

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

## Rose-Hulman Scholar

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The Rose Thorn Archive

Student Newspaper

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Fall 10-23-1998

### Volume 34 - Issue 7 - Friday, October 23, 1998

Rose Thorn Staff

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# THE ROSE THORN

Vol. 34, No. 7

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Friday, October 23, 1998

## Security sets up checkpoint to verify parking decals

by Craig Pohlman  
Thorn News Reporter

Before Fall Break, Safety and Security set up a decal checkpoint at the Hadley Hall entrance of Rose-Hulman.

This was the first time that Security has checked oncoming vehicles for valid Rose-Hulman decals.

While conducting the checkpoint, 135 vehicles were pulled to the side of the road, asked to fill out a form, and received a free parking decal.

Two of the vehicles pulled over were new faculty members; the remaining were all students.

Although some people were inconvenienced by the check-

point, others took the matter in stride.

"I was a little bit nervous getting pulled over, but I'm glad they didn't check my trunk for crack," reacted Jason Carter,

a senior chemical engineer and SGA Treasurer.

According to Gary Flora, head of Safety and Security, all vehicles of students, faculty, and staff are required to have a parking decal for each vehicle that they plan to have on campus.

During the first three weeks

of Fall quarter, Safety and Security operated booths in the Union and Commons to facilitate gaining free Rose-Hulman parking decals.

ana State University each pay up to \$75 a year for a parking decal.

Some students thought the crackdown on decals would lead to more vehicles receiving tickets.

"If someone is fined by Rose-Hulman security for a parking violation, the money collected goes directly to the general fund. We do not set quotas for security officers in issuing tickets. We just want people to comply with the regulations." Flora

responded.

Flora added that a Rose-Hulman parking decal identifies your vehicle as "friendly," which allows officers to place concern on other vehicles that should or should not be on campus.

When asked if there will be another decal checkpoint, Flora replied, "We have been busy recently, but there is definitely a possibility it could happen again."

If you plan on parking on campus and do not have a free parking decal, you can obtain one during normal business hours from the Safety and Security office located just east of the Bigfoot convenience store.

While conducting the checkpoint, 135 vehicles were pulled to the side of the road, asked to fill out a form, and received a free parking decal.

Flora commented that the parking decals are free because "the cost of the decals comes out of the operating budget."

Students and faculty at Indi-

## RHA offers activities, service opportunities

by Peter Anderson  
Thorn Editor-in-Chief

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) has several events planned in the remaining weeks of the fall quarter.

On October 31, an excursion to SplatterZone in Indianapolis for paintball is planned. Transportation and equipment rentals are covered by RHA, leaving the participants responsible only for the paintballs they use (current paintball prices are \$7 for 100 paintballs).

Transportation will leave from

the Speed lot at 10:30 a.m., with paintball scheduled from noon to 3 p.m. Sign-ups will start Oct. 22 during lunch and will go until all 35 spots are filled and will be on a first come, first serve basis.

On campus, a game of Assassins will begin Dec. 4. Sign-ups are available from Resident Assistants and Sophomore Advisors. A three-on-three basketball tournament is scheduled for Dec. 11.

The service aspects of RHA also have several upcoming events. Give Up A Meal (GUAM) is scheduled for Nov. 2. GUAM is a program in which students with

meal plans at ARA agree not to eat dinner and in exchange, ARA donates a certain amount of money to be given to a charity selected by RHA.

The fall Blood Drive will be Nov. 3 and 4. Prizes will be awarded to the hall or floor with the most donors and highest percentage of donors. Last year, a new school record was set for pints collected and Rose-Hulman collected more pints than Indiana State.

RHA has some projects planned for the Christmas season as well. They plan to once again do bell ringing for the Salvation Army. A

new service program this year is Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes will be placed in each residence hall for the collection of toys and basic necessities.

The boxes will then be shipped to needy children in the Terre Haute area. The project was originally designed to ship the shoeboxes to foreign countries such as El Salvador, but the decision was made to keep them in the Terre Haute area so that an immediate impact could be seen.

All of these events are open to all interested students. RHA meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Worx.

## New Biomedical Engineering department started

by J. W. Hawley  
Thorn News Reporter

As of July 1, Rose-Hulman added a new department, the Department of Applied Biology and Biomedical Engineering. This department currently offers Rose students the opportunity to pursue minors in both areas. They may also pursue a master's degree in Biomedical Engineering. Unfortunately, bachelor's degrees are not yet offered, but, according to Dr. Lee Waite, head of the new department, plans are in the works for an undergraduate degree in Applied Biology to be offered within the next three to five years. In addition, the department hopes to hire a new tenure-track professor for next year.

The minor in Biomedical Engineering is of interest to students considering medical school. The requirements are five Biomed electives of engineering students, and the minor may be attained without overloading in engineering majors. Science students will find the minor slightly more difficult to work into their schedule, as they are required take an additional 12 credit hours of basic engineering courses and are subjected to more restrictions on their choice of five Biomed electives.

Currently, 16 graduate students are working at Rose for their master's degree in Biomedical Engineering, and about 40 undergraduates are pursuing minors in the department.

## Bookstore provides numerous services for students



Many students use the bookstore but do not realize how many ways it serves them  
Photo by John Straigis

by Ian Myers  
Thorn News Reporter

Have you ever wondered what is done with the profits from the bookstore? Some may think that the money goes into someone's pocket. However, this is not true. All money that is left after expenses goes back into Rose's budget. This money goes to help students in a variety of ways.

The bookstore provides a number of services to assist students. There is check cashing, handling of special orders, and shipping packages via

UPS for no more than the actual shipping cost. The bookstore also has giveaways from time to time.

These services provide convenience and free items for students. The bookstore also assists students by hiring those who are not eligible for work-study or those for whom work-study has run out, according to Anita Creasey and Sheryl Fulk, bookstore managers. So, the next time you have to buy books, just ponder where all the money goes and what services the bookstore provides.

### IVCF Concert

Paul Bertsch  
with  
Adam's Brother

**TONIGHT**

7 p.m.

**\*FREE\***

**WORX**

Hulman Memorial Union

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### YOU COULD WIN \$50

The person that submits the best idea for a new masthead (logo) for the *Thorn* will win \$50! Entries are due in the *Thorn* office in the Hulman Memorial Union by **Wednesday, October 28.**

You do **not** need to be an artist!

Call the *Thorn* at 877-8255 for more information.

**THIS WEEKEND**

SAB Concert  
Friday at 7 p.m.  
WORX

**NEXT WEEK**

- Fraternity Bid Day on Tuesday
- Sorority Bid Day on Friday

**This Weekend****Friday, October 23**

- Admissions' On Campus Day, Kahn Rooms, Hulman Union, 1-4 p.m.
- Intersvarsity Concert, Paul Bertsch with Adam's Brother, WORX, Hulman Union, 7-9 p.m.
- Men's Soccer, at Centre College, Danville, Ky., 4:30 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Southwest Research Institute, Logikos, ITT Aerospace/Communications, Andersen Consulting

**Saturday, October 24**

- Fine Arts Series, The National Opera Company's "The Marriage of Figaro," Moench Hall Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- All Night Science Fiction Movie Marathon, Sponsored By Science Fiction Class:
  - "Brazil," O-257, Olin Hall, 6-8 p.m.
  - "Blade Runner," O-259, Olin Hall, 6-8

**This Weekend (cont.)**

- p.m.
- "12 Monkeys," O-257, Olin Hall, 8-10 p.m.
- "The Fifth Element," O-259, Olin Hall, 8-10 p.m.
- "Ed Wood," O-257, Olin Hall, 10 p.m.-Midnight
- "2001: A Space Odyssey," O-259, Olin Hall, 10 p.m.-Midnight
- Men's Soccer, at University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., Noon
- Men's & Women's Cross Country, at Olivet Nazarene Classic, 12:45 p.m.
- Volleyball, at Hanover College Tri-Match, Hanover, Ind., Noon & 2 p.m.
- Rifle, vs. Ohio State University, Cook Stadium Rifle Range, 9 a.m.

**October 25 - October 31****Sunday, October 25**

- Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Terre Haute synchronizes its clock with the rest of civilization
- Astronomy Club Meeting, Lynn Reeder Observatory, 8 p.m.
- Women's Soccer, vs. Indiana State University, Jim Rendel Field, 1 p.m.
- Company Information Session: Crowe, Chizek & Co., LLP, PA Room, Hulman Union, 7-9 p.m.

**Monday, October 26**

- Women's Fraternity Rush, Round III, 6:30 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: National Corporate Consultants; Crowe, Chizek & Co.; Rolls-Royce Allison; Digital Audio Disc Corp.; Adecco Tad Technical; Naval Surface Warfare Center
- Company Information Sessions: Summit Group, Heritage Room, Hulman Union, 7-9 p.m.; Stryker Instruments, Music Room, Hulman Union, 7-9 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 27**

- Bid Tuesday For Fraternities
- Student Government Association Meeting, GM Room, Moench Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- Volleyball, at Earlham College, Richmond, Ind., 7 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Summit Group, Amsted Industries Inc., Stryker Instruments
- Company Information Session: Commonwealth Aluminum, PA Room, Hulman Union, 6:30-8 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 28**

- President's Administrative Council, Kahn Room, Hulman Union, 8 a.m.
- Women's Fraternity Rush, Round IV, 6 p.m.
- National Society of Black Engineers' General Meeting, Hulman Union, 7 p.m.
- Review Session, Computer Science 100, O-157, 7-9 p.m.
- Water Polo Club Meeting, Swimming Pool, Sports & Recreation Center, 6-8 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Procter & Gamble, Commonwealth Aluminum, Summit Group

**Thursday, October 29**

- Night Exam, Computer Science 100 (Sections A-C), O-157/159/167, 7-9 p.m.
- Women's Soccer, at Anderson University, Anderson, Ind., 4 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Caterpillar

**October 25 - 31 (cont.)**

- Inc., Makino Machine Tool Co., Procter & Gamble
- Company Information Sessions: Amdocs, PA Room, Hulman Union, 4:30-6:30 p.m.; Comed, Hulman Union, 7-9 p.m.
- Friday, October 30**
- Admissions' On Campus Day, Kahn Rooms, Hulman Union, 1-4 p.m.
- Women's Sorority Bid Day, 7 p.m.
- Men's & Women's Swimming, vs. Principia College, Sports & Recreation Center, 7 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Procter & Gamble, Amdocs Inc., Seagram Joseph & Sons

**Saturday, October 31**

- Football, at Earlham College, Richmond, Ind., 1 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WJSH-AM, 1300, At 12:45 p.m.)
- Men's Soccer, vs. Hendrix College, Rendel Field, 10 a.m.
- Volleyball, vs. Grace College, Hulbert Arena, 2 p.m.
- Men's & Women's Swimming, Rose-Hulman Relays, Sports & Recreation Center, 2 p.m.
- Rifle, at Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, Tenn., 10 a.m.

**November 1 - November 7****Sunday, November 1**

- Astronomy Club Meeting, Lynn Reeder Observatory, 8 p.m.
- Men's Soccer, vs. Rhodes College, Jim Rendel Field, Noon
- Rifle, at Murray State University, Murray, Ky., 9 a.m.

**Monday, November 2**

- College Fair '98, Hulman Center, Indiana State University, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Indiana Precision Technology (Co-op/Internships), Lexmark International Inc., Morton International Inc., Software Engineering Professionals, VLSI Technology Inc.

**Tuesday, November 3**

- Fall Quarter Blood Drive, Kahn Rooms, Hulman Union, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Flu Shot Clinic For Faculty & Staff, E-204, Moench Hall, Noon-3 p.m.
- Explore Engineering Meeting (Science Projects), E-104, Hulman Union, 7-9 p.m.
- Volleyball, at Franklin College, Franklin, Ind., 7 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Bethlehem Steel Corp., Tellabs, Ralston Purina Corp.
- Company Information Session: Tellabs, Hulman Union, 6-8 p.m., Raytheon Systems Co., Hulman Union, 6-8 p.m.

**Wednesday, November 4**

- Fall Quarter Blood Drive, Kahn Rooms, Hulman Union, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Flu Shot Clinic For Faculty & Staff, E-204, Moench Hall, 9 a.m.-Noon
- Educational Seminar, "Development And Delivery Of Courses And Other Programs By New Media," Dede Plaza, Indiana State University
- Water Polo Club Meeting, Swimming Pool, Sports & Recreation Center, 6-8 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Bethlehem Steel Corp., Raytheon Systems Co.

**Thursday, November 5****November 1-7 (cont.)**

- Educational Seminar, "Development And Delivery Of Courses And Other Programs By New Media," Dede Plaza, Indiana State University
- Rifle, vs. Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City, Cook Stadium Rifle Range, 6 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Cole Associates Inc.; Crowe, Chizek & Co.; Microsoft Corp.; The Trane Co.; the University of Illinois
- Friday, November 6**
- Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Fall Sports Festival Volleyball, Sports & Recreation Center:
  - First Round Matches, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
  - Loser's Bracket Matches, 5:30 p.m.
  - Semifinal Matches, 8 p.m.
- Men's & Women's Swimming, vs. Illinois Wesleyan Univ., Sports & Recreation Center, 7 p.m.
- Career Services' Interviews: Magnequench, Microsoft Corp., Northern Indiana Public Service Co., The Trane Co., UOP

**Saturday, November 7**

- Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Fall Sports Festival:
  - Women's Cross Country Championships, Bird/Gibson Recreation Area, 10 a.m.
  - Men's Cross Country Championships, Bird/Gibson Recreation Area, 11 a.m.
  - Volleyball Tournament, Sports & Recreation Center:
    - Placement Matches, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
    - Championship Match, 5:30 p.m.
- Football, at DePauw University, Greencastle, 1:30 p.m. (Game Broadcast On WJSH-AM, 1300, 1:15 p.m.)
- Men's Soccer, vs. DePauw University, Jim Rendel Field, Noon
- Men's & Women's Cross Country, at NCAA Division III Regional, Adrian, Mich., 10 a.m.

**Art Exhibit**

- Second Floor, Hadley Hall
- Art objects and handicrafts that Rose-Hulman faculty member Antonio de la Cova recently brought back from Indonesia are currently on display. The exhibit is available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays.

**Submissions To  
Campus Events**

Events may be published in *Campus Events* by any organization or individual. Information on club meetings, lectures/speeches, and athletic events, including 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 Thorn*.

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

**Get Your Career  
ROLLING**

Commonwealth Aluminum is one of North America's leading manufacturers of aluminum sheet products. Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors are invited to meet our representatives to learn more about career opportunities. Refreshments will be served.

**"Careers at Commonwealth"  
A Company Information Session  
Tuesday, October 27, 1998  
6:30 p.m., Performing Arts Room  
Hulman Memorial Union**

Company representatives will also be in the Career Services Office on Wednesday, October 28 interviewing for the following:

**Co-Op positions  
Mechanical Engineers**

**Full-time positions  
Electrical Engineers  
Mechanical Engineers  
Management Training-  
Production Supervision**

Go to the Career Services Office to inquire about interview schedules. Visit our website at [www.cacky.com](http://www.cacky.com) to learn more about Commonwealth Aluminum. EOE.



**COMMONWEALTH ALUMINUM**

# World and national news briefs

by Vu Pham

Thorn News Reporter

## Friday, October 16

The Dow Jones average increased by 331 points.

President Clinton and Congress agreed to a \$500 billion bill that covers most of the government programs for the next year. The agreement included \$1.1 billion to hire teachers, \$6 billion to help farmers, \$8 billion to increase military spending, and \$17.9 billion to help the International Monetary Fund and the Asian economic crisis. There is also a \$20 billion "emergency" fund.

The Federal Aviation Administration called for replacing the insulation on all 12,000 jets. The replacement project could cost billions of dollars.

## SGA Bureaucrat

by Nick Hurlburt

SGA Publicity Director

President Chris Repa kicked off the Tuesday, October 20 meeting of the Student Government Association with the first State of the Association address of the year. He discussed the new district leader program and encouraged involvement in the Senate outside of regular meetings, including more communication with students and initiatives to solve the problems of the student body.

Senior Class President John Rivard reported that the senior

## Monday, October 19

The FedEx pilots union is sending out surveys to members asking to begin a strike just weeks before the Christmas season. The union claimed that the pilots had not had a contract since 1996 and wanted a 24% pay increase over 3 years. The company offered an 18% raise over five years. Currently, a pilot earns an average of \$126,000 a year.

25,000 people participated in the 1998 AIDS Walk and raised more than \$1 million for AIDS charities.

Worldwide heat waves are killing coral reefs in over 50 countries. The loss of coral reefs could mean economic trouble for resorts and could increase the waves and storms hitting coast lines.

A poll released by Josephson Institute for Ethics claimed that 47% of

high schoolers admitted to stealing, 70% to cheating on tests and 92% lying to parents.

## Tuesday, October 20

A national survey by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies found that 51% of African-Americans are financially better off than last year.

The Justice Department ordered the closing of the largest medical marijuana club in California.

Los Angeles may become smaller because the San Fernando Valley, the northern section of the city, wants to break away and form a new city. L.A. currently has 3.6 million people and is the second largest city in the U.S.

Mike Tyson regained his boxing license after a 16-month suspension for biting Evander Holyfield's ears.

Kroger bought out Fred Meyer to increase the number of stores to 2200 in 31 states.

## Wednesday, October 21

Twenty people died from flooding in Texas.

Michelle Lee from Louisiana had an abortion in a Texas hospital after Louisiana refused to give her an abortion. Lee claimed that her failing heart would kill her if she went through with the pregnancy.

John Podesta was appointed President Clinton's fourth Chief of Staff.

Microsoft saw a net increase of \$1.52 billion for the first fiscal quarter of 1999, a 56% increase from last year that relieved investors from fear of lawsuits affecting profits.

## Thursday, October 22

The New York Yankees won the World Series with a four-game sweep.

The federal government gave U.S. researchers \$23 million to create fungi that kill opium poppies and coca plants as part of the Western Hemisphere Drug Elimination Act.

The government approved two bills. One of the bills was to prohibit websites from collecting information from children 13 and under.

The other bill is a law requiring websites to block access to adult information to anyone under 17 years of age. The two bills aim at protecting privacy and access to porn over the Web.

## Security Update

**9-26-98** A student filed a report of unauthorized use of his credit card to pay an Internet bill. The case was dropped after an investigation determined that the report the student filed was false.

**9-29-98** The EE department reported an Ambassador brand computer was stolen from the digital lab (room C115 in Moench Hall) between 7 p.m. on the 28th and 8 a.m. on the 29th.

**10-2-98** An ARAMark employee reported that on September 24, someone had punctured a tire of his vehicle.

**10-7-98** A student reported that after 12:30 a.m. unknown person(s) broke off the driver's side mirror of his Jeep. The vehicle was forcibly entered by prying on its upper frame. No items were reported missing from the interior.

**10-13-98** A laptop computer was stolen from the coat rack room around 1 p.m. while the owner was eating lunch.

**10-16-98** The Sigma Nu fraternity house was burglarized approximately around 1:00 a.m. to 2:15 a.m.. Five laptop computers, one television, two VCRs, one stereo, and clothes were reported stolen.

## CLUB OF THE WEEK

### Student Activities Board

by Nick Hurlburt

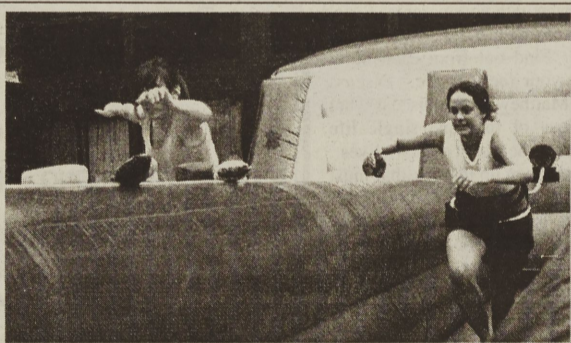
SGA Publicity Director

Maybe you and your friends are sitting in your room one Saturday evening and you've been racking your brain trying to come up with something to do. Just when you're about to despair and start channel-surfing hoping to find something mildly interesting, a flyer for a comedian catches your eye. SAB to the rescue! You go see the comedian, get a few laughs, and save yourself from another rerun.

The Student Activities Board is constantly providing many forms of entertainment to the Rose-Hulman campus. Already this year, SAB has served up two comedians, a Twister Tournament and has co-sponsored Deming Disco Inferno. Many more events are already scheduled for the rest of the year.

Have any great ideas for activities? Want to participate in organizing events? Members of SAB have the advantage of seeing acts and events they want brought in, and get the satisfaction of seeing an event come together through their help. Anyone who wishes to join is welcome to participate in the brainstorming, planning, and production of events. SAB holds meetings on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Union.

Next time you're laughing at a comedian, winning big at Las Vegas Night, or going crazy at Spring Carnival, remember the



Katie Klein and Libby Henthorn race to the end of their rope in last year's SAB-organized Spring Carnival. Photo courtesy of SAB

### For more information on SAB, contact:

**President:** Katie Brown  
**Vice-President:** Tim Moy  
**Concert Chair, Secretary:** Nino Davi  
**Encore Chair, Treasurer:** Scott Ohlmiller  
**Mini-Programs Chair:** Amanda Hoemann

**SAB website:**  
[www.rose-hulman.edu/users/groups/sab](http://www.rose-hulman.edu/users/groups/sab)

**Campus Ext. 8448 Campus Mailbox 2044**

### Look for these upcoming events:

October 31	Battle of the Bands
December 10	Concert (Artist to be announced)
January 23	Las Vegas Night
April 29	Amateur Talent night
May 14	Spring Carnival

## Comic Opera Saturday

The opera "The Marriage of Figaro" has so many plot lines and romantic twists that it could make a good soap opera, miniseries or an episode of "The Jerry Springer Show."

After all, you have Figaro, the barber of Seville, who wants to marry his sweetheart, Susanna, chambermaid of the Countess.

Susanna's hand is also sought by the Count, much to the chagrin of the Countess. Not to be outdone, the aging housekeeper Marcellina wants to force Figaro to marry her as payoff for a past due promissory note.

However, that marriage cannot happen because Marcellina is in fact Figaro's long lost mother.

Such are the hijinks in one day of Mozart's comic opera, which will be presented Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology's Moench Hall Auditorium by The National Opera Company. The show is part of Rose-Hulman's Fine Arts Series.

"The story may be 213 years old, but it is still relevant today. It could be a great plot for 'Melrose Place!,'" says Will Graham, general manager of the 14-member Raleigh, N.C.-based company. "The audience can identify with all of the characters and the many twists in the story. It's a good show for the person that has never seen an opera."

The audience's understanding and appreciation of the opera is enhanced because all of the musical lyrics and dialogue will be performed in English. The National Opera Company has performed in this way for the

past 50 years.

"We want to show that opera is fun, lighthearted and interesting," said Graham, whose group strives to bring opera into communities like Terre Haute that don't have a regular opera troupe. They also provide an excellent stage for young opera singers in a national touring repertoire theater.

The 13-stop fall tour takes the company to Milwaukee, Wis., Richmond, Va., and New York City through Nov. 8.

The average age of this year's company (seven men, five women, a technical director and musical director) is 26 years old. The current performers come from New York, Maryland, Texas and Japan, while past cast members have come from as far away as Vienna, Austria and South Africa.

Performing the role of Figaro will be either Gary Poster, a graduate of the prestigious Eastman School of Music, or Bret Smithey, who is studying for a master's degree in music at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

Susanna will be performed by either Lori Briscoe, a third-year opera company veteran, or Yoko Shimazaki, a newcomer from Japan.

General admission tickets will only be available at the door prior to the show. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for senior citizens and non-RHIT students. The show is free to Rose-Hulman students.

For more information, persons should call (812) 877-8418.

Movie Review: *What Dreams May Come*

## Robin Williams deals with death and the afterlife

By Peter Anderson  
Thorn Editor-in-Chief

**Opening Notes:** I wasn't sure exactly what to expect when I went to see *What Dreams May Come*. I knew very little about the film, only that it was supposed to be good. I was pleasantly surprised. *What Dreams May Come* was not only a thoroughly entertaining film, but it was also engaging at an emotional level. I saw it nearly two weeks ago, and it still has me thinking about it.

**The Cast:** Robin Williams (*Dead Poet's Society*, *Good Will Hunting*) gives one of his finest dramatic performances as Chris Nielsen, a doctor who finds himself searching through the afterlife for his soul-mate. Annabella Sciorra (*The Hand That Rocks the*

*Cradle, CopLand*) is his wife and soul mate, Annie. The cast also features Academy-Award winner Cuba Gooding, Jr. (*Boyz in the Hood*, *Jerry Maguire*) as Albert, Chris's guide in the afterlife, and Max von Sydow (*Judge Dredd*, *Needful Things*) as a spiritual tracker. Youngsters Jessica Brooks Grant and Josh Paddock give endearing and very real performances as Chris's children.

**The Plot:** The movie starts with Chris meeting Annie and quickly goes through their wedding. It skips ahead some years later; they now have two teenage children, who are killed in a car accident. Four years later, Chris dies in a car accident and finds himself in heaven, where he is re-united with his children. However, his wife commits suicide and Chris must

search through the depths of Hell to find her and make the ultimate sacrifice to ultimately save her.

**The Good:** First and foremost, the special effects paint (literally and figuratively) a wonderfully breathtaking and imaginative landscape of the afterlife. It is within this visual masterpiece that Williams thrives. He is one of the few actors that could meld with the distinctive visuals and make them believable. His performance is nothing short of brilliant, and Sciorra and Gooding also contribute great performances in what may be the best acting in a film this year.

The narration of Williams connects the film and makes it even more emotionally charged. It also includes an incredible script that says a lot about human nature. It

also uses flashbacks scattered throughout the film, which help put perspective on Chris's life through his memories. The total effect is a brilliant, mature romantic drama that is thought provoking and even inspiring.

**The Bad:** Not much that was bad about this movie. However, you should be warned that while there are no explosions or sex, the film is rated PG-13 for a reason. The themes are far too mature and complex for children. If you are looking for a movie that ends when you leave the theater, this is not the movie for you.

**The Ugly:** One of the more interesting visuals in the film is when Chris is traveling into Hell. The road is paved with the faces of the damned, and they complain every step. A dark and disturbing

vision; a wonderful imagination incredibly realized.

**Closing Notes:** Even though the majority of the film takes place in the afterlife, it is about life, love and happiness. *What Dreams May Come* is one of the most visionary films I've seen in a while. It has also been a long time since I left a theater so emotionally drained. This film is a true masterpiece, easily one of the best films of the year.

On a scale of 1 to 4, with 4 being classic and 1 being *Moonwalker*, I give this movie a 3.5. It was a wonderfully crafted, entertaining testimony of true love with brilliant performances all around and truly remarkable visuals.

## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor,

Matthew Shepard died on Monday 12 October 1998 from wounds sustained during a cruel beating at the hands of homophobic killers. Matthew was 21 years old, a college student much like ourselves. I have been in a daze since then, wandering this campus while trying to comprehend the rage I feel. Everywhere I go--in the cafeteria, on the main green, in the halls of our campus--people have been going about their business, getting to class, writing their papers, chilling out in coffee bars at night. That is good. It is important to all of us that we succeed. But something seems to be missing here. Something seems to be hidden, obscured and undefined.

Where is your anger? Where is your rage?

I am a Resumed Education student; it is my first semester at Brown University. Five years ago my roommate was viciously murdered in our home by two men who targeted him as homosexual. They came one evening when I wasn't there, tortured him with lit cigarettes, then beat him mercilessly with a hammer they had brought with them. He bled to death on the floor.

Naturally, the vicious murder of Matthew Shepard has really angered me, as it probably did you. Like my roommate's murder, Mat-

thew Shepard was targeted because of his sexual orientation. We all may have our own ideas concerning what people should do in the privacy of their own home, but no rational person would agree that the way in which Matthew Shepard was tortured, then killed, was a reasonable reaction to his sexual orientation.

I ask you again: Where is your anger? Where is your rage?

Across this country, people have been talking about Matthew's murder and condemning this senseless act of violence perpetrated against one of our own, against a college student who had only begun to question himself and his role within the world around him.

Though the tendency may be great, we don't have to look at Matthew and what happened to him and say to ourselves, "Hey, he was queer. Let the queers deal with it." Regardless of our orientation, we can offer our support, voice our anger, breathe on the flame of outrage that has begun to burn over Matthew's vicious murder. I do not advocate violence; I advocate dialogue.

"Why would I want to get involved? I've got mid-terms, I've got practice, I've got a relationship falling down the tubes?"

Because it could happen to you, too. Which one of us doesn't have

something, some thought or some opinion, some lifestyle or some look, that someone else might find reprehensible and focus their hatred upon us.

I am making a controversial argument here. I argue that we all have something to lose over Matthew's murder. We all lose our safety. We all lose our ability to walk in this world freely. We all lose that most precious peace of all, peace of mind. But most importantly, we stand to lose what makes us human, we stand to lose our dignity.

I am asking you to do something. I am asking you to do something, despite the fact that you are busy and that midterms are here, and that there are so many other fun things to do.

I ask you to talk about Matthew. I ask you to speak to your friends and dorm mates, your professors, and even with your parents. Speak of it on the steps of your buildings. Find out from each other what your feelings are. Discuss why Matthew died. Discuss what the loss of this one single life means to the rest of our own lives.

Let's open up the box that must contain your rage. The universities of this great country are filled with some of the brightest people in the world. Let's try to see if there is anything that can be done.

I am sure that there is.

Sincerely,  
Darren M. Jorgensen, '02  
Brown University  
Darren\_Jorgensen@brown.edu

\*\*\*\* The hospital that treated Shepard is accepting e-mail and forwarding it to his family at mshepard@libra.pvh.org. \*\*\*\*

After reading Jordan M. Williford's letter to the editor in the October 9 issue of the Thorn, I have a hard time understanding how Mr. Williford could have hated the Top 10 list in the Oct. 2 Thorn as much as he claims he does. While it may not have been the best Top 10 list ever published, I don't know that it was that horrible to earn the scathing rebuke Mr. Williford seemed to think it deserved. Likewise for the Big Butt Jeans episode in which Mr. Williford referred to it as "crap". Last time I checked, the Thorn was a free publication, and so far I haven't seen anyone forcing Mr. Williford to read the Thorn week after week.

The last page of the Thorn is typically reserved for the "fringe" material of the Thorn--a fitting place for Big Butt Jeans comics, which I find to be quite clever and amusing. So please Mr. Williford, spare us your comments next time you don't like something published in the Thorn. If you don't like it, don't read it! Maybe it's time to open those windows and let some fresh air in your room?!

Andy Engle  
CS, '01

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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.

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# Rose student ponders life in the 22nd Century



**Alex Song**

*Thorn Columnist*

It seems as though these last several years have flown by, and seeing friends getting married and roommates graduating does occasionally make me feel old. But for a while at least, I can take comfort in the fact that a French woman by the name of Jeanne Calment will have me beat by a pretty wide margin.

For several years Jeanne Calment was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as "the oldest living person whose birth date could be authenticated by reliable records." She was born in Arles, France in February of 1875; four years before the invention of the incandescent light bulb and a year before the invention of the telephone.

As a fourteen-year-old girl, Calment witnessed the construction of the Eiffel Tower in 1889. She met Vincent Van Gogh a year earlier, when he walked into her uncle's shop to buy paints. She reached retirement age in 1940; the same year Hitler's forces invaded France. Riding a bicycle until the age of 100, she outlived all of her children and grandchildren.

Intrigued at the thought of someone living so long, I made a web page about this woman during my sophomore year. I didn't think anyone would ever see it, but about a year and a half ago

"CNN.com" actually found my site and singled it out by using it as a link to their article about Calment's 122nd birthday.

I didn't even realize it was Calment's birthday until I was all of a sudden flooded with emails from several dozen complete strangers. On that day alone, I had almost seven hundred people visit my homepage, while over a hundred people from two dozen countries signed my guestbook.

Most of the visitors were mistakenly led to believe that my site was written by Jeanne Calment herself, or that it was her "official" web page, so just about all of the messages and postings were addressed to her. Reading through all of them was like going through someone else's mail, but it was very revealing.

Hundreds of well wishers from all parts of the world included scores of people seeking advice, wisdom, longevity secrets, and autographs. Several people asked her who she admired and why. One person even requested to be her personal slave for a day. That day, Calment was a widely respected and admired celebrity, simply for having lived longer than any other person on the planet has lived.

Unfortunately, that was Jeanne Calment's last birthday. She died half a year later in August of 1997,

aged 122 years and five months. I still find it amazing that it's biologically possible for a human being to live as long as she did.

I calculated that if I were to reach Calment's age, I would die three months shy of seeing the 22nd century. But whereas Calment was born in an age of horses, gas lighting, and the telegraph; I grew up with nuclear energy, the space shuttle and the Internet. My generation was born in the tail end of a century that has seen more technological and scientific progress than any other time period before.

So I wondered what life would be like in the year 2099. How would people of the 22nd century look back at the year 1998? Will future Rose students look in old yearbooks and laugh at the size and speed of our laptop computers the same way we look at old vacuum tube and punch-card machines? Will people be flying around the sky in jet cars with huge bubble canopies like they have on the "Jetsons?"

When will the first human be born in space? We have already found a dozen or so planets orbiting other stars. When will we find life on other planets? Will it be "intelligent" life? Will the world's oil reserves ever run out? When will the first humans be cloned? Will cancer and AIDS still be

around? Will other diseases of the past haunt us again as bacteria develop resistant strains to our currently over-prescribed antibiotics?

With the seemingly exponential progression of knowledge and technology that we've seen in this century, it's probably foolish to try to predict what mankind will see in another hundred years. I guess the only way to find out what life will be like is to live long enough to see it in person. Which is exactly what I plan on doing.

I want to be alive if and when we ever find non-Earth life forms, signifying that we are not alone in the universe. I want to see the live television pictures of the first humans stepping onto Martian soil. I want to witness the amazing inventions and discoveries of the future that we cannot even fathom right now.

The promise and unpredictability of this coming century make this an especially exciting time to be alive. Some of the big questions that humans have pondered for thousands of years might finally be answered as scientific knowledge catches up with human curiosity. Jeanne Calment may be the oldest person in the history books, but I think she was born a hundred years too early. She's going to miss some pretty awesome stuff.

A couple of months ago I was eating dinner and almost choked on my food when I learned that the kid from the movie "Home Alone" got married. What shocked me wasn't the fact that this seventeen-year-old movie star now has a wife. It was the fact that I didn't even realize he was that old. This news sparked a chain reaction of thoughts and observations that, by the end of the night, made me feel like an old fart.

For instance, one fourth of all current Rose students were born in 1980. I can actually remember the year 1980. It boggles my mind that people born in 1982 now have driver's licenses. I first used stamps when they were 22 cents apiece, and I was in junior high when McDonalds still served hamburgers in Styrofoam boxes. When I was a kid, I played with "G.I. Joe" action figures and "Transformers."

They don't even make those anymore.



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Answers on Page 6

## Music Review: Adam's Brother

**By Steve McIrvin and Marcie Kam**

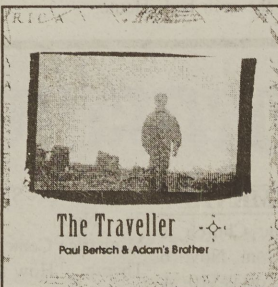
In their debut release "The Traveller," Adam's Brother delivers a combination of solid acoustic instrumentation, thought-provoking lyrics and top-notch vocals that highlight the talent of lead vocalist Paul Bertsch. A sure-fire winner for classic rock and folk fans of all ages, this first CD from the local band also articulates those deep-seated questions and musings that keep us college students up at night. As smooth as Adam's Brother sounds on CD, the trio sounds even better up close and personal — they'll be performing a **free concert** of covers from U2, Eric Clapton, R.E.M., Bob Dylan and self written sets this Friday, October 23 from 7-9PM in the Worx. Come out for the music, stay for the coffee and conversation at this free event.

Right away you'll notice a contrast between powerful lyrics and vocals and harmonica solos, which reminded me of a cross between *Alanis Morissette*, *America*, and *R.E.M.* during the title-track of "The Traveller," blending well with the lead acoustic guitar and background harmonies. I was amazed at the complex interweaving of mas-

terful guitar and harmonica as the lyrics of "The Traveller" banded around in my head days later. These key elements continue throughout the disc, so don't be surprised when you start humming along or tapping your foot; but while you sing along, don't forget to listen to what's being said.

My favorite piece on the CD has got to be track 7 "There You Were" whose verse ends, "Til I screamed, 'Hey this is me,' / Sitting underneath a tree / Asking questions so profound." The song speaks of the search that we all go through to find meaning in life, and ends with the writer's quest being fulfilled with a message of hope for those without "all the answers." Looking back, I'll have to admit that this CD has caused me to rethink my entire outlook on modern acoustic folk/rock. While once relegating it to the music of years passed, "The Traveller" has brought my tastes squarely in line with the 90's era of talented bands with a pertinent message. Thanks, Adam's Brother, for the wake-up call.

"The Traveller" is not sold in stores. You can, however, purchase a copy for only \$10 at the Friday night concert in the Worx.



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# Rose ends losing streak at Major expense, 27-24

By Don Cole  
Thorn Sports Editor

It turned out to be an exciting Saturday for those who remained on campus for Fall Break, as the Engineer football squad put an end to their four-game losing streak against the Millsaps Majors last Saturday.

The win was Rose's second in the SCAC, leveling out their conference record to 2-2 and improving their overall mark to 2-5.

The win did not come easy, however. It looked hopeless late in the fourth when the Engineers were forced to start on their own three down 21-20 after a Millsaps score.

Eric Hyten and Josh Hulett had different ideas, however, as they combined to drive the Engineers to a touchdown and a 27-24 lead.

Hyten rushed the ball twice on the drive, and eventually got the touchdown by throwing a 15-yard pass to Hulett.

The 97-yard drive was highlighted by Hulett's 33-yard pass on the halfback option to receiver Jon Harris.

Although Millsaps would come back and score a field goal, a vicious sack by Daniel Stinemates killed the final Millsaps drive at their 40-yard line with less than a minute to go.



Quarterback Eric Hyten evades a Rhodes College defender. The Engineers lost against Rhodes, 15-12, but came back last week to defeat Millsaps, 27-24.

photo by Susan Hare

The 700 fans in attendance gave the team a resounding standing ovation as Hyten kneeled down with twenty seconds to go in the game.

"I think we took a step forward this week, and we need to continue to build on wins like this," commented head coach Scott Duncan on his team's play.

Rose barreled their way to a quick 20-7 lead in the first half, squelching Millsaps' offense and exploding for big plays, including a long strike to Harris for a touchdown.

But, the Engineers came out of halftime somewhat lethargic, allowing Millsaps to go ahead quickly, 21-20, by the fourth.

That all changed on the 97-yard touchdown drive, as the Engineers refused to allow another loss on a second-half collapse.

Hyten led the team in rushing with 132 yards on 22 carries, moving him to fifth place all time in Engineer history. Harris had a big day as well, getting 108 yards on just three catches. On the other end, Hyten went five of eleven passing for 109 yards and

an interception.

Justin Blomenberg had a career game on defense, tallying 15 tackles on his way to becoming SCAC Defensive Player of the Week (see related article).

Bryan Hagelskamp had a good game like usual, adding 11 tackles to the winning effort; line-backer Todd Melby also had nine tackles for the day.

The win might have been two in a row, were it not for the Engineers' bad luck against Rhodes College on Dad's Day.

Rose lost the contest, 15-12, thanks to a last minute, 58-yard touchdown pass and two touchdowns lost, one to a holding call and the other to a fumble.

That game saw two Engineer runners gaining over a hundred yards. Brian Goldman led the Engineer ground attack with 118 yards, with Hyten close behind at 102 yards.

Blomenberg had a big game against Rhodes as well, picking off two passes, recovering a fumble, a getting six tackles.

Hagelskamp and Jon Hulsman excelled as well for Dad's Day. Hagelskamp tallied eight tackles, while Hulsman got five of his own, three for a loss.

The Engineers get this week off, and will head to cross-state rival Earlham on October 31st. Earlham holds a slight edge in a series dating back to 1897, 37-30.

Rose owns a six-game winning streak, however, winning the last match in 1989, 16-7. Earlham comes into Saturday's contest at 1-5 for the year.

## Cross-Country still going strong despite chilly weather

By Mark Dudley  
Rose-Hulman cross-country

The Rose-Hulman men's cross-country team was in action over the break, placing third at the Millikin Invitational in Decatur, Illinois, this past weekend.

Leading the Engineer charge was Brian Wickham, who took home the Engineers' top finish at 18th with a time of 27:56.

Dan Brier, Brian Smith, Matt Crain, and Kyle Smith rounded out the top five finishers for the Engineers. Four of the men had

their personal bests at the meet.

The women's team itself was not in action, but three of the team traveled to the Indiana Inter-collegiate at Purdue University. They were Rebecca Merow, who finished 72nd at 27:56, Ann Talbert, and Karen Hill.

Both of the squads return to action this weekend as they run in the Kankakee River State Park Invitational at Olivet College in Kankakee, Illinois.

The race will be a prelude to the SCAC Conference meet on November 7th, here in Terre Haute.

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## Volleyball team picks up first SCAC victory, ending 15-match skid

By Don Cole  
Thorn Sports Editor

The SCAC Cross-Divisional Tournament marked the end of a dismal 15-match losing streak by the Engineer volleyball squad, as they took home a win against Hendrix College.

The win came after losses to Adrian College and Alma College at the St. Mary's Tri-Match in South Bend on Oct. 10 and a loss to Lincoln Christian on Oct. 13, all 3-0.

After a loss to Trinity in their first game of the tournament, Rose took down Hendrix for their first SCAC win, 15-4, 16-14, 14-16, 15-3.

Kate Buchanan led the team with 24 assists, two aces and two blocks. Michelle Unger added nine kills and 13 digs to Jennifer Krause's 22 kills in the win.

Rose played tough the rest of the weekend as well, despite losing the remainder of their three matches.

The team wrapped up the tournament with two hard-fought matches against Southwestern and Rhodes.

Rose lost to Rhodes 15-3, 14-16, 15-7, 16-14 following a loss to Millsaps on the same day the football team won against them.

Krause stepped up big, tallying 18 kills along with four blocks. Buchanan added 29 assists, with Unger leading the team with 11 kills and 25 digs.

Southwestern escaped with a 15-11, 15-5, 14-16, 15-3 win over the Engineers in a match head coach Brenda Davis thought the team could win.

Buchanan did her part with 25 assists and three aces, while Krause contributed 11 kills and five blocks. Freshman Kate Daniel added nine kills and 11 digs.

The volleyball team will embark on a trip to Hanover for the Hanover College Tri-Match this Saturday, before finally returning home the following Saturday to play Grace College.

## Extra Points

By Don Cole  
Thorn Sports Editor

.....the soccer team had only one game these past two weeks, a loss to Southwestern, 2-0...high winds aided the Southwestern cause, as there first goal was a result of a particularly strong gust blowing the ball into the Engineers' goal...freshman goalie **Vincent Gross** got the start, and tallied three saves...the team was slated to face nationally-ranked Trinity, but the game was cancelled

.....the women's team also played during fall break, losing to Principia College on Oct. 10, 4-0

.....football players of the week were named for the Millsaps game...**Eric Hyten** offensive player of the week and Exchange Club player of the week...**Justin Blomenberg**, defensive player of the week...**Jon Harris**, special teams player of the week...**Andy Effinger**, Big Hit of the week...**Chris Anderson, Sr.**, and **Thomas Lautenschlager**, scout team players of the week

## Thorn Athlete of the Week Justin Blomenberg, Football

By Don Cole  
Thorn Sports Editor

When people think of defensive stars, they usually think of the linebackers or sometimes a defensive end. They think of men like Derrick Thomas, Mike Singletary, Lawrence Taylor, or Reggie White.

Defensive backs are usually only noticed when they blow their coverage or pick off a pass. But, when you think about it, they serve a very important purpose; they are the team's last line of defense. Still, rarely is a defensive back really paid his due.

Last week, Justin Blomenberg stepped up big for the Engineers, and was paid in full. Blomenberg was named the SCAC Defensive Player of the Week for his performance in Saturday's 27-24 win over Millsaps College.

Blomenberg tallied 15 tackles on

the day, 11 of which were solo efforts. Two of the said tackles resulted in a total of eleven yards

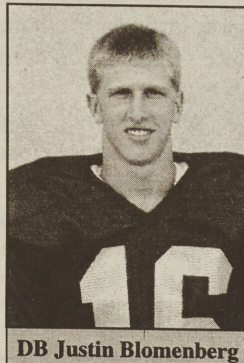
of the negative variety. Blomenberg broke up a pass on the day, as well.

Blomenberg has excelled all season thus far, already nearly surpassing his 1997 total of 54 tackles. He has 52 in seven games. He also leads the team with three inter-

ceptions, matching his 1997 total. Blomenberg has also contributed to the Engineer cause by blocking a field goal, recovering a fumble, and breaking up two passes.

The sophomore mechanical engineering major came into his own during the second half last year, earning a letter by starting all the games of the second half.

Blomenberg hails from Seymour, Indiana, where he was a three-year starter and the valedictorian of Seymour high school.



DB Justin Blomenberg

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### Top 10 Things They Don't Tell The Freshmen

10. President Hulbert is actually a puppet.
9. Algebra is a myth.
8. In real life, *they* pay *you* to do all the homework.
7. That guy by the front light post *isn't* selling candy.
6. Your Sophmore Advisor is a homicidal killer.
5. The Bookstore sells blow up dolls (right next to the Beanie Babies).
4. Your laptop is set to explode on graduation day.
3. The old school mascot was "Henry the Horny Weasel".
2. Boys and girls are *different*.
1. They accidentally moved the decimal point. It's actually \$4200 a year average starting salary.

(Submitted by 14)

### Those Wacky Profs!

Ye olde disclaimer: These quotes are *real*. All quotes come from the indicated (or not) professors. Feel free to submit your "Wacky Prof" quotes to [thorn@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn@rose-hulman.edu), along with name, class name (including section) date and setup. All quotes must be verified before publication.

**"Do you know that I shoot people that don't get to Mars by the end of class?"**

-- Dr. Moloney (10-9-98)

(Concerning Maple simulations of a trip to Mars in Celestial Mechanics.)

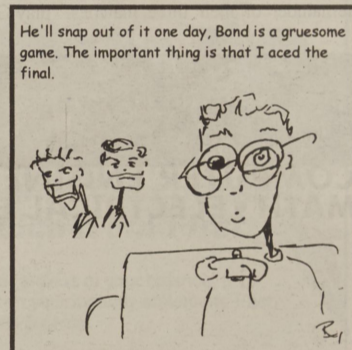
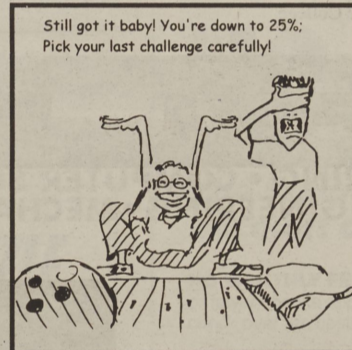
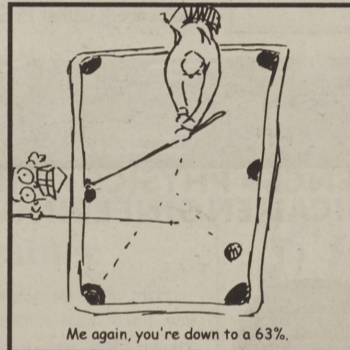
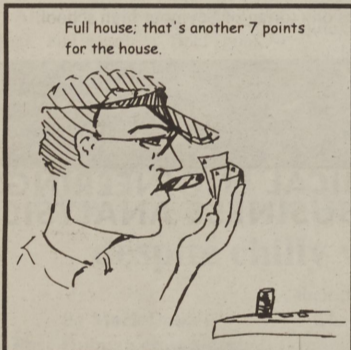
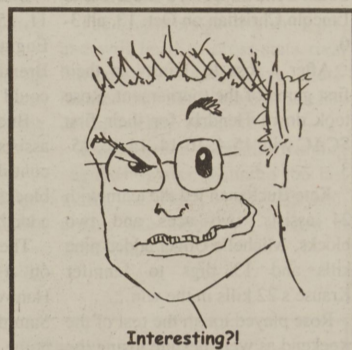
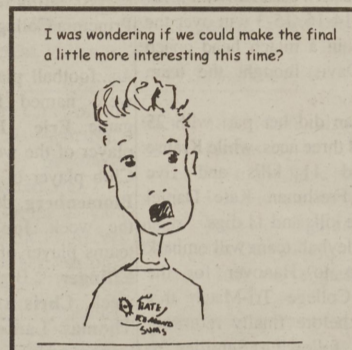
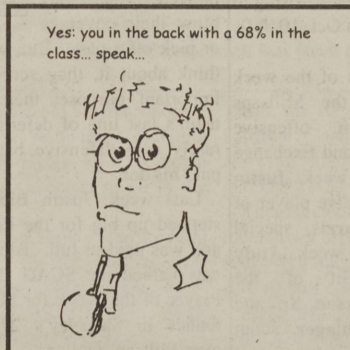
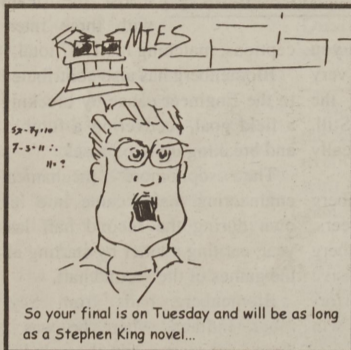
**"That kind of goes through some intellectual masturbation, but doesn't give us an initial state."**

-- Dr. Brophy (10-19-98)

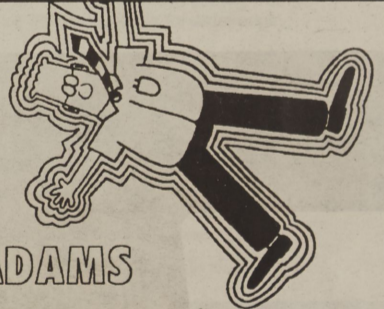
(Discussing a student's incorrect approach to problem solving.)

### Roomies by Ray Seitz

This page 8 brought to you in part by Donna's Cinnamon Rolls. Mmmm...cinnamon rolls.



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BY SCOTT ADAMS



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