

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Rose-Hulman Scholar

The Rose Thorn Archive

Student Newspaper

Fall 9-22-1995

Volume 31 - Issue 4 - Friday, September 22, 1995

Rose Thorn Staff

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

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholar.rose-hulman.edu/rosethorn>

Recommended Citation

Rose Thorn Staff, "Volume 31 - Issue 4 - Friday, September 22, 1995" (1995). *The Rose Thorn Archive*. 918.
<https://scholar.rose-hulman.edu/rosethorn/918>

THE MATERIAL POSTED ON THIS ROSE-HULMAN REPOSITORY IS TO BE USED FOR PRIVATE STUDY, SCHOLARSHIP, OR RESEARCH AND MAY NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE. SOME CONTENT IN THE MATERIAL POSTED ON THIS REPOSITORY MAY BE PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT. ANYONE HAVING ACCESS TO THE MATERIAL SHOULD NOT REPRODUCE OR DISTRIBUTE BY ANY MEANS COPIES OF ANY OF THE MATERIAL OR USE THE MATERIAL FOR DIRECT OR INDIRECT COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGE WITHOUT DETERMINING THAT SUCH ACT OR ACTS WILL NOT INFRINGE THE COPYRIGHT RIGHTS OF ANY PERSON OR ENTITY. ANY REPRODUCTION OR DISTRIBUTION OF ANY MATERIAL POSTED ON THIS REPOSITORY IS AT THE SOLE RISK OF THE PARTY THAT DOES SO.

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Newspaper at Rose-Hulman Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Rose Thorn Archive by an authorized administrator of Rose-Hulman Scholar. For more information, please contact ligget@rose-hulman.edu.



THE ROSE THORN

Vol. 31, No. 4

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Friday, Sept. 22, 1995

Rose to bring its progress to farm show

by Michael Pruett
Thorn Reporter

From September 26 to September 28, the 1995 Farm Progress Show will be held near Terre Haute at Jarvis Farms. The show features the latest in agricultural technology and several important Rose-Hulman engineering accomplishments are in the limelight.

The show, to be held in a 60-

acre field, will showcase more than 300 exhibits demonstrating the latest in agricultural products and technology, including special seed variety plots, harvesting and conservation tillage, livestock showcases, and educational displays.

One of the major attractions at the Rose exhibit will be the Solar Phantom, Rose-Hulman's entry into the 1995 Sunrayce cross-

country road race for solar-powered vehicles.

Also featured will be the Grayback, a one-person human-powered submarine designed by Rose-Hulman students for competition in several national races.

Members of Rose-Hulman's chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) will display a steel bridge which captured first-place honors at the

1995 Midwest regional ASCE contest.

Utilizing recent advancements in the field of laser optics, Rose-Hulman's Technical Assistance and Services Center (TASC) has developed a device which is able to predict the shelf life of agricultural products. This device will help ensure the quality of produce at supermarkets.

TASC will also be displaying its

new designs for vehicle headlamps and reflectors, developed with the goal of improving the quality and dependability of headlights on vehicles used for agricultural work.

TASC, directed by Dr. Brij Khorana, is Rose-Hulman's technical consulting service for business, industry, and entrepreneurs.

The 1995 Farm Progress Show is expected to draw 200,000 attendees from across the Midwest.

Fall numbers shatter enrollment records

More students than ever before are taking classes offered by Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

For the first time in Rose-Hulman's 121-year history, more than 1,500 students are enrolled in classes.

Official fall enrollment is 1,533 students. The total represents a 10 percent increase compared to last year's fall quarter student count of 1,387.

Enrollment statistics also show that 91 percent of the students who were enrolled last fall at Rose-Hulman have returned to the college.

Rose's first coed class is the largest and most academically talented in school history. There are 474 first-year students attending.

Charles Howard, dean of admissions, said the median SAT score for incoming first-year students increased from 1220 to 1270, ranking the class as one of the best in the Midwest.

The increase in SAT scores

was not influenced by changes made in April in the scoring system of the nationwide standardized test.

Rose received a record number of applications, 3,507, from students seeking admission to the class of 1995.

Rose-Hulman President Samuel Hulbert said the record enrollment is another indication that the college has begun what can be considered the best year in its history.

"Major expansion of academic and student services facilities has begun; a program to require all new students to use laptop computers is under way; our graduates continue to find outstanding career opportunities; and the transition to coeducation was very successful," Hulbert said.



...and she said yes!

Former Rose student Jay Moorman (with a little help from Hadley Hall) asked Lisa Parker, admissions counselor, to take his hand in marriage. The next day, her reply was visible on the same message board.

Photo by Chris Dolphy

Special Feature Section, page 7: 1995-96 Residence Hall Staff



Moench Hall Auditorium sets stage for Singing Hoosiers

The Fine Arts Series begins its 1995-96 season with a performance by the Singing Hoosiers tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in Moench Hall Auditorium. The group has been entertaining audiences for 40 years with productions of American popular music, sophisticated jazz and choreographed numbers. The Singing Hoosiers are selected from students within the Indiana University of School of Music.

Inside this Edition

Opinions:

George Will 4
Letters 4

Features:

Intelligence 5
Insomnia 5
Proof 5

Sports:

Football 6
Soccer 6
Cross Country 6

Entertainment:

Top Ten 8
Dilbert 8

**MEETINGS / GATHERINGS**

- Fri., Sept. 22 — Gun Club Range Setup, Gun Club Room, 3:30 p.m.
 Fri., Sept. 22 — Computer Workshop, "Introduction To Quattro Pro For Windows," G-103, 1:30 p.m.
 Sat., Sept. 23 — Midwest Japan Seminar, Hulman Union, 1-5 p.m.
 Tues., Sept. 26 — "A Woman's Place" Conference Meeting, A-202, 1:30 p.m.
 Tues., Sept. 26 — Computer Workshop, "Introduction To MS Word," G-103, 1:35 p.m. & 6 p.m.
 Wed., Sept. 27 — Computer Workshop, "Introduction To OpenVMS," G-222, 7 p.m.
 Wed., Sept. 27 — President's Administrative Council, PA Room, 8 a.m.
 Wed., Sept. 27 — Drama Club New York Theatre Trip Informational Meeting, Moench Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.
 Thurs., Sept. 28 — Computer Workshop, "Introduction To MS Excel," G-103, 1:35 p.m. & 6 p.m.
 Sun., Oct. 1 — Gun Club, Faculty/Staff Shooting Day, Gun Club Room, 2 p.m.
 Tues., Oct. 3 — Graduate School Seminar, Moench Hall Auditorium, 9 a.m.
 * "How To Gain Admission Into The Top Graduate Programs In Your Field," Donald Asher, Author, 9-10:15 a.m.
 * Graduate School Panel Discussion, 10:15-11:45 a.m.
 * Information Sessions, 1-3 p.m.
 Tues., Oct. 3 — Night Exam, Introduction To Computer Programming (CS 100), G-221, 7 p.m.
 Wed., Oct. 4 — President's Administrative Council, PA Room, 8 a.m.
 Fri., Oct. 6 — Biomedical Engineering Colloquium, "New Orthopedic Products," Niles Noblitt, O-105, 10:50 a.m.

**SPORTS**

- Sat., Sept. 23 — Soccer, at MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Ill., 11 a.m.
 Sat., Sept. 23 — Gun Club, First Shooting Day, Gun Club Room, 8 a.m.
 Wed., Sept. 27 — Soccer, Anderson University, Jim Rendel Field, 4 p.m.
 Wed., Sept. 27 — Rifle Team Tryouts, Moench Auditorium, 5 p.m.
 Sat., Sept. 30 — Football, at Anderson University, 1:30 p.m. (WSDM-AM 1130, 1:15 p.m.)
 Sat., Sept. 30 — Soccer, North Central College, Jim Rendel Field, 3 p.m.
 Tues., Oct. 3 — Soccer, at DePauw University, Greencastle, 3 p.m.
 Wed., Oct. 4 — JV Soccer, St. Meinrad, Jim Rendel Field, 4:30 p.m.

**ENTERTAINMENT / LEISURE**

- Sat., Sept. 23 — Fine Arts Series, "The Singing Hoosiers," Moench Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
 Tues., Sept. 26 — Film Class Presentation, "Letter From An Unknown Person," A-203, 7 p.m.
 Wed., Sept. 27 — HSLS Film Series, "Star Wars Trilogy, Part III," GM Room, 7:30 p.m.
 Tues., Oct. 3 — Film Class Presentation, "The Big Sleep," A-203, 7 p.m.

**ADDITIONALLY...**

- Fri., Sept. 22 — Admissions Office Open House, Moench Hall Auditorium, 1 p.m.
 Mon., Sept. 25 — Army ROTC Battalion Run, Deming Park, 5:45 a.m.
 Tues. - Thurs., Sept. 26, 27, 28 — Farm Progress Show, Rose-Hulman Exhibit (Lots 1117/1119), 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Fri., Sept. 29 — Homecoming Queen Contest Primary Elections, Commons
 Fri. - Sat., Sept. 29, 30 — Army ROTC Fall Retreat
 Mon., Oct. 2 — Bonfire Construction, Athletic Fields (Through October 6)
 Wed., Oct. 4 — Homecoming Queen Interviews On WMHD
 Thurs., Oct. 5 — Homecoming Queen Final Elections, Commons Area
 Thurs., Oct. 5 — Homecoming Queen Coronation Dress Rehearsal, Shook Fieldhouse, 7 p.m.

The Rose Bush

Campus News and Information

RIFLE TEAM TRYOUTS

All freshman and sophomore men and women who may be interested in trying out for the varsity rifle team should attend the tryout meeting on Wednesday, September 27, at 5 p.m. in the Auditorium. If you

cannot make it or want more information, call Coach Michael Ray at 234-4372.

WIN A COLOR TV

All Rose-Hulman students can stop by the Bookstore and register to win a free color TV. The drawing is September 29.

'Singing Hoosiers' stick with the basics

Jazz, rock 'n roll, disco, rap and all kinds of pop. If it's music, then the Grammy-nominated Singing Hoosiers chorus from Indiana University has performed it — in fine fashion.

The 120-member group begins its 45th season with a performance at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Rose-Hulman's Moench Hall Auditorium. The show begins the college's 1995-96 Fine Arts Series.

Michael Schwartzkopf has replaced legendary Robert Stoll as the Singing Hoosiers' director. Stoll led the group for 32 years. However, while there's a change at the podium, the style is still the same.

"We do popular music in the symphonic form. Our group is unique. There is nothing else like it in the country in a collegiate level," Schwartzkopf said.

The Singing Hoosiers' fall rehearsal schedule has included selections from "The Lion King," Hoagy Carmichael's "Lazy River," Irving Berlin's "Puttin' On The Ritz" and "Steppin' Out With My Baby," Paul Simon's "Bridge Over Troubled Waters," "The Rhythm of Life" (from "Sweet Charity") and Sergio Mendes' "Carnaval."

The current chorus consists of about half music majors and half non-music students.

They're just as likely to want to go on to Broadway as they are to work in marketing. They receive class credit for being in the group.

"Going on the road (with the Singing Hoosiers) is like going on vacation with your friends," said junior Monica Strom, a criminal justice major. "Performing is so much more fun than sitting in class."

Jennifer Goins, a junior theater/speech/education major, adds: "It's a good opportunity for a lot of students. I really enjoy performing and it's good experience, a way to meet people and way to learn professionalism."

The Singing Hoosiers have performed with the Boston Pops and Cincinnati Pops among major orchestras; they've toured Korea, Greece, Australia, and throughout the United States; and their 1989 "A Disney Celebration" recording topped the National Record Charts' classical crossover division for several months.

Tickets for Saturday's show will be available at the door prior to showtime. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for senior citizens and non-Rose students. For more information, people may call (812) 877-1511.

SUBMISSIONS TO CAMPUS EVENTS

Events may be published in *Campus Events* by any organization or individual. Simple announcements of times and locations may be submitted to Campus Calendar, in care of Dale Long, associate director of communications, at Box 14 or extension 8418. More detailed articles containing plans, agendas, and specific information should be submitted to the *Rose Bush*, via Karen Pershing in the mailroom.

All submissions must be made by Wednesday, at noon, in order to be published in *Campus Events* in the *Rose Thorn* on Friday.



The Rose Thorn

is looking for talented writers

- * news reporters
- * features writers
- * sports writers
- * columnists
- * people who like to see their name in print

Stop by C 216
or call x8255
for more information.



Ingalsbe assumes presidency with pledge to represent entire class

by Ben Byers
SGA Publicity Director

A high voter turnout and a qualified group of newly-elected senators promise to provide an active Student Government for the 1995-96 school year.

All positions within the Senate have been filled, and enthusiasm seems high as the year begins.

The new senators took part in the annual Senate Orientation Session on September 20, 1995, and they will convene for the first meeting of the senate on September 27 at 5:30 in the GM Room. A listing of the entire Senate will be posted in next week's edition of the *Thorn*.

The newly-elected freshmen class president is Nate Ingalsbe. He is a math

and computer science double major from Selma, Indiana.

Ingalsbe served as class vice president at his high school for two years. Then, while attending the Indiana Academy, he served as a student council representative for two years and a resident assistant for one year. He also participated in intramural athletics and programming activities for his residence hall.



Nate Ingalsbe
Newly elected freshman class president

Nate plans to keep in close contact with his classmates and intends to represent his entire class, and

not just a small part of it. He feels he has a great deal to offer and believes he can learn a great deal from his constituents. He is looking forward to the new school year and intends to represent those who elected him to the best of his ability.



The 1995 Modulus Yearbooks are in!

You can pick your copy up
at the Modulus office, C-217.

Dates: September 22, 25-29
Hours: 2-9

Art and Shelia's Barber and Styling

1919 Maple Avenue, Terre Haute, Indiana
Open 6 Days a Week 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Sunday and Holidays

HAIR CUTS \$3.00

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dave Bond

Title:

Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Hometown:

Brockville in southern Ontario, Canada

Education:

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York:

- PhD in Applied Mathematics received August, 1995
- Masters of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics in April, 1992
- University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario:
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics, completed June, 1989

Experience:

Bond lectured for a summer computer science course at Cornell University over the past two years. The undergraduate-level course used numerical methods to model problems. In addition to teaching, Bond consulted with research teams within the Computer Science and Mechanical and Aerospace departments.

Professional Interests:

Bond described his specialty as numerical analysis. At the current time, he is reworking his thesis on Wavelets and Boundary Element Problems. The idea behind this thesis is to make computer code more effective by reducing the time needed to perform larger tasks using improved numerical methods.

Bond says that this area of numerical analysis has a place in very large scale mathematical simulations where time reduction can be significant.

Personal Profile:

Bond is a happily married father of two girls.

Moving to Terre Haute has put a setback in one of Bond's favorite leisure activities: hockey. At Cornell, he played goalie on teams comprised of people within the science graduate studies program.

In the future, Bond would like to pick his saxophone back up and get into music again after a 10-year layoff.

Impressions of Rose:

"It means a lot for students to be here... they are willing to work," Bond said about student attitudes at Rose.

Bond is also appreciative of the Institute's emphasis on teaching. Students "are here to learn and we are here to teach," he added.

Schedule:

Bond is leading two classes this quarter: one section of Calculus I and one section of Differential Equations I. Next quarter, Bond will have a full teaching schedule with three sessions of Calculus II.

Compiled by David Hile, News Editor



SAINT JOSEPH'S CAMPUS CENTER

113 South 5th Street • Terre Haute, Indiana 47807
(812) 232-8088

September Schedule of Events



Every Tuesday Evening: Volleyball in the Campus Center Gym. First serve is at 7:30. Bring a friend!!



Friday, September 22nd, 8:00 pm - ????: Open House!! (Un-lock-in!) Games, food, and fun at the Campus Center! Come and meet others!



Bible Study : Dates to be announced Call the Campus Center if interested

Other Things to Note...



Saturday Evening Mass - 7:00 in the PR room of the Student Union.



Campus Ministry Office Hours -
Wednesdays from 12 noon until 2 pm.
In the music room of the Student Union.

Rose - Hulman Catholic Student Association

Welfare reform hits kids hardest



George Will

Syndicated
Columnist
The
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — As the welfare reform debate begins to boil, the place to begin is with an elemental fact: No child in America asked to be here.

Each was summoned into existence by the acts of adults. And no child is going to be spiritually improved by being collateral damage in a bombardment of severities targeted at adults who may or may not deserve more severe treatment from the welfare system.

Phil Gramm says welfare recipients are people "in the wagon" who ought to get out and "help the rest of us pull." Well. Of the 14 million people receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children, nine million are children. Even if we get all these free riders into wee harnesses, the wagon will not move much faster.

Furthermore, there is hardly an individual or industry in America that is not in some sense "in the wagon," receiving some federal subvention. If everyone gets out, the wagon may rocket along. But no one is proposing that. Instead, welfare reform may give a whole new meaning to the phrase "women and children first."

Marx said that history's great events appear twice, first as tragedy, then as farce. Pat

Moynihan worries that a tragedy visited upon a vulnerable population three decades ago may now recur, not as farce but again as tragedy.

Moynihan was there on Oct. 31, 1963, when President Kennedy, in his last signing ceremony, signed legislation to further the "deinstitutionalization" of the mentally ill. Advances in psychotropic drugs, combined with "community-based programs," supposedly would make possible substantial reductions of the populations of mental institutions.

But the drugs were not as effective as had been hoped, and community-based programs never materialized in sufficient numbers and sophistication. What materialized instead were mentally ill homeless people. Moynihan warns that welfare reform could produce a similar unanticipated increase in children sleeping on, and freezing to death on, grates. Actually, cities will have to build more grates. Here are the percentages of children on AFDC at some point during 1993 in five cities: Detroit (67), Philadelphia (57), Chicago (46), New York (39), Los Angeles (38). "There are," says Moynihan, "not enough social workers, not enough nuns, not enough Salvation Army workers" to care for children who would be purged from the welfare rolls were Congress to decree (as candidate Bill Clinton proposed) a two-year limit for welfare eligibility.

Don't worry, say the designers of a brave new world, welfare recipients will soon be

working. However, 60 percent of welfare families—usually families without fathers—have children under 6 years old. Who will care for those children in the year 2000 if Congress decrees that 50 percent of welfare recipients must by then be in work programs? And from whence springs this conservative Congress' faith in work programs? Much of the welfare population has no family memory of regular work, and little of the social capital of habits and disciplines that come with work. Life in, say, Chicago's Robert Taylor housing project produces what sociologist Emil Durkheim called "a dust of individuals," not an employable population. A 1994 Columbia University study concluded that most welfare mothers are negligibly educated and emotionally disturbed and 40 percent are serious drug abusers. Small wonder a Congressional Budget Office study estimated an annual cost of \$3,000 just for monitoring each welfare enrollee—in addition to the bill for training to give such people elemental skills.

Moynihan says that a two-year limit for welfare eligibility, and work requirements, might have worked 30 years ago, when the nation's illegitimacy rate was 5 percent, but today it is 33 percent. Don't worry, say reformers, we'll take care of that by tinkering with the incentives: There will be no payments for additional children born while the mother is on welfare.

But Nicholas Eberstadt of Harvard and the American Enterprise Institute says: Suppose today's welfare policy incentives to illegitimacy were transported back in time to Salem, Massachusetts, in 1660. How many additional illegitimate births would have occurred in Puritan Salem? Few, because the people of Salem in 1660 believed in Hell and believed that what today are called "disorganized lifestyles" led to Hell. Congress cannot legislate useful attitudes.

Moynihan, who spent August writing his annual book at his farm in Delaware County, New York, notes that in 1963 that county's illegitimacy rate was 3.8 percent and today is 32 percent—almost exactly the national average. And no one knows why the county (which is rural and 98.8 percent white) or the nation has so changed. Hence no one really knows what to do about it. Conservatives say, well, nothing could be worse than the current system. They are underestimating their ingenuity.

Rose falls to 28th in U.S. News rankings

by Michael Bickel
Thorn Columnist

The last several years, Rose-Hulman has been proud to be ranked as one of the top three engineering schools in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*. Although other sources catalog us as near the top, *U.S. News* has been the accepted authority. This is because no other source has ranked us quite as highly. The evaluation was based on a survey with six weighted factors: reputation, selectivity, faculty resources, financial resources, retention, and alumni satisfaction. Our ranking has been a source of pride for the school's faculty, staff, and students.

This year, something drastic has happened. *U.S. News and World Report* has once again come out with its academic rankings. In the category of engineering, Rose-Hulman is no longer number three. Rose-Hulman is part of a ten-way tie for number 28. Incidentally, Purdue was number ten.

What happened? Were last year's freshmen that pathetic? Were last year's graduates that unhappy? Did we bet our entire financial aid foundation on the San Diego Chargers in last year's Super Bowl? Or were we never as good as we thought in the first place?

The answer is in the fine print. *U.S. News* changed its methodology for determining the best engineering school. The new methodology is based on a survey of deans of other engineering schools. Reputation was the only factor. Predictably, the larger schools ranked ahead of the smaller ones. Rose was not the only school to suffer from this system. Harvey Mudd, previously ranked first, fell to a three-way tie for 25. Cooper Union, previously ranked second, fell to a nine-way tie for 46. So how accurate could the new ranking be?

One reason that the top three schools were able to drop so far is that the categories have been changed. Until this year, the category that Rose-Hulman was placed in was technical specialty schools. This category included only schools whose primary curriculum was engineering or pure science. It included only fourteen schools. This year, that category does not exist. The engineering category (which includes Rose) contains every school in the United States that offers an accredited engineering major. This puts nearly every major university into our category.

As *U.S. News* shows, college rankings can be misleading. Each ranking system comes to a different conclusion about the quality of each institution. But although the new *U.S. News* ranking is skewed, it is probably no more skewed than our previous number three rank. This is because the ranking system has just as much influence on the results as the schools do. It would be just as easy to come up with a system that ranks Rose-Hulman first as it would be to rank any other school first. If we felt the need to affirm ourselves, we could come up with such a system and take pride in "knowing" that we are the best.

But being the best is not the same as finishing first in the rankings. Quality is a commitment to perfection. While recognition is nice, it should not be the reason or the final result of excellence. Rather than concern ourselves with the estimation of one magazine, we should work toward becoming the ideal institution. Recognition may follow, or it may not. But if we are truly being our best, we can take pride in quality, not in recognition.

Letters to the Editor

And the band played on...

This week, the band was complemented more times than I have ever seen before. Sam stopped by and waved. Tom Miller sat at the top of the stands for pregame and clapped. He even made some comment about the band needing some uniforms instead of the little engineering hats we got. Even one of the football coaches smiled at me when we were leaving after Rose won the game and the band played *The Olympic Spirit*.

Wow! The people could see the work some of the band members did over the summer to get a good group this year. They see that we have 40 people now, not the 15 we had last year. Or maybe they just read Michael Bickel's article and figured they could pay more attention to the band. I'm still happy because we have 40 people now, we are playing harder music, and the people in the band are smiling.

I am applauding Michael Bickel's article about the downplay of some clubs to athletics. But they are different things entirely. Rose-Hulman Bands is SGA-funded. The football team isn't.

A lot of what he said is completely true. I've seen the oddly shaped additions that protrude from the stage in the auditorium every fall and spring (did you see Joseph? It was great). I know the rifle team practices in the auditorium. I know the band room is cluttered and almost ignored, smashed back in the bowels of Moench Hall. I know we don't have enough instruments to loan out to get everyone interested involved in band. I know some of our instruments are in bad shape.

But the quality of instruments does not a band make. The quality and dedication of the individuals makes the band (or any group). If someone actually said that they didn't want to join band because the band isn't as good as his high school band, I blame him for it. How are we going to improve with an attitude like that? If we suck, it isn't the facilities. We are limited by our tools, but we don't blame them.

Chad Maloney
President, Rose Bands

The Rose Thorn

5500 Wabash Avenue, Box 2034
Terre Haute, Indiana 47803-3999
Phone: (812) 877-8255

Editor-in-Chief **Frank Pfeiffer**
Features Editor **Steven Williams**
News Editor **David Hile**
Sports Editor **Chip Bradway**
Campus Editor **Scott Burwinkel**
Photo Editor **Chris Dolphy**
Layout Editor **Chris Lawrence**
Copy Editor **Tony Miller**
Advertising Manager **Edward Hatfield**
Business Manager **Doug Thrig**

Advisor **David Piker**

News Reporters **Kevin Gaither, Jeff Nord, Thomas Hill, Bob Flaherty and Nate Terpstra**
Sports Reporters **Joel Gillespie, Mark Law and Greg Rossi**
Columnists **Michael Bickel, Greg Hawkins and Eric Schmidt**
Photographers **Chris Dolphy and Ben Jackson**
Layout **Adriano Silva and Chris Dolphy**

The Rose Thorn is published on Fridays at
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

The Rose Thorn welcomes letters and comments from its readers. We request that all letters to the editor be less than 300 words long. The editors reserve the right to edit letters for grammar, clarity and length (if over 300 words). All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature, class year and phone number. All submissions will be confirmed before publication. Letters may be sent by electronic mail to Thorn@Rose-Hulman.Edu, but still must contain the writer's phone number for confirmation. For prompt publication, letters should be typewritten or printed by computer. All letters for an issue of the Thorn must be received before noon on the Tuesday prior to publication.

We would like to remind our readers that the views expressed in the Thorn do not necessarily represent the opinions of anyone other than the original author.

Communication and the hard sell

By Frank Pfeiffer
Editor-in-Chief

This summer I was asked to come up with a design that, once implemented, could save my company as much as six figures annually. This sounded like a bundle, until I attended the next business planning meeting and heard about some of the other projects currently underway that were a trifle forward of the back burner I chose to call my internship. My chances of ever launching my ideas forward from the periphery seemed rather slim.

I suppose that there is indeed a limit to foresight, but here I am quite certain: communications skills are the key to career advancement in white-collar America, and every Rose student should leave here with this axiom in mind. Daily, it seems, my professors stress the importance of developing communications skills, for small work groups and for large audiences.

Down the hall in R&D where I spent the major part of my waking hours this summer I worked closely with two engineers who were an interesting pair, to say the least. One was a Vietnam War veteran and the other... I guess you could say had put forth a great deal of effort back in 1970 to achieve world peace. Nothing would get done around there if it weren't for those two men working as a team, and when I came along they became a team of three.

Each day I would report to them what I was working on and how I was progressing. This was done informally, usually during lunch, and was one aspect of my job which I valued the most. During these discussions I was often given tiny pointers to help link ideas together, which from time to time would pull me over that hump to what to do next. Ideas will get stale if they are never allowed an influx from outside sources, and that means that someone else needs to know exactly what it is you're trying to accomplish.

Webster's dictionary defines intelligence as the "ability to acquire and retain knowledge." I like to take the reverse direction of

that as my own definition of intelligence: the ability to communicate ideas and cultivate knowledge in others, to be intelligible. In other words, you are only as intelligent as you can prove to others. A person could sit in a vegetated state and solve all of the problems of the world, but if he's my employee and he cannot tell the guy in the next cubicle how to connect to the network printer, how intelligent is he now?

In other words, you are only as intelligent as you can prove to others

After my design had reached the final prototype stages, I decided that it was time to attend a weekly business meeting. This was the hard sell; the project could go no further without higher approval from some very shrewd and busy executives. I was now among a dozen of the people with whom I worked every day, but seated around the big table they became quite intimidating.

After waiting my turn through some painful business jargon, (We once had to 'bend over backwards,' 'go the extra mile,' and 'jump through hoops' for the customer, all in the same meeting!) all eyes turned to me. I did everything right; I spoke clearly and enunciated properly, made eye contact, and even smiled a bit to feign confidence. I also felt like Jimmy Carter at the Regan debate in 1980. I think I lost five pounds that day in sweat and vigor.

When the meeting finally broke up and everyone became friendly again, I gathered my things to head back down the hall. The plant manager was finishing off the company president with his opinion of the new machine for the mill room, and the company president was smilingly finishing off the last doughnut. As I passed by them, the plant manager leaned out to the side to catch my eye.

"You did a good job, Junior," he said as he nodded his affirmation.

"Yeff... oh, excuse me," the president swallowed. "You did good."

Communications skills. Those people didn't care how many dif-

ferent companies I had faxed or how many vendors had come in to give their pitch to me on why their cardboard was the best cardboard. They wanted to know what I had designed, how it worked, and most importantly, how much it would cost. In his book *The Goal*, industrial consultant Eli Goldratt reduces the manufacturing process to one goal: to make money. You can't make money if you can't get your point across.

When developing a concept, I found that an idea that I have but you cannot visualize will never see the light of day, until the technology exists to put all the pieces together. The short-run ideas, however, those that will see production within months, are the ideas that can be easily communicated from one person to the next. Without communication, engineering designs from the simplest to the most clever will simply gather dust.

When Wednesday precedes Tuesday

By Steven Williams
Features Editor

With the right assumptions you can prove just about anything. You can prove many ideas that simply are not true through the use of as little as one faulty assumption.

Assumptions are the first step in a proof, and often these assumptions are based on things which are undeniably true, "absolute truths". For example, gravity causes an apple to fall downwards. Or perhaps, time always runs forward. Or even, Wednesday never precedes Tuesday.

Notice how these assumptions use encompassing words like "always", "all", and "never". Also notice that each of these assumptions can be proven false. For example, hang upside down from the apple tree, and the apple will fall upwards. Or perhaps, travel quickly to the east one thousand miles, and you will end up a few hours earlier than you started. Or even, notice how every

Wednesday precedes a Tuesday by six days.

With enough thought, even the most obvious assumptions can be disproved. Sometimes it might take a change of axes, a shift in longitude, or a different frame of mind, but it can be done. The point here is simply that absolute truths are not easy to find.

To build an effective truth, you must have powerful assumptions. So, how can we build a proof, if we cannot trust in our assumptions?

One method is to pile on more assumptions. Perhaps an apple will always fall downwards, if a person is not hanging upside down in the apple tree itself. This is a bold attempt at saving the proof, but with little merit. Suppose some bored physics professor (or more likely a mathematician) defines "up" to be the direction from the tree's branches to its roots.

Perhaps this sounds bizarre, but it is well within the rights of every physics professor. Moreover, a math professor will not hesitate to change "up" into "down", just to be difficult. Artificially expanding assumptions will only add to the headache of a proof.

What if we delete words like "all", "always", and "never" from our assumptions. For example, gravity sometimes causes the apple to fall downwards. Or perhaps, time runs forwards when it isn't going backwards. Or even, Wednesday precedes Tuesday, which in turn precedes Monday.

This sort of deletion is also a noble attempt at saving the proof, but it will be very difficult to prove anything based on

facts that are only true "sometimes".

A third method of making correct assumptions is to only use the assumptions made by reputable sources. Don't assume anything unless you can find it in print.

If you need to prove that the world is flat, simply read the *Rose Thorn* from April 1st of last year. In this issue, you will find that the world is indeed flat, as proven by Rose-Hulman mathematicians.

Even though, the world is undeniably flat, and in this case the printed assumption is solid evidence, the written word is not always accurate. Even reliable sources can occasionally muck up the facts.

If we cannot make valid, undeniable assumptions, then what hope to we have of ever proving anything?

Our only hope, our last hope, is to hope that we never have to prove anything. Once we relinquish our belief in an absolute truth, we can see how we have been absolutely wrong. Once we stop believing in absolute truths, we will have no need to prove them.

Once we stop trying to prove absolute truths, we can start trying to prove half-truths and total lies. Once we realize the impossibility of proving a lie, there will be nothing left to prove.

Once there is nothing left to prove, we have achieved our only hope, our last hope — our hope that every test will be a multiple choice test.

Sleepless in Terre Haute

By Eric Schmidt
Thorn Columnist

I don't know if anyone noticed or not, but I didn't write a poem for last week's edition of the *Thorn*. It's not that I mean to be inconsistent, but I got so bogged down with all the other things I needed to do (feel sorry for us IC students) that I didn't have time.

In fact, I have found that I've had to write sleep into my day planner just to make sure I get any. I've found myself wishing I could work straight through the night without getting tired. However, this is reality, so it looks like I've just got to schedule my time better. That doesn't stop me from writing about how I feel, though. From talking with a few of you, I know that you feel exactly the same, so I am hoping that you'll sympathize.

Insomniac
Oh, to be an insomniac
To not need sleep in the long dark night
Oh, to escape from tiredness
And to live through dark to the morning light

Ah, to master the hands of time
To lengthen the days that embrace my tasks
Ah, to hinder the whirling sun
A few extra hours is all that I ask

But If I were an insomniac
And had time to eat, and possibly shower
My teachers would find, with their knowing souls
A way to intrude upon every hour

For Rose has a way of testing your will
Like an uphill endeavor, rocky and steep
And should you learn nothing else while you're here,
You'll know without question the value of sleep.



**Coming
Next Week**

**Weekend Movie
Listings Guide**

Look for the first weekly Thorn "At the Movies" weekend movie listings guide. It will be appearing weekly giving a complete listing of local theatres, movies and times.

Solid defense keys Engineers' win over U. of South

"Our defense rose to the occasion and gave the offense time to get in gear," said Engineers' Head Coach Scott Duncan about his football team's win Saturday over the University of the South.

And once the offense found the right gear, it put 17 second-half points on the board to eliminate a 6-0 halftime deficit and give the 2-1 Engineers their second victory in two weeks.

The Engineers "D" allowed just six points — the fewest a Rose-Hulman team has allowed since a 1991 shutout of Wabash College. Not only did the defense do a good job of keeping the Tigers off the scoreboard, they gave up just 211 yards of total offense despite the fact that the Tigers had possession of the ball for over 32 minutes.

Sophomore defensive end Clinton Sharp had his best collegiate game — making seven tackles, including three quarterback sacks totaling 27 yards.

Sophomore cornerback Tony Hinkle intercepted his second pass in as many weeks, and freshman Todd Melby picked off a pass in the end zone that had been batted away by junior safety Tony Kohl. Kohl had nine tackles to go with his pass break-up, as did fellow safety Chris Blanton.

Junior defensive end Matt Allen had seven tackles, including two tackles for a loss.

Offensively, the Rose-Hulman ground game took a while to get on track, but the Engineers ultimately ended up with their third straight 300-plus yard rushing game. Rose-Hulman totaled 316 yards behind senior quarterback Toad Harris' 85 yards on 21 carries.

Junior halfback A. J. Wilkerson had 55 yards rushing including a 34-yard touchdown.

Sophomore Matt Dinovo scored his first collegiate touchdown and Engineers' wide receiver Eric Gappa caught three passes for 29 yards.



Junior runningback A.J. Wilkerson picks up more yardage for the Engineers. Wilkerson had 55 yards rushing and one touchdown for the Engineers last Saturday.

Photo by Bill Harding

Engineer kickers fall to 0-5 after loss at home

by Joel Gillespie
Sports Reporter

A lack of offense once again plagued the Rose-Hulman Engineer soccer team last Saturday in a 3-1 home loss to the University of Indianapolis. The Engineers have scored only three goals in their first five games, resulting in an 0-5 record.

Rose will look to turn things around this Saturday at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Ill.

NCAA Division III regionally ranked MacMurray is expected to pose a stiff challenge for the Engineers.

The Engineers battled the Greyhounds to a scoreless tie until 12 seconds remained in the first half, when U. of I. knocked in a goal to take a 1-0 halftime lead.

Early in the second period, a foul by



Senior Robb McGhie makes his way through the opposition's defense.

File Photo

the Engineers in their goal box led to a penalty kick for the Greyhounds. A low

kick to the left corner gave keeper Cory Willis no chance for a save, and the Greyhounds took a commanding 2-0 lead.

Only a minute later, though, the Engineers got back into the game with a goal by Gabe Ferland, his third of the season. Ferland headed the ball in off of a pass from Robb McGhie, who had also headed the ball.

The Engineers were unable to convert on scoring chances the remainder of the game, and Indianapolis scored an insurance goal to reach the final tally.

Engineer Head Coach Greg Ruark is understandably upset about his team's start. "We are extremely disappointed to be 0-5, especially when we feel that we have been in a position to win three of those five matches," lamented Ruark.

Rifle Team Tryouts

All freshman and sophomore men and women who may be interested in trying out for the rifle team should attend the tryout meeting on Wednesday, September 27 at 5 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Anyone who cannot make the tryout or who wants more information should contact Coach Ray at 234-4372.

Cross country team places second at Principia

By Mark Law
Sports Reporter

The Rose-Hulman cross country team finished second out of seven teams this past Saturday at Principia College. Washington University in St. Louis had too much depth in their top runners for defending champions Rose-Hulman to overcome.

Senior Mark Law led the Engineers across the finish line, taking 6th place in a all-time best of 26:49. Finishing 2nd for the team and 8th overall was Kenny Anderson, who also had an all-time best performance of 27:13 over the rugged course.

The two seniors were followed by Nate Terpstra, Dan Brier, and Jason Long placing 14th, 15th, and 16th, respectively. Dan Brier and Ryon Sumner both had good performances on their first collegiate 8k run.

In reference to the team's run, Coach Welch stated, "I thought we dropped off some in our top five. We had a 78 second spread. We need to get that back down with the same top performances, and we'll be all right."

Rose's next race is Saturday, September 30, at the Danville College Invitational.

Results from the Principia Invitational (8k)

Name	Time	Place	Name	Time	Place
Mark Law	26:49	6	Jared Cornelius	28:21	20
Kenny Anderson	27:13	8	Dave Sandquist	28:41	23
Nate Terpstra	27:50	14	Dan Tews	28:43	24
Dan Brier	27:57	15	Ryan Gill	28:56	25
Jason Long	28:07	16	Dan Hohne	29:06	27
Ryon Sumner	28:08	17			

Selling Something?

Get the
word out!

Advertise
your item
in the Thorn
classifieds.

Forgot making up flyers
that fall down and get trashed.
Advertising in the Thorn is FREE and
gets read by all of Rose. It's easy — just
drop your ad off at the Thorn in room C216
or at Box 170.



Meet your 1995-96 Residence Hall Staff

Baur-Sames-Boga
Hall (BSB)

(Back row, from left):
Laura Tougaw (RA),
Daniel Fox (RA),
John Weil,
Brian Bajgrowicz.
(Front row, from left)
Amy Werner,
Amy Ott,
Erik Hayes (RA),
Craig Rice,
Christopher Meyer.



The Resident Hall experience gives students an opportunity to learn about others, as well as develop their group communication and interpersonal skills.

The key to your Residence Hall experience is your Resident Assistant and Sophomore Advisors.

These students provide a variety of services to students, by providing peer counseling and letting you know what campus activities are available for you to get involved in.

The Student Affairs staff encourages you to take advantage of the resources your RAs and SAs offer.



Skinner Hall (left)
Mike Rubin (RA, left),
Ryan Vandewater (RA).

Speed Hall (right)
(Back row, from left):
Joel Gillespie,
Greg Williby,
Andrew Cottongim (RA),
Gregory Lindstrom (RA),
Erik Roggeman (RA).
(Front row, from left):
Jonathan Kraft,
Donald Livingstone,
Nathan Terpstra,
Samuel Jackson.



Scharpenberg Hall (above, from left): Joshua Geary (RA), Leonard Clark (RA), Brett Kleeberger, Jeremy Shuter.



Mees Hall (above, from left): Jodi Barcus, Scott Kuester (RA), Nikki Overman (RA), Jamy Taylor.



Deming Hall (left)
(Back row, from left):
Ryan Connelly,
Patrick Brown,
Ozgur Ozkaya (RA),
Tim Lancaster (RA),
Rick Mohr (RA).
(Front): Pete Haug,
Michael Holm,
Gregory Hawkins (RA),
Timothy Beery,
David Stanley.

Blumberg Hall (right)
Jon Davis (RA, left),
Jeff Smith (RA).



Top Ten Things Overheard at the SGA Elections

10. "What, no free soda?"
9. "Vote or we'll vote for you!"
8. "Screw the trees. I'm voting for Cawley!"
7. "Ashvin, I ain't gonna ask you again... *stand up.*"
6. (Insert your own Rob Wallace joke here.)
5. "Vote early and vote often."
4. "How many commuter senators are there, again?"
3. "Damn, I lost! But at least it wasn't to a write-in!"
2. "Hey, where did all my posters go?"
1. "How do I vote for Colin Powell?"



Courtesy C-216

"The teacher told us to bring a pencil to class tomorrow... What's a pencil?"

Classified Advertisements

FOR SALE:

1979 Yamaha XS400F motorcycle good cond. runs. \$400. Call x8255.

Dorm refrigerator, \$25; 14-inch color computer monitor, \$75; all in good condition. Call Darin Bryan, x-8180.

Two tall standard bed-lofts made with plenty of strong 2x2 wood and bolts. Easy to assemble. \$50. Call Adriano Silva at 877-6553 or send e-mail to silvaac@nextwork.

IBM PS/1 486sx 25MHz PC, 4M RAM, 171MB HD, SVGA, 2400 baud FAX/modem, used 1 yr, \$900. Computer desk with hutch, \$50. Call x8157.

12.5 inch Newtonian telescope on permanent equatorial mount with clock drive, \$500 o.b.o. Contact Dr. Diteon, x-8247, room CL-108.

Supra 2400 baud external modem., \$25. For more information, e-mail lawrenc@nextwork or leave a message at 877-9888.

WANTED:

HP programmer seeks new or used plug-in RAM cards for the HP48SX.

128K or greater. Will pay reasonable prices. Call x8873 or e-mail at poyllojh@nextwork.

EVENTS:

Tuesday Night Together - 7 pm at the Baptist Student Union House, 800 N. 6th St. Join us for music, Bible Study, and sharing. For a ride or more information, call 232-7198 or 234-9744

We play VOLLEYBALL every Thurs. night at 8:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Parish Center (5th and Ohio Streets). Begins Aug. 31. Drop in for a friendly game. Sponsored by United Ministries Center, 321 N. 7th St., 232-0186.

For reflection and discussion about scripture and our lives, come to FAITH DISCOVERY on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m., United Ministries Center, 321 N. 7th St. Phone: 232-0186. Begins Sept. 5. All students welcome.

Come to FAITH TALK Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., RHIT Union Building Reading Room, for discussion on life and faith issues. Sponsored by United Ministries Center, 321 N. 7th St., 232-0187.

ALL ABOUT LIFE is real talk about real life on Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., United Ministries Center, 321 N. 7th

St., 232-0186. Ongoing.

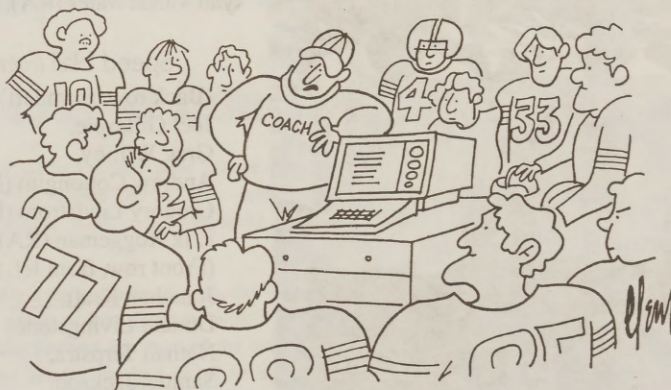
FACULTY & FRIENDS DISCUSSION GROUP will meet Fridays at 7:30-8:45 a.m. beginning Sept. 29 to read and discuss Parker Palmer's "The Active Life: Wisdom for Work, Creativity, and Caring." Convener: Dr. William Hughes, ISU faculty. Place: United Ministries Center, 321 N. 7th St. Call 232-0186 to order book.

Policies:

The Rose Thorn offers classified advertisements less than 30 words free to Rose-Hulman students, faculty, and student organizations. For submissions of more than 30 words, each additional word is \$0.10.

The Thorn reserves the right to refuse advertising which the editors judge to be discriminatory on the basis of race, religion or sexual orientation, or that promotes violence, illegal activities or is in bad taste.

Submissions may be made at the Thorn office (room C216), through the Thorn Box 2034, or by calling the Thorn at ext. 8255. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Wednesday prior to publication. Runs over one week must be renewed weekly by contacting the Thorn office, unless prior run arrangements have been made.



"The gain select info is in bits 6 and 7 of the A or X register, got that? Now, about the second half strategy...."



DILBERT®

BY

SCOTT ADAMS

