**Alcohol Policy enforcement by RUPD to become more strict**

by David Brown

Hosts of private parties found in violation of the Alcohol Policy will be sent to Student Judicial Programs for discipline under the Code of Student Conduct, according to Assistant Dean Undergraduate Robin Forman.

"If you have a party that wasn't in compliance with the alcohol policy, RUPD wouldn't write you a ticket for having a bad party," Forman said.

Forman's statement was multi-jointed between himself, Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman, the General Counsel's Office and Rice Police Chief Bill Taylor. The shift is not an addition to the Alcohol Policy. Ostdiek said: it is a practice of enforcing a policy already in place.

"It has always been a violation of the policy, but now I think you're more RUPD satisfying my office of these violations," Ostdiek said.

According to the Alcohol Policy, a wet private party — now termed a "private gathering that causes undue disturbance" — if it spills into a public space, such as a "hall, ballroom, lounge, bathroom or other common area." Private gatherings that "cause undue disturbance" to the university community are publicly announced and become public parties.

Public parties require registration and host security duties and certified alcohol servers, so private gatherings that become public get bans in violation of the policy.

Rice Police Chief Bill Taylor said campus police will be tough to this change in practice.

"Anything that goes outside a room becomes public, and once it goes outside a room in violation of the policy because it is a public event and not scheduled," Taylor said. "That will be passed on to Ostdiek to look at why the students were not complying." Ostdiek said such a violation of the policy by a host of a party, in the absence of more serious violations, could lead to any number of sanctions, but that he would likely call a meeting of the landlords involved. He would try to refer cases to University Court whenever possible.

Both Ostdiek and Taylor have used O-Week to educate students about the Alcohol Policy and how it will likely be enforced. Taylor said RUPD conducted essentially the same informational session for freshmen as it has in past years.

See ENFORCEMENT, page 18

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**Leebon releases Call to Conversation, seeks input**

by Amber Obershaye

President David Leebron e-mailed all undergraduate students in July with a "Call to Conversation." In the document, he wrote that Rice should aim to become more nationally focused and increase overall enrollment by about 30 percent, while selectively choosing programs to expand or contract.

Leebron said the idea to publish a document like the Call to Conversation, which poses many questions — and proposes some answers — emerged during conversations he had with the deans late last fall. Leebron wrote the initial draft early in the spring before circulating it to the deans and vice presidents and later to the Board of Trustees. Leebron said he generated feedback before releasing the final version.

"To some extent I've spent a year or more doing informal question and answers," Leebron said. "It was important for me to have discussions in a focused way and to make the process both transparent and inclusive by getting the Call to Conversation out in writing to all constituents." Leebron said he will use the opinions he gathers to put together a document — probably with the help of a committee or task force — laying out the university's goals for the next 5-7 years, which he will present to the Board of Trustees at the end of the semester. Leebron said he had already received feedback through the Call to Conversation Web site, as well as numerous campus forums and meetings to be held this fall.

Student Association President James Lloyd said the SA will co-host a forum with the SA's Office at 5:30 p.m., Sept. 12, at which students can give Leebron their feedback on the Call to Conversation.

Leebron said he had already received feedback in letters, conversations, and in more than 900 comments on the Web site, including more than 300 from undergraduates.

"Nothing has shocked me, and I think that the best thing is that the feedback has been very thoughtful," he said. "All constituencies have been very laudable — for example, undergraduate students have written me about the importance of supporting graduate students. What's been most encouraging is that people aren't entirely positive. They often have the largest best interest of the university at heart.

Leebron said that the Call to Conversation is a "document that universities are increasingly competitively environment." "Success in that environment requires re-know CONVERSATION," page 18

**Fireworks, sister groups mark tamer O-Week**

by David Brown

Modified scavenger hunts, a firework display at matriculation day, and sister groups were some of the events that debuted during Orientation Week this year.

One of the more successfully changed events was the scavenger hunt. Campus-Wide O-Week Coordinator Alex Paul said. Assistant Dean of Student Judicial Programs Don Ostdiek and Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman approved the scavenger hunt list, which was created by college. Paul, a James College senior, said clarification of the rules was not allowed on the lists forced students to the more creative. For example, Hanszen College went O-Week groups on a two-part digital picture scavenger hunt, the first part of which required groups to use U. Passes to hide the MTH-0510 in Houston locations.

"This was a really great oppor-

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**Bookstore now run by Barnes & Noble**

by Lisa Gordon

Barnes & Noble College Bookstores signed a five-year contract with Rice to operate the Rice Campus Store July 27. The renovated and renamed Rice Bookstore opened with a greater variety of books, less office merchandise and a less cluttered layout.

The Bookstore will offer extended hours for the first four days of classes and six cash registers — instead of four — to reduce time spent waiting in checkout lines. Bookstore Manager Evelyn Morton said.

Barnes & Noble has hired seven employees who were previously employed by the campus store, as well as seven temporary student employees — from Rice and other universi-

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** orm a new tradition," Paul said.

forms should be an improvement over the Rice-owned Campus Store.

"In the past, if you had a problem with alcohol, you're cheap, the SA's e-Coop is up and run by. You're not going to a book store and buy a book," Morton said. "You're going to the Rice Campus Store, which has doubled in size, and you're going to have the option to buy a book, as well as other things.

Morton said the SA will co-host a forum on the Call to Conversation.

"There's a lot of interest in the Call to Conversation, and they more than matched it," Paul said.

In addition, potentially dangerous or embarrassing activities, such as the party text and midnight wake-ups were eliminated, Paul said. She said the purity test could be considered sexual harassment. Advisers were informed of the restriction in an e-mail college O-Week coordinators forwarded to Rice students.

Paul said students were receiv-

"For me, this is a win-win situation," Paul said. "For man talked to all the O-Week coordinators, who understand
The Rice Thresher

He calls, we answer

We loved being called to conversation this summer. We didn’t have to beg for anyone to listen. We didn’t have to install hidden cameras in the Allen Center to see what was happening. Instead, President David Leebron asked the entire Rice community to participate in the decision-making process that will shape the university’s future. (See Story, Page 1.) We applaud the President’s Office for its transparency and its eagerness to consult.

Since we were asked for our opinions, here are our initial views on some of the most important issues in the Call to Conversation:

- Enrollment: Rice’s size has remained essentially the same for decades, limiting the prestige of small departments. Given a size of 3,600-3,800 undergraduates it is still very small, we see nothing wrong with a healthy increase in enrollment — provided on-campus housing keeps pace and current class sizes are retained. Under these conditions, growth will hopefully make Rice better known and more influential.
- Off-campus housing: University-owned off-campus housing would be a great convenience, as anyone who has been kicked off campus can appreciate. Spring and summer would be less stressful for apartment hunters if they knew they had a relatively low-cost option with honest, Rice-affiliated management — and so much the better if the housing were within walking or biking distance from campus.
- Increasing opportunities for graduate students to teach: We understand that graduate students carefully consider the teaching opportunities at universities before enrolling in Ph.D. programs, and that our strong emphasis on keeping professors in the classroom hurts our graduate programs by driving applicants away. But we think it would cripple Rice’s unique learning environment to tip the current professor-graduate student balance toward more graduate students.
- Increasing graduate stipends: By contrast, we see no harm in giving prospective graduate students a better financial incentive to come to Rice. This method of attracting stronger students and improving graduate programs has fewer direct trade-offs for undergraduates. Besides, if better stipends attract better graduate students, the quality of instruction by graduate students who do teach undergraduate classes might improve as well.
- Increasing the number of post-doctoral fellows: “Post-docs” work wonders for undergraduate research. They are more qualified than graduate students but they are generally young, ambitious and hard-working — perfectly suited to dealing with students pursuing their first degrees. While we do not want them replacing professors on any scale large in the classroom, we do support bringing more of these and the interesting projects — in Rice.
- Strengthening undergraduate research: Along the same lines, we support making undergraduate research more commonplace. True academic research isn’t for everyone, but we think the more Rice students with research potential than are currently involved in such projects.

Alcohol policy requires student support

The changes to the Alcohol Policy should not drive you to drink. (See Story, Page 1.) Both on paper and de facto, they are mostly minor and reasonable. That said, we worry about what the new enforcement gesture encourages — and have a couple of ways students can ally our fears.

Our worry is that students are — or may eventually become — so fearful of being caught drinking illegally at a private party that they may decide to drink quickly and heavily before going to such parties, which is more dangerous. Or they could become so convinced that any drinking on campus will be punished that they will drink off campus instead. It is in those unsupervised situations, far from Rice Emergency Medical Services, that real trouble could happen.

The way out of this downward spiral for students is through the student support system. Everyone at Rice needs to take the late-night escort service more seriously. Recognizing that the escort service is a guarantor of safety rather than a crutch for spoiled kids who are too lazy to walk back at night is just a first step. Rice should thank those involved with the service and of why it is a crucial service to provide. This year, we must reaffirm and stand by what the late-night escort service and of why it is a crucial service to provide. This year, we must reaffirm and stand by what the late-night escort service means for students.

Everyone at Rice needs to take the late-night escort service more seriously. Recognizing that the late-night escort service is a guarantor of safety rather than a crutch for spoiled kids who are too lazy to walk back at night is just a first step. Rice should thank those involved with the service, while being responsible about using the service as well.

The next time you make a late-night House of Pies run and you find yourself at a lonely stadium bus stop at 3:30 a.m., rethink what it means to dial extension 6000 for an escort. Regardless of whether you make the call at night or during the day, you deserve the opportunity to have someone accompany you back to your college — not as a matter of convenience, but of safety.

Noorain Khan is a Masurat College senior.
Reflections on freshman year: Take your advice, new kids at Rice

Throw away the résumé and work for yourself

Bear with our tenacious Willy Wonka allogy

A few hours past my bedtime last Friday, I received the call of duty to write something profound and scholarly for the Thresher's opinion page. After a monosyllabic acceptance, I returned to my previous activity, which is to the Family Guy episode "Panted Tal- ents" within the 2005 production of Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, a personal childhood favorite.

Only recently had I tentatively ventured out to watch this episode standing Johnny Deep, entitled Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, a production more representative of Roald Dahl's and Tim Burton's eccentricity. This new factory was not as much of a "world of pure imagination" as a manifestation of Willy Wonka's quirky dementia and childhood trauma. I was some- what horrified to find the heartwarming, numbers "We Got a Golden Ticket" and "Pure Imagination" replaced by perpetually frowning, closed Oompa Loompas with creepy symphonic wizis and shiny feather. Then I realized that this dichotomy between the 1971 and 2005 productions could be resolved by having an unreliably old, my beloved Rice University.

For new and returning students, I encourage you to embrace Rice with an attitude like [Gene] Wilder's when he introduces the Chocolate Room: "Inside this room, all my dreams become realities."

There are many directions I could go with this analysis, I could ponder other famous personalities who would make terrible Willy Wonka's, like Arnold Schwarzenegger or Jon Stewart. I could conceivable or contrive some negative implications, like the promised lifetime supply of chocolate after graduation or the harmless and hyped-up ads process with very limited "golden tickets" to enter Rice. I could make more allusions to Family Guy, because referencing something known to be funny is the same thing as being funny.

Instead, I'll just quote the movie's tagline: "Inside the door, it's a wondrous point. That's why it's candy." That pretty much sums up the past 1000 or so words, doesn't it?

Matt Dunn is a Matorial College sophomore.

Someone sing the song

Expressions of a single religious belief in the civic sphere - panic at the gospels, panic in the temples, panic at the monuments outside court- houses, government substi- tution of parochial schools (bureaucrats) - cre- ate a culture of exclusion and risk relegating be- lievers of non-sponsored religion to the margins of society. The July bombings in London, to which I

The Backpage is satire published each Friday during the school year. For the factual content of any ad. Printing and screams into a future that we refuse to acknowledge, instead of facing the present. This truth is not new to the world; it is the same reason the founding fathers deliberately avoided defining religion in the constitution. They were trying to avoid the religiously motivated wars that wracked Eu- rope in the 17th and 18th centuries, a time when America's founding

The real issue is not religious symbolism - like religious monuments and current events - but an actual absence, and we should not be surprised to find that young people today are not interested in religious issues.

A very specifically conservatively gnostic guide. It's a serious problem we need to face.

Recently President Bush called for the teaching of religious studies in public schools. A good argument against state sponsorship of same-sex marriage. Every argument against state sponsorship of same-sex marriage at the world level or in the role of religious syncretization - hating religions of heterosexual unions - is a way of putting God beneath the state. It is worth noting that such a great example is putting God beneath the state. It is worth noting that such a great magnifying glass, a tool of great power. The course catalog offers hundreds of opportunities to sample, especially during your freshman year. Sometimes your dreams of making it in electrical engineering will become realities; often, that reality becomes a dream. Just take precautions to avoid the subterranean sewage tunnels, because you will know what fell old Augustus Gloop as he was carried away by the river's force.

This controversial figure Willy Wonka also has a metaphorical connection to Rice, in the form of President David Leoness. Rather than view the president as the "factory" in the style of Johnny Depp's Wonka - a troubled man burdened by his traumatic past at other institutions - we should endeavor to see Leoness as a fictional character. Willy

Amen Grawert is a Lovett College senior and the Undergraduate Vice President and Event Coordinator for Student Services of Rice.

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper at Rice University since 1915, is published each Friday during the school year, even during exam periods and holidays, by the students of Rice University.

Editorial and business offices are located in the student center, Myriam Student Center, 6150 Main St. Box 1509, Houston, TX 77251. Phone: 713.977.3238. E-mail: Thresher@rice.edu. Web page: www.rice.edu/thresher.

Annual subscription rate: $20 domestic, $32 international. Nonsubscription rate: free. For new and returning students, I encourage you to embrace Rice with an attitude like [Gene] Wilder's when he introduces the Chocolate Room: "Inside this room, all my dreams become realities."

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SA to host picnic Thursday

by David Brown

Sunny the Owl (the inflatable one) will make a rare daytime appearance at 4 p.m. Thursday in Founder's Court to host a campus-wide party featuring music, food and ST T-shirts.

"Simmy's Picnic," organized by Student Association President James Lloyd, is one of several new SA initiatives beginning this fall. "True Blue" is a yearlong student campaign to be launched at the picnic, and "Hedge-hopper," already in place, is a red, in-a-box signed student discount program replacing the Silver Swear card.

Lloyd said he worked to plan the picnic because he thought there were too few campus-wide events during the fall semester and because he wanted to build campus-wide spirit.

Lloyd said Founder's Court, although rarely used for events, is ideal for a picnic.

Lloyd said the main difference between the Silver Swear card and Hedge-hopper program is that students will now show a Rice ID rather than a separate card. Currently Hedge-hopper features 29 shops and restaurants, fewer than last year, but Lloyd said that without requiring a separate card, the SA can add discounts throughout the year.

Information on the discounts is being distributed along with the slogan "To Rice be true" on the back — will boost Rice spirit.

"I felt there needed to be a little more energy and concentrated focus on a clear and concise message about the SA to host picnic Thursday

BOOKSTORE

From page 1

orders were on the shelves, although late orders from professors were still coming in, Morton said.

"It seems like [the store] is going to be much more customer service-oriented in terms of its hours," Lloyd Rockwell, Director, Student and Recreation Centers

The BOOKSTORE will carry faculty-authored books, bargain books, reference books and the top 10 books on the national best-seller list.

Rice decided to contract with Barnes & Noble in anticipation of the creation of a large bookstore in the upcoming collaborative research center with the Texas Medical Center institutions, he said at the intersection of University Blvd. and Main St.

"The challenge we have to maintain a large academic bookstore in that Rice doesn't have, in-town enough business to support a large academic bookstore, like Harvard or Yale or Princeton... but in the collaborative research center that store could be built because it would also serve the entire community," Binford said.

Binford said the bookstore has gone on since the 1990s because in its current location, the store has been too small and has not offered enough academic titles.

In the estimated five years before the bookstore moves into the research center, Barnes & Noble will be able to become acquainted with Rice and help Rice plan for the new facility, Binford said.

"In that period of one to two years, the company will have to deliver a high quality of customer service in order to submit a competitive bid to run the larger store," Binford said.

"ThePrivately held company shares resources with its publicly traded Barnes & Noble Inc. affiliation, Binford said.

BOOKSTORE HOURS DURING FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES

8/22: 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.
8/26: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
8/27: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
8/28: Closed

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Meets T-TH 4:00-5:30
Fall Semester - 10 Weeks

Many decisions in industry and government involve technical issues. Scientists and engineers can therefore lead their companies and communities to wise decisions through excellent written and oral communication.

Leadership Communication for Scientists and Engineers has been designed as a feasible addition to a busy engineering or science student's schedule. This two-credit course is presented in the first ten weeks of the semester.

Instructor: Dr. Linda Driskill

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713-346 HELP (4357)
Coffeehouse redesigned by Risa Gordon

The James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy is now including Energy, Health Economics, U.S. Foreign and Domestic Policy, Tax Reform, Science and Technology, and we hope people understand," said David Meeker, Pub General Manager.

"We’re hoping to have enough events and more stuff going on at the Pub on a regular basis (to make it) just a good place to be even if you’re not smoking," he said.

Meeker said the Pub also plans to bring in new food, such as hot dogs and jalapeno poppers by Sept. 18. Cooking and preparation methods have also been improved to increase food quality for the cafe and plants already offered.

Meeker said: "If he gets lots of requests for anything, he’ll figure out a way to get it on the menu." He added that the operation is running smoothly, and people should feel free to let him know what they think.

Smoothie King, which currently occupies a space in Sammy’s Cafe, will expand its smoothie selections and add retail products, such as nutrition and energy bars, Smoothie King will be closed beginning Aug. 20, and whatever is left will be moved to the new location, Alfonso said.

Ditman said Sammy's has extended hours until 13th Street opens, and Rice Catering will sell bag lunches in front of the Rice Bookstore until about the same time. Ditman said Housing and Dining has not decided what to put in Smoothie King's space, although a pizza parlor with wraps and pasta salads has been discussed.

Alfonso signed a multi-year contract with one-year contract extension options to operate the space formerly occupied by Subway. Rice receives a percentage of total sales, as well as a percentage of gross sales, Ditman said. The contract is not designed for Rice to earn a significant net profit, Ditman said. The money that is earned will probably be used to improve the operation in the future, he said. The revenue Rice earned from the operation of the Subway franchise was used to fund the renovation of 13th Street's space, Ditman said.

Check out these courses in the History Department this Fall.

FRENCH REVOLUTION: HISTORIES AND LEGACIES
FRESHMAN SEMINAR: THE FRENCH REVOLUTION: HISTORIES AND LEGACIES Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

HIST 165/FSEM 165, G. Daniel Cohen

HIST 352/WGST 353, Kerry Ward

Bake a recessionist program

The James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy is now accepting applications for the fall 2005 semester. This is your chance to work directly with Institute Fellows and Rice faculty on exciting areas of research including Energy, Health Economics, U.S. Foreign and Domestic Policy, Tax Reform, Science and Technology, Chinese Culture, and the Americas Project. Interns will work up to 10 hours/week - the work may involve research, writing, editing, and office work including copying, filing, etc.

Applicants must provide the following:
- Application letter stating areas of interest
- Resume
- Official Transcripts
- One Letter of Recommendation

Applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

Completed applications should be addressed to: Baker Institute Student Intern Program, Attention Jason Lyons, Student Recruitment Coordinator, Baker Institute MS-40.

Questions may be sent to jelyons@alumni.rice.edu
CAREER SERVICES CENTER

SENIOR ORIENTATION SESSIONS
All seniors participating in the on-campus employment recruiting process are required to attend one Senior Orientation session during the first week of classes.

Wednesday, August 24: 4 pm and 7 pm
Thursday, August 25: 4 pm and 7 pm
FARNSWORTH PAVILION, Student Center

Attendees will also receive a list of CSC workshops, participants for the Rice Career Expo and an up-to-date list of organizations conducting on-campus interviews and presentations, along with a copy of the "Beyond the Hedges Guide" and a student planner.

WASHINGTON DC INTERNSHIP NETWORKING TRIP
Midterm recess (October 9-12)
The Washington DC Internship Networking Trip is sponsored by Career Services and the Office of Student Media. There are two tracks: government opportunities and media/publishing.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Thursday, September 1, 4 pm
Career Services Conference Room, 2nd floor, Student Center
All undergraduate & graduate students welcome

RICE CAREER EXPO
Friday, September 9
1 – 5 pm
Autry Court

HTTP://CAREERS.RICE.EDU
### Jones School building named for McNairs

**by Nathan Black**

The building housing the JSJ School of Management has been named after two Rice’s largest individual donors. The Board of Trustees named the building James and Robert McNair Hall during their May meeting. The McNairs donated $17.5 million to the business school in 1999 — was in line with his vision of the school.

"We're honored by the McNairs' naming of this building," Whitaker said. "They've worked tirelessly on naming the building with great caution, because I was afraid they were going to的名字, Whitaker said. "They're very modest people."

"Honoring [Robert McNair] honors us more than it does him because his leadership in the community has been so profound." — Gil Whitaker

Former Jones School Dean

Whitaker said he thought the McNairs would make a great namesake because of their donations to the building's construction and their standing in the Houston community.

"Honoring [Robert McNair] honors us more than it does him because his leadership in the community has been so profound," Whitaker said. McNair said when he was a trustee, the board felt that the school needed to grow in order to be of higher quality. He saw the new building as a necessary step toward increasing the Jones School's enrollment and faculty size.

Current Jones School Dean William Glick said Robert McNair's entrepreneurship — McNair founded an energy company and sold it to Enron in 1989 — was in line with his vision of the school.

"The McNairs have been able to identify the next industry to really grow and do well," Glick said. "That is exactly where we see the Jones School going."

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### OPEN CLASS TIMES

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<tr>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>MDST 201 The History of Philosophy I 11 MWF Donald Morrison</td>
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commerce in two local hands. The committee, made up of a group of students, faculty and staff, also designed BOB to compete with the "Dis-Orientation" party tomorrow night.

The committee planned BOB as part of a campaign called "Real Rice," to communicate that many students on campus do not drink.

"I knew I would have more college interaction, but I didn't know we could have sister groups and I didn't know the fireworks show was something I could do. I didn't know it was something I could initiate with the help of 20 other people."

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**Passport to Houston expanded**

by David Brown

Entering its sophomore year, the Passport to Houston now offers more freebies and discounts, an expanded Web site and three special Passport events planned for the fall. Students can also continue to ride the METRORail and buses for free with the Passport's U.Pas.

In addition to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Rice students can now gain free admission to the Houston Zoo and the Houston Museum of Natural Science's general exhibits and its Cockrell Butterfly Center.

The following venues will offer discounts for Rice students: the Natural Science Museum's IMAX (84 tickets) and Burke Baker Planetarium (83 tickets), Main Street Theater (510 tickets), Wavelength Symphonies (88 tickets) and Da Camera of Houston (53 tickets).

Modeled after the Passport's inaugural event at the MFAH in the spring, an Aug. 20 event at the Natural History Museum will offer free food and a free IMAX movie (Mysteries of the Nile). On Sept. 15, students can see Beethoven's Fifth Symphony performed by the Houston Symphony Orchestra with one of 200 free tickets or $8 discounted tickets.

Beginning Sept. 22, the committee planned BOB to compete with the "Dis-Orientation" party. The committee planned BOB to compete with the "Dis-Orientation" party.

The committee planned BOB as part of a campaign called "Real Rice," to communicate that many students on campus do not drink.

"I knew I would have more college interaction, but I didn't know we could have sister groups and I didn't know the fireworks show was something I could do. I didn't know it was something I could initiate with the help of 20 other people."

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**Stepping Stones is the answer!**

Stepping Stones is an exceptional educational opportunity for interfaith families who are not affiliated with a synagogue. Stepping Stones is an integrated learning opportunity for both the children and the parents of interfaith families.

For more information, call 713.728.3200

Rabbi Eve Ben-Ora, Director
ebenora@jcchouston.org

Barbara Shepard, Program Director
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Underwritten by a grant from the Houston Jewish Community Foundation.

**Come Worship with Us!**

**All are welcome!**

Sundays 5:00 pm

Autry House (across Main St. from Lovett)

Free dinner afterwards!

Contact: Kira Austin-Young (kirasing@rice.edu) or the Rev'd Mark Crawford (mercrawford@palmerchurch.org) for more information
These circumstances are, these are books that were clearly unacceptable because the original work was done but not submitted. It was never stated that you had to submit the notebooks, but we all thought that we were getting assignments that we had to work on in the project.

"Art is subjective, but there's also a certain level of work, and you don't have to be a Picasso to make an A."

Karyn Tannahill
W'eeks College Junior

Tannahill was fired, his assistant, a senior, thought that students were justified in not being graded on their work. "I listened to students and they were very enraged, but I realized the grading was very fair," Brauer said. "Most of the complaints were that there were so many Cs, but if they did average work, they got an average grade. Some did only six pages of a 160-page sketchbook, and many really hadn't started the sketchbook until the night before it was due." More than 30 students submitted their sketchbooks for regrading, and six of their grades were changed.

Tannahill said the grading was mostly fair. "It was a no-fuss situation, but there's also a certain level of work, and you don't have to be a Picasso to make an A." Tannahill said. "They really didn't do a very good job, and they used the excuse that Dr. Brauer wasn't specific enough as an excuse for their lack of work." Rotheray said she was pleased with the committee's decision. "The professor had something in his mind that he expected, but he didn't voice it, which is why [most students] received Cs," she said. "I'm happy with what happened -- possible ground between teachers and students."
Welcome new and returning students!

Welcome new and returning students!

RICE RECREATION CENTER

www.rice.edu/recreation

Operating Hours*
Mon. - Thurs. 6 a.m. - Midnight
Friday 6 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday Noon - 10 p.m.

Check our website for pool hours.
*Operating Hours are subject to change. See our websites for recess and holiday hours.

Open House
8 am - 8 pm,
Wednesday, August 31st

We may not have a new facility yet, but we do have 13 new pieces of Star Trac cardio equipment and 13 new pieces of Cybex strength equipment. Come try it out and receive information on our upcoming programs and student employment opportunities. Refreshments will be available in the Recreation Center Lobby. Bring your ID to swipe at the Operations Desk and receive a raffle ticket for one of the prizes below.

$250 in Tetra Points
Group Fitness Passes
Swim Lessons
Personal Training Session
Special Events Pass
“Classic” Rice Gym Uniform
Rice Dance Theatre Concert Tickets

You do not need to be present to win.

Need a flexible, fun job?
We are currently looking for students to fill the following positions:

Intramural Sports Officials
(No experience or certifications required, we train you)
Attend a general session Sept. 8th or 14th at 5 pm in the Gym and then attend one of the following sport-specific training sessions:
Football- Sept. 8th 6:00pm
Basketball- Sept. 13th 6:30pm
Volleyball- Sept. 13th 5:00pm
Soccer- Sept. 14th 6:00pm
For more information, contact Evan at x2739 or ims@rice.edu.

Group Fitness Leaders & Fitness Specialists
Get paid to lead fitness classes in a safe and proper manner. We provide training and assist in the certification process. Contact Heather at x5765 or heatherh@rice.edu.

Facility Managers & Attendants
Contact Sean Towery at x4069 or towery@rice.edu.

Operations Assistants
Contact Dierdre Joseph at x4036 or deedea@rice.edu.

Lifeguards and Aquatic Instructors
(must have current certification)
Contact Liz Harwood at x4742 or harwood@rice.edu.

Job descriptions and applications are available in the “Employment” section of our website, or you can stop by the Recreation Center Operations Desk for an application.

The Student Center also needs:
Building Managers
Information Desk Assistants
Technical Assistants
and a Webmaster

Job descriptions and applications are available in the “Employment” section of our website, or you can stop by the Information Desk for an application.

Applications must be submitted by Wednesday, August 24th and applicants must be able to attend a Student Center All-Employee Training from 9:30 am - 2:30 pm on Saturday, August 27th.

The Coffeehouse and Willy’s Pub are managed and staffed by students. Join the team!

Keepers of Coffee
(openers 8am-10am & closers 10pm-12:30am needed)

Daytime Bartenders
(Work Study Required)

The Student Center also needs:
Building Managers
Information Desk Assistants
Technical Assistants
and a Webmaster

Job descriptions and applications are available in the “Employment” section of our website, or you can stop by the Information Desk for an application.
Freshman enrollment similar to previous years

by Rice Gordon

For the third consecutive year, the number of students matriculated in a 30 percent higher than last year's freshman class. The yield of freshmen was 40 percent, a decrease from last year's 49 percent, and the overall percentage of students matriculating is a return to Rice's typical class gender breakdown.

"Texas is our home state and always will be the most important. But we are a national university, and we don't want to be just a regional place in terms of students," — Ann Wright, Vice president for enrollment

After a 52 percent female class matriculated last year, and 53 percent female class did so in 2009, the Class of 2010 was 47 percent female. Vice President for Enrollment Ann Wright said the reduction in female matriculants is a return to Rice's typical class gender breakdown.

"There's the stereotype that Rice is still very strongly known as a math, science, engineering, and there are more males in those majors," Wright said. The overall percentage of students offered admission who chose to attend Rice — the yield — was 37 percent, a decrease from last year's yield of 40 percent.

The number of Hispanic students in the Class of 2009 is the largest in Rice's history. Wright said: More than 1,800 Hispanic students applied to Rice and were offered admission. At last year's yield of 37 percent, a decrease from last year's 49 percent, and the overall percentage of students matriculating is a return to Rice's Class of 2008, 50 Hispanic students — 10 students matriculated. The number of black matriculants was identical to last year — 50 students.

Admissions Survey

An unwillingness to attend college in Houston was the most common reason high school seniors who did not apply to Rice reported in a February survey. 1,554 students survived 10,573 applications but ultimately failed to return them.

The Office of Admissions, the Office of Public Affairs and the President's Office are making efforts to publicize Rice to students outside of Texas, Vice President for Undergraduate Enrollment Ann Wright said. The President's Office and the Admissions Office plan to target the East and West coasts, as well as other major cities, Wright said.

Class of 2009 matriculants from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York tripled after President David Leebron made presentations to high school guidance counselors in those states, Wright said.

Since Rice is the only school in Texas with a 1,000-mile radius, students do not usually visit Rice in conjunction with any other school, Wright said. Students are much more likely to matriculate at Rice if they visit the campus, Wright said. There are plans to hold a new spring program on campus, in addition to Vision and Owl Weekends, for high school counselors and high-ability prospective students, Wright said.

WHERE DID THEY GO?
The following is a list of the 53 schools students declining offers of admission from Rice are most likely to attend:

- Stanford University
- Duke University
- University of Texas at Austin
- Stanford University
- University of Southern California
- Rice University
- Northwestern University
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of California at Berkeley
- University of California at Los Angeles

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Visit us at <http://admissions.rice.edu>

New Courses for Fall 2005

Department of French Studies

FRK 221 Problems in Contemporary French Society

This course aims to give students an understanding of French Civilization through exploration of the social, cultural, and political issues that define France today. Course will be taught in English. Instructor: Julie Fette

FRK 221 Introduction to French Society & Culture

This course provides grounding in social, political, cultural, and economic aspects of contemporary France. The course will focus on themes such as youth culture, Europeanization, immigration, and role of women. The course aims to prepare students for advanced French Study courses in cultural studies. Instructor: Julie Fette

Visit us at <http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~fr-en> for additional course information.

THINK ABOUT YOUR SAFETY!

Think about your safety when walking in that dark parking lot or late at night on campus.

We offer a full line of pepper sprays, stun guns, mace, alarms and other personal security items. Call or e-mail NOW for a free catalog!

Ray Court outside the RMC
5:30-7pm
Free Burgers
Free Drinks
Bumpin Music

Find out more about some of the different Christian ministries on campus.

Sponsored by RUF, CRU, Intervarsity, BSM, Impact, CSA
UPGRADES ALLOW FOR E-MAIL ALIASES

About to meet a grad school professor? Leave your e-mail address as <first.middleinitial.last four digits of your student ID>@rice.edu or <first.middleinitial.last four digits of your student ID>@staff.rice.edu. These addresses will allow you to set up at least one additional e-mail address, allowing you and others to receive messages at that address as well. Also, </first.middleinitial.last four digits of your student ID>@rice.edu has been added in September.

The library's collections have been reviewed, a sign that the library is considering the needs of its users. In the past, the library has not sent out e-mail notifications about what new materials are available, and the patrons, "Pecht said. "We're going to be in the same place, but rather than send e-mail, we'll post the information about new materials on our Web site."

The reference desk is near the north side of the first floor. The circulation desk will eventually be moved near a new entrance on the west side of Fondren.

IT upgrades allow for e-mail aliases

...finding the lowest prices on average textbooks...

Also, IT is now using "DSpam," a software tool developed by Rice University's Department of Computer Science, to block spam. The system is now capable of blocking 98 percent of the spam messages it screens.

The Woodson's book collection, residential college records, departmental records, and other material related to Rice's history will be available on the north floor. Pecht said some archives from the Woodson — especially information and photographs related to Rice and the surrounding community — will remain accessible to students.

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ORIENTATION WEEK

Above left: Brown College prepares for Jello Scoot, a mock Beer-Bike event held during Orientation Week. Above right: new students at Sid Richardson and Martel colleges try to be the last one standing with an intact balloon. Left: An incoming Hanszen College student attempts to throw a fish into a bucket as part of O-Week activities. Below: Members of Jones College cheer against other colleges as they line up outside Alice Pratt Brown Hall before the faculty address Monday.
Forman encourages matriculants to do research as undergrads

Almost 800 newly-arrived students and their O-Week advisors filed into Stude Concert Hall Sunday night to hear four speakers' advice. The students then made a fireworks-decorated procession through the Sall pat. President David Leebron, first to speak, began by defining the word "matriculation." "It does not mean merely to be 'in' — rather, it means the official admission to membership," Leebron said. "This ceremony celebrates the new beginning of your time at the institution, but rather your becoming a member of the community."

Leebron told stories about historically seeing his college roommate in Philadelphia last year and about speaking with Rice alumni in China this summer. "Today you join a community," Leebron said to the new students.

Students should pursue a broad range of experiences while at Rice, Leebron said. "If you start finding your experience here entirely comfortable, you're doing something wrong," Leebron said. "Now is the time to try new things. Take an art class, even though nothing not expressed in numbers starts to give you a dive. Play intramural or club sport, even if you aren't very coordinated. Speak up, even if you are shy." Leebron said the colleges are a supportive environment that allow for exploration. "There is something so special during these years; you will cherish and build upon it for your entire life," Leebron said.

Forman began his speech by asking what makes students succeed. "But the primary goal is not for you to succeed at Rice — the primary goal is for you to succeed after Rice," Forman said. "Put yourself in a position (so that) when you graduate, you're ready to make an impact on the world, on your profession, on your community."

Forman encouraged all undergraduate students to get involved in research projects. "It is by doing research that you really learn how to use that knowledge and the limits of that knowledge," Forman said. "I believe that research is for everyone. Getting involved is not just for scientists, not just for people planning to go to graduate school, not just for people planning to be professors. Getting involved in research is an experience that changes you ... and prepares you to lead a more rewarding life."

Forman told stories about Ben Franklin and Leonardo da Vinci and said both were fundamentally researchers. Forman concluded by introducing the academic dean, who were seated behind him.

Next, Student Association President James Lloyd also advised freshmen to branch out. He started by asking students to name the best residential college, the best university. Lloyd, a Brown College senior, encouraged the new students to think about their personal goals. "Who do you want to be?" Lloyd asked. "Unlike 'What do you want to do?' this question is not based on standardized test scores, nagging from your parents, trends in employment rates or how you answered "Who do you want to be?" is completely up to you — it is answered through your actions, your words, thoughts and dreams."

Lloyd said coming to college allows students to remake themselves. "If you start finding your experience here entirely comfortable, you're doing something wrong."

"No one but yourself knows who you were yesterday, and no one but yourself knows who you want to be tomorrow. Lloyd said. "You have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become whoever you want to be."

The ceremony's final speaker, Association of Rice Alumni President Jeffrey Rose (Will Rice 77), a corporate-attorney at Lark Rose, said: "My being here today is good enough — if you didn't believe it already — that should come true and miracles are real." Rose said the new students already share a bond with the members of the Association of Rice Alumni. "As students here, we loved Rice ... most of the time," Rose said. "Most days were great, but it was challenging, but it was fun."

Faculty addresses

In his faculty address Monday, English Professor Lucille Fultz took students on a whirlwind tour of the Rice experience. "You're going to observe your four-year growth spurt in 30 short minutes," Fultz said to the Stude Concert Hall audience. Fultz began with the widespread march through the Sall pat new students experienced at matriculation Sunday night. "I want you to imagine this campus as a kind of Eden ... a place where you are able to think freely and openly, where you are temporarily removed from the stresses of worldly responsibilities while simultaneously preparing to assume those responsibilities," Fultz said.

Fultz cautioned the students not to focus too narrowly on their field of study as juniors. "Don't avoid courses because you feel they have nothing to offer you because you're majoring in a certain discipline or because they seem out of step with current issues," she said. "Wouldn't it be exciting to learn from Professor Smalley what ancient scientists inform the world? ... You may find some kindship between those of Bach and the Beatles."

Offering advice for the senior year, Fultz gave "Sixteen Don'ts" for College Life, including "Don't circulate a petition without reading it, "Don't extend the life of a rumor for exploration."

Fultz said the new students that they will be ready for the east ward march out the Sall pat by May 2009. "You will be a fine person — one prepared to take risks," Fultz said. At the end of her address, Fultz said the students will be ready to leave.
Above: New students dance on the tables at the Orientation Week Luau in the Brown College Commons Tuesday. Right: Two incoming students dance at the all-campus party, held Monday night in the Wiess Auditorium.

Get published.

the Rice Thresher
recruiting meeting

Thursday, August 25 at 9 p.m.
Miner Lounge in the Student Center

Contact Amber Obermeyer at thresher@rice.edu for more information.

EXPRESS YOUR TRUE BLUE

It’s about being true to Rice.
It’s about what makes Rice special.
It’s unique. It’s about you. It’s about us.

TrueBlue presented by the SA is a whole year of special programs to celebrate the spirit of Rice.

Special Edition TrueBlue shirts will become available at Sammy's Picnic for $5

Sponsored by
Rice Athletics & Rice Alumni

RICE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Get ready for all new programs, events, and initiatives.
- Leading in service to Rice -

Food, Music, Friends, & Fun
Thursday, August 25, 6:00-7:30
Founder's Court (In front of Sallyport)

The Student Association is proud to present Sammy's Picnic, a university-wide kick-off to the school year. The picnic will be a chance to reconnect with friends, meet new ones, and celebrate the Spirit of Rice.

All college dining facilities will be closed for the event.
Leebron wrote that Rice's comparative advantages lie in its size, its commitment to excellence in education, its identification of focused areas of strength, its commitment to undergraduate education and study and to excellence in research.

"Research universities require a substantial infrastructure, and that infrastructure is subject to certain economies of scale," Leebron wrote. "Certain departments must grow if they are to achieve a national reputation, and certain areas need important areas of teaching and research in which Rice must participate if it is to be competitive. To draw a national student body, we must also be able to attract employees from all over the country.

If Rice grew to about 3,000-3,500 undergraduates, it would still be small compared to its competitors," Leebron wrote.

Such expansion would require much upgrading of facilities, including new colleges and possibly of campus buildings, Leebron wrote.

Leebron also wrote that graduate programs must grow in order to achieve prominence.

"A basic principle is that we would need approximately 500 to 800 additional graduate students," Leebron wrote.

While in the midst of this growth, Rice must maintain its identity as a small student body and build more facilities, including more living space and undergraduate housing, Leebron wrote.

In a section devoted to the "undergraduate experience," Leebron wrote that Rice is unique in the quality of education it offers, and that it must continue to attract top undergraduates from the nation. "We should remain a distinctively different kind of university," Leebron wrote. "We should serve as a model for other institutions, and we should expand our portfolio of students, especially in the sciences and humanities, in order to attract the best students. Graduate students must also have more teaching opportunities, and the administration should become better facilitators for academic jobs," he wrote.

"We must ensure that these opportunities are provided in a manner consistent with the character of Rice's undergraduate environment, namely that the university be a community of work that is taught by faculty members," Leebron wrote.

Leebron also asked about the relationship between graduate and undergraduate students outside of the classroom.

"There can be other integrative bridges between our graduate and undergraduate populations," Leebron wrote. "Our graduate students have been, for example, largely excluded from participating in the life of the college, even though such participation was envisioned as part of the original plan."

Leebron asked whether Rice should be committed to a holistic education.

"First, we educate the whole person," Leebron wrote. "Second, we develop the skills of the class room.

"Third, we set standards for the education of graduate and undergraduate students. We must recognize the distinctiveness of education in architecture, engineering and music, and we must, at the same time, develop common standards for a liberal arts education.

"The academic, research and public service opportunities need to be expanded, Leebron wrote. "We must be willing to discuss the challenges and opportunities we confront to make decisions and achieve a liberal arts education."
ENFORCEMENT

From page 1

In the presentation, Taylor said, officers stress that they do not go into private areas unless someone has a legitimate complaint.

Outlined said he is trying to communicate the change in practice via the chief justices. All chief justices attended a training session with Outlined last Wednesday, and during O-Week they have given presentations to their college's O-Week groups about the Alcohol Policy.

Hanszen College Chief Justice Annette Gill said the chief justices are telling freshmen that if they choose to drink, they are breaking the law as well as the Rice Alcohol Policy and could face disciplinary consequences that could affect their lives beyond graduation.

"I think a lot of these were scrapped," Gelman said.

Tilden said that, while the administration went forward with changing the policy — most of which had been approved by ABPAC, Outlined said it also saw some of the recently approved revisions marked as a private party.

Written changes to the Alcohol Policy include renaming private parties "gatherings," additional reminders that violations are punishable under the Code of Student Conduct, the addition of bookrooms to the list of public spaces and the specification that colleges use either large or extra-large numbers of private gatherings to circumvent the public party provisions may be fined $2,500.

Gelman said the way private parties have run at Rice recently is a "parties" as private "gatherings," administrative revision to the policy.

"I think that the code did not envision what we were doing," Outlined said.

"I think our officers feel strongly that if we can have chief justices handle it, the objective is for us to be able to handle it without becoming something more than it needs to be," Jennings said.

Outlined said that if we can have chief justices handle it, they are more likely to be able to handle it without becoming some more than it needs to be.

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Stein to end tenure as social sciences dean next summer

Hopes to spend this year fund raising for proposed new facility

by Nathan Black

Bob Stein has begun his third "last" year as dean of social sciences. Previously, Stein remained three years to serve as interim dean after David Leebron's presidency and promote Cornell's new social sciences building.

"It seemed more appropriate to saddle a new dean with that task," Stein, a political science professor, said.

A search committee for Stein's replacement — who will start in the 2006-07 academic year — will be formally announced soon, Provost Eugene Leebron said. He said members have already been selected for most positions.

Leebron said the committee will conduct a national search, but will also consider internal candidates.

"We will be looking for somebody who is ... intellectually entrepreneurial and entrepreneurial in other fashions," he said.

Student Association President James Lloyd said he submitted the hopes to spend this year fund raising for proposed new facility sciences dean next summer Stein to end tenure as social sciences dean next summer Steering committee has not yet been selected for most positions. Leebron said the committee will conduct a national search, but will also consider internal candidates.

"We will be looking for somebody who is ... intellectually entrepreneurial and entrepreneurial in other fashions," he said.

Student Association President James Lloyd said he submitted the names of potential undergraduate representatives to Leebron, and one should be announced next week. Since interested students were given a short amount of time to apply in the summer, Lloyd said he was pleased to receive 10 applications.

Stein will not teach POLI 332: Urban Politics this fall as originally planned. Stein said he had not anticipated the building's plans advancing so far along. Social sciences faculty member Stephanie Post will teach the course instead.

Stein said he will propose the new building to the Board of Trustees in September. If approved, he said he would spend the rest of the academic year fund raising.

Stein said he envisions a building with large lecture halls to allow more students to progress quickly through introductory courses and small classrooms conducive to collaborative undergraduate research.

"The building is driven by a different view of how we would teach undergraduates in the next 15 to 20 years," he said.

Stein said the building should also reflect the current nature of research.

"Collaborative research is such a big deal in the workforce, whether it's in business, industry, government or in the academy," he said. "This is still very much a 1970s kind of university in that regard, and we're got to change ... To do that requires a different kind of space."

Stein said Leebron's discussion of increasing undergraduate enrollment has added concern about current facilities.

"We are badly under spaced [literally]," Stein said. "We're going to see an enormous growth [of female] most increased, and we can't sustain it with the facilities that we have. But more importantly, I don't think we can sustain it with the kind of teaching and research we want to do."

Stein said the ideal site for the new building would be between the Rice Memorial Center and Herring Hall, but he said other sites are also being considered.

Stein said his successor, who he believes will come from outside the university, will have the challenge of increasing institutional and gender diversity among the faculty.

"We're barely at 20 percent female faculty when our projections are 50 percent female," Stein said. "Whatever efforts I've made have just not been sufficient and neither have the departments."

Stein plans to remain political science professor at Rice next year.
Some have argued that people who completely dedicate themselves to God are weak.

Interestingly, the Bible says this: "Isn't it obvious that God deliberately chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these 'nobodies' to expose the hollow pretensions of the 'somebodies'?" (1 Cor 1:27, 28 Message). Therefore, if you have been overlooked, abused or exploited, though the world may neglect you, God deliberately seeks you. I'd like to tell you more about God, who, through Jesus Christ, graciously sought me.

See www.jmtour.com and click on Personal Statement

Virgin’’ makes for slap-happy good time

Elizabeth Mims

Movie over Wedding Crashers. There are hundreds of comedy in theaters. The solid combination of good old American raunchiness and a believable love story makes The 40 Year-Old Virgin multi-dimensional and well-constructed — which most R-rated comedies are not.

Steve Carell, most recognized for his work on television shows The Daily Show and The Office and the recent film Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy, is the key to the film's success. Carell strikes gold as Andy Sittter, a middle-aged man who has never been with a woman and repays action figures in his spare time.

The plot is genius and the title alone is reason to giggle. But Carell and director Judd Apatow, who created the brilliant but cancelled series Undeclared as well as FACS and Geeks, have co-written the script so that it steers away from pure gymnastics, growing out of more American Pie-style humor and into the web-rounded story with heart. The characters are wholly fleshed out and played by a strong supporting cast including Anchorman's Paul Rudd, Domenech's John Travolta and White Boy's Rainn Wilson.

They realize Carell is a virgin when he likes a woman's breast in a bag filled with sand. The guys take Andy under their wings, desperate to find a dirty girl to break his处女. They try everything to get innocent Andy a night with a loose lady, including forcing him to wax his chest. Andy even tries the epitome of contemporary yuppy mating rituals — speed dating.

Yet all he really wants is one woman for the rest of his life. Eventually, he falls for Trish (angry John Malkovich's Catherine Keener), a single mother of three who works in the building next door. It seems Trish has fallen for him, but obvious hurdles must be cleared — like putting on a condom correctly — before things between them can ignite.

A mixed bag of raunchy jokes and humiliating situations, The 40 Year-Old Virgin is a charmingly imperfect final product. What keeps this comedy fresh is the reality of these characters — they bounce off each other like missed targets, each catch shot better than the last.

After meeting Andy and his inflatable collection of original X-Men in their unopened boxes and learning he watches Star Trek with the elderly couple upstairs, he quickly becomes a lovable loser every audience member wants to see win. And Carell is just the brilliantly humiliating actor to keep us routed for him.

Although Carell shines in the lead role, he cannot fully compensate for the film's lack of solid comic timing and occasional long-winded joke.

Ultimately, The 40 Year-Old Virgin delivers a clever message pertaining less to sexual history and habits and more to living life. Audiences will both laugh hard and feel good — not guilty. Thanks to Apatow's attention to detail and character this movie is gifted far, leaving its mark on comedies in the spirit of Dumb and Dumber in the dust.

In haunted mansion, even the ‘Skeleton’ looks bored

In The Skeleton Key, directed by Iain Softley, Caroline Ellis (Almost Famous' Kate Hudson) investigates the strange goings-on in a creepy Southern mansion.

In giving the film a mixed but positive review, The Rice Thresher said: "The 40 Year-Old Virgin is a charmingly imperfect final product. What keeps this comedy fresh is the reality of these characters — they bounce off each other like missed targets, each catch shot better than the last." This film is gifted far, leaving its mark on comedies in the spirit of Dumb and Dumber in the dust.

The Skeleton Key looks like a haunted house thriller. It takes place in a large mansion in rural Louisiana, complete with a ‘Keep Out’ sign on the driveway. Trees drop an unusually abundant amount of moss. Even a crocodile-infused bayou nearby, hostile, the mansion feels like the “Haunted House” ride at Disneyworld, complete with plenty of dark corridors and an attic that hides more than just family photo albums and last season’s Hudson.

The Skeleton Key focuses on the legacy of witchcraft in the gothic South — is strangled by a bordello looking across the pines.

Hudson plays Caroline Ellis, a hospice worker who is seduced by a businesswoman (out of five) of death in hospitals who decides to take a dirt car trip in mouse outside of New Orleans. There, she cares for Ben (Ben Foster), the victim of an apparent stroke. Her boss is Ben's steady wife Violet, played with refreshing gusto by The Notebook's Rachel McAdams. In the midst of their relationship, she begins to uncover the All of the mirrors have been stripped from the walls. The basement has a secret door. Ben is so terrified of his surroundings that he attempts to take his life. Director Iain Softley (K-Pax) mines a lot of suspense from this intriguing premise and makes great use of the setting. Just as he captured the intricacies of Henry James' Europe in The Wings of the Dove, here he immerses his camera in the musky house and its surrounding areas. One of the film's few achievements is that it "skeletone: page 22"
Misfires make for flop-yellow summer

I often wish I were a Hollywood insider. Just think of the mysteries I could solve. What is the secret to our favorite trivia? Let's say Lethal's shocking weight loss? What is the truth behind the Brad-Jen-Angelina triangle? Are Tom and Katie for real? OK, maybe I don't need to be an insider to figure it out. But I could point out why Hollywood's lackluster summer season.

With what feels like more high-budget flaps than any other year in recent memory, this summer has box office pundits scratching their heads. It is amazing what a pair of Daisy Dukes can do for someone utterly devoid of acting talent.

The Skeleton Key's disappointing start to its promised care-of-Louisiana thriller set in rural Louisiana. The Skeleton Key's directorial and genre choices might have been more appropriate for a Southern drama, does what he can with the thankless role. Even though the two films share only setting and genre, they prove the same point. Without a dynamic lead and genre in common, they prove that, without a dynamic lead, audiences simply do not care.

In summer, a Beautiful Mind's Ron Howard and Russell Crowe re-teamed and tried to make Cinderella Man a success. Not only did it have Crowe and Renee Zellweger above the title, it also received the critical praise that Kingdom of Heaven lacked. Surely this quality film, which I affectionately dubbed Fistbiscuit due to its underdog sports narrative and unabashed sentimentality, would quell audiences' restless desires. No. Opening with soft box office, the outlook was good. And then, without warning, nobody came. Maybe it was the tepid critical reaction. Maybe, although he is incredibly nice to look at, Bloom simply doesn't have the brains to headline an epic. In summer, a Beautiful Mind's Ron Howard and Russell Crowe re-teamed and tried to make Cinderella Man a success. Not only did it have Crowe and Renee Zellweger above the title, it also received the critical praise that Kingdom of Heaven lacked. Surely this quality film, which I affectionately dubbed Fistbiscuit due to its underdog sports narrative and unabashed sentimentality, would quell audiences' restless desires. No. Opening with soft box office, the outlook was good. And then, without warning, nobody came. Maybe it was the tepid critical reaction. Maybe, although he is incredibly nice to look at, Bloom simply doesn't have the brains to headline an epic.

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Today, the unexplained failure of Ridley Scott's Kingdom of Heaven. With an inexperienced cast brought in by the producers, the story was buried by the actors. That film, about a Southern spinster (Olivia de Havilland), provided a compelling setup played to the hilt by two of Hollywood's best actresses. Even though the two films share only setting and genre, they prove the same point. Without a dynamic lead and genre in common, they prove that, without a dynamic lead, audiences simply do not care.

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Owls lose to top-seeded Green Wave

by Matt McCabe

A year after suffering the biggest upset in NCAA Division I baseball tournament history — losing to Texas Southern University at home in the 2004 regional — the baseball team pulled off an upset itself, beating Louisiana State University at their famed home field, Alex Box Stadium in Baton Rouge, La., to win its June regional. The regional championship gave the Owls a super-regional berth in New Orleans, where they fell to top-ranked Tulane University in three games.

"We would have loved to go to Omaha," head coach Wayne Graham said. "It was a drastic turning of the middle that prevented it."

"We think we have the talent to be a major force in college baseball for the next two or three years."

Junior right-hander Lance Pendleton makes a relief appearance in Game two of Rice’s series against upset-minded Tulane in the NCAA super regional. The Owls would go on to lose the game 7-0 and lose the series to the Green Wave in three games. Pendleton was drafted by the New York Yankees in the fifth round of the Major League Baseball first-year player draft.

seven go to NCAA track championships

by Stephen Whitfield

After falling short of winning a third consecutive Western Athletic Conference outdoor title, seven members of the women’s track and field team competed in six events at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships held June 8-11 in Sacramento, Calif.

Junior Crystal Robinson was the most successful Owl at the NCAA meet, qualifying for the finals in the discus with a throw of 173 feet, 1 inch. The only Rice athlete to advance to the finals of any event, Robinson ambled out on a top-three finish in the finals by one inch, throwing 172-4.

Coach Jim Beam said Robinson’s performance was indicative of other impressive outdoor events, in which she broke the Rice record in the discus throw on three separate occasions.

"Crystal Robinson’s performance in the discus was stellar," Beam said. "She was out in front throughout the entire outdoor season; she came in seeded seventh and ended up finishing fourth.

All of these people are the best throwers in the United States, so [her finish] shows that she competed at a higher level than her peers across the board."

The first day of competition consisted mainly of preliminary rounds. Freshman Darrius Walwyn, junior Nina Mayes, junior Funmi Jimoh and sophomore Umeh finished in the top three in their events.

Walwyn was held back by injury, but Jimoh went on to break her own record in the pole vault, winning the USA Junior Championships on June 27 and taking the Pan American Junior Athletics Championships on Aug. 1.

Greff said she was pleased to make it through the regional meet but that her finish was disappointing.

"It was exciting to be one of the few to make it to the NCAA Championships," Greff said. "I just didn’t have my best.

All of the Rice athletes qualified for the NCAA Championships by virtue of their performances at the NCAA Midwest Regional Championships in Norman, Okla., May 27-28. Individuals finishing in the top five places of an event and relay teams finishing in the top three received automatic bids. At large berths were awarded to competitors who finished in the top eight of an event. The participating athletes were then selected according to their season-best mark in their event.

Robinson, Ume and Greff all received automatic berths.

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Robinson, Ume and Greff all received automatic berths.
Rice alumni Greg Williams named women’s basketball coach

by Amber Obermeyer

Dr. Greg Williams, a Rice alumnus, has been named the head women’s basketball coach.

Williams, who graduated from Rice University in 1985, has had a successful coaching career, serving as an assistant coach at the University of Houston and as a head coach at the University of Colorado.

He has also had experience in the professional ranks, coaching in the WNBA. Williams has been a head coach at every level of women’s basketball, from varsity to professional.

Williams has been a part of Rice University’s athletics department for many years, serving as an assistant coach for the women’s basketball team.

He has a deep understanding of what it takes to be successful in college basketball, and his experience at the highest levels of the sport will be invaluable as he leads the Owls.

Williams is a former Rice basketball player and has strong ties to the university, making him an attractive candidate for the job.

He has been involved in the search process and was recommended to the university by Cristy McKinney, the outgoing head coach.

McKinney resigned in April after leading the Owls to a national championship in 2006.

Steve Moniaci, chair of the search committee, said Williams was a natural fit for the job.

He inherited a team with 12 returning players and is looking forward to building a team that will have a lot better understanding of what goes on, especially at a place like Rice.

Williams is excited about the opportunity to lead Rice’s women’s basketball program.

He has a proven track record of success and is ready to take the Owls to the next level.

The Rice Thresher
just one earned run on four hits and three walks in 6.2 innings. Savery took the loss, despite giving up...

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BASEBALL

From page 23

was an unreasonable pressure to win the WAC, because if we didn't, the NCAA selection committee might not think we should be in the tournament. We're going to try and win Conference USA, but it's nice to know we have a good chance to be in the playoffs as long as we have a good year."

"But we're not going to win the WAC, because if we don't, that we have an excellent chance to be in the playoffs as long as we have a good year."

The Owls began their postseason run with a dramatic three-run performance against Northwestern State, scoring seven runs batted in. Degerman pitched the deciding game of the regional for the Owls, coming through with a solid six and a third-inning outing.

Degerman left the game with the score tied at four and gave way to Pendleton, whose fastball and breaking ball shutdown the Tigers. He faced just nine batters in the final two and two-thirds innings. In the top of the ninth, Pendleton set up the Owls, coming through with a solid six batters in the final two and two-thirds innings. In the top of the ninth, Pendleton set up the Owls, coming through with a solid six

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BY THE NUMBERS
June 3-13

BASEBALL

TULANE & RICE

2005 NCAA regional
Name (pos) AB R H Bl
Tulane
Pendleton rf 3 2 2 2 4
Dini c 3 1 1 0 3
Gill lb 3 1 1 0 1
C.Harris 2b 3 0 0 0 3
Lehman if 3 0 0 0 0
Miller rf 3 0 0 0 0
Delabatina 2b 3 1 1 0 1
Palermo If 3 0 0 0 0
Desclouds ss 3 1 1 0 1
Gomes cf 3 0 0 0 0
Arnold pr 1 0 0 0 0
5 0 1 0 0
Rice
Wise 2b 5 1 1 0 4
Buchanan 2b 4 0 0 0 1
Rodriguez ss 5 0 0 0 0
Hale If 4 1 1 0 3
Reagan c 4 0 0 0 0
Dodge 3b 3 0 0 0 3
Stavinoha rf 4 0 0 0 0
Dodson If 4 0 0 0 0
Pendleton rt-p 3 0 0 0 3
3 0 0 0 0
Totals 17 5 3 0
Score
Tulane 000 000 — 0 0 0
Rice 030 200 — 9 9 1
Louisiana State 000 100 060 — 7 12 3

RICE 5 LOUISIANA STATE 6
2005 NCAA regional
Name (pos) AB R H Bl
Tulane
Pendleton rf 3 2 2 2 4
Dini c 3 1 1 0 3
Gill lb 3 1 1 0 1
C.Harris 2b 3 0 0 0 3
Lehman if 3 0 0 0 0
Miller rf 3 0 0 0 0
Delabatina 2b 3 1 1 0 1
Palermo If 3 0 0 0 0
Desclouds ss 3 1 1 0 1
Gomes cf 3 0 0 0 0
Arnold pr 1 0 0 0 0
5 0 1 0 0
Rice
Wise 2b 5 1 1 0 4
Buchanan 2b 4 0 0 0 1
Rodriguez ss 5 0 0 0 0
Hale If 4 1 1 0 3
Reagan c 4 0 0 0 0
Dodge 3b 3 0 0 0 3
Stavinoha rf 4 0 0 0 0
Dodson If 4 0 0 0 0
Pendleton rt-p 3 0 0 0 3
3 0 0 0 0
Totals 17 5 3 0
Score
Tulane 000 000 — 0 0 0
Rice 030 200 — 9 9 1
Louisiana State 000 100 060 — 7 12 3

LAWSUIT 8 RICE 8
June 13, 2005 — Rice University, Houston, TX
2005 NCAA super regional
Name (pos) AB H Bl
Tulane
Pendleton rf 3 2 2 2 4
Dini c 3 1 1 0 3
Gill lb 3 1 1 0 1
C.Harris 2b 3 0 0 0 3
Lehman if 3 0 0 0 0
Miller rf 3 0 0 0 0
Delabatina 2b 3 1 1 0 1
Palermo If 3 0 0 0 0
Desclouds ss 3 1 1 0 1
Gomes cf 3 0 0 0 0
Arnold pr 1 0 0 0 0
5 0 1 0 0
Rice
Wise 2b 5 1 1 0 4
Buchanan 2b 4 0 0 0 1
Rodriguez ss 5 0 0 0 0
Hale If 4 1 1 0 3
Reagan c 4 0 0 0 0
Dodge 3b 3 0 0 0 3
Stavinoha rf 4 0 0 0 0
Dodson If 4 0 0 0 0
Pendleton rt-p 3 0 0 0 3
3 0 0 0 0
Totals 17 5 3 0
Score
Tulane 000 000 — 0 0 0
Rice 030 200 — 9 9 1
Louisiana State 000 100 060 — 7 12 3

UP TO $2,500
CREDIT CARD
PRE-APPROVED

Go to... email to be delivered to you.

Why would I want a vanity email address?

People with nicknames, name changes, and very long
names use email aliases (a.k.a. vanity email addresses),
to personalize or simplify their email address. Email
aliases also work if you want an abstract email address
that doesn't expose your name, but still allows your
e-mail to be delivered to you.

To https://apply.rice.edu,
select "vanity email" and choose yours.
but remember
3 is all you get
forever.
really.

for details, see http://www.rice.edu/eid/reference/vs.pdf

Thrasher recruiting meeting
Thursday, August 25 at 9 p.m.
Miner Lounge in the Student Center
SATURDAY

Outreach Day
Now that you've been a snob-by private college student for a week, compensate by helping out in the community from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today. Interested participants should sign up for one of several possible activities by noon Friday at http://www.rd.rice.edu/service/oweek/oweek_signup05.htm.

End o' Week
Orientation Week ends today at noon, and all upperclass students will be allowed back on campus. (Welcome back.)

End o' Week Party
Join the Community Involvement Center and the Marching Owl Band for free barbeque, games, drawings and "general amusement" at Sammy's in the Rice Memorial Center from 5-7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Monty Python and the Holy Grail
The timeless classic shows at 3 p.m. at the Rice Media Center, across the Inner Loop from the police station.

MONDAY

Back we go
Classes start today. Sorry. You have until Sept. 2 to add courses without a fee and until Sept. 16 to drop courses without a fee.

ACTIVITIES FAIR!
Friday, August 26th, 2005
12:30 PM - 4 PM
STUDENT CENTER
GRAND HALL & RAY COURTYARD
Stop by the tables and learn about the clubs and activities available to you at Rice!

DON'T MISS IT!
For more information, e-mail Holly Williams at hollyw@rice.edu

FRIDAY

Soccer vs. Auburn
Women's soccer takes on Auburn University at 7 p.m. at the Rice Track/Soccer Stadium. Watch the Owls swoop down on the Tigers.

First party
They don't have to one-up some other college's party this year by starting at 9:59, so Wiess College's traditional first party of the year will be from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Wiess/Hannam Acrobat. Didn't they already have a party during O-Week?

How to Submit
Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.
Submission methods:
Fax: (713) 348-5238
E-mail: thresher@rice.edu
Campus Mall: MS 524

WEDNESDAY

Mandatory on-campus recruiting orientation
Seniors interested in on-campus recruiting this year must attend one of four orientations run by Career Services: today and Thursday at 4 and 7 p.m in Farnsworth Pavilion.

THURSDAY

Sammy's Picnic
You mean you're tired of servervy food already? That's not a good sign, but you're in luck. The serveries are closed tonight and dinner will be provided at an all-campus picnic from 6:30 p.m. in Founder's Court instead.

Come Worship with Us!
West University Baptist Church invites you to worship, the study of God's Word, and fellowship.

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

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

Contemporary Worship: 8:30 AM
College Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Traditional Worship: 11:00 AM
WANTED: After-school tutor. Looking for tutoring/ driver for three boys - four days a week, 4-7 p.m. Please call Jamie (713) 557-5291...

MISS AND ART MANSON share. Furnished home for four, three-bed/one-bath townhouse, 18-31, health with normal reproductive organs, nonsmoking, all calls, (713) 532-0664...

ONE-BEDROOM cottage for rent, half-acre, parking. W. 34th and Ella Avenue. Furnished, antiques, piano, music and art mansion share. Contact: Sara (713) 524-6545 day/night...

TUTORS WANTED. Learning Squared needs tutors for mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, Spanish, economics, food pay, flexible hours. Office close to campus. No phone calls. (713) 528-7980...

WANTED: After-school ma...