\\_approve/378738/2/pouring\\_beer.jpg](http://www.istockphoto.com/file_thumbview_approve/378738/2/pouring_beer.jpg)

sional and honorary fraternities enhances the stereotype that social fraternities are a bunch of drunks, and that’s not true.” Maureen O’Connor, an independent sophomore ME, said that “I think each one is different. I would say that some focus on drinking a lot more than others.”

A member of the women’s greek organizations agrees with Lapsley. “I drank before I joined a sorority, and I would drink if I didn’t join. I don’t think it’s greek related, just socially active people are more likely to drink and are more likely to join a social. Several of my sisters don’t drink.”

## What do your brothers/sisters think? Do they care?

Men:

They’re all alcoholics. They think I drink too little.  
– junior EE

Women:

I usually drink at men’s fraternities. We’re not allowed to associate in any way.  
– sophomore greek

Photo Credit: <http://www.breweriana.com/bottles/bottlewoodenshoe.html>

## ΘΞ

“The possession, use, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises of any chapter or at any entertainment function of any chapter shall be in compliance with all applicable laws.”

## ΣΝ

“No ILLEGAL use, possession, sale or distribution of any legally controlled substance, including alcohol, at chapter functions is permitted.”

## ΔΣΦ

“Consumption of alcohol by those members under the legal drinking age will not be condoned.”

## ΧΩ

“...Members of each chapter bear personal responsibility to abide by applicable federal, state and local laws and applicable college/university and Chi Omega rules and regulations. This is a personal responsibility which each member, new member and officer accepts for herself as a condition of membership in Chi Omega.”

## ΛΧΑ

“The possession, consumption, and distribution of alcoholic beverages on the premises of any chapter or colony or at any entertainment or function given in the name of, or for the benefit of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity shall not be in conflict with institutional, state, provincial, or local regulations and policies.”

## FIJI

“The possession, sale, use or consumption of alcoholic beverages, while on chapter premises, during a fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education...”

# Fluorometer welcomed to Rose

Jim Sedoff  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, March 22, a new a new fluorometer was inducted by the Rose community. Paid for by a grant from the National Science Foundation sought by Assistant Professor of Chemistry Mark Brandt, Assistant Professor of Chemistry Penney Miller, Associate Professor of Chemistry Luanne Tilstra and Associate Professor of Chemistry Daniel Morris, the approximately \$130,000 instrument uses, as junior chemical engineer Adam Georgas put it, “a 450 Watt Xenon arc lamp to produce substantial amounts

of ultraviolet and visible light which can be used to [measure different molecules’ fluorescence].” Georgas explained that the fluorometer has been getting its share of work since setting foot on campus: “Currently we are using the instrument to measure the fluorescence of the human estrogen receptor’s fluorescence when it is bound to Tamoxifen. Because the protein’s fluorescence decreases when Tamoxifen is bound to it, we can measure how much is actually bound.” “Not that many universities have this good of a fluorometer. This is a big accomplishment for the chemistry department at Rose-Hulman. It sets us apart from many universities,” said Georgas.



Jim Sedoff/ Rose Thorn  
The new fluorometer was officially dedicated Thursday.



Entertainment News

by David Chen

Sony PS3 release delayed

Sony has announced that it will delay the release of its Playstation 3 gaming console until November. Sequel to the highly popular PS2 system, PS3 was initially slated for release this spring. The delay was due to finalization problems of its Blu-ray disc standard and to Sony's inability to provide key PS3 development tools to game developers on time.

Final Fantasy XII finally released in Japan

After years of delay dating back to 2001, Square-Enix has finally released *Final Fantasy XII* in Japan. As the latest in the popular role-playing game series, *FF XII* came out with a bang as mobs of Japanese waited to get their hands on the game. Although it will not be released in the U.S. until later this year, it certainly relieved fans of *Final Fantasy* after countless years of delay due to development problems.

First great album of the year

Mike Jones  
Entertainment Editor Emeritus

I've been waiting patiently, and finally the first great album of the year has been released. Surprisingly, it comes from a debut band, although two members did play together in Seattle's Carissa's Weird for ten years. But like Wolf Parade did with *Apologies to the Queen Mary* from last year, Band of Horses quickly asserts themselves as a band knowledgeable of previous styles with *Everything all the Time*. And if that understanding of past great albums is used correctly, it often results in something that may not be entirely original, but is none the less fantastic.

I squandered my first opportunity to enjoy Band of Horses. Seeing a positive review for "The Funeral", I downloaded the available track to quench my musical curiosity. I actually only listened to about the first 30 seconds before dismissing the song. Luckily (very luckily) I had a second chance after *Everything all the Time* was released this week. After listening to "The Funeral" for a second time, I realized how much of a mistake I'd made the first time around. Ben Bridwell beautifully sings "At every occasion, I'll be ready for a funeral" during the chorus. The lush guitars make the line seem

truly appropriate instead of cheap or out of place.

It doesn't take long to figure out that Bridwell will make or break this band for you. Musically *Everything all the Time* is likeable and familiar — not at all boring but not exceedingly challenging either. Half of the songs heavily use the southern style of My Morning Jacket, while the other half uses a lush sound similar to A Northern Chorus. These are often placed alternating throughout, which was a wise choice to avoid sameness. "Monsters" predictably builds up to a soaring climax - all banjos, steel guitar, and crashing cymbals. "St. Augustine" plays through entirely with only one guitar. This simplicity works on this album, though. Allowing Bridwell's vocals to dominate leaves *Everything all the Time* feeling open instead of crowded with instrumentation.

Bridwell can be a little more challenging though. By all accounts he's compared to My Morning Jacket's Jim James, which there's no denying. Bridwell is slightly more untamed though, making for a nice mix of Jim James and Wayne Coyne. This vocal style is most evident on "I go to the Barn because I Like the..." Where Jim James would be content sticking to his range in such a song, Bridwell attempts to move



<http://www.bandofhorses.com/images/newimages/ahh.jpg>  
Band of Horses released *Everything all the Time* on Sup Pop records.

out of his range, straining to get to the high notes. Think of the vocals on MMJ's "One Big Holiday" and you've got the idea.

Another important aspect of *Everything all the Time* is the production. The knobs are worked to perfection, achieving the aesthetic needed for a southern influenced album. The drums are mixed quietly back into the songs, allowing the vocals and guitar to take the center stage. The vocals resonate on every track, making Bridwell's lyrics even more potent. His style is often somber, yet still somehow hopeful in the end (much like the lyrics of Arcade Fire.) In "Monsters", he sings of escaping hate in the face of "aw-

ful people" - "If I am lost it's only for a little while."

So what really makes *Everything all the Time* the first great album of the year is its ability to synergize all the right elements. This could be said of most great albums, but is even more relevant in this case. There just isn't one primary cause. Bridwell's vocals are good, the album is ordered correctly, the production is appropriate, and the music is simple yet intriguing. Each song is entertaining in its own way. The best way to describe it is by simply calling it soulful music. It speaks to your heart instead of your brain, which is why it's so easily likeable.

You had me at “Flavor Flav”

Alex Clerc  
News Editor Emeritus

“Flava Flaaaaaaaaaaaaaav!”

For those of you who are new to the world of Flavor Flav (the hype man for the 80's hip-hop group Public Enemy), "Flava Flav" is just one of his many captivating sayings. Flavor Flav (born William Jonathan Drayton, Jr. in 1959) is the star of the hit VH1 reality show Flavor of Love. The format of the show is kind of like The Bachelor, with Flav being the object of attention. In the first episode of the 11-episode series, twenty girls arrived at Flav's mansion to compete for the prize — Flavor's love.

I thought the show was amazing, though it's hard to explain my love for something so tacky. In the first episode the girls, all in evening gowns, were brought in to the foyer of Flav's luxurious mansion. Then Flav appeared, wearing a pink tuxedo, crazy shades, ridiculous headwear (he usually wears a Viking helmet), gold teeth, and, of course, his trademark huge clock necklace. The girls went wild and he shouted, "Flava Flaaaaaaaaaav!"

The girls were mostly in their twenties and a lot of them were veterans of other reality dating shows like Blind Date. Keep in mind that Flav is 47 and at this point, after two decades of the excessive life of a hip-hop legend, looks like a burnt ant. Though

I'm sure that most girls were there because they truly were hoping to find a soul mate in Flavor Flav, there were probably a few (cough, cough) gold-diggers in the bunch.

The show was very entertaining to watch; at times I felt addicted to it. Each episode involved some kind of test Flav put the girls through, including spending a day at a nursing home, meeting Flav's mom, and going through a lie detector test administered by

Bridgett Nielson (Flav's celebrity ex-girlfriend). The extravagant mansion was a juxtaposition with the tackiness of the people living in it.

Towards the end of the show, hostilities between the girls really started to flare up (which, I must admit, added significantly to the entertainment value of the show). Once I started watching this show, I just had to see how it ended. Now that its over, it's going to be hard to deal with not watching Flav every week.

All in all, if I could sum this show up in one scene, it would be this: at the end of the final episode, when Flav finally chose the girl he'd be with, his gift to her was a gold grill. When she put it in, she looked Jaws from the old 007 movies. Priceless...

If you missed the generation-defining series that was Flavor of Love, I suggest that you go find some episodes or clips on the net and check it out.



[www.hot.ee](http://www.hot.ee)  
Jaws from the 007 films.

23<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology  
Conference on Undergraduate Mathematics

Friday and Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>  
on the Rose-Hulman campus in Terre Haute, Indiana

Featuring Invited Speakers:



Allen Holder  
Trinity University (TX)

Optimal Oncology

Friday  
1:30 – 2:45 pm  
GM Room



Michael Rosen  
Brown University

The Zeta Function for Beginners

Friday  
7:15 – 8:15 pm  
E104

Student Talks

Friday 3:00 – 5:00 pm Crapo Hall

Further information on the conference can be found at  
<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/mathconf/>

This conference is funded in part by a grant from the Mathematical Association of America  
MAA NSF-RUMC (NSF grant DMS-0241090).



# Inside Man a nice add to heist genre

Chris Bellamy  
Daily Utah Chronicle (U. Utah)

Every now and then, a serious filmmaker likes to step out of his or her element and try something a little more conventional. Soderbergh had *Ocean's Eleven*, Scorsese had *Cape Fear*, and now Spike Lee has *Inside Man*, a fairly conventional but roundly effective heist thriller.

Lee is most known for his racially charged dramas and in-depth character studies; in fact, there's not a single entry in his filmography that doesn't fit into one or both of those categories. While *Inside Man* is a departure for him, he brings some sensibility to this overdone genre, infusing a traditional plot with some social commentary about the politics of big business.

The plot is pretty standard issue: Denzel Washington plays Keith Frazier, a street-wise detective who's facing heat from the higher-ups on the police force for his alleged involvement in a money-laundering scandal. We presume he's innocent (come on, it's Denzel!), but he feels the pressure nonetheless. So it's only fitting that when four "painters" stage a major heist at Manhattan Chase Bank, Frazier and his partner, Mitchell (Chiwetel Ejiofor), get called on the case.

The key player is Dalton Russell (Clive Owen), the mastermind behind the scheme who engages in a cat-and-mouse repartee with Frazier. It soon becomes clear that all is not as it seems. Russell's actions and

demands are curious, and it all seems a bit too simple to Frazier -- which makes sense, considering how many times Denzel has played a cop. He knows how this stuff works.

Russell, who narrates part of the film, makes for a great villain because he's neither likable nor unlikable -- he's ambiguous, and it's a perfect role for Owen, who plays cool, confident and amoral as well as anyone.

Complicating matters is Madeleine White (Jodie Foster), a power broker with a hidden agenda that has something to do with the bank's CEO, Arthur Case (Christopher Plummer). Once all the pieces are set in place, the cops, the robbers and the suits joust in an old-fashioned battle of wits!

Those who are actually involved in the heist, what they are

after and how they pull everything off are just a few of the elements that are exposed over the course of the film. Lee and first-time screenwriter Russell Gewirtz have put together a densely textured film, layered with

the kind of manipulation and sleight of hand that simply makes for good, entertaining cinema.

*Inside Man* may just be another run around the block for a moviegoing public that has been inundated with tricky heist thrillers over the last few years, and it may not provide the intellectual and thematic challenges that many of have come to love from Spike Lee. But this is still a worthwhile departure for one of the best filmmakers of his generation.

[Lee] brings some sensibility to this overdone genre, infusing traditional plot with some social commentary.

## Consolidate NOW

Student Loan interest rates are increasing to 6.8% July 1.

If you have \$7,500 or more in Federal loans, you may consolidate your loans to get a fix rate lower than 6.8%.

Rose-Hulman Financial Aid Office is offering Loan Consolidation Meetings. You can attend one of the sessions to learn more about consolidation.

Date	Time	Place
April 3	2:30	Heritage Room
April 3	5:30	Heritage Room
April 5	5:30	PA Room
April 6	11:00	PA Room

## A Softer World

Gregory Weir  
Humor Editor

The haiku is an art form that sees a lot of attempts and few successes. People like it because it's easy. However, there's something in a haiku from Kobayashi Issa that's just missing from lazy fifth-grade attempts.

*A Softer World*, by Emily Horne and Joey Corneau, is an example of a similar kind of art. People who read webcomics periodically come across an "experimental" comic; one that uses the same picture every day or steals its art from renaissance painters, and always, always, writes in lowercase. Usually, they're terrible, devoid of entertainment for anyone but their strangely devoted fans.

*A Softer World*, though, is something different. The art is composed of a single washed-out photograph per comic, either sliced up into a triptych or reproduced with slight changes in cropping for each panel, and the lowercase text has a scrapbook

style. Like many webcomics of this sort, the whole thing is terribly artistic, with a sort of desperate, coffee-shop pretentiousness.

The photography is pretty and sometimes haunting, with uncomfortable close-ups and people cropped in half by the edge of the frame. The text matches the art in surreality; it often involves uncomfortable topics like domestic abuse or sudden, comic death, and its punchlines are half funny and half creepy. One of the few recurring characters, Baby Doom, writes death threats from her crib. Everyman are bemused by bizarre sexual practices and horrible atrocities. A parent rebuilds the kiddie ride that killed his daughter in her old room. It's solid overall, despite a tendency toward racy topics and shock punchlines.

The comic sometimes crosses the line from weird and cool to just weird, but for people who enjoy earnest attempts at haiku, *A Softer World* awaits at [www.asofterworld.com](http://www.asofterworld.com).

Out In Theatres

*Inside Man*  
Starring Denzel Washington  
Directed by Spike Lee  
Rated R

*Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector*  
Starring Larry the Cable Guy  
Directed by Trent Copper  
Rated PG-13

*Stay Alive*  
Starring Cynthia LeBlanc  
Directed by William Brent Bell  
Rated PG-13

Out on DVD

*Chicken Little*

*Everything is Illuminated*

Box Office Tops

1. *V for Vendetta*
2. *Failure to Launch*
3. *The Shaggy Dog*

Also available on the website is "Overqualified", a collection of strange cover letters to resumes.

## Stay warm in the March snow with a fresh Papa John's Pizza!

### Extra Large One-Topping

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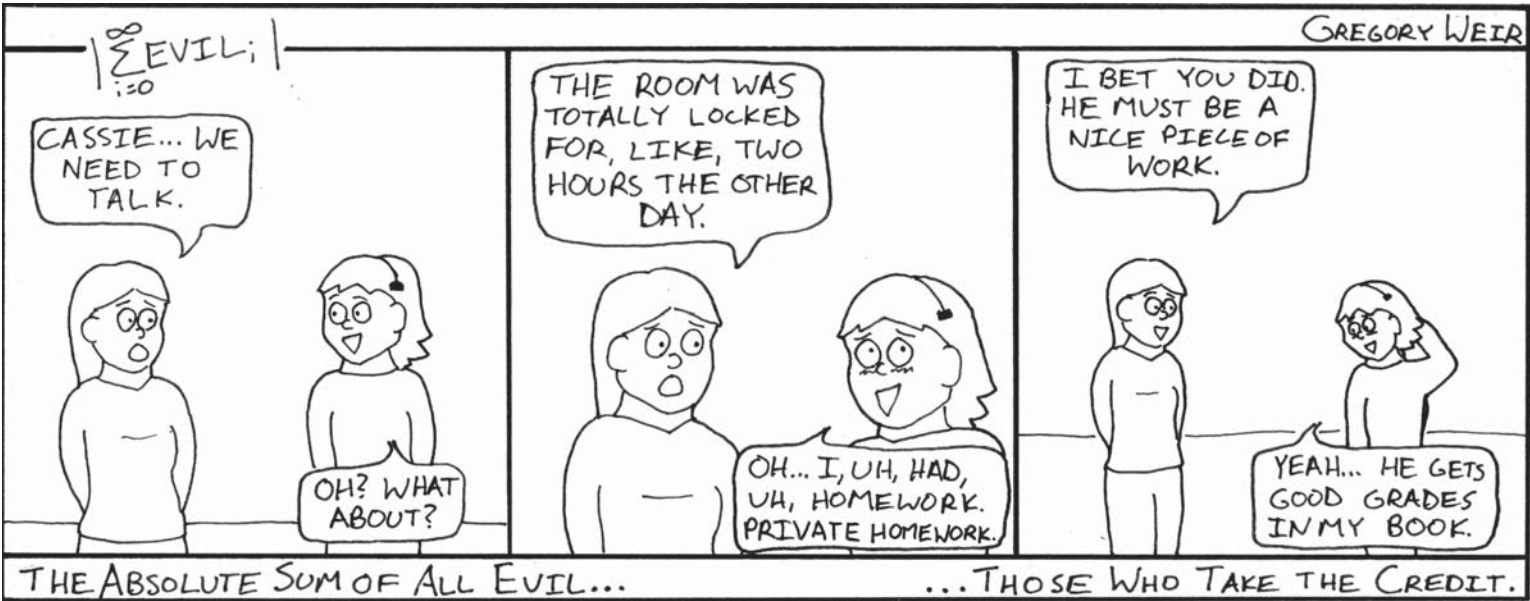
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**This Day in History**

In 1988, the *Exxon Valdez* hits a reef in Alaska, causing the worst oil spill in U.S. history. Exxon ends up paying \$25 million despite its claims that it was just “moisturizing the skin of the Earth.”

**In Addition**

I hope that each and every one of you thinks long and hard about what you can do to help end the iniquity and infighting that plagues this world. Even the smallest contribution can make an enormous difference.

## Point/counterpoint: Flipside time travel

### *Prehistoric Flipside*

**Dag Simonson**  
*Humor Editor Emeritus*

Shiny box appear on mountain. Funny looking man come out. He skin very pale. Use big word and good grammar. Maybe he Cuneiform Scientist? Hah, hah, hah.

Me tell him Rose Lithotechnic class work very hard. Me ask for help on math. He tell me about thing called zee-row. It sound hard. Me think me stick with Wheel Engineering. Senior design project very fun. Me try to make wheel lighter. Wheel very

### Wacky Prof Quotes

“If there ain’t no food involved, it’s just not worth it.”  
-- Prof. Wollowski, keeping his priorities straight

“When I get upset, I make lots of red marks on your papers, and then I feel better.”  
-- Prof. Merkel, who enjoys failing students

“I’m not the father... at least not since the court order.”  
-- Prof. Butske, on the teenage pregnancy epidemic

“Mel Gibson was getting tortured and I kinda liked it.”  
-- Prof. Luegenbiehl, who must hate Mel Gibson

“There’s probably reasons why I don’t run the school.”  
-- Prof. Yoder, discussing his administrative capabilities

“Honest is difficult. Cheating is easy and that is what we do.”  
-- Prof. Grigg, on the ethics of electronics modelling

“Any questions from the peanut gallery? Is anyone alive? Is anyone wearing pink polka-dotted underwear?”  
-- Prof. Yoder, encouraging class participation

“One minus thirteen is eleven.”  
-- Prof. Butske, on arithmetic

**Send your prof quotes or other humor material to [flipside@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:flipside@rose-hulman.edu)**



## Longest stoplight of my life

**Lissa Avery**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Since joining the Cartoon Club—I mean the Rose-Hulman Anime Society—I’ve been picking up and listening to some anime tunes. Opening and closing themes, mostly. All harmless.

Except I’m an obsessive music listener. If I’m at my computer, driving alone, or working out, I’m listening to music. Well, except during Pilates. I’d strangle myself with the headphone cord.

This past Tuesday, though, my car stereo died an ugly death that took most of my car battery with it. It was with tears and numb fingers that I gutted my dash and unplugged my stereo to keep it from leaving me stranded.

That’s not too bad a problem, though, right? I sang along with all the songs before, so I should be set even without the music.

After picking up a sleek new joystick from Staples yesterday (I wore out the last one), I was singing my heart out at a stoplight when I felt eyes on me.

A glance over revealed that the guy in the car next to me was looking at me. Keeping up my mangled Japanese singing (with an occasional English word or two), I turned my head slowly and looked at what may be the ugliest man I’d ever seen in my life. This man made Ron Jeremy look as cute as Mario in that one horrible, disturbing photo shoot...

The man was dirty. His hair was matted to his head and unevenly cut, at that. He might have had dreds, but I couldn’t be sure. Just plain nasty.

I felt my face falling slowly into a frown while I looked at him. My song got quiet, but didn’t end. We locked eyes, and I began to wonder if my new joystick could be used as a weapon.

And then he smiled at me and winked, revealing a mouth full of not just gold, but mangled, poorly aligned gold teeth. It looked like someone had gold-plated a crumpled rake and put it in his mouth.

My singing stopped. *Dear god.* Someone honked. The light had finally changed. I took off.

Longest stoplight of my life.

## Dibs on Greenland!

**Alex Clerc**  
*News Editor Emeritus*

For decades, scientists have been warning us about global warming. In a recent article in the Journal of Science, some have even claimed that the melting of Greenland’s glaciers will cause sea levels to rise 3-4 meters within our century, causing drastic changes in global climate. Worst of all, the beaches in Florida will be ruined. Where the heck will we go for spring break?

But I’m not going to dwell on the negatives of global warming; I have an idea that will turn global warming into an economic opportunity (mostly just for me).

While the rising oceans will indeed wipe out the world’s best beaches, imagine what it will do to places like Greenland. When the temperatures in Greenland reach the eighties, glaciers will melt away, revealing miles upon miles of picturesque, sunny, virgin beach. And I’ll be there to call dibs on it.

The indigenous inhabitants of Greenland, the Inuit, will probably move to Chile once Greenland melts (its hard to build igloos out of sand), so my only real competition to control the beaches will be bears and the notoriously harmless walrus mafia.

People talk about global warming like it will destroy the world. But I prefer to look on the positive side: the worst thing it can do is make the planet warmer, and that would be awesome. Just think: on Tuesday, I went sledding, and that was March 21. A little global warming is exactly what we need right now. And I still got dibs on Greenland.

- ## Top ten things to do when it snows in spring
- Matthew Melton**  
*Staff Writer*
10. DHL box sledding!
  9. Play Ultimate Frisbee and wonder why everyone brought out their white Frisbees instead of the colored ones.
  8. Form a roaming band of snowball throwers and ambush other groups, anyone who looks at you wrong, or anyone from Deming.
  7. “Borrow” ARA trays and use them as sleds, or, if you’re really adventurous, Frisbees.
  6. Build a snowman in your RA’s room... but not a few hours before he comes back (because of that “melting” thing).
  5. Watch partially inebriated upperclassmen take a kayak off a snow ramp and catch major air.
  4. Watch your SA ride a makeshift snowboard off a snow ramp and catch way too much air, then help him limp back to his room.
  3. Help scrape a car’s windows at 2:45 a.m. with your ID and gift cards so you can make it to Taco Bell before it closes.
  2. Take visitors to snowball fights at two in the morning, then come back and do your homework. That’s Rose.
  1. Anything at all that knocks your homework back to weekend Wednesday!