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the THORN



VOLUME 8 - NUMBER 11

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

TERRE HAUTE, IND.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1972

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT-A PHOTO ESSAY

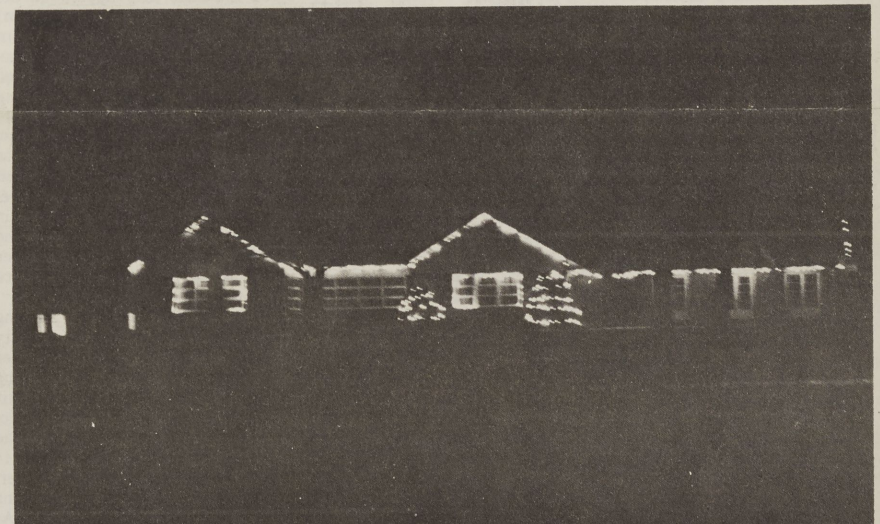


PHOTO ESSAY
by Gary Elfring



EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

by GCE

Do you have a prof. who likes to change around your class hours? Maybe this was the first quarter, since you were a freshman, that all the classes you wanted to take met without any conflicts. Until the first day of class that is. I've always been under the impression that if some one signs up for a class and has a conflict, it is his problem, not mine. I was also under the impression that unless a schedule change met with all the students approval it would not go through. Maybe I'm wrong. You see, I've heard of some classes being changed in which some students who had no schedule conflicts were given them. The result of this was that two or three other students in that class, who registered with conflicts, had their schedules cleared of conflicts. I wonder if the registrar knows of this new policy? The only result of this policy, that I've seen, has been an increase in the number of people with schedule conflicts and an increase in the number of free days that certain profs have. What other school do you know of where professors in certain departments only have to teach three days a week? Its even been rumored that a few of these professors have been moon-lighting full time out in that big-bad world of industry. All in all, I'm getting tired of receiving schedule conflicts. If anyone else out there is in the same boat I would advise you to let the registrar know. Maybe he can do something about this stupid mess. If this doesn't work perhaps you can try filling out only half of your next test in that subject. Just include a note with the test explaining that since you could only come to half the classes, due to the instructors class shuffling, you can only do half the work.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor of the Thorn:

I feel that the student body of this institution, is entitled to read a true evaluation of the convocation with the presidents of our local colleges, ipso crapo, by someone who was there.

I doubt that most of the students realize that the deadline for this newspaper is Monday night so obviously the article was written before the convocation even took place. So for your benefit and other fellow students who had the intelligence not to bother to come; I have enclosed an article on it.

Logan, Knoerle, and Rankin
Hold News-Conference

On Wednesday, Dec. 12, Dr. John Logan, Dr. Alan Rankin, and Sister Jean Knoerle, presidents of local institutions held a news conference in the Rose-Hulman Auditorium disguised as a convocation for Rose students. Each opened with a statement concerning how each of the institutions were in financial straights and were turning to each other and consolidating programs to conserve money. Then each commented that the institutions of Rose, ISU, and St. Mary's were complementary; therefore unable to offer each other much assistance. So the opening statements amounted to a request for money for the institutions. After all of this was recorded on celloid and magnetic tape the floor was opened for questions from students and others attending the "convocation." The questions were fielded admirably by Sister Knoerle—I didn't know that, I'll check into it, by Dr. Rankin—We're a big school, we can't help you, and Dr. Logan—We try hard. After a while the cameras ran out of film and the "convocation" was adjourned. The students appreciated the time off from classes but it seems that the presidents would have been better served in the studios of WTWO. Dr. Logan, Dr. Rankin, and Sister Knoerle would have been spared having to stand on the stage in the dark

after the cameramen left with the lights, to finish the discussion.

NOTICE!

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"Merry Christmas From The Thorn Staff"

CONTRIBUTION

by Stan Baker

When you work on a newspaper it becomes fairly easy to tell what's happening on the campus, or what is not happening as the case may apply. In the three week lull (my own term) since we have returned from Thanksgiving vacation, it has become apparent that many good Rosemen were only getting ready for Christmas, warming up in a sense. Even as I type this, I suspect that it may be at least another three weeks until many of you read this, so a belated "Merry Christmas" is in order for you. For those who read this article on December 22—what do you think you're doing? Go home!

No, really, what is bugging me the most is that it's pretty hard to put a paper together when hardly anything is going on. So I'm giving you guys fair warning. I'm not going to fictionalize anymore! Get the lead out because I'm not going to cover up for you any longer. Perish the thought of cancelling the Thorn for lack of news. As you old hands have realized by now, I am mourning over the widespread symptoms of the so-called "Apathy Syndrome," which strikes the student body at regular intervals preceeding and immediately following scheduled vacations and those long weekends. I would be tempted to put the blame for much of this inactivity on the barren social environment, or the environment around here period. But I know such rash accusations cannot be true. For at this very minute hoards of eager underclassmen are being indoctrinated into the joys of the Greek side of life. So I can only hope that some day soon the Rose fraternities will stop ignoring the campus, the rest of the students, and all of the productive work which needs to be done. The campus, the school, student government, and the various clubs and organizations should become the focus of a reasonable portion of our time, and not just a refuge from honest academic work.

Is "Apathy Syndrome" a curable disease? Well, much depends on how awake you are to the problem. The sleepers think things are fine just as they are. But I know from talking to many of the people who have tried to instigate or sustain any

kind of meaningful interest and/or activity on this campus how difficult this task can be. The goal of getting more people to "wake" up could be achieved by attacking the problem at any of several sore spots.

First, the opportunities to participate are often left unnoticed or unpublicized. Many potentially interested students and faculty alike get left out merely because the word doesn't get out—in time or at all. This problem can be solved two ways. Club or organization activity, of the individual's choosing should be made mandatory at the time of entrance to the school. This way each student necessarily becomes involved, but only in that area which interests him. Many new students need a little push to get started, and a program of assignments of responsibilities might fill the gap. This idea is similar to the committee assignments of faculty members and administrators. Once we have provided the encouragement to participate, we need to better coordinate the scheduling of activities into some regularly printed and distributed format which would be available to all. I have personally promised column space in the Thorn for such a campus activities calendar, but as yet no action has been taken.

Important to better campus activities would be a more meaningful recognition to those who voluntarily spend their time in extra-curricular activities. Quite frankly, I would trade my "Rose Honor Key" for another 0.5 points added to my GPA. That would mean something more to others as well as myself. But I suppose there are many who complain that one should never have the best of both worlds, and so this is a knotty problem which remains unsolved. Somehow the system must be reshaped to be more equitable for everyone. I think there is much room for improvement.

Next time you pass somebody in the hall and ask "What's new?" and they reply, "I dunno," ask why.

Until next time, sports fans, as my clammy palm rests upon the space bar in contemplation, I wish you all a Merry Christmas. That's all any of us could ask for.

Out Of Their League

by Ron Selby

Now that the regular pro-football season is over and the playoffs are about to begin, one can watch a phenomenon which has become a regular occurrence in American homes. Millions of people, mostly men, sit glued to a T.V. for hours every weekend watching football. The more fanatical live and breathe football during the week, as well. Those who attend the games in person shell out large sums of money, usually a year in advance, for the privilege. The reason for the intense interest in football is competition. Our society ingrains the idea in all of us that competition is desirable, and necessary, in fact, to enjoy life. Thus, watching football, is a respectable pastime, and competing in football builds character, morals, and prepares the participant for competition in life.

Dave Meggyesy, author of *Out of Their League*, has a different view of football. He feels it symbolizes the worst aspects of our society—violence, racism, drug abuse, repression, sexual frustration, and dehumanization. Before you dismiss these ideas as those of some screwed up shrink, consider this: Meggyesy was a "super-jock" who spent 14 years in football, including 7 as a linebacker for the St. Louis Cardinals before he retired in 1970.

Football is obviously violent. Meggyesy recounts several incidents in which players purposely injured others, and they seemed to feel satisfaction in each case. The drug abuse charge has been pretty well substantiated by others, including Jim Bouton, ex big-league pitcher who wrote *Ball Four*. Many pros are caught in the upper-downer-upper cycle, all dispensed by their friendly team trainer in large quantities. Meggyesy's claim of repression also seems justified. Players, pro, college, and high school alike, were until a few years ago forced to have short hair, and obey ridiculous "hours" during season. This has changed some recently, but not much. Meggyesy was censured by the Cardinals for his anti-war activities (non-violent, by the way), and he was under a great deal of pressure to leave the league because of them. Meggyesy also says "To me, it is no accident that Richard Nixon, the most repressive president in American history, is a football freak, and that the sport is rapidly becoming our version of bread and circuses."

The sexual aspects of the sport are also interesting. Meggyesy asserts that the NFL has its share of homosexuals and weirdos of various types (Lance Alworth). Many athletes apparently get an almost sexual pleasure out of hitting other people. More interesting is the behavior of the average 40 or 50 year old T.V. fan. He gets an almost sexual pleasure out of watching people hit other people, and since this is sometimes the only kick he can get out of life, he experiences it as often as possible. Maybe all of those women who complain about being "football widows" are causing their men to turn on to the tube by holding out on them at night.

Out of Their League is must reading for any football fan. It will hopefully cause you to do some heavy thinking about the All-American Sport.

In the U.S.S.R. there is now a dial-a-prayer service for atheists. You dial a number and nobody answers.

Streams in the United States carry an average of 1.2 billion gallons of water each day to the oceans.

STRANGE BREW

by Frank & Ahmed

The Holiday Rock & Roll Extravaganza to be held in Nap-town on December 27 has had a change or two since the last time we got together. McKendree Spring will not be partaking of this happening and in their place will be one Leo Kottke. Two Leos would most likely be a little hard to handle anyway. Kottke can pick with the best of them and those who haven't seen him before are in for quite an experience. Tickets are still available—\$5.50 advance and \$6.50 at the door. Lots of people from Rose are planning to go and help finish off the old year.

We've been spending a pile of money on records lately just trying to keep up with all the new releases. So before we get completely behind, we'd better tell you about a couple of them. Peter Townshend's solo album, **Who Came First** (Decca DL 7-9189), is really strange but rather nice just the same. Side one opens with "Pure and Easy," which is reminiscent of **Who's Next**, and closes with "Nothing Is Everything." Both are pretty good. All Townshend does on cuts 2&3 is engineer. The guest stars do a passable job playing the music. Side two consists mostly of toned down tunes like the C&W song "Heartache" and "Sheraton Gibson," but the crowning glory of the album is "Parvardigar," a musical adaptation of Meher Baba's universal prayer. It brings **Tommy** to mind, in a nice way of course. The record is uneven and spotty, but there are some great moments on it, too.

Rockfish Crossing is Mason Proffitt's newest release (Warner Bros. BS 2657) and is a bit of a new step for them. The group has added Bruce "Creep-er" Kurnow on piano and harmonica since their last album. Everybody else is still the same, but the sound just isn't like it used to be. For one thing, John Talbot does a lot less steel

guitar on this album and stays more with acoustic guitar and banjo. At first Ahmed was ready to throw the album away because of this lack of steel when compared to their earlier albums. But things are different now! After about three listenings this album is now on Ahmed's current play rack and should be on yours too. Side one opens with "Jesse" which has an unbelievable piano line by Kurnow that just gets your whole body a hoppin'. After that comes "You Win Again," remake of the Hank Williams song. Also on side one is a rip-tearin' instrumental called "Breakin' Down."

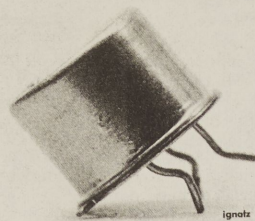
Side two is all recorded live and it's a mind-blower. One of the highlights is the medley "Cripple Creek/Quit Kickin' My Dog Around." The album ends with another medley of "George's Jam/Call Me The Breeze" in which the group sounds nearly like the Grateful Dead. The similarity is almost scary. The cover has some great pictures which will be appreciated by all you cowboy freaks. So gather up your gold dust and hustle on down to your favorite trading post for this one. Dr. Hip's Dictionary: B.S.—abbreviation for Black Sabbath Headlines:

1. Groundhogs really get it on.
 2. WTHI gets better? Stay tuned!
- That's about all for now. Hope Santa brings you all kinds of neat toys and a few good tunes besides. Before we leave though the both of us have a resolution to make.

Frank & Ahmed's New Year's Resolution:

Frank & Ahmed resolve that in the new year of 1973 we will strive to keep from belittling the intelligence of our reading audience and commit ourselves to the total elimination of copy concerning hyped-up teenybopper heavy schmalz bands. **MERRY X-MAS TO ALL AND GOOD NIGHT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

DOC JET, I DON'T THINK AMPUTATION WILL REALLY HELP MY COLD.



PESSIMISTS' CORNER

Our motto is: Expect the worst, and you won't be disappointed.

A penny saved is a penny earned. HA!! With inflation rising the way it is, you'd be better spending it now while it's worth something (however small), instead of hoarding it (like a pessimist). Harken to what I have to say, for the day will come when the dollar has the same buying power as Confederate money did near the end of the Civil War.

Now that Apollo and manned landings on the moon are over, just think of all the acquired skills that will go to waste. The next time we start a program to put men on the moon like Apollo could, we'll have to have a few Gemini and Apollo space vehicles go around the earth just to iron the bugs out of the vehicles, and provide for practice for the support crews. Lotsa money needed for that. Then we'll have to have a few Apollos just go around the moon a few times just to see if everything is the same. And then, if we're lucky (probably not), we'll put a man and/or woman on the moon with enough equipment to get back. If something breaks, at least they'll be able to hitch a ride back from the Russians (or somebody else).

Finally, for our thought of the day, provided by the author Herman Wouk (Caine Mutiny):

When in danger or in doubt, Run in circles, scream and shout!

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DEAN'S LIST

Three hundred fifty-six students, or nearly one-third of the student body, earned Dean's List recognition for a 3.1 grade point average or better during the Fall term at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, according to Dr. James B. Matthews, Dean of the Faculty.

A total of 26 men earned perfect 4.0 marks during the recently completed term.

The size of the Dean's List was slightly larger as compared with the first term of last year.

Seniors with perfect marks included Mark E. Belisle, Hammond; Kenneth B. Brown, Brownstown; Richard S. Dial, St. Elmo, Ill.; Allen D. Harmon, Indianapolis; James D. Hastings, Washington; Larry A. Snyder, Gary R. Kelm and Charles D. Moseman, all of Terre Haute; John D. Latvaitis, Cincinnati, Ohio; Niles L. Nobliitt, Evansville; David L. Scheidt, Memphis, Tenn.; Paul C. Schmidtke, Geneva, Ill.; and Michael L. Turney, Mooresville.

Seven juniors were among the elite group including Timothy P. Craig, Hamilton, Ohio; James K. Gilman, Hymera; Jay M. Ludlow and David P. Rardon, both of Indianapolis; James D. Tribble, Brazil; Robert J. Peterka, Brecksville, Ohio, and Leonard L. Overton, Brownsburg.

Sophomores earning perfect grades were Geoffrey A. Edick, Mt. Vernon, Ohio; Timothy J. Gallagher, Louisville, Ky.; William J. Hausmann, Hamilton, Ohio; Kentland D. Holcomb, Westport and Damon W. Holladay, Shelburn.

The only freshman earning perfect grades during his first term at Rose-Hulman was Robert E. Copus of Indianapolis.



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BLACK DRIVES—Junior co-captain Clayton Black (11) drives for the basket under heavy pressure from two Purdue-Calumet defenders. The Engineers will begin a seven game home stand Friday night against Indiana State University-Evansville.

BASKETBALL TEAM HOSTS ISU-EVANSVILLE

Trying to find the solution to a non-productive offense, the Fightin' Engineers will host Indiana State University-Evansville Friday night at 8 p.m. in Shook Fieldhouse.

The contest takes the place of a game against IU-Kokomo that was cancelled.

A sluggish offense and numerous errors and turnovers have kept the Engineers in a tailspin since returning from their trip to Florida.

The Rose-Hulman offense in the last four games is averaging 69.8 points per contest while opponents have been scoring points at a rate of 86 points per contest.

Even the return of forward Bill Ransbottom, who missed four games because of an ankle injury, has not been enough to spark the slow-moving Rose-Hulman offensive attack.

Sophomore guard Denny Townsend leads the Engineers in scoring with a 15-point average, other Engineers in double figures include Bill Ransbottom (11.8), Randy Wadsworth (11.7) and Gary Dougan (11.2).

Shooting percentages thus far are grim eye-openers to the need for more offensive punch.

Against Principia the Engi-

neers shot 30.5% from the field; against Marian College the Engineers could make good on only 35% of their shots.

Improved scoring, a reduction in errors, plus an improvement in rebounding are the keys to the Engineers being able to get back on the winning trail.

Friday night's contest is the first of seven straight home games for the Engineers.

The home stand, in friendly Shook Fieldhouse, may in itself provide the atmosphere for a comeback.

Included in the streak of home games is the annual Rose-Hulman Invitational Tournament.

The tournament will be held January 19 and 20. Visiting teams will include Westminster College of Missouri, Principia and Wright State University.

From the Playboy Adviser: This is hardly a big deal, but my girlfriend, who is Jewish, claims that having sex on Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, is against the Talmudic law. Is she correct?—R. M. Cleveland, Ohio. She is. On the Day of Atonement, sex, like other earthly pleasures, simply isn't kosher. (Especially in the synagogue!)

NUCLEAR PROBE DETECTS TREASURE

Prospecting has gone to sea with a new device to detect precious metals on the ocean floor.

Scientists have announced development of a nuclear probe which can analyze the specific concentrations of seabed mineral deposits.

The unit can spot 30 different elements and, in a matter of minutes, deliver a complete report on the quantities of copper, silver, gold, manganese and other valuable metals in natural deposits.

In recent weeks the nuclear device has also aided recovery of historical artifacts from a site off the Florida Keys where a Spanish galleon went down 250 years ago. This demonstration was for the firms holding salvage rights to the wreck of the "San Jose."

The probe uses a technique called "in-situ seabed neutron activation analysis." It was developed under sponsorship of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Applied Technology. A sea-going prototype is currently being tested on natural and simulated minerals in the Florida waters.

The detector-analyzer probe is the result of 2½ years of research and development work. It is expected to find use in geophysical mapping of the ocean floor, but scientists say it could also point the way to "the real natural treasures of the sea"—vast fields of mineral deposits known to exist at great depths.

Vietnam Vets Against War

Denver—When Johnny came marching home this time, he really started to raise hell, and the U.S. government didn't like it at all.

It's difficult for any government to wage a war which thousands of returning soldiers not only disavow, but also spend much time and energy trying to stop. Since its inception at a

Washington, D.C. anti-war demonstration in the spring of 1971, the Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) has been one of the most vocal organizations against the war in Vietnam.

VVAW spokesmen claim that the government has initiated a policy of "harrassment and repression" toward VVAW and its individual members. The most recent event in this conflict was a conspiracy indictment filed against six VVAW members by a federal grand jury in Tallahassee, Florida.

Last July, John Kniffin and Robert Wayne Beverly were planning to take part in demonstrations at the Democratic convention in Miami Beach. Shortly before the convention they, along with 23 other VVAW members, were subpoenaed by the grand jury. Most of the veterans, according to Kniffin, thought the government was simply trying to keep them out of Miami.

Kniffin, who is presently out of jail on \$25,000 bond, views the government's purposes as three-fold. The government wants to discredit the organization, intimidate the members of VVAW and tie up the time and money put into the VVAW.

Kniffin and Beverly, who is named as a co-conspirator in the indictment, also charged that the Tallahassee affair represents a misuse of the grand jury's function.

"A grand jury," Kniffin explained, "is supposed to meet to determine if there is enough evidence to issue an indictment. The grand jury in Tallahassee was a fishing expedition."

Beverly said that the grand jury foreman repeatedly told him that "the grand jury always abides by the government's decision."

Both men contended that the government has a good source of information concerning VVAW because the organization is heavily infiltrated with government informers. The informers aren't sought out, according to Kniffin, because they usually bring in one thing that the organization needs: money.

EARTH SATELLITE

Scientists, geologists, and researchers from approximately 35 countries including the United States are standing by, waiting for the Goddard Space Flight Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration to launch a satellite that is expected to give man a greater knowledge of his resources than ever before.

Called the Earth Resources Technology Satellite, or ERTS-A, it will be equipped with seven sensors that will relay back to earth data about land the world over. ERTS-A, which is scheduled for launching this month, will be followed a year later by a similar satellite, the ERTS-B.

If the system works as well as scientists hope, it will add greatly to man's knowledge of pollution, geography, cartography and hydrology.

Dr. Robert N. Colwell, associate director of the Space Sciences Laboratory at the University of California at Berkeley and associate professor of soil and conservation, has called ERTS, "The most important photographic mission in the history of man."

Dr. Colwell, who specializes in reusable resources, said a system of this nature is becoming more and more important because as each year passes there is a greater need for more food to feed not only the ever-growing population, but also a more affluent population that demands a better diet.

He said that, at the same time, there is less land available to grow this food, and that ERTS-A and -B, should give scientists and researchers a better idea of what land is available to grow better crops.

He added that the photos supplied by the system would be valuable for water research. It will show every 18 days how much snow has accumulated on the various mountains in the world and will give those on the lower levels an idea of how much water can be expected when the snow melts.

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