Esperanza runs smoothly in spite of student arrest, field runs

by Michelle Afkhami

Houston Police Department officers had their hands full at Esperanza Saturday night when more than 600 dancers descended on Minute Maid Park.

Two pairs of Rice students muck onto the field and circled the bases during the dance. The first two students, Brown College freshmen Brian Dieter and Bradley Scherer, were not hit but were removed from the premises.

A third group of three students, with Scherer on the field, was like a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Scherer said. "I didn't do it, I would never be able to do it." Scherer said HPD officers asked him and Dieter to leave.

An unidentified couple ran the bases later in the evening. They began running clockwise instead of counterclockwise but turned around and ran the other way when jeered by lookout-ever in the stands. The students were not arrested.

HPD officers also detained three underage drinkers.

A Jones College freshman sounded on an HPD officer and was arrested and taken to Harris County jail for the night. As a result of processing problems, he was not released until Sunday afternoon.

Husband and wife, Rice students Scherer and Amery, said a traffic signal will be put up to city code, will result in the parking spaces in the lot will be re-painted to make all the spaces parallel to Laboratory Road and College Avenue.

The reorientation, along with the creation of wider aisles to bring the lot up to city code, will result in the loss of about 300 parking spaces. The entire West Lot has about 3,500 spaces.

The resident student lot will have two entrances and exists, one along the road through the parking lot where the shuttle stops and one at the back of the lot near Entrance 14.

Binsted said part of the work in the West Lot will include improving the extension of Laboratory Road so the primary exit from the West Lot towards Rice Boulevard will be at Entrance 11. Facilities Planner Mark Amery said a traffic signal will be put at the intersection of Rice Boulevard and Shepherd Drive after the completion of the Shepherd construction, projected to be 1999.

The perimeter of the resident student lot will have horseshoe bollards along the extension of Laboratory Road, while the other edges of the lot will be marked by a pattern of three layers of wheel stops of two different heights. Wheel stops are the concrete blocks that stop a car from pulling too far into a parking space.

Binsted said this type of perimeter is used because it is an effective way to ensure that people must go through the gates to access the lot.

See PARKING, Page 9
Changing parking

Yet again, it appears as if we'll be paying more to park on campus, but get less for our parking sticker. (See Story, Page 1.) Parking increase and the new parking lot is scheduled to be ready to be gated. Unsurprisingly, students are not in support of paying more to park. In addition, it is now projected that parking in the middle of the day are difficult for students to meet deadlines, and we are glad the office recognized this. However, the academic sectors still allows Rice to hire employees—like students—who do not receive benefits. Considering the scarcity of jobs for non-work-study students, this will be a great perk, even if it is only a temporary one.

Now, if only they would plan this well when it comes to parking.

Working it out

Most students come to Rice to learn about and be intellectually challenged by science, the humanities, music, architecture or engineering—not country western dancing. The activities of the Lifetime Physical Activity Program are fun and emphasize the value of fitness in a healthy lifestyle. (See Story, Page 1.) But classes that are not primarily academic should not be treated as seriously as those that are. Participating in these classes may not affect their GPAs but can still make an impression on a future employer. The system as it stands now is lose-lose. Instructors assign letter grades that do not reflect the students' GPAs, some students work hard to get a good grade, and the students' GPAs are not available. The Rice Vote Coalition will not consider these grades and will instead rely on any bus schedule. However, don't mean to say that the buses run late. I have witnessed total chaos on campus where students have to wait 15 minutes at the stop. If the they have seen showers pull up to the stop five to six minutes before they are scheduled to arrive, only to immediately leave again.

I know that the shuttle drivers are not running late because I end up waiting 15 minutes at the stop. However, previous bus has just been running late, I would have waited five. I have seen a woman chase the bus down, waving and crying to catch it after we were both walking toward the shuttle. The shuttle driver did not look around or even wait for more than a second before deciding to drive off. The woman practically ran up to the driver's attention. The message "I am not homophobic" phrase is often used to tone down a statement that is derogatory against minorities, the phrase "I am not homophobic" is used as an excuse for saying something which is, in fact, homophobic or outright degrading.

A phrase that is so frequently used as a justification for behavior that makes no sense and promote tolerance of all people, would have resulted in more people recognizing and challenging their personal intolerant behaviors.

Daniel County Brown senior

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Self-scheduling exams at the registrar; a tradition dating back to Gorbachev's Russia.

Vote Coalition reaches out to student body

To the editor:

The Vote Coalition is pleased to announce that the Vote Coalition now has representatives on student organizations that will help students to the English skills of the student body. In fact, the ENGLISH skills phrase is often used to tone down a statement that is derogatory against minorities, the phrase "I am not homophobic" is used as an excuse for saying something which is, in fact, homophobic or outright degrading.

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Lining up

We appreciate the Registrar's extension of the self-scheduled exam registration deadline from Wednesday noon to 5 p.m. after students waited in lines for more than an hour. However, the need to postpone the deadline should never have occurred.

Deadlines in the middle of the day are difficult for students to meet deadlines, and we are glad the office recognized this. However, the academic sectors still allows Rice to hire employees—like students—who do not receive benefits. Considering the scarcity of jobs for non-work-study students, this will be a great perk, even if it is only a temporary one.

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Now, if only they would plan this well when it comes to parking.
I wonder...
Journal reports Rice's admittance for blacks

Black applicants were admitted to Rice at a higher rate than non-black students last year, according to an article published in the The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education.

The JBLE article reported that black applicants who applied to Rice in 2001 were admitted at a rate of 28 percent, while the overall admission rate for non-black students was 20 percent.

The JBLE article also reported that Rice administrators determined the admittance rate for black students to be higher than the non-black students to be higher than the overall admittance rate for the university.

Joint Spontaneous
Philo show tonight

Two of Rice's favorite performers will come together for charity tonight.

The Philharmonics, a classical group, and Spontaneous Connections, an improvisational comedy troupe, will put on their first-ever joint show at 8 p.m. in Hamman Hall.

The suggested donation is $10 per person, although more is welcome.

The show will include performances by each group, in addition to collaborative efforts.

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Rice students who are interested in attending the show can contact Rice University's Office of Student Life at 713-321-1111.
Student Center gets wireless Internet access

by Mark dresser

Wireless Internet access was activated in the Student Center Monday. Associate Director of the Student Center Paul Sutera said the signal is available in the building and the part of the cloisters closest to the building, but wireless service is not available in the Rice Student Volunteer Program office or the Rice Chapel.

Access to the wireless network is restricted to those with a valid Rice account, Director of Educational Technology William Deigaard (Weiss '93) said. Information Technology does not consider the wireless network complete and wireless access in the Student Center will be unavailable for the next two days, Deigaard said.

The wireless network, which relies on signals from a main antenna in the Grand Hall and several auxiliary antennas, was paid for by a grant from the Telecommunication Infrastructure Fund. A portion of the cost is expected to be covered by grants from the volunteer program office or the Rice Student Volunteer Program, led by Sid Richardson College senior Charlotte Albrecht and Martel College senior Jonathan Bradley, was created in February and is sponsored by the Student Association.

The task force is working with a faculty committee that is trying to create a global and transnational studies program. The program would initially be offered only as a second major.

"Students don't often realize they would be interested in this until they are juniors and seniors, and then they graduate."

— Charlotte Albrecht
Ethnic studies task force member

"We have all the venues for people to study and relax," Sutera said. "The Coffeehouse is a perfect example — it could be a pseudo cybertelephone." says Rice University + students, faculty & staff

print sale

Rice University Art Department's Annual Print Sale

think holidays

etchings, monoprints, etc.

by Rice University + students, faculty & staff

Prints from Flashed Press-Austin, Tx.

Artists will be present to help you with your framing needs.

MON. + TUES. DECEMBER 2-3

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Call 713-348-4815 for directions
**Afghanistan culture and redevelopment topic of symposium**

**by Ian Everhart**

Experts on Afghanistan and Central Asia evaluated Afghanistan's potential for development at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy Monday for the International Symposium on Afghanistan. Sponsored by the Baker Institute, the French Consulate General and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the event featured a panel discussion and several addresses about the Central Asian country's transition.

"Today, a new Afghanistan is emerging after more than two decades of war and tragedy for the Afghan people," said — Denis Pietton, Minister counselor of the French Embassy.

Pietton, Minister counselor of the French Embassy, opened the event by describing the "Afghan miracle" that has taken place since U.S. forces attacked Afghanistan in 2001.

"Today, a new Afghanistan is emerging after more than two decades of war and tragedy for the Afghan people," he said.

People are back to work, children of both genders are back in school, and nations around the world are helping to rebuild Afghanistan, Pietton said.

"These achievements are the first fruits of the efforts of the Afghan people and its leaders ... and the steady resolve and involvement of the international community," he said.

Pietton closed by restating the commitment of France and the European Union to rebuild Afghanistan. France will maintain its forces in the region in order to provide security and will build democratic institutions and contribute financially to the reconstruction of the country, he said.

Following Pietton at the podium was Ishig Shahrizy, the first internationally recognized ambassador from Afghanistan to the United States since 1978. Shahrizy emphasized the need for investment in Afghanistan's private sector.

"Afghanistan has (had) many political revolutions," he said. "It's time to have an economic revolution. The military campaign is successful. Let us build a country."

Shahrizy extended a specific invitation to American businesses and entrepreneurs to invest in Afghanistan.

"Our friends and our enemies will judge us on how we build Afghanistan," he said.

Olivier Roy, an expert on Afghanistan from the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in Paris, analyzed patterns of Afghan politics in recent history.

Afghanistan's reputation as an unruly and anarchic country is not justified, he said. In the period between Afghanistan's formation in 1881 and the communist coup d'etat in 1978, only two short periods of strife — a foreign war in 1919 and a civil war in 1929 — punctuated the country's tranquility.

"Today, a new Afghanistan is emerging after more than two decades of war and tragedy for the Afghan people," he said.

"Afghanistan has a rather stable country, or at least more stable than France in the same period," Roy said.

Afghanistan remained stable despite the fact that almost all of the country's borders were drawn arbitrarily by colonial powers with disregard for ethnic and cultural boundaries.

"The United States is committed to have an economic revolution. The Taliban were deposed. Six hundred thousand refugees are returning," Roy said. "It was this event that polarized and divide[d] the country."

The final speaker of the symposium was Special Presidential Envoy for Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad.

Khalilzad said success in Afghanistan would help the whole region and must be achieved through cooperation.

"The United States is committed to have an economic revolution. The Taliban were deposed. Six hundred thousand refugees are returning," Roy said. "It was this event that polarized and divide[d] the country."

"Today, a new Afghanistan is emerging after more than two decades of war and tragedy for the Afghan people," he said.

Special Presidential Envoy for Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad spoke Monday about the need for foreign countries to stay involved in Afghanistan.

"Afghanistan has returned to a framework for regional stability," he said.

Khalilzad praised the efforts of the many countries currently working to build a framework for Afghanistan's new government. Germany, France and the United States are working to establish security around the country and begin work to revitalize legal structures, he said.

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Get Rice?

**by Lindsey Gilbert**

Students woke up to trees blanketed in white Sunday morning, but it wasn't a snowstorm — it was a case of late-night toilet papering.

Various campus locations were vandalized with toilet paper Saturday night, including the lobbies in front of the Sallyport, President Malcolm Gillis' house, buildings in the academic quadrangle and trees near both the North and South colleges.

Willy's Stature was also swathed in toilet paper.

Several students said they saw a rowdy group roaming the campus when they were leaving for or returning from Esperanza.

"It's just mischievous," said. "It's not a criminal action, it's just mischievous."

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Temporary hiring freeze to be re-evaluated in April

The Rice Thresher, Thursday, November 22, 2002

FREESING, Staff P.  hourly workers, currently makes up 50 percent of Rice's budget. While this is a large target, she said, "We have not had a hiring freeze of a target like that at all. The real target is to try to assess hiring and try to show it down when that happens." She said the university does not allow any hiring freeze measures planned as of yet.

Some experts have impacted Rice's financial situation: the endowment has lost about 4 percent on its investment since the endowment committee was established in 1990, and is currently worth $2.75 billion. The endowment's contribution to the university's budget comes from endowment payout — money earned on the endowment. The amount it will go up next year is considered to be around 6 percent.

Kathy Matthews, the dean of the Wiess School of Natural Sciences, said the hiring freeze will have a significant impact on the university's attempt to become the director of Student Activities. The current director of Student Activities, Taylor, said the freeze reflects the reality of our economic times. Rice is certainly unique in this, and there are means of dealing with certain budgetary issues. We'll just have to deal with it as best we can.

Kathy Matthews, Dean of the Wiess School of Natural Sciences

Matthews said each of the natural science departments will be devastated by the freeze. "There's no way of having any guarantees because we have to get permission, but there's no certainty on the criteria because without it, we don't have O-Week," Clark said.

"Student Association President Matt Haynie said the students should be aware of the university's financial standing, and the possibility that a student's contribution is important. Student Activity Board president David B. Taylor said that severe cuts could go unfilled in part because the freeze could affect students.

Matthews said the position will be filled. "I'm pretty confident that the President's Office is going to recognize where there are really strong needs and make sure those positions get filled," Haynie, a Wheaton College student, said.

Rice University Police Chief Bill Taylor said the police department has 240 people on staff. If critical positions that will go unfilled if the freeze continues, he said, "We're much more selective."

"I'm having friends at other institutions, in having to be... "We have to be sure we provide that education," Taylor said.

Many students expressed concern about the economy. "I'm pretty confident that the President's Office is going to recognize where there are really strong needs and make sure those positions get filled," Haynie, a Wheaton College student, said.

"I have had friends at other institutions where even police officers had to be cut, and that's something I'm not happy to do," Taylor said.

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Students consider athlete waiver for LPAP requirement

LPAP, from Page 1
No student is exempt from the LPAP requirement on the basis of participation in varsity, club or other extracurricular activities.

Several students at the forum inquired about eliminating the LPAP requirement but keeping the program itself.

McMasters and Hutchinson agreed that eliminating the requirement would jeopardize the present diversity of offerings. Changes are currently offered in about 40 different areas, from.tango to flag football, McMasters said.

"I can tell you that if we eliminated the requirement, funding would drop, and we would have fewer resources to provide what people want," he said. "You would not be talking about the department you are talking about now."

Many students argued that the spirit of the LPAP requirement can be fulfilled by participating in a sport, and for this reason, athletes should be exempt.

"I don't think LPAP should be graded for or credit," Haynie said. "If I think people should have to write a paper about their performance when picking a class, they should not have to worry if they can't play."

Hutchinson said in an effort to conserve LPAP 101 and 102, a pass/fail system would likely encourage resistance among the faculty.

"I think the faculty would be reluctant to make the instructor grade the course a certain way," he said.

Originally scheduled for Nov. 5, the forum was postponed in order to hold a special forum for football coach Ken Hatfield's controversial comments concerning homosexuals in the Nov. 1 Chronicle of Higher Education.

Haynie said he regretted the postponement because it delayed the process of approaching the CUC.

"We had had the forum when we intended, we may have been able to approach the curriculum committee this semester and try to make changes for next year," Haynie, a Will Rice senior, said. "Now we will have to wait until after the break."

An appealing selling on the SA Web site will ask students for opinions on different issues regarding the LPAP requirement. Haynie said the SA plans to draft a report based primarily on student opinion next semester.

"The committee might be happy seeing one of the LPAP requirements, particularly if people had clearly defined views on the matter," Pomerantz, a psychology professor, said. "A report coming to the committee might be a little more useful."

The faculty last seriously examined the requirement in 1989, when an ad hoc committee determined the faculty was deeply split on the matter, Hutchinson said.

"We haven't talked about the issue for quite some time," he said.

Haynie said the SA will continue to focus on gathering student opinions.

"The key is going to be focusing on a couple of specific changes," Haynie said. "Student opinion, we need to know what all those issues should be."

Hundreds wear Pride shirts at game

by Mark Birrensen

More than 100 football fans sporting "I am not homophobic" T-shirts at Saturday's Homecoming game against the University of Hawaii, the first home game since comments made by head football coach Ken Hatfield appeared in the Chronicle of Higher Education.

"We are talking about now." McMasters said. "His background in diversity issues makes him a very positive choice for the council," Haynie, a Will Rice College senior, said.

While Gillis had hoped to convene the committee before Thanksgiving, it is not clear if this will be possible, Shepard said.

"It does not seem like that is going to be possible given the amount of people who are nominating are," he said.

Shepard added that although experience is important, it is more important that the formation process is thorough.

A committee that will undertake the Athletics Department evaluation called for in the resolution of the SA will most likely be announced today, Shepard said.

In the resolution, the SA called for "an evaluation by the university of practices in the Athletics Department that may discriminate against homosexual athletes or foster an environment of intolerance."

Shepard said the committee will consist of faculty, students and staff.

Details on the group's purpose will also be announced today.

Pride sold all 100 "I am not homophobic" T-shirts funded by the President's Office and made another 100 to sell at "comeback" football game. Pride President Tuaolo, who played for five teams, said the group has received further suggestions from Pride for potential members of the committee. However, Tuaolo, who was still waiting on recommendations for Student Association, Graduate Student Association and Faculty Association representatives.

Gillis was out of town and could not be reached for comment.

"I was wondering how a lot of students wearing them, and Sammy put the shirt up on the SA's Twitter," Miller, a Brown College sophomore said.

Miller said the only negative look he received was from some football players who told her they wanted to support their coach.

"I wasn't that they weren't supportive of it, they just didn't want to express it," Miller said.

Because the additional T-shirts were not paid for by the President's discretionary fund, Pride is currently waiting on President Malcolm Gillis to ask Gillis to pay for the additional T-shirts.

Haynie said he was glad to see so many students supporting both the team and the university's non-discrimination policy.

"I was at the football game, and partially I was just there to make sure that the football team was supported, and I think that was what a lot of people were doing," Haynie said.

McMillan, a Brown senior, said Pride to not planning any more activities for this semester but is looking to bring a gay or lesbian athlete to campus in the spring as a guest speaker. McMillan said one possibility is former National Football League defensive linemen. Evers said the group plans to announce today including the Green Bay Packers that the team has nominated their nine year career thus ended in 1999.

Haynie said he predicts a drop in student activism in the coming weeks, but he stressed that this does not mean the student body is not interested.

"Even if the issue seems to die down now, there will be a lot of students fighting for a lot of things, Haynie said. "This is going to be a lot of opportunities for next semester."

Opportunities for Hispanic Students

by Mark Birrensen

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First-year graduate students may be charged increased amount

PARKING, from Page 1

"This is not impossible to drive over, but it is difficult, and if you study at the School of Continuing Studies, it will still be able to access short-term parking. Some students said gating the lot would cause traffic problems. "Wouldn't that make hellish traffic on University and Shepherd?" one student said. "Don't assume all students are not only Rice people, but people in the community." Lovett College junior Sarah Munson said. "There's already bad traffic in the afternoon."

However, others said it would not be a big deal. "All the people who are worried are wrong," Baker College freshman Phil Liss said. "The infrequency of traffic at any one time is really quite small." The Parking Committee met Nov. 14 to discuss issues related to the parking fees for next year. Committee members said Binford told them he now estimates it will take 22 years before the parking system can support itself financially, instead of 10 years as originally stated in spring.

Assistant Professor of Physics Doug Nelson, a committee member, said he is not surprised that it will take more than 15 years for parking to reach an equilibrium between costs and revenue. "There are lots of sources of expenses, and the sources of revenues are sometimes difficult to determine ahead of time, so it is not surprising," Nelson said.

Binford said expenses were higher than expected, while revenues were lower. "We've done some things to make this a more palatable system, and the same time we added expenses," Binford said.

Binford said one reason for the decrease in revenue in that more people than expected bought the 8-per-year Greenbriar Lot permits instead of the more expensive West Lot permits, which cost undergraduates $35 per year.

Binford said one shuttle bus was originally supposed to run on the Greenbriar Loop for seven hours a day, but due to demand, there are now two shuttles on the Greenbriar Loop for 15 hours a day, increasing expenditures. "Because of the amount of people who ended up coming [to the Greenbriar Lot], we had to do that, and that was $120,000 in extra cost in operating those shuttles," Binford said.

Binford said a shuttle stop will not be built in the Greenbriar Lot until the summer at the earliest because funding will not be available until the start of the 2003-04 fiscal year July 1. The funding is from capital programs, part of the annual budget.

The committee also discussed whether to continue charging higher rates to freshmen next year. The rates would be applied to freshmen and sophomores.

Binford said projections of revenue in future years assume that next year's freshmen and sophomores will have to pay higher parking fees. Although the system will be graduated, so freshmen pay more. Binford said President Malcolm Gillis knows this is an important issue that should be thoroughly considered.

Lovett College junior Bryan Deblank, a member of the parking committee, said Binford still has not said what will happen in three years, when the price for a space in the college lots will be about the same as that of a stadium lot space, thus eliminating the monetary premium for the close-in student parking.

"He just said that he hadn't looked at it yet and that it was not a priority," Deblank said. Also raised was graduate student tuition fees. "Not all first-year graduate students live at the Graduate Apartment," and every single graduate student has to commute off campus and therefore they have some degree of convenience, whether it's walking from a block away or having to drive," Scotcher, a biochemistry graduate student, said.

Scotcher said the graduate students were being targeted unfairly. "I don't know where this idea has come from or what their rationale is behind it is—I know the rationale is that they need more money, but why they should target first-year graduate students, I don't know," he said.

The parking committee will meet in January and will make a recommendation to Gillis about next year's fees. Binford said although the recommendation is nonbinding and Gillis gets advice from other sources, he takes the recommendation seriously. Binford also said his own comments to the parking committee are not always followed. "I can talk until I am blue in my face, but if they don't want to do it, they aren't going to do it," Binford said.

Nateison said he thinks the committee knows the issue of setting fees is sensitive. "We are going to do our best to make sure that the fee structure that the committee recommends tries to strike some balance between the need of increased revenue and some sensible level of what people can and should pay," Nateison said.

Binford said the committee could be pulled towards relaxing the fees or making them tougher. "There's a lot of change that's been done, so it may be possible that no one has the stomach to push ourselves to the limit that we set ourselves," Binford said. "Then again, if it's a tough year for the endowment, there may be some push to continue on."
Despite a crisp fall day for football and an energized Homecoming crowd, the Owls were defeated by Hawaii 33-28 in the season finale. (See Story, Page 15.) However, there were still many highlights in the game for the Owls.

Above: Junior fullback Robbie Beck pulls away from would-be Hawaii tacklers on his 32-yard second quarter touchdown run that gave Rice a 14-7 lead. It was Beck's second touchdown of the game.

Left: Beck celebrates his touchdown with junior offensive lineman Ben Stephens.

Below: Junior quarterback Kyle Herm looks for an opening in the Warrior defense on one of his seven carries. Herm averaged 29 yards per completion on the day.
Alex Cullen presents strong acoustic set

Caroline Shaw

I headed out to Stilt Richardson College senior Alex Cullen's concert Friday night dressed with a touch of Swami, wearing my mother's corduroy coat from her college days.

Cullen's guitar style is very percussive on the quicker songs, with string slaps punctuating every chord. The result is an edgy texture, but he still managed to explore the guitar's potential resonance and timbre. After, it's a great instrument — brand new. In the middle of the concert, Cullen referred to his recent purchase, declaring, 'I'm not trying to say it's better than you know what.' A smile revealed his satisfaction.

Long guitar interludes allow the music to exhale, but sometimes the overall climactic structure of the song is lost. As he played, the brighter lights reflected off the bright varnish, dancing rhythmically against the dark wall of the DiverseWorks Artspace. Cullen's performance style seems to fit best in a certain frame of mind. He dislikes the notion of a song so carefully contained in every minute of space, and he often blurs the ends of songs with a few chats trickling away. Long guitar interludes allow the music to exhale, but sometimes the overall climactic structure of the song is lost.

Roxy Paine deconstructs nature in CAMH exhibit

Carly Kocurek

Roxy Paine produces art worth watching. Literally.

Roxy Paine's "second nature" Rating: **** (out of five)
Free, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, 5216 Montrose Blvd.

His art-making machines, on display at the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston produce sculptures, paintings and ink drawings before your eyes. For example, the painting machine produces the "Scumak series," extraordinary, delicate polyethylene forms, strange sculptures, some of which resemble swirling piles of momentary patterns. Paine's machines attempt to challenge the idea of form. The pieces produced are each unique because the machines' follow directions Paine has programmed into computers to make each piece different. However, in spite of careful programming, the works take on life of their own.

For example, the painting machine produces a variety of crystalline forms, some of which resemble mushrooms. Paine's machines attempt to challenge the idea of form. The pieces produced are each unique because the machines' follow directions Paine has programmed into computers to make each piece different. However, in spite of careful programming, the works take on life of their own.

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CAMH exhibit makes art of machines

CREATION, from Page 11

the machine's conveyer belt, threatening to drip to the museum floor. Perhaps the greatest thing about Paine's machines is the way they allow the artistic object to be appreciated from a number of angles, both technical and aesthetic.

While the sculptures were interesting to look at, the mechanical operation of the machine was equally interesting, as was the application of computer programming to the production of physical art objects that look surprisingly precise. The machines are technically precise, able to shut off exactly when commanded to by the attached computers.

Here also, we see a type of modern ideal of art: Ostensibly, the machines could produce an infinite number of unique sculptures, paintings and drawings. Everyone could have one, each would be art and each would be unique. The artist's real work, then, would be designing the machine. Paine's machines represent a fusion of the artistic and the mechanical that is surprisingly seductive.

In addition to the art-producing machines, the exhibit contains a series of sculptures of natural objects. A small segment of a field of poppies stands on the floor of the museum. A littered poison ivy field is trapped safely in a glass case. A whole crop of deadly Amanita Virosa mushrooms spend on one wall. Paine's work proves that nature out of context looks flat bizarre. Paine's nature models are the result of painstaking work. The note to the poppy reminds museumgoers that poppies are a cash crop in many countries and are primarily used as opiates and therefore have complicated economic implications. That's fine, but if Paine's intention had anything to do with drug economies, it was lost on me, and I felt a little annoyed at the exhibit for insisting I think of the display in a drug context.

I enjoyed the machines and their products much more than Paine's natural works. But, if you go to the CAMH for the exhibit, I recommend looking at the pieces and forming your own ideas before reading the museum's notes to them. Paine's exhibit is one of those unique mind-bending things. I tend to think art should make you think something new or look at something differently. Paine's exhibit succeeds.
In general, Yo La Tengo are good indie for beginners. They’re great at demonstrating that innovation and accessibility can coexist harmoniously. Their newest EP, Nuclear War, which features four different versions of the Sun Ra song “Nuclear War,” can be chalked up as another interesting piece of work by the band. The song’s originator, Sun Ra, began releasing innovative free jazz albums in the 1950s and is likely pleased with this creative handling of the title track from his Nuclear War album, released this year. The track takes on nuclear war with repetitive and profane lyrics (like “you’ve got no ass/you’ve lost your ass” and rhymes like “radiation, mutations”).

For anyone questioning if the same song four times can be worthwhile, don’t worry.

The track takes on nuclear war with repetitive and profane lyrics.

The third version is a rascous primal treatment, regaled with timpani, bongos, congas and great screaming that descends into a long jazz jam session and makes nuclear holocaust almost sound fun. Mike Ladd of Ozone completed version four, which is a remix of the haunting children’s chorus version. As might be expected from Ladd, this final version is heavier in electronics than the second track and sounds even more apocalyptic.

For anyone questioning whether listening to the same song four times can be worthwhile, don’t worry. The album delivers more than 40 minutes of music that jumps between genres. Whether or not you like jazz, indie rock or any of the other genres on this album, you’ll find something to enjoy and you might even find yourself nodding along to whatever track you thought you’d like least.

— Carly Kocurek
Foul play has no place in powderpuff

I used to think powderpuff exemplified the wonderful ungenerosity of Rice. It was a game about who could put the biggest bruise on the other team. But when I step back and look at the game, it doesn't make sense. I know that when I step back and think about it, it just doesn't have a place in our friendly intercollege spirit, and it should be eliminated. But the win-at-all-costs mentality has a place in powderpuff, just as it has a place in football. 

It seems like recently there's been less talk about football, because we've been getting beat. As a result, people are beginning to realize that football is not the only sport here at Rice. We have a lacrosse team. We have a powderpuff team. We have a track team. We have a soccer team. And we have a student body that cares about these things. 

We are a close-knit team that knows our goals and is dedicated to achieving them. We are a team that works hard and plays with heart. We are a team that has a history of success and a tradition of excellence. 

I hope everyone else is too. 

We showed that despite having the half team injured, we are still capable of competing.
Football season ends with close loss

by Jason Gershman

The football team came up just shy of victory Saturday, a fitting finale to a disappointing 47-31 season. Rice drove almost 30 yards in the final two minutes before facing third- and fourth-from-the-Hawaii 12-yard line with under 20 seconds remaining and no timeouts left. The Owls failed to pick up the first down on two option attempts, turning the ball over on downs closer than a 23-28 loss to the University of Hawaii, ranked 25th in the nation.

It was the third loss in the final two minutes of a game this season for Rice, along with disappointing late losses to Fresno State and UTEP, leaving the Owls at 5-7 instead of a possible 7-5. While Rice came up short Saturday, its homecoming display featured a standout performance from freshman wide receiver Marcus Battle, who totalled 197 offensive yards and scored twice. After scoring on a 60-yard reverse midway through the third quarter, Battle caught a 54-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Greg Henderson to cut a 15-point deficit to five.

"If you keep on looking back saying, 'What if?' you'll only make yourself depressed. You can't do that to yourself," senior B.J. Ferguson said.

Rice's 123 receiving yards mark the ninth-highest single-game total in school history, the most since 1984. The top six spots on the single-game receiving list all came from 1976, when All-American receiver and current Owls assistant coach Ken Hatfield said, "It didn't matter who we played, he did a great job getting the ball away from the defender. What people don't know is that he had a heart problem, and we thought he was going to have to miss the season after the second week. We had a hard time trying to decide what the right thing was to do, but the doctor said he could play, and he did.

While the team's seniors said they were disappointed in the outcome of their final game, they said the close losses are just part of the college football experience. "We learn leadership skills, and that includes taking the good with the bad," senior nose guard R.J. Forguson said. "If you keep on looking back saying 'What if?', you'll only make yourself depressed. You can't do that to yourself."

With the unbalanced Western Athletic Conference schedule, the Owls ended their season between one and two weeks before most of their conference foes. Hatfield will keep a watchful eye on Hawaii and No. 21 Boise State, two WAC teams ranked in the top 25 in the nation and headed for postseason bowl games. Hatfield said teams such as Hawaii and Boise State have only recently been discovered by the rest of the nation because of the amount of attention placed on teams vying for position in the Bowl Championship Series.

"I think there's a trend toward the 'BCS' and who is playing in the national championship game," Hatfield said. "You're missing a lot. We've had a disappointing amount of time, energy and effort put into the No. 1 and No. 2 formulas that is the detriment of a lot of good college programs. I wish it were different — I wish there were a better balance of coverage, but there's not."

ERRATA
In previous issues, the title of assistant track coach on Friday, Nov. 15 feature photo "The Owls" was misstated.
Sid Richardson sophomore Kristin Jefferson was misidentified in the caption for the Nov. 15 feature photo "The Owls".

The Thresher regrets the errors.

As the fifth seed, Rice faces San Jose State University in the quarterfinals today at 4 p.m. in Bron, No. The Spartans beat Rice 32-28 in the Jose Oct. 12. Should the Owls win their first match, they would almost certainly face national powerhouse Cal and third-ranked University of Hawaii, which averaged 7,200 in attendance per home game and has lost only to No. 1 Stanford.

"We really have our work cut out for us for this weekend," head coach Julio Morales said: "Last time we played (San Jose State), we really shot ourselves in the foot. The girls have realized by now that when we play our side of the court, we normally do pretty well.

"The last time the Owls faced the Spartans, they beat themselves with too many serving and passing errors," Morales said. He has seen much improvement since then. "I think they realize now what they could have accomplished had we not fumbled," Morales said.

"Before, they had the idea that they needed to get geared up and more focused, but they didn't really know how. The big mistake was a long way in telling us what effort can mean in a close match."

Rice has certainly struggled this season with inconsistent play. Since the start of WAC play, the team's longest winning streak is only three games. The Owls can look like two different teams in the same match if a hitting slump strikes.

The Owls have improved lately, with every player contributing to the cause. Junior co-captain Rebecca Kainz has been establishing herself as one of the better hitters in the region and a consistent hitter. She has been pillar of the team, a leader as well as a hitter, giving drive to the Owls. Senior middle hitter Briania Cook said, "Hitting has been everything, and the other hitters and blockers have stepped up. The younger players have been giving us great energy out of the back position.

Rice's performance this season earned her a spot on the all-WAC first team, with Kainz and co-captain senior defensive hitter Catherine DuPont making the second-team list. The Owls seem ready to go San Jose State and everything they have to prove against the October 10.

"It's going to be awesome revenge," Cook said. "We're definitely looking at them first — we're getting really pumped for the game, and we're going out for blood."

The Owls are excited for a possible semifinal matchup against Hawaii, which cruised Rice Sept. 27 in a three-game sweep. The Rainbow Wahine breezed through an undefeated WAC season and are poised for a seventh consecutive conference championship.

"The girls are up to it," Morales said. "We played well against them the first time. I think we can beat Hawaii, but it's going to be a whale of a game."

The Owls can't afford to lose past San Jose State in today's match, but the players say they are up to the task. "Fearlessly, we can do it," Cook said. "We have the players, and we have the talent. If we put our game together, we can definitely win."
Men’s Basketball Preview

Owls hope up-tempo offense will bring more scoring

by Rohan Wagle

The Owls men’s basketball team showed strong second-half presence in its two exhibition games against Upstate Basketball Nov. 4 and Team Nike Friday but hopes to improve its first-half performances during the regular season.

"Obviously, we were very disappointed in the first half against Team Nike," head coach Willie Wilson said. "You can’t play like that and win games — you won’t give yourself a chance to come back in the second half."

Sophomore guard Jason McKiehit and senior guard Cornell Harris, who blocked 25 shots last season, will provide a much-needed inside presence on the boards.

The Owls’ depth shows in the backcourt where a strong returning corps that also features senior Rashid Smith and sophomores McKiehit and Brock Gillespie.

"These guys are excited," Wilson said. "We have not scored less than 80 points with this team so far. We have what it takes to be an exciting basketball team this year."

Despite their impressive second-half comebacks in both exhibition games, Wilson stressed the need to establish offensive and defensive authority early in the game for the Owls to make the postseason this year.

"Knowing what our guys are capable of, I was disappointed in our first half," Wilson said. "Our goal is to make a second-half team, that’s how we’re going to be aggressive in the first half.

Wilson also stressed his desire to create a home-court advantage at Autry Court, where Rice averaged more than 2,100 fans per game last season, ninth in the 16-team Western Athletic Conference.

"The one thing that we need is student support," Wilson said. "I know that’s a sacrifice, but I think if we can get the students out to the games, then this basketball team can do great things for Rice. The students mean the difference between us being a regular-season team or a postseason team."

Wilson emphasized how difficult it is to face the crowds of more than 7,000 at WAC foes Fresno State, UTEP, Louisiana Tech and Boise State.

"Four years ago, we were 131 at home, and that was because of the student support — it made all the difference," Wilson said.

Wilson hopes for first-half improvement

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The women's basketball team is still upset about its semifinal exit in last year's Western Athletic Conference tournament and subsequent snub by the NCAA tournament committee.

That means bad news for the rest of the WAC, as the Lady Owls plan to improve on last year's 1-4 conference record.

Rice returns four starters from last year's team and has finally gotten some national recognition, ranked 23rd in the country by Street & Smith's Magazine. The Lady Owls have also picked to finish second in the WAC in the coaches' poll, behind only defending champion Louisiana Tech University.

"It's very understandable that La. Tech would be picked first, so we feel good to be picked second," head coach Cristy McKinney said. "They won it a year ago — obviously, they're going to be picked to win it again, so I feel like we've finally earned some of the respect we would like to have."

Individually, junior center Johanna Hayes, who had her first action last season with Rice after transferring from the University of Oklahoma, was named to the preseason All-WAC second team.

"It's privilege for them to choose me, but not really because our team is underestimated a lot," Hayes said. "They don't give us enough credit. To choose one person to be on the second team isn't the best in the world, but I would call it an accomplishment."

Hayes was also selected as co-captain of the Lady Owls, along with senior forward Starla James and senior guard Kim Lawson.

"They've been doing a great job so far being leaders of this team, and we need that to continue to have a great year," McKinney said.

Expectations are high for the Lady Owls, and those expectations start with the team's confidence in itself.

"I expect us to be WAC champs, of course, and also to make the NCAA tournament and do a good job," Hayes said.

Junior forward Elisa Ninna agreed with her head coach on paper:

"I think anything less than a WAC championship and NCAA tournament appearance is not going to be satisfying to us for sure," Ninna said.

One of the reasons for this high expectations is the team chemistry, which Lawson has been building for four years.

"The chemistry of the different Rice teams that I've been on since I've been here has gotten progressively better," Lawson said. "My first year I felt like we were 12 girls who played well together, but as far as just off of the court, I didn't feel that, that real chemistry. But I feel like the girls who have been on this team have been building this team for the last three years, and in building the team, we've also built chemistry, so I feel like definitely we're at a high point."

Lawson will start for the fourth consecutive season at point guard and is just part of an experienced Rice squad. The four returning starters are joined by six other returning letter-winners, including Ninna, who transferred from Purdue after her freshman year.

"The team chemistry is the same time as Hayes, Ninna will most likely continue to have a great year," McKinney said.
FOOTBALL

Hawaii 33 Rice 28

Hawaii — Ayat 3 run (Ayat kick)
Hawaii — Ayat 22 field goal
Hawaii — Ayat 43 field goal

Individual Stats

Hawaii — Chang 35-64-1-369
Rice — Neal 14, Pazo 14

Final Stats

Rice

Hawaii

Points

33
28

Field Goals

16 (30)/30
16 (30)/30

Errors

1 (9)/9
8 (27)/27

Receiving

Hawaii — Chang 35-64-1-369
Rice — Neal 14, Pazo 14

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CROSS COUNTRY

NCAA REGIONAL

Women's team standings (field of 19)
1. Arkansas
2. Texas A&M
3. LSU
4. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
5. LSU
6. Rice
7. Stephen F. Austin

Women's individual standings (5,000 meters, field of 141)
1. Londa Bevington (Ark.) 20:34
2. Londe Burks (Ark.) 20:34
3. Tyler Nelson (Ark.) 20:34
4. Chad Herring (Ark.) 20:34
5. Rice 286

Men's team standings (field of 12)
1. Rice
2. SMU
3. Texas A&M
4. UH
5. Rice

Men's individual standings (10,000 meters, field of 143)
1. Chad Herring (Ark.) 30:18
2. Londe Burks (Ark.) 30:18
3. Tyler Nelson (Ark.) 30:18
4. Chad Herring (Ark.) 30:18
5. Rice 286

THE PRINCETON REVIEW

swimming

Rice 139, SMU 72
Rice 136, Cal-Berkley 140

LADY OWLS from Page 17

likely move into the starting lineup this year.

"I think actually last year for Johnetta and (me) both, it was pretty much like a freshman year even though we were sophomores, because we just lost a year of eligibility in the transfer," Human said. "I think getting the freshmen in consistencies out of the way will be big, and I think both of us this year will be looking to be more consistent and play as unassuming, enough, though we really only have one year under our belts," Human said playing overlooking this summer made her game more consistent.

'I played overseas this summer and tried to get more consistent every game,' Human said. 'You can have a great game one game, and then you go completely back down the next game, so I think hopefully playing this summer and getting last season under my belt will make me more consistent.'

In Rice's two exhibition victories over the Houston Cougars and the Rutgers Scarlet Knights, the starting lineup consisted of junior Lindsey Young and Lawson at guard, junior and Human at forward and Hayes at center.

"Starting can change, but right now those five have pretty well earned their position, and they'd start this first game," McKinney said.

The team will next take on the Owls' first game," McKinney said.

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FRIDAY

22

Past week: how to watch yourself mindlessly while watching the football game.

- The Women’s Resource Center holds its annual Car Repair Workshop today at 3 p.m. in the Brown Courtyard of the Rice Memorial Center. Learn how to change a flat tire, change your oil, all that do when your car dies and other practical tips. For more information, contact enovum@rice.edu.

- Commitment to Excellence Rice University Sports Management welcomes Dallas Mavericks coach Deltha Blackman and NBA All-Star and Rice Director of Sport Management John Eliot. The pair will speak on great performances and their commitment to excellence. Admission is free for students. The event will take place at 4 p.m. in the Owl Club Ballroom at the Rice Stadium. For more information, send an email to willis@rice.edu.

- It’s a blue out!!! The men’s basketball team begins the season against Tulsa at 7:35 p.m. at Autry Court. Come to Will’s Pub at 4 p.m. for free food, face-painting and poster-making. Work hard; forget to wear blue!

- Wt the fuc$# else do you have to do?

Wiese College Tabletop presents I Want My Wife, directed by sophomore Adam Wall. For tickets or showtimes, contact dassour@rice.edu.

Guaranteed to be much funnier than any crap you read on this page.

The Rice Philharmonics and Spontaneous Combustion hold a combined charity performance at Hannahs Hall tonight at 8 p.m. A suggested donation of $2 at the door will go toward a designated charity. Contact afel@rice.edu or alex@elvis.edu for more information.

If you drink your smoothie fast enough, maybe it’ll feel like you’re drunk (Or at least like you want to throw up. Close enough.)

- The 2005 Class Council is sponsoring Sophomore Pub Night tonight at Will’s Pub in the BMC. Sophomores will receive unlimited free pizza, smoothies and soda. Come by for live music, free food and smoothie boat races. (No, not really. But imagine the possibilities.)

SATURDAY

- 23

Swim meet

The Rice women’s swim team takes on the University of Texas at Austin at 1 p.m. in the Rice Pool. Come by and support our ladies.

- SUNDAY

- 24

Shepherd School Recital

Students of the Shepherd School of Music are featured in a Chamber Music Recital. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Duncan Recital Hall.

- MONDAY

- 25

Bless the holidays

It’s time once again for the Rice Annual Holiday Bazaar, a daylong event with products for sale from local vendors, Will’s Pub and the Rice University Police Department. The event takes place in the Grand Hall of the BMC from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Come from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to have your picture taken with Santa Claus.)

Finially! A lecture only academics can understand ... and you thought the library was easy.

A lecture entitled "Architecture of Complicated Casterian Simplicity from Burgundy to California" is being given by Field Archaeologist and Editor of Clueless Terry Kindler. The talk explores the connection between the undercurrent of simplicity and the architecture of the time. It begins at 4 p.m. in Sewall Hall Room 309, and a reception will follow. For more information, contact leogrey@rice.edu.

Because the sound of your roommate singing along to Dashboard Confessional is making your ears bleed.

Rice Chorale performs "King David" tonight with members of the Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra. The performance, directed by Tom Jabor, is at 8 p.m. in Studio Concert Hall. Admission is free. Contact Tom Littman at (713) 348-4093 for more information.

TUESDAY

- 26

Basketball Game

Rice men’s basketball plays the University of Houston tonight at 7:35 p.m. at Autry Court.

- THURSDAY

- 28

Take some time to brush up on your squatto research.

Thanksgiving recess begins today. Classes resume on Monday (the final week of classes before final exams).

- MONDAY

- 2

Throwing your old monitor off a building isn’t as cool as it seems, trust me.

Starting today and continuing through Friday, Rice will be holding an electronics recycling drive. Bring old electronics to various locations around campus so that they can be recycled. For more information or to find out about drop-off locations, send an e-mail to recycle@rice.edu.

Rice women’s basketball hosts the Gene Hackerman Rice Invitational at Autry Court from 5 to 7 p.m.

HOW TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. prior to Friday publication. Submission methods:

- Email: threshr@rice.edu
- Campus Mail: Calendar Editor, Tresher, MS-524

Submissions are printed on a space-available basis.
Spontaneous Combustion and the Rice Philharmonics are doing a joint show. I can join the rest of the campus in dreading Alex Fay’s a capella ability or Andrew Swick trying to do improv. Nonetheless, the Backpage does support the combination.

There are too many damn things at Rice. Let’s combine more of them.