Columbia Law Dean named seventh president

David Lebron selected by Board to succeed Gillis after year-long search

by Mark Bernerson

Columbia University Law School Dean David Lebron was named the seventh president of Rice University by the Board of Trustees Dec. 17. Lebron's selection concluded a year-long search process that began in December 2002 when President Malcolm Gillis announced he was stepping down as president effective July 1.

Lebron said his interest in Rice came from reading the search committee's report about Rice's search committee's perspective on its future.

"When I first read the report and said, 'Would you be interested,' for a number of reasons, I said, 'I doubt it.'" Lebron said. "They said, "Would you be willing to read some- thing," and being an academic, there is a curiosity in that question ... and I read the paper, and it is really magnificent.

Members of the search commit- tee also said Lebron was chosen, in part, because he best embodied the future goals outlined in the White Paper.

"He truly exemplified what we were looking for in our White Paper when we set out," Andy Weber, the undergraduate student representative to the committee, said.

Presidential Search Committee Chair and Provost (White Paper) John DeGioia, a member of the Board, said the committee was not initially looking at law school deans, and as a result Lebron was not considered until late summer. He was the last of the candidates that the committee seri- ously contemplated.

Crownover said Cornell University President Jeffrey Lehman, who served as the dean of the University of Michigan Law School prior to assuming the Cornell presidency last July, suggested the committee con- sider Lebron.

"Lehman gave us one name," DeGioia said. "He said the problem was you could never get him, because Columbia would never let him go."

Crownover said, that, by coincidence, he was in New York City three days later and called Lebron. The two met for several hours, and this meeting began the recruitment process.

In late September, Lebron came down to Houston for his first inter- view, and members of the search committee said he left a powerful impression.

"We were obviously very im- pressed, and the thing that very

400 textbooks late to Campus Store

by Jenny Rees

An alleged sexual assault was re- ported at Rice College in the early morning of Dec. 6. A James has not yet been filed in the case, nor has

TRIANGLE/CONCESSION REPORT

Rice University Police Chief Bill Taylor said the police report on the case has been referred to his office.

Student Dean for Judicial Programs Don Goddard said the case has been referred to his office.

"We have a sexual assault... and I read the paper, and it is really magnificent.

"We were obviously very im- pressed, and the thing that very

No class Monday

Don't worry, you can't find your classrooms because ESTHER's down, there's no class on Monday anyway be- cause of the observance Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

MLK vigil

The Black Student Association is sponsoring a candlelight vigil in honor of the King holiday at 6 p.m. Monday in the academic quad. The vigil will feature a reading of the famous "I Have a Dream" speech, as well as speeches by President Malcolm Gillis.

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OPINION

Don't get caught drinking with your family

SEE PAGE 15

FEATURES

Light rail comes to Houston

SPORTS

No Rice basketball has lost start in 15 years

Weekend Weather

Friday

Showers, 7.43 degrees

Showers, 7.47 degrees

Partly cloudy, 53.33 degrees

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Rice's basketball has lost start in 15 years

KIRK COMER/THRESHER

KIRK COMER/THRESHER
Books still on vacation; earlier notice needed

The state of the books at the Campus Store this semester concerns us. (See Story, Page 1.) Students come back ready to learn, but it is difficult for many classes to get underway when so many books are missing.

Predictably, the bookstore is blaming the professors, and the professors are blaming the bookstore. But whoever is at fault, it is inexcusable that the problems were not worked out before students arrived.

We suggest the bookstore list required books online as professors request them — which happens by Oct. 31 for spring courses. This may require a more deliberate effort for Leebron than for Gillis, whose request them — which happens by Oct. 31 for spring courses. This may require a more deliberate effort for Leebron than for Gillis, whose

Drinking with family — and enjoying it

As a youngun' only two years into the realm of legal drinking, I can note of — and cringe at — my reputation as the innocent-sounding, wise-girl-and-tipsy-drinker. I think I've pretty much got it under control.

I entered the realm of family drinking a year ago and have not yet become wordy. This involves a single glass of wine offered to you by a Christmas dinner guest generally before you turn 21. The wine makes you giddy and self-conscious about your increased laughter. "Everyone thinks I'm drunk," you think to yourself.

After this, you come to the "No attack" stage in which you welcome, with confidence, two — possibly three — glasses of wine and a glass of champagne. The more strenuous stage of family drinking might correlate with increased drinking outside home — for instance, at college. As you learn to handle your alcohol better and mature some, you become less self-conscious about drinking with your family, which might also involve you not giggle so much and pretend to be less drunk at the dinner table.

You might reach the next stage that some of us — like me — luckily avoided. It's the wasted stage. Your head grows with the first two glasses of wine your uncivil eyes tell you and you don't stop. You keep drinking until five, six, seven glasses go down and all of a sudden you're not imbibing and your dad has got you to bed. This stage is bad, it should be avoided at all costs.

Finally, you reach the stage of getting drunk with your family. You're wiser in the ways and whims of the occasion.

Families should drink together.

4. Don't use being drunk as a social exploit, experiments with drugs, or forays into atheism.

2. Remember what type of drink you are. If you are a sad and rebellious drink, you might want to rethink the prospects of drinking more than a glass of wine an hour with your family. I've never seen a witness to a drunken brawl over the holidays, but I'd rather not ruin the occasion.

3. Know your secrets and forget about them. There should be no revealing of sexual exploits, experiments with drugs, or forays into atheism. My uncle said to me over breakfast, "You're the wild child of the family. If you just hide it better." Dunn straight I do.

5. Know your limits. This is the most important rule. The last thing you want is your dad for any one else holding your hair as you go to the porcelain goddess.

I told a friend I was writing a column about drinking with your family and she said, "I don't think that's something to be proud of."

My family handles its liquor with an outdoor nature. It pushes our body, which might make it easier to drink than for others. It is more fun than a glass of wine an hour.

Contacting the Thresher

Letters are welcomed by e-mail to Thresher@rice.edu. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date.

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

Tips for possible news stories should be phoned in to the Thresher (713) 527-5991. Letters should be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date.

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Space ambitions: out of print too long

When I was 10, I found in the top library of my elementary school an old copy of A.M. Robert's "Space Adventures in America." Published in the mid-70s, it was one of the earliest histories of the U.S. space program. The book recounted with breathless excitement the adventures of the pioneers of space travel. It was a thrilling read, filled with moon colonies and journeys to distant stars. But as I read through it, I became aware that something was missing - the story of the heroes of the program.

The book reminded me of '70s, it contained a vision of a future filled with moon colonies and journeys to distant stars. Its pages were filled with wonder and hope. The author, A.M. Robert, had defined the terms of the debate, pushing the frontiers of knowledge and distance. But as I read through the book, I became aware that something was missing - the story of the heroes of the program. We would never strive any higher. We would never achieve anything. We would never reach for the stars. We would never go beyond the horizon.

In回顾, instead of humanity's first step outward into the universe, became the pinnacle of our achievement. The book talked about possibilities, but it went beyond the dreams of the future. We cannot let dreams of the future go to waste. We cannot let dreams of the future be forgotten.

When President Gillis is in a meeting with students, he will hear stories of the students' ambitions. He will hear stories of projects that have been put on hold. He will hear stories of dreams that have been forgotten. The president is powerfully positioned to make a difference. He has that kind of influence. He can make a difference. He can make a difference. He can make a difference.

I'm not saying the death penalty is the answer. I'm not saying the death penalty is the answer. I'm not saying the death penalty is the answer. The president is not treated leniently because he didn't deserve to die. He does. The president is not treated leniently because he didn't deserve to die. He does. The president is not treated leniently because he didn't deserve to die. He does.

We need to improve our schools. We need to improve our schools. We need to improve our schools. The Washington Coalition for the Death Penalty is one of the best justifications for the death penalty. The coalition provides prosecutors with an invaluable tool in an uncertain world: leverage.

As a student, I have a unique perspective on the death penalty. I have a unique perspective on the death penalty. I have a unique perspective on the death penalty. The barriers that hold us back are not natural, cultural, or bureaucratic. When Kennedy boldly set the goal of landing on the moon within the decade, the country was ready to make the moon land a reality. When Kennedy boldly set the goal of landing on the moon within the decade, the country was ready to make the moon land a reality.

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Do you believe the environment is getting worse?
Do you think the data supports your belief?
Are you willing to learn the facts?

BJÖRN LOMBORG
Associate Professor of Statistics, University of Aarhus, Denmark

Author of The Skeptical Environmentalist: Measuring the Real State of the World

Wednesday 21 January 2004
4:00pm lecture followed by Q&A
Shell Auditorium
Jones Graduate School of Management
Rice University

Comments about The Skeptical Environmentalist

"...a remarkable book, probably the most important book on the environment ever written."
Daily Telegraph

"This is one of the most valuable books on public policy not merely environmental policy, not to have been written for the intelligent general reader in the past ten years." The Skeptical Environmentalist is a triumph.
The Economist

"The Skeptical Environmentalist is the most significant work on the environment since the appearance of its polemicistic, Rachel Carson's, Silent Spring, in 1962. It's a magnificent achievement."
Washington Post Book World

"The Skeptical Environmentalist should be read by every environmentalist, so that the appalling errors of fact the environmental movement has made in the past are not repeated. A brilliant and powerful book."
Matt Ridley, Author of Genome

Analys the Data
Free Your Mind
Sutera named assistant director of Development-student affairs

by Aaron Hechtsman

Student organizations in search of more money will soon have a new resource in the university administration. Assistant Director of the Student Center Paul Sutera has been chosen as the first Assistant Director of Development - Student Affairs, a new administrative position created to help student groups raise funds. Sutera's appointment was announced Tuesday, as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs John Hutchinson said Sutera's new responsibilities will include helping student organizations formulate fundraising strategies and contacting potential donors as well as working to forge links between current alumni and young Rice alumni.

Sutera was chosen for both his development experience and his abilities in interacting with students, Hutchinson said. "It's exciting for me to get this position and hopefully turn it into something beneficial," Sutera said.

As Associate Director of the Student Center, Sutera oversees about 100 student employees, an experience he said has helped him learn how to deal with both students and staff. He has also served as an advisor for ADVANCE, the Rice national Women's Hall of Fame, and as a resident associate at Hammon Dormitory for the past five years.

Sutera's first goal will be to seek out young alumni — a group typically not targeted for fundraising — and encourage them to donate to student organizations as a way to keep in contact with their old institutions.

According to Beckwith, a nationwide search for Sutera's replacement, as assistant director of the Student Center will begin soon. Advertisements will be placed in the Chronicle of Higher Education and the Association of College Unions International, and an information session will be held in early February or early March for potential candidates.

"I believe that it's an excellent move for him," Sutera said. "It's exciting for me to get this position and hopefully turn it into something beneficial."

— Paul Sutera
Assistant director of Development - Student Affairs

higher MCAT score guaranteed or your money back*

MCAT classes are starting soon. Enroll today!
January 17 (meets Wed & Fri at 2pm)
January 24 (meets Sat & Wed at 6pm)
January 25 (meets Sun & Thu at 6pm)
February 8 (meets Sun, Tue & Thu at 6pm)
Houston Kaplan Center

*See Kaplan's website for complete details.

The Baker Institute announces the availability of new student internships to run through the spring semester. These internships involve working with Rice faculty and the Baker Institute fellows on ongoing public policy research in the areas of energy policy, health policy, U.S. foreign policy, and Chinese culture and possibly other areas.

Economics, political science or engineering background is a plus. Workload may involve up to 10 hours a week.

Interested Rice students should supply the following to the Baker Institute as soon as possible:

a letter of application, including areas of interest
a resume
an official transcript
one letter of recommendation

Information should be addressed to:
Baker Institute Internship Committee
Baker Institute, MS-40

Application consideration will start immediately. Decisions will be made on a first come, first serve basis. For more information contact Jillene Connors at x374 or jconnors@rice.edu.
Heiden said she plans to stay involved in Will Rice as an associate even after she leaves it as a RA, a decision welcomed by Wolfe.

"I don't really understand why they want to allow me to stay until spring break and not allow me to stay until the end of the year. What is a couple of months?" — Lisa Heiden

Heiden will Rice Resident Associate

"I was then called into the police training class in which she was there, and I am going to have to withdraw them and put them in Perryland schools, where I have a house." — Will Rice Resident Associate Joel Wolfe

"We have some questions about how Lisa's was handled." — Human Resources Director Colleen Dutton

"I don't really understand why they want to allow me to stay until spring break and not allow me to stay until the end of the year." — Heiden

"I think it would be appropriate for Rice to pay [Krivohlavek, Perez and Solheim's] legal fees, since [the case] shouldn't have gone to the district court at all," said Schendel, a senior, said. "They should have been... released to their masters."

"It would subtract those 24 hours from the 72 hours, which were served on a Saturday night was sufficient... U. Court is the proper place for this case and where it should be in begins with, not taken from them." — Schendel said.

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Humanities Departments move into renovated Herring Hall

by Risa Gordon

Herring Hall, former home of the Jesse Graduate School of Business, has reopened after a year of renovation costing almost $5.8 million. The building now houses the departments of English, Linguistics, Art History, and the Center for the Study of Cultures.

Most of Herring's interior has been renovated, although no changes were made to the former Business Information Center area, Facilities and Engineering Project Manager Barbara White said. The building's exterior has also remained the same.

The renovation took approximately three months longer than anticipated due to soil subsidence problems, White said. In addition, she said, several structural problems were discovered during the renovation process, such as repairs to pipes and other elements of the building.

Members of the English department, which has been located throughout Fondren Library since July 2000, are thrilled with the move. Most of the offices in Herring are larger than those at Fondren.

"It's wonderful to have these really nice new offices and all the space," Susan Wood, English department chair, said.

Graduate students are also impressed with the building. English graduate student Lourdes Sanchez, English graduate student, said, "The space is larger than those at Fondren."

"We are consulted . . . we express our displeasure [with certain aspects of the design] . . . and we were overruled," said Wood.

The building includes a Visual Resource Center, sound booth, seminar rooms, and offices. It also contains an auditorium with 252 seats and four wheelchair locations.

White said she does not anticipate further renovations to Herring Hall. Ray and Hollington designed the renovations, with the endorsement of the original architect, Cesar Pelli. White said.

Early admission applicants increase

by David Brown

If more is better, then the Class of 2009 applicant pool must be really good. The Admission Office has seen a 23 percent increase in early decision applications for the Class of 2009. Of 558 early decision applicants, 165 (30 percent) were accepted last month.

Vice President for Enrollment Ann Wright said Rice had the greatest increase in early decision applicants among the nation's most prestigious universities.

Rice was third, right up for an increase compared to the highly selective universities, and the other two institutions are not as strong as Rice," Wright said.

Does for Undergraduate Enrollment Julie Browning credited the improvement in modifications in the admission process, Rice's growing national reputation, and a national trend in which high school seniors are favoring applying under early decision plans.

One modification to the admission process this year included mailing applications June 15 instead of Aug. 1. Wright said this strategy is similar to those of some of Rice's major competitors, like Harvard and Yale.

"We did a little tweaking of our marketing and direct mail strategies," Browning said. "I just think Rice got a lot of good press last year, everything from Seventeen magazine picking Rice as the coolest school for girls to the baseball team's national championship. We also got more exposure in some national publications, so it was a little more on people's minds.

Wright said in a reverse of the trend the decrease in out-of-state applicants in the late '90s, Rice is now gaining momentum outside of Texas.

"I think the early decision applicant increase [is due to] the admission Rice has grown in recognition as a national university," Wright said. "We've always done well in Texas and always will, but the out-of-state applications have increased pretty substantially.

Wright said Rice's overlap schools for non-binding early decision are now primarily Harvard, Stanford, Princeton and MIT.

"What that means is we're attracting the attention of some of the top students in the country," Wright said. "Getting them to enroll is a challenge, but we find if we get them to visit and they learn more and more about Rice, we have as good a chance as anyone."

Browning said Rice's overlap with these other schools increased in number of applications, so Rice's strategy has paid off.

Browning said she too is pleased with an increase in minority early decision applicants. Twenty-eight African American students applied for early decision for entry in 2004, compared to 16 in 2003. None were accepted in last year's pool, but five were admitted this year. There has also been an increase of 12 multicultural applicants and four international admits.

Browning said most binding early decision plans do not have much elasticity and decision applicants do not have much flexibility to compare other schools. Applications are up at least 13 percent for Rice's unique interactive decision plan — a non-binding and non-vote single choice plan similar to regular decision but with an earlier notification date of Feb. 10. Last year, there were 2,033 incoming decision applications; this year's number stands at 3,031 that should increase completed applications slightly.

Regular decision statistics are not yet available, as this year's deadline was pushed back from Jan. 1 to Jan. 10. Applications will continue to arrive for a few more days, and then all applicants must be entered into the Admission Office.

Come Worship with Us!

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

We have both contemporary and traditional Sunday worship services, as well as a college-level Sunday school class that is attended by many Rice University and Medical School students and taught by Dr. Jim Tour. Free breakfast is always served in the class, along with an opportunity to take the Lord's Supper each Sunday morning.

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

Contemporary Worship: 8:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Traditional Worship: 11:00 AM

ricethresher.org
New Health Services opens

In addition to drug and alcohol counseling, the Wellness Center will offer students heavily-subsidized massage therapy. For around $45 students will be able to receive an hour-long massage. There are also special rooms in the new building for other forms of stress relief therapy, such as meditation and acupuncture.

The Wellness Center plans to expand its profile by hiring several students to provide general information to Health Center visitors.

“Our group will use the new building for meetings and group events,” SOAR Coordinator Rob Lentz said. “It’s bigger, and we canspread out more easily.”

However, some students expressed concern that the new location was further from the majority of the residential colleges, as well as the intramural fields.

“I think the health concerns of the students of six colleges should take priority over the health concerns of the students at those colleges,” Hanszen junior Stephanie Taylor said. “Amidst Health Services Center should be where the most people are.”

Construction on the new building started last semester and continues through December. A large donation from the family of Morton I. Rich helped to fund the construction process, and the new building will be named after Rich.

“The Rich family was honored to sponsor the building and to support Rice University in general,” Assistant Dean of Student Affairs for Health Programs Lindsey Doran said. “Several members of the Rich family are alumni of Rice and have generously given to the university over the years.”

Operating hours for the Student Health and Wellness Center will remain the same: Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., for both Health Services and the Wellness Center.

Sid selects new RA

by Emily Voensman

After completing its search, Sid Richardson College will welcome Intramural Sports Coordinator Evan Stein and his wife Mary Stein as Sid resident assistants beginning in the fall. The Steins pursued the position because they enjoy interacting with students, they said.

“We both enjoy helping students further develop their personal and social skills,” Evan Stein said. “We both had the time available and liked the idea. My wife wanted something that would keep her occupied outside of her job as a physical therapist for the Wellness Center at Memorial Hermann Hospital.”

Search committee chair Holly McFarland said she and other committee members looked for candidates whose personalities would mesh with those of the college.

“The Steins were really energetic and really friendly and really fast thinkers and open, and that’s what we felt would fit best with the personalities at Sid,” McFarland said.

Sid president Becca Ivotnoba, a senior, said she thinks the Steins are excited about the job and will bring a new perspective to the college.

The Steins were introduced at a council meeting Dec. 2.

“We invited them to our Council meeting and they were introduced on the agenda, and then they built upon the college,” McFarland, a senior, said.

The Steins said they were interested in becoming RAs at Sid because of their familiarity with the college.

“We applied for Sid because we are familiar with them and their students, even though we’ve only been involved on the campus for a short period of time,” Evan Stein said. “We are familiar with their history as a college and really wanted to get involved in the Rice college system.

The Steins will replace Kieloloup Professor Brian Gibson and his wife Elena Gibson.
The committee sought interested and outgoing candidates, she said. Melanie Thoms said she and her husband applied because the idea of living in a residential college envi-

No charges filed by DA in assault

ASSAULT from Page 1
totoxicology report to the DA's office<br />
"The problem we've run into is<br />
that the labs are backed up, and we've<br />
been hearing that some of these take<br />
as much as two months, and we've<br />
already been [waiting] a month," Taylor<br />
said. "We've told them that it is going to<br />
take as long as it takes."

The rice program council president<br />
announced the office of the president<br />
be held by a single person. The Senate<br />
will vote on it. If approved at the Jan. 26<br />
SA meeting, it will appear on the Homecoming<br />
General Election ballot. Anyone with questions should contact Miller<br />
mnmiller@rice.edu.

The group's faculty<br />
involved in everything, and they have<br />
the necessary background and<br />
are able to live in a community full<br />
of students. They are agreeable in<br />
most departmental policy requiring<br />
at least one officer of each sex to<br />
be present at all times.

Head Football Coach Ken Hatfield, when asked what he was aware of rumors that the individuals allegedly involved in the series are members of the varsity football<br />
technical staff, which have appeared on<br />

"I understand there could be<br />
some things investigated, but that is<br />
all I can explain at this time," Hatfield<br />
said.

"I don't know that anybody has<br />
egotten all the facts in at this time," Hatfield<br />
said.
Students and faculty pleased with search's outcome

by Mark Reerson

Faculty and student members of the presidential search committee expressed enthusiasm about the selection of Columbia University Law School Dean David Leebron as Rice's next president.

Several members of the committee said they were drawn to Leebron in part because of his intelligence. "When you talk to him, you get the impression that he is making and doing work at 10 times faster than yours in," Miles Scogtter, the graduate student representative to the committee, said. "Talking to him and looking at his record, he is a true intellectual."

Math Professor and search committee member Robin Forman said that to characterize Leebron as a law professor who would disqualify his intellectual nature. "It is not even fair to say he is a lawyer - he is a legal scholar," Forman said.

Committee members also liked Leebron's decision-making style, which they described as deliberative and collaborative. "The tentative nature of the leadership was critical," English Professor and search committee member Bob Potter said. "We also wanted someone who had controlling, could make a plan the board would endorse and see it followed through. Leebron we clearly, consistently, had that."

University Professor and search committee member Robert Carli said this way of reaching decisions would allow those involved in the process to be satisfied with the result.

"The ability to be consultative and to really hear what everyone is saying and after really seriously considering it, finally come to a decision that everyone recognizes their input has been taken into account is very important," Carl said. "We really felt that was the person we would shoot for in the Rice to great things."

Associate Vice President for Human Resources Mary Crooklin, the staff representative to the search committee, said Leebron's modest style was clear from meetings with him.

"He asked the right questions, and he did not presume to know the answers," Crooklin. "He talked from what he knew and also acknowledge that he had a lot to learn."

Undergraduate student representative Andy Weber said Leebron's personality would allow to under his leadership.

"He has a feeling of honesty and integrity that undergraduates really are looking for in an administration," Weber, a Sid Richardson College senior, said. "I think he brings a refreshing personality change, in all aspects of the current administration."

"I can't guarantee that everyone is always going to agree with what he does, because he has a lot of hard decisions. But I think everybody will respect the way he goes about doing it," Scogtter, a biochemistry graduate student, said. "Leebron's background will give him interact with graduate students."

"He was dean of the law school, so that's halfway to graduate students," Scogtter. "He understands how to deal with people in second degrees, and how they are different from those for undergraduates."

"He is going to need some help in the sciences, and he has worked very well with those in science and engineering," Curl, who received the 1996 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work in nanotechnology and the discovery of the carbon nanotube, said. "I am also confident that he will seek that help, and will also learn more about himself."

"It is going to be hard for Rice to get on the kind people we were talking to, but I think he best exemplified what we were looking for of the available candidates."

Time at Columbia marked by success

President-elect David Leebron's eight-year term as dean of the Columbia University Law School has been marked by a near-doubling of the endowment and an increase in the geographic diversity of the student body.

"He took a law school that was a very good law school and he brought to it the point of one of the very top elite law schools in the country," Presidential Search Committee Chair Jim Crownover (Hanszen '65) said.

"[Leebron] has been an outstanding dean of the student body. Looking for a rewarding job when you graduate? Consider your OPTIONS...• Self-paced, online science teacher certification (high school)
• Mentored classroom experiences with flexible scheduling
• $10,000 fellowships available

For more information on the OPTIONS program, visit our web site at www.cct.bcm.tmc.edu/ or call 713-798-6200.

Baylor College of Medicine and Texas A&M University

THE LEEBRON FILE

EMPLOYMENT
1989-Present
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW NEW YORK, NEW YORK
• Dean and Lucy G. Moses Professor of Law (since July 1996)
• President, Columbia Community Services, a charitable organization at Columbia which raises funds from Columbia University faculty and employees for the benefit of neighborhood organizations which provide needed services.

1983-89
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
• Professor of Law and Director, International Legal Studies Program

1981-83
CLEARY, GOTTLEB, STEEN & HAMILTON, NEW YORK, NEW YORK
• Adjunct Professor of Law (teaching tax)

1979
JUDGE SHIRLEY M. HuSTEGLER, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
• Law clerk, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

EDUCATION
HARVARD COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
• J.D. magna cum laude, 1979.


PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (partial)
• American Law Deans Association (Board of Directors)
• Foundation Press (Editorial Board)
• IMAX Corporation (Board of Directors)
• Associate specializing in international corporate practice

LANGUAGES
• Excellent German and fair French.

FAMILY
• Married to Y. Ping Sun; two children, Daniel (7 years) and Merissa (5 years).
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by Christal Spealer
Special to The Thresher

When Houston's first light rail line opened on January 1st, it was big news. Houston has been trying to build rail transit for 30 years, and when Mayor Lee Brown, on his last day in office, drove a brand-new silver train through a banner, it seemed like the dawn of a new era. Plans are already under way to expand the 7.5 mile line into a 70 mile system that would reach both airports, the Galleria and the University of Houston.

The light rail is big news for Rice students, too. With three stops within a block of campus, the line is a great way to get to one of the largest and most entertaining Houston. The route runs frequently; every 15 minutes for sons, but more often across in March and late in the year. It's a comfortable ride and its cheap. $2 for a round trip.

The line runs through one of Houston's most interesting neighborhoods, the Museum District, Midtown and Downtown. There's a lot to see and do along the way.

See the sights

The Houston you see from the freeways isn't worth sightseeing. But the Houston you see from the light rail train is.

Allen's Landing
UH Downtown

Houston was founded when Buffalo Bayou met White Oak Bayou. The bayous are still there, of course. There are trails along both, perfect for mountain biking, and a string of parks on the banks. The view of the skyline from the deck of the University of Houston Downtown is great.

Central Business District
Main Street Station

Oddly enough, the light rail runs up right through a fountain in the middle of downtown. Oohsy and Ahh at the jets of water. Be edified by the inspirational quote. Make fun of the artwork (or admire it, if you choose). Have a treasure hunt— you'll find more modern artwork scattered in building plazas. If you're there during the week, use the lobby of 1000 Main to get into the warren of underground tunnels that connect the high rises. Seek out the Chase Tower sky lobbies. Savor the views. That connect the high rises. Seek out the Chase Tower sky lobbies. Savor the views.

Historic District
UH Downtown

Pick up a copy of the Houston Architecture Guide by Stephen Fox and brandish around the north end of downtown. You'll find the beautiful remains of the Victorian downtown Houston.

Central Business District
Main Street Station

Eat out

Downtown has become a restaurant hot spot. Get off the train at Preston, walk around, and look at menus. There are also scattered restaurants in Midtown, particularly west of the McGowen station.

Mia Bella
Premise and Main
Italian

Cabo
Prairie and Travis
Mexican

Angelika Cafe
Capitol and Smith
Asian-inspired

Bissonnet and Main
Museum District

Breakfast Kluh
Capitol and Smith
Breakfast and Lunch

Hang out

Kerel Kana
Premise between Praire and Preston

This is your friendly neighborhood coffeeshop, with comfy seats, quiet atmosphere and free refill on brewed coffee. Bring your laptop, there's free internet of both the wired and wireless kind.

Party

Both Midtown and Downtown have major nightclub scenes. Downtown nightclubs are mainly near the Preston station. Midtown clubs are more scattered.

See a movie

Angelika Theater
Capital and Preston

The only place other than CK that would serve waffles with fried chicken.

Get cultured

Houston theater district and museum district are the envy of other cities, and both are near rail.

Alley Theater
Texas and Louisiana

Capitol and Louisiana

Capitol and Preston

Theatre Under The Stars

Hobby Center

Ensemble Theatre

Contemporary Arts Museum

Houston Grand Opera

EnsemblelHCC

ensemblehcc.org

Editor's note: restaurant specifics are subject to change. Check websites for hours.

Grab some food

Downtown also offers some good food without table service. If you're 21, you can also check out the pubs along Main between Prairie and Rusk.

Frank's Pizza

Hear live music

Nineteen Wireless Theater

Top of the World

Continental Club

Sambucca Jazz Cafe

6 Preston (6 blocks)

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6 Preston (6 blocks)
Run Errands

- Fiesta
- Fannin and Wheeler
- Wheeler (2 blocks)
- Randall's
- Halley and Milam
- McGowen (5 blocks)
- Foley's
- Main and Lamar
- Main Street Square

Watch a game

- Randall's Fannin and Wheeler (2 blocks)
- Fiesta Main and Lamar
- Square Foley's
- Toyota Center

Yee Haw!

- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
- Bull-riding action, inexpensive big name concerts, food
- Oddly decorated cars parade into downtown Houston
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
- Carnival rides and fair food every March
- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
- Art Car Parade
- It's easy to make sure you're on the right platform. Look above the benches for a map
- METRORail is fully accessible to passengers in wheelchairs.

Go to the airport

- If all goes according to plan, METRORail won't make it to Hobby until 2022 and TAMINGORAIL until 2024.
- Bus No. 101 serves both airports and meets the light rail at the Downtown Transit Center station.
- You can get to IAH from Rice for $1.50 in less than an hour and a half or Hobby for $1.00 in less than an hour.
- www.ridemetro.org

Chose a station

- There are three stations within a block of the Rice campus:
  - Dryden/PMC, at the corner of Fannin and Rice University.
  - Hermann Hospital/Houston Zoo, at the corner of Fannin and MacGregor, just a block from Rice University, and also connected to the Southwall, Will Rice, Wresw, Houston and Baker.
  - Hermann Park/Rice U station is just outside Entrance 1 at Fannin and Sunset, a short walk from Jones, Brown, Marel and the Graduate Apartments.

Find your platform

- Look for the big signs at each end of the station that say “Northbound Red Line” or “Southbound Red Line.”
- At most stations, including Dryden/PMC and Memorial Hermann Hospital/Houston Zoo, the northbound and southbound platforms are end to end. If you come upon the wrong platform at those stations, the right one will be a block away.
- At two stations (including Hermann Park/Rice U), the platforms are back to back. At two stations, the platforms are across the tracks from each other.
- It's easy to make sure you're on the right platform. Look above the benches for a map of the line. Stations in red are served by trains from that platform. If you're going to a station in gray, you're in the wrong place.

Buy a ticket

- You need to buy a ticket before boarding. There is a ticket machine on each platform that takes cash and credit cards.
- A one way ride costs $1 and includes a free transfer to a bus. You can transfer free from bus to train, train to the bus for a transfer when you pay your bus fare. A dollar is cheap, but a day pass is a much better deal for the price of a round trip ($2) you get free ride on light rail and local bus all day.
- Don't be surprised if nobody checks your ticket. METRORail uses a “proof of purchase” system. Don't be surprised if nobody checks your ticket. METRORail uses a “proof of purchase” system.

METRORail will only stop for 20 seconds or so.

Board

- As the train pulls in, displays above the platform announce its destination. Watch out; some trains operate only between Hermann Park/Rice U and Smithlands as a parking shuttle for Texas Medical Center employees.
- The train will stop at all stations.
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Ride

- Displays and loudspeakers inside the train announce the next stop. Get ready to get up automatically, and the train will belt along quietly.
- The train will stop for 20 seconds or so.
- Travel times from Hermann Park/Rice U:
  - Fansion South: 16 minutes
  - Museum/Houston: 1 minute
  - Ensemble/HCC: 7 minutes
  - Downtown Transit Center: 12 minutes
  - Preston: 17 minutes
  - UH Downtown: 19 minutes

More Information

- The METRO website at www.ridemetro.org has schedules, maps, and fare information. Telephone information can be reached at (713) 650-4000 or by dialing 311 on the pay phones on station platforms.
- METRORail has its Downtown Transit Center, Rice University, and Main Street Square station stops.
- The Downtown District is an excellent downtown area where you can get one from them by sending them an e-mail at info@THE-REVUE.COM or call (713) 550-6022 to get a copy.

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Visit

- There should be a train along soon. Trains are running every 15 minutes, 4:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. The last train leaves downtown 9:47. By the end of February, the trains will run later and more often: every 6 minutes during rush hour, every 12 minutes otherwise, from 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**South Colleges Lot repairs delayed**

Students with parking spaces in the South Colleges Lot came back from winter break to a dirt parking surface as the project to repair and repave the lot was not completed as scheduled over winter break.

**Bush names Baker Iraqi envoy**

Former Secretary of State James A. Baker III is slated to travel to the Middle East, possibly in late January, in an effort to secure Iraqi debt reduction agreements from many Arab nations. Baker was appointed to the position of U.S. envoy for Iraq debt by President George W. Bush Dec. 3.

Iraq's debt, estimated by a London-based firm at around $116 billion, is believed by the White House to be crippling to reconstruction efforts.

A third of the debt is owed to the leading nations of the world and the rest to Arab countries. These latter countries are less likely to forgive Iraqi debt, Shawn Leventhal, vice chair of the Baker Institute Student Forum, said.

"Conventional wisdom seems to believe Baker will find difficulty in getting the Arab countries to forgive a large portion of the debt," Leventhal, a Brown College junior, said.

Baker has already obtained commitments from many European governments as well as from Russia and Japan to substantially reduce the debt owed to them by Iraq. Leventhal said Baker's experience as secretary of state assisted him in his efforts to obtain debt forgiveness from countries that originally opposed the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

"Baker has used the strong relationships he has developed around the globe to do the unthinkables—convincing countries that opposed our invasion to forgive their debts," Leventhal said.

Baker's appointment as special envoy for Iraqi debt reflects well on Rice and on the Baker Institute, Student Institute Forum Chair Narayan Mulukutla said.

"Baker is connected to the Baker Institute and to Rice University, Mahalakshmi, a Rice/Brown senior, said. "It's clear the White House must hold Rice in the forefront in high esteem."

— Catherine Adams

**NEWSPAPER NEWS**

**OUT OF THE GATE**

**Other Areas**

Entrance 8 Dec. 9 Vehicle struck a pole

College Way at Entrance 3 driveway Jan. 1 Single vehicle fixed object accident

A pickup truck driven in via Entrance 3 and collided with a tree just west of the Great Wall sign at the intersection with College Way. The vehicle was towed. The owner was notified and agreed to pay restitution.

**The Bahá’í Faith**

Uniting your world... one heart at a time

**BOOKS, from Page 1**

The reason many titles have not yet arrived is that instructors were late in requesting the books for their courses. The deadline for requesting books for the spring semester was Oct. 31, but on Dec. 3, Vanderswaar sent an e-mail to the ALDEPTS listerv asking instructors to send in their book requests.

Vanderswaar said he sent the e-mail because as of Dec. 1, only 400 textbooks had been requested, far less than is typical for a semester.

"Many of you are drastically late in getting in your Spring semester textbook requisitions. If you would like for your student's textbooks to be on the shelves by January 13th, we need your requisitions at once!"

However, Carroll said in some cases books were not sent late because they were requested by fax or e-mail.

Caldwell said he thinks administrators should investigate the causes of the problems to avoid future mistakes.

"I certainly hope the administration looks into this and tells us what happened," he said. "We can't seriously undermine the entire academic endeavor."

— Peter Caldwell

**History department chair**

**Facilities Planner Max Amery**

said the project was hindered by several factors, including rain and delays resulting from requesting a permit from the city.

"We started at the beginning of December on the north side of College Way to fix two problems with the city and approval, so we made a change, forward Christmas, and that delayed us a couple days," Amery said. "The city inspectors took a couple days off and weren't doing any inspections— that delayed us. Then we had the rain, and that really mucked it up."

"We can't put asphalt down when it is raining," Amery said. "It will probably happen next Tuesday or Wednesday."

Amery said the repaving is the last step in the repairs in the South Colleges Lot that occurred during the break. Because of other problems, various sections of the lot had structurally failed or settled, leading to an uneven surface. The drainage problems had previously been lessened by the addition of storm drains, and the new surface will be sloped more to better facilitate drainage.

The construction in the South Colleges Lot was one of many repaving projects undertaken over break.

Half of College Way was repaired, as were sections of the Stadium Lot and areas near the shuttle stop closest to the Rice Recreation Center. — Mark Barraza

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**Gibson joins Academic Advising team**

With the beginning of spring semester, the Office of Academic Advising welcomed Kinesiology Professor Brian Gibson to its staff as an assistant director for academic advising.

As assistant director, Gibson is available to students for general academic advising, and he oversees the academic advising office's transfer student advising, tutoring program and peer academic advisor program.

Director of Academic Advising Michele Daley said her office conducted a national search to fill the newly created position.

"Gibson stood out as a candidate because of his enthusiasm about the position and his continuous involvement with students," she said.

Commencement will mark the end of Gibson's association as a resident associate at Sid Richardson College. During his time at Rice, he has also been a major advisor and a divisional advisor for the humanities.

Gibson said he will continue to teach in the kinesiology department but will now teach one class each semester instead of two.

"The job description for assistant director looked like my dream job," Gibson said. "I'm so excited. I enjoyed most about my involvement in student life. It gave me the opportunity to help students find their academic passion." said Richardson College senior Ben Norris, said Gibson is a good choice for the position.

"He's just a great guy," Norris said. "Students are not going to be afraid to go in and talk to him about academic advising."

— Abercorn Lot Dec. 12 Bus struck a gate arm post. The bus was located and a report was filed.

West Lot Jan. 5 Bicycle stolen.

Lovett Hall Jan. 7 A boot placed on a vehicle was stolen.

South College Lot Jan. 9 Minor accident involving construction equipment.

West Lot Jan. 11 Traffic stop. The underage driver had been drinking but was not intoxicated. The driver was cited for influence, and the matter was referred to University Court.

**Parking Lots**

Garnder Lot Dec. 9 Vehicle window broken.

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Beauty becomes beastly in 'Monster'

Jonathan Schumann
THE THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

Hollywood loves a career transformation. Remember the Oscar-winning work of Halle Berry in Monster's Ball and Hilary Swank in Boys Don't Cry? The latest in the line of beautiful actresses dressing down is Charlize Theron, who has more frequently played eye candy rather than serious parts.

Though she has been engaging and promising in The Cider House Rules and The Italian Job, nothing prepared her for work in Monster. As real-life highway-plementation serial-killer Aileen Wuornos, Theron produces the year's most shocking transformation.

The gorgeous Theron, who worked as a model before turning to acting, gained 30 pounds and wore extensions to look as much like her real-life counterpart as possible. The result is more than just an unglamorous make-over. While the physical change is simply remarkable, Theron embodies Wuornos and amazes in a deep, thorough characterization. Her performance is astounding.

Ricci cannot move past what is on the page and therefore undermines the film's power.

Novice writer/director Patty Jenkins' film follows Wuornos' life in central Florida, particularly her transition from prostitute to murder, and also her relationship with Selby Wall (for whom Wuornos was convicted of the murder). At its most affecting, Monster draws a contrast between these street people and Florida's legitimate working force, in an effort to escape judgment. Wuornos goes to several job interviews, only to be pushed around and not taken seriously. Jenkins hints that society at large victimized Wuornos, she is a measure created by society. Still, Jenkins does not make the mistake of offering an entirely sympathetic portrayal. The murderess is committed to being a woman who cannot move past what is on the page and therefore undermines the film's power.

The audience sees the tearing down of Ricci's facades, and it is impossible not to be moved.

Wedding bell blues for America's 'sweetheart'

Britney Spears got married. In Vegas. In a 24-hour chapel. The marriage was annulled within days, and the former M梯er, who happened to be Britney's high school graduate, has shown up on multiple television programs spouting all kinds of rubbish— including an apology for the wedding. But the duo was there simply to show two people who can't be moved.

The story barely needs stating. I suspect that in a match between Britney and virtually any 23-year-old, Britney would come out on the strong side of the power dynamic.

PR stories have already cooked up a twisted fairy tale about how Britney was absolutely not drunk for the wedding. Handwringing experts argue otherwise, and I suspect the truth is about 100 time more salacious. Honestly, I can't figure out why anyone would marry in Vegas and then claim they weren't drunk. To do so eliminates the one forgivable explanation for a march down the aisle in America's tackiest city.

Regardless of what the wedding hoopla or ringdo for Britney's career (her albums sales skyrocketed post-scandal), I think the whole detraction goes to prove my explanation for Britney's appeal: she's small-town America with a grandiosity. When Britney got married, she obviously wasn't thinking about her career—teen sensations can't get married and expect to stay on top of their game. Britney's marriage is akin to the idea explored in 'Angel in the Centerfield.' The '90s pop hit about a high school coach turned pin-up.

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As much as a well-timed media throw of how she seemed to be, Britney botched things royally. Granted, this may or may not affect her much in the long run. No one cares if the home-coming queen is bangin' the quarter-back until she gets knocked up. Likely the incident has served as a not- so-soft reminder of what might happen if she actually got married in the near future.

Essentially, Britney Spears can't get married unless she can manage to wedge herself in all those Beckham-garde power couple, or holds off until she manages to manufacture a new type of star image for herself. At the moment, every teenage girl wants to be her, and every teenage boy wants to nail her. She's dropped the squared-clean image many without much effect, but a voyage into the great unknown of masculinity would have her squarely as an adult, far removed from the world of teen sex.

News that Britney Spears was planning her own wedding would be almost as disturbing as the news that Britney Spears was graduating from Harvard Law. The world of pop culture may talk about "reinvention" when referring to its idols, but it still had a corruption when Madonna got married—though she was squarely in middle age at the time, a far cry from Britney's dewy-eyed teen act.

Carly Kocurek is a Will Rice College Senior and Arts and Entertainment Editor.
Paycheck

I wish Ben Affleck would work on more projects like Good Will Hunting (1997) or Changing Lanes (2002) rather than tepid material like Paycheck. Still, this sedate action thriller had quite a bit of ambition and made for an interesting movie: It is based on a short story by Philip K. Dick, the paranoid genius and father of “What is real?” through experimental science fiction.

Affleck is Michael Jennings, a skilled engineer paid millions of dollars in cash to apply his smarts to a dirty corporate tactic. Jennings’ boss, Jimmy Sethrick (Nurse Betty’s Aaron Eckhart) offers him a daunting three-year job appropriately compensated with an annual paycheck. Unfortunately, Jennings’ employer wants the operation to be so well hidden and dedicated by an unidentifiable method. The result is a disappointing film which contains many narrative gaps.

Director John Woo (Face/Off), however, is not to blame. Since he moved to Hollywood after having made his mark with several top-drawer Hong Kong action flicks, Woo has been struggling with the top-drawer feature films, his personal creativity, and the palette of American audiences.

The narrative of Paycheck seemed forced, and the movie dragged on, with most scenes merely serving as transitions into action sequences and shots of snazzy bad guys. These only served to delay the inevitable, making us wish that had seen a revival of Woo’s Hong Kong powerhouse A Better Tomorrow (1986) or The Killer (1989) instead.

Cold Mountain

(**** out of five)

Hollywood has a tendency to turn out dull shoot-em-up moneymakers and then attempt to hide the mess under the rug by using the critics with lengthy pathos-heavy lines which is often equally superficial and artificial.

Cold Mountain emerges as one of the rare cases where the artificiality and spectacle mostly make up for the material. Nicole Kidman is Ada Monroe, who accompanies her father, a Charleston, N.C., preacher, to the rural town of Cold Mountain where he can better his health. There she meets the taciturn worker Inman (Jude Law). Without really knowing each other, they fall in love after only a few episodes of mutual staring with very few words exchanged. However with this sparse foundation, Inman is drafted into the Civil War, and Ada is left alone on the farm. The movie proceeds with flashbacks alternating between Inman’s plight as he constantly brushes past death on his journey home and Ada’s plight as her father dies and she is left alone on a farm in which she, with her city-girl manner, cannot tend.

Beyond their first meeting, none of the mate interactions between Inman and Ada develop their relationship. In fact, this relationship never gets further developed — a great disappointment.

Overall, this film is an enjoyable experience. Like too many other epics aimed at the Oscars, Cold Mountain tries to cover every little thing — spectacle, character, plot, political message — and ends up only leaving the spectator to be aliared.

Since you all are cinematically adept, well-cultured, or be conquered by the degeneration he has brought upon himself.

Those looking for slapstick laughs will be satisfied with Bad Santa, but so will those looking for a dynamic, character-based story.

21 Grams (** out of five)

I saw Mystic River, I doubted any film would be able to provide a similarly wrenching experience. Then I saw 21 Grams, the second film from Mexican filmmaker Alejandro Gonzales Inarritu (Amores Perros). It is a powerful, entrancing work that succeeds because of Inarritu’s precise directorial vision.

For the first 20 minutes, as Inarritu switches between a bedridden Sean Penn (Mystic River), Naomi Watts (Milked-Off Line) as a destitute grieving wife and mother, and Benicio del Toro’s (Traffic) ex-con, born again Christian, we have no idea what is going on. Inarritu does not obey conventional cinematic ideas about time and sequence — here, the scenes are presented out of order. While this effect could fail, rendering the audience lost and bewildered, it is profoundly effective here, always hinting at what has happened before all is revealed.

The story revolves around Penn’s character, who needs a heart transplant. The heart he receives is that of Watts’ dead husband, who along with her two daughters were killed in a hit-and-run accident. Del Toro, who has been trying to clean up his act, committed the crime. The film captures these three characters’ intersecting lives while concentrating on themes such as redemption, revenge, and hope.

The trio of Penn, Watts and del Toro is the best cinematic teaming in recent years. Penn, an actor of staggering talent who warrants comparison to Marlon Brando at his best, turns in a performance as equal to his earlier work in Mystic River. Watts is also unforgettable, while Del Toro again proves his ability to morph completely into any given role. Also excellent is Melissa Leo (television’s now defunct Homicide: Life on the Street) as del Toro’s wife.

21 Grams offers a rare, unparalleled cinematic experience. To grapple with notions of revenge, love, redemption and death without draining the audience of all emotion is an admirable, and honorable feat.
The Morton L. Rich Health and Wellness Center

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11:00 AM

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Free food and drink from Pappas Catering!
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Ride a Rice University Shuttle and receive a raffle ticket to win one of several prizes!

Come meet the new staff and therapists in the Wellness Center!
Check out the additional space in the new Health Services!

The Morton L. Rich Health and Wellness Center is located on the northwest corner of campus at Entrance 19. Our building is next door to the Brown College Masters’ residence. For more information, call 713-348-5194 or go to http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~wellness.
Women's tennis opens tomorrow with pair of home dual matches

by ZachEpstein

A successful fall season, the Owls women's tennis team returned to campus ready to start the spring season with a strong showing this weekend. The team begins the dual-match season tomorrow against Louisiana Tech University and Lamar University.

The Owls will face Lamar at Lake Houston Tennis Stadium at 11 a.m., before moving to indoor courts in The Woodlands to face conference foe La. Tech. The Owls are seeking their second consecutive conference title, an NCAA tournament bid and the team's goal of a top-35 ranking.

Women's tennis opens tomorrow with pair of home dual matches

Junior forward Michael Harris shoots against top-ranked Connecticut Jan. 2 at Autry Court. Harris had a team-high 25 points as Rice won 84-68 to improve to 11-3.

IN FOCUS: MEN'S BASKETBALL

Record: 11-3

WAC record: 3-0 (2nd)

During the Break: The Owls went straight to conference games after losing to top-ranked Connecticut.

What made the difference: Rashid Smith scored a game-high 25 points as Rice improved to 3-0 in WAC play.

Up next: The Owls travel to Tulsa (5-8, 1.3 WAC) tomorrow afternoon at 3 p.m. on ESPN.

The Owls return home Tuesday afternoon at 3 p.m. on ESPN2.

Weekend Preview:

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Weekend Preview:
Inconsistent Lady Owls win three of four to open WAC play

by Anther Obermeyer

After a great start to Western Athletic Conference play, the women’s basketball team faces a stern test this weekend.

The Lady Owls’ only game of the weekend is tomorrow against the University of Tulsa at Autry Court, but it could be crucial in sorting out the conference’s top teams.

“We need to average our loss from last weekend and let the conference know that we’re here to play,” — Lindsey Maynard, Senior guard

Nationally-ranked Louisiana Tech University, which entered conference play with a 98-1 all-time record, lost to Rice in overtime Jan. 5. In need of some confidence, the Tulsa squad,...

Golden Hurricane’s road wired have had a hard time with the Lady Owls. "We're looking forward to a good game, we always play close games against Tulsa," Maynard said. "We need to average our loss from last weekend and let the conference know that we’re here to play.

The Owls seem to have turned a corner in the last month after experiencing several close losses early in the season. At the Gene & Howard Rice Invitational Dec. 5-6, Rice cruised past Stephen Austin but was blown out in the final against Baylor. Junior forwards Michelle Woods and Annie Peck were named to the all-tournament team.

The Owls difficult non-conference schedule resumed after final exams with a Jan. 11 road game against the Cardinal but lost 61-75 to the Cardinals. "It was a good half, but in the second half my...
Men's tennis puts more English on its game

by Jonathan Yardley

The defending national championship baseball team has been ranked first in the country by all three major polls in their pre-season editions.

Although Rice was placed as

by Jonathan Yardley

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Although Rice was placed as
Owl swimmers crush Miami on winter training trip

by Debbie Miller

Most college students would spend winter recess in Florida relaxing on the beach, but the swim team spent most of its time training, and the hard work paid off in a 172-103 pounding of the University of Miami Jan. 5 in Coral Gables, Fla. Despite the exhausting training schedule surrounding the meet, the Owls captured 11 of the 14 races.

Junior captain Adi Richman and junior Urska Ros led the team to victory, each winning two events. Richman swam a season-best time of 10 minutes, 15.73 seconds to win the 1,000-yard freestyle and a season-best time of 2:12.88 to finish second in the 200 backstroke. She snipped off a win in the 400 individual medley in a time of 4:31.66.

"I thought the meet was relaxing," Richman said. "We had no expectations going into it, after such hard training, but the team definitely performed. Many people swam season-best times or close to them, even though we were more tired than we had been earlier in the season."

In addition to Ros and Bichman, six other Owls won events. Senior Urska Ros led the team to victory, each winning two events. Richman swam a season-best time of 10 minutes, 15.73 seconds to win the 1,000-yard freestyle and a season-best time of 2:12.88 to finish second in the 200 backstroke. She snipped off a win in the 400 individual medley in a time of 4:31.66.

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The Rice swimmers finished their holiday training at the Collier YMCA Norris Aquatic Center in Naples, Fla., while staying at the beachside Park Shore Resorts and enjoying the Florida weather.

Florida was the most fun winter training I have ever had," freshman Laura Arjona said. "I wish we were still there, swimming, tanning and cooking for ourselves."

With sunshine every day, the team trained outside several hours each day. Trips to the beach were interspersed with two-hour swim practices and an hour of lifting and strengthening each day.

"The training trip was fantastic," Huston said. "The great weather helped the morale of the team, and I feel we are coming back from the trip more pumped up and with more excitement than last year. We are on the home stretch, and I feel very good about where we are right now."

The Owls remain undefeated in conference, with six more dual meets to go before they take part in the <=04 restrictions=04=> Athletic Conference Championships Feb. 25-28 in San Antonio.

"We are approaching the end of the season," Richman said. "We will get to taper soon, and we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. We get to swim big teams in upcoming meets and get to race against some fast people."

Eyes on the prize

Sid Rich sophomore wide receiver Paula Steinhauser escapes from Lovett senior defensive end Katie Barrett in the Powderpuff championship game Dec. 7. Sid won 24-7 to complete a perfect 10-0 season.

The only fine print: you must be a freshman to participate.

Freshmen: See London from A to Zed this summer.

With Rice's SWAP (Summer Work Abroad Program), you will:
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- see London's cultural highpoints on special guided tours
- take a weekend excursion to the English countryside

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The only fine print: you must be a freshman to participate.

Attend the Information Session to find out more!

4pm, Tuesday, January 20

Career Services Conference Room
### Texas El Paso 86 Rice 84

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FRIDAY

More Esther blues
The first Add/Drop registration PIN will expire today at 5 p.m. for all undergraduates. Registration will be disabled until 9 a.m. on Tuesday. During this time, PINs will be reset.

"But Mom, 'Other' isn't the cool?"

What's cooler than being awesome?

FRIDAY

Consider yourself warned: Stay away from the Jones School this weekend.

Starting today and continuing through Sunday, the Jones Graduate School hosts 10 teams from MBA schools around the country in an MBA marketing competition. For more information, contact Michelle Walizer at mwalizer@rice.edu.

Get some musical culture before you go drinki to the melodious sounds of Nelly, Diddy and Murphy Lee.

New York singer-songwriter Dani Limetz will be playing at the Lovett Undergrounds tonight at 10 p.m. As always, the show is free. Send an e-mail to entertainment@rice.edu for more information.

What's cooler than being cool?

The second annual Fire and Ice party will be held tonight from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in Brown Commons. Come shake it like a polar bear picture and celebrate a whole new semester of work!

SATURDAY

What does Tuba spell backwards?

The Lady Owls basketball team will challenge Tuba today at 2 p.m. at Autry Court. I'm thinking face paint for this game.

MONDAY

MLK vigil

A candlelight vigil honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Day will be held tonight at 6 p.m. in the academic quad. The program will conclude in the Rice Chapel with a speech by Malcolm Gillis.

TUESDAY

Esther's back... no, wait...

I know that you all have been eagerly awaiting this moment. At 9 a.m. today, the second registration begins. New Add/Drop PINs will become active for all those undergraduates wanting to further their Spring 2004 registration adventures.

I hear LeBron is coming to the game. Wait, check that. I meant Lebron.

Come cheer on the men's basketball team tonight as they take on Southern Methodist. Tip-off is at 7 p.m. at Autry Court.

THURSDAY

"How is education supposed to make me feel smarter? Besides, every time I learn something new, it pushes some old stuff out of my brain."

Nobel Prize winning Professor Robert P. Curl will present "Is Our Intelligence Impairing Our Children for Survival?" today at 4 p.m. in the Kyle Moirer Room of Fondren Library.

We must protect this house... from Fresno State.

Tonight those crazies from California dare to enter Autry Court. At 7 p.m. the Lady Owls will play a rousing game of basketball against Fresno State. This Rice victory will be followed by a second when the men's basketball team battles the Bulldogs at 9 p.m. Come out and cheer for the boys.

FRIDAY

Deadline Mania!

OK, brace yourselves. Today is the last day to add courses without obtaining the instructor's permission. Finally, if you have the urge to withdraw from Rice or drop your part-time status, today is the last day to do so, and will get a 100% refund on tuition.

Student Health & Wellness Center Grand Opening

Our brand new Student Health and Wellness Center has a grand opening this morning. At 9 a.m. cholesterol screenings will be offered followed by the opening ceremony at 11 a.m. A reception follows and tours of the new facility will be offered. The new center is adjacent to Brown College. To RSVP contact Emily Page at afreements@rice.edu by today.

Wednesday night, the I^ovett Undergrounds Dani Linnetz will be playing at 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in Brown College. To R.S.V.P. contact Emily Page at afreements@rice.edu by today.

How awesome is this:

All the textbooks you need for up to 50% off retail prices. New or used, all you have to do is go to half.com and type in the book titles, or ISBN numbers.

How smart is this:

All the textbooks you need for up to 50% off retail prices. New or used, all you have to do is go to half.com and type in the book titles, or ISBN numbers.

AMERICA READS & COUNTS TUTORING PROGRAM

Are you a work-study student?

Are you interested in helping children?

Stop by the Community Involvement Center in the Student Center Cloisters to apply for the America Reads and Counts Tutoring Program, a federal program designed to enhance the reading and math skills of elementary age children. Students are matched with children through the Nehemiah Neighborhood Center, Star of Hope, and Wharton Elementary School.

• Starting Salary $5/hour
• Make a positive impact on a child's future
• Information and applications are available online: http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~service

For a limited time, first-time buyers

Save an additional 5% on purchases of $50 or more.

Simply use this code: RICE

Natural selection.

How smart is this: All the textbooks you need for up to 50% off retail prices. New or used, all you have to do is go to half.com and type in the book titles, or ISBN numbers. Then let nature take its course.
Confections of a Backpage editor

In a desperate, blatant grasp for some form of public attention, the Backpage’s own Danny Blanco has confessed that he has often placed wagers on the Backpage and other sections of the Thresher. Despite the overwhelming public disinterest, Blanco plans to release his tell-all book, My Prison Without Cigars, next Tuesday.

"But I never bet against the Backpage. And I never placed wagers from the Thresher offices."

In an interview with Wilma Walters, Barbara Walters’ second cousin, Blanco stated that he has spoken with Thresher editor in chief Mark Berenson about being reinstated as Backpage editor.

Berenson, however, expressed doubts about the feasibility of Blanco’s return. "This is by far the worst Thresher scandal since the ‘incident’ in the early ’90s," Berenson said. "He’s going to have to show some sincere remorse about this if he’s serious about coming back.”

Blanco couldn’t be reached for comment, but in his answering machine message, he referred to himself as "The real Backpage superstar, El Cubano Supremo.”

Fidel could not be reached for comment.

The Thresher Line

Favorite Line Underdog

Frontpage Five Style Points A & E

Sports Pick ‘em News

Backpage 6,000 Readers Rest of Thresher

Fluctuate Six Inches Your Mom

Leeborn Harvard Education Gillis

Leebron $100 Million Leeborn

Academics Reading Ability S/Es

Baseball A Championship Rest of Athletic

Viagra Ask Your Doctor Levitra

SISWeb Functionality ESTHER

BACKPAGE’s own Danny Blanco shows off his Cuban heritage in a recent photo taken by his bookie. The bookie is under investigation for insider trading in collusion with Martha Stewart.

Sdeissalec Sdowka Saab Eht

Willy missed you.

Nightly drink specials! Come catch Bud Bowl ’04 fever at

For rent at Shepherds/Meihe Quiet, large one-bedroom apt. with private balcony, garage parking with remote access, washer/dryer included. 100% per month. Efficiency apt. with new kitchen/glass and over/ range. 550 per month. (713) 529-6737.

Duplex (Second and Third Floors). Master bedroom. Suite with fireplace plus two bedrooms, one and two apts. with hardwood floors and central air. A one-bedroom apt. at 1200 Richmond for $545, a large two-bedroom, two-bath at 4300 Mt. Vernon for 805. (713) 748-7179.

Help wanted

PISCAN: A NEIGHBORHOOD bakery, deli and coffee shop now hiring PT, FT personnel. Must work with school schedule. Please apply in person at 9250 Bissonnet Mon.-Fri. 2-6 p.m.

Research part-time writers needed. The Janus School of Management is seeking volunteers who are fluent in English with normal or corrected to implicit English. Some construction background and phenomena. The study last about 15 minutes and pays $18. For more information, please email research@ees.uh.edu (preferred) or call (713) 348-3964.


Earn $13-20 per hour tutoring for a Rice alumna owned company! Tutor at offices near campus, no need to drive to homes. Flexible schedule. Earn more if you can teach more subjects. Call (713) 529-2241. tutor@wonder- space.com.

WELCOME BACK TO WILLY’S PUB!

Backpage Gambling Scandal Exposure

Point/Counterpoint

Rainbow University’s lewdey leader up off on the Danny Blanco issue. Favoring Blanco’s reinstatement as Backpage editor is Zen Camacho, and favoring his being banned from the Thresher is a bearded, red-faced Malcolm Gillis.

Camacho

Blanco should be let back at the Thresher. He’s a nice boy, and he has a great smile. Not as good as my smile, but it’s pretty good. I mean, my smile is big and pretty! You can see all my teeth! And I know they’re white because I brush them every day. Let him go back to the Backpage, and the world will be a happier place.

Gillis

I hate that bastard. He makes bad jokes about all me time, and I don’t appreciate him. He’s finally gone too far and he needs to be taught a lesson. That young man doesn’t respect anything. I say ban him for life. Gambling is a waste of money and that’s something we just don’t allow here at Rice University.

Welcome

We wanted to give a warm, fuzzy Backpage welcome to Rice’s 7th President, Dani “Bud-Brorn” Leeborn. May your game never go wack.

FOR RENT AT SHEPHERDS/MEIHE Quiet, large one-bedroom apt. with private balcony, garage parking with remote access, washer/dryer included. 100% per month. Efficiency apt. with new kitchen/glass and over/range. 550 per month. (713) 529-6737.

DUPLEX (SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS). Master bedroom. Suite with fireplace plus two bedrooms, one and two apts. with hardwood floors and central air. A one-bedroom apt. at 1200 Richmond for $545, a large two-bedroom, two-bath at 4300 Mt. Vernon for 805. (713) 748-7179.

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