The colleges have approved a change that allows students nighttime entry to residential buildings with their Rice ID cards. In the past, students were able to lock themselves out of residential buildings between midnight and 7 a.m. using their IDs, but they now have 24-hour access to all nine residential colleges.

Student Association President Derek Matthews first proposed the change to the Rice University Police Department in November. The plan was approved by the President's Office, Housing and Dining, the General Counsel's Office and the Committee of the College Masters. Each college council discussed the proposal at its first meeting of the semester and each decided to allow 24-hour access to students from other colleges.

Student Council Master Joel Wolz, who chairs the Masters' Committee, said every college passed the switch to 24-hour access. The college masters and presidents reported these decisions to the Masters' Committee Jan. 25, and RUPD made the change Jan. 26.

Baker College senior Ben Moms said he welcomes the change.

"It's a good idea," Moms said. "I remember the inconvenience of having to call friends to come downstairs and let me in."

Some students and masters raised the concern that 24-hour access would complicate security during campus Work Week. Matthews, a Will Rice senior, said, "I don't think we're going to control, or even allow students to revoke the 24-hour access temporarily for the work week leading up to Beercycle. Day. Wiltwill stay open for the whole week and will be closed to noncollege residents between midnight and 7 a.m."

SA scraps Camacho bobblehead project

by Prashrinda Bremjit

Students hoping to purchase a stainless-steel bobblehead figurine of former Vice President Dick Cheney will be disappointed. The Student Association will not sell bobblehead dolls in Camacho's image, as was planned in the fall. Students who prepaid for the dolls during the Camacho campaign will receive their order when the Camacho bobblehead project takes up to five months.

When the timetable was hashed out, we realized the dolls wouldn't be here until at best, the intial week of finals," Tedford said. "It was too much risk to get them the week of finals and try to sell the extra 300 we were going to have."

More than 200 students ordered the dolls from Artificial Reality, the Florida company that makes the dolls. Students who ordered should contact the SA in honor of Camacho and his wife. Carol Camacho. Oct. 18. See BOBBLEHEADS, page 4.
the Rice Thresher

New 24-hour policy makes perfect sense

Next time you swipe your ID card at another college's door late at night and rush in out of the cold, take a second to thank all the people and committees whose logical thinking made it possible (see story, page 1). When Student Association President Derrick Matthews made the suggestion that ID cards should grant access to all residential buildings all the time, instead of just between 7 a.m. and midnight each day, we worried that institutional bureaucracy would prevent the change from taking place. But all the people and committees and organizations that had to sign off on the change did so, and the new policy went into effect Jan. 26.

The college governments were the final hurdle, and we are glad each college voted both to enact the policy and to permanently revert to the old policy during Willy Week, a decision that should maintain the fun and excitement of Willy Week jacks. We also hope students will stop popping doors open; now that all students can access all residential buildings, there should be no need.

So whether the new rules help you get some late-night booty, use another college's piano or just do what Rice students do best — study at the last minute — we're glad logic prevailed.

MFAH event was fitting Passport kickoff

Well, we're all that much more cultured. Even if some of us did not brave the rain to ride the METRO light rail to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Tuesday for the celebration of the Passport to Houston to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, have made it into their schedules. Attend and enjoy a museum that otherwise might not yesterday there were 100. We wish the Senior Committee students do best — study at the last minute — we're glad residential buildings, there should be no need.

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So whether the new rules help you get some late-night booty, use another college's piano or just do what Rice students do best — study at the last minute — we're glad logic prevailed.

We missed 100 Days

We were disappointed yesterday — an important milestone in the lives of graduating seniors — went without the recognition it deserved.

Today there are 99 days until Commencement, but yesterday there were 100. We wish the Senior Committee had honored the occasion and acknowledged the beauty of Rice, round numbers by holding the 100 Days party that has become an annual senior tradition.

We would urge the committee to plan a 75 Days event, a 30 Days event or a 25 Days event, but it just wouldn't be the same. We hope next year's committee will keep an eye on their calendars and not pass over 100 Days.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Religious doctrines can be detrimental

To the editor:

I think Sielk Schilling's letter "Many thinkers miss religion's meaning," Jan. 29, 2005, is a welcome response to my letter "Religion not immune from liberal scrutiny," Dec. 10. This letter addresses some of his points.

Sielk states that philosophers tend to underestimate the value of religious phenomena for humanity. But clearly many religious doctrines are harmful. The Muslim is commanded to turn away from the infidel to fight infidels, for example. Considering only the harmful doctrines is arbitrary, for the harmful ones have just been classified as defining success. Sielk's argument is self-defeating.

Sielk notes some thinkers who say that one cannot understand the truth of a religion without first embracing it. But this is vacuous because one who embraces a religion necessarily cannot doubt it. If one remains sceptical, he obviously did not embrace it initially. Accurate means faith, and nonacceptance prevents understanding. No wonder secular philosophers are said to miss the point of religion. They are engaged in a self-chosen disengagement from the meta.

That many religious beliefs are either true or false is a fact of primary importance. No amount of talk about the spiritual meaning or pragmatic value of religion can hide or eliminate it. If the metaphysical truths of religion are unproven and false, the metaphysical and spiritual stations should not be respected.

Kim Hubbard

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters

- Letters to the editor should be sent to the Thresher by e-mail to editor@rice.edu. Letters may be received by 5 p.m. on Monday prior to a Friday publication date.
- All letters to the editor must be signed and include college year and the writer's name.
- 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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**Pro-Bush, ‘pro-life’ are incompatible**

I am an advocate of life. I believe that life begins at conception (not at 20 weeks as the anti-abortion movement claims). I believe that the `pro-life’ movement is critical for a city. As the fourth largest city in the United States, it is important for us to have a strong public transportation system. However, there are several obstacles to implementing an effective public transportation system in Houston. One of the major obstacles is the lack of federal funding. The federal government has been slow to provide the necessary funding for public transportation projects. This is a serious concern because many cities, including Houston, are facing significant budget cuts.

The second obstacle is the opposition of some residents. Some residents are concerned about the potential impact of public transportation on their neighborhoods. They fear that public transportation will lead to increased noise and traffic congestion. Additionally, some residents are worried about the potential loss of property values.

Finally, there is the issue of funding. The cost of building and operating public transportation systems can be very high. Without adequate funding, it will be difficult to implement effective public transportation systems in Houston.

Despite these challenges, there are some positive steps being taken. The city of Houston has recently announced plans to expand its light rail system. This is a welcome development, and it is important that we continue to support these efforts. It is crucial that we work together to create a more sustainable and efficient public transportation system in Houston.

**Maybe the movement’s title just needs a little tightening. How about “pro-unborn-life”?**

The “pro-life” movement has been criticized for its focus on abortion. Instead, the movement should focus on improving the lives of pregnant women and their families. This would be a more effective way to promote their beliefs.

There are many ways to support reproductive rights without supporting abortion. For example, the movement could focus on issues such as access to education, healthcare, and affordable housing. This would be a more effective way to promote their beliefs.

**Apoorva Shah is Sid Richardson College senior.**

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**Guest column**

Faster light rail expansion critical to city

It’s been one year since the whole world, or at least part of it that watches American football, turned its eyes to Houston for Super Bowl XXXVIII. Before the teams, fans and cameras arrived, our city had a makeover of sorts. To the outsider, this makeover has been noticed in every way. People have been talking about it on social media, and for good reason. It’s difficult to imagine a city that is more capable of building a big building project.

However, Houston has been slow to implement its plans for public transportation. Although there are plans to expand light rail in the city, progress has been slow. There are several reasons for this delay. Firstly, the projects are expensive. Secondly, the projects are complex and require a great deal of coordination. Finally, there is a lack of political will to see these projects through. It is important that we continue to support these efforts and keep pushing for faster light rail expansion in Houston.

**Apooorva Shah** is a Sid Richardson College Senior.

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**Guest column**

In-house grad speaker reveals low self-esteem

I don’t think I was the only one disappointed upon hearing who would be speaking at my graduation. Indeed, I thought I wouldn’t. Literally every person I talked to at Rice and outside of it didn’t seem to believe the news. What did all of us call a Rice professor? Before I go any further, I should make it clear that I have no problem with Psychology Professor Mikki Hel. Everyone I know who has taken one of her classes has given her glowing reviews, and I enjoyed her presentation last spring. The problem is that we did not even try to bring in big-name speakers. The President’s office definitely did not.

We are never going to be the kind of university we want to be if we keep quitting before we start.

---

**the Rice Thresher**
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Moussa gives lecture on U.S.-Arab relations

by Joel Hernandez

Amr Moussa, secretary-general of the League of Arab States, painted a hopeful picture for the future of the Arab world in an address titled, "U.S.-Arab Relations: Outlook for 2005" delivered Monday at Baker Hall.

Moussa outlined the challenges facing the Arab world and possible courses of action by the Arab League before an audience of about 120, including students, faculty and dignitaries associated with the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy.

Baker Institute Director Edward Djerejian, former ambassador to Syria and Israel, introduced Moussa as a respected diplomat and guiding figure in the development of Middle Eastern affairs. He began by pointing out the timely nature of Moussa's address, as relations in the Middle East are currently shifting and may permanently realign. Djerejian also praised Moussa's leadership in the development of the Madrid Framework in 1991.

"(Moussa) played a very critical and important role in the negotiations that led to the Madrid Conference — which remains the absolute principal structure for Arab-Israeli peace," Djerejian said.

Moussa opened his address with a reference to his work during the 1990s, when he oversaw progress in Arab-Israeli relations under the auspices of the United States. He warned that the United States' recent lack of involvement in the Middle Eastern arena has threatened to delay the peace process.

"Moussa said the United States should play its role as a 'honest broker' in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Moussa also spoke favorably of the recent presidential elections in Iraq, but warned that the elections are only the first step in a long developmental process."

"The agitation, the anger, the frustration is very strong in the Arab world."

The plan includes political reforms, economic development and improved security and cooperation among Arab countries.

Moussa discussed last year's Arab League summit, which focused on the United Nations development program for Arab countries.

"We decided... that the governments of the member states of all the Arab countries would commit themselves... to achieve democracy," Moussa said.

"An organization dealing with the status of women and enabling women has been established within the system, and now women [have] started to occupy the high posts."

Moussa called for an increase in democratization and accessibility in government, respect for human rights, and the integration of women into all facets of Arab society. He said some governmental organizations such as labor unions will take active roles in Arab policy-making beginning this summer.

For the first time after 60 years of the life of the Arab League, non-governmental organizations will have best place in the Arab system, alongside the governments," Moussa said.

Moussa said an Arab Parliament will be created near March, and universal suffrage will be implemented within five years. He also addressed the expansion of women's roles in the Arab League.

"An organization dealing with the status of women and enabling women has been established within the system, and now women have started to occupy the high posts," Moussa said.

Moussa proposed a union of Arab League members that would be contingent on the success of such leaders in Arab economies. He warned that the status of women and enabling women to occupy high posts was critical to achieving democracy.

Since the Cold War, Moussa said, the Arab world has been unfairly blamed for fostering terrorists. Moussa condemned acts of terrorism as "evil," but said it is wrong to blame blame solely on the Arab world.

"We should not accuse a religion or a culture for creating terrorists," Moussa said.

Will Rice-College freshman Mark Hurley said he had mixed feelings about the speech.

"I am optimistic about [Moussa's] promises, but I have heard the historical and political realities of the Arab world. I have doubts about their success," Hurley said.

Total applications fall slightly

by Lauren Murphy

The total number of applications Rice received fell slightly this year, although the number of regular decision applications increased.

The Admission Office had received 4,099 regular decision applications as of yesterday, Dean of Undergraduate Enrollment Julie Browning said.

"It's getting fiercely competitive because we're after the same students that are being pursued by Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Duke, Stanford, MIT, and UT Honors," Vice president for Enrollment

Last year Rice received 4,727 total applications — an increase from 4,679 in 2002.

Weight said last year was unusual in that Rice received enormous publicity for winning the 2003 NCAA College World Series, being named "coolest school" by Seventeen Magazine in October 2002 and also contributed to the record number of applicants, she said.

Two years ago, in 2001, Rice received 4,761 applications — an increase from 4,679 in 2002.

Weight said she expects to admit about 2,200 students to the 723 spots in next year's freshman class. Early decision applicants have already filled 162 of these spots. Approximately 75 spots are reserved for varsity athletes, while 60 are reserved for music and architecture students. This leaves 420 remaining spots for regular decision applicants.

The SAT scores, GPAs and class ranks of this year's applicants are similar to those of past years, Wright said. However, Rice's profile of the desired student has changed slightly, she said.

"We're looking for leadership, community service and bridge-building between cultures," Wright said.

Editor by the Admission Office to recruit out-of-state students, resulted in a slight increase in out-of-state applications, Wright said.

Currently, 55 percent of students are from Texas while 45 percent are from outside of Texas.

Weight said the demographics of Rice's students should reflect the university's status as a national university. The presence of Texas students adds to the university's appeal to out-of-state applicants, she said.

President David Leebron plans to visit Philadelphia and New York to increase high school guidance counselors' awareness of Rice, Weight said.

"It's getting fiercely competitive because we're after the same students that are being pursued by Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Duke, Stanford, MIT and the University of Texas honors program," Wright said. "It's playing in the top league."
Endowment reaches high of $3.53 billion

By Clarence Ying

Rice's endowment reached its highest level to date, $3.53 billion, at the end of fiscal year 2004, the endowment posted a 17.2 percent increase for fiscal year 2004, Wise said. However, Rice was on par with institutions that have endowments greater than $1 billion. The fiscal year that has endowments greater than $1 billion. The calendar year spans Jan. 1 to June 30, while the calendar year spans Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

'The key for endowment growth' is a well-diversified portfolio that is able to access the best investment vehicles in alternative investment strategies.

— Scott Wise
Vice president for Investments and Treasurer

Under the new certification, trained Rice EMS could start IV's and administer a wider variety of medications.

Sunday started as REMS director Jan. 4 after more than 20 years as a paramedic. She is the program's second permanent director.

It's a very exciting and addicting career.

— Cathy Sunday
REMS director

EMS hires Sunday as director, plans to upgrade services by ’06

by Lindsay Gilbert

With a new permanent director, Rice Emergency Medical Services will upgrade its services from basic to advanced life support by 2006.

New REMS Director Cathy Sunday said she hopes to receive the necessary credentials, which include certification from the state of Texas, by the end of next semester. The Risk Management Office has already approved the upgrade, she said.

'EMS pretty much eats up all your hobbies. It's a very exciting and addicting career.'

— Cathy Sunday
REMS director

Under the new certification, trained Rice EMS could start IV’s and administer a wider variety of medications.

Sunday started as REMS director Jan. 4 after more than 20 years as a paramedic. She is the program’s second permanent director. A Houston native, she became interested in emergency medicine after taking a basic certification course.

'Twas Shanghai to Int. Sunday said. "It was originally in veterinary medicine and my local volunteer fire department was holding an EMT certification course. They needed to have a certification, and so I took the course."

As director, Sunday will handle administrative duties and teach Rice’s intermediate Emergency Medical Technician course, REAL 310, which students can take for degree credit.

Sunday taught Rice’s first intermediate EMT course as a guest instructor in 1999.

The search committee chose Sunday after two national searches. REMS Capt. Nate Deal said. The first search began when former director Steve Roter, who served in 2000, decided to return to his job as a Rice University Department of Emergency Medical Services.

The committee interviewed applicants and selected a final candidate, who accepted the offer but reneged weeks later.

Before reopening the search, the committee added new responsibilities to the job description, including the teaching component, RUPDC Chief Bill Taylor said. The starting salary also increased.

Deal, a Jones College senior, serves as temporary director of the program in the interim period.

In the past we've had directors who were students involved in REMS and who agreed to stay on for an additional year," Deal said. "It was tough to get a continuity going. Anything they would work on, they would have to pass along to someone else."

REMS began operating in 1996 as a student-run volunteer unit.

One of its founding members, Mark Essott (Jr.’96), stayed on to become its first director. Since then the staff has grown to about 45 student volunteers, about half of whom are trained beyond the basic level.

In addition to the advanced life support certification, Deal said he hopes REMS will purchase its own ambulance. Many other university EMS programs own ambulances, which reduce the response time for ambulance transport calls, Deal said. Sunday said an ambulance, which would cost between $70,000 and $120,000, could also prove useful on-campus sporting events.

'It was tough to get a continuity going. Anything they would work on, they would have to pass along to someone else.'

— Nate Deal
REMS captain

Sunday holds an associate degree from San Jacinto College. She has two grandchildren, and another will arrive this year. Although emergency medicine is a particularly time-consuming field, she enjoys spending time with her family, she said.

"EMS pretty much eats up all your hobbies," she said. "It's a very exciting and addicting career."

Being a brain

Go to www.veritasdgc.com/brain_trained and show us just how much of a genius you really are. If you get both questions right you'll be entered for a chance to win an Apple iPod U2 Special Edition. Deadline for entries is 2-28-05.

"It was tough to get a continuity going. Anything they would work on, they would have to pass along to someone else."
Flannery hired as new assistant director of Academic Advising

by Jenny Rees

Those planning to enter health professions have a new resource on campus as of Tuesday.

Rachel Winer Flannery, a clinical psychologist who taught PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychology in the fall, was recently named assistant director of Academic Advising. She will join Assistant Director of Academic Advising Brian Gibson, who was appointed to the newly created position a year ago.

"Flannery was something I thought I'd do on the side, and it quickly became my favorite activity, mainly because of the quality of the students," said Daley.

New Assistant Director of Academic Advising Rachel Winer Flannery, who was selected in January.

Flannery will work with students interested in applying to medical school or entering other health-related professions, such as dentistry and pharmacy, Director of Academic Advising Michele Daley said. She will replace Director of Academic Advising Brian Gibson, who is leaving Rice.

"She is very approachable and personable, very easy to talk with, and that's exactly what you need in her position," Flannery said. "Both peer-related students and those still determining what they want to do will find her advice useful."

Flannery attended Columbia University as an undergraduate and received a doctorate in clinical psychology from St. John's University. She completed a clinical internship at Baylor College of Medicine and a year of postdoctoral work with two members of the Baylor faculty. Most recently, she worked as a consultant at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, where she participated in research on the manifestation of symptoms in chronically ill patients.

"Flannery is an excellent addition to the counseling staff," said Daley. "She brings a new perspective to the advising office and will help our students understand the variety of career paths they may pursue.

"She's very capable and inspiring work with. It was her enthusiasm for students that led to her being selected," said Daley.

Rachel Winer Flannery, a clinical psychologist who taught PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychology in the fall, was recently named assistant director of Academic Advising.

"I'm very excited to work with Rachel Flannery. She brings a lot of experience and knowledge to the advising office, and we believe she will be a valuable asset to our students," said Gibson.

Flannery will be available to meet with students interested in applying to medical school, as well as those planning to apply to medical school outside Texas or to professional schools, such as dentistry and pharmacy. She will also serve as the new academic advisor for students interested in a career in medicine.

Flannery's appointment was made in January after a national search to fill the position.

"I'm thrilled to have Rachel Flannery on our team," said Gibson. "She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the advising office, and we believe she will be a valuable asset to our students."
Matthews presents address

by David Brown

Passport to Houston, the Board of Trustees' recommitment to Division 1A athletics and the creation of the Student Association will be among this year's greatest changes at Rice, Student Association President Derrick Matthews said in his State of the University Address Tuesday. The speech is an annual tradition started last year.

Matthews, a Will Rice College senior, delivered the speech to the Brown College Cabinet and Rice University Standing Committee on Teaching and the Faculty Council are currently considering a proposal from the Registrar's Office to change Rice's final exam system, eliminating self-scheduled exams in favor of more scheduled exams.

The SA's club-approval process, Matthews said, came into question last semester after a rare rejection of a club proposal. When the Late Night Pie Club was declined club status at the Oct. 17 senate meeting, students raised concerns that the SA had not established clear criteria on what is necessary to form a club.

"I brought up this idea of, how do we approve clubs, why do we approve them, why do we not approve them?" Matthews said. "You'll be noticing some changes in that process.

Matthews also discussed other university changes, such as the new master selection process, which requires committees to produce two choices for new masters. The university president then makes the final decision.

Browns sophomore Jessica Schancupp said the SA has acted on a few good ideas this year, although there are other changes she hopes to see.

"One of the problems with Rice is there's not enough full-school involvement," Schancupp said. "It's so focused on the college, and it didn't seem like the SA did much to change that at all.

Brown sophomore Mia Lopez said the SA president is approachable.

"It's unfortunate he came to the end of this term, but it's a nice way to summarize everything that he's done this year."

Lucky sevens

Students play craps at Lovett College's Indiana Jones and the Casino of Doom party Saturday in the Lovett Commons. The party also featured poker and a salsa-inspired facade that included a creepy wooden walk-way and a large hourglass.

Just a Picnic in the Park

Saturday – Feb. 5th – 12:30pm

Hermann Park

Pavilion nearest Rice by Metro stop

Burgers & Dogs Free

for first 50 folks

Games * Music * Frivolity

Get your Bocce On!

In the event of rain, the picnic will be postponed.

For more info email tripp@rice.edu

Sponsored by RUF

www.riceruf.com
Princeton philosopher delivers MLK speech

by Beth Samuelsen

Speaking about "The Diversity of Identity," Anthony Appiah delivered this year's Martin Luther King Jr. lecture. Appiah said he hoped to honor King's spirit and beliefs.

More than 200 people attended the annual event, which was held in the Grand Hall of the Rice Memorial Center Jan. 27 as the third installment of this year's President's Lecture Series.

Appiah is a philosophy professor at Princeton University and has taught at Cornell, Duke, Harvard and Yale universities. His academic interests include African and African-American intellectual history, ethics, literary studies, philosophy and traditional African religions.

Following a greeting from President David Leebron, Religious Studies Professor Elias Bongmba and Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas, introduced Appiah.

Appiah both opened and closed his lecture by citing psychologist Muzafer Sherif's famous Robbers Cave Experiment. The 1950s study, which examined the relations between two groups of 12-year-old boys left alone at a campground, showed how human bonds over shared needs, Appiah said. He used the Robbers Cave example to argue that collective identity creates cultural differences, not the other way around, as many people believe.

"Identity groups are the consequence and not the cause of conflict. Differences in identities are in various ways prior to differences in culture." — Anthony Appiah

Princeton University philosophy professor Anthony Appiah delivers the Martin Luther King Jr. lecture Jan. 27 in the Grand Hall of the Rice Memorial Center. Appiah spoke about "The Diversity of Identity."

Appiah concluded by discussing the circumstances that tend to unify groups. Common plight and shared need create cohesion, he said. In the Robbers Cave Experiment, problems with the water supply and other conflicts united the boys, Appiah said.

Brown College junior Amanda Lopez said Appiah's anecdotes helped her better understand his message.

"The Robbers Cave Experiment was definitely relative to the theme of identity in the way that groups can be easily formed and differences can play out in very ugly ways," Lopez said.

Lovejoy College junior Yigit Menguc said he was interested in Appiah's ideas about communal and universal action.

"You [can] help in your region locally," Menguc said. "It is easiest to do work where you are, while still respecting people outside."
Rice was up this year's No. 24 at-bats last year, and senior first baseman Adam Rodriguez caught last year but will play primarily at first base this season, allowing Reagan and freshman Danny Lehmann to share duties behind home plate. Reagan said the strength of this year’s lineup is its depth.

Senior first baseman Adam Rodgers (26) prepares to tag out freshman infielder Kyle Reckling as sophomore second baseman Josh Rodriguez looks on during a fall practice Oct. 14. The Owls open their season tomorrow at 2 p.m. against Central Missouri State at Reckling Park. The Owls won the 2003 NCAA Division II national championship, making tomorrow’s game a meeting between the 2003 NCAA Division I and II national champions.

STORIES BY JONATHAN YARDLEY

RICE BASEBALL 2005

Expanded roster rosters new speed, depth

The biggest gains in this year's baseball team's expectations on the field are familiar. Omaha. Not the best bat model, but Nebraska city that hosts the NCAA College World Series each year.

"Every team on this team expects to go back and play at that level," Head Coach Wayne Head coach.

"I'm going to have to do more outlining before a game for myself because I've got more options."

Wayne Buchanan, a switch-hitter, gives

"The talent is there; it's just establishing reliability," Graham said. "The best way to describe this year is an adventure. Considering our schedule, this is an intrasquad adventure.

The talent is there; it's just establishing reliability," Graham said. "The best way to describe this year is an adventure. Considering our schedule, this is an intrasquad adventure.

"There's no, 'Oh, we're rebuilding this year.' Everybody expects to get back and go play [in Omaha]," said senior left-hander Lance Pendleton.

"When is somebody going to get out?" Reagan asked. "It's real close, but we've got a lot of depth, and we're going to surprise a lot of people."

"This year's you're just wondering, 'What's our lineup?' You're going to have our lineup."

"We're better this year than it was last year," Reagan said. "The guys who've come back have gotten even better—we're better this year than it was last year."

"You've got so much depth with the bats this year," Reagan said. "That's what makes it tough for me to make decisions."

"When you're going to a game, I said, 'You know, I'm going to give Rodriguez, who was six-for-10 (.600) in the Minute Maid Park College Classic, a little bit of a break."

"But I think our offense overall is better this year than it was last year."
JUCO transfers boost inexperienced pitching

The Starters

With four games per week, these are the preseason favorites for starting roles.
Head coach Wayne Graham plans to utilize his lineup flexibility this year, starting as many as six left-handed hitters in the batting order against right-handers. Here are the likely lineup combinations, depending on the opposing pitcher:

**vs. right-hander**

It will not happen every game, but Graham can start Rodgers at catcher to get another left-handed bat (Bramhall) in the lineup. Without a slow-running catcher late in the order, opposing teams would face five consecutive speedsters, all capable of hitting leadoff, from the No. 7 spot to the No. 2 spot. Matt Ueckert would be the only left-handed bat on the bench, while Clay Reichenbach and Adam Morris would be the Owls' top pinch-hitting options.

**Position** | **Bats** | **Name**
--- | --- | ---
1 | 2B | 12 - Josh Rodriguez
2 | 3B | 17 - Gee Buchanan
3 | 1B | 20 - Joe Savery
4 | C | 26 - Adam Rodgers
5 | RF | 10 - Lance Pendleton
6 | LF | 27 - Adam Hale
7 | DH | 2 - Bobby Bramhall
8 | SS | 4 - Brian Friday
9 | CF | 13 - Tyler Henley

**vs. left-hander**

Rice could also intimidate opposing left-handers with seven right-handed batters in this scenario. Veterans Reichenbach and Morris replace freshmen Henley and Bramhall, while Rodgers, Savery and Buchanan switch positions. Lehmann will start at catcher until Reagan is fully healthy. This lineup is significantly slower, but a southpaw is likely to slow the running game anyway, and Graham will have speedy contact hitters available off the bench.

**Position** | **Bats** | **Name**
--- | --- | ---
1 | 2B | 12 - Josh Rodriguez
2 | CF | 17 - Greg Buchanan
3 | LF | 20 - Joe Savery
4 | 1B | 26 - Adam Rodgers
5 | RF | 10 - Lance Pendleton
6 | LF | 16 - Clay Reichenbach
7 | DH | 28 - Adam Morris
8 | SS | 4 - Brian Friday
9 | C | 19 - Travis Reagan

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**Rice Baseball by the Numbers**

| **3.54** | **2.98** | **.202** | **1.015** | **0** | **31-42** |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
ERA of all pitchers not named Townsend, Humber, Baker or Niesman last season; 1.10 runs higher than the 2.40 ERA posted by the Big Four.
Eddie Degerman (2.70) and Matt Ueckert (3.06) led the remaining pitchers.
Rice's combined team ERA in the six seasons since 1999. The Owl ERA has decreased each season, from 5.04 in 1999 to 2.64 last year, and Rice has been first or second nationally for four consecutive years.
Combined batting average (40-223) by opponents against Matt Ueckert and Eddie Degerman last year. The duo combined for 10 strikeouts in 1-hitting Lamar April 20, 2004 at Reckling Park.
OPS (On-base Plus Slugging) for Lance Pendleton last year; best on the team. Pendleton slugged .592 with a .423 on-base percentage to finish ahead of Adam Rodgers (.576 OPS) for the team lead.
Errors by catcher Travis Reagan last year in 253 chances. Reagan did have five passed balls but threw out a respectable 37 percent (7-19) of runners attempting to steal.
Stolen bases and attempts by Rice last year, the lowest since 1986. Wayne Graham hopes several newcomers will help restore the running game to its 2003 rate of 72 stolen bases in 103 attempts, the fifth-highest totals in his tenure.
2005 Rice baseball schedule

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For a scheduled game, please see the Rice Thresher for details.
Sarah Betts
FOR THE THRESHER

Verdi's Il Trovatore is Italian opera at its most outrageous. In the Houston Grand Opera's newest production, the audience witnesses a burning at the stake, three kidnappings, a case of mistaken identity, an abduction from a nunnery, two poisonings, and truly fabulous music in less than three hours.

The story line of the opera is so over the top that it would be comical were it not for the incredibly beautiful way in which the characters sing through their whirlwind of drama. Il Trovatore is weak on plot and strong on passion. Set in 15th-century Spain in the midst of civil war, the broad range of turmoil provides a showcase for soaring emotional artists that have made Verdi's opera the most popular since its composition in 1853.

The plot is fueled by the burning of a gypsy woman suspected of poisoning a child of a noble family and by gypsy's daughter and her lover's desire for revenge. Add in star-crossed lovers, a lustful, evil nobleman, and plenty of battles, and the plot is elevated beyond mere melodrama by the passion with which the characters express their thousand varieties of anguish.

One of the finest musical moments occurs at the moment the gypsy, Leonora, a baby-in-waiting at the court of Aragon, sings of her love for the troubadour who seduces her nightly. The tempo is slow and soft as she repeats how she met him as an unmarked knight in a tournament, then switches to a fast, giddily waltz as she tells her maid how she cannot give up the intensification of her new love despite its dangerous, illicit nature. Soprano Sondra Radvanovsky's voice soars through the sequence, which is designed to show off the singer's vocal range with scales that climb vocal mountains. Leonora is one of Radvanovsky's signature roles, and she soars in her total mastery of the part.

Radvanovsky shares the stage with other prodigious talents. Her lover, Manrico (tenor Marco Berti), is no less profligate in his love for the gypsy. This production is as tempestuous as the opera, with rain, snow and even spontaneous bursts of flame making appearances onstage. The combination of these dramatic effects with understated period costumes and the minimal gray walls strikes a good balance between preserving the flamboyant tone of the opera and retaining the splendor of Verdi's music.

This production is a huge success. Not too heavy and blessed with awe-inspiring music, Il Trovatore comes as close as any opera can to being universally enjoyable.

In ‘Les Choristes,’ sentimentality is a good thing

Tina Hinojosa
(713) 230-1600

Not many films unabashedly embrace sentimentality and still evoke an enjoyable movie-watching experience. Les Choristes, however, caught me by surprise by taking a very simple, cliché plot and sugar-coating it up with comforting music, quality acting and graceful aesthetics.

'Les Choristes'

in theaters:
Rating: * * * 1/2 (out of five)

Set in 1948, Les Choristes explores an all-boys French boarding school that rehabilitates "troubled" minors. The story begins with music director Claudel Mathieu (Gerard Jugnot) arriving at L'Ecole St. Thomas to start his new position. The name suggests the institution's somber, hopeless climate.

Mathieu has just accepted a post as student supervisor, serving as a live-in mentor and teacher. When he arrives, he is greeted by Maxence (Olivier and Diane's Jean-Paul Bonneville), the man who previously held the position. Holding a bloody mess of gauze on his eye, Maxence informs Mathieu that one of the students has injured him severely and that he will be taking time to recover in the school infirmary. As Mathieu and Maxence approach the classroom, Mathieu's face turns fearful at the sound of 50 screaming boys. Maxence then leaves Mathieu, reminding him of the administrative credo at the school: "Action. Reaction. Action. Reaction."

Clément Mathieu (Gerard Jugnot) directs the boys of a boarding school in the new French film Les Choristes, which was nominated for the Best Foreign Language Film Academy Award.

French film that got rave reviews simply because it is foreign. Indian, was this going to be another Sister Act 2, with a hero taking a group of young miscreants and reforming them through the all-healing power of music? At first, I was skeptical. But with such a grossly predictable introduction, I became worried that this was just a mediocre
Expansive Menil exhibit deftly explores history of black representation in art

Tina Bionjosa

In 1969, John and Dominique de Menil, recognizing the need to counter the escalating racial segregation in Houston, initiated a research and acquisition project on the image of blacks in Western art, seeking to analyze the history of racial inequality through art. Their efforts have since yielded a collection of several hundred objects ranging from antiquity to the present.

deep wells and reflecting pools

The Menil Collection Rating: [out of five]

In collaboration with the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, the Menil Collection commissioned Houston-based artist David McGee to create a site-specific component of the CAMH's Double Consciousness: Black Conceptual Art Since 1970 exhibit. Consisting of an incredibly diverse range of works, Deep Wells and Reflecting Pools takes a look at international representations of African cultures throughout history as a simultaneously sympathetic and disturbing fashion.

In an interview with Menil Chief Curator Matthew Drutt, McGee said Deep Wells and Reflecting Pools represents the “act of thinking about two different things: one is the act of looking back and seeing if you have the courage to look back, recollecting all that history, both positive and negative. At the same time, it’s important to be bringing yourself out of that and moving forward to a future, with all of that baggage and all of that cross bearing, to make something happen that’s new and enlightened as to who you are.”

It is, in fact, difficult to walk through this show and not feel uneasy about the surrounding objects. Many of the works are haunting in the reality they present. For example, a framed parchment paper receipt accounts the $700; Sally, a young woman sold for $1,200; and the shipping label for a head, a torso, and $300. The receipt reveals the routine of slave trading in all its repulsiveness.

With a yellow top hat, bright red wig and a wide-ouped mouth indicating confusion, “Darke Game” is reminiscent of the prototypical plaster yard jockey that continues to be displayed in front of many Southern homes. The two works visually symbolize the wrenching historical categorization of blacks as intellectually inferior human beings.

This exhibition is startlingly confrontational. The viewer is compelled to rethink the pervasive and self-ignorant racial inequality that continues to plague American society. Through looking back, McGee challenges us to confront the harsh realities of the past.

Academy Awards 2004

Excuse me while I yawn

According to our contributing film critic Jonathan Schumann, the 2004 Academy Awards were a bit of a letdown. "I expected the usual suspects to take home the gong, but the truth is, there were no major surprises this year," he said. "It was a good year for acting, especially in the female category, and the Best Picture nominees were a mixed bag." Continues Schumann, "The only real surprise was the win for Best Director, which went to Roman Polanski for his film 'The Pianist.'"

Although Schumann enjoyed the performances of actors like Hilary Swank and Cate Blanchett, he found the Best Picture nominees to be somewhat disappointing. "None of the nominees really stood out to me," he said. "I was hoping for a film that would challenge the audience and push the boundaries of storytelling, but instead we were treated to a bunch of predictable, emotionally manipulative films that many critics found to be overblown and sentimental." Schumann goes on to say that "the only film that really stood out was 'The Aviator,' but even that was a bit of a letdown."
**'Innocents' puts death penalty under fire**

**DEAD MEN WALKING**

Michael Hardy

**THE PLOT THICKENS**

Dublic Gillis Williams was executed by the state of Louisiana on the evening of January 8, 1999. He had been on death row as a result of a racially-motivated felony, a bipolar disorder, and about every second day he killed someone. He had lived a life of violence and was a danger to society. The state of Louisiana was equally dangerous and violent, with a death rate of 20 per 100,000 people. The state had a history of executing people who were innocent, but none as often as Williams. His case was one of many that raised questions about the fairness and justice of the death penalty, and whether it should be abolished.

Williams was found guilty of murder in the first degree in 1993, and was sentenced to death by a jury of all white people. He was the only person executed in the state of Louisiana in 1999, and his execution was widely criticized.

**Julia Borsen**

**THREE PEBBLES EDITORIAL STAFF**

Some stories don't need to be told. The story of Tabitha Williams is one such story. It is a story of innocence, of a man who was wrongfully convicted of a crime he did not commit. The story of Tabitha Williams is a story of hope, of a man who refused to give up, and of a system that failed him.

Williams was convicted of murder in 1993, and was sentenced to death by a jury of all white people. He was the only person executed in the state of Louisiana in 1999, and his execution was widely criticized.

**'short cuts' on DVD**

Off the beaten path, the film 'short cuts' is a journey into the state's crucifix-shaped network. It is a journey into the heart of the mystery, anti-death penalty activists, and the fight against the death penalty.

Williams was found guilty of murder in the first degree in 1993, and was sentenced to death by a jury of all white people. He was the only person executed in the state of Louisiana in 1999, and his execution was widely criticized.

**Buster Helen Pepran**

**Sister Helen Prejean**

**THE DEATH OF INNOCENTS**

Sister Helen Prejean, a Roman Catholic nun, became a jury for murdering a white woman. Her case was an example of the way the death penalty is used to punish people who are innocent.

Williams was found guilty of murder in the first degree in 1993, and was sentenced to death by a jury of all white people. He was the only person executed in the state of Louisiana in 1999, and his execution was widely criticized.

**Sister Helen Prejean**

**339 pages**

Random House

Rating: 8 out of 10

Sister Helen Prejean, a Roman Catholic nun, became a jury for murdering a white woman. Her case was an example of the way the death penalty is used to punish people who are innocent.

Williams was found guilty of murder in the first degree in 1993, and was sentenced to death by a jury of all white people. He was the only person executed in the state of Louisiana in 1999, and his execution was widely criticized.

**Chorus**

From page 11

**Les Choristes is sappy, in a good way.**

At the close of the film, I felt guilty that I rarely see such BRIGHT-EYED cinema.

When Mathew arrives at the school, the administration has no sympathy for the students, many of whom are orphans or children of jailed parents. The principal of the school, Mr. LeBouf, is a hard-nosed, bitter man, taking his frustrations with the world onto his own staff and on everyone else. He is the go-between for his students and the world outside the school. When Mathew arrives, there is a lot of work to do.

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The Top Ten of 2004

by Jonathan Schumann

2004 was not a great year for film. Sure, we had the media-driven controversy about The Passion of the Christ and Fahrenheit 9/11 and the wild box-office success of superhero action flicks like Spider-Man 2 and The Incredibles, but in general, films were as standard and underwhelming as ever. There were, of course, several indie, documentary and foreign titles that stood out. I am about to offer up my top ten of the year.

As always, not every worthy title makes the list. Depending on the moment, Lars von Trier’s bitter anti-American allegory Dogville would have been up there. As would have Michael Mann’s searing noir thriller Collateral, Martin Scorsese’s fantastic epic The Aviator, Clint Eastwood’s slow and heartwrenching Million Dollar Baby, and the teenager-driven Mean Girls and Saved!, which are both smarter and funnier than those “adult” comedies. Here are the films I consider to be the best:

1. Before Sunset
Authentic movie romances are so rare. This one, a sequel to the 1995 film Before Sunrise, reunites two starstruck lovers played by Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy. Director Richard Linklater follows the pair as they walk the streets of Paris and rediscover love they shared. As Hawke texts for Delpy (again) so do we. She displays more charisma and appeal than Julia Roberts ever did. It is a momentous love story, heart-breaking and funny, with one of the most beautiful endings I have ever seen.

2. Bad Education
I’m a sucker for film noir. And I’m also a sucker for Pedro Almodovar. Bad Education is a seductive, bewildering, erotic romance. Like all of Almodovar’s films, its beauty is strange, even perverse. Leads Gael Garcia Bernal and Pedro Martinez deliver compelling performances.

3. Kinsey
This exciting, timely film about 1950s sex researcher Alfred Kinsey is the biographical film at its best. While writer/director Jonathan Caouette revolutionizes the non-fiction film with Jonathan Educatio, this film provides the story with historical and biographical accuracy, he does not let the facts hinder and restrict the narrative. It helps that it is his first film project. Liam Neeson does his best work yet in the title role, as the sexologist who leaves everything she knows to start a new life.

4. Maria Full of Grace
A star is born with Catalina Sandino Moreno, the 23-year-old actress who carries Maria Full of Grace, an exceptional film about a young girl who becomes a drug mule. Writer/director Joshua Marston succeeds in both humanizing the drug trade and, more importantly, giving us a thoughtful portrait of a girl who leaves everything she knows to start a new life. Tautou lacks in acting ability, she makes up in likability. As a woman slowly losing her grip on reality, Nicole Kidman again reminds why she is such a big deal.

5. Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind
I think Charlie Kaufman may be the voice of our time. This strikingly original tale of botched romance revels in its disconcerting and eccentric humor. It also confronts something we all think about: the regret we feel over past relationships. It is a thoughtfully portrait of a girl who leaves everything she knows to start a new life.

6. Sideways
Yes, it is as good as everyone says. This buddy comedy about two disgruntled winemakers touring the wine country for grapes and girls is darker than anyone gives it credit. For every laugh-out-loud moment, there is a subtle comment on squandered potential, dashed ambition and lost hope. The ensemble is priceless, with Virginia Madsen’s sheer luminosity stealing our hearts.

7. A Very Long Engagement
Grand, sweeping and must-see epic, this war-time love story is everything that I want in a big movie. It has spectacular visuals, a love that refuses to die and an exquisitely miniaturized performance from Jodie Foster. Who could have seen this film coming? It is a film about Audrey Tautou in acting ability, she makes up in likability.

8. Tarnation
Director Jonathan Caouette revolutionizes the non-fiction film with Jonathan Educatio, this film provides the story with historical and biographical accuracy, he does not let the facts hinder and restrict the narrative. It helps that it is his first film project. Liam Neeson does his best work yet in the title role, as the sexologist who leaves everything she knows to start a new life.

9. The Dreamers
Director Bernardo Bertolucci’s The Dreamers is a sumptuous gift to all movie lovers. While we have come to appreciate the elements of the French New Wave or spent hours losing ourselves in a movie theater, this film will make you question your beliefs. It is a highly sophisticated tale of three movie lovers whose mutual love for cinema transforms into obsession and disconnection from reality.

10. Birth
Beguiling, provocative and enchanting, director Jonathan Glazer’s supernatural effort, after the stellar Cockney thrillerSexy Frank, is daring in a way no other film was this year. The story about a young woman who thinks her dead husband has been reincarnated in the form of a 10-year-old boy, is problematic. Glazer’s precise aesthetic vision, clearly inspired by Alfred Hitchcock and Stanley Kubrick, overcomes the theory plot. As a woman slowly losing her grip on reality, Nicole Kidman again reminds why she is such a big deal.
Men's basketball hosts WAC-leading Miners
First nationally televised home game since 1997

by Adam Tabalz

On the heels of a three-game losing streak, the men's basketball team returns to Auer Court this weekend to face Boise State University and the University of Texas-Pan American in the second half of Western Athletic Conference play.

'The difficulty in buying on a losing streak is that you tend to doubt the things that you do ... and you doubt your teammates, but we're not in a situation where we should do that."

— Willis Wilson (Will Rice '82)
Head men's basketball coach

The Owls (19-17, 5-4 WAC) lost 80-75 on Saturday to San Jose State University, giving Stephen F. Austin, UT-San Antonio, and Texas and Texas State a chance to join Rice in the second place spot in the WAC. Rice hosts WAC leader No. 23 Louisiana State University Saturday, Feb. 5, at 7:05 p.m.

'Rice's 62-57 win over UTEP has defeated 111-111 in the nation. I think of confidence going into our LSU match on Sunday."

— Blair DiSesa
Junior tennis player

On the strength of a convincing win against then-No. 22 University of Maryland at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium Saturday, the women's tennis team jumped from 67th to 53rd in the national ranking.

The Owls look for second straight upset Sunday

by Amber Obermyer

Owls' experience at Wildcat, where its winning form before his players start losing confidence."

— Head Coach Willis Wilson (Will Rice '82)
Rice Intercollegiate, held at Wildcat Golf Club in Houston.

Rice Intercollegiate, held at Wildcat Golf Club in Houston.

The Owls (10-7, 5-4 WAC) lost 19-37 nationally, and UT-Arlington, Rice Intercollegiate, held at Wildcat Golf Club in Houston.

Every visiting team will have a practice round on Sunday, so all the other 14 teams will be prepared when we tee it up on Monday.

In the off-season, each player identified individual weaknesses in his game and focused his practice time on addressing those aspects of his game, senior Frank Roth accused. According to Ruttenbroek, the Owls' success in the spring will help the team play more consistently after team scores ranked from 290 to 325 in the 2001-'02 season. "We will find out very quickly if the success of individual practices will be mitigated by its opponents Sunday practice rounds."

"It still gets down to hitting the ball in the fairway, putting it on the green and making putts," Ellis said. "Every visiting team will have a practice round on Sunday, so all the other 14 teams will be prepared when we tee it up on Monday."

In Saturday's match against Maryland, DiSesa and Patenaude had two break points at all but could not convert. Meanwhile, with Maryland's Jennifer Dent and Tammy Stupe up 7-5 6-4, Rice won 3-6, 6-4.

Freshman Kimberly Patenaude serves as junior Blair DiSesa looks on in the Owls' upset of then-No. 22 ranked Maryland Saturday. The tandem lost their doubles match, but both players rebounded to win their singles matches on the way to Rice's 5-2 victory. Owls host 23rd ranked LSU tomorrow at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium.

On the heels of a three-game losing streak, the men's basketball team returns to Auer Court this weekend to face Boise State University and the University of Texas-Pan American, North Texas teams listen longingly on KTRU while practicing indoors.

Women's Tennis vs. LSU
Saturday, Feb. 5, at 9 a.m.

Golf opens spring season with Rice Intercollegiate

by Jall Devell

After an inconsistent fall season, the golf teams kick off spring season Monday and Tuesday at the 13-team Rice Intercollegiate, held at Wildcat Golf Club in Houston.

Meaphis, currently ranked 28th nationally, and UT-Arlington, ranked 30th, headline the field.

Last year, the team hosted the tournament at Blackshear Golf Club in Cybera and finished 12th out of 14 teams. Head coach Dick Ellis said the Owls' experience at Wildcat, where they have practiced since he took over as golf coach for the 2003-'04 season, should help the team have a better finish this year.

"I believe there is a big advantage in playing on your home course," Ellis said. "Last year, when we held our tournament in Blackhorse, our team really did not have many chances to play that course."

Rice, Nebraska, Army, DePaul, San Diego, U La, La, Tech, Sam Houston State, Stephen F Austin, UT-San Antonio, UT-Pan American, North Texas, UTEP, and TCU will also be in the tournament; however, Rice is the only team Rice will play today.

The Owls' experience at Wildcat, where its winning form before his players start losing confidence."

— Head Coach Willis Wilson (Will Rice '82)
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**Owls maul Mavericks, look to roll against Tide**

by Matt McCabe

After a disappointing loss to Nebraska that dropped the men’s tennis team to 33rd in the ITA rankings, the Owls followed it with a 6-1 victory over the Mavericks 54-1 at the Jake Hess Tennis Stadium Saturday.

“The next match is a really crucial one — Alabama beat us last year. It’s going to be a really close match... It’s going to be a question of who plays the toughest.”

— Ron Smarr

Head men’s tennis coach

Rice hopes to maintain its momentum tomorrow, when the Owls take on the University of Alabama at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium at 1 p.m. 

**Spartans stop Lady Owl home win streak**

by Amber Obermeyer

The women’s basketball team lost its second Western Athletic Conference game of the season against Utah State 70-66. The Owls fall to 8-12 and 4-10 in the league. "We let in their defense, and we were playing defense against a good offensive team. We really lack a solid leader. Frazier said. "For offense, you have to be consistent, to be that team. If somebody else can do it, then we could do it."

— Dan Frazier

Head coach of the Owls


— and two-time defending college champion Louisiana Tech University (23-8.5) since both schools joined the WAC for the 2001-02 season — last night, the Lady Owls used their depth and ability just putting more pressure on the Owls in the ITA's finals last year, and concludes its regular season this Saturday. The Owls (10-14, 1-7) uphill battle against the Owls, nationally ranked 7th among non-BCS teams — and first among non-BCS programs. "The WAC is competitive as it's ever been in women's basketball, ranking seventh among conference programs — and first among non-BCS programs."

— Crissy McKinney

Head women's basketball coach

In struggling to beat Hawaii at home for the second consecutive season, the Lady Owls stayed at 2-0 in the Rainbow Wahine 70-68 despite being outscored and outrebounded. Senior guard Krystal Frazier scored 10 points, and added a career-high 6 rebounds in the win. Rice, which has finished third in the WAC in defense in each of the last two seasons, allowed Hawaii to shoot 42.3 percent from the field.

— "Every team in the WAC is searching to be consistent, to be that team. If somebody can catch fire, they could do a lot of damage in this league."

— Crissy McKinney

Head women's basketball coach

“We really lack a solid leader... We really lack a solid leader on the perimeter,” Frazier said. "When things get critical, we need a guy that can stand up and make it happen, but we don’t have a guard doing that right now at all. We need someone that can stand up from somewhere on the perimeter." Frazier said the team’s intensity improved throughout the game, but good defense against a really good team. "I think that we have some really good players in the WAC, and I think that whoever wins... will probably have about four or five losses this year."

“Jeff Lowery... I don’t think anybody’s thinking that way now. Louisiana Tech is still a very good basketball team, but I think that we have some really good players in the WAC, and I think that whoever wins... will probably have about four or five losses this year."
Swimming bests Houston, Tulane; meets SMU today
due to two-and-a-half seconds, finishing in 4:20.42.
Masseangale continued to dominate in the long-distance events. Her time of 10:06.03 in the 1,000-yard freestyle was more than 15 seconds faster than the nearest competitor, and she won the 500 freestyle in 4:59.20 while no one else swam the race in less than 5:00.

In the meet's final event, Masseangale swam with senior Klara Taheri, freshman Carey Hain and sophomore Andrea Hurst to win the 400 freestyle relay in 3:31.36.

Seniors Lauren Hill and Bichman swam season-best times and won their respective events. Hill took the 200 breaststroke in 2:17.25, and Bichman captured the 400 individual medley with a time of 4:25.36.

"I don't think our times were that bad. We didn't swim our estimated LSU's ability," junior Laura Healey said. "They just swam really well." The Owls rebounded Saturday from doubles, defeating 40th-ranked nationally in singles, avenging her loss, she's going to come back when she gets a chance, and in this case it was 10 minutes later in singles.

Epic won her match easily at the sixth position, beating Huppes 6-2, 6-1 in her first Division 1 singles match, and Chong followed suit afterward with a 6-3, 6-3 win at the third spot. Despite who ranked 49th nationally in singles, averaged her loss from doubles, defeated 40th-ranked but 64, 64 in a closer match than the score indicates and pulling the Owls within one team point of the dual-match victory. But freshman Christine Xiao lost the first set of her match at the fifth position, and Baker beat Patenaude 7-5 in the second set at the second spot. With Karas still in a marathon third set, Baker broke Patenaude's confidence being ahead of and then hardly losing to highly ranked opponents.

"We realized we were close to beating a double team coast ranked in the top 20 in the nation," Elsby said. "I think that actually gave us confidence going into singles, and we and the entire team are capable of beating anyone. We're going to all the rest of the match."

Baker responded immediately, winning six of the first seven games in her singles match against Baker and combining them into two sets from either team to win a set. "Hey, Rice Students!

Do we have specials for you!

$7.38 Value Meals

#A1 Large Cheese or 1-topping pizza

#A2 Medium 1 topping pizza and two 12-oz Cokes®

#A3 1 order of chicken and an order of Cheesy Bread

$8.30 Value Meals

#B1 Large 1-topping pizza and three 12-oz Cokes®

#B2 Medium 3 topping pizza and two 12-oz Cokes®

#B3 Medium Cheese Pizza and 5 Buffalo Wings

For all your events, call for large-order discounts: 1-800-Domino's Pizza LLC. Not valid with any other offer, all at participating store only. Prices may vary. Customer pays sales tax. Our drivers carry less than $20. Delivery area limited to ensure safe delivery. Deep Dish Extra.
From page 15

the decisions that you make and you doubt your teammates, but we're not in a situation where we should do any of that," Wilson said. "We have no reason to doubt—we should trust what we've done in the last three basketball games, where we do what we do, we're absolutely good, and when we get away from it, we tend to struggle."

Sophomore guard Lorenz Williams returned to practice Monday after missing both games on the Owls' last road trip due to a leg injury suffered in a collision in practice. McKethan started at point guard in last weekend's games, and sophomore guard Jason Okrzesik saw increased minutes against Hawaii and San Jose State.

"Guys get accustomed to [Williams'] style of running the team," Wilson said. "We count on him for defense, we count on him to make our breaks, we count on him to set other guys up, and then all of a sudden you throw someone else into that role." Okrzesik has stepped up and played well enough against Hawaii, Wilson said. "I felt like we deserved to win—some things went against us at the last second, but I don't have any complaints about our performance by any means."

With Williams out, sophomore forward Dominique Karas d. Veronika Subertova (UM) 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 in the 2005 UC Santa Barbara Classic on Jan. 30. The Owls fell to San Jose State (6-12, 3-6) in the 2005 UC Santa Barbara Classic on Jan. 30.

Statistics don't matter," Harris said. "You've got one phenomenal Spring Break. It's all here. Four incredible peaks. Four fantastic parks. It's all here. Four incredible peaks. Four fantastic parks. That will make it especially tempting to head West."

Drop out and become a ski bum.

Well, at least lor a week.

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This is a bulletin times better than Dance Dance Revolution.
Cynthia Robinson Cupach hosts a North African Dance Workshop from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Healy Dance Studio. The workshop costs $5 for students, $10 for faculty and staff, and $15 for others. For more information, contact Rebecca Vallis at roscupach@rice.edu.

If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant's life, she would choose to save the infant's life even without considering if there are men on base. The Rice baseball team opens the season hosting Central Missouri State University at 2 p.m. in Reckling Park.

Vegetarians kill plants. At least animals can run away. The Veggie Club hosts its first meeting of 2005 at 6 p.m. in Baker Commons. Delicious Indian food will be served.

This is the second most exciting indoor sport, and the other one shouldn't have spectators. - Dick Vertlieb

The men's basketball team challenges the University of Mississippi at 7:30 p.m. in Autry Court.

If the NBA were on channel five and a bunch of frogs making love were on channel four, I'd watch the frogs, even if they were coming in fuzzy. - Bobby Knight

The men's basketball team faces Rockhurst University at 7:00 p.m. in Autry Court.

Wednesday, February 9, 2005
HUMANITIES, Room 119

Students are invited to participate in "One in Four," a project created by men for men. Participants will leave the program with a greater understanding of how to help support one another.

"One in Four"

SOAR

Sponsored by

FRIDAY

2005 Calendar Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. prior to Friday publication.

Submission methods:
Fax: (713) 348-5215
Email: thresher@rice.edu

Submission calendar forms are available at the Thresher office door.

Submissions are printed on a space available basis.

Insults 207: What are you going to do for a face when the baboon wants its ass back?

Today is the last day to complete late registration, add courses and drop courses without a fee.

Insults 207: If I needed any crap from you I'd squeeze your balls.

The women's tennis team faces Texas Tech University at 3 p.m. in Jake Hess Tennis Stadium.

Music to your ears.

The Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Larry Rachleff, performs Music to your ears. Visit the Shepherd School for more information, contact Tom Littman at (713) 348-4553.
A乌rass on Family Values™ continues

In light of recent developments surrounding the evil perversion of cartoon characters by the liberal anti-jesus/mom/apple pie/anything america movement to target the impressionable minds of children, a new force has been gathered. Patriotic Americans Against Naughty Un-American Stuff, or PAANUS, has ferreted out several popular cartoon characters that are being used by the evil liberals to subvert innocent children.

Captain Planet

In "Keep America Beautiful: Kill a Homeless Person"

"Dirty homeless people are today's most widespread pollution problem!"

And remember kiddos Bathe every day or you might be mistaken for a hob or get gassed too!

Tired of your roommate yet?

Of course you aren't. You just needed some time to "reconnect" after that day you walked in on him and his girlfriend and said, "I'm here for the bread."

Everyone knows humor is the best medicine, so consider using the situation with our favorite roommate activities.

1. When your roommate goes out of town for a weekend, invite your significant other over and have sex repeatedly on her bed. Be sure to leave the mattress on the floor, surround by condom wrappers. She'll be rolling on the floor when she sees how much you pulled one over on her!

2. If your roommate manages to swindle you at some point, be sure to add some humor to the situation by reading from the back of Virtue loudly outside the door. If he protests, yell loudly, "Fortification in a sin, young man!"

3. Everyone's done the goofy girl in the grocery store. Your roommate will appreciate your originality when you tell him of this girlfriend in a 200 word treatise. Make sure to mention how ugly she is.

4. It's always a good idea to bring other people into the fun. Answer your phone with, "Naughty college girl escort service." If he's your roommate's parents, pretend to be embarrassed and say, "Oh, she's at the gynecologist. I think she's sick or something."