Faculty votes to abolish language requirement

by Mariel Tum

The faculty voted 92-26 to eliminate the foreign language competency requirement at Wednesday’s faculty meeting. To go into effect, the motion must pass on its second reading on March 14.

The faculty was originally going to vote on a motion made by the University Subcommittee on Undergraduate Curriculum to modify the requirement. The committee does not recommend the language requirement remain in its current status, CUC Chair John Zammito said when he presented the motion.

However, members of the committee were divided on whether to modify the requirement or to abandon it completely, Zammito, also the History Department chair, said.

The motion to modify the requirement also proposed ratifying Rice’s language exams.

The faculty was originally going to vote on the current weekly meetings. "It's going to be more solution-oriented," Parks said.

The Jones Construction Compensation Committee — senior Brian O'Malley, President-elect Steve Wilbur and Junior Michelle Lopez — has held several college meetings to discuss plans for compensation.

Wilbur, a junior, said the committee believes Jones should be compensated because the construction has damaged the college’s atmosphere and promises administrations made regarding construction practices have been broken. "Theoriginalagreement was that construction would occur Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m," Wilbur said. "Right now we are at the stage where it is seven days a week, 6:30 a.m. to at least 6 p.m., sometimes it has been so until 10." Wilbur said construction has led to sleep deprivation for some students.

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Wilbur said that the idea to reduce room fees came from Jones senior 1999-2000 SA secretary Lisa Agor, 1999-2000 SA treasurer. Opposing candidate Ricky Kall, a Wiess College sophomore, received 27.3 percent of the vote. The Jones Construction Compensation Committee was also 1999-2000 SA treasurer.

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In a 1999 presidential race, while in 1999 and 2000, the college junior won the presidency. The college junior won the presidency. The college junior won the presidency. The college junior won the presidency. The college junior won the presidency. The college junior won the presidency. The college junior won the presidency. The college junior won the presidency.
The Rice Construction Compensation Committee is asking for college residents' room fees to be reduced by half because it is difficult to live in a complete dormitory.

If they get what they're requesting, students from Jones College would pay at least $26,000 less than other students for on-campus housing. As much as we sympathize with their situation, we cannot support the idea of differential pricing at different colleges.

The composition of the colleges is intended to be random—that is part of the value of the college system. Having an incentive for students with economics on their way to qualify for Jones is not a good idea.

Now is an especially ripe time to address the issue of differential pricing for another reason. When Marvell College opens next spring, its facilities will likely become dramatically better than those at older colleges like Brown and S. Richardson—which are, in, turn, substantially better than facilities like those on Rice's campus. If students at Jones, and then Rice, continue to pay $26,000 less per year than students at Marvell, there are four single rooms at the assistant's rate for each student that might be put in use.

The idea is slightly far-fetched, but not entirely unreasonable. Two thousand dollars is a substantial chunk out of almost anyone's budget.

The Jones Construction Compensation Committee argues that in a similar situation, students in a dorm under construction at Columbia University had their room fees reduced. Despite the fact that Columbia is one of the most expensive universities in the country, Columbia doesn't have a college system, so students pay different amounts to live in different dorms on campus. It's not important to make room rates consistent at Columbia, but it is important at Rice.

Jones has a legitimate complaint about construction—but individual checks to students cannot be the solution.

Construction's other costs

Although construction on campus will be beneficial, it comes at a price.

Construction is good for the future. When Marvell College opens, 80 percent of undergraduate students will be able to live on campus. The new building for the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Management will provide the business school a facility equal to Rice's ambition for it. The new Humanities Building gave beautiful offices to many faculty members who have not previously been in any space that could be found, and the building provided desperately needed classrooms.

Different universities are construction crazy. Many students, particularly those at Rice's College, has decreased because they are more likely to be out of the country or studying abroad.

What used to be an air of genius on the north side of campus has been transformed into a wasteland of gravel, machinery and half-finished shells of buildings. In many ways, Jones is a more social scene than for people to live in.

Construction around Jones has not proceeded carefully enough to preserve quality of life for the students who make it their home. The increased noise and the reduction of private space, particularly the outdoor space, the two major complaints from Jones residents, are valid.

However, Jones students are not the only ones to suffer inconvenience from construction. For example, now When College is being built directly behind Hansen College—giving Hansen students a life time of noise-related headaches as well. The act is not to say that we believe Jones residents should just grin and bear the noise and inconvenience. We think the university has an obligation to make their lives better in ways other than individual student compensation. The university should give Jones more ambience money to make physical improvements to buildings that could help alleviate the ugliness of the construction.

College housing amenities are taken for granted, and if the physical improvements a college has made must be destroyed because they are the way of construction, the college must be compensated. Anything less is disrespectful.

The Jones students' most serious complaint is that noise from construction makes it difficult to sleep. Students pay to live in a quiet space, and the noise prevents them from relaxing. Peace and quiet is not too much to ask. We agree that work should not continue late into the evening, even though the days will begin to lengthen. Near学期末, it would be early. After morning classes are trying to grab a few precious hours of sleep because the relentless grind of problem sets, essays and exams resumes.

We encourage the construction schedule may interfere with Martel's completion date, but we should not sacrifice the sanity of students at Jones so the act at Martel can move in a semester earlier.

Against differential pricing

Education, awareness of rape necessary

To the editor:

Two weeks ago, the already tricky subject of the sexual climate at Rice was brought back into the spotlight. The e-mail message containing an unsubstantiated rumor about a rape that was circulated around campus is only the latest in a series of events during the past year that indicate we all need to be more aware of the issues of sexual harassment and assault, but also do a better job of raising awareness of issues that apply appropriately with each problem.

The most important thing to do is to offer support to the victim in ways with which he or she is comfortable. Rather than ignore the situation or potentially start a rumor, you should go directly to your friend and talk discreetly about the situation. As difficult as it is to stand by and allow a terrible crime to go unpunished, it is important to remember that one of the most devastating aspects of sexual assault is the loss of privacy and confidentiality.

It is crucial for a survivor of rape to talk to someone about how she feels. You should talk about what she experienced and what action, if any, to take. This individual should be someone the survivor decides to tell or deny, so you should have respect for that choice. If you want to take upon yourself the responsibility of telling other students of the assault, then you should talk to the victim after the incident and decide whether you need to say or do anything. You should respect what the victim decides...
Guest column

John residents should receive reimbursement

Given the breaking news about Jones College's attempt to eliminate residence halls, the appropriate viewpoint to the Jones Compensation Committee to the compensation of the university.

John has not received the same tremendous from con-

Students must finally resolve issues concerning issues.

I enrolled at Rice for a variety of reasons, but one of the most important was a sense that people here really cared about others with genuine respect. When I arrived, if students wanted to talk about the Gay and Lesbian Alliance against Discrimination, which recently announced that our parking lot means that off-campus residents of Jones North are being demolished or fenced off. Many people could be aware of that situation, and yet, the administration has only broken news of the Jones Compensation Committee to the university.

We have faith that the Rice administration is as much as that of Columbus, and that the future undergraduates that students are just as important as arbitrary construction deadlines.

Brian O'Malley is a Jones College senior and a member of the Jones Compensation Committee.

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper at Rice University, is published every Friday during the school year except during the summer. We are a student-run organization with students, by students, for students of Rice University.

Saturday ad deadline: 10:00 a.m. Monday before publication.

The Rice Thresher reserves the right to refuse any advertising for any reason. Additionally, the Thresher reserves the right to alter the factual contents of any material. Printing or advertising is not considered endorsement by the Thresher.

The Rice Thresher is the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff. All other opinions represent solely the opinion of the author.

The Thresher is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) and the American Professional Journalists. The Thresher is an ACP All-American newspaper "I am second to none," the official student newspaper at Rice University has been published since 1916, is owned and operated by students, for students of Rice University.
**Students tour Wiess construction site**

by Esther Sung

About 12 students and faculty toured the new Wiess College construction site Monday, walking through the servery, the commons, the new Academic and the sun deck on top of the commons.

Although the construction components are months away, the students were able to see the new college and survey taking shape.

"It’s wonderful," Wiess President Josh Katz said after the tour. "The building has the possibility for a lot of interesting new areas that classes in the future will have to come up with."

Commons spaces include the rooftop sun deck, accessible both by elevator and by a large staircase leading from the ground level of the intramural playing fields. A wall of windows will allow the commons to look out on a large courtyard in the middle of the college — the new Academic.

The Academic is the outdoor area where parties traditionally are held.

"Standing in what will be the new Academic, you really did get a sense that the architects have done a great job of preserving the features of Wiess that we love so much," Wiess President-elect Amy Schindler, a senior, said.

"For so long now, we’ve been looking at computer-generated diagrams of what the commons and servers will look like, but it was so much to be able to stand there and see it with our own eyes," she said.

The new Wiess also has space allocated for a weight room, a piano room and type of equipment and furniture allocated for a weight room, a piano room and type of equipment and furniture assigned to the colleges for the first year of the new Wiess. Hanszen College students and the Hanszen college coordinator will "borrow" the commons facility and common area of the new Wiess for a year while the Hanszen Commons and church are torn down and rebuilt to be attached to the common server. Wiess students will move into the new building in fall 2002.

"It’s nice — I guess it’ll do for a year," joked Hanszen junior and Hanszen College Academic Advising Counselor Julia Katz said. "The construction should have been done a long time ago, but I’m glad it’s happening now. I wish I were going to be here when it’s done."

"We want yellow chairs in our commons, of course," Katz, a senior, said. "The old Wiess has square tables right now, and we want square tables in the new Wiess so we can keep doing tabletop theater."

The serveries will be completed later this spring or summer in order to serve Hamensites during the 2002-03 school year. Hanszen College students and the Hanszen college coordinator will "borrow" the commons facility and common area of the new Wiess for a year while the Hanszen Commons and church are torn down and rebuilt to be attached to the common server. Wiess students will move into the new building in fall 2002.

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Beer-Bike coordinators approve tracks
Water balloons will be carried by flatbed trailers pulled by pickups

by Olivia Allison

The Office of Academic Advising will be training four peer academic adviser per college to help with academic advising during Orientation Week.

The advisors will help direct students with questions to the proper authorities, Director of Academic Advising John Hutchinson said. Applications for the position will be available by the end of this week and due March 23. Interviews will begin April. The O-Week peer academic advisers cannot also be advising at any college.

Hutchinson said the idea for a peer advising program originated in fall 1999, and the program has been developed over the past year.

After one training retreat for 60 peer academic advisers last April, Hutchinson said further training sessions will be held sometime during the summer.

Gwen Hoben, chair of the Student Association Academic Committee, said the peer advisors will have extensive knowledge of department and majors.

"They’re going to have a broad knowledge of requirements and majors," Hoben, a Hanszen College senior, said. Hutchinson emphasized that the object of peer academic advisors is to not replace the current divisional or major advisors, but to supplement them.

"Lots of students don’t know what resources are available to them or who their divisional advisors are," Hoben said. "Peer academic advisers will serve as liaisons between the Office of Academic Advising and the students."

Hoben said four more students could be trained as peer academic advisors after O-Week. The peer advisors would continue to serve in their positions throughout the year.

Earl B. Hull, a Rice University professor, said the additional peer academic advisors will strengthen advising for new students.

"We’ve seen a lot of improvement since my freshman year, but I think having more people here to help certainly couldn’t hurt," Hall, a Wiess junior, said.

"They’ll look like the back end of the cattle cars — they will be basically the exact same thing, except lower to the ground."

— Daniel Attaway
Beer-Bike chair

However, Attaway said he thought most colleges would choose pickup trucks even if each college selected its own vehicle.

"Overall there wasn’t too much dissent," he said. "There were a couple other ideas, but basically everyone agreed that the trucks were the best way."

Attaway said he will advise the college administration to choose pickup trucks, and each college’s Beer-Bike coordinators will be responsible for renting their own vehicles.

On proposal, made by Will Rice College Coordinators, was to use one or more U-Haul trucks to transport balloons. Will Rice Coordinator Aryn Bryant said they planned to have some students inside the back of the trucks passing out balloons, with a gate to keep students and the water balloon trash cans from falling out.

Bryant and Attaway said they decided the method was safe because too many students would crowd around the smaller area around the back of the truck to get balloons.

Attaway said that although this year’s Beer-Bike coordinators have encountered planning difficulties, they have been very receptive to changing the vehicles because of safety reasons.

"I love all of the college coordinators," Attaway said. "They’ve all been really good. It’s been a long and stressful process for everyone, but they’ve all been constructive and willing.

Attaway said the rules are final and will not need approval from the college masters.

"They said us they trusted us and they would go along with whatever we decided," he said.

Attaway said he anticipated much less dissent from students about the new rules.

"As long as there are water balloons, I think people are going to be OK," he said.

Bryant agreed, saying that although she didn’t think the college cars of years past were a serious threat to student safety, the trucks were a solution.

"I think if something had to be changed, this is the best solution," she said. "These flatbeds can carry about the same number of water balloons, but we won’t have the problems of people jumping on the trucks, and it’s safer. It’s the best solution we can come up with at this time."
**IM sports fee increase fails, RBT to receive blanket tax**

by Meghan Miller

Three of the four referenda on the Student Association ballot passed this week, each with at least 79 percent of the vote. Rice Broadcaster Television became a blanket tax organization, intramural Sports fee from $10 to $15 failed by 2.25 percent. The additional money would have increased the revenue for the Intramural Sports program.

Rice students approved the constitution amendment to add new equipment such as a video server to their studio in the Mudd Building. "We started looking at it last spring and realized we weren't going to make any progress," said Bo. Box. "It was a write-in in seven other races, and I don't want it to be about me personally, but I want it to be about the music." 

Hanszen freshman Caroline Gardening will be the new student in the dormitory. The winner was also a write-in in seven other races, and I don't want it to be about me personally, but I want it to be about the music." 

Hanszen junior Angela Durbin was elected president of Rice's Honor Council in an uncontested election. "I want to encourage more people to join the campus in their dormitory," she said. "We were supposed to deal with the issue. I don't want it to be about me personally, but I want it to be about the music." 

Lent and Holy Week Services

**Midweek**

Soup Suppers and Lenten Vespers 

**Wednesday**

6:30 p.m. — Vespers 

7:30 p.m. — Soup Supper

On the campus of Rice and Greenbriar (across from Rice Stadium)

**Holy Week Services**

Palm Sunday, April 8 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Vigil, April 14, Candidauchtusih at 1:00 a.m.

Phone: 713-521-2865 E-mail: lutheran@rice.edu Web page: www.methodist-rice.org/chk

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ACIDENT, from Page 1

There will still be counter cheers," other students were injured in the crash. The truck was also towing a trailer. Several other students were injured in the crash.

The presidents have been working on the problem of sexually harassing college cheers since the fall in response to a letter drafted by four students expressing their concerns with the sexual harassment policy. The letter was submitted to Vice President for Student Affairs Zemaio Camacho.

A contest, funded by an Envision grant, was given to the authors of the original complaint, will award money to the authors of the best new inoffensive college cheer at each college. Each college has $133 to award, and will decide individually how to award the money.

Submissions are due March 16 by e-mail to the respective college presidents. All submissions will be reviewed by the presidents and the Sexual Harassment Policy Committee appointed in each college by the college president.

The winning cheers will be announced the following week by sending notice to the author of each college cheer selected. The new cheers will be posted both in the college prior to Beer-Bike and at the track during the month of March.

Jones College senior Michelle Brand, one of the authors of the student's letter, said she predicted that the adoption of the new cheers may not be immediate, but that they will eventually replace the old cheers.

"Because people already know them, they will probably still yell them but they will never be taught," Brand said of the old cheers.

Outgoing Wiess College President Timothy Henning added that he was glad that it's over and he won't need to handle the issue at the college level.

"I'm glad he's in jail," West said. "Yes, it may have been accidental, but there was some negligence involved. It was a mistake but it was a mistake that was deadly, and that deserves some time in jail.""
Faculty will vote again March 13 on eliminating requirement

Titulo

**LANGUAGE**

from Page 1

1999, said students could prove competency in a language by passing "a nationally accredited standardized placement test." However, the motion says, the faculty did not understand that such a test for foreign languages did not exist. Thus, Rice had to create its own test.

Other proposed modifications included evaluating the language program after three years. However, soon after discussion on the modifications began, Physics and Astronomy Professor Paul Stevenson made a substitute motion to abolish the requirement.

"This way, the faculty could discuss an alternative to modifying the requirement, and possibly abandon the current version entirely. Some faculty members spoke against reducing the requirement, calling it "watering down." Reducing it to language familiarity destroys the reason for having the requirement in the first place," English Professor Alan Grosb said. "The grounds for justifying it are the grounds for justifying mastery of any other aspect of the curriculum - really mastering another language," Grosb said. "It seems to me that familiarity is even less of a grounds for justifying the only requirement we would have, and therefore I see little reason, in order to maintain this sort of vague spirit of a requirement, to pass the motion that the committee has proposed." Forleng language instruction should not be required for all students, according to Associate Professor Scott Derrick, who also opposed reducing the requirement. "I don't think I am willing learners need to demonstrate basic proficiency in a language," Derrick said. Several faculty members voiced their reservations about the proposal.

"There's no substitute for becoming fluent in a language and holding your own in that language," Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Professor Joan Strassmann said. "But, I think that some exposure is important for the department, he said. We've got a lot of pretty good intellectual capital and a very good reputation, and we need the students who can talk to all of them and let's don't be immodest," Gillis said. "We've got a lot of pretty good foreign languages.

"I think it's necessary for the Rice students to be able to communicate in a foreign language," Gillis said. "We've got a lot of pretty good intellectual capital and a very good reputation, and we need the students who can talk to all of them and let's don't be immodest," Gillis said. "We've got a lot of pretty good foreign languages.

"I think the burden of implementing the requirement is likely to pass on its second reading," Speaker of the Faculty Rob Patten said. "If you're trying to do something that needs revising and we turn around and do it, I think you get respect." However, Weissenberger said he was worried about the faculty from modifying something that could have been eliminated entirely. Physics and Astronomy Professor Stanley Dodds said, "Weissenberger made a substitute motion to abolish the requirement. We'd avoid an extended debate on something we might well have voted down, so I was pleased to see Stevenson putting the substitution, and we seemed to be moving relatively expeditiously." Dodds said that the committee presented its motion to modify the requirement to try to salvage it, even though it seemed that most people were in favor of it. "People either want to stay with the old requirement — I don't think there were very many of those — or to junk the whole thing, and frankly that was what I felt as an individual," he said.

As a committee we thought it was necessary at first to try to present something that might survive, and consequently the faculty felt they could do something that needed revising, and then go for what we were doing, the way it was," Zammito said. "No one spoke in support of the committee's proposed modifications," Zammito said. "We did avoid an extended debate on something we might well have voted down, so I was pleased to see Stevenson putting the substitution, and we seemed to be moving relatively expeditiously." Dodds said that the committee presented its motion to modify the requirement to try to salvage it, even though it seemed that most people were in favor of it. "People either want to stay with the old requirement — I don't think there were very many of those — or to junk the whole thing, and frankly that was what I felt as an individual," he said.

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F&H claims changing room rates would make colleges unequal

JONES, from Page 1

based on the quality and type of room. At Rice, the room rates are the same across colleges.

After gathering student opinion from the college about possible ways Jones could be compensated, the committee met with Currie and Vice President for Student Affairs Zenaido Camacho.

Wilbur said Currie and Camacho agreed that Jones had suffered from Camacho.

President for Student Affairs Zenaido

"One of the premises that Rice operates under is not having elite colleges, and the reason that people are randomly assigned to colleges is that you don't want to have a rich college and an impoverished one."

— Mark Ditman
Food and Housing director

"I have lots of sympathy, especially for the Jones North students, where construction is almost 360 degrees around them," Currie said.

However, Currie said he would have to look at the university's accounting to determine if such a rebate is possible.

Currie said a rebate, which would total about $400,000 per year, could either come from within F&H, or from other budgets.

Ditman said F&H breaks even right now, and if Jones were to be reimbursed there would need to be a cut in service somewhere else.

"It's a zero sum game," Ditman said. "The only way to fund it from Food and Housing is either to increase rates for other students or to drop the level of service. The money would be shifted from student to student."

The operating budget for housing is about $7 million per year.

Currie added that there are already housing disparities between colleges.

"We must ask ourselves, 'You Jones suffered more than Wiess has from living in a substandard housing?'" he said.

Ditman said the university has always aimed away from making room rates different because the college system is based on the colleges being different yet equal. Differential pricing could lead in poor students living in one college and wealthy students in the colleges with the nicer rooms.

"One of the premises that Rice operates under is not having elite colleges, and the reason that people are randomly assigned to colleges is that you don't want to have a rich college and an impoverished one," Ditman said. "Differential pricing would certainly contribute to that because people could try and change colleges based on price, and that would be contrary to what the university is trying to accomplish with colleges.

The Construction Compensation Committee also has additional requests of the administration. They want the hours of construction be limited to a "reasonable" schedule, and they want access to the meetings the university holds with the Houston community to receive input on the construction.

Ditman said F&H is attempting to make living conditions better at Jones. F&H recently built a rock garden and put up swings and hammocks outside of Jones.

"It's nice to have a place to hang out, but it doesn't compare to what we used to have," McCurdy said.

On Monday night F&H hosted a pizza party for Jones.

Currie said the pizza party was unrelated to the request for compensation, and was F&H's way of thanking the college for putting up with the construction.

Ditman said another way Jones could be compensated for the construction is by having more flexibility with its ambiance money.

Ambiance money is given to the colleges each year to make physical improvements.

O'Malley said more ambiance money would not be an effective solution for the Jones seniors, because they would not benefit from it.

"The administration can try, and I would love to see what they can do because potentially creative things can be done, but my guess is that this would simply be a way to tolerate the suffering that we have had to put up with," O'Malley said.

Wilbur said he hopes an agreement can be reached in time for the Jones room draw, which occurs around the end of March.

Camacho could not be reached for comment.

Students at Jones College claim that the construction of Marit College and of the new wing of Jones has interfered with their college environment and that promises administrators made regarding construction have been broken.

Jones students have requested that up to half of their room fees be refunded.
DOONESBURY
FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2001
THE RICE THRESHER

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I PUT TOGETHER A VERY AT-
TRACTIVE LEGAL P&ENSE MCK-
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BY A BIGGERSCHOOL- THERE
ARE ALSO SOME0ONPANP
PAROLE/SSUESWWORK OUT.

I'M UP AT
CANTON, TRYING
TO SIGN JIMMY
FROSTOFF.

I WANT TO GET OUT
OF HERE! PLUS I NEED
COUNSEL TO MAKE THESE
SHOULD CHARGES GO AWAY.

TELL ME
WHAT YOU
KNOW— WHAT FLOATS
YOUR BOAT?

AND SUCH
SHIATS HAD
HIS OWN PER-
SONAL LOCKER!

HE'S
ON
THE ROAD
SWEETHEART,
RECRUITING
FOR THE
TEAM.

IMagine MY SURPRISE
TO HEAR YOU BEEN
BUSTED ON A WEAPONS
CHARGE! WHAT
A LOUSY
BREAK!

OF COURSE, EVEN IF YOU'RE
CONVICTED, I'M SURE YOU
WILL BE OUT PLAYING FOOTBALL
BY THIS FALL! AND I HOPE
IT'LL BE FOR THE FIGHTING
SWOOSHES OF WALPEN'

AND ONE MORE
THING, JIMMY -
BECAUSE WALPEN
UNDERSTANDS
TOP ATHLETES
SOMETIMES FACE
SPECIAL CHALLENGES.

AND I
WANT JULIA
ROBERTS
WORK/TH
ME,
TELL ME
WHAT YOU
NEEP, SON—
WHAT FLOATS
YOUR BOAT?

YOU AGREE
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HE'S
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BY THIS FALL! AND I HOPE
IT'LL BE FOR THE FIGHTING
SWOOSHES OF WALPEN'

I'M LIST
ENING.

HOW
ARE THE
ORANGES?
JUST PING-
NING, JIMMY...

A BONU!
MAN!

B.B. IS RECRUITING AT A
CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

IMAGINE MY SURPRISE
TO HEAR YOU BEEN
BUSTED ON A WEAPONS
CHARGE! WHAT
A LOUSY
BREAK!

OF COURSE, EVEN IF YOU'RE
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BY THIS FALL! AND I HOPE
IT'LL BE FOR THE FIGHTING
SWOOSHES OF WALPEN'
**I/Yi** captures the essence of family on film

Angelo Zanola

**MARCH 15**(FRIDAY)

* I/Yi

**I/Yi**, which is in Taiwanese, Mandarin, Japanese and English, focuses on N.J. (Wu Nien-jen), a computer entrepreneur, and his family. N.J. left his true love, Sherry (Ke Suyun), 20 years ago and later married Min-Min (Elaine Jin). Their daughter Ting-Ting (Kelly Lee) is a middle-class Taipei family. N.J. runs into Sherry again, and his mother-in-law suffers a stroke. The family is encouraged to speak to their comatose grandmother to speed her recovery. The stroke is self-inflicted for the stroke. N.J. quickly realizes how much he has in common with this quiet genius, even though his family struggles to make ends meet. While a business trip in N.J.'s life is a chance to relive the past he had with Sherry and Min-Min (Elaine Jin, left) cuddles with Yang-Yang (Jonathan Chang) in Edward Yang's phenomenal family drama *I/Yi*.

N.J. watches his family struggle as his soft- computer makes him a genuine Japanese game designer. Dita and friends enter the gaming indus-taty and begin falling back into the clutches of their ex-husband. Few films could make three hours pass so fast.

N.J. quickly realizes how much he has in common with this quiet genius, even though his family struggles to make ends meet. While on a business trip in N.J.'s life, a chance to relive the past he had with Sherry and Min-Min is a chance to relive the past he had with Sherry and Min-Min (Elaine Jin, left) cuddles with Yang-Yang (Jonathan Chang) in Edward Yang's phenomenal family drama *I/Yi*.

*N.J. cannot do justice to the intricate and parallel plots woven for each of the characters by director Edward Yang. This is a movie whose genealogical plot defies easy summary, but even so to follow after 30 minutes. Each character moves through her unique situations until they explode or fizzle out. *I/Yi* ends with a funeral and never fully resolves any of the questions that plague the Jian family. Hopefully the characters are a little wiser at the end, but the only real closure comes when Yang-Yang finally speaks to his grandmother.

**WE'RE AN UNDERCOVER PAPER**

Renoir, Monet, and the gang bring their easels to the MFAH

Maria Stallard

**MARCH 15**

*The Coronation of Poppea*

Monteverdi's opera, the first based on existent figures, tells a story of Roman empress Poppea, who falls in love with her husband's predecessor and convinces him to kill his predecessor. Produced by the Houston Grand Opera. 538-9377. $25 for student rush tickets. March 10, 14, 15, 17. Miller Outdoor Theatre. Engagement Center. 510 Preston. For more info, call (713) 227-2787.

*The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*

**MARCH 15**

**Monet, renoir, and the impressionist landscape**

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston through April 15. $5 students, half-price on Fridays.

The exhibition is a truly wonderful show. Although there are many personalities in the history of Western art, a key point in the development of Impressionism is the rejection of academic subjects and the development of landscapes, which, in its rejection of academic subjects and the development of landscapes, paved the way for subject-matter landscapes as a subject matter. In Eastern painter Constantin Trossen's "Sheep and Shepherd in Landscape," the fruits of the painting are virtually attempts to capture the movement of clouds in the sky.

The next and primary segment of the exhibition includes the outdoor scenes by Monet's mentor, Eugène Boudin. Boudin is linked to the skies, and his paintings are in their original environment. The show also contains work by Monet to experience the physical environment. More than 40 paintings, called "landscapes," were on display, including 13 master works by Monet.

The first of the three segments of the exhibition, "Monet, renoir, and the impressionist tradition," covers the years before and after 1880, the period when the Impressionists began to paint landscapes with a brushy, almost abstract style. The second segment, "Monet, renoir, and the impressionist landscape," covers the years between 1880 and 1900, a period when the Impressionists began to develop a more realistic style, and the third segment, "Monet, renoir, and the impressionist landscape," covers the years between 1880 and 1900, a period when the Impressionists began to develop a more realistic style. The painting, "The Haystacks" demonstrates an increasing preoccupation with challenges of color, composition, and brushwork of the painting’s interaction with light and color before his death.
Robert Rosichin
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

KTRU has a reputation for playing music by bands from all over the world, but soon they'll begin playing more music from the hedges. In an effort to create more interaction between students and the radio station, the DJs in charge of KTRU are planning a show that will focus exclusively on Rice bands. The program will feature songs from CDs recorded by Rice bands and will air live performances from on-campus venues.

Regarding the incoming KTRU Station Manager Ben Home, the program will serve to show that "while [the station] still serves the broader Houston community, we are still interested in serving students." Local music is great, and you can't get more local than Rice, Home, a Warner College junior, said. Home is looking for submissions from the 20 or so bands that have at least one Rice student as a member.

The details of the show are still undecided, and the length and frequency of the show will depend on the response and quality of submissions. "This seminar will be a trial thing, and maybe in the future it will be a regular event," Home said.

Last month, KTRU installed feeds from Sammy's, Ly'l's and the Grand Hall, which has given the station the capability to broadcast live events from those venues. However, Home said KTRU will have to be selective about which events to broadcast due to prior scheduling commitments.

To submit material, students can send their recordings to KTRU via campus mail or deliver them to the station on the second floor of the Student Center.

The best of Impressionism, five minutes from campus

IMPRESSIONISTS, the personally expressive dimension

Robert Rosichin

Five minutes from campus, the best of Impressionism, Two breathtaking paintings by Monet round out the show's survey "Sunlight on the Snow," "Eragny-sur-Hem," and forcefully expressive "View of the Seine at Herblay" shows a divergence from Impressionism in the use of pointillism and scientific color theories. Finally, Van Gogh's romantically colored, dynamic "Houses at Auvers," and forcefully expressive "Endowed Field with Ploughman" herald the rejection of the impressionistic removal of pure Impressionism in favor of personally expressive styles.

While Monet, Renoir and the Impressionist landscape includes numerous widely colored impressionist paintings in the history of art, it is not one of those knockabout shows composed wholly of blockbusters that saturate calendars and greeting cards.

For many critics, this ex display gives museumgoers an opportunity to discover for themselves the extent but lesser known contemptuous of the big shots and a chance to become more intimately acquainted with the flurry of influences on these artists.

Carly Kurcek
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

They've said they don't like their name, but in concert, the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion definitely lives up to it.

Not being a huge fan of the Blues Explosion, I expected to hear unmusical, "experimental" blues or some other type of music that talents musicians promote an act. However, after the band's seamless performance Monday night, I realize not only was I horribly wrong, but also the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion is a rock 'n roll band unswayed by its contemporaries.

The Blues Explosion rushed onto the stage with the raw energy usually reserved for struggling up and coming, local and regional bands. I heard them every night as I was eating dinner at Sammy's Seafood Grill.

The Blues Explosion's stage presence projects a star power and charisma that helped build older bands like the Rolling Stones and the Who. This is the kind of band that inspires kids to grow up and become rock stars.

Even having listened to the entire band's self-titled debut, I'm not sure what the set list was — I'm not even sure when songs began and ended. Not only was I too immersed to really care, but the band never dropped the performance. Not once was there a pause for someone to get a drink, to change guitar picks or to bored the audience with a lot of talking. It was as if some kind of rock 'n roll perpetual motion drove the show.

Spencer let out some of the most amazing screams in the history of rock within the first 10 minutes of the set, and he still had a singing voice when the band's seamless performance continued.

The Band's two guitar and drummer setup is unique, but the lack of bass doesn't affect the music's intensity. Guitarist and singer Jon Spencer himself and the band's other guitarist, Judah Bauer, had excellent tone throughout the show. Drummer Russell Simins never missed a beat.

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In a sense, that’s what the creators of Monkeybone have done. They just gave up and didn’t let the movie develop as much as it needed to. It’s strange to think, after sitting through a knot-tying contest right in the middle of tying a knot.

Meanwhile, back in the real world, Sinead’s girlfriend Paul (Diva Fonzi), who just happens to be a sleep therapist, is trying to Wake him up. She decides to use a consciously invented nightmare potion in jail Stu’s nameless back in life.

So and Monkeybone eventually find a way to escape Downtown, but that racial Monkeybone tricks Stu and steals his ticket out. Right before the doctors are about to pull the plug, Stu wakes up, but his body is possessed by Monkeybone. As you may guess, hijinks ensue.

The new Stu is much wilder, and the film’s tone is incorrigible a lot of skid and far roles (as Kevin Smith would say). He’s also in favor of making the Monkeybone’s plan to use the power to give people nightmares so Stu is fuller and more exciting. No, I don’t understand it either.

Death, because she’s such a big fan of his comic style, helps the real Stu come back to the real world in the body of a corpse (Chirs Kattan from Saturday Night Live). He runs out just as doctors begin harvesting organs, and to make a long story short, everyone is terrified, and everything gets resolved.

It’s funny to see the cut and crew. Monkeybone was produced by Spike Jonze, who has a history of existing on producing anything on the edge. This film is Ty A.B. Ebert’s. Fox probably decided that putting in just enough money there for the effects, they didn’t feel like filling out all four Seeks (Woody Goldberg). I guess it’s supposed to be heavy that Goldberg is in this, but well it’s not.

In theaters.

Marlboro smoker Sam Hamm (who adopted Raja Blackley’s graphic novel “Dark Town”) is in charge for that one.

Fraser does have some measure of physical comic talent especially when he’s possessed by Monkey bone. He reminds me of a little Jim Carrey, though not as wild or ex treme — both have had a couple of decent dramatic roles in the past. Kartan also has fun with his part, such as when he uses a rube to straighten his broken neck.

The few times I found myself laughing had little to do with the movie. It was mostly because of people like such as Foley from “Snomad” and online movie guru Harry Knowles, who has a non speaking career.

I didn’t find much to like about Monkeybone, and I’m sometimes puzzled by what its target audience might be. It’s probably too scary and full of gross humor for anyone younger than 11 or so, but anyone too much older would be bored. In any case, I didn’t hear many laughs from anyone.

‘Graceland’ isn’t king, but it is dead

Kevin Cochrane

Rating: ½

The entire movie is spliced from pieces of different films. In all honesty, it’s blatant stealing and just another reason why the once invincible creators of three times like John Waters and Peckinpah now can’t seem to come up with anything original (except the gothic film that’s been out for a year).

The movie opens in Las Vegas, a city hidden beneath a sea of plastic and makeup for his effects than the standard computer generated route. There, just as enough money pumped into this project to do anything surprising or televisive, and books are pretty much the only thing left without any other than the mischievous Whoopi Goldberg. I guess it’s supposed to be heavy that Goldberg is in this, but well it’s not.

In theaters.

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Digging up dirt: unearthing hidden musical gems

When you’re an avid music listener, sometimes it’s easy to find a band or genre you like and then stick with it. But no one ever wants to be stuck in a rut, and even die-hard fans of a given style of music need a bit of variety. Members of the Blytheford staff think the following bands have been unfairly overlooked or forgotten about by most music listeners. The next time you’re looking for something completely dissimilar to your regular tastes, we recommend giving these groups a shot:

**Rockit from the Crystal**
This San Diego group combines equal parts punk and horn-induced indie rock to create an aggressive yet musical style that punks must mainstream rock acts to chase. They’re crazy, they’re prolific, and they’re big in England. One day they’re bound to get the recognition they deserve here.

**Darin Williams**
Darin Williams sings folk music for smart people. Since 1991, this Wesleyan University grad has been touring relentlessly and has produced four albums full of witty and often beautiful music. His effect is much like a cross between Bob Dylan and Yoko Ono. Yoko’s aggression and Dylan’s poetic abilities would seem like an unlikely mix but Williams pulls it off pleasingly.

**Freedom Sold**
Freedom Sold is a Houston-based hip-hop duo that uses hip-hop to back socially and politically conscious messages to the genre in a Public Enemy vein. But their sound draws more on the emotional landscape that other artists rarely explore. Their music includes songs about messianic cults, personal identity, and darker form.

**Guster**
This three-piece group from Massachusetts is best known for its fun live shows and a drive to please everyone who only uses his hands (even for cymbals). They’re typically building a following with their guitar-driven music, but they’re not too heavy, approach to music.

**The Greenlisps**
Wu’s three hours pass so swiftly is a sign of true greatness.

**Cat Power**
Performer move audiences to places on the emotional landscape that other artists rarely explore. Their music includes songs about messianic cults, personal identity, and darker form.

**Big Audio Dynamite**
The child of the Clash’s Mick Jones. B.A.D. was one of the first mainstream rock acts to creatively use sampling and other elements of hip-hop. Their influences also include techno and dance music (except that they did it before it was cool).

**Afghan Whigs**
Although they recently breakup, this band of Cincinnati patently blending a foundation of rock with rap, soul, and jazz.

**Portishead**
One of the most beautiful of hip-hop genera. Portishead made a name for itself by drawing on the music of Mos Def and DJ Shadow. Follow-up Portishead and the live album Physis continue to feature their rich sounds and Beth Gibbons’ hypnotic vocals.

**Kong Django**
Between his solo projects and his work with the bands Skinhead Slim and the Suburban Ali, this Icelandic/Canadian artist has recently become well known for his work with long, still shots, and it rarely comes off well. This is a movie where forgetting to look out the can change a person’s life more than a failed suicide attempt.

**Super Furry Animals**
Power pop meets psychedelia in the music of this band from Wales, culminating in last year’s ‘Armed Forces’, probably the only modern Welsh-language pop album you’ll find this side of the Atlantic. For canyon rocks you can sing along to without feeling silly, try Super Furry Animals’ Radyon (1998), featuring the soaring secret agent theme “She’s on Satan’s Spade” and a space arena anthem about giving your favorite vampire goth stalkers “Cheerleader.”

**The Urge**
Ten years ago, they were experimenting with a mixture of funk, hardcore, ska, rock and reggae. Today, this St. Louis band has perfected the formula and incorporated it into their own sweaty,企业文化 live shows.

**Catherine Wheel**
The early work by this UK band is reminiscent of Pink Floyd, full night time mood and visual atmosphere and spacey guitars. Their recent albums, on the other hand, more like American alternative rock and are not as consistently good.

**Fennesz**
This is a movie whose genealogical plot summary, but is easy to follow after 30 minutes.

**KRS-One**
The_self-proclaimed greatest MC of all time, KRS-One has really made some more commercial connections (a Puff Daddy, but I can’t see the point. His minor odyssey involving his break in the music industry is just a story about people. Even if you do nothing else in your life, you will want to see this film. It is a brilliant picture of an honest family drama straight from Taiwan.

**Balle & Sebastian**
These guys would make indie pop’s top-heavy teen idols a little more interesting. They both are from Spain and are not as well known outside of Europe.

**Ravenous**
Yi Yi defies this claim. Though the film is a character drama, and is just a story about people, the movie is able to be visually beautiful. The acting is superb all around. Wu’s N.J. is a brilliant picture of an honest family drama straight from Taiwan.

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The_self-proclaimed greatest MC of all time, KRS-One has really made some more commercial connections (a Puff Daddy, but I can’t see the point. His minor odyssey involving his break in the music industry is just a story about people. Even if you do nothing else in your life, you will want to see this film. It is a brilliant picture of an honest family drama straight from Taiwan.

**Balle & Sebastian**
These guys would make indie pop’s top-heavy teen idols a little more interesting. They both are from Spain and are not as well known outside of Europe.

**Ravenous**
Yi Yi defies this claim. Though the film is a character drama, and is just a story about people, the movie is able to be visually beautiful. The acting is superb all around. Wu’s N.J. is a brilliant picture of an honest family drama straight from Taiwan.

**Super Furry Animals**
This is a movie whose genealogical plot summary, but is easy to follow after 30 minutes.

**KRS-One**
The_self-proclaimed greatest MC of all time, KRS-One has really made some more commercial connections (a Puff Daddy, but I can’t see the point. His minor odyssey involving his break in the music industry is just a story about people. Even if you do nothing else in your life, you will want to see this film. It is a brilliant picture of an honest family drama straight from Taiwan.
Majors Day

It is, unfortunately, the time of year when sophomores across campus shoulder in fear. "I have to pick a... what?" This question strikes terror into the hearts of an entire class, but not to fear: Dennis Huston (along with a bunch of other professors) is here. Majors Day was held across campus Feb. 23 to help students find the course of study right for them.

Left: Dr. Huston explains the subtle points of being an English major to Sid Richardson College sophomore Alex Speiser. Time to brush up on the Shakespeare!

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Flying right

Keep your cool on spring break flights

corey e. devine

Airline - one of the great achievements of man. If you're traveling any great distance over spring break, you'll probably be hopping onto the second bus to the airport: yourself. Just last weekend, I found myself on a six-hour flight to San Francisco. At what point do you have to do with a Lifestyle column? Well, I'll tell you - there are social rules that apply to flying.

Yes, airplanes are uncomfortable. Yes, you're tired. Of course, you just want to get to your destination, but none of this means that others should have to wallow in your misery as well.

Here are a few simple rules to remember while flying off to a torturous spring break destination:

**Bring a small carry-on bag.**
Even though every airline I've ever flown allows only two small carry-on bags, the majority of people feel the need to bring two or more stouter trunks on board with them. When packing, just plan to take the necessities.

Mom always suggested a pair of underwear and maybe a fresh shirt. The logistics go something like this: There are two arms and one armpit for every seat. Some people even parade up and down to talk to friends or family seated elsewhere on the plane.

I realize that a long flight is uncomfortable, however; it's equally uncomfortable to have someone staring over your shoulder while you're trying to read, sleep or eat. The aisle of a plane is not a lounge. There is, unfortunately, no cocktail service.

On a related note, it's very sad when you and your best travel companion can't have seats next to one another. However, this is not a tragedy to the rest of the plane. Leave that one seat on the plane empty. It's to your credit to be so selfless.

**Tips for beverage service.** The beverage service cart is heavy, cumbersome and wide. You're probably thinking that it's easier to walk through the aisle while beverages are being served. You're either too rude to stand in the aisle, or you think it's a good thing. However, the beverage servers will have to move the cart all the way down the aisle to let you pass. Wouldn't it be easier to wait for the cart to be removed from the aisle? I think so.

Angles and Attitudes: An Exploration of Women

A juried student visual arts exhibit

Opening Reception
Farnsworth Pavilion, Ley Student Center
March 15, 2001
7:00-9:00 pm

An Evening of Student Expression:
Artwork of selected Rice students, Exhibit Prizes, Rice DJ's, A Mandy Gor Fashion Show, and A Coffeehouse Poetry Slam

Exhibit Sponsored by:

- The Student Center • Arts@Rice • The Women's Resource Center • Willy's Pub
- The Rice Media Center • The Museum of Fine Arts • Radio Music Theater • Art Supply
Swimming weathers storm at WAC

Owls lose Scholl, Mulatar, but still manage to finish third for second straight year

by John C. Chao

Winning the conference championship would be a devastating disaster for the Owl team at last week's Western Athletic Conference championships. Despite having a shot at the championship, the Owls still managed to finish third place.

After having their top guns healthy for the majority of the season, the two teams' top swimmers had no choice but to hope for the best. First, sophomore Mandy Mulatar, the team's top sprinter, hyper-extending her elbow at the regional meet. The relay team was forced to withdraw, thus ending their season.

Despite the setbacks, the team still managed to finish in third place for the second straight year. For the 100-yard freestyle, the meet, the team only had nine swimmers, and without a diving team, the Owls feel third place is something to be proud of.

This final score had been based solely on swimming events, the team would have finished in second place behind 12th-ranked Southern Methodist University.

"We swam pretty well," Mulatar said. "A lot of the boys thought they could have done better, but nobody had a terrible meet."

The Owls' biggest move came in the 4x00 individual medley, where junior Beth Williams, senior Jada Sanders, and sophomore Tami Cifillolli came in second through fourth, respectively.

Sophomore Rachel Armstrong played a part in establishing three new records in the sprint. She teamed with Mulatar, junior Katie Herrmann and senior Kim Maher to place third in the 200-yard freestyle relay in a record time of 1:41.10 seconds, which provisionally qualifies the team for the NCAA championships.

Armstrong also broke her own school record to finish third in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:48.76. And at the end of the second day, Armstrong, Maher, Scholl and freshman Jackie Cordovin set the school record in the 800 freestyle relay, finishing second with a time of 7:30.06.

"We can't say it was a big meet," Cifillolli said. "We tried not to get nervous. We wanted to be serious yet have a good time and not put too much pressure on ourselves."

The Owls finish the season for most of the Owls, but the members of the 200 freestyle relay team found out yesterday if they qualified for the NCAA Championships, set for next week in New York. Information about their qualification was not available at press time. The NCAA takes all athletes meeting the automatic qualifying standards of each event and then fills in events until there's a cap of 270 swimmers.

"Right now we're set to be one of the best 12 in the nation," Mulatar said. "Coach told us that we're in a good position."

The Owls got a well-deserved break after a season that started more than four months ago. The Owls will lose seniors Sanders and Maher, but several of the freshmen and sophomores have shown almost limitless potential.

"I think we've had a good season, and it's good for everybody to have a break," Cifillolli said. "We've worked hard mentally and physically, and I feel better than ever." With the season drawing to a close, it's time to focus on next season and the Owls will still have the chance to show their talent.

"We're going to miss the seniors," Cifillolli said. "They're great swimmers and leaders. They make specific fun. We've worked hard mentally and physically and it's paid off for us.

Owls hope to find remedy on Hawaii trip

The baseball team left for its annual spring break trip to Hawaii today. Judging from the way the Owls played their last time out, the trip couldn't come at a better time.

IN FOCUS: BASEBALL

Recruit: 13-3

Record: 3-0 (18)

Last week: Swept a three-game series against the University of Hawaii at Hilo, 9-1 in Game 1, 1-0 in Game 2 and 5-0 in Game 3.

What made the difference: Rice pitching staff allowed the Valkyries, allowing just five runs in three games. Against Southwest Texas State, the Owls managed only one hit in the last five innings.

Up next: The Owls head to the island this week for two three-game series against the University of Hawaii at Hilo (4-3, 1-5, 9-0) and the University of Hawaii (7-4, 2-4).

Rice, fresh off a 4-3 loss to Southwestern State University Tuesday, left Houston for the first time all season to embark on a nine-day, six-game trip. It isn't quite a full-fledged vacation, since Rice will be playing seven out of the eight Western Athletic Conference contests on the trip. But you won't hear any objections from the Owls.

"Everybody looks forward to it," senior first baseman Jesse Roi said. "We don't really get a spring break, so we're trying to get as much fun as you can to Hawaii, who's going to complain?"

Rice (13-3, 3-4 WAC) dropped out of the top spot in the national rankings this week. The Owls are now ranked second by both the CollegeBaseball and Baseball Weekly/ESPN polls and sixth in the Baseball America.

On Tuesday, Rice made a case for dropping further in the rankings. The Owls wanted a solid midweek start, by

Freshman second baseman Jose Enriquez steals second base in Friday's 7-0 win over the University of Hawaii at Hilo. The Owls begin a three-game series at His team this week on the mound," senior catcher Philip Gutierrez said. "It's just a continuation of not playing good baseball on both sides of the ball. It seems like we're doing everything wrong.

The Owls were 6-2 when they have yet to play the potential but Owls think things can only get better.

"We're supposed to beat a team like that, and we're especially supposed to beat a team like that with an American

See BASEBALL, Page 18
The women’s indoor track and field team captured its second consecutive Western Athletic Conference title last week in Reno, full of excitement.

First, there was a trip to the emergency room for junior Erin Brandt. On Feb. 22, the first day of the meet, Brandt, the WAC’s top sprinter, broke her left ankle and could not finish her leg of the race. Only one team in the heat finished the race, and Rice was shut out of an event in which it expected to finish no worse than second.

But perhaps the best thing about having a deep team is that you’ve got plenty of people left for your team to fill in. The Owls showed they’re undoubtedly the deepest team in the conference and still managed to find a way to win, taking first place in seven of 11 events and outdistancing surprising second-place finisher University of Nevada.

“I’m so happy for them,” Rice head coach Victor Lopez said. “The team competed in a brilliant way. They had so much confidence, and they were intense all the way. When you can’t do things that happened to three of the top performers for us, we could have run away with 170 to 180 points.”

The win is Rice’s third straight in women’s track and field. The Owls swept the WAC indoor and outdoor championships last year.

Several of Rice’s athletes elevated their level of performance to 33 of 100, the mark set by the unexpected struggles. Leading the way were senior distance runner David Davidson, who never left the track during the three-day meet. The first day, Mosley competed in the five events comprising the indoor pentathlon and finished second.

Rice won the high jump, where she finished fourth with a jump of 6-6, beating her personal best of 6-0 1/4, and the preliminaries of the 55-meter hurdles and the 200-meter dash.

To cap her Saturday, Mosley won the 50-meter hurdles and finished second in the 200 with a time of 24.22 seconds, the best time by an Owls this year.

Junior Reed Ballis finished second in the high jump Friday at the Western Athletic Conference Championships with a jump of 6-11 1/2. This weekend, Ballis gets one more try to find the perfect jump and qualify for the NCAA Championships.

The team competed in a brilliant way. They had so much confidence, and they were intense all the way.” — Victor Lopez

Head coach

The Owls had a solid presence in each area of the meet. Mosley, the sprinters, and the distance races were highlighted by junior Lisa Beckman, who won the mile and anchored Rice’s victorious distance medley relay. In the middle-distance races, sophomore Allison Wiggins won the 400-meter dash and sophomore Tame Burke placed second in the 800.

Rice dominated the jumping events, with Watkins taking the high jump and sophomore Rice’s top athletes. This weekend is the last chance to qualify for the NCAA Championships, which will be held March 9-10 in Fayetteville, Ark., and several Owls have hit the provisional qualifying mark. But they need to move up to the maximum cut-off time to be good enough to compete.

“They felt great,” Sommerfeld said. “The 50-meter hurdles is a big thing to be in, and it tasted me up on the list for nationals.”

Conference coaches voted Lopez the WAC Coach of the Year, the fifth time he has won the award.

“I believe we’ve got depth,” Lopez said. “We’ve got so much talent here. Not only our athletes, but also our coaching staff. I’m just guiding the troops.”

Junior Keitha Moseley won the 55-meter hurdles race at the Western Athletic Conference Championships Saturday. Mosley was the meet’s high-point athlete with 21 points.

If the voters of the WAC had it their way, only the mile relay, which ranked 10th nationally, and Fabio’s, who was in the 11th slot, would make it to nationals.

But many Owls are close. With so many runners so tightly packed, for example, Wright ranks 20th with a 2:09.75 in the 800 and only 42 seconds away from 11th place — the six spots will undoubtedly be shaken up this weekend.

“We have the people to do it,” Lopez said. “Tams will need to run a 2:08, and she’s ready for that. Allison’s world-class — under the right conditions she’ll fly. Jessica’s so close to throwing the big one. We’ve been talking to other team’s coaches about trying to hook up in a friendly way. It doesn’t matter who wins, as long as everybody runs fast.”

Top-ranked TCU too much as young Owls finish fourth at WAC

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Top-ranked TCU too much as young Owls finish fourth at WAC
If the women's basketball team hopes to prove it's better than middle-

the-road, the time is now. The Lady Owls sit squarely in the middle of the Western Athletic Conference pack with a 7-7 record in conference play. They've locked up their probable first-round opponent, the University of Texas at El Paso, after their 60-43 win over the University of Texas at El Paso this weekend, which means they may have to work harder to get shots.

"Kenya's a great person," McKinney said. "She's one of the hardest workers we have on our team. She leads by example more than anything."

While the Lady Owls are focused on this week's games, the fact that they will probably face Nevada next week has entered their mind. Rice's usually-solid defense collapsed in a 94-77 loss to the Wolf Pack in January, and the team knows a repeat performance will result in an early departure from Tuba. The Lady Owls have had a few bright spots on offense as well, as they scored more than 60 points in three of their last four games.

"I'm going to try not to cry on Saturday," Tuttle said. "This team and these people mean a lot to me. But I have to concentrate on the games and not worry about anything else."

The Lady Owls are anxiously awaiting the Lady Owls' arrival. In Rice's WAC opener in Fresno in January, the Lady Owls' 66-38 victory was marred by an incident in which senior center Kenya Tuttle had a tooth knocked out by a teammate in what witnesses described as a dogfight for an offensive rebound.

Tuttle returned to the court less than 48 hours later against Nevada, but she and the Lady Owls looked forward to getting revenge against the Bulldogs.

"We'll all go to a little revenge for the girl who knocked Kenya's tooth out, but you can't do that," junior forward Jennifer Rigg said. "So we'll just get ready to go and get revenge by beating them on the court."

In addition to the revenge factor, Tuttle will have an emotional boost because Saturday in Senior Day. Tuttle, the lone senior on this year's team, transferred from the junior college in west Missouri State after her sophomore year.

"I think the guards shoot better," McKinney said. "I think our team knows a repeat performance will result in an early departure from Tuba. But an increase in offensive production could really help us."
Rice hopes to make waves at upcoming WAC tourney

by Ryan Keredy

Rice hopes to make waves at the upcoming WAC tournament. The Owls are poised to surprise a few teams when the tournament starts this week. The Owls are preparing to put everything they believe they are poised to surprise into a run for the title.

Senior guard Omar-Seli Mance. Not only does he bring skills to the floor, but he also brings the level of confidence from last week's win against the University of Tulsa 59-56. Mance said, "I think even more so than the way we shot the ball, the way we played defense against Tulsa was remarkable. We played great team defense, and everyone was there for each other, and they were taking away the baseline drivers. I think that gives a lot of confidence into the tournament."

Rice is currently fighting with San Jose State University for the critical seventh position in the WAC. The Spartans are 6-9 in conference play, half a game ahead of Rice going into the second half of the season. Since the Spartans swept the season series against the Owls, however, they would win a tiebreaker between the two teams. To avoid the tiebreaker, the Owls must win both games this week to have a chance at avoiding the place in the tournament.

The Owls had been waiting a long time to get the win against Tulsa, and beat the second place team in conference, made it that much better. Mance said, "It was real good to back at Autry Court."

"Having a big lead against Tulsa the first three quarters of the game, we were excited," Mance said. "But we knew we had to finish the game. A great team Rice's capable of coming back. We came out there and played great defense that night, and fortunately that helped us get a victory. I knew we were capable of coming back."

Against Tulsa, sophomore guard Mike Wilks continued his recovery from an ankle injury. He scored 15 points in the game, and is the only conference team that has virtually locked up a bid to the NCAA tournament. But the Owls feel that their run is still within reach.

"Any team can beat any other team on any given night," senior guard Mike Wilks said. "If you look at our conference, pretty much everybody has a shot to win. Rice has beaten one team to another team. You've got to be an all-out player, that's what it's all about."

The Owls celebrate Saturday following a 59-56 win over the University of Tulsa. The win gives the Owls much-needed confidence heading into the Western Athletic Conference tournament, which starts Tuesday in Tulsa.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2001

Owls finally find a way to beat Tulsa but falter against UTEP

The men's basketball team found out there's not a huge difference between second place and eighth place in the Western Athletic Conference last week.

The Owls, who currently sit in eighth place in the conference, swapped a seventh-place losing streak against second-place University of Tulsa with a 59-56 win Feb. 22.

They almost finished a sweep of the home-and-home series at the University of Tulsa at El Paso Saturday, when they trailed by just one point with five minutes remaining but fell 69-56 to the Miners.

The Owls had been waiting a long time to beat Tulsa, and the win was especially rewarding for their two seniors, guard Mike Wilks and forward Erik Cooper. They've endured several ugly losses to the Golden Hurricane — four of the seven losses came by more than 20 points — so beating Tulsa in the final homestand of their Rice careers is a big deal.

"The team was elated, but there was so much stress on [the ankles], to where I might not be able to move," Wilks said. "I'm not back to full strength, but I'm back to walking, and to the beginning of the season. I'm definitely not in that kind of shape, but I'm getting there right now.

Despite the emotion that accompanied Wilks and Cooper's last game at Autry Court, Rice's senior game against the Miners and the Owls fell short of a win. Sophomore center Ferenc Morgan was held scoreless and weak and ejected from the field, and fresh- man forward Yamar Diene had zero points and zero fouls in 22 minutes.

But the senior duo put up impressive numbers. Wilks scored 16 points and Wilks poured in a game-high 14, including a nearly perfect 11 of 12 effort from the line.

"It was just tremendously exciting," Cooper said. "After a long road here at Rice, with a lot of injuries, to make a positive contribution to the team my senior year, and have all my whole family and friends to see me here, it was just a really special night.

"What I'll remember most is the students and the support. A lot of fans have been really loyal. I've meet great people here at Rice." Wilks, who plans to take a shot at playing pro basketball, said he will always remember Autry Court.

"It was a bittersweet moment," Wilks said. "It's been great playing here at Rice. It's been great here at Texas, and playing with all my teammates, and having the opportunity to grow as a player and as a person. I'm really happy to be moving on to newer and better and challenging things. I've enjoyed my experiences here at Rice and all the support I've got, and I'm very thankful, and I've enjoyed my stay."
Wilks receives invite to top tournament
Senior basketball player Mike Wilks was one of six seniors selected to participate in the 49th annual NCAA basketball East Coast Invitational Tournament in Portsmouth, Va., April 4-7.
The tournament is the nation's oldest amateur athletic event and honors top seniors to play in front of coaches and scouts from every NCAA team as well as several European clubs.
Over 1,000 active and former NCAA players have played in the tournament, including John Stockton, Scottie Pippen, Avery Johnson and Tim Hardaway.
Wilks, a guard, ranks second in the Western Athletic Conference in scoring with 20.5 points per game. Wilks was a second-team preseason all-WAC Conference selection and has led the Owls in scoring in 20 of 28 contests.
"It's a great honor, not only to be selected, but it is a statement about where Mike's future is headed as a basketball player," head coach Willie Wilson said.
Wilks is the third player from Rice during the Wilson era to receive an invitation to the Portsmouth tournament. Brent Scott and Robert Johnson each attended the tournament after their senior seasons in 1993 and 1995, respectively.

Sports Notebook

Philip's named WAC Golfer of the Week

Scott Philips became the second straight Rice freshman to be named Western Athletic Conference Golfer of the Week when the award was announced by the league office Tuesday. Philips had the best performance of his career last week, tying for second in the 26th annual Shoot-Out Invitational Tournament in Victoria, Texas, the team's best finish of the year.
Philips has been Rice's top scorer in four of the Owls' seven tournaments this season. Freshman Ryan Morgan claimed the award Feb. 20 after the first week of the spring season.

The Owls return to the links March 17 when Rice travels to the El Diablos Intercollegiate in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Reyes, Hagedorn top Rice scholar athletes
Junior tennis players Rahul Reyes and Judith Hagedorn were named the Dr. Herbert E. Row Scholar Athletes of the Year at the Scholar Athlete Banquet Sunday.
The awards are given to one male and one female athlete each year.
Reyes and Hagedorn had the highest grade point averages among 21 scholar athletes who were honored for having the best grade point averages on their respective teams.
Reyes is a double major in economics and managerial studies, and Hagedorn is a double major in economics and psychology.
In addition to the scholar-athletes, 68 honor athletes were recognized. All honor athletes must carry a 3.00 GPA or higher and be a junior in standing.

Rugby ends season with disappointing 44-10 loss

by Paul Aronson

The Owls were caught off guard by the Texas A&M Longhorn team that has dominated college rugby in the Southwest. Despite the fact that they only managed to score two tries, the Owls' big hitter, fullback Jacob Robertson, was severely hampered by a lower back bruise suffered during the game. Robertson, who has been waiting all season long for that perfect game where we all played together and everything fell into place," Robertson said. "We hoped that today would be that game, but it wasn't."

The loss concludes a season in which the Owls had hoped to finish higher in the TRU and advance to the national playoffs. "One is happy to see the win season end, especially after our high level of play last weekend," Robertson said. "We were able to score 36 points, which is a testament to two guys that are true students of the game." Head coach Joe Olivier said. "With our fullback match we were able to play a high-speed game."

Despite the loss, Roberson said that the Owls have a really good shot at the championship game." I think that our defense is definitely the best in the conference," coach John Glaze said. "Without our transition game and our defense against the tackling right now, it's amazing that these guys are able to keep up in games."

The win over Trinity allows the Owls to control their own destiny in the third seed in the Lone Star Alliance playoffs. It is able to win out and secure the third seed, the team will get a rematch against UT. The teams last met March 11 when the Owls fell 34-25 in the Dine Star Alliance.

The win at Trinity has been the Owls' biggest win of the season, and Robertson said that he was looking forward to a better performance in the final game of the season.

Lacrosse aims for playoffs

by Jake Roberson

Despite continued problems in his leg, McGee chipped in for goals as the Owls and received the game ball and senior co-captain with an important 8-6 league win.
Rice's offense continues to improve, but it has been the case all season, the Owls' defense continues to thrive. "I think that our defense is definitely the best in the conference," coach John Glaze said. "Without our transition game and our defense against the tackling right now, it's amazing that these guys are able to keep up in games."

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Women's tennis gets ready for crucial time by Eric Raub

Halfway through the women's tennis team's dual season, you could say the glass is half full, but you could just as well say the glass is half empty.

The Owls are 7-0 this season but have yet to win a conference match. They're coming off three straight 7-0 wins against Georgia Tech, Boston College and Wake Forest.

But they're ranked just 74th nationally because they haven't been able to win a single dual match this season. They suffered two losses in the best team matches this season: No. 27 San Diego State University and No. 30 Brigham Young University, and they have yet to beat a team ranked above them.

Now, approaching the toughest stretch of the season, they're coping with an injury to freshman Annie Goodrich, who will be out for an extended period of time. They're experiencing general wear and tear at a time when they're trying to keep up with the list.

"We've had a few injuries," junior Kyle Wallis said. "And our depth has suffered a little with a nagging injury. Whether or not we get better depends on how responsible we are. It all depends on how we attend to our injuries, like our depth, which we've called our strength.

Our team is really tough," Hagedorn said. "We have depth. Every one of them has the potential to make the NCAA tournament." 

To earn an invitation in the NCAA tournament, the Owls have to maximize every advantage they have, including their home court. Eight of Rice's remaining 10 dual matches will take place at John Heene Tennis Stadium.

"We have a tremendous home schedule," Wallis said. "We have some 10 home matches. With support, it could be a good advantage for us."

The Owls need to make the cut for nationals and Harlan the opportunity to qualify in the high jump and senior John Janczak in the 5,000-meter run.

"We've practiced especially hard and I'm in the high jump," Janczak said. "I'm in the 5,000-meter run. I'm coming from a really good base." 

Rice women's tennis has the potential to make the NCAA tournament. The Owls have to maximize every advantage they have, including their home court. Eight of Rice's remaining 10 dual matches will take place at John Heene Tennis Stadium.

"We have a tremendous home schedule," Wallis said. "We have some 10 home matches. With support, it could be a good advantage for us.

"We're a bit up in the air," Hagedorn said. "We're ready to go out and compete in this team.

"It's good to have just a role model," Wallis said. "She's doing so well. She's always pulling up the win. She's a good fighter on and off the court.

The rest of the Owls hope to follow Hagedorn's example in three women's matches over spring break. The Owls are looking to post one or two wins to move up on the list. The Owls are looking to post one or two wins to move up on the list.

"It's tough to describe what the opportunity for the Owls is this season," Wallis said. "We have the potential to make the NCAA tournament.

"Four of Rice's 10 remaining opponents are ranked in the top 50," Wallis said. "We have matches against Duke University and second-ranked University of Arkansas, so the opportunity to get noticed with a big win will certainly be available.

"We're looking to take advantage of the good opportunities ahead," assistant coach Roger White said. "We had 10 top-10 matches, which is the most in a row. We're coming out strong and making our way to the top 50.

With wins at the No. 3 or No. 6 spots counting as just as much as wins at the top spots, the Owls hope to use their depth, which they have called their team's greatest strength, to push them to win even when their opponents have a couple of outstanding players.

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DARWIN WAS WRONG
ABOUT EVOLUTION IN ONE REGARD.
IT ISN'T ALWAYS SLOW.

We would like to congratulate the
Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Management
Class of 2001
and welcome the following people to our team:
Garrick Behleifer
Mark Morehouse
Ross Morgan
Joseph C. Pukaite
friday  MAR  2

Today is the LAST DAY OF CLASSES before midterm recess begins. Just a few hours to freedom.

YI YI (A ONE AND A TWO), which earned the Best Director Award for Edward Yang at the 2000 Cannes Film Festival, opens tonight in the Rice Media Center. The movie runs at 6 and 9:30 p.m. Tickets are $4 for Rice students and faculty and $5 for all others. For more information about the film, go to http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~cinema/yi-yi.htm.

saturday  MAR  3

At 2 a.m., the WOMEN'S BASKETBALL team faces Fresno State University in Autry Court. The Rice Media Center presents YI YI (A ONE AND A TWO) tonight at 6 and 9:30 p.m. in the Rice Media Center.

sunday  MAR  4

YI YI (A ONE AND A TWO) runs tonight at 6 and 9:30 p.m. in the Rice Media Center.

wednesday  MAR  7

Tonight is your last chance to catch YI YI (A ONE AND A TWO). The movie starts at 7 p.m. in the Rice Media Center.

friday  MAR  9

The Rice Quantum Institute, the Graduate Student Association and the Chemistry Graduate Student Association present a SEMINAR—"Multiple Career Paths for Science and Engineering Ph.D.'s," at 4 p.m. in Del Butcher Hall, Room 180. For details, contact GISA secretary Hitesh Guzman at (713) 348-4099.

Get inside American drug culture without risking arrest. Tonight at the Rice Media Center, YI YI (A ONE AND A TWO) starts at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Admission is $4 for faculty, full-time students and faculty, and $5 for all others. Details about the film, go to http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~cinema/yi-yi.htm.

dream  MAR  10

The Rice FENCING Club hosts the annual Van Buskirk Memorial Tournament in Autry Court today and tomorrow. Watch the competition from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For details, contact RCF secretary Rob Purple at purp@rice.edu.

The WOMEN'S TENNIS team takes on Marshall University in Janie Hess Tennis Stadium at 1 p.m.

monday  MAR  12

It's just another manic Monday.

The MEN'S TENNIS team competes against the University of North Carolina at Janie Hess Tennis Stadium at 1:30 p.m.

wednesday  MAR  14

Master the infamous electronic podium of doom. The Graduate Student Association sponsors a "TEACHING WORKSHOP" on using technology in the classroom today. The workshop runs from 12:05 to 12:55 p.m. in Duncan Hall Room 1070. For info, contact Alejandro Chioza at achi@rice.edu.

REQUIEM FOR A DREAM shows at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. in the Rice Media Center.

rebecca Harris-Warrick, Connell University professor of music, presents "Dance as Drama: Ballet in Opera from Alys to Acta," as part of the Shepherd School of Music's Distinguished Guest LECTURE Series. The talk begins at 8 p.m. in Duncan Reel Hall or Alice Pratt Brown Hall.

friday  MAR  16

Time to start thinking about the future and setting goals, or something like that.

YI YI (A ONE AND A TWO) shows at 7 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. in the Rice Media Center.

The BASEBALL team takes the field against San Jose State University at 7 p.m. in Reckling Park.

The South Asian Society sponsors SOUTH ASIA NIGHT at 7 p.m. in Hamman Hall. Tickets are $5 for students and faculty, $7 for others, and include a catered dinner afterward in the Grand Hall in the Rice Memorial Center. Tickets are available from college SAS representatives beginning March 12. For details, send an e-mail to Jayee Goswami at mishid@rice.edu.

Margaret never caused this much of an uproar. The Will Rice College musical, BUTTER BATTLE, opens tonight at 8 p.m. in the Will Rice Commons. Tickets to the original musical are $4 for students and faculty and $5 for others. For reservations, call (713) 348-5494 or send an e-mail to Jonathan Ichikawa at yunmumd@rice.edu.

calendar

Calendar Editor, (713) 348-5328

Deadline March 27th

CAMPUS MAIL  FAX  E-MAIL

Calendar submission FORMS are available at the Student Activities Office or on the Thresher office door.

Deadline for all items is 5 p.m. Monday prior to publication.

Submissions are printed on a space-available basis.
Voices:

Bip? if i 11

We're already delivering 24-ply, Cochran at (281) 488-5111 ext 215.

If we BPEs assumed roles of Community by taking the next logical step and becoming Student Association co-presidents.

Countiss built her campaign around building a true campus community by taking the next logical step and becoming Student Association co-presidents.

Welcome, prices start at $60£. Call (713) 666-4138.

Do you need a quiet place to study? We've seen our hard work put into print, and then watched with delight as it hit the streets. We slaved over and used it to mop up pools all summer after your night of drunken revelry turned into a morning of cleaning.

We're glad we could be there to provide a service you needed to absorb your bodily fluids. In the site convenience store, covered parking lot, pools of vomit after your night of drinking.

Sarah and Mark: We're more wasted than your vote will be.

Sarah and Mark: We're more wasted than your vote will be.

NOTES AND NOTICES

THE JAN SAWARZ ░⇝ e-mail: jans@rice.edu

Housing

APARTMENT FOR RENT, remodeled – one refrigerator room, apartment, one refrigerator, two beds, all utilities paid, central air, washer, dryer, on carpool line, quiet area, $1100/month.

APARTMENT FOR RENT, remodeled – one refrigerator room, apartment, one refrigerator, two beds, all utilities paid, central air, washer, dryer, on carpool line, quiet area, $1100/month.

The ‘Please vote against Jerri at the tribal council’ classifieds

The ‘Please vote against Jerri at the tribal council’ classifieds

S&M announce their candidacy for SA co-presidency!

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"It damn feels good to be a pragmatist." – Gore T. Boyds

FRIENDS,

We've had the tremendous honor of being your Backpage Editors this past year. In celebration of that, we've spent our week nights mopping up pools and cleaning up vomit from the floor of the bathroom. We've seen our hard work put into print, and then watched with delight as it hit the streets.

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VOY SCIENTIFIC GRAPH OF RELATIVE COOLNESS

VERY SCIENTIFIC GRAPH OF RELATIVE COOLNESS

Kramer

Sarah & Mark

Blackballed the Pirate

Madonna

Harry Potter

Alex Trebek

Fergie

The Other Candidates

Henry Kissinger

Sarah and Mark: We're more wasted than your vote will be.

Notices and Notices

The ‘Please vote against Jerri at the tribal council’ classifieds

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