Left to right: Wiess College junior Bryan Deblink, Wiess senior Michael Leggett, Hanszen College sophomore Parina Azamian, Lovett College sophomore Scott Selinger take part in Tuesday's Student Association Presidential debate. Candidates not pictured are Martel College junior Anna Friedberg, Martel junior Hubert Gorniak, who was not in attendance; Lovett College junior Ashley Rodriguez; and KTRU station manager. For each question, three or four candidates were randomly chosen to answer.

Will Rice, will ... chug?

Will Rice College junior Shay Har-Noy Simon will Rice College freshman Katy Scarborough at Tuesday's chug practice in preparation for Beer-Bike, to be held March 22. See Story, Page 8.
Working to help the environment

The Student Association's resolution on university environmental policy is an important step toward making Rice less apathetic and more progressive in environmental issues. The resolution will form a new committee, composed of SA and Environmental Club members, to provide the university with a much-needed central contact for environmental concerns. In the past, for example, students have often wondered who to contact there aren't enough recycling bins at the residential colleges. The proposed committee would serve as a clearinghouse for such requests.

In addition, the resolution's request for the formation of a University Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation and Sustainability, if honored, could mark a critical shift in Rice's attitude toward the environment. Students and administrative officials would be less likely to ignore environmental shortfalls on campus, and Rice would assume a more appropriate role in conserving and promoting environmental values.

Finally, students should adopt University Blue's new constitution because it requires its editor to be elected by the student body. Campus-wide elections should be the norm for blanket-taxation organizations because such a policy encourages student involvement in important activities on campus and gives the students a voice in how their money is spent.

The SA has made voting very convenient, and you have a nearly a week to vote. The decisions you make will affect how many campus issues are handled in the next year, and you can't complain next year if you don't voice your opinion now.

Being whimsical

It often seems that the Rice saying of work hard, play hard is limited to working hard on homework and playing hard at parties. Part of the Rice spank, however, is coming up with new and different things to keep us entertained.

A group at Will Rice College has done just that. Partially funded by Whimsy, the Will Rice committee that partially funded by Whimsy, the Will Rice committee that partially funded by Whimsy, the Will Rice committee that hosted camping trips, dodgeball games, four-square matches, midnight kickball, freeze tag, horseshoes and a multitude of other classic games. While the majority of those in attendance have been from Will Rice, the group has made an impressive effort to post fliers around campus to get a larger attendance. They are to be commended for coming up with the idea and taking the time to make it work.

The organizers say that all they really want is for people to go out and play with them. That's what we want, too. So, when you see random signs around campus announcing times to play your favorite childhood games, go. You never know just what you might be missing.

Voting intelligently

Although we won't tell you which presidential candidate to vote for, we do have a modest election wish list for those who will be voting today through Wednesday (and please do vote). First, we encourage voters to make the most of the preferential voting system by ranking all the candidates. With six choices for president, effectively employed preferential voting will be the only way to statistically select a candidate the majority of students feel intuitively about.

Second, we urge students to vote for the SA resolution to increase Bee-Beek funding. Yes, there's a fee increase involved, but decreasing sponsorship of the event (quartly tied to a students' vote) is the only way to surely keep the Resolution Committee's tradition comfortably alive. Besides, it's only $2.

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Rice's attitude toward the environment. Students and admin-

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You think the Student Association Senate doesn't do enough. Fine. But let's start complaining, remembering that you elected the senators and that they are your representatives without your vote, once, and as a result, you don't see the results you would. College presidents are coming up, so I suggest you stop complaining and put to another senator that will things done.

Maybe you don't think the senator position is really important. Unfortunately, it is typically elected freshmen senators, and so they're often the senate's weak link. They need to have leadership experience and know little about the university运转.

Having inexperienced senators means that more than a third of the senate's voting membership isn't very effective. That increases to at least 10 freshmen when you factor out college presidents who are too busy to do much senate work. As a result, the senators should be strong.

The SA standing committees are essentially standing committees that are supposed to be the most active members. The committees should focus on chairing, and the senators should manage the committees.

But it doesn't happen that way. Instead, we get enough time since they're freshmen and sophomore still trying out other extracurriculars. As a result, the committee chairs are stuck with quite a bit of responsibility.

The senate's voting membership isn't generally I'm talking about upper-classmen, but it is still the committee chairs who are supposed to have experience. Unfortunately, they're dealing with bracing irony, religion is the most pernicious institution that exists. Religion is either painful all the way through or else it is thoroughly ignominious. To say it boils is merely a self-appointed dispensation of the demands of conscience.

Mary Kamel is a Martel College sophomore.

The examples of the Christian Crusades and the Spanish Inquisition as forms of societal calendar, wrought by religion are probably the only supportable arguments for the disdainful side of religious freedom. But if these were to persuade us to do away with religion, we must abolish all freedom.

The Inquisition caused the death of approximately 50,000 people during the Crusades produced less than 500 executions. On the other hand, the greatest authorities governments supported in Russia and eastern Europe by the author.

The example of the Christian Crusades and the Spanish Inquisition are probably the only supportable arguments for the disdainful side of religious fundamentalism.

There are many atheists who believe that we must be able to keep undesigned facts of social history and are an affront to all good and decency. They are also in danger. The "War on Terrorism" would make it impossible for the United States to proceed to war with Iraq only minimally decrease the consequences to our alliances with Germany, France, and the North Atlantic as a whole, and it must give them the time they need to support war. It is the least we can do for two states so important to the health of our country.

France and Germany oppose immediate military action in Iraq, feeding the advice of U.N. weapons-inspector Hans Blix, who puts forth that Iraq has been cooperative in the inspections and that more time is needed to determine if Iraq is in material breach of U.N. jurisdiction. Unfortunately, they want to wait until March 14 to determine if Iraq is in breach of inspection promises.

In France, 78 percent of the population opposes war with Iraq, which is similar to popular opinion in most European states. This public opposition is the core of the French and German opposition to U.S. plans. However, these policies of most of the leaders in Europe, from England to Italy to Poland, are at direct odds with the people they govern.

The disparity between the people and their leaders on this issue could easily result in the election of distinctly anti-U.S. leaders throughout Europe, but most important in France, Germany, and England. This could result in a serious shift in our foreign policy objectives and our economic and foreign policy objectives. Unfortunately, it is only done to bridge the gap.

Last week, U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld made the statement that France and Germany are unconditional opponents of "Europe" while the small countries supporting the United States are the "New Europe," implying that these countries represented the failed military involvement in Latin America, Europe, and France and Germany had aged beyond rereading. TheImagePath.added = true;

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper at Rice University since 1914, is published each Friday during the school year, excepting examination periods and holidays, by the students of Rice University.

Editorial and business offices are located at the student union. Rice University, 1100 Main St. MS-524, Houston, TX 77005-0122, Phone 713-951-1126, Fax 713-743-4974, E-mail: editor@thresher.rice.edu. Web page: http://www.thresher.rice.edu.


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Unedited editorial represents the majority观点。

SUBSCRIPTIONS
THE RICE THRESHER OPINION FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2003

wanted: SA senators with more experience

the Rice Thresher,

Guest column

One of the most awkward mis-}

Guest column

Much of the student crusading

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Students and staff were evacuated from the Student Center Tuesday morning following the explosion of a transformer.

**Transformer explodes at RMC**

by David Berry

The Rice Memorial Center was dark and empty for almost an hour Tuesday morning after the transformer near the loading dock exploded, severing power to the building.

The explosion occurred at 11:04 a.m., and staff located the problem within seven minutes and evacuated the building. Assistant Manager of the Student Center Paul Sutera said, "Since that thing was on fire, we evacuated everyone out of the building, just to play it safe." Sutera said.

The Houston Fire Department responded to the smoking transformer, but electricians from the Facilities and Engineering department had already contained the explosion by the time HFID arrived.

"The F&G electricians did a fabulous job," Sutera said.

In order to restore electricity to the RMC, power was diverted from backup supplies for Hermann Brown Hall, Hammon Hall, the Cox Building, Keith-Wiess Geological Laboratories and Anderson Biological Laboratories. Some of these buildings may have experienced an power surge at 11:55 a.m. — the time of diversion — but were otherwise unaffected, Sutera said in an e-mail he sent to residents of the RMC.

Power was restored to the RMC about an hour outage, Sutera said. At least one monitor and several computers may have been "fried" by the power surge, he said, but most electrical equipment was not damaged by the power outage.

The cost for replacing equipment will likely be borne by the departments that experienced the damage, but Sutera encouraged people with damages to contact the Risk Management Office.

The outage also damaged a component in the audio system in the Grand Hall, he said. Because the Student Association presidential debates were scheduled to occur in the Grand Hall later that evening, the audio system was repaired immediately. No technical problems occurred at the debates, Sutera said.

Sutera said the fire has prompted him to begin developing a more efficient evacuation plan for the RMC.

"In the past I have gathered my department Beth Jackson, a biochemistry and evolutionary biology graduate student; and Treasurer Paul Cruz, an industrial psychology graduate student.

Attendees of Tuesday's meeting nominated candidates for each of the five executive committee positions, as well as for 10 Honour Council spots and four University Court spots. GSA election guidelines allow each candidate a one-minute speech, and winners are determined by a simple majority vote. Anyone can nominate a candidate, but only department representatives can vote.

A total of 17 of 25 department representatives attended the meeting. Papakonstantinou was the only candidate for the Honour Council election. Two candidates ran for each of the 10 honour council positions.

The Honor Council and U. Court positions were filled but were uncontested.

Outgoing GSA President Mike Scotcher, who has served in the office for two years, said he has seen a decline in the number of people running for GSA positions.

"Last year's and this year's elections weren't particularly hotly contested," Scotcher said. "I hope that's not a reflection of graduate student interest in this issue."

Scotcher said graduate student space on campus, the Information Technology fee, parking fees and the proposed changes to the Honour Council constitution were some of the biggest issues that he faced in his two years as GSA president. He said he thinks the lack of social space on campus for graduate students will remain a concern for the GSA, which has more than 1,900 members.

**Police Blotter**

The following items were reported to the University Police for the period Feb. 12-17.

**Residential Colleges**

Lovett College

Feb. 14 Laptop computer stolen.

**Other Buildings**

Gymnasium

Feb. 13 A suspicious male carrying a large object was observed. While an officer was responding to the above call, a second damaged vehicle was observed.

Parking Lots

West Lot

Feb. 12 Burglary of a motor vehicle.

Feb. 12 While an officer was responding to the above call, a second damaged vehicle was observed.

**Student Travel**

web Fares

London........$308
Paris...........$339
Amsterdam...$379
Sydney........$1614
Madrid........$389
Rio de Janeiro..$608

Fares are roundtrip from Houston. Subject to change and availability. Tax not included. Restrictions and blackouts apply.

24/11 Times Blvd. Suite 10
UNI Center, Room 32-D
(713) 743-2777

**TRAVEL**

London........$308
Paris...........$339
Amsterdam...$379
Sydney........$1614
Madrid........$389
Rio de Janeiro..$608

Fares are roundtrip from Houston. Subject to change and availability. Tax not included. Restrictions and blackouts apply.
Rice files brief in support of affirmative action

by Mark Berenson

Rice and four other universities filed an amicus brief in support of the United States Supreme Court in the university of Michigan affirmative action cases Feb. 13.

The brief, which was filed jointly by Rice, Columbia, Cornell, George town and Vanderbilt Universities, states: "The First Amendment should be understood to limit the power of the government in such a way as to require all universities - public and private - to adopt completely race-neutral admission policies."

Rice General Counsel Richard Zansitis said the brief filed differs from most amicus briefs that were filed because the majority of briefs focused on the compelling interest that warrants an exception to the equal protection rights of the white plaintiffs.

"The role of the amicus brief is to bring arguments and nuances to the court's attention that the parties in the case don't have the opportunity to bring forth in their brief," Zansitis said. "Our point is the need for academic freedom in college admissions."

"The First Amendment aspect of the affirmative action argument is often overlooked," said Rice President Malcolm Gillis. "We are helping to rectify that problem."

The brief discusses non-race-based solutions - such as Texas' top 10 percent plan, which guarantees admission of any public high school student who graduates in the top 10 percent of their class to any Texas public college or university - and notes: "The approach would not only be fairer to the interest of the university but property be viewed as unfair," the brief states.

The brief does not focus on Rice's post-Hopwood experience because it represents the perspectives of all five schools, Zansitis said. The 1996 Hopwood v. Texas decision barred schools in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi from using race in admission decisions.

However, Rice's experiences are briefly mentioned.

"Our experiences here in Texas [are] something that adds completeness to the brief, so hopefully the court will find that helpful," Zansitis said.

The Supreme Court will hear the affirmative action cases, Grutter v. Bol linger and Gratz v. Bol linger on April 1, and a decision is expected in June or July.

Zansitis said the timing of the ruling will not affect the admission process for any students entering in the fall, but the admission criteria for future classes could be affected by the ruling.

"Our point is the need for academic freedom in college admissions."

- Richard Zansitis

Rice general counsel

Rice College Republicans President Kori Hilliman said she disagrees with Rice's stance on affirmative action.

"I think that diversity is a great goal, and I don't think we need to put that ahead of student intelligence and capabilities in all abilities," Hilliman, a Weiss College junior, said. "You need to search for the best people. There are qualified people of all races."

Hilliman said the level of diversity at Rice after Hopwood shows affirmative action is not necessary.

"If Rice claims that it doesn't take race into account, then we are a great example, as we are diverse," Hilliman said.

Zansitis said Rice decided to file the brief with the other four schools after he had conversations with the general counsels of many colleges and universities.

"I was in conversations with various schools, and this is the group that coalesced and seemed to have a common interest," Zansitis said.


Rice's campus was chosen by the students and faculty at Rice University to be the site of the first academic community response to a terrorist attack, particularly the effect on international students.

"If there was a terrorist strike on the Medical Center it would affect international students as well," Taylor said.

The CMT was scheduled to meet with the college presidents today to discuss what to do if a terrorist attack occurs. Haynie said members of the CMT would also go to college to talk to students in Iraq.

"In the probable event of us going to war, (the goal is) to make sure that students are supported in terms of psychological health," he said.

Get Rice?
Be a reporter for the Thresher and get the inside scoop.
For more information, send us an e-mail.

thresher@rice.edu
Five Rice panelists discussed Monday the same topic that the Supreme Court will address in April: affirmative action in university admission policies. The forum, entitled "Reversing the Trend of Equal Opportunity — Discussing Affirmative Action," was sponsored by ADVANCE.

The panelists were Tamara Siler, assistant director of admissions and coordinator of minority recruitment; Carlos Tapia, associate general counsel; Russell Barnes, director of financial aid and affirmative action; Richard Tapa, professor of computational and applied mathematics and director of the Stanford Coalition Against Affirmative Action in Education, and David Davidson, associate professor of political science.

Rice stopped using affirmative action in admissions in March 1996 following the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in Hopwood v. Texas. The ruling, which applied only to schools in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, said the Fifth Circuit district cannot use race as a factor in admissions decisions.

Baker said the decision was a narrow, specific ruling about the mechanics of affirmative action. A wide ruling striking down the Michigan system would place most universities in the same position as Rice and other schools in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, who face similar legal hurdles.

Alternatively, if the Court rules narrowly, students may still benefit from affirmative action, he said.

"If the Court rules narrowly, it could potentially have widespread effects depending on whether the ruling applies uniformly or only to the University of Michigan," he said.

While affirmative action may resolve some short-term problems, it becomes a racist policy over time because minorities begin to believe they are inferior and will always need assistance, he said.

Tapia said he believed in a policy of "affirmative development" rather than a policy of affirmative action. Under affirmative development, he said that rather than give a policy of race-based affirmative action, they would work to provide an environment where minority students learn to compete with white students.

Davidson said he almost decided not to be on the panel when he learned many of the other participants shared views similar to his own. A panel should have a wide variety of views, he said. Although he supports affirmative action, he said he would play devil's advocate to generate a more balanced discussion.

Affirmative action programs exist because the pool of qualified minority students is comparatively smaller than that of majority students, Davidson said.

"Rice has worked its way up the ladder again to some pretty significant numbers of students of color, primarily under-represented students," Tapia said.

"The traditional standards by which students are evaluated are high school GPA, SAT, and ACT scores. It is up to the university to weigh those factors against the socioeconomic status of students," Tapia said.

Rice stopped using affirmative action in admissions in March 1996 following the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in Hopwood v. Texas. To maintain aspects of the law, but at the same time, we want to make sure the door is open to welcome students of color, Siler said.

Alumni scholarships and recruiting programs have helped Rice attract minority students, but few schools have as many resources as Rice, Siler said. Affirmative action is especially important for schools that have few resources.

Garcia explained some of the legal history of affirmative action, which he defined as a policy of creating diversity.

While affirmative action serves to correct past injustices but is also a way to increase minority representation in the workforce at the same time, we want to make sure that the key is to create a diverse work force, he said.

Garcia said that affirmative action was a pervasively applied element in society, and although it may be beneficial in some cases, it is often harmful because it results in decisions based on attributes over which individuals have no control.

Siler began the discussion by saying that Rice is very diverse despite difficulties posed by the Hopwood ruling.

"We're very serious about trying to maintain a diverse student body and at the same time, we want to make sure the door is open to welcome students of color," Siler said.

"I'm not aware of any dropping in minority enrollment at the University of Michigan," Garcia said. (See Story, Page 5.)

Next, Barnes spoke on the role of affirmative action in hiring at Rice. As a recipient of federal grants, Rice is required by Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regulations to use affirmative action in employment decisions. Affirmative action is often used as a policy tool to correct past injustices and current socioeconomic inequities, Barnes said.

Since employment occurs on multiple levels at Rice — including faculty, staff and administrative positions — the university must pay special attention to attaining proper representation for minority students.

"For nondenominational positions we have a 50 percent minority ratio. For upper administrator faculty positions we may have a national or even worldwide search," Barnes said.

Barnes said discrimination is a pervasive element in society, and although it may be beneficial in some cases, it is often harmful because it results in decisions based on attributes over which individuals have no control.

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"The traditional standards by which students are evaluated are high school GPA and the SATs," Davidson said. "In both of these measures, minority students tend to perform worse than their white counterparts. The pool of qualified minority students who have completed high school is very small."

While affirmative action serves to overcome a shameful history of discrimination, it is essentially another version of racial discrimination, Davidson said. He said listeners should gather as much information as possible when considering whether reverse discrimination can be justified.

A question-and-answer period followed the discussion.

One student said he thinks affirmative action would be harmful to black students because it might lead them to believe they cannot perform on the same level as white students, and asked whether affirmative action programs had concrete benefits. Siler said while she did not know of many quantitative studies, she had heard anecdotal evidence that diverse campuses tend to provide their students with a better global perspective.

Another student asked whether affirmative action is still necessary given the improvements in the opportunities available to minorities and whether it should apply to minority students from affluent families. Tapia said the situation of many minorities has not changed, and affirmative action would greatly benefit many minority applicants. Garcia said affirmative action is not solely about correcting past injustices but is also about creating a diverse group of students at a university.

ADVANCE Programming Committee Chair Eric McMillan, who organized the panel discussion, said he was pleased with attendance at the event. He said he thinks the discussion went well and will foster more consideration of the issues at stake on campus.

Baker College junior Brooke Lathem said she enjoyed the event but would have preferred a better representation of anti-affirmative action opinion.

"My purpose is to gather as much information as possible," Lathem said.
Beer-Bike parade will have minor changes

By Daniel McDonald
THE THRESHER STAFF

Beer-Bike 2003 will include a more fast-paced parade and enforcement of fines for throwing water balloons beyond Jake Hess Tennis Stadium, said Student Affairs coordinators Carter Batsell and Holly Williams said.

Batsell, a Will Rice College junior, said fines will be issued for throwing balloons past College Way in front of Jake Hess so Rice will not be held accountable for cars getting hit by water balloons.

In response to complaints that the parade was too long last year, the parade will move for two minutes and then stop for three minutes, whereas last year's parade moved for one minute and stopped for four minutes, Williams, a Will Rice senior, said.

Williams said other minor changes include specifying the number of people who can participate in Beer-Bike, clarifying that all chug cups must be witnessed before the competition and having colleges designate the security workers to be responsible for security issues.

Willy Week also has a few changes in store, Student Program Council President Corey Devine said.

"Take Me Out to the Ballgame," a two-year tradition of losing drinking sales as a part of Willy Week and serving food at the baseball game, will not be held this year, Batsell said. Instead, the parade will go to be the "big event of the week, Devine, also Thresher Lifestyle editor, said.

Sponsors are trying to get the serveries and college kitchens closed on Wednesday night and dinner served and college kitchens closed on Thursday, John Zillmer, director of college dining and business operations, said.

"We’re just trying to increase college competition with a stronger lunch option," Zillmer said.

"The SA is sometimes not utilized much," Devine said. "They're just trying to increase college competition with a stronger lunch option."

"I believe in keeping an open line of communication between the colleges and work to involve minority students as they focus on sustainability projects. College credit and financial assistance may be available. Contact AMI60S today and see the world you can do!"

\[end of message\]

Sid student still missing

By Olivia Allison
THE THRESHER STAFF

A Jan. 17 Thresher article ("Sid student missing") reported his disappearance, but the Pennys said no one from Rice has contacted them with information.

"I know one of the lacrosse team members checked around with everybody, but no one really knew anything, and we haven’t heard anything from anyone at Rice at all," Bill Pennys said. Bill Pennys said he hopes to find more information in the next two weeks.

"We haven’t had any leads yet," he said. "Hopefully in the next week or two we might get some information that might be helpful. We’re just going to be trying to get some information."
SA considers resolutions on tax-free textbooks, environment

by Ed Bruera

The Student Association Senate considered two resolutions Monday, one about environmental policy at Rice and one about tax-exempt textbook purchases.

The first resolution recommends an institutionalized commitment to environmental conservation and sustainability at Rice. The resolution was proposed by Joanna College junior Alan Kolodny and Wiess College sophomore Phil Levine, students in UNV 309, Environmental Issues 1: The Future, who examined environmental issues at Rice and considered sustainable policy solutions.

The resolution requests "the creation and adoption of an institutional commitment to the environment that shows the University's responsibility to assume a leadership role as developer and implementer of solutions."

The resolution also calls for the creation of a university standing committee to address environmental issues related to conservation and sustainability.

"As intellectual leaders we need to demonstrate that the environment is important. Sustainability is vital to environmental preservation," the resolution states.

"We believe a similar proposition stemming from last year's UNV 309 classes failed to have an impact on policy at Rice. He said this year members of the class will attempt to garner student support for such policy changes, and he is confident the resolution passing the resolution will pass in its upcoming vote.

The second resolution dealt with the recent reeling of the H.B. 296 Tax Exempt Hill by the Texas State Legislature. The bill would allow tax exemptions for Texas college students who purchase textbooks for their classes. Students would receive the equivalent of a $30 to $50 scholarship each semester from tax exemptions on textbooks.

The resolution, proposed by SA President Matt Haynie, a Wiess College senior, encourages the passing of the bill by the Texas Legislature and states that the SA will assist with the passing of the bill to the best of its ability. It also notes that if the passing of each bill would encourage students to buy textbooks in the state and boost the Texas economy.

"Even though the bookstore is more expensive in a lot of cases, [having no taxes] decreases the difference in the prices."

-Matt Haynie
Student Association president

The last cash sponsorship of Beer-Bike was in 2001 when Schlumberger gave $10,000. Madsen said. However, because of the timing of the sponsorships, $5,000 of the donation went to Beer-Bike 2002.

Attempts to obtain sponsorship for this year have failed for two reasons, Madsen said.

"Part of the responses I get say we can't give money now, and that makes me think it is the economy," she said. "I've also had three or four responses saying we are interested in Rice, but not interested in something named Beer-Bike.

"Beer-Bike currently receives $3 from every undergraduate. Campuswide Beer-Bike coordinator Carrie Bassett said the event needs a larger blanket-tax budget because costs have risen and sponsorship has decreased.

Director of Student Activities Heather Madsen said the largest cost increases are due to safety concerns.

"The security around the track is where the majority of the costs come from," Madsen said. "From year to year, we need to figure out what the response is that we need to make the event safe.

"I talked, a Will Rice College junior, said one example of a new event is the hay bales that were first used around the track at the Balcones event the year of a crash last year.

Two referenda on General Election ballot

by Mark Berenson

Two referenda appear on this year's Student Association General Elections ballot. Beginning today, students can vote on increasing the Beer-Bike blanket tax and revamping the University Blue constitution.

Beer-Bike currently receives $3 from every undergraduate. Campuswide Beer-Bike coordinator Carrie Bassett said the event needs a larger blanket-tax budget because costs have risen and sponsorship has decreased.

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"Christianity in an Academic Context: Beyond Naive Dichotomies"

a lecture to be given by

Dr. Gary Patterson
Professor of Chemical Physics and Polymer Science – Carnegie Mellon University

Friday February 28, 2003
7 p.m. – Keck 100
Admission is Free
Refreshments will be served

Christians are lovers of truth and are not threatened by valid advances in knowledge.

In our Christian experience we strive to be knowledgeable about the past, engaged in the present and open to the future. This approach makes Christians especially valuable in a research environment.

-- Dr. Gary Patterson

Sponsored by Rice Veritas <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~veritas/veritas.htm>
Dance marathon tomorrow night

By Daniel McDonald

Pulling an all-nighter is no longer restricted to students doing homework. About 60 students will be dancing for 12 hours from tomorrow night to Sunday morning as a part of Stayin’ Wake for Kids’ Sake. SAFKS will take place from 8:30 p.m. to 10 a.m. in the Grand Hall in the Rice Memorial Center. SAFKS is part of Dance Marathon, a national campaign created by Children’s Miracle Network. Proceeds of SAFKS will benefit Memorial Hermann Children’s Hospital. SAFKS co-director Alex Kipp, Jones College junior, said, “The marathon is the culmination of weeks of fundraising by the dancers, each of whom was required to raise at least $10.”

Dancers will check in between 8:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. to pick up their T-shirts and meet with their morale groups, which are designed to keep the dancers excited throughout the 12 hours.

Gary Morris, assistant physics professor, will be the master of ceremonies, co-director Lyda Smayling, a Jones senior, said. “It’s an incentive to get people to stay all night.”

A dinner, dance lessons and performances by Spontaneous Combustion, co-director Alex Kipp, Jones College junior, said. “It’s an all-around good time for a very worthy cause.”

“I’m very happy to be able to participate in the marathon,” said Will Rice College freshman Jess Mucci. “It’s an all-around good time for a very worthy cause,” she said. “It shows we have an annual Dance Marathon, he said.”

“We have an annual Dance Marathon,” said Johnson, a Sid Richardson College sophomore, presented a draft of the SA resolution on tax-free textbooks. The resolution supports a bill in the Texas legislature that would make textbook purchases tax-free. Senators will discuss the resolution with students at their college, and the senate will vote on the resolution March 3.

“The resolution in part calls for rice to consider environmental impact in its planning. Senators will discuss the resolution with students at their college, and the senate will vote on the resolution March 3.”

The next meeting will be Monday at 10 p.m. in the Farnsworth Pavilion.

A perfect likeness

Martiel College sophomore Erin Porter draws a portrait of Martiel junior Elisheva Danan at Saturday’s opening of the Wiess Art Gallery.
**SA PRESIDENT**

**Parisa Azamian**

As an active member of the SA Senate for the past two years, I have the knowledge and resources to represent the student body effectively and thoroughly through this representative group.

*Experience includes:*
- **SA Secretary**
- **New Student Representative**
- **Rice Dance Theater Director**

*Through Eversight Committee, I have supported the mechanisms of the SA Senate. I will lead a Senate that connects the student body and the many diverse members of the university including administration and student affairs. I will provide this link through my interactions with administrators, understanding and translating information in student organizations, and the establishment of accessible information.*

*My goals include:*
- *Increased communication between students and administrators through monthly forums and goal specific SA committee meetings.*
- *Increased student awareness of campus issues through creation and implementation of a student involvement website in allAnalyzae.*
- *Increased integration and interactions between residential colleges through exchanges and campus wide events.*
- *I also intend to:*
  - *Improve the existing dance teams.*
  - *Provide and improve Career Services.*
  - *Promote off campus student activities.*

*The foundation for the above goals is communication — not just with the administration or students, but ALL people.*

*My goals include:*
- **Official Rice Environmental Policy**
- **Reach-out to gather information from students, not vice versa**
- **Off-Campus SISWeb Access**
- **Decent Homecoming Shirts 10/2003**
- **State of the Student Body Address 10/2003**

*I am devoted to the welfare of the student body and will work hard to improve and enrich undergraduate student life. The SA can be a useful resource if guided by strong leadership. Vote for me and a difference.*

**Anna Friedberg**

**I am Anna Friedberg, a junior from Maine and Mandi’s President. I am excited to run for the position of SA President.**

*The SA has a great deal of potential. The SA should focus on working extremely closely with the colleges. The SA President should attend college governance meetings, as well as a variety of student organizations on campus. The SA will play a strong role in the support of the colleges, student groups and the students, which will help to maintain excellence on all levels of the SA and the greater environment.*

*I believe the SA should work with the colleges closer than just take hold of issues that the colleges don’t want to “deal with.” Every year there are new issues and they do not have to be the SA. The SA should be the conduit to bridge those of the College and students and the SA Senate. The SA is the best way to work with the administration to diminish the disparity between the colleges. Transitioning from the South Side what I know that huge disparity is between the student infrastructure and the administration.*

*I believe a College President that my transition to SA President would be a smooth one.*

*My experience with the SA organization and gaining student opinion will greatly diminish my learning curve in the job and allow me to hit the ground running. If you think that you want to be truly represented in the campus-wide student association, then vote for me as your next SA President.*

**Hubert Gornik & Scott Selinger**

*We’re talking into this election as a platform of change driven by integrity and by people who have been in the college of music, a true voice for all college of music students, and a leader who can work well in all situations.*

*The power lies in the hands of all students. And this power will be reflected in the presence of each of us in the SA and in the ability to produce tangible results because the only members were the chairs themselves. Increasing the membership of the committees will allow these ideas to take physical form. But as great as any ideas are, they are useless without implementation.*

*Those of you who have been in and out of the SA know that the biggest problem is not a lack of ideas, but a lack of execution. We will work with the administration to get things done.*

*Look, if you want Scott to be the head of the SA, then you can do all of it in the back at which point Harvard gives us and do this. No, MySA, Hubert it’s all about working together.*

*We’re talking into this election as a platform of change driven by integrity and by people who have been in the college of music, a true voice for all college of music students, and a leader who can work well in all situations.*

**Michael Leggett & Bryan Dobbins**

*To provide channels of communication and cooperation among all parts of the Rice community.—SA Constitution*

*President has been my goal from my first day at Rice because I want to make a positive impact. After spending two years as the Student Body President, I have learned many valuable lessons. Some experience includes:*

- **Bike Track Coordinator**
- **Member of the Board.**
- **Off-campus representative**

*And I believe the SA under my leadership will be able to make the above and more.*

**William McKee**

*Upon being admitted to Rice, I finally had an answer for the elders of my home. When I announced Rice University, they not only accepted me but were actually excited. Will they help me achieve my goals?*

*Honest, William Jackson McKee is my name, and being SA President is my claim. I am a Junior of Lower College, but more importantly, a student of Rice University. Being SA President has been my goal from the moment I first set foot in Rice because better student life matters to me.*

*For a mere two months why should you vote for me?*

*There is no responsible person other than you, the student, all aspects of the university.*

*The lack of communication, the non-responsive executive committee, the lack of leadership, student participation, and the lack of new ideas are the major problems facing Rice University. These problems have left Rice students feeling unrepresented and unimportant in the decision making processes.*

*Therefore, my goals include:*

- **Responsibility**
- **Integrity**
- **Committer**

**Vice President helps oversee this activity. This year, some steps were taken in the right direction in an attempt to make Rice a better place for all undergraduates.**

*Due to the lack of communication, the non-responsive executive committee, rice is the most important engine in representing the student. I will continue to drive diversity throughout campus, whether athletics, religious, sexual preference, etc. Rice’s diversity is one of its most important features, and one that I support.*

**Andy Weber**

*As your President, my first priority is to attend governance meetings in all colleges to hear your views. I am also deeply concerned about your safety, and will demand improvements in the safety of the student life, and ensure walking transportation is secured.*

*Many of your candidates are promising things for the future. My promise is to bring them the best of the present.*

*My promise is to bring you immediate solutions to the issues we are facing. I will work closely with the administration and student leaders to ensure that Rice is a place where you want to spend your years.**

**Derrick Matthews**

*Many of you doubt the ability of the Student Association to get things accomplished, but you have never seen the potential of the Rice SA in action.*

*One of the main roles of the Rice SA is to oversee the student council meetings, Monday night SA meetings are an important research where you can get things done. But as great as any ideas are, they are useless without implementation. I have experience getting things done at Rice. As a member of WSVP I helped coordinate the first annual Halloween hoses. I’m coordinating the first open house this year, and I am running for SA President so that I can make the SA work for you.*

**Narayan Mulukutla**

*My name is Narayan Mulukutla. I am a sophomore at Sid, and I am running for SA Internal Vice President.*

*I have been actively involved in the SA since I came to Rice serving in various capacities. Last year, I served as the New Student Representative to the SA from Sid, and this year, I served on the executive committee as Treasurer. Because of this, I have more experience with the SA than any other candidate.*

*I believe that Rice was the best choice for me.*

*This year shows that I am committed to helping the SA make Rice a better place for all undergraduates.*

*I urge you to vote in the upcoming election, and I hope you’ll choose me as the Student Association Internal Vice President.*

**SEAL external vice president**

**Clare Johnson**

*Hey! I’m a sophomore from Sid, running for External VP, and here are a few things you might like to know.*

- **The duties of the EVP include approximately presenting to University Standing Committees, helping plan Family Weekend and coordinating the rice over spring break.**
- **I will be available throughout the years with the committees.**
- **This past year I’ve served as Internal VP and have learned a lot about the SA.**
- **The issues that matter to me: getting Language 101 classes for distribution, improving campus security/counseling services, making it easier for students to know what’s going on with the committees (such as parking), and getting more people involved in the SA.**

**Remember: Voting is preferential. Be sure to rank each of your candidates by preference. In contested races, your last choices can ultimately decide who wins!**
SA TREASURER
Ashley Friggel

Give me your money back, give me my money back, you hicks. Hello, everyone. If you stand behind the motion, please take note of how much money is being given to the ASR, which is essentially a paperwork organization. We buy a lot of paper, and it's really expensive. The 17,420.49 we spend on mailing and heating is ridiculous. Why should the student pay for the heating? It's much more reasonable to pay the students back for their course fees. I would like to become the fourth student on campus and declare my minor to be student-substantial-acquisitions. I have been a treasurer before, but I think it's important to make sure that the student body gets their money back and that our spending is transparent.

SA SECRETARY
Phyllis Huang

One word for you—yes?

Stay on top of what you want to do. Keep your notes. It is very important to know what you are doing and who you are dealing with. It is also important to be organized and detail-oriented. I am currently working with Masker Tire Associates in organizing the current Campanile editors.

SA TREASURER
Aly Shemy

SA TREASURER
Aly Shemy

One word for you—yes?

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SA SECRETARY
Brenda Arredondo

Hello! My name is Brenda Arredondo and I would love to be your new SA secretary. I believe in the power of student leadership and think that it is important to support each other and work together to make Rice a better place. I have been involved in several organizations, including the Campanile, and have gained valuable experience that I believe will make me an excellent secretary. I am also a member of the Rice Student Government Association and have served as the vice-president of the organizing committee for the Cambridge Conference. I am confident in my ability to lead the organization and make it successful.

RSVP INTERNAL VICE-CHAIR
Joe Elias

Hi there! I'm Joe Elias and I'm running for RSVP internal vice-chair. I've been a member of the ASR for two years and I believe in the importance of the organization. I am a hard worker, have held multiple positions, and have been involved in many projects. I am confident in my ability to lead the organization and make it successful.

RSVP EXTERNAL VICE-CHAIR
Rachel Dickerson

My name is Rachel Dickerson and I am running for RSVP external vice-chair. I have been a member of the ASR for the past two years and I believe in the importance of the organization. I am a hard worker, have held multiple positions, and have been involved in many projects. I am confident in my ability to lead the organization and make it successful.
HONOR COUNCIL JR. REP. (PICK 3)

Joshua Barron

For those of you that don’t know me, I’m a Junior Honors student, and I have had the privilege of serving Rice University through the Honor Council and the Student Government. I have been actively involved in campus life and am familiar with the Honor System and its operation. I have had a strong interest in the Honor Council and have been involved in various capacities, including serving as a member of the Justice Committee.

I am running for the position of Honor Council Junior Representative because I believe that the Honor Council is an integral part of campus life and plays a crucial role in maintaining the integrity of the student body. I have a strong passion for upholding the Honor Code and promoting an atmosphere of trust, responsibility, and respect between students and faculty.

I am committed to ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a fair and impartial manner and that decisions are made in the best interests of the student body. I believe that the Honor Council is an essential part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am confident that I can bring a fresh perspective to the Honor Council and help shape the future of campus life at Rice. I am dedicated to serving the student body and ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a manner that is fair, transparent, and in the best interests of all students.

Please consider voting for me as your Honor Council Junior Representative.

HONOR COUNCIL SOPH. REP. (PICK 3)

Rebecca Mutikainen

As a member of the Honor Council, I have had the opportunity to work with passionate and dedicated students who are committed to maintaining the integrity of the Honor System. I have learned a lot about the history of the Honor System, and I believe that it is important to uphold its values and traditions.

I am running for the position of Honor Council Sophomore Representative because I believe that it is an essential part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am committed to ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a fair and impartial manner and that decisions are made in the best interests of the student body. I believe that the Honor Council is an integral part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am confident that I can bring a fresh perspective to the Honor Council and help shape the future of campus life at Rice. I am dedicated to serving the student body and ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a manner that is fair, transparent, and in the best interests of all students.

Please consider voting for me as your Honor Council Sophomore Representative.

HONOR COUNCIL UNIV. SR. REP. (PICK 2)

Stephen Zak

I am running for the position of Honor Council Senior Representative because I believe that it is an essential part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am committed to ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a fair and impartial manner and that decisions are made in the best interests of the student body. I believe that the Honor Council is an integral part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am confident that I can bring a fresh perspective to the Honor Council and help shape the future of campus life at Rice. I am dedicated to serving the student body and ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a manner that is fair, transparent, and in the best interests of all students.

Please consider voting for me as your Honor Council Senior Representative.

HONOR COUNCIL UNIV. JR. REP. (PICK 2)

Amy Askin

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Please consider voting for me as your Honor Council Junior Representative.

HONOR COUNCIL UNIV. SOPH. REP. (PICK 2)

Cara Eng

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I am confident that I can bring a fresh perspective to the Honor Council and help shape the future of campus life at Rice. I am dedicated to serving the student body and ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a manner that is fair, transparent, and in the best interests of all students.

Please consider voting for me as your Honor Council Sophomore Representative.

HONOR COUNCIL UNIV. SR. REP. (PICK 2)

Lanny Bose

I am running for the position of Honor Council Senior Representative because I believe that it is an essential part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am committed to ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a fair and impartial manner and that decisions are made in the best interests of the student body. I believe that the Honor Council is an integral part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am confident that I can bring a fresh perspective to the Honor Council and help shape the future of campus life at Rice. I am dedicated to serving the student body and ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a manner that is fair, transparent, and in the best interests of all students.

Please consider voting for me as your Honor Council Senior Representative.

HONOR COUNCIL UNIV. JR. REP. (PICK 2)

Divya Pande

I am running for the position of Honor Council Junior Representative because I believe that it is an essential part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am committed to ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a fair and impartial manner and that decisions are made in the best interests of the student body. I believe that the Honor Council is an integral part of campus life and that it is vital to have a representative who understands the needs and concerns of the student body.

I am confident that I can bring a fresh perspective to the Honor Council and help shape the future of campus life at Rice. I am dedicated to serving the student body and ensuring that the Honor Council operates in a manner that is fair, transparent, and in the best interests of all students.

Please consider voting for me as your Honor Council Junior Representative.
Katherine Corley

I am just your typical golf cart. It seemed like a good idea at the time, especially after that magical blue punch at NOD. But then you got busted. Ouch.

Now you walk into your UCourt formal hearing, sweating nervously, you don't want to face a bunch of that. That's academic, court, and your reputation. That's the fine, I served as a freshman representative on UCour and was a full-fledged justice second semester. I knew how the entire works. I know about justice, consequences, and standards. Most importantly, I know the fair punishment for(schema). I know that smart kids do stupid things. Believe me, I but you pass.

Law school is your game plan, so I want to go UCourt seriously. I don't mix around with people's time, money, or future.

If you've ever looked at a golf cart with a gleam in your eye, please, vote. Help me help you.

This year, as News Editor, and prior to that since my freshman year as an Assistant News Editor, I am running for Sophomore Justice on University Court. I am not for danger, but I can serve that fair trial should deserve (Kred). I am active with the Rice Rugby club and volunteer with Rice Habitat for Humanity, ESL tutoring, and future, and respectability. Your Candidate.

Mark Berenson

This year, as News Editor, and prior to that since my freshman year as an Assistant News Editor, I am running for Sophomore Justice on University Court. I am not for danger, but I can serve that fair trial should deserve (Kred). I am active with the Rice Rugby club and volunteer with Rice Habitat for Humanity, ESL tutoring, and future, and respectability. Your Candidate.

Cordon DeKock

Have you been hurt while at Rice?
Do you feel that your rights have been violated?
Then call the Law Officers of...
Not only am I a student at Rice, but I am serving as Sophomore Justice on University Court. I am not for danger, but I can serve that fair trial should deserve (Kred). I am active with the Rice Rugby club and volunteer with Rice Habitat for Humanity, ESL tutoring, and future, and respectability. Your Candidate.

Brian Love

An average Rice student will transgress the Code of Student Conduct or the Alcohol Policy at least once before they graduate. As it is documented in statistics, among academic administrators, Rice students are something like "average." We are brothers and sisters in the truth that some are punished and some get away. That is why compassion is so vital a component in all procedures of University Court. Compassion, a trait I honed as I served as a Sophomore Justice and will bring a new perspective and added dynamics to University Court. If elected, I promise to do my best to serve all of the student body responsibly, fairly, and respectfully.

[continued]

Katherine Corley

UCOUR SOPH. REP. (CONTINUED)

Robert Blake

INTRODUCTION

This year as News Editor, and prior to that since my freshman year as an Assistant News Editor, I am running for Sophomore Justice on University Court. I am not for danger, but I can serve that fair trial should deserve (Kred). I am active with the Rice Rugby club and volunteer with Rice Habitat for Humanity, ESL tutoring, and future, and respectability. Your Candidate.

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Cordon DeKock

Have you been hurt while at Rice?
Do you feel that your rights have been violated?
Then call the Law Officers of...
THE RICE THRESHER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT FEBRUARY 21, 2003

EDATORS picks

Art as a Science or Science as an Art?
The Rice Players present ‘City of angels’—drags its feet instead of flying

Carly Kurecek
其中校报艺术与娱乐组工作人员

There is not on the side of City of Angels.

The musical clocks in at more than two hours. Length is not a car

sicnicall bully—has bested me and my
time. But when the show is disrupted by nu

merousances, it may fit in with any sets, alter

no hope. He offers me a job as his assistant.

costumes. He offers me a job as his assistant.

costumes. He offers me a job as his assistant.

costumes. He offers me a job as his assistant.

He offers me a job as his assistant. I accept.


The Station

Next stop: The Station

The building itself does not turn heads, incite curiosity or provoke discussion. It does not advertise with neon signs or with colorful banners. It does not sit on the path often taken, but rather at the midtown address of 1502 Alabama. In fact, the first time I visited it, I drove past the gray and unassuming structure that houses The Station. Still, the young art museum promises to stand apart from the rest and to deserve all the attention it will inevitably attract.

In a city peppered with art museums, is there really a need to create another? With the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston; and the Menil, what can one more art museum bring to the scene?

Two years ago, Jim Harithas wanted to create an extension to the Art Car Museum, but then he saw the space on Alabama and decided to create an entirely new museum.

What at first seemed an obscure locale is apparently the main thoroughfare for much of the city's widespread community.

Harithas, founder of the Art Car Museum, shares the job titles of founder, benefactor and boss of The Station with his wife. Harithas said that he's only "sort of in charge" and the museum is run more like a team.

Relatively far from the Houston Museum District, The Station sets itself apart from its contemporaries with a physical separation of content and ideology.

Unlike other museums in Houston, Harithas wanted his museum to be more local and community-oriented.

"There's no other venue like [ours]," Harithas said. "We try to bring in artists from the community."

Thus, it makes sense that he would choose a location close to both the Project Row Houses (a collection of renovated houses that exhibit the creative works of Houston's black community) and Houston Community College.

Both sites attract Houstonians from a diverse array of cultural, economic and social backgrounds. What at first may have seemed like an obscure locale is apparently the main thoroughfare for much of the city's widespread community.

With The Station located in this setting, Harithas hoped to attract an eclectic mix of people from all around Houston.

The owner also wanted the museum to focus on more political and social issues.

"We like to have a political reference," he said. "Most museums are not concerned with politics."

Rather than espousing any political ideology, The Station "represents" artists who speak out radically and who "challenge dominant society," Chief Curator Tex Kerschen said.

The Station's source of funding permits it to behave more controversially than its contemporaries.

"You can see a dominant ideology in museums across the country, and that would be a very conservative right-wing type of perspective," Kerschen said.

"It's pretty clear if you look at the funding — most Houston art exhibits are underwritten by Enron, and they're underwritten by Halliburton. The majority of these art exhibits are funded by the [political] right."

As a result, Kerschen said, when scandals occur in these and similar businesses, the mainstream Houston art scene is strangely silent.

"You're not going to see any art by artists that challenge these aspects of society," Kerschen said.

Because The Station is privately funded, those who run it do not need to worry about offending or scaring away their benefactors by embracing hard-to-swallow ideas. Nor do they need to worry about alienating their audience, since entrance is completely free.

Thus, the museum will continue to represent free-thinking artists, not only because it can, but because it wants to and needs to. People like Kerschen and Harithas view such open discussion as their responsibility to the free and thinking world.

Kerschen said he expects The Station to present exhibits that go beyond the typical art museum fare of paintings, drawings, sculptures and installations.

"In the future we're looking at having some performance art and showing some films," Kerschen said.

Because The Station is privately funded, those who run it do not need to worry about offending or scaring away their benefactors by embracing hard-to-swallow ideas.

The next show will feature works by Palestinians, Jordanians and Syrians.

"[My wife and I] put a month over there to pick out some really great pieces," Harithas said.

Rice students interested in becoming involved with The Station, especially with its upcoming exhibit, should contact Harithas.

The Station is located at 1502 Alabama and is open Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information, call (713) 529-6000.
Owl fan cheering right on the money

by Jonathan Yardley

Although she was many miles away from her cheering fans and her women’s track and field teammates, senior Tanya Wright had a great performance on Friday, April 4, when the Owls competed in the Iowa State Classic at the St.共is Recreation Center.

The standout performance for the Owls over the two days of competition was senior Tanya Wright’s provisional qualifying race in the one-mile run. Wright placed third overall in 4 minutes, 7.93 seconds — just two seconds off the WAC record — setting the fastest time in the conference this season.

While Beckford was in New York, the rest of the team was in Aue, Iowa, to compete in the Iowa State Classic at the Veteran’s Memorial Armory.

Beckford blew away her closest competitor, Louisiana State University’s Haylee Binn, in a meet-record time of 52.34 seconds. The previous day, Beckford was the top qualifier in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 12.91.

My intent is not to extol the virtues of Western Athletic Conference or its teams. I do not want to become a cheerleader for any Rice team. My intent is not to criticize the team, but to offer constructive criticism when necessary.

It is important for fans to realize that their actions can affect the morale of players and the outcome of games. It is important to remember that players are human beings, and their feelings can be hurt by negative behavior.

I hope that Rice fans will support their team by cheering in a positive way and by respecting the players and their teammates. It is important for the team to have a positive atmosphere in order to succeed.

Jonathan Yardley

Sterling defense drives fast Owl start

by Jonathan Yardley

The baseball team will look to continue its outstanding defensive play in this weekend’s Creighton Classic at Beckley Park, which features nationally ranked teams.

Team defense keyed Rice’s 5-1 start to the season after a strong performance in the opening game of the season against the University of South Carolina.

“The pitchers gain more confidence when their cheers slip into negativity and intolerance.

Jonathan Yardley is a Will Rice College sports reporter, editor and a radio announcer for Rice baseball.

Sterling defense drives fast Owl start
Huston has swimmers ready for WAC title meet

by Debbie Miller

The swim team will head to San Antonio this week for the culmination of its season, the Western Athletic Conference Championships from Feb. 28-March 1.

"I have a sense of momentum, coming off of our training trip, that each meet has gotten better, and we’ve improved upon our mistakes," head coach Seth Huston said. "We are peaking just at the right time, as far as being fit and narrowing our goals so that they all point in the right direction."

The championship meet is the last chance for the women to qualify for the NCAA Championships. Only the top 25 swimmers in each event are invited to swim at the meet in San Antonio, Ala., March 20-22.

"The season has flown by and has been more fun than last year. I don’t get another season after this. This is my last chance."

— Mandy Mularz
Senior swimmer

The Galleria
713-461-2672
Village Arcade
713-526-1385
Town & Country
713-461-2672

Sophomore Alix Bleskin, seen here Jan. 31 at Rice Pool against the University of Houston, is a distance-freestyle threat for Rice at the upcoming WAC Championships in San Antonio.

Sophomore Alix Bleskin, seen here Jan. 31 at Rice Pool against the University of Houston, is a distance-freestyle threat for Rice at the upcoming WAC Championships in San Antonio.

The Owls hope to surpass last year’s 26th-place national finish, so they will have to qualitfy more swimmers for the NCAA meet than the two that competed last year.

Senior Mandy Mularz, who placed second and 11th in the 50- and 100-yard freestyles, respectively, at the NCAA Championships last year, is currently ranked 16th in the nation. Mularz said she is focused for this week’s meet.

"The season has flown by and has been more fun than last year," Mularz said. "I want us to do as well as we can. I don’t get another season after this. This is my last chance."

Sophomore breaststroker Lauren Hill, who also earned national points last year, is ranked 20th in the 100- and 200-yard events, and junior Elaine Lee is 63rd and 67th in the 100- and 200-yard butterfly races, respectively.

"I am happy with how I’ve been swimming all season," Lee said. "I wouldn’t change anything. So now I am excited to swim last."

Junior Jackie Corcoran is ranked 53rd and 69th in the 500- and 1,650-yard freestyle races.

With a new coaching staff and a strong season to build on, the women are eager to swim.

While NCAA performance is important, Mularz said, "I have a sense of momentum, coming off of our training trip, that each meet has gotten better, and we’ve improved upon our mistakes." Huston brought a new approach to swimming to our team. I’ve learned a lot both physically and mentally.

The Owls have been working toward this meet for weeks by tapering, resting and conserving energy. Huston has cut practices shorter, and the women have refrained from lifting weights.

"Being tapered always feels weird," Mularz said. "It is weird to get out of practice earlier — it really spoils you."

Freshman Meghan Brown, facing her first season at the collegiate level, said even a reduced practice schedule helps keep her busy.

"I feel more energetic, but at the same time I have to put that extra energy into school right now, so it takes away from the effect," Brown said.

With schoolwork and the culmination of a year’s training weighing on their minds, the women must leave their concerns behind and focus on their most important meet so far.

"We are peaking just at the right time, as far as being fit and narrowing our goals so that they all point in the right direction."

— Seth Huston
Head swimming coach

Sophomore Adi Bichman, seen here Jan. 31 at Rice Pool against the University of Houston, is a distance-freestyle threat for Rice at the upcoming WAC Championships in San Antonio.

Sophomore Adi Bichman, seen here Jan. 31 at Rice Pool against the University of Houston, is a distance-freestyle threat for Rice at the upcoming WAC Championships in San Antonio.

While the Owls all have qualifying times to worry about, they all say that when they step behind the block, they don’t think about any of that.

"I don’t think much before a race," Lee said. "I think that is what practices are for. We practice things until we can automatically do them perfectly in a race without thinking about them."

Mularz said her pre-race mindset is a little different.

"It is hard to describe what it feels like the moment before a race," Mularz said. "I think it varies for different people, but when I get up there, I focus on everything and nothing at the same time. Of course, there isn’t a whole lot of time to think during a 50-yard event."

While NCAA performance is based on individual finishes, Huston said he is still focusing on the team effort, especially for the conference championship meet.

"I threw out holding specific goals and expectations from coaching a long time ago," Huston said. "I am pushing a real dynamic team atmosphere, where everyone gives all they’ve got through swimming, cheering and supporting each other. If they do that, the end result will reflect their actions and behaviors."

While SMU is the odds-on favorite, Huston is positive about Rice’s chances at the WAC level and beyond.

"Going into the meet, I feel confident," Huston said. "I’ve been seeing good things in practice, the way I’d hope it would be. I observe the girls thinking, anticipating and looking forward to the national championships, so I am optimistic about this meet."

For the Owls, all season’s hard work and preparation has already been completed, and all that remains is for the team to perform well at the conference championship meet.

"All we have to do is get excited and look forward to the meet," Lee said. "It is all mental now. We can swim as fast as we want to swim."

Huston reminds us that all the hard work we’ve put in is behind us and now is when the fun starts.
Men's basketball focusing on defense

by Rohan Wagle

The Rice men's basketball team hopes to continue its recent defensive renaissance this weekend with two critical conference games, according to Athletic Director Jack Foster.

The Owls averaged 64 points in conference play, but have also held opponents to an average of 57.5 points per game.

"The key has been our defense," Foster said. "We've been able to get a lot of work on our defense, and our players have been able to get a lot of practice in the past few weeks.

"We're looking to continue our success on defense and see how we can improve in some areas," Foster added.

Meanwhile, the Owls are also looking to improve their offense, which has struggled in recent games. Rice is averaging 70.5 points per game in conference play.

"We need to work on our offense and get some more points," Foster said. "We're working on some new plays and routines, and we're hoping to see some improvement in our scoring.

"We're looking to continue our defense and see how we can improve in some areas," Foster added.

Women's tennis faces tough four-game trip

by Wei-Han Tan

After a disappointing loss Saturday against Texas A&M, the women's tennis team faces the irregularly scheduled match in a row in a game in which they're bound to make some of the nation's toughest opponents.

The Owls are looking to rebound after a tough loss to the Aggies, which was the team's first game in a row.

"I think we're ready for this weekend's matches," coach Julia Davis said. "We know we have some tough opponents, but we're ready to face the challenge.

"We're working on our defense and see how we can improve in some areas," Foster added.

Meanwhile, the Owls are also looking to improve their offense, which has struggled in recent games. Rice is averaging 70.5 points per game in conference play.

"We need to work on our offense and get some more points," Foster said. "We're working on some new plays and routines, and we're hoping to see some improvement in our scoring.

"We're looking to continue our defense and see how we can improve in some areas," Foster added.

Mellon Undergraduate Fellows Program

The Mellon Undergraduate Fellows Program at Rice University is currently accepting applications from students interested in participating in a mentored program that prepares them for entering Ph.D. programs in selected disciplines after they graduate from Rice University.

Eligible fields are Humanities, Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics, Astronomy, Psychology, and Earth Sciences.

Application deadline is March 7, 2003.
Lady Owls return in second-place tie

The Owls were able to work hard and come out with a final score of 75-67 over Rice, which fell to 7-5 in Western Athletic Conference play — two-pointer and had a chance for a tie.

After being upset by Boise State University Saturday, the Lady Owls maintained their drive against Louisiana Tech University yesterday and Saturday, the Lady Owls took advantage of two meets last weekend in an effort to improve their chances of regaining the title.

"We got closer than I thought we might get, to tell you the truth," McKinney said. "We feel like we can play with anyone but we've got to go out better.

"It was a good race for them," Johnson said. "You needed your helmet and mouthpiece on.

"Robinson said. "You needed your best race when everything is clean."

"Wiggins said the Owls' best time for the season in the 290-meter dash in 2:39.7.

In the field events, junior David Jacobs cleared 15 feet, seven inches — the fourth-best mark in the WAC this season.

"I was feeling really powerful in the long jump," Johnson said. "I was feeling that I could do it and I believed that I could do it so much more."

"The Golden Spikes is an elite meet, while the Tyson Regional is a collegiate meet," head coach Joe Warren said.

"We got closer than I thought we might get, to tell you the truth," McKinney said. "We feel like we can play with anyone but we've got to go out better."

"The rest of the regular season is going to be important," Johnson said. "We've got to play hard, and we've got to shoot the ball better."

"With five games remaining in the schedule, only two wins separate the second and ninth-place teams in the WAC."

At this point we're working for a seed at the conference tournament," McKinney said. "In the tournament anything can happen, first round of the way to the last game, and it would be nice to go in with a higher seed. We've got to be ready regardless, but this is going to be critical."

"That's what we're working for this weekend is still uncertain," Johnson said. "In the tournament anything can happen, first round of the way to the last game, and it would be nice to go in with a higher seed. We've got to be ready regardless, but this is going to be critical."

"The Owls now have one week left before the conference meet to practice on some last-minute details."
**BASEBALL**

**BOISE STATE VS. RICE**

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

**BOISE STATE**

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**Score**

**Rice State 62 vs. Boise State 72**


Boise State: 72 (40-42-79)

**Score by Innings**

Rice State: 000 000 000 000 - 6 8 0
Rice State: 000 000 000 000 - 6 8 0

Boise State: 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 21

By Cary Kotler

The Rice basketball team took the field in Dallas Saturday knowing that they faced a tough game against Texas Tech University.

"We failed to protect our crease, and our offense just never started clicking." - Clayton Forrester Senior midfielder

The two teams have played three games in the past two weeks, and the Owls are out for revenge after losing all three.

Jasiah came up with one of the biggest hits Tuesday. Boasting a .400 average to start the season, Jasiah hit a two-run double off the left field wall and took a third on a fielding error before the2000 field was ruled an infield hit by junior centerfielder Jimmy Leach. Leach has been especially impressive as a defensive player.

"I was happy with [Graham] for being a dominant closer, allowing no runs to score in eight and onethird innings pitched," Townsend said. "[We] need to start with strong pitching and hope our offense comes around."
cds (this year alone): $300

vintage rock posters: about $40 each

frame for concert ticket stubs: $13

used turntable: $20

letter from neighbor complaining about music: $0

guitar pick necklace: $.75

finding out there's an internship for people like you: priceless

Apply for a summer internship with Interscope/Geffen/A&M Records at mastercard.com.

You could be sent to Nashville, where you'll spend five weeks learning from industry bigwigs. You might even be flown to LA to work on the Jurassic 5 album Power in Numbers. There are some things money can't buy for everything else there's MasterCard®.
FRIDAY

"That Hansol is so hot right now.

General Elections for the Student Association and the blanket-tax organizations begin today at noon. To vote, visit http://ruf.rice.edu/

How can the children learn to read when they can't even fit inside the building?"

Vision Weekend is here again, so you can thank the Minority Interest Committee when there are no seats left in your 9 p.m. class.

"You are talking loco ... and I like it."

Sir Peter Hall, founder of the Royal Shakespeare Company in London, will be visiting Rice campus for a workshop on Feb. 26. RSVP by today if you are interested. To RSVP, send an e-mail to Trish Rigdon at trigdor@rice.edu today.

"Walk-off, 10 minutes, old men-only warehouse."

"Do you ever think there's more to life than really, really, really, really ridiculously good looking members-only warehouse."

"The fact that he's cool for school. But I've got a prototype.

Today is Brown College's College Night. The theme is "Love. Peace and College Night."

Today was Brown College's College Night. The theme is "Love. Peace and College Night."

Lunar New Year

CSA, KSA, VNA, KTA and SAS present the annual Lunar New Year Celebration. Come celebrate the Year of the Sheep tonight at 7 p.m. in the Grand Hall of the Rice Memorial Center. Dinner and entertainment will be provided.

"I feel like I'm taking crazy pills."

The Rice Players present their spring production of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." Performances are at 8 p.m. nightly from Feb. 21-22 and Feb. 27-29. Shows begin at 8:30 p.m. in Lovett Hall, and admission is $5 for students. For reservations, call (713) 527-1173. To order tickets online, visit http://www.rice.edu/royalrice/royalrice.html.
Ulterior motives underlie tuition increase

Board desires "more preppy, more Ivy" Rice

Confidential board member minutes obtained by the Threshold Backpage reveal controversial motives behind recently announced tuition increases. Last week, the Board of Trustees announced its decision to realign the link between the Consumer Price Index and student tuition cost, citing economic hardship and consumer irrationality. However, board minutes and personal interviews cite different reasons for the tuition increase.

Minutes from the December board meeting reveal a consensus among board members that the Rice student body is not "distinguished enough" in appearance. Apparently continuing his self-denied quest to make Rice an Ivy League college, President Malcolm Gillis believes students simply don't fit the intelligent, well-to-do Ivy League mold.

An anonymous board member, disturbed by recent developments, quoted Gillis as saying, "I want to see less flip-flops, less jeans, and more khakis." When was the last time you saw a Yale kid wearing a free athletic T-shirt and personal interviews cite different reasons for the increase in tuition was Associate Vice President of Finance and Administration Neil Binford. When asked by the Backpage as to reasons for his support, Binford gave a response focusing on the benefits to the students, and genuinely good intentions of the university.

"I want to see less flip-flops, less jeans, and more khakis." — Malcolm Gillis Rice president

"It's quite simple," said Binford. "Richer students means better cars, which means students willing to pay more to park."

Willy Sez: Multitasking is fun. Do more problem sets Classifieds.

HOUSING
1301 RICHMOND. Two-bedroom apartment. Call Andover at (713) 524-3344.
Details: 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 870 ft², 1 block from St. John's. $575 plus electric. 281-277-0003.

HELP WANTED
FAST-PACED, rapidly growing Houston-based biotechnology company seeks part-time research assistant and II. Knowledge of molecular biology, laboratory experience, and some computer skills required. Please send resume to eggs@bacbarcodes.com.

PAR-TIME RECEPTIONIST for downtown Houston oil and gas exploration firm wanted. Responsibilities: answering and screening incoming calls and visitors, sort and distribute mail and faxes and light administrative duties. Computer skills a plus. Please fax resumes to (713) 224-6361.

WEREWMASTER WANTED to modify/ maintain existing Website. Website for current Chemistry professor. E-mail: cadaver@bacbarcodes.com.

HOUSTONSTATISTICIAN/SOFTWARE developer (biotechnology). Bachelor Barcodes, Inc., a dynamic, Houston-based company, is developing novel ways to analyze microbial fingerprints. We currently have an opening for a team player to assist in the development of our web-based analytical software products. The ideal candidate would have a strong background in statistics, molecular microbiology, genetics, biostatistics and database development. Application development experience with the statistical packages SAS and the database language SQL with experience in the Unix environment, a knowledge of Unix shell scripting, and Perl would also be a plus. Please e-mail resume to info@bacbarcodes.com or fax to (713) 467-7766.

FOR SALE

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