by Chetan Kapoor

Billy Joel and Elton John will perform at Rice Stadium on April 5 as part of the Festival Face to Face Tour 96.

The Rice Stadium concert is one of two Texas stops that Joel and John will be making on their eight-city tour.

Assistant Athletic Director Steve Moniaci said discounted tickets for Rice students, faculty and staff will cost $20.

He said two separate allotments of tickets, one for students and another for faculty and staff, will go on sale tomorrow at the Athletic Ticket Office at Autry Court beginning at about 9 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. or until there are no more tickets.

Only one ticket will be sold per Rice ID. Students must present both their ID and more than one ticket. Also, the Athletic Ticket Office cannot hold or take phone orders.

For those who cannot make the first sale date, a second date, Monday from 7 to 9 p.m., has been set. Moniaci declined to comment on the exact number of student tickets that will go on sale, but added that it was "not a huge number."

"There will probably be more demand than tickets available," he said.

Tickets for the public will go on sale tomorrow at all Ticketmaster outlets, starting at 10 a.m. Tickets are $30 and $50 plus a $3.50 service charge. There will also be a handling fee charged by phone. No overnight camping will be allowed at the ticket centers.

Officials at Ticketmaster did not know the exact number of tickets that would go on sale.

Joel's latest album, River of Dreams, has sold more than 4 million copies. Joel's latest recording project, The Lion King soundtrack, has already produced two No. 1 singles and has sold more than 7 million copies.

"Getting the opportunity to share the stage with Billy Joel is very exciting to me," John said. "I'm looking forward to playing, and having a blast with him. Look out U.S.A."

Joel said, "I wanted to work with Elton John for a long time and now it has finally come together for us. It should be a fantastic show for the audiences and great fun for both of us."

Moniaci said, "I think from the standpoint of a majority of people in the city, this will be the concert of the year — it will have the widest appeal of any concert we've had so far."

The concert will begin with Elton John and Billy Joel performing together. They will then each do arm solo sets with their respective bands, followed by a grand finale featuring both artists and their musicians performing an electric set together. A spokesperson at Face Concerts, the concert promoters, said the show would last for at least three and a half hours, starting at 7 p.m.

This will be the third concert to be held at Rice in the last two years. Last year, the stadium played host to one of the biggest names in the industry — Pink Floyd in April and the Eagles in July.

These concerts were the first held at Rice since the Monsters of Rock concert during the summer of 1988.

"We are going to require the concert to be sold out before 10 p.m. We don't want to keep our neighbors up all night on a school night, obviously," Moniaci said. He added that Houston City Ordinances only allow concerts to continue until 11 p.m.

Moniaci said Rice is benefiting monetarily from the concert. Even though he declined to comment on the exact figure, he added that it was "substantial enough to make us [Rick] willing to do it."

"In my personal opinion that concerts are better outdoors than in the [Astrodome], and I think anybody who went to the Eagles or Pink Floyd concert would agree," Moniaci said.

He added that Rice would not be providing any of the manpower for services for the concert.

"We just act as an overseer with the power to approve or deny what they [Face] want to do," he said. He added that while the Campus Police oversee all the security plans, Pace is in charge of providing the security for the concert.

Student tickets on sale for Billy Joel, Elton John

A year later...

Willy's Pub sees increase in sales, attendance after facing closure

by Patricia Lin

After financial problems nearly forced Willy's Pub to shut down last year, improved management practices and more programming have brought the Pub back to life.

"We're doing well," said Pub Manager Antron Arreola. "We're operating at a level where survival is not an issue. Our profit level is where we can and are thinking about expanding our services."

At Monday's staff meeting, Arreola, Assistant Manager Kenny Yates and head bartender Amy Ballew reported increases in sales, costs and an improvement in staff attitude over the past semester.

Before this year, the Pub hadn't made a profit for several years because of the decrease in alcohol sales caused by the change in the drinking age from 19 to 21. But the Pub possessed a cushion of money that kept it operational.

Last year, the Pub was in danger of closing because of low sales run out.

On Feb. 1, 1994, the Willy's Pub Committee presented to President Malcolm Gillis two proposals to save the Pub.

In April 1994, Gillis decided to waive the Pub's unprofitability requirements, which are based roughly on the amount of Pub floor space, and lower the next year's charges. His decision allowed the Pub to continue operations.

Those who ran the Pub used the chance to think of ways to attract people to the Pub at other times besides Thursday, the most popular night. As a result of their efforts, attendance has increased on all nights.

"On Thursday nights alone, the number of people coming to the Pub has grown substantially greater than the attendance over the past few years. And the programming to the rest of the nights is bringing in more people, too," Arreola said.

Arreola explained new procedures for better service on Thursday nights.

"We're going to have the riever help the stumper at the door when the lines start getting heavy on Thursday nights, so there won't be such a long wait to get in," Arreola said.

Ballew added, "And we're going to split the bar into three zones so there won't be such a big difference in how long it takes for people to get their beer from one end of the bar to the other."

The Pub's publicist managers announced upcoming programming events, which include a Buss and Biceps competition, a bohnwurst content, a March Gras party and an event where students can meet members of the Rice administration.

"The increase in programming has really brought more people," Arreola said.

"We've been setting attendance records practically every Thursday I think we've made a conscious effort to be a more attractive gathering place," Willy's Pub.

We've held events like the spades tournament, which started in the spring of 1995 and is held every Thursday and bring in a lot of people." Arreola said.

The graduating members of the Pub back to life.

The Academics Committee reported that its current project is to change the requirements for honors graduation.

"Graduating magna cum laude from, say, Harvard does not signify the same thing, or as much, as doing so from Rice because of the high standards here," said Becky Almaguer, committee chair.

Other committees reported the progress they have made over the semester.

The F&H committee is investigating the possibility of a debit card for students. Such a card is found at many other major schools and can be used for more than food and admissions.

Rice Student Volunteer Program
**Apathy**

"Heavy" work loads no excuse for lack of community involvement

Recently at the annual leadership conference, the infamous topic of Rice student apathy sparked much debate. Most suggestions for increasing community involvement in the Houston community were met by the same tired excuse that people at other universities use, work loads, while they are secretly preserving Gulf Coast wildlife.

Many of these require only a little time or effort.

- Habitat for Humanity always can use help.
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters programs give students a chance to serve as a role model for kids who wouldn't otherwise have one.
- Environmental causes can often be as easy to support as entering a fishing tournament. The Gulf Coast Conservation Association alone runs several tournaments each year to raise money to preserve Gulf Coast wildlife.
- Most religious causes have charitable arms.

Organizations with soup kitchens and clothing drives often need manpower, even more than money.

Ultimately the rewards of volunteering for a good cause are greater than any other activity. Students here can no longer hide behind the excuse of heavy work loads while they are secretly playing their Segass and Nintendos. We must all do our part.

**Opinion & Editorial**

To the editor:

I am writing this in response to Mr. Stuart Krohn's lengthy letter in last week's Thresher claiming that the officials of intramural sports are racist. Hopefully, we will not possi-

To the editor:

The letter to the Thresher was the first notice we had of any problems with these officials. And speaking of officials, all three are seasoned officials (and have worked Mr. Krohn's teams' games) before and two of them work junior high/high school games in Houston. This experience makes them very familiar with the "righting blackness" of a team. So actually this was probably the best crews you could have had on the court.

As far as the comments about your teammates being warned for "playing" -- we have always told our officials to keep control of the game (no huffing or puffing or trash talk) and not to take any garbage from the players. Some officials are more strict about rules than others, but if you are a basketball player you should know that adjusting to the officials is a big part of the game.

What Mr. Krohn probably does not realize is that several years back Mr. Ronald Johnson (a member of the present team) started the founda-

**Allegations of racism by ref untrue**


**Letters to the Editor**

To the editor:

"...and, while the actual foul count was fifteen to nine in favor of the predominantly white team,"

This is a statement by Mr. Stuart Krohn in his calling of the basketball game. I think it would be enlightening to show the actual count as we have always told our officials to keep control of the game without worry of favoritism for any reason. Additionally, the Thresher does not have any advertising for any reason. Therefore, the Thresher refuses any advertising for any reason.

Unauthorized editorials represent the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff. All other pieces represent solely the opinion of the author. Obviously. © COPYRIGHT 1995

**Complaints should be sent to IM**


**Asian Studies deserves more language classes**

Asian Studies in the curriculum. Since Asian Studies has been associated with the Chinese program, it is this subject on which people (including myself) are a bit to broaden and inquiring. In comparison, there are 46 students enrolled in German 102, but there are six sections — a section size of 77 students. We would have to ask yourself why another section is not possible to take more than two years of Chinese or to major in Chinese.

Second, the classes are too large. Chinese 202, in which we are enrolled, has approximately 35 students. Can the administration seriously believe that a student in an introductory language class of 35 students can learn much progress? In comparison, there are 46 students enrolled in German 102, but there are six sections — a section size of 77 students. Is it fair that the European languages have much smaller classes while students of Chinese do not enjoy such privileges?

**Write...**


**To the editor**

This letter intends to address a growing problem in Rice academ-

**The Rice Thresher**

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OPINION

Campus Crusaders should mind their own business

On A recent afternoon, while trudging
between the library and the Architectural Wonderland, which is my second favorite campus building (the first being the Pauline Campos for Christ. Naturally, this is an assumption since he bore no identical resemblance to any pearls or pearls at all. However, I have met religious zeal-
Ought who seemed to match the given
manner, and pass by with the correct
correction details of our thankful stubble
conversation (it ended early due to a low tackle followed by a short sprint on my part), suffice it to say I felt it was in need of some church up, followed immediately by a little one-on-one with Jesus. Sometimes I suppose it must have been my aura, he knew just by look-
ing at me that I had a deficiency in my life which only his religion could fill. I guess he didn’t realize I already had one.

I jest, of course. Television is no more a bully than television is ice cream. How- ever, the assumption that this individual about me and my belief sys-
ten in a split-second of observation profoundly disturbs the assumption (even that of the Rice campus is popu-
ated by rational human beings. After all, he is not a Chris-
tian (or at least not Christian enough). I hope those of us of the second generation of the campus crusaders who are re-
cruiting efforts. Since I have never seen this person before, I would imagine he is either a new recruit (the campus is not a very easy woman ambling ever so slowly
have a steady stream of fixed in-
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cruiting efforts. Since I have never seen this person before, I would imagine he is either a new recruit (the campus is not a very easy way to get around)

Don’t get me wrong: I have a deep and abiding sense of gratitude toward the bully makes a cultural event many
widely attended and so

Anybody who wants to learn is an achievement. And since the divine spark of life
exists in everyone, perhaps the best place to seek God may be inside yourself.

Now if only we could convince the Campus Crusade for Christ that those not asking for guidance don’t need any.

Tempera Bonifus and some
one send me a low in the dark plas-
tic Jesus for my dashboard.

Jym Schwartz is a third-year graduate student in the Department of Geology and Geophysics.

Students need to start taking advantage of cultural events on campus and off

LAST FRIDAY’s Lunar New Year Festival, held in the Grand Hall of the Rice Museum, was one of the biggest and best displays of what Rice students have to of-
fer. Congratulations and thanks should be doled out to the many, many people who make cultural events so widespread and so widely received.

Obviously Rice stu-
dents live an exciting cultural event many bad never seen before. Last week we saw TV. Additionally though, students who are native Houston community who otherwise would have had no exposure to Rice. I have no doubt that many of these students had a day to remember.

I mean this event had it all: music, dancing, food and food and food. Sometimes the best things in life come together. Perhaps the highlight of the event was the unashamed strip-
ning of the Deep-Ender Reddy, who without re-
straint dared to show off his shifty-whitey. And after such a great event, all the other clubs and orga-
siations on campus must feel challenged.

Bert Gall, a Lovett College senior, goes off the deep end in the Space Station Lovett.

We are in one of the most culturally di-
verse cities in the world, and yet expose-

MARTY MALKUSKI

Last Friday’s Lunar New Year Festival, held in the Grand Hall of the Rice Museum, was one of the biggest and best displays of what Rice students have to offer. Congratulations and thanks should be doled out to the many, many people who make cultural events so widespread and so widely received.

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Bert Gall, a Lovett College senior, goes off the deep end in the Space Station Lovett.

We are in one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world, and yet exposure to the vast cultural resources of Houston go unappreciated. Rice students need to explore the variety found in Houston, be it zydeco dancing, trying soul food or walking through Chinatown.

The next time a sunny day rolls around, dump your work for a couple of hours and try something you’ve never done. If you have homework, don’t do it.

"If you have homework, dare not to do it."
Referees
FROM PAGE 2

ever, I (Lisa) had to bring Mr. Johnson in and speak to him because he was harassing non-Rice people to play for his team and his team was raising hell with the officials, displaying unsportsmanlike behavior and taking trash. Ronald and I (Lisa) have had no problems since then and I think we both respect each other, so I know things can be worked out if necessary.

‘Mr. Krohn’s letter contradicts itself many times…’

Our officials (in all sports) are always instructed to make sure they talk to the captains only when they have an issue or rule to discuss. This way they can make good decisions under less pressured conditions and the captains simply relay the decision back to their teammates. We don’t even know who Williams-Cecine (Mr. Krohn’s team captain) is, and we are sure the official did not know him either, so that is why the official asked for the team captain to come forward.

With respect to the game calls, there were three technicals on Mr. Krohn’s team and two technicals on his team.

Monster
FROM PAGE 3

It’s a bully that steals the lunch money of the poor and young and gives it to the rich and elderly. Any hope it gives us of recovering what it takes is false.

Whether our politicians realize it or not, the time has come to abolish the opposing team. Mr. Krohn’s team had two ejections — the first because the player in question had two unsportsmanlike technicals, which is an automatic ejection, and the second because another player (white) hit one of the opposing players in the side of the head when he was not looking.

The second ejection really upset us because the player in question (we’ve been told he was Mr. Krohn’s former roommate) had to come to ask permission to be allowed to play intramural basketball as he was working a very, very long time on campus. We allowed him the privilege of playing, and look how he repaid the courtesy.

Mr. Krohn’s letter contradicts itself many times — his comments about his team’s play and the opposing team’s play do not add up. You could take any official from any type of league and you would get basically the same type of calls or consistencies of calls with the play Mr. Krohn described.

In closing, we think this whole episode could have been avoided with knowledge of the Rice intramural rules (Mr. Krohn’s team chose to play in our leagues with our rules), some experience in officiating and a lighter, more sportsmanlike attitude. Intramurals are for fun; they are not the world championships.

You may contact us at 285-5398 or e-mail lisacwa@rice.edu with your concerns or comments.

Lisa C. Widner
Dave Krohn
Rice Intramurals

Social Security and let people provide for their own retirement. Let’s gradually phase out the system at the very least give workers the chance to opt out of the system and invest their retirement money in tax-free savings accounts and IRAs.

After all, who are you going to trust with your lunch money, yourself or the bully?

Racism
FROM PAGE 2

feet cushion. So, when Mr. Krohn’s team violated this rule twice in quick succession (the second time waving the ball out of the inbounder’s hands), they were called for their first (though not unsportsmanlike) technical foul.

In the fourth quarter, one of Mr. Krohn’s teammates committed his fifth foul, which meant that he was disqualified from further play. He decided to voice his displeasure about this call about a foot away from Bob’s face (Technical foul).

As Bob tried to walk away, Mr. Krohn’s teammate persisted in insulting Bob’s personal space. Technical and the player (again according to NCAA regulations) was required to leave the gym.

On his way out, he tossed his jersey onto the court, delaying the game further.

His teammates wisely told him to cool it, but he continued, and threw all the extra jerseys onto the court and finally left.

A couple minutes later, the game was called for a foul when one of Mr. Krohn’s white teammates punched an opponent in the ear (third, and game, for fighting, unsportsmanlike technical).

Bob also called a couple technicals on the “predominately white team.” The first occurred when one of them dangled and hung too long on the rim, although the dunker claimed that he did so in order to not land on the people running beneath him. The other one occurred when the “white team” hit their own backboard in an attempt to cause the “black team” an illegal shot to take an unnatural bounce and miss.

Bob said this was a technical foul in addition to being goulshting. If there were infractions warranted technical fouls, then Mr. Krohn’s team’s infractions most definitely did.

One point that Mr. Krohn’s letter states was that: “My black teammates were warned that ‘glairing’ would bring further sporting punishment. Glairing!! Angry looks are apparently dangerous to some.”

I realize that this may seem ludicrous to people who may have played sports elsewhere, but its IM policy, and a good one, that players and officials should be allowed to participate without worry of intimidation.

For this reason, smart IM officials try to mediate between players and try to avoid any possibility of fights breaking out. This, not race, was the reason for Bob’s warning for “glairing.”

Many IM participants have complaints about the officiating. They take two logical courses of action. The first is to expostulate at Lisa Widner, Director of Intramurals, at 285-5398. She loves this. If you voice a complaint to her she will investigate and act upon your grievances.

The other course of action, albeit an unattractive one, is to become an official yourself. Lisa is always looking for new officials and you might be surprised at how difficult it is to officiate a game and not be viewed as biased at least one of the teams. However, if you have a complaint about IM officiating, please do not write to the Thresher to accuse one of the officials of being biased. That accomplishes little except to get several people very upset.

Ken Roberts
Wiesen ‘96

Racism
FROM PAGE 2

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Ken Roberts
Wiesen ‘96

Curriculum
FROM PAGE 2

university wants to meet the demand (a demand that is real and growing) for Chinese language instruction, it should hire more professors.

Some individuals — particularly the Eurocentrists — may rationalize the situation by stating that Chinese is not as important as other languages. Such people fail to realize that the Chinese language is growing worldwide, and that the importance of European languages is diminishing.

By learning Chinese a person can gain access to one-fifth of the world's population. What other languages can boast that? Furthermore, Rice is located in a city with a large and rapidly expanding Chinese population, and it may well serve the university some good in the future.

We are not saying that the Chinese program should be strengthened at the expense of the other language departments; every student should be free to pursue the language that interests her or her most.

However, we believe all students should have the same opportunities. A Rice student studying Chinese should not have to struggle in a class of 35 while a German or French student has to deal with a much smaller, learner-friendly environment.

The same argument applies to the professors. It is unfair to ask Dr. Chen to teach such large classes. It only increases her workload.

Fortunately, Dr. Chen is an excellent teacher, but no matter how good he is, it is impossible to effectively teach a language in such a large class. She needs help but is ignored by the administration.

We hope that this letter will serve to draw attention to the circumstances, and we surely hope that the administration will see the need for the enhancement of the Asian Studies department. The university should not continue to ignore the growing importance of this area of study.

Patrick Franks
Jones ‘95
Ken Tate
John Lessard
Jones ‘97

Some Menu Items

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* Sammy's Late Nite will do business in cash.

Starting Monday, February 6th, Sammy's will be open at night for the rest of the semester. The hours are

Sun.  8 p.m. - 12 m.
Mon. - Thurs.  8 p.m. - 12 m.
Symposium offers humanitarian perspective of medicine in 1990s

by Gabrielle Fransen

A symposium organized by members of the Rice Pre-Med Society emphasizes the humanitarian aspect of medicine. The club has five members. Their activities include visiting hospitals with pagan exhibitions, attending pagan concerts, and meeting with other groups interested in similar interests, such as the Stone Circle Grove and holding or attending religious services. The Campus Pagans' Alliance tries to hold at least one religious ceremony a month involving meditation, dancing and poetry readings. Their music consists of free-form drumming and both improvisation and written music. The Alliance also has secular priorities. Bird wants to start fundraising and have a club shirt. Bird said the Alliance is not yet receiving any funding and is currently running on funds it borrowed from another Rice club, WARP (War Gaming and Role-Playing). Bird said she is going to request funding from the Student Association (SA) and the BKE Program Council. She would also like to hold an open forum discussion with the other religious groups on campus to discuss paganism and religion.

Organizations

Campus Pagans’ Alliance

The club aims to educate others about paganism and to dispel misconceptions of the nature-based religion.

Contact: Susan Bird

NEWS IN BRIEF

Elvis and Marilyn skydive

Sky divers dressed as Elvis Presley and Marilyn Monroe will land in Rice Stadium tomorrow at 6 p.m. to receive the opening of “Elvis & Marilyn: 2x Immortal,” an art exhibit. This exhibit features 127 works of art on display at the Rice Museum of Contemporary Art and runs through March 30.

Sammy’s to stay open later

In response to student demands, Sammy’s hours have been extended to include Monday through Thursday from 9 p.m. to midnight and Sunday evening, 8 p.m. to midnight. These hours are in addition to Sammy’s regular hours. Monday through Friday from 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The new hours will go into effect Monday.

The new evening hours are the result of the work of the Food & Housing Oversight Committee, an ad hoc committee composed mainly of students. The committee is looking at the possibility of inviting outdoor vendors to participate in this evening venture. But numerous factors, including space constraints, liability issues and profit margins must be addressed before Sammy’s can accommodate a mini-food court, the committee decided.

Food and beverages will be sold only on a cash basis this semester. The current meal contract stipulates payment for meals a day or two before the student can account to pay for the meal. Sammy’s meal contract money cannot be used for items from Willy’s Pub or the Coffee House, so the committee decided that allowing meal card use at Sammy’s would be unfair.

The committee is looking at creating an independent system separate from a student’s meal plan that would allow a student to put money into an account that could be used at Sammy’s, the Pub, the Coffee House and the bookstore.

Lowell Co-Master Connie Burke can be reached ext. 4959 or burke@rice.edu for suggestions and comments.

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Networking, not a purely academic pursuit. [The program] is designed to motivate college students to make medicine a service career and make medicine a service career.
Interactive learning focus of conference

by Michael Gomez

The Rice Student Environmental Club will host the third annual Rice Student Environmental Conference. The conference will focus on sustainability, looking at ways we use the Earth's resources now so that people can maintain the Earth in the future.

This year's conference will be held tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Rice Memorial Center Grand Hall.

The conference will emphasize interactive learning, encouraging attendance to take part in the resolution of environmental issues.

"We are not just trying to just spread the word about activism but trying to get people to be active in the Houston community," said Felisa Yoder, Environmental Club member.

After the first speech, the conference will begin the presentation of four independent research papers by Rice students.

Meet the press

Bill Rally of CNN, a daily affiliate of NBC, interviews Lovett College junior Meg Drake and Sid Richardson junior Kevin Wilt on Monday about what they did during the Super Bowl. The interviews were for "America's Talking," a news show that travels around the country and visits a different city each week.

Wiess freshmen challenge tradition

by Frederick Wen

Two Wiess College freshmen presented a petition to review freshman waiting on tables, a long-standing college tradition, after they received a letter sent to all first-year students warning them of fines if they didn't fulfill their duties.

"The day we wrote the petition, one of the freshmen had received a notice in their mail box about fine letters, so basically we wrote in response to that notice," said Wiess freshman Carrie Miller, co-writer of the petition.

The letter was sent by the head waiter at Wiess. Though he is not officially responsible for handling freshman waiting, it is his job by default.

In keeping with many years of tradition, Wiess freshmen are asked to sign a contract to abide with the by-laws of the college. Regardless of whether they sign it or not, freshmen are obligated to follow the rules, which require waiting on tables for the entire year, when they agree to live on campus.

The only accepted excuse for missing freshman waiting is participation in university or club sports. Jobs or conflicting classes aren't considered legitimate reasons.

During an all-college meeting last Wednesday, residents discussed possible changes to freshman waiting and to family-style dining.

As a result of the meeting, a committee was formed to look at the best possible solutions. The members will present their ideas to the Wiess Cabinet at a future meeting.

One solution that was proposed at the meeting was to take responsibility for freshman waiting away from the head waiter and put it in the hands of the freshmen representatives.

The feelings on freshman waiting vary widely, with the most negative views coming from just a few freshmen. But the overall feeling is that something will be changed.

"I don't really mind freshman waiting," said Wiess freshman Frank Yoo. "It's not quite what it used to be, so we shouldn't complain. I personally don't feel demeaned, but a compromise is in order," Yoo said.

Catherine McNish, Wiess freshman representative, said, "I don't think it's [freshman waiting] that bad. If I could make it more convenient for my schedule, it would be better."

Wiess freshman Marya Chalich, co-writer of the petition, said, "Up-perclassmen tell me that freshman waiting is a good way to meet people. I found it to be just the opposite. A waiter and the waited-upon are on two distinctly different psychological levels: one is subservient by the very definition if the task they carry out and the other is conversely in a dominant position."

Chalich said, "Freshman waiting is a form of hazing. When we signed these contracts pledging our undying mental service to the college, the last thing we wanted to do was compromise. And the fact that we are monetarily fined if we 'choose' not to wait makes this activity, so seeped in the 'aura' of tradition, a form of hazing."
The week before classes started, a friend of mine and I decided we needed a break before the insanity of college. We planned to start the new semester off right. We picked up a guidebook (The Berkeley Guide Budget Travel Austin) and eventually we found it—a seedy-looking building that looked like corn hockey pucks, plus a sign.

"Sleeping?" the other one guessed, and I said that in Mexico, eventually we found it—a seedy-looking building that looked like corn hockey pucks, plus a sign. "No problem."

They smiled, waved and opened the door. We glanced back. "Excuse me, do you need help?" He looked less friendly and conversational. The he be jealous?" Alejandro, the most persistent, just sat there, ignored my warning not to brush his teeth with paperless though it was, and we had our first truly Mexican meal there. We ordered huge burritos for about a quarter apiece and had Pearl's beer.

Our detour had taken us several hours out of our way, but it was a beautiful drive and the rest of the way to Tampon, during which we drove straight into town, which was beautiful and deserted, dotting the landscape. We thought it was a little strange that the roads were feeling we were the only guests at the hotel, and that looked as though he'd been sitting there for years. A room cost about 16 dollars, he said, and we asked for a room with a bathroom and a shower. We were given a room on the second floor, with a view to the beach, the Hotel Puente next door to La Bombilla, and returned to the car to brush our teeth, and then pulled over beside the street. The hotel was clean, spacious and well-marked; within walking distance of the beach, the Hotel Puente next door to La Bombilla, and returned to the car to brush our teeth, and then pulled over beside the street.

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FOR THE BIRDS

Gratuitous sex fails to redeem 'Bad Company'

BY DAN MCDERMON

Every single character in Bad Company is manipulative, cold and evil. Unfortunately, each of them is also boring.

Despite director Damion Harris's most pretentious attempts, he cannot make up for the lack of depth in this lame thriller with a rigorous sex scene, inanely comic dialogue or oddball camera angles. He apparently wants to be Alfred Hitchcock, but he succeeds only in being as self-consciously stylized as Hitchcock at his worst.

Laurence Fishburne stars as Nelson Crow, an ex-CIA man who seeks a new job after agency cutbacks. Ellen Barkin plays Margaret T. Wells, the smooth, manipulative femme fatale-wannabe.

Also appearing are Spalding Gray, sure to be remembered as one of the least effective and most annoying bad guys in movie history, and Frank Langella, who turns in his usual even performance.

Langella runs a company called the Toolshed, which provides secret operation services (disguising, blackmail, murder) to reputable corporations. Crow finds work at the Toolshed, and he and boss Margaret go on a fact-finding mission.

What they find is a man in bed with his niece, which they videotape — for purposes of extortion, and also to give the movie its required explicit sex scene.

In most thrillers you'd expect a gratuitous scene like this to involve something significant to the plot, but Bad Company achieves its only surprise by ignoring this expectation.

The film opens intriguingly with a voice-over by Crow which is virtually nonexistent and apparently given.

The remainder of the plot revolves around government operations, plans of vengeance and acts of vengeance. But you don't need to worry about missing anything; you can see it all coming. The film falls into a little short of suspense.

Although some truly classic themes give the story a lot of potential, they unfortunately give us no one with whom to identify. The characters are never "fleshed out," and they spend more time talking about how evil they are than actually doing anything, evil or otherwise.

The characters are so well-written, and we have so little reason to care about them, that it is hard for us to accept that they actually have relationships at all.

In their attempts to get hot, the sex scenes get silly, and the only remaining parts of this movie that work well are the attempts at humor. Here is conclusive proof that humor cannot save a suspense picture.

Bad Company is nothing like the classic thriller it would like to be. When the smoke has cleared, it is painlessly obvious that this is another minimally interesting failed attempt to revive the Hollywood crime film.

For a real femme fatale and a truly compelling story, check out The Last Seduction instead.

Sensitive touch makes 'Sunrise' more than just a pretty picture

BY MARC HIRSCH

Julie Delpy and Ethan Hawke turn chance encounter into a night of Viennese romance in Before Sunrise.

14 HOURS UNTIL PIE

Sensitive touch makes 'Sunrise' more than just a pretty picture

Julie Delpy has a great nose. It's not your standard run-of-the-mill nose; it doesn't just go straight diagonally and then into the face like the usual standard of perfection.

Her nose is notably slender, she is not that noticeable, but it is one small detail which brings depth and individuality to the actress.

Before Sunrise, Austin director Richard Linklater's newest film, is much the same way. Enjoyment of this movie comes not from the big picture but from the details. In fact, there are times when it seems that the sum of the parts is more than the whole.

This is not a simple fact, but more of a principle that is commonly known as the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. This is also true in a sense when two strangers interact with each other. Julie (Julie Delpy), an American, and Celine (Delpy), a Parisian, meet on a Vienna-bound train and decide to explore Vienna together for the 14 hours until sunrise. At sunrise, the city turns into a pumpkin; Jesse has to catch his plane back home and Celine the train back to Paris.

Of course they fall in love. It's a love story, and it is complicated, and it is not just a simple love story, but a story of a love story, and it is not just a simple love story, but a story of a love story, and it is not just a simple love story, but a story of a love story.

What makes this movie the little scenes, looks and gestures that add up to how much Celine and Jesse are been drawn to one another.

Jesse is sweetly aristocratic, as the good doctor,hape a heart of gold. His voice is astoundingly fluid and clear, and she is a superlative actress. Both her "Being on the Men" and "A New Life" are show-stoppers.

Unfortunately, Celine's role is virtually nonexistent and entirely one-dimensional.

Her solo songs are forgettable, and apparently, Celine Noll was either given no direction or the music was composed by Tony winner Frank Wildhorn. It is hard to believe that such a talented man could come up with such a trite scene.

The set, by Vincent Marshall, is easily the most foppish, as the good doctor, who turns in his usual even performance. The music was composed by Phil Hoffman and Rod Loomis, as usual, nothing special.

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This movie is one of the best of the year, and it is not just because of the performances, but also because of the direction, the writing and the editing. Linklater is a master of the medium, and he has crafted a movie that is both moving and visually stunning.

The film is a study in depth, and it is a study in how much can be achieved with minimal means. The set, by Vincent Marshall, is easily the most foppish, as the good doctor, who turns in his usual even performance. The music was composed by Phil Hoffman and Rod Loomis, as usual, nothing special.

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Watercolors capture beautiful legacy of Native American

By Joe Eaton

Introducing his new film Death and the Maiden, director Roman Polanski says, “I am always more interested in films that give me the sensation of being there ... and not just seen in front of a screen.”

This film doesn’t quite meet that expectation, but that isn’t Polanski’s fault. Sigourney Weaver stars as Paulina Escobar, a former student radical who was horribly tortured for information by the government of an unspecified South American country.

After the fall of the dictatorship, her husband, Gerardo (Ben Kingsley), is appointed chair of a commission to investigate human rights violations by the old regime. Paulina is unhappy about the appointment because of her fears that the committee will ignore cases like hers which did not result in death.

When Gerardo’s car gets a flat on the way home one night, he is given a lift by Dr. Roberto Miranda (Ben Kingsley). While the two men chat over a drink later that night, she beats him, ties him to a chair and gags him.

As they proceed through numerous confrontations and revelations, Miranda maintains his innocence as resolutely as Polanski’s Paulina. Gerardo’s lies (which are similar to the audience’s perceptions) jump back and forth. As the situation grows more and more intense, the relationship between the Escobars develops beautifully.

In the film’s highly controlled finale, we finally discover the truth, but the resolution isn’t what you’d expect.

This film has the makings of a terrific thriller, with strong political, social and moral themes. Polanski is one of the best directors of psychological pictures, and he does a terrific job in establishing and heightening the tension.

Unfortunately, the film is marred severely by a poor adaptation of Ariel Dorfman’s play by Rafael Yglesias and Dorfman himself. Although Polanski handles the script well, the film’s biggest flaw is its reliance on broad, stagy-sounding speeches.

Polanski has only one film to his credit (Fearless), and Dorfman has none. It is their lack of cinematic experience which prevents this film from being as exciting as it should be.

Paulina’s character is revealed in large, heavy chunks instead of a more delicate approach. Her speeches are often awkward and border on a self-conscious parody of stage speech. “I want everything on the record, scrupulously recorded. Little did I know how this [tape recorder] would come in handy.”

Weaver and Wilson give decent performances, though the material they have to work with is too broad. Kingsley said that during filming he had to be especially careful to avoid revealing too much about his character before the climax. It seems more like he was afraid to reveal anything.

Death and the Maiden is a rare example of a film in which great writing, acting and direction yield less-than-great results because of the weakness of the writing.

But despite the flawed script and the fact that the screening I attended was twice interrupted by projection problems, for the most part I was riveted to the screen.

The story is engrossing, one filmed with incredible style and impact, and well worth watching.

If the writing were stronger, this could be a perfect film.

EARLY ONEIDAN

By Dan McDermot

Watercolors capture beautiful legacy of Native American

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Well-performed ‘Harvey’ and ‘Porgy’ offer sugar-coated controversy

BY RYAN MINOR

Harvey Milk
Thorup Fest. 5
Porgy and Bess
Thorup Fest. 12
Houston Grand Opera, Brown Theater
Downtown at Smith and Texas, 227-ARTS
Student rush $20

Playwrights in today’s straight theatre (by that, I mean theatre without much) would be considered oh-so-pure if they wrote a work whose audience was supposed to leave the theatre proclaiming, “Well, I guess gays were real people after all. Maybe they’re not all pedophiles — why, I’m going to go hug my hairdresser right now!”

Unfortunately, what would be considered archaic in the theatre world is still risqué — well, shocking, if truth be told — for most of today’s reactionary audiences in the opera house.

So it was with this in mind that Houston Grand Opera gave us the world premiere of Harvey Milk, a new opera by Stewart Wallace and Michael Keelsey. gay rights for the bourgeoisie.

In fact, HGO’s entire winter season is sort of a celebration of the marginalized: we are given either forgotten groups (homosexuals in Harvey Milk), forgotten operas (Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas) or a forgotten opera about a forgotten group (Stokes in Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess).

So at least we know they have their heart in the right place. Don’t we?

Perhaps. The problem here is that HGO is so proud of its liberal beliefs that it forgot the intention — namely, to present the forgotten in a way so that it won’t be forgotten again.

And although the protagonist in me says that there must always be a first step, that so war is won in a single battle, I’m tired of patience. Porgy and Bess, written in the ‘30s, remains a painful reminder of how far the civil rights movement has yet to go, and it is equally hard for me to watch audiences swallow an unmitigated, sticky-happy, glorified stereotype of “gay” life and then congratulate themselves on their open minds. What troopers they are.

Harvey is, as its title would suggest, the story of Harvey Milk, San Francisco’s first openly gay, elected official. Milk escaped the closeted life of a Wall Street Republican, moved to California and eventually became the mayor of Castro Street, San Francisco’s main gay neighbor- hood. In 1978, Milk and the mayor of San Francisco were shot to death by Dan White, a fellow city supervisor.

In general, the music in Harvey is fairly innocuous. It’s sort of a hodgepodge of general eclecticism (i.e. various styles within a given section), spooky-scary harmonics, minimalist drones and free atonality.

The problem lies more with the opera’s take was guided by the senseless horror of the Holocaust with today’s homophobia, kill a-queer-for-Christ mentality.

Point made, right? Nope. For those of us who couldn’t quite grasp the connection the first three times, two large, superimposed triangles (one pink, one yellow) are lowered from the ceiling for special visual impact.

One (“The Closet”): after a flashback with Harvey’s mother singing, “When they give you their life, give.”

The other (“Double Jeopardy”): Harvey is shot, and at the moment of death, his image is projected on a screen above his body. A large number of the extraneous dance numbers in Act Two.

Unfortunately, what would be considered archaical depiction of Catlin how literally begs to be dealt with, because we fancy ourselves capable of watching much more complex pictures of blacks than we do of gays.

The opera’s take was guided by Hope Clark, who in a combined role as director and choreographer produced stylized but readily human motions to give life to characters that would otherwise be a stereotypical group of superstitious mummies and ghouls.

Porgy also benefited by a superb cast of singer-actors. In fact, I’d venture to say that this is the best sung opera HGO has presented since its Dallas last year. Which is not to say that Harvey Milk isn’t well-sung; it is still too unsatisfying to be judged in a contest such as this one.

To be fair (in a noble cause indeed), HGO should be lauded for its willingness to present the season it selected this winter.

Few opera houses in the country would present works such as these as regularly as HGO does, nor do many perform them as well. Is it a company’s job to apologize for the operas it chooses to present?

The problem lies more with the audiences, who, busy talking and unwrapping candy, demand artless representations of groups they otherwise ignore.
Sunrise

FROM PAGE B

ments like these let us know exactly what Jesse and Celine are thinking. Unlike Slacker and Before Sunrise, Linklater's other films, Slacker keeps its character content to a bare minimum. Delpy and Hawke must carry the entire movie by themselves.

Thankfully, the acting is terrific, especially from Hawke, who manages to come across as somehow both confident and nervous. When Jesse describes a Quaker wedding, you can see his disappointment when Celine breaks eye contact, even though neither of them says a word.

At another point, Jesse begins to brush Celine's slightly disheveled hair back, only to catch himself and stop, afraid of breaking some unspoken rule. It seems so natural a sequence of events that it's hard to imagine it being scripted and rehearsed.

Delpy shines in her portrayal of the enthusiasm and goodness that are so natural for Celine and so difficult for Jesse. Her restrained glee in stealing wine glasses while Jesse practices like these let us know exactly what Jesse and Celine are thinking. Unlike Slacker and Before Sunrise, Linklater's other films, Slacker keeps its character content to a bare minimum. Delpy and Hawke must carry the entire movie by themselves.

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Women’s basketball has best SWC start ever, falls to Tech

by John Fredland

Women’s basketball has best SWC start ever, falls to Tech

It happened Jan. 22 against Texas Christian University at Autry Court. It happened again Wednesday night at the Summit, when Rice dropped a heart-breaking 66-63 decision to Texas Tech University.

The Owls trailed the Red Raiders, the preseason SWC favorites, by as much as 15 in the first half. Spurred by a 14-0 run, they rallied to take the lead, but let the game slip away at the end. Their last game came in the final 10 seconds, when Adam Peakes missed two potentially game-tying three-pointers and Archie Murray’s last-second attempt rolled harmlessly off the boards.

With a victory, Rice could have tied TCU for the SWC lead. Now, the Horned Frogs sit alone in the top spot with a 5-1 conference mark. The Owls, Red Raiders and the University of Texas, who lost at the University of Houston 105-55 on Wednesday night, are all tied with 4-2 records.

Rice could point to some things it did well, but also to many regrettable things.

"This is a game that we should win," Rice Head Coach Willis Wilson said. "We had two pretty good looks. The final shots were like they were all night. I felt pretty good on the shots, but they just didn’t go down."

"I’m proud of how we battled back, but we didn’t make the free throws and get the defensive rebounds," Wilson said. "That’s something we have to do to win. We’re a bad shooting team that has to play hard for 40 minutes, not 39.5."

An encouraging sign for the Owls was the play of junior center Shayla Mundschau. In his first significant playing time at high school, Mundschau rolled up a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds in only 19 minutes, including a dunk at the beginning of the second half.

Igo also provided strong play on the defensive end, where he blocked a number of Red Raiders to alter their shots. Strong Red Raider shooting coupled with poor Owl shooting allowed Texas Tech to jump to an early lead. Hughes hit three three-pointers, and Davis added another, as Rice traveled to the 29-14 lead at the 7:56 mark.

At that point, the Red Raiders were shooting a stellar 61.1 percent from the field. Rice’s shooting at the beginning was almost as cold as Texas Tech’s was hot — the Owls had managed only 27.8 percent.

At the half, Rice trailed 37-27, as Peakes was scoreless, going zero of seven. The Owls, as a team, shot 31 percent.

Rice had its third straight SWC road game last Saturday, a 90-79 triumph over Baylor in Waco.

McGee led the Owls with a career-high 27 points, including five of three-point range. He finished hitting 10 of his 12 shots. Peakes added 12 rebounds.

Rice increased a 2-point halftime lead to put away early in the second half.

A Rice dry spell in the second half helped the Bears cut the gap to three, but the Owls pulled away down the stretch for the victory.

The women’s basketball team defeated the Lady Bears of Baylor University last Saturday, 77-56. The victory gave the Owls their second Southwest Conference start ever as they fashioned a 4-1 record.

The Owls were led by freshman Angelica Smith. Overall, she could point to the Owls’ ability to hit six points and two blocks while they were at Baylor.

When Myers picked up a loose ball near court, she took it coast-to-coast for a layup at 8:32, the Owls had a 49-47 advantage.

It also was not to last. The Red Raiders fought back to even the game, and opened up some breathing room at 57-53 on a three-pointer by Lance Hughes, who led all scorers with 21 points, at the 5:31 mark.

Peakes brought Rice back to a 60-60 tie on a three-pointer at 2:17. Texas Tech took the lead for good when Jason Martin hit two foul shots, and Kevin Nanney answered by only making one of two. Jason Sasser, who finished with 13 points and 13 rebounds, hit two more free throws for a 64-61 lead at the 1:24 mark. Rice appeared poised to tie the game at 57.2 seconds when J.J. Polk drove in to cut the gap to 64-63 and drew a foul on Hughes. However, Polk missed the free throw.

Rice seemed to target the break they needed on the ensuing Texas Tech possession when Sasser missed an inside shot. With three Owls around the rebound, they knocked the ball out of bounds and allowed the Red Raiders to keep possession.

Hughes added two free throws for a three-point lead. The Owls brought the ball upcourt and put Peakes for a NBA-range three-pointer, but the shot hit the rim. Kevin Nanney grabbed the rebound and passed to Peakes close to the same spot. This shot appeared to be on target, but rolled out.

Myers rebounded this shot and threw up a desperation heave from the left side, but it was also off target.

"We didn’t execute very well down the stretch," said Peakes, who hit only two of 16 shots from the floor, but finished with 10 points and 12 rebounds for his fourth double-double of the season.

"The play at the end was supposed to end up on the left side, but we started in the wrong side of the court," he said.

"It was kind of a scramble, but I had two pretty good looks. The final shots were like they were all night. I felt pretty good on the shots, but they just didn’t go down."

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This strategy backfired as the Owls’ front line to get into foul trouble. They started in the wrong side of the court," he said.

"It was kind of a scramble, but I had two pretty good looks. The final shots were like they were all night. I felt pretty good on the shots, but they just didn’t go down."

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SPORTS

HEAD TO HEAD

This week’s guest on Head to Head is Will Rice junior and starting Rice cornerback Bobby Dixon.

Tony Tran vs. Bobby Dixon

NFC Pro Bowl: NFC vs. AFC

Hmm, the NFC has won the last 11 Super Bowls. The AFC’s only chance is if the entire NFC squad has too many coconut drinks on the beach. Cowboys and 49ers over the AFC by 11.

Rice at Texas

I love Texas. 19-17. I love Terrance Rencher who’s from New York. 19-17. Tommy Penders has the sweetest haircut. 19-17. Rice rolls in Austin by 10, then parties on Sixth Street.

No. 10 Syracuse at No. 6 Kentucky

I’ve always been an Orangeman fan. Guard Lawrence “Poetry in Motion” Dazzie dazzles the crowd with 95 points and Syracuse wins in triple overtime after 123 points in the third OT period. Syracuse 90, Kentucky 66.

No. 11 Iowa State at No. 3 Kansas

The Jayhawks kicked some major UConn ass last week. I’m beginning to like Kansas. My ex lived in Kansas. If Rice can’t beat KU on the road, there is no way that the Cyclones will either. KU by 10.

No. 3 Kansas at No. 2 North Carolina

I have never seen Iowa State win a game in anything, and I do not think a change is going to come soon. This one gets pretty sloppy as Kansas empties the bench on the way to an easy 62-57 route over the Cyclones.

Can you say revenge? Because that looks like it will be the case in this one. Super Sophomore Jerry Stackhouse and Rasheed Wallace combine for 60 points as they help Carolina destroy cross-state rival N.C. State. Tarheels 84, Wolfpack 69.

Last week:

Tony Tran 3-2

Guest 2-3

Next week’s special guest: Rice cheerleader Melissa Kalner

Women’s tennis captures second by Grant Flowers

The women’s tennis team traveled to Tucson, Ariz., last weekend to compete in the Arizona Invitational.

Rice, ranked 36th in the nation, upset the 19th-ranked team from the University of California at Santa Barbara on the way to a second-place finish in the tournament.

Rice had winners in four of the six singles matches against Santa Barbara, with sophomore Paula Myslivecek, freshman Vesna Racan, junior Teresea Linnen and sophomore Jessica Gagnon capturing the singles victories.

Needling only to win one of the three doubles matches for the upset, the team of Limon and Gagnon escaped with a 6-4, 6-4 victory in third team doubles.

“It could have gone either way,” said Gagnon. “We were pretty evenly matched, but we happened to win the crucial points.”

Myslivecek, the No. 2 singles player, was pleased by the win.

“It’s good to know that we can play at the top-20 level,” said Myslivecek.

The Owls faced the University of Arizona on the second day of competition, and Rice was quickly shown the other side of playing at the top-20 level.

The 16th-ranked Wildcats won 8-1, sweeping the six singles matches and the first two doubles before the combination of Limon and Gagnon managed to save a point for the Owls.

“We didn’t really have a good start,” said Gagnon. “They outplayed us as a whole, but it was a good learning experience.”

On the final day, Rice eased by the University of Iowa 8-2.

The Owls won four of the six singles matches and won two doubles en route to the victory. Limon and Gagnon were frustrated late in the second set, as the Hawkeyes had a plane to catch and had to suspend the third doubles match.

“We were a little bit tired for the Iowa match, but we wanted to show that the Santa Barbara win was not a fluke,” said Myslivecek.

The Owls have this weekend off before travelling to Albuquerque next weekend to participate in the ITA Washer Jug at the University of New Mexico.

The following Friday, Rice will start Southwest Conference play against Texas Christian University.

Swim teams duel in Metroplex area

by Nel Desai

The swimming teams were on the road again this past weekend. They were in Dallas last Friday to meet Southern Methodist University, whose men and women are ranked 10th and 16th in the nation, respectively.

Women are expected to beat SMU, but we were pleased with how competitive everyone was,” said Head Coach Kris Wingenroth.

SDU is nationally ranked,” freshman Carrie Covington said. “We were looking to swim some fast times and good races.

The women had a tough time and fell to SMU 130-46.

“The women had a real good medley relay,” Wingenroth said. “We didn’t win anything, but it’s a good time.”

The team of Cory Teague, Melissa Carlson and Covington set a new Rice record in the 200 medley relay with a time of 1:48.33, finishing second.

The men had a tough meet as well, losing 128-72, but some people still had good individual performances.

Junior Brant Hasebe swam well in the 100-yard butterfly, finishing second in 52.68.

Sophomore Ginny Farmer won the 100-yard backstroke with a 1:01.91 in the 50-yard freestyle.

Things went much better in Fort Worth, where Rice faced TCU.

“It was a very exciting meet for the men,” said Head Coach Ben Gurion. “We were a little bit tired for the women,” Wingenroth said.

The women defeated TCU 124-112, despite starting the meet down 32 points. Because Rice does not have as much depth, they automatically gave up 32 points to the opponent in the meet.

“We went in with the attitude that we would beat them (TCU), but we knew it would be a close meet,” Covington said.

The meet was close up until the very end, and it came down to the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Covington, Bowden, Anjali Upadhyaya and Amy Ferranti won the race with a time of 1:39.51.

“It came down to the wire, and we got them,” Covington said.

“That's what we needed to do.”

Sophomore Greg Farmer won the 200 IM in 2:04.23 and the 500 freestyle in 5:00.31, while senior Anjal Upadhyaya won the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 2:07.25.

Although the men didn’t win, falling 137-86 to TCU, they did win some races, with Quinlan winning the 50 Yard and 100 Yard freestyle with times of 21.99 and 47.46.

Sophomore Alex Fuller swam a personal best 50.95 in the 100-yard freestyle to get first place, and freshman Josh Kimmel won the 200 IM in 1:57.69.

“We did what we thought we could do against TCU,” Fuller said.

“We swam solidly the whole meet, but we just didn’t have the help to win us out.”

The Owls are off this weekend,
**Men's track looks strong early**

by Ben Glassman

The men's track team opened last weekend in Oklahoma City, and already an Owl has met the NCAA qualifying standard.

Senior Ivory Angelo's triple jump of 52-7.75 earned him the place and the opportunity to participate in the NCAA's in that event. Angelo's outstanding jump was just one of five first-place finishes for Rice. Brian Klein won the 800 meters in 1:51.11. Jeff Lewis took the mile (slow section) in 4:20.21 and Bryan Bronson won the 55-meter dash in 6.26 and the 200 meters in 21.46, the former being a provisional-qualifying time.

Head Coach Steve Strath thinks that this team has the potential to be one of the best ever at Rice. Track has been excellent for the past few years, placing fourth in last year's NCAA Indoor Championship.

Strath thinks the team can do even better this year. One of their goals is to place in the top three at this year's NCAA indoors; another is to contend for the Southwest Conference title, a feat that is difficult in a tough track conference, according to Strath.

Several teams will contend, but world-ranked long jumper, junior Kareem Streete-Thompson, thinks that the Owls' toughest competition will come from the University of Texas, whose main asset is depth.

"In the past, Texas has been able to put two or three people in every event," he said. "They outpoint you by placing third, fourth and fifth. This year, though, we're hoping to take first and second." Streete-Thompson will play a major role in the Owls' quest to accomplish their goals. Along with being the second-best long jumper in the world, he is also an excellent runner in the 55 and 60 meters.

In fact, he is going to appear on the cover of the March edition of Track and Field News, which should be coming out in a few weeks.

He did not compete last week due to minor hamstring soreness. Streete-Thompson echoed Coach Strath on this year's prospects.

"I've been victimized in the past by making hasty predictions," he said, "but this year we could win the conference. This team has the most talent of any since I've been here.

In addition to Streete-Thompson, the Owls return three individual qualifiers from last year's NCAA Championships: seniors Angelillo and Livson and junior Chris Jones. Streete-Thompson, senior Cliff Alexander, sophomore Klein and Jones also qualified in the 4x400 meter relay.

According to Coach Strath, there is a good balance in the team, with both youth and experience and ability to lead the way. This team has a good mix of classes," Strath said. "Seniors, juniors and underclassmen all should contribute.

Strath looks for Klein, an excellent half-miler in the conference, to make the jump to the national scene, among others. One of the additions of freshmen such as Andrew Burrow will also help.

"Personally, I think I bring speed and style along with some endurance," said Burrow.

He will be called on to run the 600 and/or 800 indoors, as well as form a leg or alternate on a 4x400 team.

Swank and Lessmeister, both runners on the cross-country team, — to win conference," said Swank, a junior 3,000-meter runner.

"This team has a good mix of strong individuals, but we don't see a team with the balance that we have in the different events," said Lopez.

The team will continue hard training until the weekend before the NCAA Indoor Championships, to be held on Feb. 16-17 in Fort Worth.

"Things are getting where they're supposed to be," said Lopez. "I'm happy how things are going.

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**Women's track runs in Oklahoma**

by Grant Flowers

The women's track team has started the indoor season hungry, according to Head Coach Victor Lopez.

"This week we got to see Baylor and Texas A&M, so we have a good idea of most of their competition in the Southwest Conference.

"At LSU we were able to face Houston and Texas," said Lopez. "This week we got to see Baylor and Texas A&M, so we have a good idea of where everybody's strong. We'll plus where we'll run according to the what the other teams have.

"As always, the toughest team will be from the University of Texas. However, Rice might have the strength to finally leap over the Longhorns.

"Texas and Baylor have some strong individuals, but we don't see a team with the balance that we have in the different events," said Lopez.

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**ViaSat will be giving an informal presentation on Technical and Career Opportunities at ViaSat on March 2, 1995, beginning at 5:00 p.m. in Abercrombie Hall, Room 126A. For more information, contact:**

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**Intramural Announcements**

- Intramural Entry deadlines for next Friday, Feb. 10 include
  - Ultimate Frisbee
  - Women's Tennis Singles & Doubles
  - Spring Tennis Mixed Doubles
- Men's and Women's College Racquetball play continues this weekend, Feb. 8-9.
- Men's College Soccer will begin this Friday, Feb. 3 and Men's College Basketball will begin on Monday, Feb. 6.
- Softball officiating meetings will be held on Friday, Feb. 5 at 4 p.m. — it will be held upstairs in the gym Classroom A. Drinks and snacks will be provided.
- The finals of the Three-Point Shooting contest will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at the halftime of the women's basketball/football game against Houston. The finalists for the men include Lisandro Zamora, Hanssen: Heu Dang, Lovett; Robo Ferguson, Will Rice, and Julian Lacye, Bailey. The winners will be announced at the next meeting.
- Please use the Intramural Hobbies to sign up. This number will be used for announcements, the daily schedule and to announce rain outs. Please call this number 30 minutes to one hour before game time in inclement weather.
- Watch the Thresher for announcements and flyers.

**Women's cross-country title has added fuel to the Owls' championship fire.**

"We've all realized that a title is in reach, and that's the ultimate goal — to win conference," said Swank, a junior 3,000-meter runner.

"I think everybody really wants to win track after winning the cross-country title," said Swank, a junior 3,000-meter runner.

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We're always on the lookout for people who want to make a difference in the world, the future leaders of tomorrow. So you must be asking: Why should I write for the Sports section of the Thresher?

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- Free beer at the Pub
- Good perks

But of course, I'm not going to guarantee that writing for Sports is a job that will cater to all. I will admit that like any job, there are its ups and downs.

---

**The Drawbacks:**

- Stress
- Bitterness
- World Series on cat cadavers
- Unnatural lust for Charles
- Homicidal desires toward George

So, are you up for the challenge? Write for Sports! Call the Thresher at 527-4801 or Tony at 523-6448.
**FOOTBALL TEAM hauls in 22 recruits**

The football team announced Wednesday in its student-athletes list which was distributed to all the students.

"It's a good group as we have ever had," said Coach Ken Hatfield. "We think we have 25 young men with good character who are good students.

Along with the 22 signees, running back Benji Wood transferred from Clemson and can play in 1995.

"I think a lot of them will make an immediate impact because they can run," said Hatfield. "We feel like we got just what we needed."

Rice picked up quarterback Ralph Tillman from Carrier, Miss., where he was a top-100 player. Tillman is six running backs.

They were Robert Forest (6-4, 205, Boonsmore), Mike Girgish (6-1, 210, Spring), Kellone Gordon (6-1, 200, Bellmere), Lynnlee Lee (5-9, 170, Shiner), Michael Perry (5-11, 180, El Camp) and Wood.

Rice was a Houston Southwest Down Club offensive player of the year nominee and was rated one of the top 12 running backs in Texas by Texas Football. Perry could be the overall best athlete as he was a first-team all-Houston defensive back and made the Associated Press first team.

Rice signed three wide receivers in Jason Blackwell (Mustang, Okla.) a member of the preseason Daily Oklahoman All-State list, Christa Bridges (Vicksburg, Miss.) an all-state receiver from Mississippi, and David Grenardo (Colorado Springs). Color is Player of the Year for the Rocky Mountain News.

The Owls also claimed two offensive linemen. Anthony Marin (6-4, 260, Fort Worth) was a three-year all-district player while Mike Vicic (6-2, 260, College Station) was a two-time first-team all-state performer.

**Soccer game coming to Rice**

The Crystal Cup Soccer Exhibition Games are coming to Rice Stadium for a four-game tour.

Each exhibition match will feature a team from Mexico's Division 1 playing an international opponent from Argentina or Colombia.

The first match will be this Sunday, Feb. 5 at 1 p.m. between amateur teams from Houston and Germany. The featured match will have Pumas, Mexico hosting Atletico Nacional, the Colombian champions.

The game will start at 3 p.m.

The other games are scheduled for Mar. 12, Apr. 1 and May 6. The average attendance is expected to run around 45,000 per game.

After the game, there will be a fiesta with music, buffet and the chance to meet the soccer team. This will benefit Amigos, a Houston-based non-profit group that sends medical supplies and personnel to help underdeveloped areas in Central and South America.

As a special offer to rice fans, faculty and staff, the ticket office is offering end zone general admission tickets at a reduced rate. Tickets will be available at the Athletic Ticket Office in Autry Court for Friday only for $11 per person.

These tickets will not be available at the gate. For more information, please call 522-0WLS.

Club V8 steals second at UT

This past Saturday, the Rice Volleyball "A" and "B" teams competed in the University of Texas V8 Tournament.

The 18-team field consisted entirely of SIVA (Southern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association) teams.

Rice easily handled UT's "B" team, 15-0, 15-8, with a combination of good defense and a strong attack.

Rice next faced fifth-seeded University of Texas A" team. Rice prevailed, 15-8, 17-15.

In a mini playoff to determine the final playoff seeding, the Owls crushed Howard Payne University, 19-2, and Tomball Community College, 15-11, 15-1, to earn a second seed in the playoffs.

The first round of playoffs saw Rice "A" face Rice "B". Experience prevailed as the A team won, 15-9, 15-8. In the second round of the playoffs, the Owls faced the University of Houston. Rice avenged an earlier loss to the Cougars with a score of 15-8, 15-9.

The team advanced to face Texas A&M University in the semifinals. Rice crushed the Aggies 15-3 in the first game, only to fall 15-3 in the second to force a deciding third game which they won 15-6.

In the finals, Rice faced the top-seeded University of Texas "A" team. The Owls were no match for the Longhorns, falling 15-3, 15-6.

Rice faces Texas A&M in its first conference match of the season in Autry Court tomorrow at 11 a.m.

**Lacrosse pounds opposition**

The lacrosse team began its spring schedule on a high note as it blasted Sam Houston State University 19-0 last Saturday in Huntsville.

David Grenardo (Colorado Springs, Colo.) was an All-State receiver from Mississippi, and David Grenardo (Colorado Springs). Color is Player of the Year for the Rocky Mountain News.

Three defensive linemen are coming to Rice. They are Andrew Hughes (6-5, 250, Wallingford, Conn.), who was listed as a Super Texas All-American by blue-chip athlete, Mark Lodge (4-4, 245, San Antonio), who was second team all-San Antonio selection, and Terrence Moton (6-2, 210, North Shore) a first-team all-District 25-A selection.

Rice also signed five bandmates. Yinka Adeniji (Dallas) was an All-Southwest Area player. Thomas Benford (La Marque) may have been the coup of the recruiting class as he was Texas Sports Writers Association class 4A Defensive Player of the Year.

AP first-team All-4A linebacker and Houston Post Graduate-Houston Defensive Player of the Year.

Carrey Colmon (Huntsville), Branden McGwire (Caddoah) and softball player. (La Marque), who was first-team all-state 4A in the 7304 poll, round out the group.

At defensive back are Karlon Bedford (Delto), one of the top 20 DBs in the state by Texas Football. Bridges, Lee, Perry and Larry Ruffin (Grapesport), a member of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram's "Dream Team" and top-100 list. We felt we got every position covered," Hatfield said.

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For more information visit the Rice Campus Store, located in the Rice Memorial Center 6100 So. Main Street or call 527-4052.
Really Lame Blonde Jokes

That's it, guys. You all suck. All we wanted was a few good jokes. But no, you were too busy scratching yourselves to send anything in. So no crying about it. The only jokes that were submitted were from Tony Tran, the most pitiful man on Earth! Come on people! My cat can do better than Tony Tran and my cat is dead! Accept your inferiority. Learn to cook and maybe you'll find someone to support you...