Spring is right around the rig¬
der corner, and with spring comes the promise of new opportunities. One of those opportu¬
nities is studying abroad, a chance to experi¬
ence a new culture while learning towards a degree. The Global Pro¬
grams office is gearing up for the Global Expo, but with a twist.

"Last year was a one day, and it was
for people to meet about opportunities, more faculty-led," explained Director of Study Abroad and Inter¬

eational Exchanges, Maria del mar Aponte. "So we did this (this year) was more student-run. We have six stu¬
dents who are helping plan the different events.

On the docket are four events, spanning March 28-30. The first night is a poster ses¬

tion and panel discussion. For the poster ses¬
tion, take place from 4:30-5:30 p.m., students who have studied abroad make posters, ex¬

plaining their experiences, motivations for going, how it fit in their schedule, what they learned while abroad, and how their trip sur¬

prised them.

I havn’t studied abroad in those places," del mar Aponte said, "I can’t answer all those questions. The halfway outside the GM room will be student leaders and international food for students to browse and learn.

For students who are thinking about study¬

ing abroad, Blackburn said, "It was the perfect time to start learning more. It is not something that is too late to learn about in the early planning stages, or even for stu¬

ents who are ready to depart.

If students are unable to attend the poster session, or are looking for more, there will be a panel session in the GM room from 5:30-6:30. Return study abroad students will continue to discuss their experiences and answer any ques¬
tions students might have.

Night two is a little more informal, with "HIPA and Salsa," cosponsored by the Society for Hispanic Professional En¬
geers. In the RSC Multipurpose room from 6-6:30 p.m. students can mingle with students and compete in a salsa (dancing) competition, as well as enjoy international food.

The third event is the international info luncheon. Students who are prepar¬
ing to depart, thinking about going, or have simple questions are encouraged to RSVP to get those questions out of the way. Tables at the luncheon will be available to answer some of those questions. It’s definitely a student-focused," del mar Aponte added.

At all of these events, there will also be raffle prizes, which range from a travel vouch¬
er through the Global Programs office to engi¬

neers. In the SRC Multi purpose room, from 8:15-9:15 p.m. There are prizes includ¬
ing shorts, wallets, and a raffle for those in attendance.

On Wednesday, the Attitude of Gratitude Timeline is up, and stu¬
dents can stop by the Union lobby from 4th to 7th hour to

write out philanthropic plans for their recommenda¬
tions, del mar Aponte thought it would be important to talk about the country they are in.

The first major events is on Tuesday, where the Kohn Rooms will be the epicenter for a Big game, hosted by Eric Liebio. The event lasts from 8-11 p.m.

The grand prize this year is a brand new Nintendo Switch.

Overlapping the Attitude of Gratitude Timeline is up, and stu¬
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She hopes students to see the diverse op¬
portunities for everyone. With the week we have lived and worked abroad would be a valuable asset to a company.

Weeklong celebrations, guest speakers, trivia, and chances to win big prizes await students as March ends and April begins.

"Weeklong celebrations, guest speakers, trivia, and chances to win big prizes await students as March ends and April begins."

Outside of the main events, several other events are taking place. For students who are ready to depart.

"[There are a wide variety of study abroad opportunities, including short-term faculty-led programs or single quarter opportunities."

Lauren Wiseman

"I really do think exploring an opportunity is something they really should consider.

She hopes students to see the diverse op¬
portunities for everyone. With the week we have lived and worked abroad would be a valuable asset to a company.

webpage - therosethorn.com
Our Mission Statement:
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.

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Mason Diebold • Staff Writer
Joseph Lee • Staff Writer
Andrew Henderson • Staff Writer

ISSUES of The Rose Thorn are published on the second through ninth Mondays of each academic quarter.

WEEKLY MEETINGS are at 5:15 p.m. on the first through ninth Tuesdays 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. Submission may be made by email to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or in person to Percopo room 031. The submission deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday.

THE RIGHTS to accept submissions or changes made after the deadline, to edit submissions in so far 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.
Regarding the shooter, nor the victims. However, officials did not going anywhere. We are not leaving. He told The Associated Press, in the gunman turning himself in. Strip. The gunman killed one, and wounded another, then sil records are incomplete. History dinosaur curator Matthew Carrano commented on "said of the study, trowth upside down. We found that it turns our long iews on the T. rex nearly a century ago, but new research has put the T. rex thought it was. thought it was. A group of researchers at the University of Bristol and the UNESCO World Heritage Committee to put the reefs bleaching occurs when warm water forces coral to cast off coral contains bleached white or dead coral. These bleach- the Great Barrier Reef is a result of global warming. Staff Writer Joseph Lee

Topics

Red Blood Cells

A group of researchers at the University of Bristol and

Gunman Opens Fire on Las Vegas Strip

No one else was shot. But five years on the subject is now com-

Deep Learning

The deep learning breakthrough has shifted much in the field of computer vi-

Dinosaur Evolution

Why? The Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History’s Christian Sidor commented on hard it was to side with either theory, given early fin-

Neural Networks

Deep learning uses neural networks to create hierarchical representations of data. Each layer of neurons extracts a part of the hierarchy. Image classification is an example of a neural network's ability to learn features that are useful for recognizing objects in images. Deep learning works by training a neural network on a large dataset to learn how to perform some task, such as image classification or speech recognition. The network is composed of many layers, each consisting of many simple computational units called neurons. Each neuron takes a weighted sum of its inputs, applies a nonlinear activation function to this sum, and passes the result to the next layer as input. The weights are adjusted during training to minimize a loss function that measures how well the network's predictions match the ground truth. Deep learning algorithms are able to learn complex relationships and patterns in data, which makes them very powerful for solving a wide variety of tasks. In recent years, deep learning has achieved state-of-the-art performance on many challenging problems, such as image classification, speech recognition, and natural language processing.
Wyoming’s On Fire
A Review of Firewatch

Evelyn Maquelin

Copy Editor

In the world of interactive fiction, Foreunner Studios’ most recent game, Firewatch, is a breathtaking adventure where you take on the role of Henry the fire lookout, a game that never ceases to amaze with its incredibly detailed scenery, unique mechanics, and deep storytelling.

But what does a fire lookout do, exactly? All you do is sit in the tower and survey your area. On the surface, yes. Stranded in a windowed tower overlooking one of the most beautiful* regions of Wyoming, your official task is to take a break from the outside world, the views, and make sure they’re not going up in flames. But this is no easy task.

The Shoshone National Forest, though vast in size, is anything but a dangerous place. On a routine trip to deal with a fallen telephone wire, you come across some startling information. Yes, the watcher, are being watched? What follows is a suspenseful adventure trying to unveil the mystery of who is watching you, and why.

How the game goes about this is untraditional in many ways. During the vast majority of the game, you actually never meet another human being. In fact, aside from the far-away silhouettes of two reckless campers, the only physical contact you have with another person is when a short-cut lifts you out of the forest seconds before the game switches. Interaction is done by a handheld radio, and all your conversations are done through it.

Firewatch really shines in the way they handle dialogue and other communication. Your supervisor, Delilah, talks to you via the radio, informing you of what she sees from her tower and what she thinks is going on. Your choices are as well, and the choices for responses consistently build up the story and the conversations. You can talk about everything or nothing, as you’re wandering around the forest. Notifying her of interesting things you find, or on occasion asking for help or advice, which can occur with startling ease.

They struck a perfect balance between a large open world and an objective-driven experience. You’re given a map and a compass, which you have to open and slow down to read in order to complete Delilah’s instructions. In search of a fully immersive experience, there’s no minimap in the corner tracking your every move, you need to figure it out yourself and plot your routes accordingly. This gives you plenty of time to explore the amazing, albeit computationally heavy, graphics that make up this version of the Shoshone forest.

Knowing they would fail if they aimed for photo-realism, Campo Santo made an interesting choice with their art style, instead choosing to go after a highly stylized version of the Shoshone forest. Polygon-heavy and saturated with bold colors, the world inside Firewatch well mimics the massive Wyoming forest. Considering the number of times I would stop and stare at the world rolling out in front of me, they succeeded in creating a world that was beautiful, computationally feasible, and immersive.

This immersion extends into your relationship with Delilah, as your choice in responses directly impacts the type of relationship you have with her. Alone in the forest, you quickly grow close to her and learn more about what brought you both to summers of solitude. It adds an extra touch of humanity to the game, and keeps you sane as you struggle to figure out what is going on.

Naturally, all good things come to an end, but rarely will a game leave me with such an intense sense of loss as the end of Firewatch did. Like the Last of Us, a Naughty Dog game released in 2013, the story stayed with me throughout the week. Throughout the game you learn about the lookouts that came before you and the forest’s history, which all weeps together into a shocking, but satisfying final stretch of gameplay.

In a game where it seems as though nothing takes the backseat, the story stands out as the true driving force, and is one I will remember forever. Firewatch has raised the bar on games, and I look forward to seeing what Campo Santo puts out in the future.

Firewatch paints Wyoming with a pallet of rich colors.

Photo courtesy of IGN.com

Black Mirror: Reflecting our Darkest Self

Thaddeus Hughes

Opinions Editor

Shout the Twilight Zone with the cinematic wonder of the 21st century, add a dash of Stanley Kubrick, George Orwell, and Aldous Huxley, and boom: you have Black Mirror. The anthology format is much like Aldous Huxley’s clockwork society, and add in a current issue faced by society, and you’ve made up this version of the Shoshone forest.

The general formula for an episode of Black Mirror is as follows: Start with a peculiarity, and add in an interesting event, and you’ve made up this version of the Shoshone forest. Poly-gen brainy and saturated with bold colors, the world inside Firewatch well mimics the massive Wyoming forest. Considering the number of times I would stop and stare at the world rolling out in front of me, they succeeded in creating a world that was beautiful, computationally feasible, and immersive.

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Photo courtesy of FrameKate.co.uk

Black Mirror serves as a Twilight Zone for the 21st century.

“only a joke.” The detectives are flashed out, and the ball is set rolling.

Eventually, it is found that the cause of death is actually the same, and completely garish. The method chosen seems only a joke at first; not matching anything. As the plot progresses, we learn that it would not be possible if not for a seemingly benevolent government program, increased government spying, and a notorious twitter hashtag. Themes of vigilante justice, bullying, cyber security, and privacy run together and show that everything has ramifications.

Throughout the episode, there is deadlock as to figuring out who is behind this: is it a fluke? Is it actually a hacker? Is it an inside job? If it is a hacker, is it someone who believes in democratic slaughter? As tensions escalate, and the promise of a moderately happy ending grows near, we soon learn that these incidents are just the beginning, and the worst is yet to come.

*It is important to note that this region is actually one of the most beautiful in the United States.
As we all know, Rose-Hulman has a prolific past. Its history is well known and celebrated by its students, with events like Chauncey day and traditions such as the homecoming bonfire signifying the long standing history that generations of students have upheld throughout the years. However, even with all of the aspects of the school we do know about, there are many others that have been forgotten, lost in time, or known to only a select group of people. This week I want to take the time to enlighten the readers of the Thorn about one of the most interesting clubs at this school: The Rose Radio Club, call sign W9NAA.

If you look atop of Moench Hall, you will see a large pronged antenna. This antenna belongs to the Amateur Radio club or ham radio club. I recently learned from one of its very prominent members, freshman George Main, about one of the oldest clubs on campus.

For anyone unfamiliar with Amateur Radio, it is an extremely popular hobby where groups of people use radio setups and rigs to contact each other. These contacts range from a leisurely talk between two stations at any time of the day to heated radio contests, in which there are thousands of people competing to contact each other the most times in a short period of time. The members of our clubs have been working hard through generations of students to uphold these traditions and push the limits of their capabilities.

This club has an very large collection of different hardware and equipment. The large pronged antenna on top of Moench is actually a high frequency directional Yagi antenna, which is used to send and receive different transmissions around the world. The cable that connects the smokestack and water tower also belongs to the radio club and is for high frequency communications around the world. The club also owns VHF (Very High Frequency) and UHF (Ultra High Frequency) antennas that are atop Moench.

The ham radio club is one of the most historic clubs on campus. Existing for over 100 years, they have remained through some of the darkest times of the United States. In the records of the ham radio club there is a note in which Herman Moench himself wrote "All operation suspended in accordance with the order of the Federal Communications Commission effective this date." This note was taken on December 7th 1941, or the day that pearl harbor was attacked. There are countless logs such as these dating back over 100 years showing evidence of world events and other moments that previous Rose students had lived through.

Another popular aspect of amateur radio is sending QSL cards, a postcard of sorts, to the places that you have contacted. Over the years, the club has received these personalized cards from countless different places around the world ranging from other ham radio clubs in japan to people with their own setups in their own homes. These cards range in complexity, some garnering pictures of people in groups around the world, and others hand-written notes on small pieces of paper. The Radio club has a collection of these notes with some dating back to the 1930s.

For anyone interested, the ham radio club is open to anyone on campus looking to get involved, and they offer tests for anyone looking to get a license in amateur radio. In the future, they’ll try to talk to the international space station and other satellites orbiting the earth.

A Special thanks to George Main for all of the information and a peek inside the office.
Opinions

Restricted Mode: A Double-Edged Sword

Andrew Henderson
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, YouTube released a new restricted mode for their site. Restricted Mode was created by YouTube to allow parents and children to filter out mature content, including topics like sexuality, health, and politics. The system works off a private algorithm that automatically decides which videos contain mature content and makes them invisible to anyone who has turned on Restricted Mode.

The new system, however, has backfired on YouTube as controversy surrounding the restriction of many LGBT videos arose, calling Restricted Mode a censorship hot button used on silencing LGBT YouTubers. Hundreds of YouTube videos have sprouted, asking questions like whether YouTube hates the LGBT movement and if YouTube semi’s LGBT content as inappropriate or offensive. The controversy also caused the hashtag #YouTubeOverParty, to trend on twitter where millions of people took part in either attacking or defending YouTube over the new restrictions.

In response, YouTube made two statements, the first in defense of the mode’s filtering stating, “Videos that contain LGBT topics are available in Restricted Mode, however, some videos that cover subjects like health, politics and sexuality may not appear for users and institutions that choose to use this feature”. YouTube later sent out an apology saying, “The bottom line is that this feature isn’t working the way it should. We’re sorry and we’re going to fix it.”

Re: The Wall Street Journal. Larger controversies started last month when the YouTuber with the largest subscriber count on the site, PewDiePie, had an article written about him by the Wall Street Journal. The article called him an anti-Semitic, citing a video in which PewDiePie paid two Indian men to hold up a sign saying “Death to all Jews” through the site Fire

Both his jokes surrounding Hitler were just that: jokes. The Fire video with the “Death to all Jews” sign was a video outlining that the site allowed bad things to occur. Yet, the Wall Street Journal still attacked PewDiePie and pushed YouTube to drop PewDiePie from their contract with him.

This was a large controversy for YouTube, and had many YouTubers take sides.

Later in the same month, YouTuber JonTron got in trouble for some statements he made in a debate on immigration with the streamer Destiny. Many called him a white nationalist, but most of JonTron’s statements were less racially motivated, and more angered by the hypocrisy drawing in the political left over the past few decades.

Both of these fiascos involved the same news outlets who wrote articles detailing why YouTube’s new restricted mode is bad. The irony is that this filtering system seems to do exactly what the news outlets wanted it to do, as many of JonTron’s and PewDiePie’s videos have been hidden by Restricted Mode. This contradiction, as well as these incidents as whole, serves as a reminder that censoring free speech is not viable. As a society, we need to accept that people may spend ideas we deem unacceptable, and respect their right to do so.

The principle of free speech, which has a place not just in our governance but in our day to day lives, is an important principle in protecting people. When sites like the Wall Street Journal, Gizmodo, and Wired call for censorship because they don’t like someone’s ideas, they create and solidify systems for censoring the ideas of common, innocent citizens. Allowing any form of censorship sets up systems to censor all voices, including the ones you want to protect. Restricted Mode started with progressive outlets calling for the censorship of some voices, and ended with voices they agreed with also censored.

Censoring people to protect others allows any voice to be censored as long as a reason, such as wanting to “filter out mature content” can be constructed.

When sites like Wired demanded for some YouTubers to be silenced, they gave YouTube the precedent to censor any voice the company views as bad PR for the site.

What makes the whole situation even more hypocritical is that in many of the same articles attacking YouTube for their new restricted mode, they call for even more restriction of voices they call alt-right, far-right or non-progressive. As a society we must learn from incidents like this that all voices must be protected, no matter how hateful you may view them. It is the civic duty of any member of a democratic nation to protect the rights of fellow citizens, even if they may disagree with those citizens.

This video is unavailable with Restricted Mode enabled. To view this video, you will need to disable Restricted Mode.

Sorry about that.

Feeling a bit restricted yet?

Screeshot via youtube.com

Restricted Mode started with progressive outlets calling for the censorship of some voices, and ended with voices they agreed with also censored.

This controversy over Restricted Mode is not the first concerning YouTube, but one in a long line of controversies spurred on by progressive outlets like Wired, Gizmodo and the Wall Street Journal. Larger controversies started last month when the YouTuber with the largest subscriber count on the site, PewDiePie, had an article written about him by the Wall Street Journal. The article called him an anti-Semitic, citing a video in which PewDiePie paid two Indian men to hold up a sign saying “Death to all Jews” through the site Fire.

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It’s your opinion. Share it!

Submit via: goo.gl/bqLbeA
As expected, there isn't a single perfect bracket this year. The last "perfect bracket" was destroyed when Vanderbilt beat Kansas. The last perfect bracket had the first 39 games correct which is now the lowest streak recorded for a bracket.

Before this year, the highest streak was 36 games. This means that no one has ever had a perfect bracket into the Sweet Sixteen. There are 60 million to 100 million brackets made every year and none of them line up to currently predict who will advance.

The SEC has shown their dominance as a conference as they had three teams in the Elite Eight: South Carolina, Florida and Kentucky. The other teams in the Elite Eight were North Carolina, Xavier, Gonzaga, Oregon and Kansas.

The craziest story of the week would most likely be the way that Wisconsin lost to Florida in the Sweet Sixteen. Florida had been dominating the game and even had a lead of 15 points until the last few minutes. Wisconsin came back to send the game into overtime. With only a few seconds left, Wisconsin hit a three pointer to take the lead. With two seconds left and Wisconsin in the lead, Chris Chiozza crosses down the court and takes a leaping three point shot that gave the Gators the win in a 84-83 score game in overtime.

Gonzaga has moved on to the Final Four after a dominating performance against Xavier in a 85-76 victory. Jay Bilas, an ESPN commentator, had no confidence in Gonzaga reaching the Final Four and now he has to grow a beard of a "twitter bet" from a priceless account in respect to Promek Karnowski, the center for the Bulldogs.

Oregon also had a dominating game as they beat Kansas 79-64. There were only thirty total seconds when Oregon had the lead. The Ducks haven't been in the Final Four since 1947, so this is a huge accomplishment for them.

As for North Carolina, making it to the Final Four isn’t as big of a deal as it is considered an "off season" or "bad year" if they don’t make it to the Final Four. Kentucky didn’t make it easy for North Carolina as they played one of the best rematches of this season. The first match up resulted in a Kentucky win and Malick Monk scoring 41 points so for them to meet again in March was pretty intense. The game literally came down to the last second. Now North Carolina looks to make it back to the Championship.

The shot that ended Wisconsin’s season.

Photo by Fansided.com

March Madness Updates

Blake Powell
Sports Editor

The Engineering were hitting the ball well but fell through on one inning of defense which lead to the team losing in a 11-5 score game against Earlham. The team had nine games with double figures in hits. Rose-Hulman has fallen to 1-2 in conference play. The team will be back in action at home on Wednesday against Anderson University.

RHI Track

Blake Powell
Sports Editor

The track team traveled to Washington University for an Invitational meet. The team’s season finished in second rights behind Washington University. The wom- en’s team finished seventh overall. Combined the two teams were able to win four events, place top three in twelve events and have twenty-two top five finishes.

Erie Frickean won in the hammer, Josh Hennig won in the 400-meter run, and Josh Himus won shot put. Andrew Okrukh won the discus throw along with a second place finish in shot put.

Three other FrickeanFighters finished in second place. Tyler McCormick in the 110-hurdles, Isaiah Smith in the 400-hurdles, and Troy Sykes in the triple jump. Although Camille Bilades finished in fourth place in the 400-meter run, her time of 5:03.00 meter steeplechase and 4x100 relay team.

Fifth place finishes came from Nick Keller in the hammer and Lucas Schubitz in the javelin.

Rose-Hulman returns to action at Eastern Illinois next weekend.

Andrew Okrukh skipping rocks.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

Softball

Blake Powell
Sports Editor

The softball team had games scheduled this week-end to play against Illinois college and Blackburn but the games have been postponed due to projected weather complications. The team is at an overall 7-5 record. Last weekend, the team blew out MacMurray in both games in a double header; the first game was 8-0 and the second game was 14-7. The team will be back in action on this week Tuesday against Millikin.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

Standout Performers

Cody Young-3.50 BA

Jenny Miller-24 HR

328 OBP

Jessica Will-14 hits

Maddie Struble-10 hits, 6 RBIs

Standout Perfomers

If you don’t catch this ground ball, I got to go through your phone.

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Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

Intramural Standings

Ultimate Frisbee

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RHI SPORTS BOX SCORES

Blake Powell
Sports Editor

The shot that ended Wisconsin’s season.

Photo by Fansided.com

RHI Softball

Blake Powell
Sports Editor

The softball team had games scheduled this weekend to play against Illinois college and Blackburn but the games have been postponed due to projected weather complications. The team is at an overall 7-5 record. Last weekend, the team blew out MacMurray in both games in a double header; the first game was 8-0 and the second game was 14-7. The team will be back in action on this week Tuesday against Millikin.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

If you don’t catch this ground ball, I got to go through your phone.

Softball

Blake Powell
Sports Editor

The softball team had games scheduled this weekend to play against Illinois college and Blackburn but the games have been postponed due to projected weather complications. The team is at an overall 7-5 record. Last weekend, the team blew out MacMurray in both games in a double header; the first game was 8-0 and the second game was 14-7. The team will be back in action on this week Tuesday against Millikin.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

Intramural Standings

Ultimate Frisbee

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Since I have become Flipside Editor, there has been a total of zero emails to the Thorn Flipside. It's great. I don't need funny and fresh content from people other than myself. (I'm so desperate). Please send an email to the Thorn Flipside Editor <thorn-flipside@mailman.rose-hulman.edu>. Disclaimer: The Flipside is purely for fun!

Any uncredited work above can be attributed to me, Emma Oswood.

1. (Uptight) People
2. Corndog
3. Wheatcat
4. Dog Poop
5. Stick
6. Protest Signs That Were Funny When You Wrote Them But Now Are Kind of Lame
7. Selfies
8. Planking
9. Witches (on Fire)
10. Senior Laptop
11. Fire
12. T-bow from iCarly
13. My GPA
14. Chum
15. Possum
16. Leaves
17. Vuvuzela
18. Puppets

WACKY PROF QUOTES

“Let me make sure the people who haven’t had the misfortune of having me as a teacher know who I am.”  
- Dr. Laxer

“I hope this helps.”  
“Rose-Hulman Institute of not-working-Technology.”  
- Dr. Wollowski

A more accurate name for this prestigious institute, “If you could put a zipper on your neck and unzip it and listen to your vocal chords...”  
- Dr. Doering

Morbid.

Did your prof say something hilarious or just great out of context? We want to hear about it! Send your quotes with who said it to thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu.

Flipside