Leebron reduces lacrosse penalties

by Jenny Rees

President David Leebron reduced the men’s and women’s lacrosse teams’ three-semester suspension to two semesters, he announced Monday.

The announcement followed his March 3 decision to reduce the team captains’ individual penalties. The seven captains were originally given three-semester suspensions, but Leebron lowered five of the captains’ penalties to one semester.

The two remaining captains, who purchased the alcoholic beverages for the party, had their suspensions reduced to two semesters.

The appeal submitted by the men’s team states that no hazing occurred at the party, that the team did not receive a “fair trial” by Leebron, that the three-semester suspension is too harsh and that the punishment unfairly impacts members of the team.

The appeal submitted by the women’s team states that no hazing occurred at the party Dec. 3. At the party, known as “initiation,” about 20 new members of the men’s and women’s teams were handcuffed in pairs using metal novelty handcuffs and were given a fifth of a gallon of hard liquor to drink.

Two of the new members of the men’s team and two of the new members of the women’s team were hospitalized for alcohol-related illnesses the night of the party, according to the findings of Assistant Dean of Student Judicial Programs Don Ostdiek.

Ostdiek investigated the case and decided to disband the teams until at least Fall 2006. The teams submitted separate appeals to Leebron, who currently handles disciplinary appeals.

“Leebron reduced ‘initiation,’ about 20 new members of the men’s and women’s teams,” the appeal states.

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Future parties banned at Rice-owned Chaucer House

by Jenny Rees

After a party held at the Chaucer House in December resulted in the disbanded of the lacrosse team for hazing and Alcohol Policy violations, the resident of the house have been banned from hosting future parties there.

A nonprofit Rice-subsidiary corporation, TVTE, owns the duplex located at 5613 and 5617 Chaucer St.

Marshall College senior Will Thompson, one of seven residents of the house, said Rice Real Estate Officer Jamie Bowes contacted him March 3 and informed him that he and the other tenants must sign a new lease or vacate the house within 72 hours.

The tenants had not signed a lease for the current academic year, although they received one from TVTE in the fall, Thompson said. The tenants signed the new lease at a meeting with Bowes March 4.

Thompson said Bowes told the tenants she was disturbed by the events of the lacrosse team’s party, which took place Dec. 3 at the Chaucer House.

“Bowes explained their department was very embarrassed by the party because they manage the property,” Thompson said. “She said the party embarrassed the university and specifically their office.”

Under the new lease, the resident may not host more than one guest per resident at a time.

“If we have eight people over and the pizza guy shows up, technically that’s a party and we’re in violation of our lease,” Thompson said.

Bowes said the previous lease, which the residents never signed, also stated that large parties were prohibited. She said her office added the one-guest-per-resident limit in the new lease to clarify the point.

Except for the party prohibition, all terms were drawn from current housing agreements for the Rice dorms and graduate housing, Bowes said. “We just want to make sure the properties are not misused...any property owner would feel this way.”

The night before the beginning of the fall semester, the residents of the Chaucer House have been informed to remove boxes of parties planned in the house in advance.

Women’s basketball wins 2nd WAC title in 6 years

by Amber Obermeyer

The women’s basketball team will make its second NCAA tournament appearance in six years tomorrow, playing the University of Georgia at Brimston Arena in Dallas, Tex., at 1:03 p.m. A year ago losing to Louisiana Tech University by 24 points in the Western Athletic Conference championship game, the women’s basketball team defeated 13-1 Tech 86-63 Saturday to win its second WAC title in six years. The conference title earned Rice an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Rice opened its season with a 3-4 record and lost in its first two WAC games, but Head Coach Cristy McKinney said the team improved throughout the season and played for its most important games.

“We weren’t perfect all year — I’ll be the first to tell you that,” McKinney said. “We had our ups and downs, but they just hung together, gave it their all. It’s been a great season.”

The team’s 11-7 record and place in the WAC, 4th in the regular season and 3rd in the conference tournament, is its second WAC title in six years and was the team’s best finish in the WAC at-large bid to the NCAA tournament after finishing second in the WAC in both the regular season and advancing to the WAC tournament semifinals.

Students can ride a bus chartered by the athletic department to the game for $10, which includes a ticket to the game.
Convention should live up to its name

With a panel of speakers planned for Tuesday's forum on hazing, we hope the event will be an interactive discussion that includes the audience, not just the chosen guests.

Dean and the Dean of Undergraduates’ Office are jointly sponsoring the forum (see story, page 5). The panel will include three administrators and two students, and Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman will moderate the forum.

With only an hour scheduled, we hope Forman and the panelists will dispense the question-and-answer portion of the event and take the time to listen to those in attendance, not just those seated at the head table. We hope students, faculty and staff will attend the forum with something constructive to say and will be given the opportunity to voice their opinions.

Spring break returnees deserve Sunday dinner

There’s nothing like returning from spring break. No matter what the vacation destination, it is nice to settle back into college life.

How unfortunate, then, that students' (empty) stomachs were greeted with a haphazard styrofoam-tray meal — as opposed to normal Sunday-night meal service — from Housing and Dining. Consisting of a can of tuna, a can of Pringles, a can of juice, a package of cookies and a bread roll (the vegetarian option included a peanut butter and jelly sandwich), the meal was paltry at best, bearing a strong resemblance to the bland airline food seen by many students during break. In actuality, these meals were emergency rations. Sorry folks, but we're not soldiers.

We may be quick to criticize the food service on campus, but this problem is not going to be fixed by grossing up our food budget. Given that most students are expected back from break on Sunday in order to attend Monday classes and that meal service stopped after lunch on Friday, we think H&D should have provided normal Sunday dinner.

After all, we've already paid for it.

NCAA tournament bid brings positive publicity

We were excited to see the women's basketball team capture its second Western Athletic Conference championship last weekend at the WAC basketball tournament in Reno, Nev. (See story, page 1).

Outside of football and men's basketball, which both fell short of high expectations this season, women's basketball has been a shining light for Rice. This Owls' first-round NCAA tournament game tomorrow against Fresno State will include three administrators and two students, and Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman will moderate the forum.

Leebron's lacrosse decision pro-student

To the editor,

In light of recent events that have thrust our campus into turmoil, we might all take a step back and consider all that has transpired.

The students prior to the recent lacrosse team suspensions were based on the idea that President David Leebron does not care about students. To the contrary, Leebron has selectively censured those whose actions resulted in Rice students being admitted into the hospital. Even worse, a lacrosse party, Leebron's response to this, is completely inappropriate. What if a student had died? We shouldn't wait until a terrible collapse to address the safety concerns that this incident brings to our attention.

The protesters detailed their beliefs in an unsigned letter asserting that we as students are mature enough to make our own decisions about the direction of our university. The lacrosse party demonstrated that some students are not capable of making such decisions. Leebron is punishing those students to protect, not destroy, the general right of students to decide the direction in which to take this university.

Additionally, we enjoy unparalleled freedom of speech, rights and the opportunity to attend Rice — a university that provides those freedoms, protects those rights and allows those opportunities. Students who abuse those liberties demonstrate in the administration that we are unworthy of the faith they have in us to know what is right and the truth they place in us to do what is right. It is up to all of us to use our actions and words that can enhance and improve those liberties.

Eric Roes, Levitt president-elect
Peter Scully

Sports headline misrepresented game

To the editor,

While I enjoy reading reports of Rice athletic teams acting on victory, I thought the headline depicting the Owls vs. Fresno State men's basketball game "Owls bulldoze Fresno State," Feb. 20 was a little overstatements. I am not convinced that in an upset victory, Rice is in any way "Bulldozed" Rice State, especially given that Nevada beat Rice by 15 points in the same weekend. I thought that such a description was a little disrespectful both years in a game that was clearly badly contested and in which Rice managed to secure a tough victory.

Miles Scottor
PH 11, 3D
Postdoctoral research assistant
Department of Biochemistry
and Cell Biology
Former Graduate Student
Association president

I just love giving out Beer-Bike fines! It makes me feel big and strong. But my fine sheet is always getting wet and illegible. Can you help me?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Postdoctoral research assistant
Department of Biochemistry
and Cell Biology
Former Graduate Student
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Add Backpage to Thresher Web site

To the editor,

Thank you for bringing http://www.ricethresher.org up to date by posting the paper online. Many an alumna will be reading it again. It would be nice if you could get the Backpage up there too. Just my two cents.

Josh Katz
W'01

Abstinence a valid personal choice

To the editor,

Why do I choose to abstain from sex? Abstinence education promotes healthy sex. "Mar 10 Because I believe that the Christian faith unequivocally calls for complete sexual abstinence outside of marriage. A common misunderstanding is that meeting that goal consists of repressing our sexual desires. This is not the case. Generally, when someone feels a desire, it is coupled with a contracting desire. For example, I'm hungry and I want to eat. That would require me to get up and get something, but I want to stay in my chair. Th. Don't eat. That doesn't mean that I'm repressing my hunger; it means that I wait until I desire to eat grows strong, then I act to satisfy hunger, or I get up for another reason.

Abstinence works exactly the same way. I desire to have sex, I'm afraid to hurt a virgin. The desire to remain a virgin is stronger, so I don't have sex. This doesn't mean that I'm repressing my sexual desire; it means that it's weaker. I'll have sex another time. I'll have sex with my wife when we're married. I'll be discouraged by the desire to have sex, then I would be going against a greater desire and that would be repression.

Not everyone sees things this way. Christians were repressed into abstinence for centuries by people who would not agree with them. It seems to me that the Christian faith makes sense that they would not adhere to the same standards. They do not have the same motivations.

Laura Rabalais
Will '03

CONTACTING THE THRESHER

Letters

Letters must be signed and include the writer's name, school and year if the writer is a Rice student.

Letters should be no longer than 250 words in length.

Letters to the editor must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date.

Letters should be sent to the Thresher's email at thresher-ads@rice.edu.

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Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff.
Don't gamble on Kyoto to end pollution

I spent my spring break in Las Vegas proving slot machines and roulette wheels can be dangerous. The machines are only as dangerous as the money I’ve recovered, I can see why the people in the United States are competing for them.

Every casino is pretty much the same. From the glistening snow to the water fountain outside, the corridor to the gambling floor after showering, the eight-acre lake.

I signed the Kyoto Treaty in hopes of reducing carbon dioxide pollution. Unfortunately, Kyoto is as much a part of the problem as the solution.

The Kyoto Protocol, the treaty aimed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, has not worked. This treaty, which had been plaguing the US government for years, was signed in the United States. It was about to be turned over to the treaty’s sponsor, China. The treaty aims to reduce from the current emission levels.

It’s not fair to place the blame in my hands. I have no control over the weather and water, but I can help placate it with a clean one. If I run it up on the bathroom water fountain, the water main would be replaced with a clean one. If I run it up on the bathroom water fountain, the water main would be replaced with a clean one. If I run it up on the bathroom water fountain, the water main would be replaced with a clean one. If I run it up on the bathroom water fountain, the water main would be replaced with a clean one.

A sign above the toilet in my home says that “Loo being used. Please use the sink.” The sink is a moving walkway system, but it’s not a problem. I just put it there.

The Kyoto Protocol is out of proportion to the true problem. Las Vegas is a city without water, and without enough water, the city would not exist. I think it is their fault, not ours.

For a small country like China, the United States is supposed to be a great leader. The United States should take the lead in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The world is watching, and we should be a leader.

As President George W. Bush may be right to say that we are the hopeful ones. Of course, Bush ultimately rejected the treaty not because we don’t have water, energy and the planet.

But a small country does exist and current conditions will make it impossible for China to be the leader. In this dominantly industrialized country, the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world needs the world 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CENG to strengthen biology focus

by Emily Youmans

The department of chemical engineering has changed its name to the department of chemical and biomolecular engineering as part of a plan to integrate biology into its research and curriculum in order to stay ahead of industry trends.

"Chemical engineering is math, chemistry and physics," Department Chair Kyriacos Zygourakis said. "Molecular biology is very fast becoming the fourth fundamental science for our discipline."

Changes will be made in the department's curriculum, including the addition of an introductory course in molecular biology, but not in the name of the degree students receive. Zygourakis said. The department will continue to offer a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Arts in chemical engineering.

In Fall 2004, the chemical engineering department included 63 undergraduates, 63 doctoral chemical engineering students. Zygourakis said. "This is a change for the entire discipline."

Protest Eugene Levy said the department's changes reflect the growing importance of biological ideas, materials systems and processes in the 21st century. "I anticipate the influence of biology and biologically inspired ideas and methods will gather force at Rice, at other universities and in the broader society," Levy said. "I anticipate that this will continue to happen on its own, without anybody directing it to be so."

A committee of seven members of the chemical engineering faculty, with participation from the entire department and a seven-member advisory board composed of five people from industry and two from academia, created the changes.

Zygourakis said no plans have been made to abandon Rice's past emphasis on energy. "Everybody realizes that there are too many or three very important problems that we face to solve," he said. "One of them is the energy problem, and the strategy plan says we are going to keep investing in this traditional strength of Rice. Rice and petrochemical industry go back to the 1920s, so we sort of grew together."

"Some very important things, and the strategy plan says we are going to invest in our curriculum by adding new elective courses, streamlining the biology requirements and introducing biology examples in the course.

Other universities' Chemical Engineering departments have made similar changes. "About 30 to 40 chemical engineering departments around the country have changed their name to chemical and biomolecular engineering, or chemical and biological engineering," Zygourakis said. "This is a change for the entire discipline."

"One of the challenges is that our degree will be less well-regarded by employers because it is becoming more broad, but I don't really think that will happen," Herrmann said. "I trust the department to make a good decision."

The faculty is already working on the new direction of research. Zygourakis said.

"A really hot area right now is to use agricultural waste to find enzymes that will convert agricultural waste to useful products," he said. "Two professors here are working on that research, and we plan to hire more."

Zygourakis said molecular biology and the use of genetic engineering will allow the engineering of microorganisms. One company, he said, is now producing polyethylene from corn and using the polyethylene fibers, clothes, plastic, packaging material and other products, all of which are biodegradable.

"The ideal is that we can create genetically engineered microorganisms and come up with commodity chemicals that are very attractive," he said. "This is one of the directions our discipline is going to go in the future."

POLICE BLOTTER

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Feb. 26-March 13.

Residential Colleges Weiss Feb. 26 Suspicious person on roof. Subject arrested for resistence and remanded to Harris County Jail.

Academic Buildings Hemming Hall Feb. 28 Purchasing card stolen.

Jones School March 4 Money stolen from wallet in Jones School library.

Ryan Lee March 9 Weight scale stolen.

Other Buildings RUPD Station March 1 Harassment reported.

Fondren Library March 3 Items stolen from book bag.

Allen Center March 4 Insufficient funds for check.

Housing and Dining March 7 Ex-employee arrested for criminal trespass and remanded to Harris County Jail.

Parking Lots North Lot March 4 Two students referred to Student Judicial Programs for urinating in public.

South College Lot March 5 Intoxicated undergraduate student sleeping in car. Subject arrested for drunk and referred to Student Judicial Programs.

Greenbrier Lot March 5 Vehicle window broken.

Greenbrier Lot March 5 Vehicle window broken and purse taken.

Alice Pratt Brown Hall Lot March 8 Vehicle struck parking gate.

Biology Geogony Lot March 9 Cactus stolen from Ecology Department.

Other Areas Rice University Feb. 26 Student harassed.

Vehleal at Laboratory Rd. March 4 Intoxicated undergraduate student referred to Student Judicial Programs for urinating in public.

Rice University March 8 Caller reports receiving obscene text messages on a university issued cell phone.

5620 Greenbrier March 11 Vehicle ran stop sign. Driver arrested for driving while intoxicated and transported to Harris County Jail.

Main St. at Entrance 3 March 11 Officer stopped vehicle for weaving in traffic, and driver refused to give name. Subject arrested for driving without a license and possession of 4.4 pounds of cocaine and transported to Harris County Jail.

Main St. at Entrance 3 March 13 Officer stopped vehicle for running three traffic lights. Subject arrested for driving while intoxicated and transported to Harris County Jail.

Founders Court Rd. March 12 Suspicious person arrested for criminal trespass. Subject had a possession of a stolen license plate and was transported to Harris County Jail.

Main St. at Entrance 3 March 13 Officer stopped vehicle for running, three traffic lights. Subject arrested for driving while intoxicated and transported to Harris County Jail.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS INTERNSHIP SUMMER 2005

The student publications intern will work on several projects, including the Newcomer's Guide, the Book of Clubs, the student handbook and the campus directory. This on-campus summer position offers hourly compensation for twelve weeks maximum, 40 hours per week. Applications are available in the Office of Student Media in the Student Center and online at www.ruf.rice.edu/~stamedia/. Email keeper@rice.edu for information.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 1
McMasters named new Rec Center director

Big changes are finally about to hit the Rec Center — big changes in personnel, said Dan Richardson, college resident assistant director.

McMasters has been promoted from associate director to director of the Recreation Center, and Tina Villard was promoted from assistant director to associate director for intramural athletics.

Assitant Dean for the Student and Recreation Centers Boyd Beckwith announced the promotions Tuesday.

"McMasters said he will retain all his current responsibilities, including the lifetime Physical Activity Program. "In the past, I was the director of the Lifetime Physical Activity Program, and I was director of the Summer Youth Activity Program and basically oversaw all of the programs and operations of the Rec Center," McMasters said.

"Beckwith was in charge of more of the administrative tasks of the department and handled a lot of the budget and the memberships and things like that, and I'll be picking up a lot of that stuff now."

Beckwith said he will continue to be the assistant dean for the Student and Recreation Centers and the director of the Student Center.

"Students will see no immediate changes as a result of the administrative reshuffling," Beckwith said. "It's going to be a transition." Beckwith said.

"[McMasters] is going to continue to lead the department in a direction we've been going — trying to be responsive, trying to reach out to the membership of the Rice community as we can."

"We'll be combining with what we've established as goals.'"

But Beckwith said Villard began taking on additional responsibilities, such as overseeing the Rec Center's Web site and handling a lot of the administrative work and basically overseeing all of the residence halls and judicial affairs. Beckwith said he hired Taylor because of this experience. Although Taylor's role has not yet been defined, he will primarily handle matters related to student affairs rather than those related to academics.

"Taylor will be responsible for examining the residential colleges and the judicial process at Rice by drawing on his Penn State experience and talking to members of the Rec Center community. He will then report his findings to Forman."

"This is a new role for the Rec Center, but we're getting a new facility, it's still the right time for [McMasters] and [Villard]."

Beckwith said. "I'm very excited about the future that lies ahead."

Forman hires former RA as new assistant director

Matthew Taylor (Ph.D. '92), a former Brown College resident assistant director, has been hired as the assistant to the dean of undergraduate affairs.

He began his job March 9 and will continue in the position through June 30.

"I will not be hiring, for example, somebody whose only job is academics and student affairs," Forman said. "I will not be hiring, for example, somebody whose only job is student affairs and who's only job is academic affairs, simply because the mission of this office is to stop viewing these activities as distinct."

Forman said. "I will be an ex officio member of the Recreation Center Advisory Council, and I'll have bi-weekly meetings with [McMasters] and [Villard] as an ex officio member of the Student and Rec Center."

McMasters was named in 1998 and when the Rec Center separated from the Kinesiology Department in 2001, he was promoted from LPAD director to Rec Center associate director for programs.

"About a year ago, McMasters was promoted to associate director of the Rec Center."

Villard has worked at Rice for five years, serving as assistant director for intramural sports, and for the past two years, as assistant director for intramural and club sports, a job in which she oversaw the department's summer camp.

Beckwith said the promotions are in response to potential plans to build a new Rec Center.

"We're still hoping for a new Rec Center, but certainly a lot of the spaces were taken care of out of the Rec Center as we can."

"We'll be combining with what we've established as goals."

"We're still hoping for a new Rec Center, but certainly a lot of the spaces were taken care of out of the Rec Center as we can, and will continue in the position through June 30."

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Hazing forum to be held Tuesday

The Student Association and the Dean of Undergraduates Office will jointly sponsor a forum on hazing for students, faculty and staff Tuesday.

Advisory committee to replace memory of Rice as an employee with Rice's character today, Forman said. "I have a certain memory of Rice, and that was a while ago, so I need to replace that memory with what Rice is like today, and let that be the way," Taylor said.

"I don't think students have gotten a real sense of the diversity of opinions among the student body. I also think there's a real need for more information about the topic."

Forman said that the forum will be the beginning of a series of campus conversations on such topics as Rice culture and how tradition and alcohol play a role in student life.

These future forums have yet been planned, Forman said. "I just want to emphasize that the goal is for this to be the beginning of a campus-wide conversation about a broad range of questions."

Forman said. "Recent events have brought into view questions not just about hazing, but also about leadership, both in campus clubs and in a broader sense."

The forum will be held Tuesday from 7:30 p.m. in Hermann Hall, Room 201.
and adjudicating the case.

Under the Code of Student Conduct, the assistance from the Student Judicial Programs may choose to assume any case, rather than submitting the case to the federal or the Judicial Affairs Committee.

The decision

Leebron upheld Ostdiek's basic findings on the case but reduced the team's suspension to two seasons rather than three. The team may petition Ostdiek's final determination to a Chancellor's board, which would take effect in Spring 2006. Leebron also reversed Ostdiek's selection not to allow current junior and seniors on the teams when they reform.

In deciding the appeal, Leebron said he consulted with Assistant to the President Mark Schedel (Baker '84) and the General Counsel's Office. He read all materials in the case file, including all the letters and emails sent by members of the team and other students. He did not interview any of the accused students.

Leebron detailed his decision on the appeal, Leebron stated that he agreed with Ostdiek's finding that the team violated the Student Code of Conduct by engaging in the initiates' actions.

Leebron stated that the activity was not required for participation in the team, and it was a violation of the university definition. Creating an atmosphere of a fraternity building where there was illegal and excessive drinking encouraged by members of the Club, conduct that resulted in students being brought to the hospital, falls squarely within the type of conduct that the hazing provision of the Code was meant to prohibit," the letter states.

Leebron said that although not all the initiates' actions were consensual, the initiates' actions were consensual. "This is how people end up dead," Leebron said. "Let's not misunderstand that. They end up dead in consensual activities. ... I am not waiting until somebody dies to say that this is a serious problem." The penalties do not represent a policy that dealt with a serious event of existing policies, Leebron said. "I don't have a problem with the Alcohol Policy," Leebron said. "I do have problems with violations of the Alcohol Policy, and I especially have problems with anything that endangers the safety of our students. There is no more important responsibility than the protection of the lives and safety of our students." Leebron said he was disappointed by the outcome of the appeal. "I think Leebron came down way too hard," Darrell said. "I think he doesn't understand young people. I have friends whose son is in [fraternities], and I've heard about the hazing that happens in those, and what we did just isn't on the same level."

The captains

The captains of the men's team — Brown College senior Laura Forman, a Jones College master, said he is disturbed by the events of the party, particularly the alleged hazing. "The fact that lines are hard to draw doesn't mean they shouldn't be drawn," Forman said. "This was an enhancement of the health and safety of others. I don't see how anyone would expect that a community would treat this lightly." The teams will hold another rally in the academic quad at 4 p.m. today to protest the decision on the teams' appeals.

Leebron said signing out the captives for punishment was based on the structure of the team. "What I think [Ostdiek and Leebron] didn't take the time to understand, although we discussed many times, is that the only capacity that differentiates the captives from any other members of the team is that they are allowed to sign checks to spend money from the Rice Baseball budget," Leebron said.

The protest

The teams held a rally March 1 to protest Leebron's decision on the captives' appeals. The rally held at Willy's statue in the academic quad, drew about 60 students, who carried lacrosse sticks and signs such as "Free Lee, Support Leebron," Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman said. "We were not involved in the judicial process, Forman, a Jones College master, said. He is disturbed by the events of the party, particularly the alleged hazing. "We don't like the line that's hard to draw..." Leebron said. "I think [Leebron] still came down on us way too hard." Darrell said. "I think he doesn't understand young people. I have friends whose son is in [fraternities], and I've heard about the hazing that happens in those, and what we did just isn't on the same level."
The Shell Gourami Business Challenge
August 8-13, 2005 • Palm Springs, California
Wrap up your summer internship with a week in Palm Springs!

Before the school year starts, before you begin to eat, sleep and breathe your senior year, how about wrapping up your summer of 2005 with us? We are offering the Gourami Business Challenge, a unique, fun-filled opportunity for students to see what the energy business is all about. During the Challenge, you will be tasked with developing and presenting a new business and technical plan for the long-term stability of the company. Working with a team of talented students and Shell staff, gourami participants will gain insight into our company and our culture, experience the unique challenges of working in the energy industry, and enjoy a week of camaraderie and networking. The issues are complex, and the deadlines demanding. You’ll learn a lot, have fun and have fun. So, make plans now. The registration deadline is April 15. More information: www.shell.com/careers

For full-time opportunities, we’re interested in hearing from students in the following disciplines:
Chemical, Civil, Electrical, or Mechanical Engineering; Geosciences, MR, Accounting/Finance, Supply Chain

Urban Immersion 2005
Helping incoming freshmen experience cultural, social and urban issues in Houston in July.

We Need Coordinators!
Help change new students and Houston in a leadership capacity.

More information and applications: www.rice.edu/uricex sponsored by: Community Involvement Center

COLLEGE PRESIDENTS
The nine residential colleges have elected their respective presidents for the 2005-06 academic year:
Baker College Brown College Breck Garrett
Bowes College Brown College Benjamin Jones
Chaucer College Lovett College Daniel Jaqua
Chaucer House Merrill College Melissa King
Chaucer House Rice College Breck Garrett
Chaucer House Rice College Breck Garrett
Chaucer House Rice College Breck Garrett
Chaucer House Rice College Breck Garrett
Chaucer House Rice College Breck Garrett
Chaucer House Rice College Breck Garrett

Beaumont contacted them to inform them of the rule after she heard of a party held at the house during the summer. Thompson said he informed Beaumont about the lacrosse party by email beforehand.

However, Bowes said the residents of the house violated verbal agreements with her by allowing the lacrosse team to hold a large party at the house.

"That occurred was a major problem, and it contradicted personal assurances [the residents] had made with regard to the types of parties that would be held," Bowes said. "We want assurances, other than the personal notes, that it will not be repeated, and that's what this new lease is about."

"We were left with the impression that after we took the stuff out and swept [Chaucer house] clean, that it would be left vacant."

— Will Thompson
Mardel College senior

The new lease agreement was a direct response to the controversy surrounding the lacrosse team's party. Thompson said he thinks the new lease agreement was a direct response to the controversy surrounding the lacrosse team's party. The university acquired the properties at various times during the 1990s and leases the houses to students graduating in May — including the current residents of SIS Chaucer. Bowes said he will not be allowed to stay in the Chaucer house or other properties owned by JTVP. Thompson said the new lease agreement was a direct response to the controversy surrounding the lacrosse team's party. Bowes said he will not be allowed to stay in the Chaucer house or other properties owned by JTVP. Thompson said he thinks the new lease agreement was a direct response to the controversy surrounding the lacrosse team's party.
Author Kincaid speaks about her childhood influences

by Ruth Samuelson

Author Jamaica Kincaid described the influence her author, the Bible and her impoverished Antiguan childhood had on her writing at her President's Lecture Series speech March 3. Kincaid spoke to about 150 attendees in the Grand Hall of the Student Center.

"I know I am supposed to say something wise," Kincaid said during the lecture. "But I never know how to do these things."

Kincaid has written 10 books, including The Autobiography of My Mother, and has received numerous writing awards. She was selected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2004 and is a visiting professor of creative writing at Harvard University.

At the lecture, Kincaid read from her 2002 novel Mr Potter and her recent non-fiction book Among Flowers: A Walk in the Himalaya.

President David Leebron greeted the audience after her speech. "I was an only child for a long time," she said. "I don't think I was an only child."

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RLOS offers Gilbert and Sullivan satire with gusto

By Lindsey Gilbert

Good satire, unlike good wine, does not age gracefully. More true for the hand-painted footnotes in their Norton Anthologies, high schoolers everywhere might dismiss Jonathan Swift as a baby-making heathen. How could they know he proposed English irish reform, not infant frikness?

The Rice Light Opera Society, with Rice Light Opera Society, Rating: ••••

Tonight and tomorrow at 10 p.m.
March 24-26 at 8 p.m.

Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta first performed in 1881, could use some more 1981. A song of languid, dreamy-eyed aesthetics like Oscar Wilde, the score demands a working knowledge of the 19th century aesthetic movement.

Good back to the man who does not know the Della Cruscan from the Early English or the medieval from the Byzantine.

The Rice Light Opera Society does its best to bring the masses. Director Lauren Holstein, a Will Rice College junior playing all the jokes everyone can get — a field unclaimed even by a tabloid — a Nausicaa so lusciously over a string, a soldier tripping over a stool. With the greatest of struggles and brillant churning, the show overpowers its outdated source material and reboots from some weaker moments in the middle of its efforts.

Alumnus Jonathan Ichikawa (Will '01) plays Bántorhy as an ordinary gentleman who poses as an aesthete to impress the local maidens. With a flourish of his quill and a cutting of his throat, he leaves them arrayed from their betrothed fiancés, the soldiers of the British Despoit Guard. Bántorhy breaks into the attention but loses after Patience, the voice graduate student Alexandra Bond-Buckleby, and Ambrose is named as the new object of the soldiers' attentions.

The Rice Light Opera Society also features brave Portland State graduate student Alexandra Bond-Buckleby, and a refreshing, non-biased aestheticism. Good satire, unlike good wine, achieves a similar intimacy and, like a fine wine, will last for a long time.

The film also sympathizes with in-law families. Tucker should be commended for his brave portrayal of an ongoing lies, muckraking or sensationalism. Tucker's work with this film is so important. Gunner Palace makes images available that American television writers have never seen before. The voices audience members hear are not those of talking heads, political commentators or news anchors — these stories come directly from the soldiers themselves.

Gunner Palace is ultimately a sympathetic portrait of the men and women fighting in Iraq, and not as similar from the one Michael Moore put forth, the first year's easily most bombastic Fahrenheit 9-11. Moore made many significant achievements with his film, but he was at his most human when talking to the troops and their families. Tucker achieves a similar intimacy and, like Moore, suggests that these soldiers are too young to be fighting a war that congressmen push from the safety of their Washington offices. The film also sympathizes with the current Iraqi's caught in the political cross fire between a toppled regime and a global power bent on reconstruction.

In perhaps the film's most harrowing scene, American soldiers aid the heroes of three suspected bomb-makers. One of the men, after having his hands bound and being dragged outside, insists he is merely a journalism. The soldiers, sick of hearing the man speak, shot him and his fellow suspects away. As he leaves, he mutters, "Just shut your mouth in Iraq," presumably the last few English words he knows. Although the soldiers find no bomb-making materials in the house, the three men are sent to Abu Ghraib with many more to follow.

Quickly, Bántorhy runs as she sends off the advances of both Bántorhy and Archibald Groseover (Brown College freshman Stephen Hammed), a real poor man who does not worry in the pursuit of "unreal life." Patience insists she can only marry a man she despises; to love a perfect man would be wholly selfish. Accordingly, she rejects Groseover, her soul mate.

See OPERA, page 10
Viva Las Vegas: My spring break in excess

As I prepared for my spring break trip to Las Vegas, I decided to do a mini-Vegas movie marathon to get in the mood. I started with the classic Las Vegas films—Cage and Elisabeth Shue's hit—which has seduced filmmaking genius Nicolas Cage and Elisabeth Shue, is too career-best work from Nicolas Cage. However, I was not the best pre-trip prep, and my mood to do anything This proved a good way to get in the mood.

Las Vegas is a bastion of excess in the Nevada desert. It is gold-plated, sequin-studded sin. And it has a reputation for anything that has exceeded filmmakers and audiences alike. As I prepped for my spring break trip, I certainly did not reach the house always wins. The house always wins. I may have overdone it a bit. But that is perhaps the Vegas, it is seen as though it was consistently ordering, with bright colors and funny, charming moments that capture Gilbert's satirical intent. Holmes wisely fills her production with bright colors and funny, charming moments that capture Gilbert's satirical intent. Holmes wisely fills her production

Julia Burton THRESHER ENTERTAINMENT STAFF
New York City's next big thing in indie rock, The Bravery, made its debut appearance in Houston this Monday. The band, co-headlining with Ashtray Engine Room downtown, gave the club a sold out crowd and the audience a thrill with an energetic, show performance that began shaky but ended all too quickly. The concert opened with a forgettable track full of undistinguishable lyrics and obviously overbalanced vocals—a remnant of the heavy metal opening act. The Critics, local vocalists Sam Edelson has walking vocals that can border on gibberish under normal circumstances, and listeners him to be a featureless Anthony Bucik's drumbeat was monotonous. But the band and the audience's more enthusiastic music lovers. The Bravery has been previously released in February. The song exemplifies the band's musical style with garage, dark, rock-and-roll rhythms; upbeat, Euro-techno intro riffs; and instruments that poll directly from The Who.

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Weary lime green pants and boots, denim jacket, and a pair of cymbals and takes obvious delight in creating them together. The players are at their best when the full ensemble takes the stage. The soloists in the story, particularly in the second act, but energy resums whenever the eight members of the Dragoon Guard arrive to belt out a lively tune. The soldiers pair with the members of the female chorus, who line up in their billing as "rapturous maidens" by swooning, swooping and sighing as they flock around their aunts of the crowd.

NYC's Bravery rocks Engine Room
The baseball team has more seasoned position players than pitchers this season, but through the first 20 games, the pitchers have outperformed the hitters.

Rice, which opens Western Athletic Conference play on the road this weekend against San Jose State University, has a WAC-best 2.30 ERA. Head coach Wayne Graham said the Owls need to react better to their mistakes to have a shot at the top of the league.

"We've got four seniors who have averaged 18 wins per season over the last two years," senior pitcher Michael Fitzpatrick said. "It's a good team, but we can't take players that we think are making mistakes for granted. We've got to make adjustments as hitters. We're not using the whole field."

Two players returned from injury Tuesday night, as junior utility man Greg Buchanan made his first start since breaking a bone in his left leg, and sophomore lefty Lance Pendleton was back behind the plate Tuesday, and Graham said he will utilize a typical platoon system at catcher.

"Reagan's going to start catching now, so we feel like we'll have catching every weekend from now on and on Tuesdays," Graham said. "It's a two-catcher system, and [Lehmann] has been going to bit more if he doesn't catch quite as much. I think it's going to add to our offensive threat with Reagan in there."

José Lehmann, who started 18 of the Owls' first 19 games, is Greg Buchanan and Reagan recently returned from injuries, junior right-hander/reliever Jordan Pendleton was out of the Owls' rotation for the Saturday against Texas Christian University and may have broken a bone in his left non-pitching hand. Pendleton has not been cleared to hit this weekend, but he pitched 2.2 perfect innings for his first save Sunday and will be available to pitch this weekend.

"We're going to have to start adjusting better to changes of speed," Graham said. "Our guys seem through the first 20 games, the pitchers have position players than pitchers this season, but we're not making enough adjustments as hitters. We're not using the whole field."

"Hie baseball team has more seasoned assistant coach Marty Gillespie said. "We had a real big win Saturday—we really deserved to win that one against TCU, and we can't take risks with players that we think are making mistakes for granted. We've got to make adjustments as hitters. We're not using the whole field."

"We had a real big win Saturday—that really helped our confidence," Graham said. "We're going to have to start adjusting better to changes of speed," Graham said. "Our guys seem through the first 20 games, the pitchers have position players than pitchers this season, but we're not making enough adjustments as hitters. We're not using the whole field."

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The deadline to purchase these tickets is April 16 at the Reunion Arena, 8 p.m., depending on the nationwide overtime to defeat fourth-seeded University of Nevada and San Jose State, respectively, and was named to three for Georgia.

**Full extension**

Jones Jr. Kansas City, Mo., lays out the path for Rice's senior Yvonne Umeh's 200-meet championship game.
The men's tennis team completed the bottom half of the WAC schedule last weekend, splitting four dual matches against higher ranked opponents. Rice took care of San Jose State before falling to 21st-ranked Michigan in a WAC Invitational. Rice has won all eight conference matches since Feb. 12 to give the Owls a 3-0 lead, and added nine more in Tuesday's victory over Chong and IJao at the match of the week when she defeated third and fifth spots, respectively.

The coaches let me know that they've got confidence in me as well as in the third singles match winner, making me feel good.

## Men's Tennis

Rice defeated San Jose State 5-2 at the top spot, while Harel and freshmen Filip Zivotic defeated Shoua Parbhoo and Eric Landers 8-6. The doubles point win was significant for the Owls because Notre Dame had taken the doubles point against Florida State, which ended Rice's 3-2 match-doubles point winning streak Feb. 19, 2009. Rice won the first and third sets 7-5 and giving Rice a 5-2 victory.

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March 3, 2005 — Autry Court

Attendance — 1,122

Rice Lawlor Events Center, Reno, Nev.

WAC tournament final

Rice 86 LOUISIANA TECH 66

Rice 35 — 66

TULANE 81 — 94


ATTENDANCE — 1,171

LOUISIANA TECH 63

Rice 36 — 49

TULANE 4 RICE 3

March 10, 2005 — Blue Gray National Tennis Classic

Rice 4 SAN DIEGO STATE 2

Hammons Student Center, Springfield, Mo.

WAC tournament semifinal

Rice 82 SW MISSOURI ST. 108

March 7-8, 2005 — Oakbourne Country Club

Attendance — 3,547

GOLF

PURDUE 5 RICE 2

March 19, 2005 — Reckling Park

Attendance — 2,036

SUMMER 2005

www.ruf.rice.edu/~stumedia/. Email keeper@rice.edu

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS INTERNSHIP

SUMMER 2005

The student publications intern will work on several projects, including the Newcomer’s Guide, the Book of Clubs, the student handbook, and the campus directory. This on-campus summer position offers hourly compensation for twelve weeks maximum, 40 hours per week. Applications are available in the Office of Student Media in the Student Center and online at www.rice.edu/~stumedia/. Email keeper@rice.edu for information.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 1.
FRIDAY
18
What did rapper 50 cent say when he got a sweater from his grandpa? The women's tennis team will be hosting a practice tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ball of the Student Center. Soul Night. This is one event you won't want to miss.

The Rice Black Student Association hosts "The Soul of Blackness: Soul Night 2005," tonight and tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ball of the Student Center. Soul Night is the BSA's annual show celebrating black culture and diversity through dance, song and spoken word. Admission is $3 for students and $5 for non-students tonight, and $5 for students and $10 for non-students tomorrow. Tomorrow night's show includes a "soul food" dinner. Tickets may be purchased from BSA college representatives or Kristin Dukes at Admissions ext.

Patience...
The Rice Light Opera Society and Will Rice College Theater present. Patience tonight and tomorrow at 7:30 p.m., in the Will Rice College Commons. A love story for an evening of raging passions, madwomen, ridiculous poetry and romantic falsetto. Tickets are $5 for the Rice community and $10 for general admission. Call (713) 348-FLAX or visit http://www.rice.edu/campuslife/autryhaus.

Soul Night. This is one event you won't want to miss.

One day, the captain of a 40-cared royal barge goes down to speak to the commoner in the hold of his ship: "Man, I have some good news and some bad news. The good news is, the Queen will be joining us today for a trip up the Nile." The man clapped and satified their chains. "The bad news is, she wants to go water skiing." Hans Graf, music director of the Houston Symphony, conducts the Shepherd School Vocal Solists, the Rice Chorale and the Shepherd School Chamber Orchestra as they perform works by Mozart at 8 p.m. tonight and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Both performances will be in the Sude Concert Hall of the Shepherd School of Music. Admission is $8 for students and senior citizens and $10 for the general public. For more information, contact Tom Littman at (713) 348-4933.

SATURDAY 19
Why did the blind get fired from the M&F factory? She kept throwing out all the W's!
The women's tennis team faces Tulane University at 2 p.m. at the John Hess Tennis Staduim.

What do you call a turtle with an erection? A slow poke!
The Shepherd School Sympho-ny Orchestra, conducted by Larry Rachek, performs Concerts for Orchestras and other works at 8 p.m. in the Sude Concert Hall of the Shepherd School of Music. Admission is free.

FRIDAY
21
Photo Contest Reception
The International Programs Office hosts the Sixth Annual International Programs Photo Contest Reception and Awards Ceremony at 4 p.m. in the Fawcett Pavilion of the Student Center.

TUESDAY 22
I only use deodorant under one arm..., so I know what I would have smelled like.
The International Programs Office hosts the information session International Opportunities for Prospects at 4 p.m. in the Miner Lounge of the Student Center.

WEDNESDAY 23
An old man goes to the doctor for his yearly physical, and his wife tags along. When the doctor enters the examination room, he tells the old man, "I need a urine sample, a stool sample and a sperm sample." The old man, being hard of hearing, looks at his wife and yells, "WHAT? What did he say? What's he want?" His wife yells back, "He needs your underwear!"

SATURDAY 25
EASTER SUNDAY
Holy Eucharist - 7:30, 9, 11 AM and 5:00 PM.

Rice Canterbury is the Episcopal Church's Campus Ministry. Canterbury Services are held at Autry House on Sunday at 5 PM. Visit our website: www.ruf.rice.edu/~autry

Rice Canterbury is There For Your Holy Week Needs!

Rice Canterbury invites you to worship at Palmer Church across from Lovett on Main St. for the Holy Week Services.

Holy Week Schedule

• Palm Sunday, March 20-Autry House-5 PM
• Maundy Thursday, March 24-Contemplative Eucharist-Palmer Main Sanctuary- 12:00 Noon
• Good Friday, March 25-Good Friday Liturgy - St. Bede's Chapel - 12 Noon
• Good Friday Liturgy- Palmer Main Sanctuary - 6 PM
• Holy Saturday, March 26-Easter Vigil-St. Bede's Chapel-10 PM

Rice Canterbury is the Episcopal Church's Campus Ministry. Canterbury Services are held at Autry House on Sunday at 5 PM. Visit our website: www.ruf.rice.edu/~autry
The Love Song of D. Wayne Leebrown ... with apologies to T.S. Eliot

Let us go then, old Sunny and 1,
Like beatret pitcher smeared cream a ping pong table;
Let us go through, defeated Metrol Park,
The muttering bare.
Our tin roofs are extruding two beds
And blacked out freshmen, with spinning heads
Loop, Office located near 1-10 West and 610
Must be fluent in standard English.
CLASSIFIEDS

When Houston pollution spreads against the sky
There will be time, there will be time
And indeed there will be appeal

Of insidious transportament
For decisions and revisions which SA resolutions cannot
Let us go, through deserted MetroRail cars,
Let us go then, old Sammy and I,
Slipped toward the hedges, made a sudden leap,
And the spring break week, it sleeps so peacefully!
That makes me bitter sick?
When I have seen my head [still just as bald]
Brought in
And I was afraid.
I have seen the eternal Forman hold my coat, and snicker,
I have seen the moment of our kinship flicker,
1 have seen the eternal
And the spring break week, it sleeps so peacefully!
I have seen Baker run past Fondren in a pack

Wishing. We have lingered in the Fairy Fountain, the students and me
With Hard Women wreathed in T-shirts yellow-green
or two,
Though I have seen my head [still just as bald] brought in
And in short, I was afraid.
Then how should I begin
Would it have been worth the while.
We have lingered in the Fairy Fountain, the students and me
And indeed there will be appeal
And the spring break week, it sleeps so peacefully!

And turning toward the barkeep, should say:
And this, and so much more?
We have lingered in the Fairy Fountain, the students and me
And indeed there will be appeal
And the spring break week, it sleeps so peacefully!

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