Martel plans change
Spring housing plan still under discussion

by Rachel Rustin

The beginning of next semester may find Martel College students living in their new college building, in a hotel room or on a friend’s dorm room floor.

The move-in date for Martel has been pushed back to Jan. 28 because of damage to the construction site caused by Tropical Storm Allison. The flooding from the June storm caused extensive damage to electrical and mechanical systems. Housing and Dining Director Mark Ditman said Martel students will need to find housing with other students if the delay period is short. In case the delay is longer than two weeks, Ditman has been negotiating for a hotel or a vacant dorm to stay. If the delay is ongoing or extremely long, Ditman said new moves may entail long-term graduate students or upperclassmen.

In case the delay is longer than two weeks, Ditman announced in a memo to the Martelian community that "the recent Houston flood experience increased the high level of anxiety both from the campus community and from potential donors about placing books underground," he wrote. "The proposed library plans should provide a very large fraction of the collection underground and that clearly must now be reconsidered.”

Concern over underground storage of books — heightened after Tropical Storm Allison caused millions of dollars of damage in the Houston area — has changed Rice’s plans to build a new $120 million library building.

Last March, President Malcolm Gillis announced plans to demolish Fondren Library and build a new structure in its place, which was to be completed as soon as 2005. The plans called for a structure built around a central walkway with the width of the Sallyport connecting the academic quad and the informally courted south of the Student Center. Much of the library’s collection would have been kept in two underground levels.

On July 16, President Malcolm Gillis announced in a memo to the Rice community that "the recent flood, together with other considerations, has required that we rethink the library project in several respects."

The recent Houston flood experience increased the high level of anxiety both from the campus community and from potential donors about placing books underground, he wrote. "The planned library was a very large fraction of the collection underground and that clearly must now be reconsidered." The memo also cited the difficulty of raising funds for the new library in the current economic environment. Previous plans had called for half the funding to be raised before breaking ground on the construction.

"Fundraising is, of course, the most challenging and emotional institutions, much more difficult, too. Gillis said. However, Gillis estimated he expects to be able to fulfill the $250 million funding goal for the Rice "The Next Century" campaign that ends in 2003.

Although Gillis said the administration remained dedicated to the idea of building a new library, he could not say how the changes in plans would affect the timeline for its construction.

President Eugene Levy said after the Houston flood, it became apparent that the plan to store a vast collection of books underground would not garner much support.

"Frankly, from my perspective, the flood thrust is a technologically and infrastructure problem," Levy said. "If we can't get everyone to eat at the Hanszen commons and rethink the library plans, I'm convinced that the plan is no longer robustly safe to do such a thing without some significant change in the plan."

Frankly, from my perspective, the flood thrust is a technologically and infrastructure problem, Levy said. "If we can't get everyone to eat at the Hanszen commons and rethink the library plans, I'm convinced that the plan is no longer robustly safe to do such a thing without some significant change in the plan."

Walking on broken glass
A Lovett College advisor walked through a glass window during last-minute preparations for Orientation Week Saturday evening.

Training table moved to servery
by Leslie Liu

Training table, the athletes’ dinner served at Sammys’s Cafe, has been eliminated for this semester in hopes of increasing interaction between athletes and other students in the college.

Athletes will have the opportunity to eat in the college dining halls while the regular dinner time, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Athletes who cannot eat dinner until after 7 p.m. will be able to eat food from the new Rice/Hanszen servery from 7 to 8 p.m.

Housing and Dining Director Mark Ditman said the plan is temporary, and discussions between the college presidents and ADL will continue throughout the fall semester.

"Rather than making final change effective this fall semester, an interim solution evolved," Ditman said.

Ditman said that the main issue regarding discussion is whether dinner should be extended to 8 p.m. every college building.

"We were looking at it extending the dinner hour later to eight in all the buildings," Ditman said. The college presidents felt that kind of change would impact programming significantly enough that it was necessary to have that discussion with each college community.

Ditman said although non-athletes will not be turned away from eating at the Hanszen Commons between 7 and 8 p.m., more people eating at the late time will limit their service.

The serving staff won’t turn anybody away, but what I’m hoping is that the students will see that with some cooperation, it will make the logistics work out a little better," Ditman said. "If we get a surge of late diners who try to eat dinner after gauging Martelian's opinions. See MARTEL, Page 4

Library project delayed indefinitely

by Leslie Liu

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Welcome back!
This is the Orientation Week issue of the Thresher, the first issue of the 2001-02 academic year. Special O-Week section is included in this issue on Page 13. From now, we will be publishing a Thresher every Friday until Oct. 19.

Have a good first week of school!

Extended bookstore hours
The Campus Store’s hours will be extended for the beginning of the semester. The Campus Store will be open Sunday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. On Thursday, the store will resume its normal hours.

Coffeehouse is closed
The Coffeehouse in the Student Center will be closed until Sept. 3, when it will begin with its regular Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to midnight, Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to midnight.

OPINION
Page 3
Analyse the media

AAE
A man's killer performance.
Page 19

SPORTS
Page 26
Looking forward to volleybett

Quote of the Week
"He and Adam, we were both out for fair athletic events — baseball, basketball, swimming. They would show up even in a blizzard if there were one in Houston. Of course we hadn't had a snow day in Houston in a long time, but if there were one, they would be there," — President Malcolm Gillis, describing Wendell Loy, for whose family the Student Center was named. See Story, Page 4.

Weekend Weather
Friday
Sunny. 7:35 degrees
Saturday
Partly sunny, 74.6 degrees
Sunday
Scattered thunderstorms, 73-84 degrees
Getting decent housing for Martelians

Students transferring to Martel College were assured numerous times last year that the college would be ready for move-in at the start of spring semester.

However, the unfortunate flood damage to the construction site over the summer has postponed the estimated date of completion. Now it’s time for the Martel leadership and the university to ensure that all Martelians are taken care of until their permanent home is ready for occupancy.

The current plan, as explained in an e-mail by Martel President Alice Hill to current Martelists, asks Martelians to find a friend willing to “Adopt-A-Martelian” by housing them in their residence, whether that be in a dorm room or an off-campus residence, for the two weeks until their college is ready (See Story, Page 1).

There are several major concerns that need to be addressed in this plan. Overcrowding students in rooms is always an inconvenience. Though it can be fun to have a new person around the first day, any Owl Weekend host can tell you that the situation gets old.

And would the adopted Martelians have their own keys to the rooms just for two weeks? Or would students have to make sure to be home when their adopted friend needs to get in?

The administration was clear on the right track when they decided that there was a deadline for how long overcrowding is acceptable, but we believe the length they chose is far too long. In addition, we are concerned about some of the logistics of this plan — storing a TV in Hicks Kitchen will work fine, but where are Martelians supposed to keep their clothes, books and all the other possessions they need for two weeks?

We understand that there is a substantial cost involved for the university if it decides to place the Martelians in a hotel or to extend the current Holly Hall lease contract. Therefore, in the absence of such a plan, students deserve to be compensated generously.

The current suggestion to compensate Martelians and their hosts with Tetra points is unacceptable. Martelians will not be housed in their college for about one eighth of the semester, which means that about $400 of their room fee goes toward sleeping on someone’s floor or, if they’re lucky, someone’s couch.

And the students might be compensated with a gift that becomes worthless in four months. Fair compensation (which we are confident both Martelians and hosts would receive) will be in the hundreds of dollars, not an easy amount for a senior — or an off-campus student — to spend.

Instead, we suggest compensation in the form of a cash credit. We are glad to hear that Hill and various administrators say this plan is not final, and, in truth, what the solution is does not matter. What is important is that a climate of discussion is fostered between students and administration in order to achieve a solution amenable to all students.

Improving college food leads to better interaction

Housing and Dining decided this fall to get rid of training table for a while, allowing athletes to eat dinner with other students if they so choose (See Story, Page 1). We applaud the decision as well as the athletics department’s willingness to give it a try.

Perhaps this change means that food in the colleges is, in fact, actually improving. Perhaps it is an example of how the university is responding to student complaints about inadequate food. No matter what the case may be, the situation shows students that the administration is listening.

We understand that varsity athletes are often too busy to come to regular dinner times — attending long practices and keeping up with classes forces athletes to keep a tight schedule. But that’s all the more reason to be eating dinner with fellow students. We hope that athletes take this opportunity to keep abreast of college activities, in that same vein, students have no excuse not to know when their friends have important games coming up, and this might increase the numbers of people cheering the Owls to victory.

Some teams may prefer to eat together to encourage team bonding. But with training table gone, even these groups can meet at different colleges, making them less elusive and more approachable by their peers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

System for rating theater productions unfair, unnecessary

To the editor,

Please consider omitting the practice of rating theater performances with a star system.

The stars needlessly place very different types of shows on the same level of comparison.

These stars bring a feeling of competition to the theater community that we do not feel is necessary.

While the reviews are helpful in bringing in audiences by giving objective opinions and critiques of the shows, the stars are superficial and in many cases deter audiences from coming.

Furthermore, by simply comparing the number of stars given to shows with their corresponding reviews, it can be seen that the criteria for the star scale are not consistent.

Instead of an overall rating, perhaps a better method would be one that is similar to what is used in the sports section: a short summary of the highlights and strengths of the group.

Thank you for showing your support of the cooperative nature of theater at Rice by changing the practice of rating shows.

Toa Spiky... Too Turtleneck... Too Foxy...

TOO TALKATIVE... Too insensitive... Too blooming... Too Recky...

TOO STRIPED... Too Breathey... Too Fluffy...

TOO WOOLY... Too goopy... TOO SHORT... TOO TALL...

TOO INSENSITIVE... TOO BLOODY... TOO ROCKY...

TOO SPOOKY... TOO TURTLENECK... TOFU FOXY...

Jonathan Ichikawa
Brown junior

Michelle Precourt
Wiess junior

Theo Yung
Sidney junior

James Ramirez
Troy Scheid

Theo Yung
Andrew Swick

Lisa Brumberg
Mike Freeman

Sandy Savvas
Baker senior

Rice Players director, 1979-2000

Jonathan Ichikawa
Martel junior

Michelle Percner
Sid junior

Tobin Yung
Leonett junior

Andrew Swick
Wheat junior

Cristina Davis
Brown junior

Ben Westbrook
Will Rice junior

Mark Barrett
Hanmer senior

CONTACTING THE THRESHER

Letters

Letters to the editor should be sent to the Thresher by mail, fax, e-mail to thresher@rice.edu or be delivered in person. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date.

All letters must be signed and include a phone number. We will withhold names upon request.

Letters should be no longer than 250 words in length. The Thresher reserves the right to edit letters for both content and length.

News Tips

Tips for possible news stories should be phoned in to the Thresher at (713) 348-4801.

Subscribing

Annual subscriptions are available for $50 domestic and $105 international via first class mail.

Advertising

We accept both display and classified advertisements.
It was about 9:30. Last time from work, I slipped on the ice for some reason and hurt my hip. I tried to walk, but it was too painful. I thought I might have dislocated it, so I had to call someone to take me to the hospital. As soon as my hip was checked, they told me it was just a strain and I could go home. I was relieved, but I still had some pain. I couldn't believe it when I saw the $100 bill on the floor. I had no idea where it came from. I'm glad I found it.
Wendel is a wonderful man and a special person — he had a lot of interests, and we’ll miss him.

— Bobby May

Athletics director

The new library is easily and understandably something that engendered a great deal of enthusiasm. In March, Vice President for Information Technology Chuck Henry, who is in charge of the library, said the building would become the benchmark for the next 50 years.

"We’re at a mature enough university when conditions change, we’re at a mature enough knowledge that we now need to reassess our plans," Gillis said. "We reached nothing when it comes to conditions change.

"But nothing has changed about our determination to build a library of the future," Gillis said. "It’s just that project that we unveiled in no hurry, because it is the project that has not changed, but that project will carry our aspirations in an unbelievable way.

Ley said you should visit the library to consult with faculty, students, the board and the administration to rethink the library project and devise a new plan.

Gillis says concerns over underground storage will not affect plans for underground parking at a campus.

He said when it floods, "you just want to make sure there are no people in it. We’ve got the cars out... books, though, are the most valuable thing on campus except for the students and the faculty."

The Rice Memorial Center 24, 2001

Wendel Ley, whose family gave the naming contribution for the addition to the Rice Memorial Center, died June 14. He was 81.

Ley, Rice class of 1932, was a bulldozer on the Rice track team, helping Rice bring home two Southwest Conference titles as a student.

After graduating from Rice, he became a successful land developer.

In the mid-1960s, Ley’s children donated almost $1 million for the addition of the Ley Student Center to the Rice Memorial Center. When other members of the Ley family learned that not enough funds had been raised, they also contributed.

Together, the Ley family donated a total of $2 million.

At the dedication, the chairman of the Rice Board of Governors introduced Ley and his wife, Audrey Moody Ley (‘30), as “the two people and family with the most significant contribution.”

“It is a big loss, he was a wonderful man and a special person — he had a lot of interests, and we’ll miss him.”

— Bobby May

Athletics director

According to Judy Allen, a former member of the Board of Governors and daughter of Wendel and Audrey Ley, the major reason behind the large contribution was that when Wendel Ley attended Rice, he felt no place to court his wife. Wendel Ley hoped the large student center could be a place for Rice students to interact socially.

Ley served Rice in many ways. He was president of the Rice Alumni Association, president of the ‘K’ Association, member-at-large of the Rice University Fund Council and a term member of the Rice Board of Governors. His service to Rice was recognized in 1982, when he was awarded the Gold Medal for Distinguished Service.

Ley, ’40, was an active supporter of Rice athletics, and he was recognized in 1989 with the Distinguished Owl Club Award. The scoreboard at Beckendorf Park honored the Owl Club baseball team, is named for him.

President Malcolm Gillis remembered Ley as an ardent supporter of Rice athletics.

“He and Audrey, his wife, would show up for Rice athletic events — football, baseball, basketball, volleyball — Gillis said. They would show up even in a blizzard if there were one in Houston.

“Of course we haven’t had a blizzard in Houston in a long time, but if there were one, they would be there.”

Athletics Director Bobby May said Ley’s contributions to athletics would be missed.

He and his whole family are incredibly supportive of university athletics. May said. "It is a big loss, he was a wonderful man and a special person — he had a lot of interests, and we’ll miss him.”

Flood weakens fundraising

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Free Food. (occasionally)
Free Fun. (ALWAYS)
Join SAC. (TODAY!)
POLICE BLOTTER

The following incidents were reported to the University Police for the period July 17-Aug. 22. Items were omitted due to space constraints.

Residential Colleges

Sid Richardson College
July 30 Basketball camp helper reported missing earring and keys stolen from her backpack. Victim’s vehicle was booted for safety.

Brown College
Aug. 2 Student reported a package taken from his mailbox.

Sid Richardson College
Aug. 22 Non-Rice subject arrested for public intoxication and transported to Harris County Jail. Subject was also issued a criminal trespass warning.

Academic Buildings

Fondren Library
July 20 Wallet stolen.

Baker Hall
July 24 Custodian reported her wallet stolen.

Fondren Library
July 28 Wallet stolen.

Duncan Hall
Aug. 1 Report of suspicious person attempting to steal employee’s purse. Subject arrested and transported to Harris County Jail.

Abner Hall
Aug. 1 Purse stolen.

George R. Brown Hall
Aug. 3 Wallet stolen.

Raynor Hall
Aug. 6 Laptop stolen.

Herring Hall
Aug. 6 Black male approximately 5’6” and 30 years of age observed taking a wallet from a staff member. Suspect studied a staff member and was gone when officers arrived.

Anderson Biological Laboratory
Aug. 17 Microscope missing.

 Humanities Building
Aug. 1 Wallet stolen.

Other Buildings

Greenbrier Building
July 19 Laptop stolen.

Rice Memorial Center
July 25 Staff member reported money missing from cash box.

Rice Memorial Center
Aug. 2 Wallet stolen.

Mini Center
Aug. 3 Horseless phony calls reported from one staff member to another.

Greenbrier Building
Aug. 21 Laptop stolen.

Parking Lots

Stadium Lot
July 17 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

Fossil Track/Soccer Stadium
July 19 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

South Visitors Lot
July 19 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

East Stadium Lot
July 20 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

Main Street Lot
July 20 Officers stopped juveniles with marijuana. Drugs confiscated and criminal trespassing warnings issued.

North Lot
July 22 Student reported her friend’s silver Volo scooter stolen from the lot.

Brown College Lot
July 29 Student reported a piano keyboard stolen.

Continuing Studies Lot
July 29 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

South Stadium Lot
Aug. 3 Burglary of an FBI vehicle.

East Stadium Lot
Aug. 4 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

Richardson College Lot
Aug. 20 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

Other Areas

Chicago O’Hare Airport
July 18 Laptop stolen.

Entrance 4
July 24 Contractor reported stolen dump truck.

College Way
July 27 Minor accident involving a Rice bus.

Academic Quad
July 27 Bike stolen.

College Way
July 31 Subject taken into custody and transported to Harris County jail for driving while intoxicated.

Rice Stadium
Aug. 2 Subject arrested for failure to identify and evading arrest. Subject transported to Harris County Jail.

University Blvd.
Aug. 8 Vehicle stopped for driving with no headlights on. Driver, a minor, was driving, under the influence. Subject was released to responsible adult.

Jones College IM Field
Aug. 17 Wallet stolen from a bag.

Nearby streets may restrict parking

by Mark Berenson

Last week the Houston City Council passed an ordinance that allows residents of neighborhood blocks surrounding Rice to request permits for parking on their streets. On blocks restricted to holders of permits, only students who live on that block would be able to park on the street.

The ordinance, which the council passed unanimously on Aug. 15, a neighborhood block can petition the city and state about the times of the day the blocks have parking problems. Employees from the city will then come to the block to determine if the situation is egregious enough to warrant restricted parking.

If the city limits a street to permit parking, residents could purchase a permit for $20, and then only those with permits would be able to park on the street during a designated time period.

Marshall said Rice supports the ordinance because the neighborhood blocks have become so overwhelmed with cars it has become a safety issue. Also, there are more than a sufficient number of parking spaces on campus.

Under the ordinance, which the council passed unanimously on Aug. 15, a neighborhood block can petition the city and state about the times of the day the blocks have parking problems. Employees from the city will then come to the block to determine if the situation is egregious enough to warrant restricted parking.

If the city limits a street to permit parking, residents could purchase a permit for $20, and then only those with permits would be able to park on the street during a designated time period.

Marshall said he expected many neighborhood blocks to request permit parking on their street.

CAAM lecturer dies of leukemia

by Olivia Allison

Michael Pearlman, an employee of the Computational and Applied Mathematics and Statistics Departments for 20 years, lost his five-year battle with leukemia Aug. 13. He was 44.

About 125 people attended a memorial service for Pearlman held Sunday afternoon in Duncan Hall's McMurtry Auditorium.

Said the service included Assistant Dean of Engineering Bart Sinclair, Dean of Engineering Sidney Burrus, Pearlman's ex-wife Missi Celli, Computational and Applied Mathematics Research Scientist Doug Moore and Pearlman's brother Rick Pearlman.

CAAM Department Chair John Dennis said the service was beautiful.

"Everybody was tear-eyed," Dennis said. "It was sections, of course, but there was a little laughter because Mike was not a sorrowful person. He was far too funny, he had a terrible sense of humor."

Statistics Department Coordinator Diane Brown and CAAM Department Coordinator Daria Lawrence are working to establish a memorial fund in Pearlman's honor.

Brown said they will work with Pearlman's family to determine how to use the proceeds from the fund, but they are considering an award for students or faculty members of a donation to the library because of Pearlman's love of books.

A bone marrow transplant could have saved Pearlman's leukemia. A donor had been identified, but Pearlman was not healthy enough to receive the transplant.

"It was really phenomenal that he had such a wide range of people that cared about him that would [donate] platelets," Brown said.

Pearlman was buried in Ottawa, Canada, where he was raised. Brown said Pearlman was not healthy enough to warrant restricted parking on campus. Under the ordinance, which the council passed unanimously on Aug. 15, a neighborhood block can petition the city and state about the times of the day the blocks have parking problems. Employees from the city will then come to the block to determine if the situation is egregious enough to warrant restricted parking.

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"He had an absolutely idealistic situation for a long time," Dennis said. "He had a guy who knew the mathematics, who knew the software we needed and usually had the software to help us before we even thought to ask for it.

"I'm not trying to cast aspersions on current IT staff and all that. It's just this guy was really something special... This guy was magic."

Lawrence said Pearlman's impact while at Rice was widespread.

"It was so by phenomenon that he had such a wide range of people that cared about him that would [donate] platelets," she said. "I will remember him for his intense and T-shirt, someone else will remember him for the many keys he kept. I think mostly he'll be remembered for helping us before we even knew we needed help."

Brown and Lawrence coordinated a long-planned drive with a Web site, in order to help members of the Rice community schedule donations.

Dennis said, however, that Pearlman was not healthy enough to receive a bone marrow transplant. Pearlman was buried in Ottawa, Canada, where he was raised. Brown said Pearlman was not healthy enough to receive the transplant.

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DESSERT GALLERY
BAKERY & CAFE
Welcome back, students!
The Dessert Gallery is a great place away from campus to hang out or to study in peace. Look us up on your Silver Saver cards!

Wiess/Hanszen servery to extend dinner hours

For detailed information about each position, see http://www.rice.edu/~fina/Jobs/studentjob.htm

HELP WANTED
Physics & Astronomy Positions Available
Student Office Assistants
$8.00/hour, flexible schedule
Head Grader
$8.75/hour (PHYS 101/102, 125/126, 201/202)
Grader
$8.00/hour (PHYS 101/102, 125/126, 201/202)
Lab Assistants
$10.00/hour (PHYS 101 or 125)

For now, Taylor recommends that students, joggers and anyone else in the Rice area remove all items from both the inside and trunks of their cars, leaving potential thieves no reason to break in.

Despite the increase in thefts, Taylor expects these measures to be sufficient.

"Usually crimes like these come in cycles, and we just happened to hit a peak," Taylor said. "If the number of the intrusions, we will catch those responsible."
Wiess basement storage burglarized

The Wiess College basement, used as a storage area by Wiess students during the summer, was broken into by a person or group of people using a Wiess ID card during the month of July.

Both the number of boxes stolen and number of entries to the room are still unknown. The entry was discovered by University Police Officer Terry Robinson, who is in charge of the investigation.

Robinson opened the storage area and accompanied a student who needed to retrieve her passport from the area. He noticed that the room looked a little disheveled and made a mental note to return a few days later. When he returned, he noticed even more boxes had been opened and more items had been disturbed since his first visit. At that point it was clear the room had been entered at least several times.

Honing and filing immediately stopped all card access to the room and the police notified Wiess managers Katherine Donato and Dan Kalt, who had only recently moved into campus. The masters were accompanied to the basement to examine the damage.

"You could tell boxes had been opened," Donato, a sociology associate professor, said. "There were personal items that wouldn't have been there. We figured that someone had been rummaging through people's things."

When Wiess President Amy Schindler was able to enter the basement a few days later, she observed that all the boxes looked like they had been rummaged through, but nothing was actually stolen.

The basement functions as an entertaining area when class is in session, but it is used as free storage space over the summer.

"As much as we warn people not to put valuables or electronics that they wouldn't want stolen or flooded down there, they do," Schindler said.

University Police Chief Bill Taylor said the police are simply unable to guarantee secure storage in the basements.

"I would rather [students] not store any property in the basements over the summer simply because it's always at some risk. It's a nice gesture on the part of the colleges, but we cannot guarantee security in those areas," he said.

Taylor recommends students look to off-campus storage facilities for the summer.

"Free storage is free storage and it's not necessarily secure."

— Bill Taylor
University Police chief

"It costs a little bit of money, but you get what you pay for. Free storage is free storage and it's not necessarily secure," he said.

As a rule, even though students have access to the basements over the summer, they are not allowed to enter during that period.

The particular security system on the Wiess basement doors uses a card reader which can read only a part of the entry code, according to Assistant Director of H&D Frank Rodriguez. Because this type of device does not read out the entire card number, H&D cannot specify which cards are allowed to open the room. That means that anyone with a Rice ID card, no matter how old the card, can enter the room.

Robinson said the card used for the repeated entries was issued to the participants of a summer camp during the summer of 2000. Unfortunately, the same card number was issued to all 57 camp participants.

Also, Robinson believes it is very possible one of the participants lost the card which could then be picked up by someone else, further complicating the search for a suspect.

"We do everything possible to destroy all cards and get cards back from summer camps whenever possible," Rodriguez said. "But people do lose cards."

Robinson was able to determine which card was used because of the card reader records.

"Every time you use your card, it gets logged into a computer system, so we were able to take that list and eliminate all but one card," he said.

"Investigations are continuing, but the search for a suspect is difficult because many people could have used the card," Robinson said.

H&D is planning to install new card readers, Rodriguez said, and they should be purchased in the next couple of months. The new system will be capable of reading the entire card number, so only specific people will be allowed to enter the room.

Schindler is the first Wiess student to examine her belongings and file a report. As students come back to campus, they will examine these belongings and fill out all missing items to the original report, Schindler said.

Originally, the basement was still being treated as a crime scene and students could only enter accompanied by police officers.

"The University Police say they are at a point in their investigation where the added security is unnecessary," Schindler said.

Even though the security system will be improved, Rodriguez pointed out that if someone wants to break in, all they really need is a crowbar.

"We all have to be on guard," Rodriguez said. "That's why we have a police department and that's why they're here 24 hours a day."

"If students notice anything suspicious, they should call us immediately—that's what we're here for."

Sid student suspended

In the story "Students, Cohen House resolve conflict" in the July 20 issue of The Thresher, off-campus staff member Paul Garcia was misidentified as the head waiter. J.T. Treviso was the head waiter at the time of the incident.

The Thresher regrets the error.
The Baker Institute is now accepting applications for student interns for the Fall 2001 semester. Interns will assist Baker Institute fellows and Rice faculty on Institute studies, public policy research, and special projects. Economics or political science background is a plus. Up to 10 hours per week required to collect cash award of $500 per semester. Not a salaried position. Interested Rice students should send the following to the Baker Institute Internship Committee, Baker Institute MS-40:

- Cover letter stating area of interest — energy and environment; health policy; U.S. foreign policy; or China studies
- Resume
- Current transcript
- One letter of recommendation

For information, contact the Institute Administrator, Captain W.O. King, Jr., at x4945.

Students get second place in TI challenge

by Mark Berenson

A group of graduate and undergraduate students won the regional and national Texas Instruments Digital Signal Processor Challenge and went on to finish second in the worldwide competition.

Brown College seniors Patrick Murphy, Jacob Rhodes and Jaesper Yen and electrical and computer engineering graduate student Vinai Bharadwaj and Kaan Chadha formed the team, one of three teams to compete in the worldwide finals, held Aug. 7 in Dallas.

The contest involved designing and creating a working device using a TI digital signal processor. The Rice team, sponsored by Patrick Frantz, the executive director for the Center of Multimedia, created a system called Paladin that would capture and transmit video over a wireless network.

"We used DSPs to compress video so that it could be sent across a wireless network," Frantz said. "For instance, you could have a small camera on your cell phone," Frantz said. "It is conceivable that one day you could have a small camera on your cell phone." Frantz said that with Paladin, the team was able to display good-quality video with only 100 kilobits per second of data flow, a rate which should be available in the next generation of cell phone services.

"It is conceivable that one day you could have a small camera on your cell phone," Frantz said. "And considering that we had this work for about a month — about four months — compared to other teams, we did really well."

"Texas Instruments contest is held approximately every two years," Frantz said. "We really want to hear what the students to make the decision of what they want to do."

"It is important not to rush this decision. It's not something that has to be decided on Sunday," Joan Few said. "There might be someone who has a brilliant idea when they have a little time, but in the end it's important for the students to make the decision of what they want to do."

Martelians will meet Sunday to discuss plans

Martel College seniors will meet Sunday to discuss the plans that they want to have Martel House for the fall semester. faction of Paladin include security monitors for home use and telemedicine, where broadcast controls of surgical devices from a distance including video feeds of the surgical site.

The team entered the contest at the end of April. They were first named a regional semifinalist, and then became the regional finalist at the entry from North America region. The regional winner, the team was awarded $5,000 in prize money.

In the international competition, the Rice team is in a field from Israel that used a DSP to create a digital watermarking system for protecting audio.

"I was very proud of his team's finish, adding that he thought the other teams had worked on their projects for at least a year. 

"All three of the projects were extremely good, and any of them could have been picked," Frantz said.

"And considering that we had this work for about a month — about four months — compared to other teams, we did really well."

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"It is important not to rush this decision. It's not something that has to be decided on Sunday," Joan Few said. "There might be someone who has a brilliant idea when they have a little time, but in the end it's important for the students to make the decision of what they want to do."

Ditman agreed the administration wants to hear what Martelians would prefer.

"We'll consider all suggestions," Ditman said. "It was Martel students who came up with the idea of having a central forum in the first place."

"With the group of people that will be at the Mart House on Sunday, there should be some great ideas, but the most important thing is not interrupting people's studies and providing the highest quality of service we can."
Recent Sid graduate loses battle with illness

Christopher Washington (Sid '98), who worked at Memorial Hermann and Texas Children's Hospital was remembered by his friends as a passionate warrior.

"I think it was just a really good experience for me to become more of an advisor to students, versus just an older peer... I think I'll have my hardest time once the students are back, in learning my new role," said Rasmussen.

The students will take over Errington’s duties of coordinating the International Service Project, the Urban Immersion program, Alternative Spring Break and English as a Second Language tutoring. Rasmussen will also be taking over as an advisor to some student organizations.

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the Rice Thresher

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- Online
- Calendar
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4. What kind of weekly time commitment are you willing to make?

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thresher@rice.edu
In less than a few weeks, you won’t remember any details, only remnants of your earliest impressions of Rice. You probably won’t remember that matriculation and the faculty address were separate events, but you will have a sneaking suspicion that you shouldn’t walk through the Sallyport for about four years. You may not remember many of the questions on the purity test, but you’ll remember your score. And you may not remember the “theme” of your group, but you’ll remember your advisers.

And in this way, O-Week is unique: it is the most remarkable quickly-forgotten week of your life.
KATIE BETH HIGGINS/THRESHER
Top left: Jones College freshmen and advisers try their luck at the roulette table at Jones' Casino Night party Sunday.

Above: Sid Richardson College advisers Gabe Rivera (left) and Diana Strain dance at Sid's icebreaker games Sunday night.

Left: Hanszen College Coordinator Eric Libby attempts to stand up after being thrown into a kiddie pool full of Jello on Monday.

ROB GADDI/THRESHER

KATIE STREIT/THRESHER
Above: Brown College freshman Christina Ni fills out paperwork while checking into her college Sunday morning.

Left: Will Rice College freshmen Grant Ordor and Audrey Nath partner up with a toothbrush and天下水 at Will Rice's icebreaker games Sunday afternoon.

Below: Baker College Adviser Chris Coffman (right), a junior, helps Natasha Sabier (center left) and family move Natasha's belongings into Baker.

Hebl speaks on education
Assistant Psychology Professor Mikki Hebl spoke at an unusually quiet faculty address. A social psychologist, Hebl spoke about findings that relate to college students before sharing what she learned from her own college experience.
2005's matriculation strange

By Olivia Allison

By the end of this year's matriculation ceremony, those who had attended a previous matriculation were asking themselves what had happened.

President Malcolm Gillis sucked helium from a balloon before telling the freshmen to "pause and smell the roses."

The Student Association presidents said they wanted to challenge Gillis to a mud-wrestling match, and then they danced around the stage — without music.

Although elements of tradition were interspersed throughout the event for the class of 2005, many strange occurrences cast a different light on the occasion.

The ceremony was held in its usual place — Stude Hall in Alice Pratt Brown Hall — and Vice President for Student Affairs Zanada Camacho's introduction of his wife Carol was consistent with past matriculations.

But then, Gillis kicked the platform Camacho had been standing on out of the way, ripped two balloons from the podium and let them rise to the ceiling of the auditorium.

From there, Gillis launched into his typical speech emphasizing the statistics of the incoming class.

"No first-year class in this country brings stronger potentials to their campus than you," he told them.

Gillis told students he wanted them to explore the different aspects of Rice's academic and cultural life.

"You don't have to worry. If people say, 'What are you going to major in?'" he said. "You say, 'I don't know.' It's okay. If you're a freshman, it's certainly okay. If you're a sophomore, it's certainly okay. Even if it's okay if you're a junior. I want you to explore to look around different fields. If you don't do this, you'll regret it the rest of your life."

Gillis related statistics on the low dropout rate of Rice's graduating seniors and their successes with getting into top-choice graduate schools.

Gillis warned the new students against getting too caught up in the heavy workloads they might face.

"Every year about this time, I tell all first-year students that Rice students work too hard, and every year I urge students to chill out from time to time," he said. "Perhaps you will be the first class to listen. I urge you to pause now and then and smell the flowers and interact with some of the creative students in the world."

"Maybe if you say it this way, you'll never forget it," Gillis said.

He then used a pen to pop one of the two balloons still attached to the podium, sucked the helium out and let the two balloons still attached to the flowers.

Gillis finished his speech by emphasizing the benefits of the residential college system, the student-led honor system and Rice's commitment to undergraduate education, and challenging the new students to make an impact on Rice.

"Last night, Professor Alex Byrd of the history department challenged a group of students to figure out what they were going to do to leave Rice a better place than when they came, and that is my challenge also to you all," he said.

After a speech by Honor Council President Malcolm Gillis pulls two balloons off the podium before beginning his matriculation speech Sunday.

I don't expect Rice to do anything too normal anymore. " — Edgar Pagan

Brown College Freshman

Chair Aaron Marta, SA Presidents Jamie Lisagor and Gavin Parks began their speech using the infamous "look to your left, look to your right" scare tactic.

"I would like to ask you now to look to your left, look to your right," Parks, a Marti College senior, said. "One of the three of you will not be graduating."

Lisagor, a Hanszen College senior immediately stepped to the microphone, saying, "Actually, that is not true at all. Gavin's just always wanted to say that."

"Instead, Parks and Lisagor told the freshmen what they were going to do to leave Rice a better place than when they came, and that is my challenge also to you all," he said.

"Then we realized he'd win," Parks said.

"Instead, Parks and Lisagor told everyone to stand up, hug the person to their right, turn in a circle and sit down."

"What's the point of this, you ask?" Parks said. "That's the thing, there's no point."

After confessing to staying up watching " Dawson's Creek" reruns, Parks told the freshmen, "In the end, you are responsible for yourself."

"It will go by like that," Parks said, snapping his fingers in unison with Lisagor.

In closing, Lisagor told the freshmen that if they were going to remember only one thing from the ceremony, it should be this — and they danced in silence.

Lisagor recounted her advice, in stead telling the freshmen to tell themselves, "I am a risk-taker. I am a leader. I belong at Rice."

And, in unison, the freshmen repeated the vow.

After walking through the Sallyport, freshmen expressed surprise at the casual atmosphere of the ceremony.

"Rice is more bizarre than I ever expected," Brown College freshman Ellen Maier said. "I expected it to be more serious, more difficult."

Hanszen freshman Katie Carlile agreed.

"I get the impression that there are obviously a lot of serious students here, but it's okay to laugh at yourself. Nobody's going to laugh at you," Carlile said.

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Silencing the crowd

After last year's campus-wide debate on the way college cheers are taught and used, the colleges took a slightly different approach this year.

Colleges chose not to teach their cheers on the first day, like in years past, and when they taught the politically-correct cheers, they made it clear nobody had to cheer if they didn't want to.

Even the faculty address was different. When O-Week Coordinators said no cheering in Stude Hall before the faculty address, all of O-Week listened. While there were some silent exchanges of spirit, the cheering stopped as everyone entered the building.
You can't depend on your roommate to bring everything.

Requirements and Electives

College Prep
- Towels
- Electric Toothbrush
- Hair Dryer
- Curling Iron
- Electronic Curliers
- Men's Shaver
- 245 Lead Detergent
- Rolling Hamper
- Iron/Board

Home work
- Accent Rugs
- Decorator Vellux Pillows
- Quad Chairs
- Bubblewrap Light
- Fan (Must Have)
- Portable Vacuum
- Upright Vacuum
- Mini Cordless Drill Driver
- 42 Craftsman Tape/Easy Fire Stapler
- Utility Tool Bag
- Lantern/Flashlight Value Pack
- Duct Tape
- Rechargeable Batteries

Getting A's
- Battery Pack with Batteries
- Dorm Electrical Combo Pack (Surge Protector)
- Craftsman Pedlock/Security Cable Lock
- Security Chest

Getting ZZzzz
- Alarm Clock
- Computer/Laptop
- Printer
- Electronic Organizer
- Coffee Maker
- Ready-to-Assemble Desk
- Desk Lamp
- Desk Chair
- Maraton CFL Bulbs (5 yr. guarantee)
- Backpack
- Wheeled Backpack
- 4-pc Luggage Set
- Paper Shredder

Unwinding & Dining
- Television
- VCR/DVD
- CD Player
- Coax Cable/Connector Pack
- CD Player
- CD Discs (Must Have!)
- Portable Vacuum
- Upright Vacuum
- Mini Cordless Drill Driver
- 18 pc. Companion Tool Set
- 12' Craftsman Tape/Easy Fire Stapler
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Teen outcasts wax sarcastic in ‘Ghost World’

Raj Wahi
THE RICE THRESHER STAFF

‘Ghost World’ isn’t the best movie I’ve seen this year (that would be Millennium, but it’s definitely the most confusing), in addition to being well-written and well-acted, the movie proves that it’s possible to make a sincere, good-natured comedy about misanthropic, mean-spirited teenagers. True, it’s a comedy only in the bleakest sense, but it treats the characters with affection, even while picking apart their self-defeating worldviews.

For Enid (Thora Birch, perfectly cast) and Rebecca (The Horse Whisperer’s Scarlett Johansson) are two smart but disaffected 18 year olds who are understandably disgusted with the vacuous, phony culture that surrounds them. Their coping mechanism, unfortunately, is itself a form of empty posturing: Rather than moving ahead with life on their own terms, they settle for the tempestuous time of self-styled irreverence.

For Enid and Rebecca, ‘irony’ consists of making sardonic remarks, speaking in monosyllables and rolling their eyes, acting as if they’re incapable of uttering a single sincere word. It’s师兄ed through, though, that they behave this way less out of snobbery than out of a desire to hide their own misery.

As the high school graduation ceremony (complete with a trio of rappers and a syrupy speech from the valedictorian), Enid and Rebecca wander outside to scope out graffiti on their mortarboards and decide what direction their lives should take next. Enid, her glasses stuck on a Starbucks, rants that she’s actually determined to be miserable. ‘I hate my interests,’ she com- plains, and he means it. Surprisingly, Enid decides to make him the butt of a cruel practical joke, and when he falls for it, she resolves to meet him so she can string him along some more.

When they meet, however, Enid finds that in addition to being a consummate loser, Seymour is possibly the first genuinely good person she’s ever encountered. Her continued interest in this discovery is summed up in the movie’s best line, when she confides to Rebecca that Seymour is ‘the ex opposite of everything I hate.’ Eventually, though, Enid’s preoccupation with Seymour alternates the increasingly practical Rebecca, and the two friends drift apart.

All this may sound depressing, and at times it is, but ‘Ghost World’ contains just enough humor to compensate. Most of the comedic moments are surprisingly gentle, such as when Seymour goes ballistic in a convenience store, only to find that the shell he tries to topple is too heavy to be picked up.

See GHOST, Page 21

Rating:**

(Out of five)

‘the deep end’

At least that’s what it goes for Margaret Hall (played by Tilda Swinton) in the new indie mystery, ‘The Deep End.’ It’s an interesting story that feels realistic because it’s grounded in one moment’s ordinary life.

Margaret is the self-appointed figure to save Lake Tabor from the man with a plan. She is, in short, the opposite of everything I love.

The first scene shows Margaret’s visit to a gay bar in Reno to confront 30 years of problems. Darby Reece (D J Lucas), who’s been seeing her for 10 years. She doesn’t seem upset about her son’s orientation; he’s far more worried by Darby’s threatening presence, and with good reason.

One night Darby smokes near the Hall’s property to see Beau, there’s a fight in the boathouse by the lake, and Darby ends up dead on the shore. When Margaret finds her body the next morning, she assumes Beau killed him and begins to cover up the crime by, naturally, dumping him in the lake.

Swinton seems on the edge of panic at any given moment, but she never gives in.

As one would expect, things start to unravel. The police find the body, but they don’t seem to be suspicious of Beau or Margaret. The biggest problem is a pair of blackmailers — Alex Spera (Goran Visnjic) and Carly Sarge (Raymond Barry) — who insists a tape of Darby and Beau having sex (which Margaret is forced to watch). Obviously, if the tape were turned over to the police, Beau would become the prime suspect.

Most of the rest of the plot is concerned with Margaret’s attempts to come up with the money the blackmailers demand, and this is where ‘The Deep End’ falls apart. It seems as if Sarge were to get the money, but Darby manages to escape and comes up with thousands in cash in the end.

All of the performances are dead on, and none are exceptional. Visnjic, a familiar face to ‘ER’ fans, plays one of the most three-dimensional, human blackmailers I’ve seen on film. There’s no manipulation, no somewhat romantic connection between his character and Swinton’s. It’s a shame, because it was a great opportunity to give Thelma and Louise’s Swinton something her character’s medical expertise.

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(Out of five)

Margaret (Tilda Swinton) attempts to hold up a Starbucks with her glasses in ‘Ghost World.’

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(Out of five)

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Enid (Thora Birch) attempts to hold up a Starbucks with her glasses in ‘Ghost World.’

Enid (Thora Birch) attempts to hold up a Starbucks with her glasses in ‘Ghost World.’
The documentary style introduces the "electronic dance underground" and mines both crowds by a long shot. The documentary is not in depth enough to appeal to true ravers, and some points, but it never stops. That's one of the annoying things. The soundtrack is set up so the music is louder than the voices, to hear what the people are saying, you have to crank the volume and deal with incoho a declined past comfortable. So don't watch it while your roommate is trying to study.

Non-ravers especially will have a problem with some of the well-tightened or absurd testimony. At least three different people purport that police and civilians are "afraid of" and "threatened by" ravers simply because they're new and different. Others propound on the power of drugs, which are absolutely essential to the rave experience for some, while others find them peripheral. One guy claims, "The music is my drug."

The interviews are interspersed with quick-cut scenes of real raves, so if you have no idea what one looks like, I'll provide some insight — trippy laser light shows and tons of kids dressed up in wacky ruff, surfer, and gegenüber, en masse, embraced by the bass. (But then who, besides your parents, really has no idea what a rave looks like?)

The music, by the way, is continuous — it goes louder or softer at some points, but never stops. That's one of the annoying things. The

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Robert Reichle

Rice currently has no permanent classes in journalism or communications. Will 205, a course sponsored by Will Rice College, will introduce you to the world of journalism through teaching you researching and reporting skills, as well as critical thinking and analysis. You could even end up working for one of the papers above, like a few other Rice alumni.

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Robert Reichle is editor in chief and a Rice College senior.
Folk songs have made a place for herself in the guitar playing sounds tinny, and it with-a guitar style of folk Her self Spearsish voice, and her singing, Lin has a pleasant, if Britney deus ex machina to smooth out her times gets unpleasantly strident cessful musical phrase. The heights she's written into the ows of a slow turning ceiling fan Johnson and a lady friend groping TV movie to promote the soundtrack vehicle liebling "Put out a notice/for Herodotus." The song works beautifully until she gets taken off lyrics at the end like "Put out a notice/for Herodotus." The work is exceedingly Euro and the video aired on VH1 here in the States, and I have actu- ally heard it in two very random places — the parking lot at a mini- market, and the video was broadcast on VH1... We heard it in two very random places — the parking lot at a mini- market, and the video aired on VH1.

There are a few misses in Johnson's otherwise charming record, "Cherub," is not surpris- ingly, the best track on the album. The one following it is a swerving, a grey, weakly Dylan-esque song entitled "People" with vexing "rap." Other weak moments include "Should Have Been Me," which comes across as a campy European '70s love song, and "Spaceman," which has a terribly annoying chorus.

Johnson seems to do beat to quit- er, more somber songs such as "The Games We Play," "Patiently" and "Safe From Harm," songs that showcase his gravely, youthful voice and sensitive songwriting. And so his album is diverse: a magnetic crisp opening track, followed by weaker attempts to return to the initial glory, while the true soul of the album lies in the patters between the lines. With his lyrics clever, primeval voice and radio-ready single, Liebling VS release could elevate Johnson to the present his and the others are wonderful. Some may not like: The Deep End on the basis that it's not too plausible, and they'll have a point. But

Often with mysteries, you just have a time to ponder the cause and ac- cess what happens. It reminded me a lot of one of my favorite films, "Memento." Good film, bad film. "Memento" does such a great job of taking us through the layers of the now, the then, the next, the after. As a result, we end up rooting for these people, not because we like them as people, but be- cause we sense now how likely they could be.

Getting 'Deep' in a shallow year

"World' has dark humor, unique romance story

"Getting 'Deep' in a shallow year" and "World" have dark humor, unique romance story

Deep, Iron Page 19

Occasionally, however, co- workers Terry Zwigoff and Dan Clowes give us something truly outrageous, like Enid's schema to embarrass her pretentious art teacher with a cheap restaurant sign from decades ago, "Gone. Our Chicken is Better."

When the movie ended, I real- ized how bad it was that I had just spent two hours in the com- pany of Enid. Rebecca and Seymour without taking my hair out. Most of the credit for this goes to the actors, who efect- ively convey the profound essence of characters and their secret desire to be better, happier people.

I'm the standout, playing Enid as someone who has an imagination but is too woolly-worried to use it for anything other than

Finding new ways to express her general disrespect for other people.

Impressive as the acting is, the main reason "Ghost World" works is that it doesn't take the easy way out. It could, for in- stance, have stopped at Enid's literal turn and turned into a taw- low joke at the expense of Buscemi's character. It could have been an attempt to be the opposite extreme, asking us to pity Seymour even though he's partly responsible for his own misery.

Instead, the movie only asks us to understand where the charac- ters are coming from, not to share or excurse their attitudes. As a result, we end up rooting for these people, not because we like them as people, but because we sense now how likely they could be.

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Projected starting QB
Hurd out for the season

by Chris Larson
Managing Sports Editor

Not again.
Last year, Jeremy Hurd was a redshirt freshman ready to guide the Owls in a successful season. It lasted less than one game. In Rice's season opening 30-27 victory over the University of Houston, Hurd broke his finger and was sidelined for more than a month. Hurd returned and was a solid contributor for the second part of the season, starting two more games and totaling 280 yards rushing and 129 yards passing for the season.

'I thought Kyle did a really good job with the poise he showed with the first-team offense.'
— Ken Hatfield
Head football coach

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At an injury-free spring, Hurd was set to be the man this season and sat at the top of the depth chart — until injury struck again. Aug. 15, when Hurd tore his right ACL while making a cut during practice. Hurd will be out for the season.

The whole Rice football family is disappointed that Jeremy will not be able to contribute on the field this season, head coach Ken Hatfield said. "He had been showing the type of skill and leadership abilities we expected of him during the early part of camp." Evans is taking the season off to rehabilitate from a knee injury and will play defensively for his senior season — leaving the total experience of the Owls' quarterback corps at just three games played and seven passes attempted.

All belong to sophomore Kyle Herm, who will take over the reins for Rice heading into the Owls' season opener Sept. 1 at UH. Freshman Greg Henderson, who ran for over 1,500 yards his senior season at Wichita Falls High School, and Joe Moore, who posted for 1,600 yards his junior season at Fort Worth South west High School, will back up Herm.

Even though it's not an ideal situation to be in, Hatfield is confident in Herm. Herm rushed for 92 yards and threw a touchdown pass against defending Western Athletic Conference champion University of Texas at El Paso last year, and Hatfield said Herm has established himself as a capable leader in practice.

'I thought Kyle did a really good job with the poise he showed with the first team of the season,' Hatfield said. 'He led an on all the offensive offense. I think he has three big things to go down the field, and he executed some big plays.'

Sophomore quarterback Jeremy Hurd, shown here rushing in Rice's 43-14 win over Southern Methodist University last season, is out for the season after tearing the ACL in his right knee.

Women's tennis coach Blankenship retires

by Chris Larson
Managing Sports Editor

An era came to an end this summer as Paul Blankenship, who served as Rice's head women's tennis coach for 20 years, announced his retirement.

Replacing Blankenship will be Roger White, who has been Blankenship's assistant coach the past three years. The duo guided Rice to a 15-6 record and a NCAA regional bid in 1998. For the first time in the program's history, Rice qualified a singles player and a doubles team to the Clay Court National Championships in 1999.

"Roger has done a tremendous job in his three years at Rice," Athletics Director Bobby May said. "We are excited to have him take on the position of head coach and are confident that the team will continue to flourish under his guidance."

Before joining the Owls in 1998, White was the assistant head tennis professional at the Houston Country Club after working as the director of tennis at Atascocita Country Club from 1989-96. He earned All-American honors while playing at Athleis University in 1986. "I am looking forward to the challenge," White said. "It is an honor to serve as head women's tennis coach for Rice University and to assist these women in the pursuit of excellence on and off the court."

Blankenship guided the Owls to a 279-148 record during his tenure. He helped the Rice program transition from the AIAW to the NCAA after his first season and oversaw its move from the Southwest Conference to the Western Athletic Conference in 1998. Blankenship's Owls have garnered 14 all conference honors, produced 11 individual SWC champions and three All-Americans, including Tracie Blumentritt and Susan Radcliff, who captured the Maxwell national doubles title in 1982. "I felt like I needed a break from coaching," said Blankenship. "Twenty years is a long time. The toughest part was trying to tell the team about my retirement. I'll miss the kids."
Women's soccer battles to 3-3 tie in scrimmage match

In its first official scrimmage of the season Monday night at the Rice Soccer and Track Stadium, the women's soccer team jumped out to a 3-1 lead but surrendered two goals and had to settle for a 3-3 tie against a group of all-stars from the Challenge Soccer Club of Spring.

Junior Lindsey Bortford scored in the 29th minute of a first-half goal assisted by freshman Kelly Patsyman.

Senior Lindsay Bortford scored in the final minute, but the Challenge goal was disallowed by ineptness on the Owls' part.

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Jesus said “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies…”
John 11:25

Jesus said “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”
John 14:6

“Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you…”
Acts 13:38

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NEW RULE CHANGES

The rules-making body for women's collegiate volleyball, has initiated against Samford University.

if you haven't been following college volleyball closely, you might be surprised by some things if you attend Rice's season opener next Friday against Samford University.

If you haven't been following college volleyball closely, you might be surprised by some things if you attend Rice's season opener next Friday against Samford University.

"It'll be different," senior outside hitter Leigh Leman said. "I think it's good for our team. We're a good sideline team, so we'll make points this year instead of just getting the ball back."

Head coach Julio Morales said he thought the new scoring format would help his team eliminate the lapses the Owls experienced at times last season, when the Owls would go scoreless for extended amounts of time.

"You set yourself up for scoring again when you sideline," he said. "We should be able to maintain the intensity."

The other significant changes concern the serve. Previously, a serve that hit the net resulted in a sideout for the other team — now a serve that hits the net and crosses to the other side is in play. Also, a server must strike the ball the first time she tosses it instead of the previously allowed two tosses.

Finally, an "international pursuit rule," stating that a player may replace a ball that has crossed the net pane or outside the antenna if the ball player doesn't to, on the opponent's court, has been introduced. Both team's coaches must agree to accept the rule before a match for the rule to be in effect.

If you are interested, please immediately contact

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czoogus@rice.edu

FGS

It's a huge shift. Last year there were lots of divisions — this year practice is a lot of fun."

by Chris Larson

"Elizabeth Davenport Pollock
Junior middle blocker"

There powerful freshmen outside hitters will go a long way toward solving that problem. Lindsay Carter was the most valuable player of the Florida Class 3A state championship tournament, and Rebekah Pollock has been a member of the Venezuelan national teams at the youth junior and senior levels since 1997.

Add the more size heights — a lot of height — to floor outside hitter Catherine DaPrada and 6-1 middle blocker Rebecca Kulin, and it's obvious why Morales is so excited.

"They're a very strong contingent," Morales said. "They have all been in competitive situations throughout their lives. They're more balanced in terms of basic skills, they're stronger and more well-rounded than other freshmen we've brought in."

The hitters will join senior Leigh Leman, a preseason all-WAC pick who knocked down 464 kills last season and carried the Owls to several victories in parentheses.

STANDINGS

The results of the Western Athletic Conference preseason poll, ranked in order of each conference's overall ranking.

1. Hawaii 13-0
2. San Jose State 10-6
3. Nevada 7-9
4. Boise State 6-10
5. Fresno State 4-12
6. New Mexico 3-12
7. Tulsa 2-12
8. Louisiana Tech 1-12
9. SMU 0-12
10. Louisiana Tech 0-12

Owls hope talented freshmen, team spirit carry team to NCAA berth

Senior outside hitter Leigh Leman, seen here knocking down a kill against Southern Methodist University last season, in a preseason all-Western Athletic Conference pick and will lead Rice's hitting attack this year.

New faces and a new attitude

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Now is the buzzword for the volleyball team this season.

After jumping out to a 14-3 start last season, things began to unravel for the Owls as they lost nine straight matches and saw their dreams of an NCAA tournament berth disappear.

This season, however, the Owls possess the talent to help them get another good start — and keep the momentum going throughout the season.

To start off, they've got four new freshmen that head coach Julio Morales calls his best recruiting class ever. Last year, the Owls' most glaring weaknesses was having too few hitters consistently putting down kills — Rice finished last in the Western Athletic Conference last season with a .193 hitting percentage.

This season, however, the Owls will go a long way toward solving that problem. Lindsay Carter was the most valuable player of the Florida Class 3A state championship tournament, and Rebekah Pollock has been a member of the Venezuelan national teams at the youth junior and senior levels since 1997.

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Leigh has been a very stable competitor on the team since freshman year, sometimes not with the best situations," Morales said. "One thing you can't take away from her is that she's a fierce competitor."

The Owls have a new setup on the court as well. After setter Nal Kalogrigis left the team in the middle of the season, Rice went to a 6-2, or two-setter, attack, with senior Leigh Leman and sophomore Rebekah Pollock both doubling as setters and outside hitters. The

Owls have never played with two setters on the court at once, and it showed. The team frequently appeared confused and rarely put in a game with a consistent hitting attack.

This year, Rice is committed to a 5-1 attack with one setter on the court. As Leigh and junior Muriel Davenport Pollock are battling for the starting setter spot.

I personally really like the 5-1," junior middle blocker Elizabeth Davenport Pollock said. "I think it's much more conducive to team unity and offense and gives people more designated roles. I think last year we stumbled around a lot with the 6-2 because we had never played it before, but now everyone coming in is used to a 5-1."

Morales said both of his setters are working hard and will be ready when the season begins.

"We're working on developing who's going to do what," he said. "Saturday's scrimmage gave us some insight, one has better flow and decision making, and the other is getting technically better. Both of them can set. We're going to see what's going on this week to help us make a decision on who's going to go first."

"Setting is still somewhat new for Neal, who began her setting career last season."

"The first time I set was last year when they threw me in," Neal said. "It was difficult and frustrating at times, trying to do different things, but it's been fun. I always wanted to set even since I started playing. I just never got the opportunity."

Also new for this year are Muriel Davenport Pollock's assistant coaches, Gia Boccasini, who left to coach at Denison University, replacing them are Doug Babington and Tracy McWilliams, who both honed their college head coaching experience at Belclere College and Galveston College in a 52-29 record. See VOLLEYBALL, Page 79.
**2001-02 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE**

**August**
- 31 Samford* & Stephen F. Austin*
  - Autry Court: 3 p.m.
  - Autry Court: 7 p.m.

**September**
- 1 Houston* & Autry Court: 11 a.m.
- 4 Texas A&M* & Autry Court: 5 p.m.
- 12 Sam Houston State & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 7 Texas A&M & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 11 California of Florida Atlantic & Biloxi, Miss.: 7 p.m.
- 14 Louisiana State* & Baton Rouge, La.: 1 p.m.
- 15 Florida A&M & Baton Rouge, La.: 3 p.m.
- 16 George Mason* & Baton Rouge, La.: 11 a.m.
- 18 Southwest Texas State & San Marcos: 7 p.m.
- 27 Boise State (WAC) & Boise, Idaho: 8 p.m.
- 29 Nevada (WAC) & Reno, Nev.: 8 p.m.

**October**
- 4 Hawaii (WAC) & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 6 San Jose State (WAC) & Autry Court: 6 p.m.
- 7 Fresno State (WAC) & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 18 Southern Methodist (WAC) & Dallas: 7 p.m.
- 20 Texas-State (WAC) & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 25 Louisiana Tech (WAC) & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 27 Tulsa & Tulsa, Okla.: 7 p.m.

**November**
- 1 Arkansas & Autry Court: 6 p.m.
- 3 Louisiana Tech (WAC) & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 4 Tulsa (WAC) & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 6 Southern Methodist (WAC) & Autry Court: 7 p.m.
- 10 Texas-Pan American (WAC) & El Paso: 7 p.m.
- 15-16 WAC Tournament & San Jose, Calif.
- 23 Washington State* & Las Vegas, Nev.: 10 p.m.
- 24 UNLV of William & Mary's & Las Vegas, Nev.: TBA

**December**
- 1 NCAM First/Second Rounds & Campus Sites: TBA
- 6-9 NCAM Regional & Campus Sites: TBA
- 13 NCAM Semifinals & San Diego, Calif.
- 15 NCAM Championship & San Diego, Calif.

(WAC) denotes a Western Athletic Conference game.

* Rice Institutional; Aug, 31-Sep, 9 (Rice University, host)
* Gordon Bear Classic, Sept. 7-8 (University of California)
* Tiger Classic; Sept. 14-15 (Louisiana State)
* UNLV of Thanksgiving Classic; Nov. 23-24 (University of Nevada at Las Vegas)

All times are central standard time.

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**Owls to learn life on the road**

WAC split into two divisions: Rice will gun for eastern division title

by Chris Larson

Frankly speaking, Rice Owls head coach Julio Morales was looking forward to the Owls' three tournament weekends this fall.

"If you're interested in watching the volleyball team play, next weekend will be one of your only opportunities for a while," Morales said. "A&M might be back for an entire month until Oct. 4, when they host the University of Nevada at Las Vegas and their Western Athletic Conference home opener.

"The Owls open the season by hosting the Crowne Plaza Rice Invitational next Friday and Saturday. After a Sept. 4 date against Sam Houston State University, they won't be back for an entire month until Oct. 4, when they host the University of Hawaii in their Western Athletic Conference home opener.

"The month long span will see Rice play eight straight matches away from Autry Court."

"We play three tournaments in a row that are pretty tough," head coach Julio Morales said. "It should get us going and test how far we can go."

"Highlighting the Owls nonconference schedule are games against Texas A&M University, which is ranked 18th nationally and is coming off a 20-9 season, and Louisiana State University. Rice plays against Southeastern Conference opponents University of Tennessee, which posted a 23-10 record last season, and Louisiana State University, which owns an 11-1 record in the series against Rice."

"It will set a tone for where we will be," Morales said. "A&M might be one of the top three teams in the nation, and we play at LSU, which is a pretty quality program."

"WAC play will take on a significantly different look this season, with the conference split into two divisions. Rice will go east, and the other five WAC schools will comprise the western division. Rice will play each eastern team twice, with one game at home and one game away. The Owls will play each western squad once, with a rotating year to year schedule, deciding which team is home. In all, each WAC team will play 13 conference matches."

"It's a good thing having the two divisions," Morales said. "Certainly helps in terms of managing the players and their schedule and travel — we're the longest traveling conference in the country, and you never get used to it."

"The division alignment should also be beneficial to the Owls. Last year's top three teams in the conference standings were Hawaii, San Jose State University, and the University of Nevada, and all three are in the western division. Of the east conference teams, only Tulsa, which went 20-13 playing a soft nonconference schedule but struggled in the 4-12 WAC mark, tallied more wins than Rice's 17 last season. Add to that the fact that this year's games against Hawaii, San Jose State and Nevada are not at home."

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Men's hoops faces manageable slate
Owls hope for a sizeable homecourt advantage with 15 games at Autry
by Chris Larson

Autry Court has been kind to the men's basketball team the past few years. Though the Owls have pointed just one winning season in their last five campaigns, their home record over the stretch is 41-24, including a solid 10-5 mark a year ago and a opening 13-1 tally during the 1998-99 season.

The Owls hope the trend continues. Their schedule for the upcoming season includes 15 home games, which equals the number of games Rice played at Autry last season and is the most since the 1986-87 season. Seven of the Owls 11 nonconference games are at home.

Rice's nonconference slate should give the team a chance to build some confidence heading into Western Athletic Conference play. None of Rice's 11 opponents advanced to the NCAA tournament last year. Baylor University, which visits Autry Court Dec. 1, is Rice's only nonconference foe to have received a postseason invitation a year ago, as the Bears lost in the first round of the National Invitation Tournament.

Still, head coach Willis Wilson feels there will be enough tough games to prepare his team for WAC play. The Owls open the season against the United States Naval Academy, which advanced to the championship game of the Patriot League tournament last year.

Rice closes its nonconference schedule against VCU College-a team that went 20-11 last year and handed Rice a 76-72 loss Jan. 13. "We're going to be tested early," Wilson said. "The nonconference schedule affords a good test. We've got some home games and then we have a road stretch and then we come back home again. Hopefully it will be a schedule that we will be challenged by, just at the same time we'll be able to gain valuable confidence as we head into conference play."

With the addition of Boise State University and Louisiana Tech University to the conference, the Owls will play a total of 18 WAC games. They begin with what may be their toughest challenge all season, a Jan. 3 game against defending champion Fresno State University.

The Bulldogs finished 26-7 last season and advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament. Four of Rice's first six WAC games are on the road, and a couple of early road wins would give the Owls the opportunity to establish themselves as a contender in the conference.

"To conference play, we'll play an extended stretch of road games," Rice basketball coach Kevin Wilson said. "We start off with a bang at our home court."

"It's a mental thing," Lopez said. "She needs to overcome that because after Rice every summer she's going to want to look good. I told her not to worry about it, and to go to China and run like she did at the national championships."

Beckford wasn't the only Owl competing on the international stage this summer. Junior Alice Falaye won the gold medal in the long jump at the Games of the Americas in Guadalajara, Mexico, July 21, with a leap of 20 feet, 11 1/4 inches.

Falaye also competed for her native Canada in the long jump in Edmonton but missed the final, recording a mark of 19-9 3/4. Senior Jordha Moneley took the bronze medal in the 100-meter hurdles in Guatemala, and Moneley and junior 800-meter runner Stanley Wright are also competing in Beijing.

A couple of former Owls also competed in the winter/spring season. Kareem Sireno-Thompson, a Running Back from Rice, played in the World Championships from 1991 '95 while at Rice, won the gold medal at CAC with a jump of 25 1 3/4 and finished fifth in 400-meter hurdles at the World Championships with a mark of 25 1 3/4.

Andrew Blackett, who graduated from Rice in 1997, failed to advance past the qualification heats in the 400-meter hurdles. 

Three Owls compete at World University Games

Track and Field:

TRACK, from Page 23

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MOST IMPORTANT, you'll learn the communications needed to sell venture capitalists, future employees, and prospective board members on your concept. Course professor Dr. June Ferrill coached undergraduate Rice Alliance presenters; some have been invited to present their business ideas to venture capitalists for funding. Will you be the next successful entrepreneur?

https://www.ovinet.rice.edu/~engi305

WAC volleyball tourney back after two-year hiatus

First place in our division is what we're shooting for," Morales said. "This is where the conference setup comes in. Whoever comes in first is not going to meet instant. But by then anything can happen."

The Owls know a major key to succeeding in conference play is building momentum with a good start to nonconference action. "We start off with a bang at our home court - season opener against VCU College," Rice senior Laetitia Noben said. "It's going to be away most of September. And we're the winning team, so when we get back people will want to come and watch us."
It doesn’t get much tougher than this

The Lady Owls will get a chance to build up to the killer four-game stretch. They open the season with some of the toughest opponents in the country. "The schedule is tough; maybe it’s going to be easier. In fact, capturing the conference crown will likely be a tougher challenge, as Louisiana Tech University makes its WAC debut this season," Neal said.

After hosting Notre Dame, the Lady Owls begin their campaign for a Western Athletic Conference title by traveling to the University of Tulsa Dec. 30. Defending WAC champion Texas Christian University departed the conference to compete in Conference USA, but that doesn’t mean a WAC title will come any easier. In fact, capturing the conference crown will likely be a much tougher challenge, as Louisiana Tech University makes its WAC debut this season. The Lady Techsters have consistently been ranked in the top 10 nationally in the last few years. They finished last season ranked sixth nationally and advanced to the elite eight of the NCAA tournament, where they lost to the University of Connecticut.

The Owls, which defeated 10 letterwinners from last year’s 18-12 squad, will travel to Ruston, La., Jan. 26 and will host the Lady Techsters Feb. 21.

Owls’ blocking could be among nation’s best

The Lady Owls have a strong defense. Neal, who has devoted a large segment of the past season with 17.13 digs per game, and the Owl defense ranks second in the Western Athletic Conference and 15th in the NCAA last year in blocks per game.

Juniors Briania Cook and Elizabeth Davenport Pollock led the team in blocking last year and should only improve with another year of experience under their belts. With senior middle blocker Courtney Smith returning for her senior year and Rabin already having established herself as a serious blocking threat, Rice’s blocking game will be rivaled by few opponents nationwide.

"The game’s won at the net, and that’s blocking and hitting," Morales said. "Blocking’s the first opportunity to score, and now with rally score even more so." Rice will look to use its middle blockers more on defense this season, and the coaching staff has devoted a large segment of preseason practice to developing the connection between the setter and middle blockers.

"The middles are connecting a lot better than we ever have in the past," Elizabeth Davenport Pollock said. "That’s huge. Last year there were lots of divisions — this year we’ve been able to play and block together. One thing Rice is thankful hasn’t changed much is the team’s strength on defense. Senior defensive specialist Michelle Craven anchors a defense that produced a .269 attack percentage last season with 17.13 digs per game, and the Owls ranked second in the Western Athletic Conference and 15th in the NCAA last year in blocks per game.

The Owls hope one more new part fits into the equation this year — Rice’s first NCAA tournament berth. "I know we’re going to get to the NCAA tournament," Neal said. "I just don’t know how far."
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AUG 24

**ORIENTATION WEEK** is officially over. Expect many tired freshmen, some exhausted advisers and a sudden decline in business at House of Pies.

Decisions, decisions — FRESHMEN register by 5 p.m. today for their very first college classes. No matter how smart you are, 27 hours is not a normal coursework load.

Still haven’t gotten your smiling little mug on an ID yet? Real not, you have until 5 p.m. today to get over to the University Police station for your Glamor Shot.

Tired of mashed potatoes? Join Hillel, at its kickoff barbecue today in the Student Center from 4-7 p.m.

**Sunday**

AUG 25

Welcome back, Kotter... err... Not a freshmen register by 5 p.m. today for their very first college classes. No matter how smart you are, 27 hours is not a normal coursework load.

Still haven’t gotten your smiling little mug on an ID yet? Real not, you have until 5 p.m. today to get over to the University Police station for your Glamor Shot.

Tired of mashed potatoes? Join Hillel, at its kickoff barbecue today in the Student Center from 4-7 p.m.

**Friday**

AUG 31

Contemporary Worship: 8:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:40 AM
Traditional Worship: 11:00 AM

Come Worship the King!

West University Baptist Church invites you to worship, the study of God’s Word, and fellowship.

Welcome to Rice University. Your participation with fellow Christians is an important part of your Christian life. We encourage you to become involved with other believers through one of the many fine campus Christian groups. Fellowship and worship with a local church is equally important, and we invite you to join us. We have both contemporary and traditional Sunday worship services, as well as a college-level Sunday school class that is attended by many Rice University and Medical School students and taught by Dr. Jim Tour. Free breakfast is always served in the class, along with an opportunity to take the Lord’s Supper each Sunday morning.

We are located 2 miles directly west of campus, 6218 Auden between University Blvd. and Rice Blvd. Free round-trip shuttle service is provided each Sunday morning leaving at 8:15 AM and 9:15 AM from the Rice’s Allen Center parking lot. See www.wubc.org for more details, or call 713-668-2319.

Contemporary Worship: 8:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:40 AM
Traditional Worship: 11:00 AM
Save the children: Adopt-A-Martelian

Change the life of a Martelian...forever! Share your love, floor and Ramen noodles with a boy or girl Martelian who will soon be homeless in the dead of winter. Martelians are waiting now. Become an adopter today!
Every 17 minutes, another Martelian goes homeless.
Adopt-A-Martelian is a Hedonist-based mission started in 2000. We work in eight colleges and are working to assist all Martelians, regardless of class, former college or purity score, to find a nice, safe home on campus, or on West Campus. At the request of Bob Barker, Martelians have been spayed or neutered.

Meet a Martelian
I am a Martelian named Alex. My brother Ugena and I were born into a university that had a huge endowment, but they said we were too poor to give us anywhere to live. They gave me subsidized food points called Tetras, but they said I was too poor to give them for Martelians.
In a developed college, like Baker College, where the university provides housing and dining accommodations for students, it might be difficult to appreciate the challenges of Martelian life.
I would like to encourage everyone with good will to contribute to helping the homeless. There is so much joy in giving love and hope to others by adopting a Martelian.
I would like to take this forum to thank my Orientation Week adviser, who has agreed to adopt me and give me a place to live. I will always remember you and share the challenges of Martelian life.

The “How low can your purity test score go?” classifieds

HUNTING: MEXICAN ROOMMATES NEEDED
1 bed, 2 bath apt. Only 5 min. from Rice University. Must go today! Call Julie at (713) 368-7775.

NON-SMOKING CHRISTIAN Roommates needed. 4 bed, 2 bath house. Close to bus. Utilities included; (713) 661-1802.

TOWN HOME in Midtown available: 10 minute drive from campus. Great community; close to downtown restaurants/bars. 3 bed, 3 bath, hardwood floors, granite countertops. 1 car garage. Washer/dryer. Pets are negotiable. Call (713) 578-0580.

HELP WANTED:MATH AND VERBAL SAT Review needed! Requirements: high standardized test scores, reliable transportation, desire to help others succeed, and flexible evening/weekend schedule. Tuning background a plus. $15 an hour. Call SCORE Prep at (713) 463-5330.

GYMNASICS INSTRUCTORS needed in the Bellaire/Galleria area. Must be energetic, reliable and loved to work with kids. Willing to travel. Part-time or full-time. Call Peggy or Mardi at (713) 668-6001.

WANTED—RESPONSIBLE college student with reliable transportation (safe driver) to pick up two students who live in the River Oaks area and take them to after-school activities and supervised homework when needed. Hours: 5-8 p.m. Mon., Thurs. Salary very competitive. Please call (713) 572-5333 or send e-mail to homecoming2001.com.

WANTED—EXPERIENCED DRIVER with or without to provide after-school transportation for 13-year-old, needing be between 3:30 and 7 p.m. Must enjoy driving within 5 mile radius of Rice campus, 2-3 hours approximately, 10 hours total. Must provide references. Call M.A. Werner (713) 646-7658.

PART-TIME NEWBORN nannies needed. Most best-coming for children 5-15 yrs. Call at (713) 205-5999 or (713) 304-4179.

PART TIME CHILD CARE. MT. 2:45-5:15 p.m. Full time holiday, flexible hours, flexible hours. Can work per hour (negotiable) 2 days/7-5 yr old. Must have excellent driving record and references. Start Sept. (713) 724-0108. World University.

TUTORS WANTED: LEARNING, a private tutoring service, needs part-time tutors in the following subjects: mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, French, Spanish, English and Spanish. Flexible hours. Excellent pay. Reference required. Call (713) 528-2981.

PART-TIME NANNY needed Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Job involves picking up children at school (Hockaday & Butler lab) and babysitting, supervising play and homework. Must enjoy kids. If interested, please call Mary at (713) 947-3185.

SITTER NEEDED: Tuesday and Thursday 6-10 p.m. Great test score go? classifieds

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DEADLINE: Is Monday at 5 p.m. prior to Friday publication.

The Rice Thresher

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