Students voted on seven of the proposed Honor Council amendments in an election last Tuesday and Wednesday.

The approved amendment states the first level of appeals for a decision by the council will be in a three-member board consisting of two faculty members and the assistant dean for Student Judicial Programs. Currently, appeals go only to the assistant dean for Student Judicial Programs.

The other four amendments, though supported by a majority of voters, all failed to receive 75 percent of the votes, the percentage necessary for an amendment to pass. (See chart, right.)

"Tenured faculty members have a vested interest and definite stake in the honor system, and I believe that their presence will ensure that cases are handled carefully and consistently," Shreffler, a Lovett College senior, said.

SA Co-President Michael Leggett said although one amendment was approved, there was significant support for the changes.

"All 50 percent or above, which shows that there is a student mandate for all the amendments," Leggett, a Wiess College senior, said.

Shreffler also said she thinks many students wanted the changes.

"It is clear that most students who voted are behind the proposal, and they recognize that the appeals process needs reform," Shreffler said.

Leggett said each of the amendments used tactics the Honor Council was not allowed to use, possibly affecting the results of the other amendments.

"There was a lot of stuff that we had to work around in people campaigning for the proposal," Leggett said.

Opponents of the changes sent a snoop message to all students. Leggett, at a rally Monday night encouraging students to vote against the changes, Leggett said.

"I really think that the results that we had yesterday had there not been so much sleight-of-hand stuff," Leggett said.

Packets of information about the proposed changes were distributed in members of the women's varsity soccer team and other varsity athletic teams. The packets included copies of the current Honor Constitution and the proposed amendments, a Thresher article about the proposed amendments and an ad that in the Thresher expressing the misgivings of the administration about the proposal.

Honor Council member Amber Obermeyer, a member of the women's varsity soccer team, said the packet was biased.

"The administration's stance was included in the packet, and the Honor Council's was not," Obermeyer, a Baker College freshman, said.

Obermeyer said she thinks athletes and non-athletes disagree on the proposed amendments.

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**Arabian Nights**

*Will Rice College freshman Mariel All gets a free camel ride at Arabian Nights — Desert Lights Saturday outside the Student Center. More than 350 people attended the event.*

by Alana Newell

About 30 students evacuated the seventh and eighth floors of Brown College after a fire started in a stairwell around 7:30 a.m. Sunday morning.

The fire occurred in stairwell B between the seventh and eighth floors of the building. Students living in the room directly across from the stairwell extinguished the fire and assisted Rice University Police Department officers in evacuating students.

Brown sophomore Adam Herrin said he was in the stairwell when he first discovered the fire. Herrin and Macaluso, who live on the eighth floor of Brown, woke up when the fire alarm went off. After smelling smoke, Herrin thought something might be burning in the kitchen and went to investigate.

After checking the kitchen, Herrin spotted the stairwell door on his way back to his room and noticed the "smoke" outside. He opened the door and discovered the fire.

"There was no smoke on my floor," Herrin said. "It was just staying in the top of the stairwell and when I opened the door it just flew up the stairs because it didn't have anywhere else to go."

Herrin said he dragged a bowl of water on the flames, which were more than five feet tall, and Macaluso used a fire extinguisher from their room to put out the blaze. Macaluso assisted the RUPD officer on the scene for informing other residents of the fire and warning them to evacuate because of the smoke.

Herrin said several minutes later, the Houston Fire Department arrived, and an arson investigator began examining the scene.

They think that there's a good chance that the fire was intentionally set, RUPD Lt. Diana Marshall said. The cause of the fire is not yet known, Marshall said. Some students said they heard the sound of fire extinguishers or a chair, jacket or stuffed animal.

Brownsville freshman Luke Stadel said students began ignoring fire alarms because of the frequency of false alarms. Stadel said he woke up when the alarm went off but attempted to continue sleeping.

"Just sit in my room until it goes off because I presume it's nothing serious," Stadel said. "I always figure somebody's smoking weed in one of their rooms."

Macaluso also said students no longer take fire alarms seriously.

"It's not routine, but it definitely goes to the point where we're like, 'OK we're going ignore this.,'" Willis said.

Some students said they covered or taped their alarms in an attempt to dampen the sound.

"Put a sock and a shoe over the thing, then you have some peace," Brown Master Keith Brown said. Students should never ignore fire alarms.

"Think the only thing you need to do is to be informed and hopefully make the students aware that very few fires go off, and nobody thinks there's a fire," Brown said. "I mean that's the big issue that needs to be addressed. Fire alarms need to be taken seriously.

An email has been sent requesting that students with information about the fire come forward.

Both the RUPD and HFD investigations are ongoing.
the Rice Thresher

Student interest in Council peaked too late

We are glad that apathy has died again. The turnover for Tuesday and Wednesday's Honor Council referenda was an impressive 811. (See Story, Page 1.) Students should be commended for their concern and effort. But it has not only unnecessarily vindictive, but unprofessional — even in the "real world" of politics, activists sign their names or organizations on their ads. It is a simple sign of accountability and willingness for open discussion.

Ultimately, many students showed their concern for the academic regulation of this university, and we were glad to see it. But had apathy's demise not been delayed, additional changes might have passed.

Don't ignore the alarms

Saturday morning's Brown College fire was minor, but it is disconcerting that so few students paid attention to the alarm and left their rooms. (See Story, Page 1.)

Although most alarms at Rice go off for small, insignificant incidents, students should remember that there is always a reason, life-threatening or not, when sirens start blaring. This attack may not be realistic to expect residents to flee their rooms during every alarm, but they should at least become aware of their surroundings when the alarms go off to know what is going on and to make sure they are safe.

A fire near Ohio State University recently killed five students at the school. Please don't completely ignore the alarms, even if you don't respond fully to them every time. Make sure there is nothing to worry about before plugging your ears and getting back to work or sleep.

‘Requiring’ tolerance defeats its purpose

Gay former NFL player David Kopay's visit to Rice today is a great opportunity for students, faculty and staff to engage with Rice's athletic departments and the Rice community. It is important to note, however, that requiring tolerance from all students does not mean that Rice is necessarily a tolerant place. Rice students and staff are expected to be respectful and non-discriminatory, and this expectation should be enforced by student organizations and administration.

Binford took an admirable parking step

We thank Vice President for Finance and Administration Neill Binford and Physics and Astronomy graduate student Marcus Huerta for listening to each other and working out a parking solution for North Lot that pleased everyone. (See Story, Page 4.)

Huerta set up a Web site requesting that the North Lot be opened to students and others at 4 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. After sending an e-mail with the address for the site to Binford, the two met and Binford agreed to open the lot at 4 p.m. to those with proximity cards.

This is just one example of how the administration can work with students. We hope other students will be as proactive in giving the administration a chance to change things, no matter how small.

Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exclusionary ad sent the wrong message

To the editor:

As a Christian and a member of the Rice community, I was offended and troubled by the ad in the April 11 Thresher signed by faculty and staff. The exclusionary views expressed implied that if one does not follow the narrow path of Christian beliefs, then one is wrong and headed for hell.

I expect their right to have these beliefs. However, inclusionary they are with my own theology of the tolerant nature of Christianity and also their right to come together with each other to practice their beliefs. However, when people in positions of power over others, such as coaches and professors, expose such exclusionary views in such a public manner, they are failing in their responsibility to provide a safe space for all students, regardless of their religious convictions.

Moreover, in a time when it is particularly important for Rice to work towards an awareness of tolerance, the prospective students who were on campus last weekend were exposed to a full page in the student newspaper that advocates exactly the opposite.

Kate Floyd
Hanszen senior

Public school funding overlooked in debate

To the editor:

I cannot understand why, with all the debate about affirmative action, little has been said about the gross inequalities in public primary and secondary school funding. Texas' "Robin Hood" program, which redistributes school funding to poor districts, addresses these inequalities to some extent, but more needs to be done nationwide.

One reason Blacks and Hispanics have lower average SAT scores and are underrepresented in universities is because a greater percentage go to underfunded schools.

SATs measure the extent to which a student has been prepared for these tests, and for college. But I think we can all agree that a kid who's had top-notch courses and private or school-sponsored SAT coaching is much better prepared than not only for the SAT but also for college and success — and who's school lacks funding for these programs and whose parents lack sufficient funds to pick up the slack.

The reason for these inequalities is that public schools are funded mainly by local property taxes. Equalizing school funding may not fix everything, and there's still the problem of low expectations, but it is the obvious place to start.

Why use affirmative action or programs like Texas's "Robin Hood" program, which redistributes school funding to poor districts, addresses these inequalities to some extent, but more needs to be done nationwide.

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Inconsistency, ambiguity plague high court

Cross burners beware. Maybe. In fact, it's unclear whether the bounds of the First Amendment's free speech clause, Barry Black said at the Supreme Court hearing on Thursday, are perfectly reasonable Virginia v. Black, or maybe Black was right, as the court struck down a Virginia law that made it illegal to burn crosses in public settings. (Nathan Black is a Lovett College student.)

Robert Mouton is a Sid Richardson College student.

Guest column

Racial reparations would curb hopelessness

The battle for reparations is not a minority concern to be waved away from the government to support la-
thors. Racial reparations imply that those who have consumed the wealth that was built by the early American economy (in order to gain independence that warrants reparations.) I go with saying that the beatings, lynchings, beatings, torture and rape — the illegal acts that were made in desperation by the oppressed at the mercy of the United States — all demand compensation. The United States is not unfami-
larity with the notion of reparations. Mexican paid reparations after the Mexican-American War and Ger-
many after World War II. When it comes to getting paid, the United States never seems to come fa-
to pay up. Selfish, I say. What's in it for you.

Repayment implies that those who have enslaved the innocents are unworthy of an apol-
yogy. Brazil says the burning of a black man is only three-fifths of a mon-
durian, if the John Dews are not worth a single bloody thumb. It's unmer-
filing that reparations are the only way to make for myself, but I think it's

Falan Mouton is a Sid Richardson College student.

Read it, don't ask

Ask the music industry, college kids can get burned

If you illegally download music, watch what you say and where you say it. The party is over for most Michigan Technological University students. (Jennifer Quereau, Alternate Editor.)

Robert Mouton is a Sid Richardson College student.

We need to use our brains in the midst of rampant lawlessness

No matter how full the police
tal At the Rice campus, the Rice campus;

Mark Herronson

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper at Rice University since 1915, is published each Friday during the academic year. Comments during continuous period of publication by the students of Rice University.

Editor

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Identity still unknown

by Rachel Rount Irwin

University Court heard the case of a March 2 private party at Brown College "not in violation" thereby preventing alcohol to a minor. Rice University police officers broke up the party and retried the case to Student Judicial Proce- dures after finding an intoxicated minor in a bush across campus. The incident involved a Student Richard College freshman and Brown College senior. The RUPD officer found the fresh- man, who asked to remain anony- mous, heavily intoxicated near Lovett College. After being ques- tioned, he said he had come from a Brown party, which officers then broke up at about 3:30 a.m. The minor plead "in violation" tachures of public intoxication and underage drinking and was sen- tenced by U. Court, former U. Court Chair Daniel Brickman said. Medina said he followed the al- coloh policy as closely as possible the night of the party. "The right of the party was to be as careful as possible and try to keep the party contained and follow the alcoholic beverage policy as closely as possible, and I'm just glad that everything is worked out," he said. U. Court Chair Brian Cohen said he does not think this incident will set a precedent because it was an isolated occurrence. ["RUPD officers] were basically presenting that if they had not come to that party, however drunk he was, he would have been arrested as that part of the school, which as it turned out, was not the case," Cohen, a WIses College fresh- man, said.

Party host found not in violation

by Ian Everhart

Students can enter North Lot earlier

On March 28, Huerta used a digi- tal camera to take photos of the North Lot at about 4:30 p.m. and counted about 100 empty spaces. He returned the March 31 and found a similar situation. "The best idea wins," he said. "I don't think they did. I think there was something that needed to be forward and be discussed and think people need to take [the alcohol policy] more seriously than some- times they do."
Panel debates pros and cons of war and future of Iraq

First Baker Institute Student Forum all-student panel made up of six representatives from on-campus organizations.

by Ian Everhart

The Baker Institute Student Forum hosted its first all-student panel Monday in Baker Hall.

In a talk entitled "Discussion on Iraq: Conflict, Costs, and Consequences," representatives of campus groups talked about the pros and cons of the war and the future of Iraq.

The six panelists represented Rice for Peace, Rice Students for Progressive Activism, Rice College Republicans, Rice Young Democrats and the Muslim Student Association.

Moderator Navin Yi, a Sidd Richardson College sophomore and BISF executive committee member, began the discussion by asking the panelists how they reconcile the evils of the present conflict to those of the past.

Rice for Peace member Beca Schenck said RFP has a wide range of members, from those who object to the present conflict to those who object to conflict in general, so it is hard to gauge the entire group.

However, Schenck said the Six president, said she feels military action can be justified, but only as a last resort.

RCR President Casey Groher said he also believes that war is a last resort.

"I don't think anybody sees it as a first means of response," Groher, a Lovett College freshman, said.

In response to another question, Rice Students for Progressive Activism president Keith Morse said the Bush administration should not repeat the mistakes it made in the wake of its actions in Afghanistan.

"We've done a terrible job of staying around and rebuilding [Afghanistan], picking up the pieces of our own bombs, so to speak," Morse, a Hanszen College freshman, said.

"We've done a terrible job of staying around and rebuilding [Afghanistan], picking up the pieces of our own bombs, so to speak."

— Ketch Morse

Rice Students for Progressive Activism President

Baker College sophomore Skye Schell, a member of RCR, said immediate concerns such as food distribution and safety should take priority over long-term goals such as economic development.

Rice Young Democrats President Kevin Bailey said now that the fighting is over it is imperative that the humanitarian problems left in the wake of the military action be addressed.

"Before we can talk about long-term contracts and the rebuilding and the setting up of governments, there are still people dying still because they don't have food getting to them," Bailey, a Brown College junior, said.

In addition to preventing starvation, U.S. forces need to work to re-establish security and halt looting and violence, he said.

Muslim Student Association President Anmar Ahmed said U.S. officials should not stifle the growth of indigenous Iraqi institutions with restrictions established by the United States.

"We can't just look at the Iraqis in terms of a humanitarian tragedy," Ahmed, a Lovett senior, said. "We've got to look at them as agents that can and must be an integral part very early on of both the political and economic restructuring and rehabilitation of the country."

The panel also discussed Iraq ethnic fragmentation, the difficulty of establishing multiparty democracy and the roles of both the newly returned Iraqi rulers and the United Nations.

Panelists then responded to audience questions.

One audience member asked how the United States could ignore Iraq President Saddam Hussein's human rights violations and even support this regime in the 1980s while today violations dating from that period are cited as the cause for the present conflict.

Schell said the change in policy reflects the priorities of different eras and administrations.

"Each administration has a very different take on what to do about human rights," Schell, also the online editor for the Thresher, said. "You can say, 'What did they do wrong?' or 'The end result was good.'"

Another audience member asked what would happen if democratic elections in Iraq yielded a government that opposed the United States.

Schenck said she thinks the strong U.S. presence in Iraq will prevent an anti-U.S. government from taking root, but Morse disagreed, pointing to the Iranian elections of the 1970s in which a socialist came to power.

"When we say democracy, what do we really mean? Do we really mean the sovereign will of the Iraqi people, or do we mean this preconceived notion of what a democratic structure is?"

Sidd sophomore Jonathan Shepard, who attended the event, said he thinks the panel, although top-heavy in antinuke opinion, held a fairly balanced discussion.

"I thought that the people who participated were fairly knowledgeable, although I thought that some of the people there, both on the panel and in the audience, had a somewhat stereotyped sense of self-importance," he said.

Will Rice College freshman Alex Woodruff said she enjoyed the format of the forum and was surprised that many of the panelists shared similar views although they represented different groups.

"I thought most people were pretty centrist — they agreed on most points," she said.

BISF Executive Committee member Shane Levinthal said the BISF will most likely plan another all-student panel.

"After speaking with panelists following the event, all of them expressed interest in seeing another BISF-sponsored student panel on other issues in the future," Levinthal, a Brown sophomore, said.
The Student Association met Monday. The following were discussed:

• Undergraduate Representative to the Presidential Search Committee was discussed by SA members to discuss if students would like to see in the next university president.

• The senate approved Jones College sophomore Evan Hunt as the Presidential Search Committee representative.

• The senate approved Rice for Peace as a club. Rice for Peace promotes peaceful resolution through political activism and education. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact Lovett College seniors Kevin Johnson at kevinj@rice.edu.

• The senate approved the 12 Hours Club, which will hold weekly discussion forums to provide support for overworked students. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact Lovett College seniors Asia Kaminsky at kamin@rice.edu.

• The senate approved the Rice chapter of Engineers Without Borders, an international organization that performs service to third world communities. Anyone interested in helping the group should contact Martel College junior Tamal Leslie-Tab at tamal@rice.edu.

• SA Co-President Bryan Debbink announced that the senate will vote next week on resolving the changes in the SA bylaws approved by the senate April 7 that allowed the Spring Elections to occur.

• The senate approved the following students as chairs of SA Standing Committees: Academics: Baker College freshmen Michelle Afkhani and Sid freshmen Jing Li; Environment and Facilities: Weas College sophomore Philip Levine and Lovett freshman Linda Pham; Sports and Health: Weas senior Mandy Ma’s group; Student Life: Lovett freshman Elle Quartz and Market freshman Trey Smith.

• The senate recommended the following to the President’s office to serve as undergraduate representatives on University Standing Committees: Admissions: Weas junior Paylila Huwel, Baker junior Mahat Shah and Lovett junior Catherine Tsien; Affirmative Action: Martel junior Esmaraide Martinez; Athletics: Lovett sophomore William McKeel and Mulator; Curricula: Afkhani, Brown College junior Baris Maheshwari and Weas junior Rachel Rastin; Education and Health and Safety: Weas sophomore Brenda Arrendondo and Levine; Examinations and Standing: Martel junior Mark Berman, Martel junior Ana Friedman, Brown sophomore Annie Parkell and Martel senior Victoria Yip; Library: Weas junior Annie Kinoshita; Minority Affairs: Baker sophomore Alan Pham and Sid junior Bisco Schrader; Parking: Jones sophomore Lindsey Gilbert, Weas freshman Jack Hardesty and Rice sophomore Mack McCullagh; Public Lectures: Baker freshman Jo Kerr; ROTC: Lovett sophomore Robert Emmett; Security: Brown freshman John Chang; Teaching: Weas freshman Naja Khorramvahid and Shah.

• The senate approved the following students as members of the KRTU Friendly Committee: voting members: Will Rice sophomore Sarah Alcock, Lovett sophomore Vernon; non-voting members: Will Rice junior Carly Kornick; non-voting members: Will Rice sophomores Jamie Mack. Weas junior Martin Shultz, Weas junior Caroline Shaw, Brown freshman Laura Bellows, and Jones sophomores Dave Rinken. Conrado and Aidan Salmi.

• A student ambassador Joanna Rapponkonstinnou will also serve on the committee.

• SA Elections Chair Ames Grarrow presented the Spring Elections ballot, which the senate approved.

The next meeting will be Monday at 10 p.m. in Farnsworth Pavilion in the Student Center.
At-large representatives elected

HONOR, from page 1

"The only things that were unfair were beyond our control," Gravert said. "It is not our fault or related to how we ran the election." Shreffler said she hopes the SA will change its election procedures for future referenda.

"I really think that the results would have been different had there not been so much self-interest," Shreffler said.

"We need to have open discussions with people who opposed the amendments and with the administration to see exactly what we can do — if we can alter the amendments a little bit to accommodate what people are really concerned about — and get even a better proposal passed next spring," Delbosc, a Wess junior, said.

The student who posted the flyers said he hopes the work being done by the ad hoc committee in the honor system, the SAA Committee, will provide guidance for future amendments.

"I hope that they report soon, because with that in hand, that could be the basis for conversation in different groups and the administration and the Honor Council," he said. "That is the goal, and it would be awesome." Shreffler said students should stay involved with the Honor Council regardless of whether the committee proposes new amendments.

"Students should definitely be interested, whether there is an amendment to the constitution in the works or not," Shreffler said. "The honor system affects all students and is a fundamental part of being a student at Rice."

By the election, Lovett sophomores Jeb Britt and Travis Youngblood, Bates College junior George Miller and Wilber Rice College junior Prarthan Sethi were elected Honor Council at-large representatives.

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The Honor Council is also seeking to remove any oversight of the penalties they assign.

VOTE NO
On Amendments 1, 2 and 4
to the Honor Council Constitution

Amendments 1, 2 and 4.

HONOR, from page 1

"What continues to disappoint me is the disparity between what non-athletes and what student-athletes thought of this proposal," Obermeyer said. "I can't pinpoint the exact reasons why, but this indicates that as athletes and as Rice students, we still have a lot of work to do."

A student who wished to remain anonymous hung posters around campus reading in part, "Don't let these take away our Rights!"

The posters urged students to vote against Amendments 1, 2 and 4.

The student who posted the signs said he thinks the posters represented a valid interpretation of the revised constitution.

"Obviously some of the things on it are debatable," the student said. "Their constitution can be interpreted differently. I thought that was an interpretation that could be made, and I didn't think that was getting out."

The student said because the Honor Council held meetings about the proposed amendments in all the colleges this week and was the main source of information for students about the changes, he found it necessary to provide another perspective.

Leggett said he thinks the election was unfair to the Honor Council, however, SA Elections Chair Ames Gravert said the election was conducted according to the SA bylaws and election code.

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GRAB LIFE BY THE HORNS

For a limited time, new college graduates can get $1,000 cash allowance on select Dodge vehicles.

Plus get other generous consumer cash allowances.

See Your Local Dodge Dealer Today.

*Dodge Stratus Sedan
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**SECRETARY**

**LET'S GO BOWLING**

Janel Von Erich, lead singer of Grammy-nominated pop-punk band Bowling for Soup, teams through a set Friday night as part of iamfest at Wiess College. The band, originally from Wichita Falls, now based out of Denton, participated in last year's music festival as well.

**I WILL NOT TRY TO KILL MY MATE**

Dive into the music new release bin promises rewarding

Carly Kocurek  THESSER EDITORIAL STAFF

The Kills  KEEP ON YOUR MEAN SIDE

Rough Trade

The Kills's 20th Year Means Side opens with raw guitars with loops and vampy, throaty vocals on "Superstar," a track that sounds like stripped-down, self-conscious hard metal.

The album is strong if you're interested in BLUES-INFUSED indie rock.

Tracks are built of hoops and beats, simple rhythms with raw screaming guitars. "Knife Kiss" and "Fried My Little Brains" sound like post-Led Zeppelin blues. In spite of the dark chords that build the foundation, most tracks sound fun — one track even has a spoken introduction about TV weathermen. For some reason, a track titled "Fuck the People" with indescribably harmonious vocals is beautiful and haunting, as is "Monkey 21." Overall, the album is strong if you're interested in the indiefied indie rock.

**Michael Bublé**

MICHAEL BUBLE

Reprise Records

Michael Bublé's self-titled album is great fun for walking around the office and singing over dramatically. An album of standards like "Moonstruck" and "Come Fly With Me" also has a thoroughly strange version of "Crazy Little Thing Called Love." It's not original, but it's a lot of fun. Evenly spaced, this would be great music. Even grandmother likes crooners, if it's a nice album to bond over, and as with any crooner worth his salt, Buble's voice is as smooth as silk.

**Bevere Nelson**

LEGENDS OF SUPER HEROES

Freedom

I thought I would hate Lizzy West's full-length, Holy Road. Freedom Songs — just look at the name. But I popped the album in the CD player anyway and was wound. West's vocals are smooth, as is it slightly twangy, and the singer-songwriter occasionally seems to be channeling Natalie Merchant. The cosmic release to escape from the realm of Top-40 saccharine, though it's likely headed there fast. Overall, West's album is decent, if not decidedly different set of road songs — perfect for a drive with the windows down.

**Let's go bowling**

**I WILL NOT TRY TO KILL MY MATE**

Dive into the music new release bin promises rewarding

Carly Kocurek  THESSER EDITORIAL STAFF

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I thought I would hate Lizzy West's full-length, Holy Road. Freedom Songs — just look at the name. But I popped the album in the CD player anyway and was wound. West's vocals are smooth, as is it slightly twangy, and the singer-songwriter occasionally seems to be channeling Natalie Merchant. The cosmic release to escape from the realm of Top-40 saccharine, though it's likely headed there fast. Overall, West's album is decent, if not decidedly different set of road songs — perfect for a drive with the windows down.
DVD extras do not add greatly to film's content

KINKY from Page 9

actors have made a project with such integrity that the film's strong sexual overtones are both humorous and romantic; always a turn-on, never a turn-off.

Gyllenhaal and Spader are simply brilliant. A relatively new face, Gyllenhaal turns in a star-making performance as Holloway. The viewer sees her transform from a quiet, girlish youngster to a fully evolved sexual being. Her performance is one of last year's brightest, and she was unfairly snubbed an Oscar nomination.

Spader is a revelation as well. While this is not Spader's first explicitly sexual film (he headlined Steven Soderbergh's art house smash Sex, Lies and Videotape in 1989), this is by far the actor's best performance. Perhaps the film's greatest triumph — though there are moments that are delightful and surprising comic — is its central, quirky love story. I have always been a fan of oddball romances; the eccentric duo in The Crying Game and the lost souls in Monster's Ball are some of my favorite on-screen couples. Because of Gyllenhaal and Spader's great work here, Holloway and Grey jump to the top of my list.

The film's DVD has several special features, including a behind-the-scenes featurette entitled "Behind the Secretary!" and a running commentary by director Shainberg and screenwriter Wilson. Although brief, the featurette does include interviews with Shainberg, Gyllenhaal and Spader. While the interviewees do not deeply delve into the film's subject matter, they find plenty of time to compliment each other. Though they briefly speak about their characters, I would have preferred to hear Gyllenhaal and Spader talk more about the motivation and inspiration behind their richly textured performances.

The film's commentary is all but brief. Both Shainberg and Wilson speak throughout the film, providing interesting information about production designs, costumes, performance, cinematography and the script. I found the comparison between what was on the page and what ended up in the film to be most interesting.

This commentary may best function as a look into the complex art of filmmaking and the difficult decisions, sacrifices and compromises that occur during pre-production and filming. Wilson talks about several cut scenes that further developed Lee's family, while Shainberg defends his decision to make Holloway and Grey the film's ultimate focus and relegating Lee's family to merely a part of her background.

Shainberg also discusses the numerous artists who inspired his visual scheme. Several specific shots were lifted from Mike Figgis's brilliant masterpiece Leaving Las Vegas, another film about unlikely love. Shainberg also attributes Stanley Kubrick with his ideas of how to frame characters in a scene.

Though interesting to a point, the commentary becomes old after a while. While Shainberg and Wilson know their characters very well and have obviously filmed the story they set out to capture, I suggest viewers forgo this commentary, and simply enjoy the products of the filmmaker's labors, rather than hearing about them.
**Men's tennis aims for top seed**

By Adam Tabakia

Fresh off a 4-3 victory over the University of Colorado, the Rice men's tennis team closes out its regular season with a pair of dual matches this weekend against 31st-ranked Southern Methodist University (11 a.m.) and Lamar University (7 p.m.) at Jack Hess Tennis Stadium.

The Owls notched a berth in the NCAA championship tournament with twin sweeps over SMU and Lamar, respectively.

Sophomore Taha Motaji, seen here March 9 against Pennsylvania, will be in action Sunday as the men's tennis team hosts two matches.

---

**Water polo earns nationals trip**

By Dylan Herlick

In only its third year of play, the women's club water polo team earned a spot in the Collegiate Water Polo Association National Championships by winning the Texas University/Club Championships last weekend at Palo Alto College in San Antonio.

Rice won three straight games over the tournament's top seed to advance to the NCAA tournament for the first time. The Owls, ranked 13th nationally, will host one of 16 teams that earned a slot in the NCAA tournament bracket this weekend at the Rice Aquatics Center.

The Owls, led by senior goalkeeper Katherine Schapauch and junior goalie cheapest, qualified for the NCAA tournament in the national championships last weekend in Lincoln, Neb. (See chart, Page 14)

"It was fun because it was the first time that we had our 4x100 in full force.

— Nina Mayes

Freshman sprinter

The 4x100-meter relay crew of senior Sarah am Faison, junior Watkins, and Medina qualified at the national tournament in Kansas City, Mo. The Owls won the event, setting a school record of 49.84 seconds. Other Owl runners were seventh in the 4x400 relay, fifth and sixth in the 4x100 relay, and fifth in the 4x800 relay.

The Owls continued their success in the swimming and diving championships, as freshman Nina Mayes regionally qualified in the 100-meter dash, the 200-meter relay, and the 4x100 relay. She finished in 11.46, but came back in the 200-meter dash to qualify with a second place finish in 25.69.

Rice added a host of other tri-dual teams to their roster, including the men's and women's tennis teams. The men's tennis team closed out its regular season with a pair of dual matches against Lamar and SMU, respectively.

Sophomore Taha Motaji, seen here March 9 against Pennsylvania, will be in action Sunday as the men's tennis team hosts two matches.

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**Weekend sports schedule**

Where and when to support Rice Athletics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7-2, 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Nebraska (Reckling Park)</td>
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<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Men's Tennis vs. SMU (Jake Hess)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>Men's Tennis vs. Lamar (Jake Hess)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Baseball at Lamar (Beaumont)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A chance for revenge if the power lines don’t get us.
Weary Owls hope Reckling return sparks dormant offense

The baseball players were making excuses after their fourth loss in six games Wednesday, ending a nine-game winning streak and a reign of 50 regular-season games without losing a game. However, yesterday's day off should go a long way toward getting the 'Weary Owls back on track for the Texas Conference series against the University of Texas and Rice, starting tonight. We have this week and next week and then we'll clean up for that big weekend game Friday. 

The Owl's school-record winning streak was snapped at 30 games April 9, and the team left at 630 p.m. the next morning for a weekend road trip to California to face Fresno State University. Rice rebounded from a 7-5 defeat Friday to win the final two of the series, maintaining its top national ranking.

After traveling all day Monday, however, the Owls dropped two away games, 8-7 to San Houston State University Tuesday and 12-3 to the University of Houston Wednesday. The Owls' school-record winning streak of six games is now in a five-game slide. Offense has been the biggest problem, as Rice won both games by the scores of 19-14, 6-3. The Owls were beaten Rice in six of the seven meetings since the 2000 season.

After dropping two away games, offense has been the biggest problem, as Rice won both games by the scores of 19-14, 6-3. The Owls were beaten Rice in six of the seven meetings since the 2000 season. 

Outfielder: Nevada hit .259 as a team, compared to Rice's .321, but the Owls track the SEC with 49 home runs. (Rice has 29). Nevada's leading hitters are Brett Hayes (396), Erik Streeter (.350) and Kauai Markatos (.320). Owl pitching about prove to be the key of the series, especially if Hummer can ouster Minimiration in Friday's opener.

The triple play came with runners on first and second on a hit and a hit-up. Yun Chung Hsiao hit a line drive toward the infield, but it was stranded on first base to double up one runner before being thrown out by welder Paul Janish at second base for the triple play.

"I don't think I've ever had a triple play before," Sinisi said. "It was pretty exciting and got us out of trouble." After Niemann led the way in a 9-0 rout Sunday, Rice plated 11 runs Tuesday in a Game 2, taking advantage of Nevada's struggles, as he suffered the first in school history. California due to travel costs associated with transporting the poles, he will compete at the Houston Invitational at the University of Houston.

I hope to keep inching [my height] up," Jacobs said. "I just have to relax, hope for the best and see how it goes down." In other field events, senior Tommy Olafson placed third in the high jump, leaping 6-7 1/2, and second in the long jump, clearing 24-3/4. Sophomore Jason Powell took sixth in the triple jump with a distance of 46-2 3/4.

In track and field, athletes agree that the real start of the season is this weekend in California at the Mt. San Antonio College Relays in Walnut, and the Pomona-Pitzer Invitational in Claremont.

"This is the week the season really gets going," head coach Jim Warren (Jones '99) said. "We're running in two meets simultaneously and looking to get a good experience with different competition." At the Mt. SAC Relays, Varona expects the Owls to face some top competition in the nation. Athletes registered to compete include 2000 Olympic 100-meter and 400-meter medallist Maurice Greene, 2000 Olympic 100-meter and silver medalist Ato Bolden and 1996 4x100-meter relay Olympian Jeremy Wariner and Tommie Smith.

"I hope to keep inching [my height] up," Jacobs said. "I just have to relax, hope for the best and see how it goes down." In other field events, senior Tommy Olafson placed third in the high jump, leaping 6-7 1/2, and second in the long jump, clearing 24-3/4. Sophomore Jason Powell took sixth in the triple jump with a distance of 46-2 3/4.

"I was pretty satisfied with my time," Miller said. "I thought that was a good effort and it was a really good performance. The reason that we all came out, and our times start to drop."
**Sports Notebook**

**Women's tennis drops regular season finale**

The women's tennis team ended their regular season on a sour note with a 6-1 loss to 30th-ranked Texas A&M University at John How-Ten Stadium April 10. Rice was only able to steal away one doubles match and one singles match from the Aggies.

Senior Jeff Gonzales and junior Yusim Fisher paired up for an 8-4 win in the number three doubles spot against Sara Twinski and Nicki McNeely, but the Aggies claimed the first two doubles matches from the doubles point.

Freshman Blair DiSesa played a hard-fought match against 100th-ranked Jessica Roland in the number-one singles position. DiSesa won the first set 6-2 but then dropped the next two, including the final set 7-6 (3).

"It is never easy to take a match," DiSesa said. "You can take a lot out of a match in the way you compete. A tough loss is one of those things you think about in the learning process of gaining experience."

Sophomore Erika Villalobos scored Rice's only team point of the day by sweeping Roland in consecutive 7-5 sets. Junior Karen Cho won her first-ever singles match against Lauren Walker 63 before falling in the final two 61, 62.

With the loss, Rice finished its regular season with an 8-12 record. The Owls are next in action April 25-27 at the Western Athletic Conference Championships.

"I think that we fought hard the whole season, but we have had a few tough breaks," DiSesa said. "It is not easy to take a match after a tough loss, but you have to fight back up in conference -- we are out for blood. We want to show in conference what we should have been showing all season."

— Dylan Heidbrink

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**Golfers in top 10 again**

by John Cho

There's nothing like a top-10 finish to make the flight home more relaxing.

Playing under head coach Clay Homan's relaxed coaching attitude, the Owls have improved their play recently and have strung together two good performances. They finished seventh among a field of 19 teams — only three strokes out of third place — at the Arkansas State University Classic in Jonesboro, Ark., Monday and Tuesday.

"Knowing everybody is scoring well lets you know that others can pick up the slack for you when you are struggling," — Parker LaBarge

Freshman golfer

Sophomore Matt Toshey said the improved play is due in part to Homan's relaxed coaching style. (Homan) is laid back and not strict like other coaches," Toshey said. "It's good he is loose because it lets us go on the course without hurting our game.

With some of the pressure relieved by the coach, the Owls were led by freshman Parker LaBarge, who tied for 13th place with a three-over performance. It took me a while to figure out my game, but it is coming. If Parker and I had played our last couple holes better, we could have been in second place," LaBarge said.

Building upon his strong finish in the Border Olympics April 4, Toshey was the next Owl to place, finishing 14th. "I think last week's strong finish definitely helped me for this tournament," Toshey said. "It had a drastic impact confidence-wise for this tournament. It took me a while to figure out my game, but it is coming. If Parker and I had played our last couple holes better, we could have been in second place."

LaBarge was pleased with the way the whole team contributed to the final showing.

"For the most part, the team played pretty solidly," LaBarge said. "I thought this was the best tournament we have played in this year. Our highscores (in the final round) are more of an indication of how tough the conditions were, not that we struggled. Knowing everybody is scoring well lets you know that others can pick up the slack for you when you are struggling."

By improving their play over the course of the season, the Owls have been concentrating on improving their mental toughness and their short games. LaBarge said the hard work is starting to pay off, "I've got five points, I think we fought hard the whole season. We are looking to make up in the final two 61, 62.

With the loss, Rice finished its regular season with an 8-12 record. The Owls are next in action April 25-27 at the Western Athletic Conference Championships.

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— Dylan Heidbrink
14

BY THE NUMBERS
april 10-16

BLACKBURN c 3 0
Aardsma L, 4-2
Garcia (4); HBP — Kolkhorst, Garcia; SH — Ferrell — Tully 2 (4), Farrington (5), Roberts (2); SF — Pendleton

Herce L, 0-1
LOB — Rice 6, UH 5; 2B — Davis (18), Bourn (1), Bruce (1), Musslewhite (4); SB — Jorgensen (15),

plus Gift Certificates to tKe HP Company Store at www.hpstore.com

ER BBSO
BFPitch.

I4

think Tetris is a competitive sport?

women's tennis

TETRIS

think Tetris is a competitive sport?

how 'bout newspaper layout?

track

Top talent at Mt. SAC

THRESHER-SPORTS@ the collegiate inventors competition

A PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME

the collegiate inventors competition

the collegiate inventors competition

a strong team showing so early in the track season.

"We should have a minimum of 14 and up to 17 or 18 [athletes] going to the regional meet," Bevan said. "We should be one of the bigger teams in the region."

The Owls will travel to the Mt. San Antonio College Relays in California this weekend and to the Drake Relays in Iowa next weekend to compete against the top collegiate and professional talent in the nation.

"We're looking forward to the nice weather and the good competition," Tetieris said. "We just need to be prepared, go out there and race — we'll go out not necessarily to win but to race against good people. It's also fun to be a spectator and watch the professional athletes when you're not competing."

Mayer was also encouraged by the opportunity to run against tough competition in California.

"We will run right there with them," Mayer said. "I'm not scared, because we have nothing to lose."
FRIDAY
David Kopay speaks
Former NFL player David Kopay will speak about his experiences as a gay man in professional athletics today at 3 p.m. in Sewall Hall 201. There will be a reception following the event. Visit www.nfl/rice.edu/pride/ for more information.

Ray Courtyard? Hey, I camped out there last Friday after Pub!
The Rice Outdoors Club is sponsoring an Earth Day Campout in the Ray Courtyard of the Rice Memorial Center. There will be a leg and a bring-your-own BBQ from 6 to 8 p.m. Alamo camping will cap all night long. For more information, contact jsoona@rice.edu or call (713) 349-7607.

Melodious Voices of Praise
The Rice Gospel Choir will perform tonight in the Rice Chapel in an Easter celebration performance. Come at 7 p.m. and celebrate Easter with some great singing.

What is it? It's a horse-hide sphere with red stitching, but what is it? It's a horse-hide calendar anyway, though. Today is the final day of classes for the Spring 2003 semester. It is also the last day for January 2003 undergraduate student midterms for Spring. To do so, go to the Registrar's Office by 5 p.m.

Kurosawa-Waah!
The Japanese horror film Cure will be shown tonight at 7 p.m. at the Rice Media Center. Tickets are $5 for students, and screenings will continue through Sunday. Visit e-mail for more information.

Brown is Jones, Jones is Brown, Martel isn't a college
The three south colleges are hosting a "Menage a Trois" party tonight on the Martel College Ramada from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Come over and celebrate the last day of class in Marcomes style.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2003

SATURDAY
TUESDAY
The Rice Biosciences Postdoctoral Association presents a resume workshop. A panel will discuss topics such as interviewing techniques and establishing a network. Personal resume review sessions and free box dinners will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. The event will be held all day in Reck Hall 102. For more information, visit www.rice.edu/areas/en/for/ or contact Margaret Allen at maff@rice.edu.

Rice Muslim Students
The Rice Muslim Students Association hosts a forum on the violence at Gujarat and its aftermath in Frameworth Pavilion in the BMC. At 7 p.m., there will be a screening of Godal Menon's documentary Hay Ram: Genocide in the Land of Gandhi, followed by a series of speakers and a reception.

WEDNESDAY
WWE Iraq smackdown
Benjamin Joffe-Walt, a main organizer of "Human Shields" in Iraq, is coming to speak today at 6:30 p.m. in Duncan Hall 1050. Joffe-Walt is one of the few United States citizens who participated in the "Human Shields" action and is the first from the group to speak publicly in the United States about his experiences in Iraq. He will give a presentation on the war which will entail photo-based stories of the diapers he sent. All are welcome. For more information, email mallen@lexgen.com.

Thursday
THURSDAY
24
Kerin sucks, he doesn't read calendar anyway, though.
Rice baseball takes on Louisiana Tech University tonight and tomorrow night at 7 p.m. at Reckling Park.

Art Gallery Opening
"Exit," the 6th Annual Rice University student art exhibition, will be on view today through May 10 at two locations on the Rice campus. The public opening celebration will take place today starting at the Rice Gallery at 5:30 p.m. Artwork by seniors will be shown at the Rice Media Center where an awards ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. and student films will be screened at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY
Rice Jazz Ensemble
The Rice Jazz Ensemble presents the 10th Annual Latin Jazz Concert in the Ray Courtyard of the BMC from 4 to 6 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE IN A RELATIONSHIP?
TO LIVE WITH SOMEONE?
TO BE HAPPY?
TO BE UNHAPPY?
TO BE IN LOVE?
TO BE HATED?
TO BE REJECTED?
TO BE THE ONE REJECTING?
TO WANT SOMETHING MORE THAN CAN EVER HAVE?
TO NEED SOMETHING MORE THAN CAN EVER HAVE?
TO WISH SOMETHING MORE THAN CAN EVER HAVE?
TO BE ALONE?
TO BE IN A MARRIAGE?
TO BE FREE?
TO BE TRAPPED?
TO BE THE ONES TRAPPED?
TO BE GUILTY?
TO BE FORGIVEN?
TO BE MISUNDERSTOOD?
TO BE UNDERSTOOD?
TO BE MISERABLE?
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The real Malcolm Gillis
Professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Malcolm Gillis declined the Rice Presidency in 1995.

HOUSING
GRAD STUDENTS 1201 Richmond. One-bedroom apartment. Hardwood floors, central air, electric kitchen with dishwasher. $355 plus utilities with lease and deposit. Call Andover at (713) 524-3344.

GRAD STUDENTS 1414 Castle Circle. One-bedroom apartment with hardwood floors, central air, dishwasher in all-electric kitchen. $485 plus utilities with lease and deposit. Call Andover at (713) 524-3344.

GRAD STUDENTS 1727 Sunset. Large, two-bedroom, two-bath apartment near Rice. Great community, floor plan, washer/dryer in unit, Utilities paid. $625 plus utilities with lease and deposit. Call Andover at (713) 524-3344.

MEDICAL CENTER CONDO for rent. 1/1, second floor unit with balcony, gated community with pool and tennis, W/D, dishwasher and covered parking. 2500/month per month. Call (713) 436-9994 for more info.

WEST UNIVERSITY 2/1 with study house for rent. Wood floors, fenced yard and W/D. Pets okay. $1,200 per month. (713) 436-9994.

HELP WANTED
PCNC is now hiring FT/PT counter help. Please apply in person at 2029 Bissonnet (between Hazard and Woodlawn) Mon.-Fri. 2-6.

MARKETING COMPANY located in the Village seeks a part-time secretarial assistant. Work includes producing mailing labels, shipping orders, etc. Very flexible hours and great starting pay. Please respond via email in confidence to employment@financial.org.

MONTESORI SCHOOL near Rice University is looking for substitute and assistant teachers. Ideal for students needing flexible hours. Summer employment available. Please call (713) 520-6738 and ask for Tam.

If you need help with your ad, call (214) 503-6553.

Rates are as follows:

1-35 words: $15

36-70 words: $30

71-105 words: $45

Payment, by cash, check or credit card, must accompany your ad.

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

THE RICE THRESHER BACKPAGE FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2003

GILLIS REVEALED TO BE IMPOSTOR!!!

Real guy much cooler, better looking

Chairman of the Board of Trustees Bill Barnett announced today that a 32-year-old out-of-work actor has been posing as Rice President Malcolm Gillis since 1993.

The man was identified as William Testablanca by Chief of Police Bill Taylor. Testablanca, an unemployed NYU law student, graduated in 1990, his career was virtually over. Humiliated, Testablanca despaired into a world of drugs, gambling and illegal file sharing. While fleeing to Mexico to escape drug charges, Testablanca stumbled upon the Rice campus.

"What started with a simple need to feed my coke addiction turned into ten years of living in luxury and exercising sweet, sweet dictatorial power," Testablanca said.

Testablanca moved into the Ralph S. O'Connor House shortly after the board announced that Gillis, then Provost of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, was their choice for president after former president Richard Rice resigned last May. "I'm getting good at this," said Taylor, an apparent reference to Rodrigo Montano, the student intern from Jones College.

According to Emily Smith, chief housekeeper at O'Connor House, the past 12 years, Testablanca appeared at the mansion in May of 1993 shortly after finals.

"I found him shampooing in the pool," Smith said. "I just assumed it was the new president."

With most faculty and staff taking a short break after spring semester, no one questioned the arrival of the new president. By the start of fall semester he was well in place in the president's office.

Testablanca went right to work, attending receptions, cutting ribbons on new buildings, greeting parents and new freshmen and doing other similar presidential activities.

The real Malcolm Gillis apparently declined the offer to become Rice's President and remained at Duke for another six months. He then decided to return to the classroom and accepted a faculty position at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

"I guess running a school is like balancing a checkbook...most people can do it," the real Gillis said when asked for his thoughts on the scandal.

Several individuals who have made large donations to Rice in the last five years were questioned about the Gillis scandal. Pete Sampson (Baker '54), founder of Sampson Oil Corporation, recently donated $1.2 million to the Baker College Remodeling Project.

"I remember when the ceiling in my room collapsed, and my roommate and I had to spend a week in a motel," said Sampson. "Dr. Gillis called me because the same thing happened at Baker again and I was glad to write a check to keep it looking sharp. It's a shame he's a poser."

Reaction from the Rice faculty and student body has been mixed.

A member of the Student Association who requested anonymity said, "I think it sucks that they're cutting back on shuttle buses. And the light sabers suck ass, too."

A music major interviewed after a 12-tone recital at the Shepherd School of Music said, "President who?"

The Economics Department respectfully declined to comment.

Testablanca is being allowed to stay on as acting president for another year due to the difficulty in finding a qualified replacement.

"When he came to Rice, he was nothing but a washed-up actor with a raging drug addiction," said Vice President for Student Affairs Zenaido Camacho.

"But he's transformed himself into the hard-edged financier we all know and love. It will be hard to bid him 'shucks.'"