Baker senior Sergio Vargas dies in Waller County hometown of New Braunfels.

Stories,” Jim Copeland said.

Social life was outside of Rice.

Game jitters before overpowering determination to fight through first-half struggles. Eleven first-half points by Florus said. “Once we got into the room facing just a 31-29 deficit. We started making our shots.” In the second half, putting them in. In the second half, we were able to capitalize off of our shooting.

Women’s team seeks revenge tomorrow in showdown at Texas Tech.

The Rice women’s basketball team made a successful season debut Friday night, using hustle and determination to fight through first-half game jitters before overpowering University of North Carolina-Greensboro, as the Midshipmen have made appearances in the NCAA tournament the past two seasons.

But Rice has reason to believe this year could be different. Texas Tech opened its season with a 56-49 win over the Lady Owls, who shot 35 percent for the game, outrebounded them and battled them, and our fullcourt defensive pressure was a big key.

But the Lady Red Raiders still retained a strong core of senior leadership in cafetalia, Jordan, Brumfield and Smoother.

They’re a different team from last year, but they’re still ranked in the top 25, which is good for us,” Brumfield said. “We’re quicker than them, and we’ll adapt to offensive pressure will be a big key.

The victory is a solid one for the Owls, as the Midshipmen have made appearances in the NCAA tournament the past two seasons.

Bougaieff’s early points were crucial, because while he hit his first three shots, he accumulated minutes in his first 10.

With the Midshipmen charging out of the gates to an early 9-2 lead, Bougaieff’s consistency kept Rice in the game and prevented it from ever getting away.

The Lady Owls got it done with their trademark defensive intensity in the first half, forcing 25 turnovers, but they couldn’t find the mark offensively, connecting on only 11 of 33 attempts. Eleven first-half points by senior guard Marla Brumfield helped the Owls lead at the locker room facing just a 31-29 deficit.

“Not like we didn’t have the shots,” Florus said. “We just weren’t putting them in. In the second half, we started making our shots.”

Senior guard Jenny Caferty rolled a three-pointer with 13 minutes, six seconds left to play to give the Lady Owls their first lead. A minute later, a jumper by senior forward Kim Smallwood gave them the lead for good.

In the second half, putting them in. In the second half, we were able to capitalize off of our shooting.

The Lady Owls ride defense to opening win.

Women’s team seeks revenge tomorrow in showdown at Texas Tech.

Senior guard Marla Brumfield, who led all players with seven steals, applies pressure defense against Illinois State.

The Rice women’s basketball team made a successful season debut Friday night, using hustle and determination to fight through first-half jitters before overpowering Illinois State University.

“Everybody was playing a little nervous,” sophomore forward Anitha Florus said. “Once we got into the game, we got warmed up, the jitters went away and we just played.”

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The Rice men’s basketball team scored 84 points in its season opener, but lost its first game of the season Friday night at A&M-Corpus Christi in the NCAA tournament. The Owls are now 7-11 overall and 2-0 in the Southland Conference.

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Bare Wire’s bare sound flops on ‘Delicatessen’

Jett McElster
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

It always disappoints me when an album that has so much potential falls apart in its first 30 seconds. ‘Delicatessen’, the debut of Arizona-based Bare Wire (actually, writer/performer/producer Simone Gregory), caught my interest from the moment I opened the press package. Hey, the photos they sent us were interesting.

I was a little concerned about the sticker on the jewel case that says, “A first listen is best if very loud, in the dark, and with headphones,” but it didn’t bother me too much. Then I listened to the album.

‘Delicatessen’
Ratings: ● (out of five)

Bare Wire’s basic sound is an eternal, atonal synthesized sound—no guitars, pianos or heavy beats here. This is very wavy stuff. And while, at times, it borders on interesting, it’s apparent by the third or fourth track that Gregory is just trying to seem smart.

I had then Gregory’s singing. There’s no melody in any of her songs, and so she just kind of sings along, occasionally hinting at a tune, while, at times, it borders on interseting. This is very wispy stuff. And ethereal, atonal synthesized sound caught my interest from the moment I opened the press package.

From start to finish, the tracks are largely identical, and too often they’re too short. But unfortunately they’re too short and too early in the movie. Instead of watching a geek run away from the horseman, we get to watch a geek with a utility belt run away.

Watch out, Robert Pinsky, I think we’ve got a new poet laureate on our hands. It takes guts to put together a 15-song, 30-minute album and demand of a bunch of listeners who have never heard of you that they listen to your entire album, with head phones, and with the volume cranked up. And Delicatessen, for all it’s rant and rant sucking, seems to have a great concept lurking somewhere behind it. I just want to give it minimal props for that.

But no more of this Bare Wire—I think you’ll go brew some espresso, sit in my chair, listen to Einstein on the Beach and thank God that I’m not as pretentious as this woman.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
From your friends at the Pub

WILLY’S

‘Godfather of noyze’

Rahzel dropped his mythological beat-box stylings onto the diverse Club Waxx audience Nov. 11. The “Godfather of Noyze” laid down some phat beats, beat-boxing everything from old-school style of Boogie Down Productions to classic Wu Tang to the new Destiny’s Child.

Depp makes the motivation behind these traits apparent without being obvious or preachy. He also gives just enough nervous tics and cowardly glares to Ichabod to show what a weirdo he is without making him unpleasant.

Ricci is convincingly elegant and piquant as Katrina—a something of a feat considering her affinity for playing skanky women in recent years.

The Headless Horseman, played in part by Ray Park (Darth Maul in Star Wars: The Phantom Menace), is amazing to watch. While not, very interestingly chaotic (how can he be, without a head?), once he appears on the rampage he rules the screen.

His unmistakable strength is frightening enough, especially when he starts wielding his swords (and axes, and nunchucks, and any other sharp object he can get his hands on). Park shows off his sword-handling skills in two duels, but unfortunately they’re too short and too early in the movie. Watching the Horseman is like watching a demonic action movie, and the seamstress special effects really help pull it off. But after a point, one decapitation is just like any other, and too often the viewer is treated to a promontory shot of the horseman riding up behind Ichabod and the repeat of the last beheading.

This is a gory movie, loaded with action and creepy scenery. However, even though the plot is based on a solid story, something about its execution fails to draw in the viewer. Sleepy Hollow’s is a good action/horror movie, but by is no means an epic.

Film beautiful, but story ‘Hollow’

Robert Reichle
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

Does decapitation (or worse yet, Christopher Walken) disturb you? If so, you might want to stay away from Sleepy Hollow, director Tim Burton’s latest movie full of blood, fog and Johnny Depp.

But if the idea of a badass with no head and multiple bladed weapons turns you on, then this eerie movie may be right up your alley. Burton’s version of the classic ghost story bears little resemblance to Washington Irving’s short story “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow”.

Ichabod Crane (Depp) is no longer a schoolteacher but a constable from New York.

Christina Ricci is pale and tragic as Ichabod Crane’s love interest, Katrina Van Tassel, in Sleepy Hollow

Sleepy Hollow is an imperious fantasy twisted into a nightmare. There are also a number of dream sequences that give the viewer a peek at the beauty and pain of Ichabod’s past.

The script, however, is less stunning than the film’s visuals. Making Ichabod Crane a detective was a wise move—instead of watching a geeek run away from the Horseman, we get to watch a geeek with a utility belt run away.

However, the quest for the killer’s identity is somewhat confusing at times, and when we finally learn why heads have been rolling, the reasoning seems contrived.

Crane is also a very awkward character, and though his goodliness has charm, it’s hard to feel involved with his struggle some times. By the time the movie finally draws you in, the Horseman has a few heads left to chop.

Perhaps you’re one of those who can deal with pretentious, whiny songs, and so she just kind of sings along, occasionally hinting at a tune, while, at times, it borders on interseting. This is very wispy stuff. And ethereal, atonal synthesized sound caught my interest from the moment I opened the press package.

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Fans spur swimmers to dominate season opener

by Katie Scholl
Sophomore swimmer

Loved by the women's basketball university Friday in the first leg of Rice's openers. The swim meet was followed by the women's basketball game against Illinois State University and the men's basketball game against the U.S. Naval Academy. Due to the promotion — which included T-shirt and prize giveaways, free pizza, sodas and beer following the basketball games, and an airplane ticket giveaway — the meet drew a larger than average crowd, and the swimmers made the most of the opportunity. After opening the season with four meets on the road, swimming in the friendly confines of the Rice Pool were a nice change of pace.

'These fans really helped us,' sophomore Katie Scholl said. "They came out and gave us a lot of support, which made us really excited.

"When the noise level increases, our spirit increases. It gets us butterflies in your stomach going, which is definitely a good thing."

Overall, Rice captured 11 of 14 events to post a convincing 153-102 victory. Cooper led all scorers with 19 points in Friday's win against Navy.

'I feel like we're much stronger compared to last year. Training-wise it's been harder, but we're doing well with it,' Scholl said.

"Training-wise it's been harder, but we're doing well with it."

The team continued its success Saturday by overwhelming the University of North Texas 130-90 at the Rice Pool. The women shut out the Lady Eagles as Rice swimmers captured the title in all 14 events.

'Swimmers had a lot of fun this week,' Scholl said. "It was funny to see each other swim in things we don't usually swim in. But we tried hard since we didn't know how well we'd do in new events."

Once again, Martin led the Owls, as she won three individual races. In the 200-yard freestyle, Rice captured the first three spots as Martin defeated Doyle and sophomore Beth Williams in a time of 1:56.34.

Scholl posted victories in the 200-yard backstroke in 2:13.53 and the 100-yard fly, which she won by .06 seconds in a photo finish over Williams in a time of 1:00.03.

Mularz won the 100-yard freestyle in 54.18 and the 200-yard individual medley in 2:13.97.

'Sophomore Jordan Holstein competes in the 200-yard backstroke in the dual meet against Texas Christian University Friday. The Owls won 11 of 14 events to defeat the Horned Frogs 153-102.

Owls bounce back from slow start in win

MEANS, from Top-

Sophomore center T.J. McKenzie, a transfer from Providence College, stepped into the final starting role. He posted 10 points on four of 12 shooting and pulled down eight rebounds, including six key offensive boards.

Navy had its chances, missing seven straight free throws in the stretch that would have gone a long way toward putting the game out of the Owls reach.

Overall, the Midshipmen shot an uninspired 48 percent from the floor with Navy holding a slim 26-25 lead.

In contrast to a first half that was ridden with turnovers and slow offensive play, the Owls took control in the second half.

During the first half, even a casual observer could sense that the game was season opener for both teams. During a 19-0 run, the two teams combined for 10 consecutive turnovers with six layups.

The Owls rode their momentum straight through the 5 minutes of overtime and were able to convert free throws down the stretch for an inspiring win from which the team can draw strength in the future.

Rice will attempt to open the season 2-0 as they play Loyola University of New Orleans tonight in Aeply Court at 7:35 p.m.

The Wolfpack competes in the Gulf Coast Conference of the NAIA and should pose little threat to the Owls, who hammered Loyola Conference rival Louisiana College 85-51 last season.

The Owls then travel to Portland, Ore., to face Portland University, projected by conference coaches to finish seventh of eight teams in the West Coast Conference. The Owls open their season with losses to the University of Calgary, ranked fifth nationally, and San Jose State University, the wins move the Lady Owls to 2-2.

The Owls are looking to shake the road bug that ailcd them a season ago when they posted just a 4-7 record in away games.

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper of Rice University since 1919, is published every Friday during the school year, except during examination periods and holidays, by the students of Rice University.

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The Thresher is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Society of Professional Journalists. The Thresher has been awarded an ACMA All-American award.

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**Rice sends banner to A&M**

**Mariel Tam**

**FRIDAY EVENING EDITION**

With a message of compassion to Texas A&M University in the wake of Thursday's bombfire collapse, a simple blue and gray banner will be delivered to Colleague Station this week. The 6-foot-by-12-foot banner, reading "You have our sympathy," was created by 17-year-old Rachel Thresher.

"We made it on our own," said Thresher. "Let's do something nice for a change."

The banner will be funded by the Student Association, the President's Office and Student Affairs.

Twelve Texas A&M students died and 28 were injured after the collapse of the bonfire tower, made of an estimated 8,000 logs stacked 40 feet high.

The banner was completed Tuesday or Wednesday, Student Association President Anne Courtenay said. The SA will also deliver Rice students' sympathy letters or cards to Texas A&M, Courtenay added.

Students should bring them by Wednesday to the SA office on the second floor of the Ley Student Center. The idea for Rice to do something for Texas A&M came from vice president for student affairs Zenaido Camacho and vice president for finance and development Dean Currie. Students then took the idea to Public Affairs for help, Courtenay said.

GSA joins SA in support of domestic partner benefits

GSA Iron Face 1 policy, and it is important to send this strong message to the administration," Huffer said.

GSA President Julia Smith Welcher said there was a brief discussion about the issue during the meeting, but the resolution did not face any opposition.

"There were or course questions on the cost and legality, but it was a well-received discussion, not opposition," Welcher said.

Armintor said graduate students support this resolution so strongly because they feel that faculty members are not only their teachers but their colleagues. "In a sense, the faculty is not only our teachers, but also our mentors and colleagues. As such, our mentors and colleagues not being treated equally is a very personal issue," Armintor said.

Huffer co-wrote the petition requesting same-sex partner benefits for faculty and staff that was introduced Oct. 11 at the beginning of National Coming Out Week. The petition received more than 300 signatures in the first three hours after it was introduced.

Ad hoc committee members said that by not providing benefits for same-sex domestic partners of faculty and staff, the administration is discriminating against gay and lesbian faculty and staff members.

Undergraduate and graduate students began to receive health benefits for their same-sex domestic partners at the beginning of this academic year.

**Women's soccer comes up short at nationals**

**by Ksica Brookhart**

**FRIDAY EVENING EDITION**

You win some, you lose some. The Rice women's soccer team learned this firsthand last week at the National Tournament in Statesboro, Ga., where they finished with one win and two losses in pool play and failed to advance to the playoffs.

Rice's first match was a chilly one against Ohio State University Thursday morning. The Owls had a difficult time playing up to their potential and fell 3-1 to the Buckeyes.

Later that afternoon, Rice lost to the infamous University of North Carolina Tar Heels in a close 2-1 match. UNC's varsity women's soccer team has won seven of the past nine national championships.

"The game was frustrating," goalkeeper Megan Morgan said. "We had a goal recalled in the last minute of the game on an offside call. "It really could have gone either way," she said. "In fact, every game could have. All of the teams at the tournament were pretty evenly matched."

On Friday, the Owls played their final game determined to return home with at least one victory. They succeeded, defeating rival Louisiana Community College 2-1. However, none of the teams in Rice's pool ended up in the final match on Saturday. Colorado State University earned the title of 1999 Club National Champions by taking an overtime shootout win over the University of Michigan.

"When we realized that our team had a lot of potential this year, we worked really hard all season in hopes of making it to the nationals. And we did," junior outside midfielder Tanya Hanway said.

"Seven even though we didn't end up far enough, everyone, we reached our goal and it was a great learning experience. Now we know what to expect next year, because we'll be back."

**Friends remember Vargas**

**by Mariel Tarn**

**FRIDAY EVENING EDITION**

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The Transportation Department provides shuttles to and from Hobby Airport for Thanksgiving break.

**The Thresher wishes you a happy Thanksgiving**

The Transportation Department provides shuttles to and from Hobby Airport for Thanksgiving break.

**Wednesday, Nov. 24**

Shuttles will depart from Student Center circle at these times:

- 9 a.m.
- 10:30 a.m.
- 12 p.m.
- 1:30 p.m.
- 3 p.m.
- 4:30 p.m.

**Sunday, Nov. 29**

Shuttles will depart from the Hobby Airport baggage claim at these times:

- 1 p.m.
- 2 p.m.
- 3 p.m.
- 4 p.m.
- 5 p.m.
- 6 p.m.
- 7 p.m.
- 8:30 p.m.

**ERRATA**

In Friday's Thresher, the caption for the photograph of students camping out in Raynor Hall was incorrect. The students wasted outside Huson's office from 11:45 a.m. Nov. 15 until 7:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Also, an erratum in Friday's Thresher for a photo caption from the Nov. 12 Thresher, Rebecca Tuin, appears in the photo, not Rachel Tuin or Andrea Lubawy.

The Thresher regrets the errors.