Faculty consider governance plan

by Jenny Rees

If a proposal introduced at the faculty meeting this morning is passed, faculty governance may change from direct to representative. Faculty Council proposed a plan to change from the current system, in which the full faculty votes on every decision, to a representative 30-member faculty senate. After hearing from a task force formed to examine faculty governance, the faculty will vote on the plan Tuesday and again Feb. 28.
The task force found that the current system does not adequately represent the will of the faculty. "Most faculty do not attend many meetings of the full faculty and a lot of faculty don't really have a good sense of what's going on in Faculty Council," Huffer said. "Sometimes decisions are made that are inconsistent or contradictory and not well informed."Faculty Council is a selected group of faculty members who advise the president on policy matters affecting the faculty. Changes in curriculum and degree requirements must be approved by Faculty Council. Before they are brought to the full faculty, Huffer said, other problems with the current system are a lack of continuity in leadership, since the speaker of the faculty changes yearly, and an unwillingness among faculty members to participate in the faculty. See FACULTY, page 3.

Stolen funds case sent to DA

by Jenny Rees

The case involving more than $5,000 in missing funds from the Friedman Program Council and the Rice University Police Department is being reviewed by the President's Office, the Student Affairs Office, the Office of Administration and the Faculty Senate, Taylor said. Assistant Dean of Student Judicial Programs Don Udick decided to comment on whether there is a case in Student Judicial Programs related to the missing funds. "We decided to receive a police report on the case," Udick said. The missing funds were discovered in late November, when Student Media Advisor Jen Stuckey and the Rice Program Council notified the district attorney that an individual's account had been emptied. The district attorney's office is investigating the case.

"The case isn't closed," Taylor said. "We're in the process of getting additional information from a financial institution."Taylor said he is unsure when the case will be closed. "You can't force the bank," Taylor said. "We're somewhat at their mercy."The district attorney's insurance policy, provided by Fidelity and Deposit Co., of Maryland, covers the organization for up to $50,000 and has no deductible, Black said. Rice has been filing under the policy for 34 years. "The case to liability issues," Williams said. "You can only absorb $5,000 in 2002. The 2002 budget is $10,000."The insurance policy, provided by Fidelity and Deposit Co., of Maryland, covers the organization for up to $50,000 and has no deductible, Block said. Block said the line of credit was approved in late August and late October.

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H&D, Will Rice offer Tuesday lunch discount to OC students

by Katricia Lang

With the launch of a discount lunch program for off-campus students, 12th floor Will Rice College students brought lunch at least half the price of the usual price Tuesday.

The new program, subsidized by Housing and Dining, students pay $1 in euros, the usual 22 cents for lunch, each Tuesday. The discount is only available to off-campus Will Rice students in the Willics kitchen.

The subsidized lunch program should last until the end of the semester, Will Rice President Don C. McCullough said. H&D will reevaluate the plan at the end of the semester. McCullough, who approached H&D with the proposal, said he hopes the plan will encourage off-campus college members to stay involved.

"We noticed that our campus population is quite cyclical — it comes and goes," McCullough, a senior, said. "We have a lot of juniors living off-campus, and we really wanted to make sure that when it comes time for room, they don't come back off."The college tried two different plans last semester with the same goal in mind, first approving office space outside the usual 22 cents for lunch. The second plan involved establishment of a "sawbuck's bar" program, using about $450 per week in college funds to purchase sandwich materials such as bread, meats and cheese.

The sandwich bar drew about 18 students each Tuesday and two months. The new discounted lunch program started Tuesday. H&D has stipulated that students who take advantage of the new discount can only go through the hot-service food line once and cannot take food from the salad and salad bar.

Residential Dining Manager
See LUNCH, page 8

Your last chance

Today is the last day to add a course for the last 6 days in add drop is without the instructor's permission and the last day to use your Add/Drop/FW. The final deadline was newly extended from last Friday by the Registrar's Office.

Waiting for Vizzini

President David Leebron will hold an office hour from 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesday in his office on the fourth floor of the Allen Center. Just remember to never go in against a Philadelphian when death is on the line.

Sign a petition

Petitions to run for office in the Student Association General Elections are due by 1 p.m. Feb. 4.

All candidates must obtain 25 signatures and turn a petition in outside the SA office on the second floor of the Ley Student Center. So make like Wiess and choose your position.

Rice searching for Rondelet alternative

by Jen Evans

At the Rice Program Council meeting Tuesday, members discussed a variety of options for modifying or replacing Rondelet, the formal dance PC. Traditionally held during the week of Beer-Bike.

Rondelet President Ginny Stuckey said decreasing Rondelet attendance numbers over the past several years convinced the group that the dance should be revamped. In 2004, 300 students attended Rondelet, a drop from 485 in 2003 and 500 in 2002.

Rondelet has an obligation to spend the money in our budget in a way that is pleasing to most people," Stuckey, a Sophomore Richardson Junior said. "At the meeting, Assistant Director of Student Activities Holly Williams, who advises RPC, said the Student Activities Office will not approve RPC's hosting any off-campus event where alcohol is served.

"Alcohol is not allowed at off-campus events that are sponsored by the Rice Program Council due to liability issues," Williams said later. "Alcohol is allowed in small quantities at on-campus events hosted by RPC. However, since the focus of any event sponsored by the organization should never be on alcohol." Stuckey said he was unsure before Tuesday that Student Activities had a role in approving RPC events other than approving RPC contracts with outside organizations.

See CONCERTS, page 15

SINCE 1916
It’s not free lunch, but it’s close enough

Nothing draws a crowd quite like free food. And while Tuesday lunches for off-campus students at Will Rice College are not free, they have been cheaper and therefore more inviting since Housing & Dining agreed to charge off-campus students $5 instead of the normal $6.22 on Tuesday, Jan. 26 (see page 5).

We are glad H&D is recognizing colleges’ efforts to keep off-campus students involved. It might help encourage other colleges to allow students to get better deals elsewhere. Nothing draws a crowd quite like free food.

Many thinkers miss religion’s meaning

To the editor:

I enjoyed reading Ms. Hubbard’s letter on respecting religion in December's issue (“Religion not immune from liberal scrutiny.” Dec. 11, including quotations from J. I. M. Smart and Nietzsche). “Allow me to offer a quotation from Paul in reply: ‘And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing’” (1 Corinthians 13:2).

It is all too easy for philosophers to misunderstand religion and forget how valuable religious experience and belief is for the human race.

Hubbard says, “Why should one respect worldly-wise replete with sheer nonsense and preconceptions? I have not yet met a single person whose worldview did not contain many ideas that do not strike me and millions of other people as ‘sheer nonsense.’”

And about “preconceptions”: How many times must we repeat that the basic precepts of religion are not at all “pernicious,” but are perhaps the deepest account of what it means to be most truly human, humane and loving?

I will be the first to point out and correct the evils caused by “hijacked” religions, but this entails a belief that true religion has been responsible for violence of humanity's greatest, from Martin Luther King Jr. in stand to the quiet Good Samaritans and unknown heroes of daily life.

Religion can indeed seem “nonsense” to philosophers, but only by missing its point entirely. Many brilliant religious thinkers have noted that it is impossible to understand the “truth” of a religion without first living into its message of love.

As Paul said, the core of Christianity — and all religion — is love.

You will not find this in theological debates, but only in religion’s true manifestation: the simple, day-to-day acts of faith, hope and love by religious people.

Shay Schiff
Baker senior

Not all the bald like SUVs or Dubya

To the editor:

I am on behalf of the full-fledged political action committee, or PAC, I would like to express my outrage at Sharen Kavoussi’s comparison of balding males such as myself to Republicans (“Dry your eyes, young men. Baldness is in,” Jan. 21). True, some of us are cautious, melancholic and goonocratic oil executives, but to compare us to Dick Cheney and his ilk crosses the line.

First, Cheney is not as intelligent as most people give him credit for. Halliburton chose him as CEO not for his ingenuity, but for his Middle Eastern connections he acquired during his term as Secretary of Defense under President Ronald Reagan. It's sad when the ability to string words into coherent sentences stands out as a sign of intellect in comparison to the president.

Secondly, Kavoussi neglects to mention truly intelligent and popular bald politicians, such as senators Joe “I'm the only one who can fix the government” Lieberman and Carl Levin. On our own campus, we should not neglect pointing bald scientists, such as the wearable and jobless Rick Santorum.

Finally, Kavoussi paints baldness as a convenient alternative to time-consuming and expensive hair-care products. This could not be further from the truth. Any balding male will admit the importance of homogeneous follicle density across our two-dimensional, not perfectly-differentiable manifolds. This means shaving at least twice a week. You’re not a man until you’ve suffered a few cuts there.

But hey! At least we balding men will have a better understanding of what it’s like for girls to shave their legs every day. I don’t think NBPs (non-bald people) can share that sentiment.

But of course, my accusations are justified. If you’re going bald, you may as well put away the umbrella and trousers (they don’t work, trust me), and let your testosterone levels go to work. Congrats to Sharen on a well-written article.

Faraz Sultan
Sid junior

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New PIN deadline fits academic calendar

The Registrar’s Office came through again last week, extending the first Add/Drop PIN deadline from last Friday to today.

The move was based on simple logic and makes life a lot easier for students and faculty alike. The original policy would have required students to obtain a second Add/Drop PIN to make registration changes after last Friday. Instead, the new PIN deadline coincides with today’s deadline to add courses without a fee and without instructor permission. These two dates should agree, and we’re glad the PIN deadline was extended.

We hope the registrar will continue to make student-friendly choices when setting important dates.

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

CONTACTING THE THRESHER

Letters
Letters to the editor should be sent to the Thresher 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.

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

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We hope the registrar will continue to make student-friendly choices when setting important dates.

Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff.
"Isn't it true that no woman said aren't any good at science?" is the way a friend of mine recently described renowned economist and Harvard President Lawrence Summers.

In his 1997 book, The Economics of Sex, Summers claims that women may be less able to put in the 80-hour week that eastern economies require. There is no transcript of the speech that made him controversial, but it was a simple military strike against Iran that would not go away.

The Rice Thresher, a student newspaper, wrote: "It is logically opposed to the military approach will not continue to work in the Middle East is crucial for the United States today, which makes any future inter- nationalizations of gender achievement gaps.

Misogynist comments raise key issues

The New York Times wrote: "It was doubtlessly irresponsible of someone in a position of influence to suggest that we reverberate to logical recal- culations of gender achievement gaps. But rather than dismissing the notion that men and women are equal in science, the administration should address the fact that they are unequal.

Co-editor in Chief

Reactions to Lawrence Summers' comments on gender inequality:

'Thought police': Stay out of academia

On the second floor of the Ley Student Center, 1892 Phone (713) 340-4801. Fax (713) 348-4628. Email: the@rice.edu. Web page: www.thethresher.com.

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper at Rice University since 1915, has published such fringe during the "Women's in academe" in the way that it used to. It is more likely to slow the program down than to eliminate it as a whole, as the program is widely dispersed in various locations. If the United States were to conduct an Iran nuclear weapons support grip in Iran for the clerical regime, encourage the United States to launch a devastate- tion unless the Rice administration changes its approach and decides to seriously engage with Iran and add some of the Iranian concerns that are driving Iran's interests to the table. It is clear that the relationship with the United States is crucial for the United States today, which makes any future伊朗's nuclear weapons program by itself more difficult than ever. We cannot afford another war, so the United States must engage Iran in a way that avoids war and avoids repeating past mistakes.

Noorain Khan in an interview with The Rice Thresher
Painted owls will hit campus

by Natalie Erzen

This spring, public art will come to life as a hand-decorated fiberglass owl. Student organizations will decorate the owls and sell them in an online auction sponsored by a student-run charitable public art event located in the United States and the world, including the 3000s.

The auction will also include art from the Student Foundation of Borrego. Proceeds will benefit the participating student organizations. The fiberglass owls will go on display in March, and bidding will close in late March or early April. Lower College freshman Sheree De Souza. De Souza and six other students secured a $1200 retail grant and a $1500 grant from the Student Foundation Office to fund the project.

De Souza said the group wanted to bring the students a way to show their interest in art and provide them with a way to decorate the owls with any type of material they choose.

The group contracted Rice Shop Technician Randall McAlister to cast the owls. All 20 sculptures are expected to be completed by the end of February and distributed to organizations on a first-come-first-served basis.

"We've already made one and we have a mold, so now it's just a process of assembly into," said Rice College from the Philippines.

"I think it's a great idea. I just another plastic planter."

Each organization that decides to participate will pay $500 to cover the production cost of the owl, a fee that could drop to $100 if the group obtains additional funding. Ellis said.

"We're working on a way to purchase and decorate a single owl.

Ellis said the auction will target alumni and students within the past 10 years.

The group hopes that Camacho's owl will draw auction bids. Ellis said. They hope to raise $10,000 total.

The owl will be auctioned at the Leadership Rice round-up, and the proceeds will benefit student clubs and organizations. The auction will be held at the Eldorado Ballroom, and the venue will be available as the sophomore architecture students.

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"I think it's a good idea. I just another plastic planter."

For all your events, call for large-order discounts!

Proud Sponsors of Your Rice Owls!
After six months as interim vice president for Student Affairs, Chemistry Professor John Hutchinson is returning full-time to his academic career. Hutchinson, a Brown College master, has served as interim vice president since August, when former Vice President for Student Affairs Zonald Camacho retired.

Hutchinson spent four years as assistant vice president for Student Affairs before serving as interim vice president.

"I believe that people should change their career focus periodically in order to learn about different aspects of life," Hutchinson said.

Since arriving at Rice in 1983 as an assistant chemistry professor, Hutchinson has had numerous positions on campus. He was master of Wess college from 1984-1994, served as director of academic advising from 1994-2004, and recently in his current year as Brown master.

"It was working in the Student Affairs Office for the past four years, Hutchinson continued to teach in HFM 121 and 122. After Camacho's retirement, President Fondren appointed Hutchinson to serve full-time until the fall 2005. Currently, he is the acting dean of the college.

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FACULTY
From page 1

enrurance due to a lack of confidence in the system. The task force, which met throughout the summer, consisted of Biochemistry and Cell Biology Professor Janet Brumm, History Professor Carl Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Management Professor Stephen Zeff. The group presented two proposals to the Dec. 7 Faculty Council meeting, and both were approved.

The task force’s first recommendation is to separate the Promotion and Tenure Committee from Faculty Council—so the faculty Senate would have input on tenure and promotion decisions. Current faculty members are elected to Faculty Council for a four-year term and are expected to serve on the Promotion and Tenure Committee for that term. Caldwell, who served as secretary for the task force, said this requirement discourages faculty members from serving on Faculty Council.

"It makes sense to separate P&T from Faculty Council to avoid a double burden for those who serve," Caldwell said.

Under the proposed new system, faculty members would vote for representatives to the Promotion and Tenure Committee within their schools, separate from voting on representatives for the faculty governance body. The term of service on the Promotion and Tenure Committee would also be shortened to three years, and faculty members would not be able to re-elect themselves to consecutive terms.

The task force’s second proposal is to eliminate Faculty Council and create a representative faculty senate, which would decide most matters now decided by the full faculty. Most faculty senate meetings would be open, but a few meetings of the full faculty would be called.

Under the new system, 25 faculty members could petition to place a motion or item of business before the faculty senate. Fifty faculty members could petition to place an item before the entire faculty. If the faculty council to twice the item—once at a special meeting called for the purpose and once in advance of a regular meeting—the decision could overturn a vote by the senate.

The speaker of the faculty, rather than the president of the university, would chair meetings of the full faculty.

About 100 faculty members attended the meeting Wednesday, where the proposal was discussed but not voted on.

Several faculty members raised concerns about the proposal.

Statistics Professor Jim Thompson said he prefers full faculty participation in decision-making. The house that thinks will think many times before it gives up its right to vote on major decisions.

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Senate set to confirm Gonzales

by John Kelho

A divided U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee approved the nomination of Alberto Gonzales, 57-58, to be attorney general Wednesday for a confirmation vote to be held this fall. Voting along partisan lines, the committee moved 10-8 to advance Gonzales' nomination. The Senate will vote early next week.

Next up on the docket is whether or not Gonzales, who served as Texas Solicitor General under Gov. George W. Bush before becoming the president’s personal lawyer for the past five years, should be allowed to serve as attorney general.

Despite Democratic opposition to his nomination, Rice Collegians President Pat Hastings said he foresees no major conflicts in the approval process.

Pat Hastings
Rice College Republicans
president

I would think the Democrats would save their energy for someone they really wanted to stop...

— Pat Hastings
Rice College Republicans
president

In the confirmation process, someone they really wanted to stop, like a Supreme Court nominee—Rice Democratic President Samir Brace said the only potential roadblock in the confirmation process will be Gonzales' legal advice regarding the abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, which was a source of national media criticism. Gonzales stated that certain provisions of the Guantánamo Convention were "absolute" and did not apply to prisoners of war in the war on terror.

He will have to be careful in appearing too soft on international human rights issues and civil liberties, Brace said.

However, Pat said Gonzales has already made the necessary compromises regarding earlier prison policy.

"He's not a softy...but he was with his torture policy, and basically got him to took back what he had said," Patel said. "He said in the confirmation hearings he was against torture, even though earlier he had came out with mumbo, I'm not sure what other wise. Democrats are getting the best attorney general they are going to get out of this administration.

Rice College Republicans President Pat Hastings said he foresees no major conflicts in the approval process.

Pat Hastings
Rice College Republicans
president

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president

Now Hiring: 2005 Student Director of Orientation


COMPENSATION: 1) $4,450.00 stipend
2) Free Summer Housing
3) An incredible experience!!!

QUALIFICATIONS: Any individual who is in good academic and judicial standing at Rice is eligible to apply; however, previous experience as an O Week Advisor or Coordinator is strongly preferred.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Applications are available in the Clubs Office, Second Floor of the Ley Student Center. Interviews will be scheduled when you turn in your application to the Clubs Office.

NEED MORE INFORMATION? Contact Holly Williams, Assistant Director of Student Activities, at 713-524-6719 or the 2004 Student Director of Orientation, Kellen Taylor, at kettaylor@rice.edu

Deadline: Wednesday, February 2nd at 5pm

POLICE BLOTTER

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Jan. 18-23.

Residential Colleges
Lowell College
Jan. 18
Bicycle stolen.

Rice Memorial Center
Jan. 22
Purse stolen from Information Desk.

Fondren Library
Jan. 22
Book stolen.

Other Areas
Campus Police, O'Shea St.
Jan. 23
Officer observed subject unloading in business next to a stopped vehicle. Subject jumped into vehicle, and drove away. Driver arrested for driving while intoxicated and remanded to Harris County Jail. Sober passenger allowed to drive vehicle home.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Student Association met Monday. The following were discussed.

- The General Elections will be held from 12 a.m. Feb. 18 until 1 p.m. Feb. 23. Petitions are available outside the SA office on the second floor of the Student Center and are due by 1 p.m. Feb. 4.
- SA President Derrick Matthews will deliver the State of the University Address at each college beginning Feb. 1. See box, below.
- SA Treasurer Brandon Wagner presented the SA’s budget and spending. Of the $9,425 allocated for the year, the SA has spent $5,963.87 to date.
- The senate approved Matthews to act as elections chair for the General Elections, and Matthews announced the election.
- The senate approved the Rice Sport Shooting Society, an organization intended to help students learn to use firearms. Anyone interested should contact Jones College junior Alan Sledd at sledd@rice.edu.

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

President George W. Bush will deliver the State of the Union address Tuesday night. We suggest you check out SA President Demetri Theou’s State of the University address instead.

Monday, Feb. 1
Sid Richardson, Brown Colleges
Tuesday, Feb. 2
Weiss, Will Rice Colleges
Monday, Feb. 8
Baker, Lovett Colleges
Tuesday, Feb. 9
Martel, Hamann Colleges
Tuesday, Feb. 16
Jones College

YOU CAN

1-800-GO-GUARD • www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com
**THE RICE THRESHER**
**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2005**

**Editors' picks**

**tonight and tomorrow**

**BUELLER... BUELLER**

Children of the '90s, unite! That night, it's everyone's favorite teen Ricki Ferris Buehler's Day Off at the River Oaks.

Tonight, tomorrow at midnight
The River Oaks.
2010 Bissonnet
Please call (713) 866-8811 for more information.

**this weekend**

**HEY, WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO MOTHMA?**

The classic Japanese horror film Godzilla screens at the MFAH this weekend. Prepare yourself for some truly horrid dubbing.

Tonight at 9 p.m.
Tomorrow at 2 p.m.
7 p.m. Sunday at 2 p.m.
The MFAH.
1001 Bissonnet St.
Please call (713) 639-7300 for more information.

**ongoing**

**IT'S ABOUT THAT BLOND, ISN'T IT?**

Arthur Miller's After the Fall, which was recently the subject of a much-beamed Broadway revival starring Peter O'Toole, is at the Alley. The play is also rumored to be about Miller's brief marriage to Marilyn Monroe.

Through Feb. 4
The Alley Theatre.
615 Texas Ave.
Please call (713) 228-8842 for more information.

**JUST DON'T MENTION WATERGATE**

‘Nixon’ a flawed chronicle of obsession and lunacy

Mike Mathews

Every step of the archivist filmmaking process is vital to the finished project’s success. Astoundingly rigorous editing style of little use if the scenes are not appropriately shot, and a painstakingly conceived screenplay cannot turn into an intriguing film if its core story is backhanded. Without a story worth telling, _The Assassination of Richard Nixon_ was doomed even before camera began to roll.

In February 1974, Sam Byck, an unemployed office furniture salesman, attempted to hijack a plane and crash it into the White House. As he revealed in cassette-tape recordings he sent to his idol, Leonard Bernstein, and others, Byck was enraged by the corruption and dehumanization that he saw running rampant under the Nixon administration. The assassination attempt faded into obscurity, but composer/director Niels Mueller tries to resurrect it, forcing us to empathize with the feelings and motivations that incited Byck to take such an extreme measure.

When interacting with others, Byck (Oscar Isaac) and his fiancée, the protagonist inspired by the real-life Byck, cannot muster the average person’s eloquence or expressive power. His meekness allows other people to tower over him in the unforgiving, fast-paced world and melt his confidence, identity and worldly function. However, in the end, Niels Mueller’s _Nixon_ seems more about Byck’s inability to love himself and his children than a succinct history of the Watergate scandal.
Introducing the faux pas of 2004

With the end of every year comes the exhaustive crop of film critics' best-of-the-year accolades. Sometimes top-10 lists can be reliable and even fun to read, like last year, for example, when The New York Times' Ethan Mitchell bucked his publication's inherent snobbery and named the fluffy Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl Best Film. But this year, conformity is not the norm, for how many different ways can you say, "Suburbanites: the best film of the year?"

Instead, it's time to focus on the year's biggest disappointments. That's right, like nothing more than reading Hollywood's most egregious shortcomings. Some of the dross examiners have named as the year's most unfortunate awards to the cinematic missteps of 2004.

The Nicole Kidman Award for over-exposure: Just, farm. For starting it all, in The Aviator, Closer, I Heart Huckabees. She was upon the World of Tomorrow and waxing a part in Lemon Snack's The Session Series, on film within a matter of months. I think Jafie is so good he can act as an actor, and ream, with his face plastered on every TV and his name on every magazine, even I left unembellished.

On screen and in life, [Rossum] reeks of pretension, self-importance and merinal talent. I wish the chandelier had landed on her.

The Gilded Helmet Award for worst portrayal of a terminal illness: [Name] Wasn't in Finding Neverland. This hokey bestial-ly sentimental shyster employed the worst possible indicator of a serious condition—the "tumoral" cough. Please. Not since Julianne Moore was in The End of the Affair has a character been more pretentious that has been less surprising. Here, though, we tend not to miss [name], who is, in fact, a real actress, not just her face.

The Nicki Minaj Award for oversharing: Just once? For showing us just how much it sucked to be a white upper-middle class African American man. Damn, his life is so rough.

As for Ben Affleck's Jersey Girl, as well as with all other things JERSEY, I stayed as far away as possible.

The "Look at Me! I'm A Dialect Coach" Award for most convincing portrayal of adult infancy: Jennifer Garner in 13 Going on 30. In this idiotic roo films of Tom Hanks' classic character in Big, Garner plays a failsafe young star who is clueless about her own capabilities. Sure, she's rambled to be dating Neo-Ll Affleck, but it seems she's avoiding him because he has children.

The "Danger, Will Robinson, Danger!" Award for films I most successfully avoided: I had no trouble skipping Surviving Christmas, and as for Ben Affleck's other effort, Jersey Girl... well, as with all other things Jersey, I stayed as far away as possible.

The Paris Hilton Award for most embarrassing-screen-screen sexual encounter: Elton John and Angelina Jolie in Taking Lives. Would it kill her to keep her clothes on? Just once?

The Higher Score Guarantee only applies to Kaplan courses taken and completed within the United States and Canada.
Movies as homework:
That's the way to go

Rarely has homework made me cry from anything other than frustration. We've all had one or two life of work the joy after completing that last math problem, but normally problem sets do not involve tears. But when I was assigned to watch writer/director Claire Serreau's film Chaos for my French class, I spent Saturday morning belching back sobs in the Language Research Center.

Chaos opens on a scene worthy of the film's title. A married Parisian couple...
Women's tennis takes on Terrapins tomorrow
Open season with shutouts of Lamar, Prairie View

Women's tennis opens its tennis season tomorrow night against the University of Maryland, in College Park, Maryland. Rice tennis teams have had a good season so far, with 9 wins and only 2 losses. The team is currently ranked in the top 75 in the nation.

Rice will play against top-25 teams this season, and the team is looking forward to the challenge. The matches will be held at the Rice Tennis Center, with doors opening at 3 p.m. and first serve at 4 p.m. The match is free to attend and is open to the public.

Rice's top players include seniors Michaela Egert and Isabella Gomez. Egert is currently ranked in the top 50 in the nation, while Gomez is ranked in the top 25. Both players have had a strong season so far, with several wins against top-100 players.

The team is led by head coach Roger White, who has guided the team to several successful seasons. The team has a strong team spirit and is looking forward to a successful season.

For more information about the match, please visit the Rice Athletics website or contact the tennis team at (713) 527-3228.

Rice University Athletics

The Rice Owls end road skid, seek 17th consecutive home victory

The Rice Owls will be looking to end their road skid and start their season with a win against the University of Southern Mississippi. The Owls have lost their last three road games, and are hoping to find their rhythm on the road.

The Owls will be led by guard Amber Cunningham, who is averaging 14 points per game this season. Cunningham is a key player for the Owls, and will be looking to lead the team to a victory.

The Owls will also be looking to improve their defense, which has been a weakness for the team in recent games. The Owls will need to hold Southern Miss to a low-scoring game if they are to have a chance at victory.

For more information about the match, please visit the Rice Athletics website or contact the basketball team at (713) 527-3228.

Rice University Athletics
Men’s tennis drops season-opening match

by Matt McCabe

The Rice/Met/Rice Indoor Invitational, although highlighted by impressive singles performance from many players, the men’s tennis team regressed this week with a 4-3 loss Monday against the University of Nebraska at the team’s first dual match of the season at the Downtown Athletic Club at the Metro.

“It was a disappointing loss,” head coach Ron Smarr said. “We’ve got to compete better.”

The Owls hope to rebound from Monday’s loss in a dual match Sunday against the University of Texas-Arlington. UTA is currently ranked 75th nationally, but the Owls defeated the Mavericks 7-0 in Arlington last year.

“I’m already thinking about next year to eliminate my opponent,” head coach Ron Smarr said. “We’ve got to compete better.”

Tony Haerle out sick, five Owls scored at all, and the Cornhuskers edged Rice 4-3, in a tournament that featured top-ranked Baylor University and a total of four top-30 teams.

The Owls had two doubles teams advance to the finals of the ‘B’ flight, and the ‘B’ flight championship match, where they faced off with Missouri. But the match was not played since both teams were from Kansas.

“We’ve got to compete better in future dual matches. We’ve got to fight harder,” Smarr said. “The tournament this weekend was really a jumpstart to the season for me individually.”

Rice lost the doubles point in the dual match against the Cornhuskers, as junior Robert Searle and sophomore Ben Harknett easily defeated Ohio State’s Zachary Belkin and Joseph Searle 6-4, 6-4. But the team of senior Mark Zheng and sophomore Jason Mukai edged Oregon’s James Clevenger and Steven Cowan 6-3, 6-4.

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Despite strongly preferring the outdoor season and being able to compete in her preferred event, coach Bevan said she decided not to enter a team in the indoor meet because of the whole enclosed environment," Robinson said.

There was definite improvement from the team's performance at the first meet of the season. ... I think we're going to get better with every meet." — Jim Bevan

Women's track and field assistant coach

The Owls earned 23 of their 50 points in distance events. Ten of those points came from the team of junior Anna Breve, freshman Chan- dra Ewing, freshman Callie Wells and freshman Kate Gerh that won the distance medley relay in 12:17.51. Former national champion and junior player and junior Sarah Yoder, who has two years of track experience remaining, took third in the five-kilometer run in 18:33.50. And freshman Laura Kelley followed with a sixth-place finish in 18:40.46.

"It was pretty nervous — my first match I played doubles with Illari at No. 1, and I was a little confused," Karas said. "I just expected this early in the season, and at the same time I was really tight. But after that, it went well and it was a lot of fun." Rice did not drop a set in sweeping the six singles matches to record a 7-0 victory against the Cardinals. In the conference championships, women's tennis meets one with one from the other team.

"We went down a lot of speed and tempo," Yoder said. The Owls will not compete this weekend but will return to Yeoman Fieldhouse Feb. 5 for the Houston Indoor Classic. The Owls swept 244.5 to the three doubles matches and lost just one game in the six singles matches. "The girls trained very hard and they prepared very well," White said. "They went out and took care of business, whether it was a competitive match or one where there was a gap in their skill level. They were very professional."
As a team, we're increasing," Frazier said. "We're working hard in practice on our focus, and hopefully that will carry over to games. Those early losses were wake-up calls, and now with those two road wins, we have a lot of confidence."

The Lady Techs hope to parlay that confidence into their fourth consecutive tournament finish in the conference. But they will have to face a more difficult schedule to do so — the WAC, ranked seventh nationally in conference RPI.

"We are working hard in conference play, but the Lady Techsters have trailed to doing very well right now — we need the other teams because they're ready for everybody," said Frazier.

"It's important to peak during the WAC tournament," Neaves said. "We don't want to have our best beginning of the season and then start getting complacent. Our goal is to keep on getting better throughout the season and get ready for the WAC tournament.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL RPI

Rice 62

Historical Conference RPI (of 31)

Tulsa 32

SMU 52

La. Tech 10

Rice 62

La. Tech is still undefeated in WAC play, but the Lady Techsters have trailed to doing very well right now — we need the other teams because they're ready for everybody.

Frazier said. "We're working hard in conference play, but the Lady Techsters have trailed to doing very well right now — we need the other teams because they're ready for everybody."
FRIDAY 28

You're so wise. You're like a little people's concert. Ace in your face!

Today is the last day to add courses without obtaining the instructor's permission.

For Sandhill: What's the definition of bravery? A man with diarrhea chances a fart!

Today is the registration deadline for intramural tennis doubles, coed ultimate and coed inner-tube water polo teams.

SATURDAY 29

Little people's concert.

Come relax on an entertaining program featuring Peter and the Wolf for children of all ages by the Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra at 11 a.m. in the Studio Concert Hall in the Shepherd School of Music. Admission is free. For more information, contact Tom Littman at (713) 546-4923.

Ace in your face!

The women's tennis team challenges the University of Texas at 7 p.m. in the Jke Hey Tennis Stadium. Come support our players as they show their opponents the true meaning of love.

MONDAY 31

What did Cinderella say when she left the photo store? Somebody my prints will come...

Today is the deadline to submit your photos to the Sixth Annual International Programs Photo Contest. Please submit entries to the International Programs Office in the Student Center by 5 p.m.

How does herpes leave the hospital? On crotches.

Plaintiff Thomas Jaber and undergraduate voice students present "A Concert of Songs and Arias" at 8 p.m. in the Houston Concert Hall of the Shepherd School of Music. Admission is free. For more information, contact Tom Littman at (713) 546-4923.

TUESDAY 1

Sex is like a card game — if you don't have a good partner, you better have a good hand!

The International Programs Office hosts a seminar entitled "What Seniors Wish They Knew When They Were Freshmen" at 7 p.m. tonight and tomorrow midnight in the Kelley Lounge of the Student Center. This ice cream social features seniors who share words of wisdom about academic, career and international opportunities at Rice.

SUNDAY 30

Australian Open? Nahhh, It's Our Time!

The men's tennis team challenges the University of Texas at 3 p.m. in the Jke Hey Tennis Stadium. Come support our players as they show their opponents the true meaning of love.

FRIDAY 4

That's deep, man. Like that actor, Johnny is it?

James Joyce, a professor at the University of Michigan, presents the lecture "Rationality Restored: Is it rational to perform actions one knows one will regret?" at 4 p.m. in Room 117 of the Humanities Building.

New School Rule

Jones College hosts an Old School Rap Party from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Jones Commons. If you don't have a set dat, you know to come rock the 356, yo.

NEW RICE SHUTTLE SERVICE

Fridays and Saturdays, 5:30 PM-10:30 PM to University/Kelvin and Kinko's at Rice blvd

Saturday Mornings, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM to Target and Fiesta at Main/Kirby

HOW TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

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

Submission methods:
Fax: (713) 546-5238
Email: thester@rice.edu

Campus Mail: Calendar Editor, Thresher, MS-524

Calendar submission forms are available on the Thresher office door.

Submissions are printed on a space-available basis.
These days, the Lance Armstrong bracelets are everywhere. Now, I expect to see them on the bike path and at the gym, but I never expected to have seen them in class, at the bank, at the drive-thru window. They certainly have become quite the trend. What I'm about to say may shock you. In fact, it is almost guaranteed to offend some of you. But, the truth is, I find these little golden bands as repellent as the Macarena outbreak of '95, the bell-bottom upcropping of '96 and the heroine chic epidemic that dominated most of the '90s. (Actually, I rather like heroine chic, but that's not the point.) I have come close to calling these LIVESTRONG™ bracelets the slap-bracelets of the new millennium many times. But I've refrained. You see, good old Lance knew what he had on his hands—a surefire nationwide trend that culture critics consider a critique. And you know why? Because it benefits cancer. That's why. And in America, cancer is next to godliness. No critic can refute that. When it comes to punch lines, cancer is next to godliness. No critic can argue that. That's why. And in America, cancer is next to godliness. No critic can argue that. That's why, and in America, cancer is next to godliness. No critic can argue that.

I have to admit, I have always considered acting in a porn film to be pretty lowly work. And, hey, it's not like any of us have to act that hard to enjoy sex. But, unbeknownst to me, porno actors are risking their lives every day to bring up the smut we love. All of those crazy positions they get into? Yep, you can bet that more than a few are designed to remind you just how hard those porn stars work. I think it's funny. I'm sure you think of them all the time when you're ... studying.

Get used to this view of a multi-wristbanded charity enthusiast. As far as trends go, this one is here to stay.

--

The Rice Thresher
FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2005

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSING

CONDO FOR RENT Small one-bed, one-bath ground floor unit, Richmond at Greenwich Plaza. Open washer and dryer, spacious kitchen, eat-in area, central air, shower and bath, storage, washer and dryer. $450 per month. Ask about our lease offer after (713) 524-5344.

MEDICAL CENTER/Montrose Area. 2/1, w/d area, central air, hardwoods, new appliances, pets OK, 2406Yoakum Blvd. $550 per month plus deposit. Ask us about our free rent offer. (713) 825-8130.

GREAT RENTAL for family! 4 bed/2.5 bath, huge rooms, many custom features! UH, Rice, Rice, Rice, Medical and MetroRail within walking distance. Free to male student (713) 524-3344.

TEACHING ASSISTANT and substitute assistants. Child-care experience preferred. Ideal for students needing flexible schedules. Contact Karrie at (713) 562-7055.

CHILD CARE needed close to Rice. Nice place, good pay ($10 per hour). Child needs to be at his mom's house at 2:30 p.m. Thursdays. (713) 432-1033.

TEACHING OPPORTUNITY. Sales assistant needed. Flexible daytime schedule, work up to 20 hours per week, $10 per hour. Must be fluent in standard English. Office located near 110 West and St. Louis. Loop. www.campbellhills.com. Call for telephone interview, Trent Green (713) 661-6147.


HELP WANTED

TEACHING ASSISTANT and substitute positions are available for parents who are interested in working with children in professionally stimulating and challenging Montessori environment. Interested parties should contact Ms. Georgette Vela at (713) 528-1536 to interview.

IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT opportunities. Sales assistant needed. Flexible daytime schedule, work up to 20 hours per week, $10 per hour. Must be fluent in standard English. Office located near 110 West and St. Louis Loop. www.campbellhills.com. Call for telephone interview, Trent Green (713) 661-6147.

GREAT RENTAL for family! 4 bed/2.5 bath, huge rooms, many custom features! UH, Rice, Rice, Rice, Medical and MetroRail within walking distance. Free to male student (713) 524-3344.


WANTED: NEW WEIMARANER for small/large family. Good pay and possible equity in the site to the right person. Call Craig (713) 526-3644 or e-mail craig@wogrease.com.

NEEDING EXPERIENCED sitter for toddler in Voss/10 area. Cool kid, nice family, good pay ($9 per hour). (713) 328-2955.

CONSULTING FIRM seeks cold/mechanical engineering majors for part-time internshipspositions. Call Jennifer at (281) 697-6008.

THE CENTERPOINT Energy Well-Servicing Center is looking for outgoing students majoring in Knowledge or related fields for a part-time position as the office receptionist. Please return to (713) 267-9999 or call (713) 287-6400.

BELLALIE MEDICAL Company has part-time secretarial position available 6-10am. Mon.-Fri. $5 per hour. Call 6100 Main St., MS 524-3344.

MEDICAL CENTER/Montrose Area. 2/1, w/d area, central air, hardwoods, new appliances, pets OK, 2406Yoakum Blvd. $550 per month plus deposit. Ask us about our free rent offer. (713) 825-8130.

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Consolidated Classifieds are located on classifieds@rice.edu. The Rice Thresher reserves the right to refuse any advertising for any reason and does not take responsibility for the factual content of any ad.

 Blow Off Your Work

PUB NIGHT Thursday, 10 pm

WILLY'S PUB

280 MORGUE 21/2 in small, well kept building. Hardwood floors, center air, Owner's phone, $565 without lease and deposit. Ask about our lease offer after (713) 524-5344.

MUSEUM DISTRICT: Bike to River/1 in small, well kept building at 4001 Bissonnet, great downtown, great downtown, great downtown! $500 per month plus deposit. Ask us about our free rent offer. (713) 825-8130.

BEDROOM AND BATH in private home of alien. Free to make student junior writer or graduate. Not an exchange for work. References. 15 minutes from Rice by car. Boxwood Place. (713) 661-8753.

TWO BEDROOM, 1 bath, utility room, washer/dryer, study, computer room, private courtyard, oak and tile floor, No dogs. 4321 Gevelter Blvd. $900 per month. (713) 524-6981. Off-street parking.

WANTED: NEW WEIMARANER for small/large family. Good pay and possible equity in the site to the right person. Call Craig (713) 526-3644 or e-mail craig@wogrease.com.

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CONSULTING FIRM seeks cold/mechanical engineering majors for part-time internshipspositions. Call Jennifer at (281) 697-6008.

THE CENTERPOINT Energy Well-Servicing Center is looking for outgoing students majoring in Knowledge or related fields for a part-time position as the office receptionist. Please return to (713) 267-9999 or call (713) 287-6400.

BELLALIE MEDICAL Company has part-time secretarial position available 6-10am. Mon.-Fri. $5 per hour. Call 6100 Main St., MS 524-3344.

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