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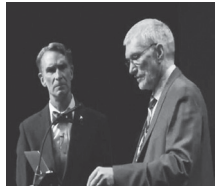
THE ROSE THORN

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY • THORN.ROSE-HULMAN.EDU • FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2014 • VOLUME 49 • ISSUE 17

saturday snow showers 33°/26° **sunday** partly cloudy 38°/31° **monday** showers 48°/29°



Have you seen the LEGO Movie? **Page 4**



Evolution & Creationism not so different after all. **Page 5**



Beat the Valentine's Blues. **Page 6**



Julian Strickland dominates in Fightin' Engineers game against Manchester. **Page 7**

Hands On Crisis Handling

Sidharth Ramesh
staff writer

Last Friday, the Leadership Advancement Program (LAP) organized an event to teach students at Rose critical skills to use in a crisis situation; like handling communication, working in teams, and decision making. Students were divided into three teams and each of the team was assigned a city. Students were asked to delegate roles of the city administrators to handle the scenario of a volcanic eruption. The problem statement was to use the resources given to save the people and property of the team's respective city. The events would be conveyed through a Lync connection, and the students could choose whether to respond or not, and what they could do if

they did respond. Even though this was a hypothetical crisis, working through the scenarios was very helpful for the students to see how they would communicate and the mistakes they might make when thrown into a demanding situation.

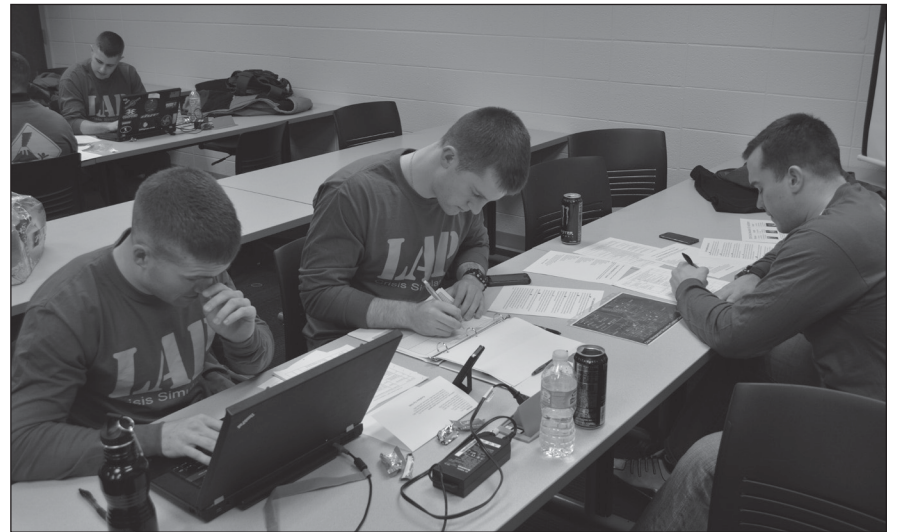
The humanities professor Julia Williams and Dean of Student Affairs, Donna Gustafson, were monitoring the event along with other volunteer professors. They were carefully watching the students. Shortly after the start of the event Dr. Williams explained the things that were not being handled correctly and gave suggestions that could improve the communication and aid the crisis handling process.

Cadets from the Army ROTC moderated the whole event and gave valuable feedback at the

end of the event on the teams' response times and the different options that went unutilized.

Officials from Vigo County, Owen County and Clay County also were present during the crisis simulation. They gave critiques and insight about the students' approach. The county officials, who participated in this event on a Friday evening, were experienced professionals who could talk to the students about the importance of different ways of communication between the teams and delegating work. They also gave their suggestions on how the students could have done better.

The event ended around 7:45 PM with a dinner after which the winning team of the event was announced. It was then that the officials pointed out the large mistakes made and what the teams could have done better. The Army ROTC Captain offered a silver coin with the ROTC emblem on it as a mark of thanks to the county officials. Students who attended the crisis simulation felt that they had seen



Scenes of the LAP Crisis Simulation event showcasing the participation of students, faculty, and staff.

Photos are courtesy of Dr. Williams

the importance of communication and crisis management.

The next Leadership Advancement Program event is a Case Study Competition on Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22. At this event, students can put together a team and work on a solution to a case study problem

posed by the LAP faculty and staff. In the past, case studies have focused on communicating an influenza outbreak and managing a plant closure. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top teams judged by a panel of alumni and industry representatives.

Conner and Cassidy Keep Students Laughing

Christopher Kodama
staff writer

Ryan Conner performed a stand-up comedy routine on February 1st in the Kahn Room, which coincided with Family Weekend and was the first event in the Student Activities Board's Month of a Mil-

lion Laughs. Conner is a contributing writer for Saturday Night Live and writes for the MTV show "Ridiculousness." He has also performed a pilot show for the NFL network and gave post-election commentary for BBC, and has worked with other comedians; such as Dave Chappelle, Colin Quinn,

and Mitch Hedberg. Conner is adept at finding the humorous perspective from his own life experiences, and draws from these experiences when developing his routine. He is also known for being able to gauge the audience's reaction and fine-tune his routine to match up with the audience's

sense of humor. Punchline Magazine (now Laughspin) noted that Conner "has all the makings of a great stand-up" and that his style is "unique and extremely funny."

Currently living in Los Angeles, Conner had previously lived in New York but grew up in the Washington D.C. area. He

loved stand-up comedy since he was eight years old, but was too shy to get into it. Conner became a screenwriter when he was 18, and after writing for a while, Conner began developing ideas that wouldn't work so well for screenplays, but were great for stand-up comedy.

Continued on Page 3

events

Comedian Mal Hall

Come enjoy comedian Mal Hall's stand up performance.
Kahn Rooms, February 15, 8:00 p.m.

Miyazaki Film Night

Come view the films of the great director Hayao Miyazaki..
Percopo Theater, February 17, 7:00 p.m.



Eric Bibb & Ruthie Foster

The latest show in the Performing Arts Series.
Hatfield Hall, February 21, 7:30 p.m.

Comedian Matt Grisham

End the week with Grisham's humorous stand up routine.
Kahn Rooms, February 22, 8:00 p.m.

sports

Women's Basketball vs. Franklin
February 19 - 7:30 p.m.

Men's Tennis vs. Alma
February 22 - 3:30 p.m.

Baseball vs. Concordia Chicago
March 14 - 5:30 p.m.

Baseball vs. Alma
March 15 - 11 a.m.

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THE ROSE THORN

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We are Rose-Hulman’s independent student newspaper. We keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information.

ISSUES of The Rose Thorn are published on the first through ninth Fridays of each academic quarter.

WEEKLY MEETINGS OCCUR at 5:15 p.m. on the first through ninth Wednesdays of each academic quarter. All members of the Rose-Hulman community are welcome to attend.

SUBMISSION of articles, photographs, art, and letters to the editor is encouraged. Submissions may be made by email to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or in person to Hulman Memorial Union room 249. The submission deadline is 5:00 p.m. Wednesday.

THE RIGHTS to accept submissions or changes made after the deadline, to include submissions in the online edition at thorn.rose-hulman.edu, to edit submissions insofar as the original intent of the submission remains unaltered, and to reject submissions deemed inappropriate for print are reserved by the editors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR should be no longer than 600 words in length and must contain the writer’s (electronic) signature.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED herein are those of their respective authors and, with the exception of the Staff View, do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or the Rose-Hulman community.

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Conner and Cassidy from Page 1

He tried out his ideas one night and had a great time, and decided to further pursue stand-up comedy.

Students and parents alike enjoyed Conner’s performance on Saturday. Kevin Dwyer, vice president of SAB, commented that “Parents and students alike piled in to laugh and we even had to bring in more seats! Ryan Conner did not fail to impress keeping the audience

rolling with jokes about his diverse family and crazy ex-wife.”

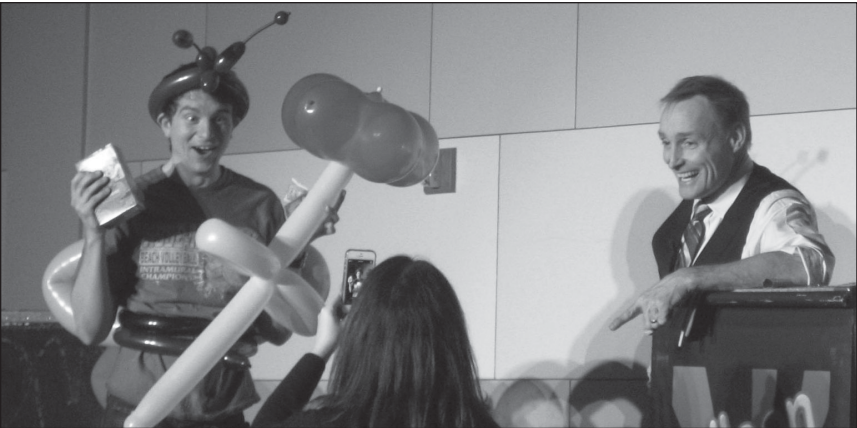
The second performer in the Month of a Million Laughs was John Cassidy, a comedian, magician, and balloon artist, who was here last Saturday in the Kahn Room. Cassidy, who lives with his wife near Philadelphia, holds several Guinness Book of World Record titles for balloon tying, including

“Most Balloon Sculptures Completed in One Hour” (747) and “Most Balloon Sculptures Completed in One Minute” (13). He has performed on Late Night with Conan O’Brien, Martha Stewart Living, The Weakest Link, NBC’s Today Show, Live With Regis and Kelly, and the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon. He has also performed at the White House

times.

Cassidy’s performance was lively, interactive, and included lots of balloons. He distributed many balloons in the shape of worms and flowers to the crowd; some of the more unique balloons that he created and gave to audience members included an extremely large red dog, an alien on a motorcycle, the clownfish Nemo, a giraffe,

Charlie Brown, a monkey in a tree, a stripper on a pole, the Roadrunner, a Mickey Mouse, and a unicorn. Most of his performance involved a member or two of the audience. He had many playing card tricks in his repertoire, and liked surprising audience volunteers with pranks like wound-up snakes in boxes and cans. He also had some pyrotechnics, including



Comedian John Cassidy (right) was the second performer as part of the SGA Board’s Month of a Million Laughs event.

Christopher Kodama



Comedian Ryan Conner (middle) with some of the SGA student staff.

Christopher Kodama

News Briefs

Miriam Remmers • news editor

Shaun White finishes off the podium in Sochi

Shaun White entered the 2014 Winter Games with hopes of replicating his two previous first place finishes in the Olympic snowboard halfpipe. White was originally slated to compete for team U.S.A. in both halfpipe and slopestyle, an event which he dominated in his late teens, but withdrew from the second event at the last minute due to safety concerns regarding the jumps. The gold in that event was taken by fellow American Sage Kotsenburg.

Smooth qualifying runs Tuesday afternoon sent White immediately to the top of the leaderboard, allowing him to advance directly into the event finals later that night. His practice runs during training had also gone off without a hitch. Yet when it came time for his final two runs Tuesday evening, White faltered and crash into the lip of the halfpipe during his first run, and was shaky during his second. His performance earned him a fourth place finish, off of the Olympic podium for the first time. The gold was taken by Iouri Podladtchikov of Switzerland, and the silver and bronze medals went to two riders from Japan.

Boehner brings debt ceiling to vote

Speaker of the House John A. Boehner announced on Tuesday that he would bring legislation to the floor which would raise the government’s borrowing authority with no strings attached. This complies with President Obama’s wishes, as he remains firm that he wants no policy attachments to be attached to a debt ceiling increase. Boehner says he will allow Democrats to pass the bill, giving it only as many Republican votes as it needs to get through the House.

Boehner has been a staunch advocate of what he likes to call the “Boehner Rule,” a policy which declares that any increase in the debt ceiling should be counteracted by spending cuts of equal magnitude, so this sudden gesture is surprising. Boehner has indicated that his grudging support of raising the debt ceiling without policy attachments is a result of practicality, not a change of heart, saying that he does not have enough Republican votes to attempt a more ambitious move. The issue was put to a vote Tuesday night for fear of the impending snowstorm the following day.

Although the issue was supposed to be put to a vote Wednesday, the timeline was sped up to Tuesday night for fear of the impending snowstorm the following day. The debt limit increase passed with a vote of 221 in favor to 201 opposed, with 28 Republicans contributing to the vote in favor of the increase.



ERIC BIBB & RUTHIE FOSTER

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Everything is Awesome

Peter Samyn • opinions editor

“The LEGO Movie” follows the story of Emmet, a typical LEGO mini-figure. He has been roped into a quest to save the LEGO world from the dastardly plans of President Business, and along the way he hopes to prove that his isn’t so mini after all. Mistaken as the “special,” the one prophesied to save the LEGO universe, happy-go-lucky Emmet is quickly in over his head. Along the ride, he runs into an entire collection of LEGO “Master Builders,” some familiar and some new. I could go a lot further, but I wouldn’t dare spoil this movie for anyone.

“The LEGO Movie” seems like your typical animated film at first glance. It starts as a whimsical introduction to the LEGO world with some catchy music, but with every fleeting moment, every piece of witty dialogue, and every little Easter egg you can see just how great this film is. It would have been easy for Warner Brothers to just phone this one in and bank on the LEGO name. Instead, the filmmakers really put in the love and effort that it deserves and oh my gosh does it pay off.

The script is incredibly well-

written. So many witty and memorable lines are spouted during the 100 minute runtime that it’s hard to keep track. The LEGO Movie is one of those films in which viewers will find new things with every viewing. The characters are memorable, a difficult feat that has been achieved by the sheer number of pop culture icons cast in the film as mini-figures.

The music is great; it’s catchy and perfectly illustrates the tone that the film seeks. Happy and joyful, the music will stick in your head without a doubt. The art is simply amazing. Everything is made of LEGO bricks, unlike the videogame adaptations of LEGO which often go the easy route and have real world backgrounds. Sticking to the brick motif really sells the LEGO world like nothing else before it. Everything is LEGO; even the water is made of blue bricks. It foams, spouts, and animates fluidly. It’s like nothing that I have ever seen.

The LEGO Movie doesn’t just master the use of bricks - real world objects are integrated in such a clever fashion that everyone in the theater was laughing. Simple things like having Band-Aids be one

of the most deadly weapons and having mini-figures mispronouncing well-known household items’ names left us laughing.

The LEGO Movie is more than just an animated film. I won’t go into details, but the film goes in a direction that one would not expect. There are very subtle hints, but the tale goes in a direction that is far from the norm for this kind of movie. Ultimately, this direction pays off in a big way. Again, I just can’t say what it is - it’s too good.

When it comes down to it though, the biggest achievement of the LEGO Movie is the sense of joy that the viewer feels while watching it. It’ll have you feeling like a kid again, looking back on the days when your life was pretty much all about LEGOs, something that I’m sure is relatable to most Rose students. The LEGO Movie makes you feel special for being you. No one can be a better you than you, so go out there and watch this movie, build a spaceship out of LEGOs, and go to town because that’s what life is all about.

Rating: 5/5 elephants



“MONUMENTS MEN”

Bethany Martin
living emeritus

This is not your average war movie. There is death and gunfire, but the plot itself is not about the soldiers. It is about the men who went into a war zone in which they had no reason to be to save precious works of art. The movie touches your heart with moving speeches about how art is the lifeblood of culture and how every culture deserves to have that preserved.

When word gets around that Hitler has been amassing a huge collection of stolen art to fill his Fuhrer Museum, Frank Stokes (George Clooney) is determined to save the great works of the masters as war ravages Europe. He recruits James Granger (Matt Damon) and other artists and architects played by Bill Murray, John Goodman, and Bob Balaban. They add a down and out Donald Jeffries (Hugh Bonneville) to their ranks and start off looking for the stolen art.

The movie did an impeccable job making you feel the importance of their mission but none of the urgency. The characters drifted from scene to scene with no real consistency. There were times when I was left uncomfortable by how long the pieces of precious art were looked upon while the enemy was coming. You were being told that time was of the essence, but absolutely nothing was happening. The essence of the movie was good, but the portrayal was not.

The movie is easy enough to understand as well as mildly entertaining to watch, but you can tell why it was passed over during the Oscar season. It just kind of fell flat, which is sad, considering the wonderful cast. There were parts that made me positively tear up. The parts with Bill Murray harassing his partner were hilarious, but I was not quite thrilled as I left the theater.

Matt Damon’s character seemed to be all over the place. He was trying to get a French woman (Cate Blanchett) to tell him where the German’s took the paintings when they fled Paris. When she finally trusts him, she does a total personality change and tries to use the whole “Paris in spring” sentiment to try to get into his pants. Later he stepped on a dormant land mine, and the rest of the team came together to save him. What should have been a high stress moment and then an instant comedic relief moment was unexciting and bland.

George Clooney’s sixth attempt at directing was passable but not nearly what it needed to be for this movie to make it big. For spending so much time in France it was missing a lot of “je ne sais quoi.” I was disappointed; I have been excited for this since movie way back when I saw the trailer last summer. Although when a movie has been pushed back as far as this one has, one has to wonder why.

Rating: 2/5 elephants





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A Single’s Guide to Valentine’s

Amaryllis Biduaka
Living Editor

If you are like me, my dear readers, and do not have a date for Valentine’s Day, do not fret. Here is a plan that is sure to keep you occupied all night.

First of all, go to your local grocery store and instead of heading straight to the chocolate aisle, head on over to the produce section and pick up some dates and cuties.

Now I want you to take those dates back to Rose and put them in your microwave for at least 10 seconds. When one of your floor mates or roommates asks you what your plans are for the evening, you run away yelling over your shoulder, “I can’t talk, too many hot dates waiting for me”. However, if you have a friend that is single, you can be the best wingman/woman by hooking them up with one of your “cutie” oranges. Now you both can participate in part two.

Once you have returned to your “dates,” set them aside as a snack while you play your favorite online multiplayer game. If you do not play nice with others, try finding an

online dating simulator game. Even if you do not succeed in asking the right person out, you can always try again by restarting the game. If gaming is not for you, you could always go see SGA’s showing of “Gravity.”

However, if breaking the laws of physics with movie magic bothers you, try watching funny Vines on YouTube or just rent your own movie.

Once you have played several games or watched several movies, a snack is definitely in order. Since your date is stuffed, you can take all the money you would have spent on them and spend it on yourself. Imagine how much pizza or Chinese food you could buy with 20 dollars! Your dates surely will not be offended. If you do not have a car, you could always order a pizza from your favorite pizza place.

In the delivery instructions tell your driver to make the pizza in the shape of a heart, have the business send the cutest delivery boy/girl to deliver it, or tell the delivery person to tell you that you are beautiful. This will make

your night, and you could possibly get a number out of it.

Now get ready for a twist. The best thing about Valentine’s Day is actually the day after it. The goal is to buy out all the chocolate and Valentine’s Day goodies everywhere. Like Halloween candy this candy will be gone quickly, so you need a plan to get the candy you want. I recommend going out to all the stores at 12:30 a.m.; that way the stores have time to change the prices in their system and put up signs. The night is still young, so you can return to Rose accomplished and devour your treasure.

Again if you do not have a car, grab a single friend with a car and ask if they want to come with you. Your date still will not care if you do not share, so more for you.

Even though Valentine’s is made for couples, you can still have a fun-filled day with friends or a bowl of fruit. You do not need anyone because you are a strong, independent man or woman.



Comment: Don’t be alone this Valentine’s Day !

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Letters 

to the editor

On behalf of the entire team here at Indiana Blood Center, thank you for hosting an Indiana Blood Center blood drive yesterday.

The bad weather and difficult travel conditions forced us to shut down six of our eight donor centers and cancel all but two blood drives, of which one was yours. It is because of the support of Rose-Hulman and 185 individuals who participated over your two-day blood drive that we continue to be able to provide lifesaving blood components to over 60 Indiana hospitals. Quite fortunately given the snowfall yesterday, we were able to supply all the hospitals with what they needed this morning. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,
Byron

**Want to write for
The Rose Thorn?**

Email thorn@rose-hulman.edu.

Common Ground for the Evolution-Creationism Debate

Clay Condol • guest writer

Having been recently inspired by the article "Answers for Creationists," I have decided to write my own short article on this subject. Mostly, I stay out of the line of fire of such heated topics on public forums and naturally admire someone who can do jump into a heated subject and come out with a clean, well-written, objective article. I'm happy to see people on both sides of the argument showing their expertise while remaining respectful of the other side and decided I would join them. For the record, I am on the evolutionist side of this argument [After all, I have to root for my dog in the fight. Go Bill!! (Good debating Ham.)], but hear me out Creationists! As a Christian and a scientist, I would like to reiterate a few points, dispel a few misconceptions on both sides, and propose some ideas for the sake of adding a social factor to this wonderful article. You don't need to read the article to understand what I have written.

If I accomplish anything, I would like to correct the misconception of some Christians that evolutionist implies non-believer and the misconception of evolutionists that Christianity is irrational. A Christian is someone who is a believer in Jesus Christ and his teachings. To my knowledge, Jesus Christ never taught creationism, and he never said believe in me and creationism to be saved. You could argue that he implied it, but I venture to say that perhaps God saw the evolutionism-creationism debate coming (because he totally did) and for our sake left this part out of the contract. Evolutionists should keep in mind that every scientific theory, including evolution, does not disprove the existence of a God. From a scientific standpoint, there is no hard proof of God's existence (there is "soft" proof), but this idea cannot be dismissed purely on that merit. After all, at one point we had no evidence for all of our scientific theories that we have today. Therefore, the pure belief in God and Jesus, whose existence is easier proved than disproved, is not illogical (Cue to ensue subsequent debate of Jesus being either god or human). The implication of

this being that some people on both sides of the debate need to cool their jets and strive to understand and educate the other side. The Nye-Ham debate and questions posed by the creationists and response from evolutionists is a good start.

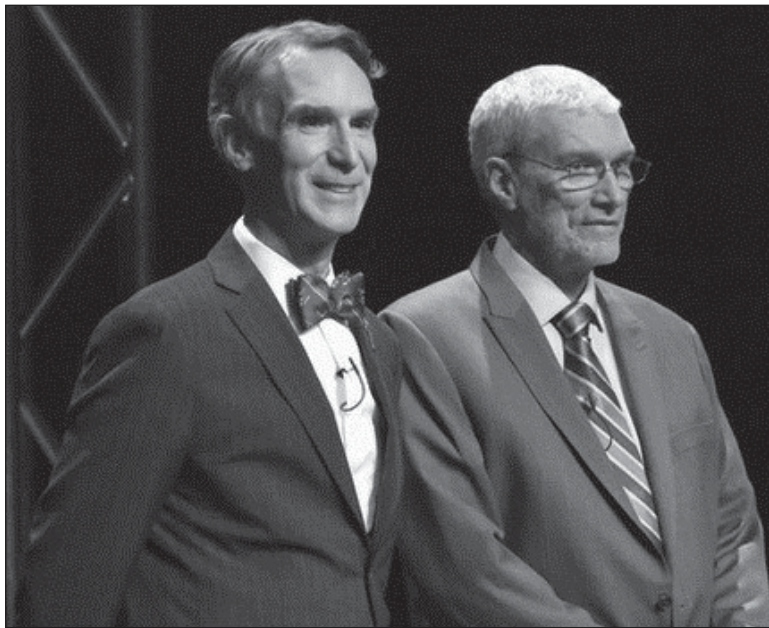
Science is dedicated to the determination of our origins. It is focused on uncovering truths. If God is truth, then won't his existence be discovered by science in the end if God desires it? If this statement is true, do faithful Christians really have anything to fear from science? No, not if they understand what science is. Even if science is currently misguided, God has said those who seek the truth will find it. So won't science eventually uncover the truths of the universe?

You could say that all one needs is faith so why do I need science? Yes, faith is all you need as a Christian, but step outside your mind and beliefs for a minute and recognize that some people don't operate on a faith basis. They need proof! If science eventually proves the existence of a God, (Don't ask me how that would happen. I have no idea.) then think of all the people that would be saved! I don't see a downside here.

You could argue that God wants us to have faith, not proof. Perhaps you are correct. However, the Word of God also states that all will be revealed at the end of time. This line could be talking about the revelation of truth through science. Of course, that passage is open to different interpretations. Maybe you were thinking God himself would reveal all of the great mysteries of universe. Well, I'd like to remind you that God works through us and in mysterious ways. We can't make any assumptions because we don't and can't understand his plan completely.

While I'm on the topic of Biblical interpretation, I would also like to make the tangential point that there are similarities between the creation story and the theory of evolution. While I don't have time to address all of them right now, I would like to address the obvious one.

The order in which God created earthly organisms is roughly the same order in which different organisms are theorized to have



Bill Nye and Ken Ham continued the age old creationism versus evolution debate.

courierpress.com

come into existence. The only major difference is the time lapse in which creation occurred. Could it be that there is some kind of weird cosmic time shift between God's plane of existence and ours? Maybe God didn't want us to understand that aspect of the creation story because he thought it was unimportant or some other reason I wouldn't even begin to understand.

Could God have told it to the writer of Genesis, the first book of the bible, how the world was created in a way that he could understand it? I really doubt that the scribe understood subatomic particles, anti-matter, evolution, or any science subjects for that matter. Even if he did understand or God allowed him to understand, no one else did.

The first book of the bible would make no sense to its reader. Let's be honest. The world was not ready for the Big Bang theory back then.

Creationists can argue that God created the earth to look old. Sure. That could have happened. If all-powerful is the name of the game, God can do anythang (enjoy the terrible rhyme for a second... Okay, continue). It's also possible that God had the idea to create our universe and all the laws and theories of science that we observe today, and was like, "Yup, this evolution stuff is boring. Let's

speed this up and get to the good stuff: mankind. I'll just hit the fast forward button on this petri dish that I'm calling Earth, not unlike the humans of 2014 will do to those slow starting Lifetime movies to see if the plot actually produces anything worth watching. Six days later we showed up. Again, I'll remind you that God is all-powerful in the Christian belief system. He could make anything happen, and make it seem like something else happened. The all-powerful concept is difficult to grasp for scientists because modern science has never observed such a being. However, just because we haven't observed it yet doesn't mean it isn't possible. In case you haven't already guessed, I'm making these points to show that both sides could be correct and incorrect simultaneously.

The truth of the matter is, this debate between the theory of evolution as written and the Bible as written is unwinnable at the current time, and will ultimately result in a stalemate no matter how you attack the issue because both sides have a trump card up their sleeves. All a creationist needs to say is, "Because God willed it." After that there is no rebuttal, because the existence of God cannot be disproved. All an evolutionist needs to say is "Disprove evolution through scientific means." While there may be some discrepancies,

as pointed out by Ham during the debate, there is not nearly enough of them to do any significant amount of damage to the credibility of the theory.

Luckily for us, we will continue to learn though scientific study, debating, and discussion. Eventually the ultimate truth will be revealed. We won't have to guess anymore and however it turns out I am looking forward to it. You may think the social implications will be crippling to the losing party, but this is not the case. As Bill Nye discussed last during the debate, science welcomes new discovery. Scientists will adapt the theory of evolution and move on to make more discoveries that will improve our standard of living and society. If creationists lose the debate, they merely need to change their interpretation of the creation story.

The losing party will only lose out on pride. We've all lost pride at some point, but we've all rebuilt it too. There is nothing to observe that would suggest a different outcome so I'll predict that the losing party will follow this model.

We need not be worried or fearful of the other side's opinions. After all, we are all beneficiaries of discovering truth, and the truth is what both sides are seeking. We've found different ways to go about our search for the truth, and that is extraordinary. You may think one side or the other is wasting their time in their search, but think about the benefits of a devil's advocate. Untested faith or an untested theory is worthless. Both grow stronger when proven correct. We need to be more open to new ideas. While we don't need to accept those ideas as our own, we need to at least accept that they are ideas. I encourage this recent outbreak of discussion and hope it continues. It's incredibly educational to both parties. As for an answer to evolutionism-creationism debate, you won't find one in this read. I'll have to quote my man, Bill Nye, on that subject. "I don't know everything, and I'm okay with that."



Letters to the editor

David Harvey • staff writer

On January 10, 2014, The Rose Thorn took an official stance on HJR-3 (formerly known as HJR-6). Taking a stance has compromised the journalistic integrity of the paper and damaged its ability to facilitate discussion on the issue. The Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics states: "Journalists should be free of obligation to any interest other than the public's right to know." By providing an official organizational stance, the paper has become an advocate of the opposition to HJR-3, and this impairs its ability to deliver unbiased

facts on the amendment. The Code of Ethics also advises the avoidance of conflicts of interest, whether "real or perceived." Assuming that the Thorn was earnest in its assertion that it will remain an "open public forum seeking intelligent discussion on the topic," its stance creates at least a perceived conflict of interest. If the Thorn's stance creates even a second of pause for those wishing to publish in favor of HJR-3, then some measure of objectivity has been lost.

According to the Pew Research Journalism Project, "Independence is an underlying requirement of journal-

ism, a cornerstone of its reliability." The Thorn has lost its independence on the topic. One cannot act as a moderator when involved in the debate. The members of The Thorn who wish to express their opinions can use the paper as a medium of discussion, but an official organizational is not the appropriate way for staff views to be expressed. An editorial on the issue would have sufficed in expressing the opinion that was instead put forth in the Special section of The Thorn. Newspapers often endorse political candidates or stances, but these are always in the context of an editorial. A

Staff View article would have been appropriate as well. The Thorn writes in every issue that "The views expressed herein are those of their respective authors and, with the exception of the Staff View, do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or the Rose-Hulman community." Why make that proclamation if it is not used in these situations? If The Thorn wishes to maintain its journalistic integrity and to provide a forum for the intelligent discussion of controversial and relevant issues, it should avoid taking official, organizational stances in the future.

RHIT wins due to scoring explosion

Matt Dierksmeier
sports editor emeritus

Rose-Hulman senior Julian Strickland had a massive offensive performance on Saturday as the Fightin' Engineers overpowered Manchester University by twenty, 85 – 65. Strickland recorded a career-high 41 points. It marks only the eighth time a men's basketball player from Rose-Hulman has recorded a 40-point game. The scoring spree led to Strickland's naming on d3hoops.com Na-

tional Team of the Week and the fifth HCAC Player of the Week award of the season.

To combine for his 41 points, Strickland was 13-20 from the field, including 3-6 from three-point range and he nailed 12 of 13 free throws. Strickland also pulled down seven rebounds and dished out four assists. Sophomore Jimmy Miller also crossed the double digit mark with 10 points. Senior Alec Houpt led the Engineers in rebounds, with eight, and he also contrib-

uted six points.

The win over Manchester also marked the 14th win for Rose-Hulman in their last 15 games. They maintained their lead in the HCAC standings, improving to 12 – 2.

In the first half, Rose-Hulman attacked early and often, pushing their lead to 32 – 16 with 6:37 remaining. Manchester though would close to 39 – 30 with five straight points to end the first half.

Strickland would

help cushion the lead as his five straight points gave Rose-Hulman a 61 – 48 lead with around nine minutes to go. He would cross the 40-point mark with 6:31 left to extend the lead to 19. The Engineers refused to let Manchester get back in the game as it would end 85 – 65.

The Fightin' Engineers then returned home for their Senior Night game against Hanover College on Wednesday evening.

Six senior players: Jake Dodd, Alec Houpt, Jordy Martin, Brian McHugh, James Pillischafske, and Julian Strickland, and student assistant coach Nick McDonough were honored for their time and dedication to the team. At Rose-Hulman, the six seniors have a combined 181 starts and 422 appearances as Wednesday marked the final home game of the regular season.

In the first half, Hanover kept the score close until Rose-Hulman hit a trio of three-point shots in the closing five minutes to extend the lead to 28 – 22. Strickland would then convert a pair of free throws to give the Fightin' Engineers their largest lead of the game. Hanover would make a free

throw right before intermission to go into the locker room down 30 – 23.

Hanover would stay within single digits until junior Corey Povaleri put Rose-Hulman up 44 – 33 with two made free throws. Martin extended the Fightin' Engineer lead to 13 shortly thereafter, forcing Hanover to regroup via a timeout.

Hanover would make a run, pulling to within six with 6:13 left. Rose-Hulman though would close out strong, winning by a 61 – 50 margin. Strickland would lead with 26 points; Miller had 10.

The win over Hanover adds to the Fightin' Engineers' dominance at home this season. They have gone an impressive 10 – 1 in the Hulbert Arena. They will look to clinch home court advantage for the HCAC Tournament and can do so by winning two of their remaining three games.

In their next action, Rose-Hulman will travel to Bluffton University this Saturday. They will continue their road schedule on Wednesday at Franklin College and finish out the regular season on Saturday at Mount St. Joseph.



Senior Julian Strickland dominated during Saturday's game, scoring a career-high 41 points.

Rose-Hulman Athletics

Divers capture event win and three runner-up finishes

Matt Dierksmeier
sports editor emeritus

Three members from the Rose-Hulman diving team earned all-conference honors by garnering a top three finish at the CCIW Diving Championships. The College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) event, taking place last Friday and Saturday, featured seven Midwest teams, all vying for titles in the men's and women's 1-meter and 3-meter events.

Sophomore Sam Gould led the way for the

Fightin' Engineers as he would win the 3-meter event with a combined 407.7 points. Sophomore teammate Josh Maurer would help Rose-Hulman earn a one-two finish in the 3-meter as he scored 372 points.

Gould also earned a second-place finish in the 1-meter with a score of 367.15 points. Maurer would place third in the event with a combined 334.80 points.

For his pair of top-two finishes, Gould earned the recognition of CCIW Men's Swimmer of the Week.

Sophomore Regen Foote

would capture a pair of second-place finishes in both the 1-meter and 3-meter events.

With their high scoring results Gould, Maurer, and Foote would each earn an all-conference honor.

Rose-Hulman captured another top five finish as freshman Austin May was fourth best in the 3-meter event. May also competed in the 1-meter dive, earning eighth-place.

While the Rose-Hulman swimmers were not competing this weekend, they will be back in action at the CCIW Championships this coming weekend. The events began on Thursday and continue til this Saturday. The event is being hosted in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, home to Carthage College.

After the CCIW Championships conclude, the Rose-Hulman teams will have nearly a month before their next competition, the NCAA Division III Championships. The championships are being hosted at IUPUI Mar. 19-22.



Sam Gould executes a flawless dive, earning him all-conference honors.

Rose-Hulman Athletics

Records fall at Ohio Northern Invitational

Matt Dierksmeier
sports editor emeritus

At the Ohio Northern Invitational on Saturday afternoon, one men's and one women's school record were broken. A week after setting the school record in the mile, senior Ryann-Rebecca Montgomery smashed the women's 3,000-meter record with a time of 9:59.38. Her performance lands her No. 10 nationally among NCAA Division III runners and earned her this week's HCAC Player of the Week.

On the men's side, senior Nathan Catt would break the Rose-Hulman record in the 1,000-meter run. His team of 2:32.04 would also earn him maximum points in the event.

In total, the Fightin' Engineers would tally 13 top-three finishes at the Ohio event.

Along with Montgomery and Catt, junior Blake Schulthies and Charles Spaeth also captured event wins for Rose-Hulman. Schulthies took the 60-meter high hurdles event while Spaeth would edge the field in the shot put.

Another notable performance came from junior

Matthew Billingsley in the 1,000-meter run. His time of 2:34.44 earned him the fifth fastest time in school history and a second-place finish in the event.

Among the three other individual runner-up finishes for Rose-Hulman were senior Philip Koranteng in the 60-meter high hurdles, freshman Joshua Blome in the pole vault, and junior Austin Schulthies in the high jump.

The men's 4-x-200 team comprised of freshman Adam Wilson, sophomore Isaiah Smith, senior Clay Becker, and junior Jake Kelley would also earn a second-place finish.

Overall, the Rose-Hulman men's team would fall short to the hosts, Ohio Northern. The Fightin' Engineers earned second, ahead of Otterbein University and seven other schools.

Both the men's and women's squads will compete at the DePauw Invitational this Saturday. It is the last indoor event before the HCAC Indoor Championships on Feb. 22. The Rose-Hulman men will seek their fourth straight indoor title at the championships.

