Candidates debate; voting opens today at noon

by David Brown

Andrew Chifari focused on decentralized governance and student participation at Rice. Chifari said he decided to run to oppose senior, moderated the debate. Moderator questions, two audience candidates responded to 10 moderator questions, and one minute to answer specific audience questions.

Thresher Editor in Chief Amber Obersreyer, a Baker College senior, and Thresher Senior Editor Nathan Black, a Lovett College senior, moderated the debate.

In his opening statement, Chifari, a Martel College sophomore, said he decided to run to oppose another potential candidate. Although that person is not running for SA president, he said he still wants to be elected.

Ross, a Lovett senior, said he has leadership experience as Lovett president and as a member of the SA senate and that he has formed relationships with administrators. Ross said the SA president represents students, and he will focus on efficiency and productivity.

Tupper, a Hanszen College junior, said she has been involved at Hanszen and is the cochair of the dean's committee on social culture and in other leadership roles. Tupper said the SA needs to get students more involved and create more committees.

Moderator questions:

For the first question, candidates were asked how they would make the SA relevant to students. Ross said the SA senate should focus on what it does best — representing students and their concerns. He said the senate should not organize activities like Sammy's Picnic because Rice Program Council should organize such events.

Tupper said she supports activities like Sammy's Picnic and will encourage students to come to senate meetings by increasing publicity and holding more forums. She said the number of contested elections shows the SA is relevant to students.

Chifari said the SA is irrelevant to students because there are too many levels of government: the colleges, the SA, the Faculty Senate, the Student Government Association and the administration.

Outside firm begins planning for new college, renovations

by Monica Huang

Plans for adding one more residential college and converting existing ops to academic use are progressing. Thresher consulting firms continue to gather information about housing at Rice.

Consultants will produce a report by the end of the semester that will include recommendations for housing plans, which will be sent to the Board of Trustees for approval.

At its December meeting, the board approved President David Leebron's Vision for the Second Century, including a 16 percent increase in the number of undergraduates. The first expanded class will matriculate in Fall 2006, and the undergraduate population will eventually grow by about 900 students.

A document accompanying the statement calls for the percentage of undergraduates housed on campus to increase from 71 to 80 percent.

Assistant to the Dean of Undergraduates Matthew Taylor (Ph.D. '92) said outside consultants will work with the housing steering committee, which consists of Rice administrators and outside consultants, to formulate a plan for increasing the availability of on-campus housing.

"We will diligently work at least one new college, but we don't know if we will need more than one. I do feel we should signify existing colleges on whether or not we should have new college north of south," Taylor said.

Consultants from design firm HFL Associates, Evans Wightman Vissers and Co. and consultants with college residential, communications, college communications and advisory committees, this week.

Taylor said advisory committee members identified providing space in the colleges for academic programs and guest speakers as a priority.

"I don't think concerns were raised about differences in the quality of rooms and dining facilities in the colleges," Taylor said. "I don't think that's a concern because there are too many levels of government: the colleges, the SA, the Faculty Senate, the Student Government Association and the administration."
In order to both accommodate the expected 900-student enrollment increase and maintain green space, new colleges will be built on the intramural fields, which will then be relocated to the roofs of the colleges.

Just don't kick the ball too hard, OK?
On-campus events key to social success

I am not going to ask you to care about campus-wide politics. Changes are not the answer. What I do care less about the Student Association and the Student Government Council. However, I do hope you care about your social life.

I'll put it out in the open: I am not a student, I am a Rice student. I am not a senior and I am not a freshman. I don't attend SA and RPC meetings with RPC. But I am not a recluse: I have many issues and propositions to make. I am open: I have many issues and have observations to SA and RPC meetings. However, before I do, I want to talk about social life.

When I got involved in SA and RPC, I was a sophomore and president-elect. I was not the only student who got involved. The majors of the social events on campus are hosted by the colleges. Nevertheless, the majority of the social events on campus are more useful to the Rice Thresher.

The colleges also need to shift their focus and reallocate their budget.
Schlosser condemns meatpacking corporations in speech

by Sarah Taylor

Eric Schlosser, the author of *Fast Food Nation*, criticized the meatpacking industry Monday in the semester's third President's Lecture Series address.

In his speech, Schlosser made references to Upton Sinclair's novel *The Jungle*, which condemned the meatpacking industry in the early twentieth century.

Schlosser said the meatpacking industry today is more centralized and concentrated than it was when Sinclair wrote *The Jungle* a century ago.

"At the height of the beef trust, the top five meatpacking companies controlled 55 percent of the market," Schlosser said. "Today, the top four companies control 80 percent of the market.... Over the past 25 to 30 years, this country has returned to the jungle."

Schlosser said the government allowed President Theodore Roosevelt to pass laws placing restrictions on corporations. However, he said, the laws benefited consumers more than workers.

The formation of unions was the turning point for meat packing and was a crime.

"I want to see people take interest in the two-legged animals in these slaughterhouses — the human beings," Schlosser said.

One audience member asked Schlosser how he felt about strong unions, such as the United Automobile Workers, which is influential in setting wages and working conditions in car plants.

Schlosser said he is in favor of unions but that he realizes some unions have corrupt leaders.

"A lot of meatpacking unions have made deals with the meatpacking companies and are selling out their workers," he said. "I can't abide by that."

West College sophomore Jake Schornick said he was glad that Schlosser acknowledged the negative aspects of unions.

"It validates everything he was saying," Schornick said.

Lovett College senior Amy Ugoletti said she was surprised that Schlosser spoke about human rights rather than animal conditions.

"For sure it surprises some Americans that we have human rights issues in this country," Ugoletti said.

The next meeting will be Monday at 10 p.m. in Farnsworth Pavilion.
First Owl Weekend draws 180 students

by Sarah Baker

About 180 prospective students were visiting campus this weekend for the first of two Owl Weekends. The students were admitted under the Early Decision and Interim Decision plans. Owl Weekend began Thursday and ended Saturday.

Several events will be held for the prospective students. The Admissions Office and the President’s Office at Houston program are co-sponsoring a picnic at the Houston Zoo Friday. Student Admissions Council On-Campus Programs Committee co-Chair Mary Niemann said, “All [prospective students] and all Rice students have free admission to the zoo and tours of the zoo itself.” Niemann, a Aluminium College junior, said, “There is a cookout picnic afterwards as well.”

Co-Chair Paul Luning, a Sid Richardson College senior, said, “The Admissions Office encouraged clubs to hold events during Owl Weekend. Rice Program Council will host an alcohol-free pub night Friday from 9 p.m. to midnight at Willy’s Pub. The Philharmonics, an a cappella group, and Spontaneous Combustion, an improvisational comedy group, will also perform. There was an activities fair Thursday, and there will be academic panel today.”

Luning said the Admissions Office also plans on discontinuing events to familiarize prospective students with Houston. Prospective students could attend a movie at the Angelika Theater Thursday night, for which they paid a discounted price for admission, popcorn and a drink; they can also visit the Museum of Natural Science and see an IMAX movie at a discounted price tonight.

Luning said more than 200 students volunteered to host prospective students this weekend. Luning said that in past years there have been far fewer hosts than prospective students. Last year, every student who signed up to host was given two prospective students. Niemann said the decrease in the number of prospective students on campus at once—due to the addition of a second Owl Weekend—will allow them to have a more realistic experience. “Owl Weekend did not provide every accurate view of what Rice life is really like,” Niemann said.

About 400 prospective students attended a single Owl Weekend last year, and Luning said he expects about 300 prospective students to attend the April Owl Weekend.

Dean of Undergraduate Enrollment Jolie Browning said Owl Weekend is important for recruiting admitted students. “About 1 percent of students who attended last year matriculated at Rice,” Browning said, and she expects about the same yield rate this year.

“It is without question the most successful single event we have in terms of converting an admitted student into an enrolling student,” Browning said.

The second Owl Weekend, for students admitted under all decision plans, will be held April 20-22.

Dodge, duck, dip, dive, dodge!

Brown College freshman John Land plays in a dodgeball game between students majoring in chemical and civil engineering, held Tuesday at Audy Court.

Housing

and Will Rice colleges, which were built in the 1950s. Lovett College President Evan Ross, a junior who is on the advisory committee, said he and other advisory committee members do not want new colleges to be much larger than they are now.

“We don’t want them to turn into the giant dorms that are common in other places,” Ross said. “We want them to be more collegiate led.” Ross said he and others on the advisory committee think the familial nature of the colleges is important to preserve. “It’s more than just a dorm with some sort of institutional feel,” Ross said. “There are real benefits to having this tight-knit community, from academic support to social support, and we want to make sure that’s not lost.”

Taylor said he is currently creating a housing survey for students that will be posted at www.rice.edu/ in about a week.

Housing Steering Committee

Barbara Bryson
Kathy Collins
Mark Ettman
Robe Forman
Maryana Iskander
Karen Kelly
Kim Lawrence
David Riedl
Matthew Taylor

Position
Associate vice president for facilities, engineering, and planning
Vice president for finance
Housing and Dining director
Dean of undergraduates
Adviser to the president
Vice president by administration
Senior budget analyst
University architect
Assistant to the dean of undergraduates

Baker Institute Intern Program - Summer 2006

The James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy is now accepting applications for student interns for the summer 2006 semester. This is your chance to work directly with Institute Fellows and Rice Faculty on exciting areas of research including Energy Policy, U.S. Foreign and Domestic Policy, Tax Policy, Science Policy, and Chinese Culture. This is a paid internship which must be served on a full-time and consecutive basis. The work may involve research, writing, editing, and office work including copying, filing, etc.

Applicants must provide the following:
• Official Sealed Transcript
• Resume
• Official Sealed Transcript
• One Letter of Recommendation
Applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

Completed applications should be addressed to: Baker Institute Intern Program, Attn: Jean Lyons, Senior Research Coordinator, Baker Institute MS-40. Questions may be sent to jlyons@alumni.rice.edu.

www.ricethresher.org
The administration should be.
what the SA’s relationship with From page 1
said the SA currently has a good
academics and club approvals She said the SA is concerned
cause it is too difficult for a college
additional levels of government cre constituted the SA since ad-
asked what the SA’s relationship
I’m hoping to scrape away one
cabinet meetings] and really
create partnerships with college
and campus-wide issues. He said
focus on both college
should have more opportunities
administration.

Lunar New Year
Hanzen College freshman Huong Ho performs in the Vietnamese traditional dance during the Lunar New Year celebration. The event was held Saturday in the Grand Hall.

ST. EDWARD’S UNIVERSITY
FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2006

DEBATE
From page 1
keep covering the students with more and more layers of icing. I’m having to go back a layer, and that will be the SA’s SA and colleges
The candidates were next asked what the SA’s relationship with the colleges should be. Chifari said the colleges should acknowledge that the SA has additional levels of government create inefficiency. He said students should be more involved in interacting with administrators directly.
Ross said the multiple levels of government are necessary because it is too difficult for a college president to focus on both college and campus-wide issues. He said the SA’s role is to interact with administrators about campus-wide issues and that the SA should work with the college.
Tupper said the SA should create partnerships with college presidents since the two governments deal with different issues. She said the SA is concerned with broader issues — such as academics and club approvals — than the colleges are.

"I think that it’s really necessary for college presidents to be excited about the SA and being to review college [cabinet meetings] and really show that they’re enthusiastic about the issues," Tupper said.
SA and administration
The candidates addressed what the SA’s relationship with the administration should be.
Tupper said she already has a good relationship with administrators because of her work on the social culture committee. She said the SA currently has a good relationship and should work to maintain it. Tupper said she will communicate student opinion — rather than her own opinion — to administrators.

"The SA president should really be the person who relays the messages of students... that administrators know he brings student needs to them," Tupper said.

Opinions on vision statement
The candidates next addressed whether candidates supported allowing students to see written comments from course evaluations.
Tupper said the decision is not hers to make, but should be made by those students who vote. She said polling would be an effective method of gathering opinions.
Chifari said he favors students being able to see written comments. He said the SA should talk to the Faculty Senate and try to reach a compromise about the availability of these comments to students.

Final exam
The candidates were asked whether the final exam system adopted for this spring should change and, if so, what they would do.

Chifari said he liked the new policy, but was told by Black that the moderators could not give clarifications. Chifari said he did not support the change because he felt the old system was better.
Ross said students should decide whether to support the policy — the SA should be responsible for gathering student opinions and presenting them to the administration, he said.

Tupper said the changes would not increase students’ stress and seem to make sense. She said the SA president should gather student opinion and should hold forums, which have been a successful method of gauging student opinion in the past.

Best, worst of SA
The candidates next addressed the SA’s best and worst aspects. Ross said the best aspect of the SA is that it represents students on a campus-wide level. He said the worst aspect of the SA is that it is inefficient and does not properly utilize college presidents and senators at SA Senate meetings. He said senators need to be more active in collecting student opinion at their colleges.

The SA needs to understand its role, which is to support the colleges and to support student governance on campus — not to take away from it and take too much time, Chifari said.

Tupper said the best aspects of the SA are that it allows students to communicate, it coordinates student activities and it allows academic freedom — goals she said are in the SA’s mission statement. Tupper said the SA needs to better publicize its goals and activities to students.

Chifari said the best aspect of the SA is that it holds an open presidential election. He said the worst aspect of the SA is its inefficiency and that it accomplishes little.

Audience question
The candidates were asked for their opinion of Leehoon’s Vision for the Second Century.
Tupper said the vision will improve student life. She suggested adding the addition of benches on the side of the roads, and said she will hold forums and take polls to ascertain what students think about the vision statement.

Chifari said he dislikes many parts of the vision, including the increase in the size of the undergraduate and graduate student populations. He said he is concerned with Rice as it is now.

Chifari said it is important for the vision to continue to be open to student opinion.

Audience questions
The candidates were asked to submit questions to the moderators during the debate, and the moderators in turn chose which questions to ask the candidates.

One audience question asked all candidates what the most unique aspect of Rice culture is and how it influences them.

Tupper said the college system is the most unique. Chifari also said the college system is the most unique element of Rice. He said the SA benefits from the college system and that its power should be given to these colleges.

"The only way to distribute power is in a multi-celled system of government is to take power away from the higher government and give back to the smaller government," Chifari said.

Tupper said she also said the college system is the most unique aspect of Rice culture. He said it is important for the SA to work with college leaders in gathering student opinion.

"The college system and the way it’s reflected in the SA, and that we set up to support these colleges, allows students to have a hand in the university." Ross said. "The SA must take into account that role. We must support the colleges and we must reflect the wishes and needs of the student body and our goals.

Individual questions
An audience question asked Ross what issues he planned to focus on should he be elected SA president. Ross said most issues have not yet arisen but that potential issues include maintaining a student-run coffee house on campus and discussing the length of winter break.

Another audience question asked Tupper why she deserved to be SA president after she had lost the election for Hansen president. Tupper said she lost the Hansen election to a strong candidate but that her experience has been more applicable to being SA president.

The next audience question asked Chifari what he thought of the group he has shown to Rice and what experience he has with the SA. Chifari said he does not have campus-wide experience or official college experience. He said he is involved at Mar shall and has applied for many positions, although he has not been accepted for many of them.

Tupper was next asked an audience question about whether she could represent students fairly, given that she created a Facebook group called "Most Rice people are weird and we don’t like them."

Tupper said she created the group in her freshman year, when she felt she did not fit in at Rice. She said she has since tried to erase the group but has not been able to do so. Tupper said she probably would not create the group again. Tupper said she has been involved on campus since then and that students should not base her experience rather than on the Facebook group.

An audience question asked Chifari what his experience with the SA has been. Chifari said he has been to one meeting, at which he said he was not accepted as a member.

He said he is involved in Rice athletics because he attends every baseball game.

An audience question asked Ross what his experience with the SA has been. Ross said he has been to one meeting, at which he said he was not accepted as a member. He said he is attending every game and that his experience is more applicable to everyone who is going to agree. He said students should recognize that they are working toward a common goal with each other with respect.

Students are encouraged to review the debate on RTV5 through video on demand on RTV5’s Web site, rtv5.edu.
POLICE BLOTTER

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Feb. 22-28.

Residential Colleges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Incident Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lovett College</td>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>iPod stolen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sid Richardson  College</td>
<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>Bicycle stolen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duncan Hall</td>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Bicycle stolen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lovett College</td>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Club 13 made mess in commons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Buildings</td>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>iPod stolen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice Pratt Brown Hall</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>Purse stolen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson Hall</td>
<td>Feb. 27</td>
<td>Purse stolen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duncan Hall</td>
<td>Feb. 28</td>
<td>Wallet stolen.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Incident Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entrance 20</td>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Intoxicated male stood in street and asked for ride. Subject arrested for public intoxication and remanded to Harris County Jail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenbriar Drive and Rice Boulevard</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>Traffic stop. Minor issued city citation for minor driving under the influence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Road</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>Traffic stop on vehicle for reckless driving. Driver switched places with passenger. Both subjects arrested for driving while intoxicated and remanded to Harris County Jail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Drive</td>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>Vehicle stopped for speeding, and driving on sidewalk. Non-Rice subject arrested for driving while intoxicated and remanded to Harris County Jail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance 3</td>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>Vehicle stopped for weaving. Driver arrested for weaving while intoxicated and remanded to Harris County Jail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas Street and San Jacinto Street</td>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>Intoxicated minor stumbling in street. Minor issued city citation for minor consumption and released to parent.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parking Lots

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Incident Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Lot</td>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Vehicle struck another vehicle, and driver left scene without leaving information.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Buildings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Incident Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entrance 20</td>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Intoxicated male stood in street and asked for ride. Subject arrested for public intoxication and remanded to Harris County Jail.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


FOOD SURVEY

College health representatives on the Healthy Eating Committees surveyed students about healthy food, and about 600 students filled out the survey. Baker College sophomore Rupal Bhimani said committee members will meet with College Food Service Manager Angela Riggs and Residential Dining Manager Jule Bogar to discuss the results and possible changes. A list of common requests is below.

- More healthy food choices with less salt, cheese and oils
- Low-fat yogurts, salad dressings and cheeses
- Whole-wheat pastas, breads and cereals
- More grilled chicken and soup varieties
- Food prepared fresh for each meal
- A cheaper meal plan for off-campus students that provides fewer meals per week
- Better labeling on the food, including nutrition facts and whether the item is vegetarian or vegan
- A greater variety of fresh fruits and vegetables
- More exotic dishes, spicy foods and vegetarian options
- Higher quality meals in more varieties, including seafood and sushi
- Extended meal hours and food kept out past the meal times for snacks

VOTING IN THE OTHER ELECTIONS

Rice’s polling location for Democratic and Republican primaries Tuesday, March 7 has been moved off campus to Christ the King Lutheran Church, on the corner of Rice Boulevard and Greenbriar Drive. Shuttles will be available to take students to the back of Greenbriar Lot in front of the church. The polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

RICE UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM (RUSP) (HONS470/471)

Applications are now being taken for the Rice Undergraduate Scholars Program (RUSP) for the 2006-2007 academic year.

For further information and an application form, please consult the RUSP web page: http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~hons470/

RUSP is designed for juniors or seniors from any department who are considering graduate school and/or academic careers. Each student accepted into the program undertakes an independent research project mentored by a faculty member chosen by the student. Research grants in the range $250-$1,700 per year are awarded to help pay the costs of RUSP projects. Many students attend a professional conference and present a paper.

During the first semester (3 credits), each student writes a funding proposal, prepares oral and written progress reports and begins work on the research project. Weekly class meetings deal with a variety of topics related to research and scholarship. In the second semester, (variable credit, usually 3-6 credits), students focus on research and writing and present their results orally and in the form of a scholarly paper.

The RUSP faculty coordinators for 2006-2007 are:

- Don Johnson (ECE, djh@rice.edu) x4956
- Michael Watkins (Psychology, watkins@rice.edu) x3416
- Lora Wildenthal (History, wildenthal@rice.edu) x3526

The RUSP web site includes information about applying for the 2006-2007 program. It also contains a FAQ list and the names and email addresses of current RUSP students. Please feel free to contact any of the faculty coordinators or current students.

Application deadline: April 7, 2006.
Rock 'o' the Irish II

Nathan Maxwell

Los Angeles native Nathan Maxwell has been playing for Flogging Molly since the band formed in 1997. Maxwell spoke with the Thresher before the band performed in Houston Feb. 27.

How did you get started in music?

My father's a drummer, so that was a positive influence, and music's always meant so much to me. By the time I was 14, realized that was really what I wanted to do... I met up with Flogging Molly when I was 17, and I was just looking to the best music I could do. I didn't have any idea to play Irish music at the time.

How do you balance the Irish and American aspects of your band, since you have a lot of American players but a distinctly Irish sound?

The guy who started the band is from Dublin, Ireland. Probably the next closest to that would be our fiddle player... She wants it to be traditional Irish music. The rest of us come from different backgrounds — rock 'n' roll, punk rock, whatever — so it's natural that we come together and have this sound.

What's your favorite advice?

How do you balance being on the road and playing music?... It's nice because some people wouldn't even go to see us at a bar, but some would come out to see us at a music festival, so it's a nice mix. You get to play live and have a party on campus, and the band is a really tight unit with the way it comes across just feel so good. The music comes out of something special. I want it to be genuine Flogging Molly.

What's going to be on the DVD the band is releasing this summer?

Basically, we met a guy named Jim who lived with us for a year or more and did absolutely everything we did, went everywhere we went — ate our meals, bought the tickets, etc. — as part of the band, part of the group. He documented us as much as he could and put it together to give some fans who are already into the band a chance to see what it is to be genuine Flogging Molly.

What's going to be on the DVD the band is releasing this summer?

Flogging Molly performed at Warehouse Live Feb. 27 and will be in Austin March 18.

You're going to play St. Patrick's Day in Austin. My little Irish kids are going to love it. How do you feel about performing in Austin on St. Patrick's Day?

That's where we all played a big party (than usual on the holiday), but it won't be. We have been playing St. Patrick's Day for the last 10 years and didn't have one off. I wouldn't want one off. I'd rather be able to play our music. The show's going to be at Molly Malone's in downtown Austin. Can you tell me a little about the venue?

There's usually a bigger party and you see a lot of people on stage, but that's where we all played a big party the seven of us. Imagine this tiny little Irish pub and seven people playing on a stage where you can only put two chairs. We set up a full drum set and mic. I literally pressed up against the wall with the guitar. I've always been a better songwriter.
Phil's, LowKeys concert surprisingly successful

I didn't go to concerts for sheer entertainment very often anymore. After sitting in the Thresher office trying to coordinate press coverage for movies and music events around Houston all week, actually going to one of these events is often overwhelming — or, at least, not at all my idea of a relaxing time.

So when my friends dragged me down to Live's in Lovett College's basement last Friday for the Rice Philharmonic's LowKeys concert, I was less than thrilled. I had never been to an a cappella concert at Rice before, and I was expecting another mediocre, hall-issued, underattended attempt at artistic performance.

I've NEVER seen a bigger audience hit at a Rice music event — of course, the fact that it was about 10 p.m. on Lovett's College Night may have aided the crowd's spirits.

The situation started to perk up when I walked into the room and staked out a space at the end of the bar, which had replaced the song's original arrangement of the ubiquitous Romanian pop anthem, "Dragostea Din Tei," which both Singers pronounced the foreign words of with scarves tucked through their beltloops, and one coed sang together. I've never seen a group of students with no Shep-herd School affiliation — could not stand up to him.

Dave Chappelle performs a song and dance number with a bongo kit during Dave Chappelle's Block Party. The film chronicles a free concert Chappelle hosted in New York City.

Chappelle returns to limelight with pomp, circumstance, Fugees in tow

When entertainers cross genres, disaster often strikes. Generally, basketball players cannot rap, rappers cannot act and comedians do not know a thing about music.

Bryce Gray

"dave chappelle's block party"

"dave chappelle's block party"

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"dave chappelle's block party"

When entertainers cross genres, disaster often strikes. Generally, basketball players cannot rap, rappers cannot act and comedians do not know a thing about music.
CHAPPELLE

From page 9

his humor is warm and sincere. Driving through the city in a Toyota Prius, Chappelle shouts, ‘Attention inaudible. Come to my parts... Bring Rudy!’

SA PRESIDENT
Andrew Chifari

My name is Andrew Chifari, and I want to be your next SA President. To clarify that this is a letter, while my ideal run started in a joke, after the past 2 months, it has become much more serious. I believe that I have not held elected office on the SA or college level, but the SA is a place where I have already done a lot of the work. My biggest accomplishment for the year is the Truth Ball campaign. Have you heard of the "True Ball" campaign? It is needed, I will use the entire budget to fund clubs and trips, eliminating the need for the individual college-level-level of clubs. I will give as much power to the individual colleges and students as possible. I will let everyone interested proxy for me at most meetings (you will know if you are a proxy).

Put simply, I am not a bad boy.

Evan Ross

The Student Association needs a strong leader who can lead the student's group, not just make changes. Vote Evan Ross for SA President.

SA EXTERNAL VICE PRESIDENT
Althea Tupper

In recent years, Rice University's relationship with the city of Houston has greatly improved. We have more joint events, more student involvement, and I have experience being treasurer of other organizations in the past. I have actively contributed to the SA, and I am heading up the Rice Players, a regular attendee of Shephard performances, a tour guide, and an enthusiastic champion of the Army Art, my actions speak more loudly than any assertion of qualifications.

Efficiency and effective student involvement are essential to the improvement of the SA. These two factors require a president who actively strives to increase meeting attendance and participation. As president, I will urge students to communicate their concerns to me and the SA, will develop more efficient communication methods, and will conscientiously look for ways to increase participation and make our meetings more engaging. I will meet with the SA to encourage informal discussion.

We students deserve a true representative who works for and represents us. A strong SA president speaking to an individual student body will be heard. I have the experience to lead, the strength to stand, and the interest in and knowledge of the SA for SA President.

SA TREASURER
I'm running for the SA's External Vice President. This past year, I served in the Executive Committee of the SA. The Director of Communications, as well as the experience that the position has to offer. My name is Andrew Chifari, and I want to be your next SA president. To clarify that this is a letter, while my ideal run started in a joke, after the past 2 months, it has become much more serious. I believe that I have not held elected office on the SA or college level, but the SA is a place where I have already done a lot of the work. My biggest accomplishment for the year is the Truth Ball campaign. Have you heard of the "True Ball" campaign? It is needed, I will use the entire budget to fund clubs and trips, eliminating the need for the individual college-level-level of clubs. I will give as much power to the individual colleges and students as possible. I will let everyone interested proxy for me at most meetings (you will know if you are a proxy).

Put simply, I am not a bad boy.
SA SECRETARY
Sarah Baker

Hey everyone! I'm Sarah Baker, a freshman at Lovett College. I'm a New Student Representative to the SA and Assistant News Editor for The Thresher. I also attended the Impact Rice event and am currently involved in Leadership Rice. Every undergraduate student is a member of the Student Association, so I think everyone should know what is going on in its meetings. As secretary, I will push for greater distribution of the minutes within the college batteries. It is also important to me that students know the issues that will be discussed in every meeting. I will do my best to publicize the issues, so students will know what's going on and understand the issues being discussed. I will ensure that students minutes are posted promptly on the SA website. They will be clear and thorough. I would like to see the SA reach its full potential. I will make this happen. Meet Sarah Baker for SA Secretary!

RSVP CHAIR
Tam Nguyen

Every student at Rice is already a member of RSVP! My goal is to increase awareness and provide service opportunities to everyone in the Rice community, namely students, to get involved in whatever capacity they choose. In the past I have been involved with RSVP as the Children's committee chair, Treasurer and College Rep for WBC. I have also helped coordinate campus wide service events such as Outreach Day, Project Pumpkin and Spring Thing.

RSVP INTERNAL VICE-CHAIR
Jennifer Lai

I am honored to be your 2006-2007 RSVP Internal Vice-Chair! I have been a part of RSVP for the past 3 years as a College Rep, Secretary and External Vice-Chair so as you can see, I am very dedicated to this organization. It is my goal to get more of you all involved and active in RSVP and I guarantee that next year will be even better than this year! Thanks!

RSVP EXTERNAL VICE-CHAIR
Laura Mengheang

Hey everyone. My name is Laura Mengheang and I'd really like to serve as next year's RSVP External Vice-Chair. I am currently a junior at Baker and have been involved with RSVP since my freshman year. Last year, I chaired the Children's Committee, putting on events such as Outreach Day, Project Pumpkin and the annual Fall Sale. I served in Internal Vice Chair, Executive External Vice Chair the year before that and am excited for the upcoming school year. I'd like to continue to involve or create service programs that make RSVP live up to its name (Rice Student Volunteer Program, in case you didn't know).

RSVP SECRETARY
Vicky Pridgen

I've been in love with Rice ever since I stepped into the hedges for the first time. From the academics to the clubs, from the students to the staff, and from the north to the south, our campus is undeniable the best in the country. I've been actively involved with the yearbook as the Jones section editor since my first month at Rice, and I would be honored to serve this great campus even more as the 2006-2007 Campanile editor.

RSVP PRESIDENT
Meg Sheely

Hey Rice! Are you a Rice Program Council President for 2006-07? Unencumbered and pleased to reappoint RPC to what it needs to be, while keeping our traditional activities such as Esperanza, Crush Party and Assassination Game. RPC is your student-organized organization for Student Activities, with no money, potential. We want to help create dynamic, fun student activities throughout the year. We are committed to bringing fun and new activities to campus, and want to hear your ideas. I hope that you bring your ideas to the table, whether it be about which ballot tickets you want, or something completely new and different for Rice Program Council to try. I can't wait for the upcoming year and hope to have your support along the way. Don't forget to vote YES on approving our constitutional changes.

Christine Chen

My name is Christine Chen and I am a junior running for SA Secretary. I believe that the best person to serve as a leader in SA should be one who has been an active member of the Rice community. I have been extremely involved in many aspects of Rice. My constant exploration of various campus and college organizations has helped me develop useful skills and an unique perspective on university life. During my sophomore year as the RSP Environment Chair for example, I established a network between all Rice's major environmental organizations to have a more participative in campus wide environmental events. I have also been involved with Rice Dance Theatre, the annual Lunar New Year performance, Rice Players, and Impact Rice. I have helped around Rice as an University Court class representative, taker, and TA. At the residential college level, I have been the sports rep for two years, the team captain for both tennis and soccer, and the current Beer Bike Captain. Methodical organization to help keep track of emails, numbers, and dates is required for any of these activities and will also be essential in molding as SA Secretary. This position also requires a personal enthusiasm and willingness to do a good job regardless of how much work is there. Fortunately, my natural energy level resembles that of an all day caffeinated high. If you would like an experienced and hardworking person for your next SA secretary, remember to vote for Christine Chen.

RSVP EDITOR IN CHIEF
David Brown

Hi. I'm David, and I'm running for Thresher editor in chief. For the past year, I have been an associate editor and before that, I was an assistant news editor and staff writer. Yes, I'm that guy who interviewed you one Wednesday night.

The word "thresh" means, according to dictionary.com, "to beat the stems and husks of (grain or cereal plants) with a machine or flail to separate the grains or seeds from the stems." But it also has a second meaning: To discuss or examine (an issue, for example) repeatedly.

What do you want the Thresher to thresh? We currently have a good newspaper, but I think there are many improvements we can make. If I am elected, I want to hear your ideas. Is there news out there we aren't covering? What opinions would you like to see expressed? What issues would you like to see threshed? Send the Thresher your paper, everyone should have their say. But the only way I'll know yours is if I hear from you. Please send an email to david@rice.edu with your thoughts or questions.

KTRU STATION MANAGER
Rachel Trube

no picture available

U. BLUE EDITOR IN CHIEF
Ingrid Norbergs & Katie McCurry

no picture available

RBT STATION MANAGER
Daniel Derozier

no picture available

RBT PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Brett Snider

no picture available

SAMMY THE OWL
Matt McDonell

no picture available

CAMPANILE EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kristina McDonald

no picture available
Austin Ginnings

I believe the Honor Code and Honor Council are institutions that help ensure the quality of a Rice education. As an Honor Council candidate, I support the move to amend Article 12 of the Honor Council Constitution. I believe this article has gone unnoticed for a while and is a loophole in the existing Constitution. I hope to support their actions in one of the primary objectives of the Council, and allowing individuals to differ from Rice as a first period of time to avoid punishment for violations and raises this objection. Above, I believe professors are not responsible in their duties to instructors, but I will support better communication between the Honor Council and faculty members to ensure proper knowledge of Honor Code procedures. Professors need to be trained that the Honor Council process is sound, fair, and thorough, yet it will only function properly with their support.

Saira Karim

Hey Rice! I want to be your next Senior Honor Council Representative so I can work to promote the importance of academic integrity in all levels of this university. My years spent at Rice have demonstrated commitment and dedication to upholding the student body and maintaining the quality of education available to students. Every student matriculating into Rice has taken an oath to adhere to the by-laws of the Honor Council Constitution and to uphold personal honor through all aspects of academic work. Many other universities lack a student-run council that strives to uphold academic integrity which essentially allows for the establishment of mutual trust and student trust. If voted into the council, I will work to represent the concerns of the student body and to implement the constitution of the Honor Council with fairness and responsibility. Having been part of the Rice student body for a number of years, I am well versed in the concerns brought up by students in regard to the Honor Council. If elected, I will make it a priority to not just carry out duties and responsibilities that are required of me through the council, but will fairly represent the wishes and concerns of the Rice Student Body.

Farhan Katchi

I have two major fears concerning the future of the Honor Council. First, should the council polarize to one extreme and become 'Gestapo-ish', the student's actions will be regulated to such a degree that academic freedom will be undermined. Alternately, should it gravitate to the other extreme and become too capricious and inconsistent, it will likely meet the same fate. Having already served as a member, I am enthusiastically seeking re-election to bring a moderate and balanced perspective that both values and respects the honor system while keeping the reality of Rice life in mind.

Andrew Koller

I am running for the position of Honor Council senior class representative because I strongly believe in the importance of the Honor Code. Its operation and function is undeniably vital. Alternatively, should it gravitate to the other extreme and become too capricious and inconsistent, it will likely meet the same fate. Having already served as a member, I am enthusiastically seeking re-election for the opportunity to bring a moderate and balanced perspective that both values and respects the honor system while keeping the reality of Rice life in mind.

Teresa Monkkonen

I am running for the second year on the Honor Council. I am very excited about the opportunity to serve the student body next term as a member of the Rice Honor Council. I think it is an integral part of the University and was a key factor for many of us when we first decided to come here. I served on last year's council and will be ready to step in as soon as I return from studying abroad in Germany. I will always be here to keep the Council as my primary concern, making sure we get to the root of the problem in a timely manner.

Becky Thilo

Experience: External Vice Chair (04-05), Junior Class Rep (05-06), Sophomore Class Rep (04-06), Freshman Class Rep (04-05)

Goal: I will work to reorganize and improve this system process to promote the opportunity for change and organization. I will strive to improve the communication process, maintain the integrity of the Honor Code, and to implement the Council's relationship with the Om- buds, administration, faculty, and student body. Using my past experience and future plans, I will strive to represent the best interest of the student population and preserve the academic integrity of the Rice degree.

personal statement: As a Rice Senior Class Rep, I look forward to serving a second term, focusing on the importance of personal responsibility, student accountability, and trust. My desire is to be on the Council again stems from previous challenges, experiences, and fulfilling experiences. Currently, I am majoring in International Studies.

Voting starts today at noon and ends at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 8.

See the referenda items for blanket-tax constitutional changes on page 15 and online.

Vote at sa.rice.edu
UNIVERSITY COURT SR. REP. (PICK 2)

Alison Morgan

I have had the great pleasure of serving as a University Court class representative for the past three years and as Senior Class Representative this year. I have had the privilege of reviewing cases and the factors which must be considered in reaching a decision. I have also become familiar with the University Court and the Student Code of Conduct. I am interested in becoming a justice during my senior year. The then University Court Chairman came to Jones to speak about the role of the Court at Rice, and I was impressed by the concept of a peer judgment system for handling situations of the Student Code of Conduct on campus. The past three years have only increased my belief in the effectiveness of the system. I admire how the University Court allows accused students to relay their side of the story and be judged fairly and without bias by their fellow students. I am continually impressed by the seriousness and maturity with which students involved in the Court handle their responsibilities. My experience on the Court has been a very rewarding one for me, and I would be honored to continue to represent the sophomore class for my senior year. It is my intent to continue to listen to my peers objectively while keeping in mind the stipulations of the Constitution.

Ting Wang

William Penn once referred to Lady Justice as having "just one Scale and Weight, for Rich and Poor, Great and Small." Although she is blind to bias, she is guided by the cause of righteousness. Such principles of justice and impartiality are what I bring to University Court in addition to:

Experience - 3 Years on U Court

I have had experience in U Court since freshmen year and am well acquainted with both the entirety and rulings of cases on campus. From being a University Court Freshmen, Sophomore, and Junior Representative for the last two years as well as the Court Secretary this year, I will ensure the continuation of U Court's purpose by the Rice student body.

A Student's Perspective

I feel capable of bringing a student's perspective into University Court so that justice will not be callously or irresponsibly applied.

Professionalism

My purpose in University Court is now, and always will be, to uphold the U Court tradition of fairness. I have worked with other members of U Court in the last three years and am familiar with the dynamics of the court.

I believe I have the proven dedication, experience, and professionalism needed for Senior Class Representative in University Court. Pre law heroes. Thanks to all.

Gina Cao

I'm excited about U Court. I'll definitely serve in U Court with utmost diligence since I enjoy close reading. In high school, I was secretary of four honor societies, paper work makes me happy. Also, I am almost done with my major requirements so I'll have plenty of time to devote to U Court if necessary.

Ben Carson

It's easy to take our freedom to drink for granted. But we can't forget that each and every time we drink, we are forcing our own safety into the hands of the random stranger. The alcohol policy is very carefully designed to allow drinking on campus and in the open, where it's safer. This, however, brings certain liabilities with which the school would rather not be officially associated (i.e. the possibility of alcohol poisoning or negligence lawsuits). Understandably so.

It is important to balance the idea of safety, which I believe is a greater good, student safety. Each step towards driving the drinking scene underground (e.g. more cars on PhD, stricter enforcement and harsher punishment for public party renters), however necessary from the standpoint of the University, is a very real threat to student safety.

As college kids, we will continue to drink, its foolish and dangerous to think otherwise. The best we can hope is that students do so safely, without putting themselves in dangerous situations like driving back from OC party's drunk or being too afraid to call on EMS when it's necessary.

Katherine Gomer

As a University Court Sophomore Representative, Katherine Gomer will:

- take judicial decisions
- represent the class of 2006's reasonable student
- facilitate student access to resources such as contacts, rules and proceedings
- update the UCourt website
- keep the student body informed of U Court's decisions
- participate in the election process
- follow through with the Thresher on cases referred to U Court, as needed in the power broker
- improve the University Court's relationships with the
  - administration, specifically the Assistant Dean of Student Judicial Programs
  - Student Association
  - Residential Colleges through the U Court representatives

Bhavika Kaul

My name is Bhavika Kaul and I would like your vote for U Court Sophomore Rep. I love being involved in various activities and am currently an active member of the Wiess social committee. My Sophomore Rep. and I am a coordinator for 0-week, however, I want to get more involved on the university, and not just the office, scale, especially through U Court. I am running for this position because I sincerely care about students at Rice. I am responsible, dedicated, and a hard worker. I am approachable and easy to talk to and would be happy to listen to your complaints or questions. I am very fair minded, I believe that as Rice changes and students bring with them new experiences, concerns and ideas to the University, we must keep up with new changes (e.g. hearing undergraduate concerns and fulfilling new initiatives to broaden Rice's good reputation, both nationally and globally. An enthusiastic major in Cognitive Sciences, I will offer insight on the quality of both science and humanities courses at Rice and on what improvements could be made.

If I am elected to U Court, I will do my best to make sure that drinking is not driven underground by encouraging less harsh reactions to minor infractions. It's time to get our priorities straight. Vote Carson for Court

Siisel Perez

I am a sophomore, and I believe that I have a lot to contribute to the Rice community. I am responsible, hard working, and I am approachable, which makes me a great representative for the students. I am a coordinator for O-week; however, I want to get more involved on the university level, and not just the office level. I am currently involved in a project to renovate Rice admissions materials and a project to establish mile markers on the outer loop. I love playing for Rice Athletics (powder puff). I'm an football, BM, and BM ultimate Frisbee fan.

I'm just an average Rice student. Do you try to do your homework on time, yet somehow find yourself up until 5 that morning working on a paper? Do you study really hard on a test, yet still B+ it? Do you mean well, but lose points on tests because you try to study "day of"? Do you try to keep from partying but just can't? Do you try to find a guy/girl but just can't seem to, because the, clips are so bad? Do you find yourself eating dessert for dinner just because it'savana good, and the actual food isn't appetizing? Do you say bad jokes, yet hope for a laugh, and then get surprised when you don't get any? Well I do. I am completely real. I don't have a 4.0 GPA, and I am not a National Merit Finalist. That's why you should vote for me to represent the undergraduates on the University Council. I have experience also. If you are worried about that, I was President of my class in high school, three out of four years. I have a strong and passionate drive to make a difference, and a political background which tells me that I am ready for this position and to interact with all the professors on the council and relate the ideas of the undergraduate population to them.

Jennifer Edwards

I am a freshman at Rice College and I would make a great undergraduate representative for University Council. As an out-of-stater, I would support initiatives to broaden Rice's good reputation, both nationally and globally. As a native of New York, I am very familiar with the idea that Rice is a horrible university. I am flexible and will work with the faculty and I will ensure that students' top concerns do not go unheard. I am a responsible, dedicated, and hard working student, and I would like to represent the Rice student body. As a member of the Student Corrections Council, I am currently involved in a project to make Rice admissions materials, and a project to establish mile markers on the outer loop. I will play on Rice Athletics (powder puff). I love football, BM, and BM ultimate Frisbee.

I am a Rice student, and I would like to represent the undergraduates on the University Council. I do not want to work on the unfavorable, budget of the university, and I would like to work on initiatives to broaden Rice's good reputation, both nationally and globally. As an out-of-stater, I would like to see Rice change and students bring with them new experiences, concerns and ideas to the University, we must keep up with new initiatives to broaden Rice's good reputation, both nationally and globally.

If I am elected, I will be receptive to the ideas and concerns of Rice students. I have experience in leadership positions, amongst them bring college leader in the ENGR program. Rice is also as an SWL, class representative for the Rice Student Association. Having had years of experience as a debate and speech competitor has enabled me to communicate effectively with others and the ability to relate to other points of view. As an undergraduate representative, I will make sure to keep a constant flow of ideas coming from the colleges to President Leebro, chair of the University Council. By having the opportunity to meet regularly with the President, department, and student representatives, I will ensure that students' top concerns do not go unheard. I am a Rice student, and I would like to represent the undergraduates on the University Council. I do not want to work on the unfavorable, budget of the university, and I would like to work on initiatives to broaden Rice's good reputation, both nationally and globally.

Aditya Atholi

I am a freshman at Rice College and I would make a great undergraduate representative for University Council. As an out-of-stater, I would support initiatives to broaden Rice's good reputation, both nationally and globally. As a native of New York, I am very familiar with the idea that Rice is a horrible university. I am flexible and will work with the faculty and I will ensure that students' top concerns do not go unheard. I am a responsible, dedicated, and hard working student, and I would like to represent the Rice student body. As a member of the Student Corrections Council, I am currently involved in a project to make Rice admissions materials, and a project to establish mile markers on the outer loop. I will play on Rice Athletics (powder puff). I love football, BM, and BM ultimate Frisbee.

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REFERENDUM I  Rice Broadcast Television
RBT has been operating under the name Rice Television 5 (RTV5) and would like to amend their constitution to reflect that change. Vote yes or no.
PROPOSED AMENDMENT: In order more clearly identify as Rice’s student television station, the organization RBT is renamed Rice Television 5 (RTV5).

REFERENDUM II  Honor Council
The Honor Council has proposed four amendments to its constitution. Vote on each change separately, yes or no.

1. Article XVII Appeals: section one change
An appeal may be made in the form of a written request submitted to the Chair and to the Assistant Dean of Student Judicial Programs within three class days of a previous decision regarding the case.

2. Article XVII Appeals: section one change
The first appeal is to an appeals panel consisting of the Assistant Dean of Student Judicial Programs and two faculty members selected by Faculty Council. After their decision, a second and final appeal may be made to the President of the University.

3. Article XII Hearing:
A person confronted with an accusation by the Council has the option of either proceeding with the hearing or of voluntarily withdrawing from the University within three days (with the understanding that no formal action will be undertaken), providing the withdrawal is effective until the commencement of the second semester following.

4. Article VI: Composition
ADD A NEW SECTION 2:
A quorum for the Honor Council, as defined in the By-Laws, shall be authorized to act as the Council in its entirety.

REFERENDUM III  Rice Program Council

1. The Rice Program Council requests to combine the position of Internal Vice President and the External Vice President into one Vice President and to amend their constitution to reflect this change.

2. The Rice Program Council also requests to delete the phrase “at the beginning of their elected term” from Article A – Section 1 pertaining to their Faculty Sponsor.

Section 1 – The Assistant Director of Student Activities shall serve as the official faculty sponsor of the Council. Other faculty sponsors may be approved by a majority vote of the Council at the beginning of their elected term.

REFERENDUM IV University Blue
University Blue has requested an increase in its blanket tax to $1.40, from its current level of $1.00. Vote yes or no.
Oscar Picks
Shafting good indie films since 1928
Layout by Marshall Robinson and Margaret Tung

Here's the thing: I hate the Academy Awards. The politics are terrible and the hype is ... well, just look at how much space the Thresher is devoting to the Oscars. I don't care who wins as long as the host is funny and someone wears a dress I can mock for the next eight weeks. But since arbitrary draft-picks of the Thresher's Oscar favorites have been a tradition since before I got here, I will give my readers my Oscar picks — with a twist. My staff assembled the following series of hopeful Oscar winners with all the solemnity and care of a kindergartner at recess. So here are the most arbitrary, least well-researched Academy Awards picks the Thresher could put together. My real opinion? TiVo the ceremony and skip everything besides Jon Stewart.
— Julia Bursten

**Film: Capote**

Although Heath Ledger did not receive the Oscar nod after his faultless performance in the equally pitch-perfect A Knight's Tale, he was smart enough to sign on for the part of Ennis Del Mar in Brokeback Mountain. This whimsical heartthrob is long overdue for an Oscar: Ledger has a way of communicating his romantic nuances so vivibly that the audience can relate to every passion and sorrow. His racy and deeply emotional acting in Brokeback Mountain makes him an cinch for this year's top acting honors.
— Marshall Robinson

**Actor:** Heath Ledger, Brokeback Mountain

**Philip Seymour Hoffman, Capote**

Philip Seymour Hoffman should be given a standing ovation as well as the golden Oscar statue for his outstanding performance as the eccentric namesake in Capote. Hoffman, who is often associated with comedic roles, convincingly personified the dark, witty protagonist, self-centered and homosexual novelist Truman Capote. His character is not at all likeable, but rather is a witty conversationalist who supplies a nasal and quotable tapestry of one-liners for viewers to post later on facebook.com. It's hard not to be in love with Reese Witherspoon, especially in Walk the Line. Highly doubtful, Witherspoon pulls off the role of spunky little-country-western singer with class and grace. Not only can the girl act — she can sing! In this film, we laugh, we cry and pretty mountains. But I can quit Brokeback and would rather see Capote take the Oscar, for the title alone. It gets the most syllable into the least letters, reflecting Truman Capote's penchant for the well-written word. Phillip Seymour Hoffman was not too shabbily either, but isn't it more fun to judge a film by its title than by any meaningful content whatsoever? After all, it seemed to work pretty well for Titanic.
— Julia Bursten

**Actress:** Reese Witherspoon, Walk the Line

**Director:** Ang Lee, Brokeback Mountain

Everyone knows Brokeback Mountain is going to take this one, hands down, no contest, because of the approach the film took to portraying homosexuality and pretty mountains. But I can quit Brokeback and would rather see Capote take the Oscar, for the title alone. It gets the most syllable into the least letters, reflecting Truman Capote's penchant for the well-written word. Phillip Seymour Hoffman was not too shabbily either, but isn't it more fun to judge a film by its title than by any meaningful content whatsoever? After all, it seemed to work pretty well for Titanic.

— Julia Bursten

The 78th Annual Academy Awards
air Sunday at 7 p.m. on ABC. For more information, visit www.oscar.com.
Supporting Actress: Catherine Keener, 
Capote

Catherine Keener deserves to win because she plays the role of Harper Lee in Capote with a quiet dignity and grace that complements Hoffman's huffy arrogance and establishing persona. More importantly, filmgoers had the chance to look at the author behind everyone's favorite hero, Atticus Finch. Through her much-needed maturity advice and unwavering support of Capote, viewers happily discovered that she was a soft-spoken Southern woman who shared at least one quality with her famous character: Both knew how to wield their powers in a benevolent manner.

Cinematography: The New World

Cinematography: The New World

Revolutionary cinematography is a rare occurrence in modern cinema. The last really creative, gimmicky piece of filming was 2002's Russian Ark, and it resulted in more physical nausea than artistic vision. The New World took a fairly clean approach in its filming and managed to capture the characters' relationships in an entirely non-vomit-worthy fashion, so it gets the Oscar vote.

— Julia Boorstin

Supporting Actor: George Clooney, 
Syriana

George Clooney has been a busy man this year. Although "ER" was a great show, Clooney has more than justified his transition into film, not by his classic good looks but by his credibility as a convincing actor. If his current projects — especially his performance in Syriana — have proven anything, Clooney will be making many more trips to the Oscars. This will be a perfect chance for him to break through before he climbs the winning ranks to lead actor, director and producer.

— Margaret Tang

Costume Design: Walk the Line

Walk the Line received an excessive amount of attention for the impressive performance from Reese Witherspoon — of Legally Blonde, Legally Blonde 2: Red, White, and Blonde and Little Nicky fame — but the true strength of the film was not its acting, its score or its cinematography. The producers spared no expense in finding the characters' relationships in an entirely new way. This loveable claymation canine does not want pity or charity — they just want to bust some heads. This documentary blows every preconceived notion about the physically disabled out of the water. Even with limbs missing, the athletes still get more action than most Rice students in more ways than one. Their all-guts, all-glory attitudes make Murderball a true tale of the survival of the fearless and the obvious choice for this year's Oscar.

— Tasha Chemplavil

Visual Effects: War of the Worlds

War of the Worlds should win, hands down, no doubt about it. Not only do giant robot aliens emerge from the hole of New Jersey, they proceed to annihilate the useless state with their super cool, super high-tech, super weekend-friendly, super high-budget lasers. And as an added bonus, the Oprah couch-dancing, Kate-Holmes-inspiring, generally screwing-everyone-out Tom Cruise almost dies — numerous times. The only thing that would have made this movie better would have been the robot aliens had sported the face of Nicole Kidman, a la Seabord's Wife. Although, in that case, Cruise might have tried to trade them in for a younger model.

— Tasha Chemplavil

Best Documentary: Murderball

From the Emperor penguins' struggle to survive the harsh Arctic climate in March of the Penguins to the Enron executives' struggle to survive themselves in Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room, almost all of this year's nominees for Best Documentary Feature have a survival-of-the-fittest motif. The notable exception to this Darwinian theme is Murderball. The stars of the U.S. Paralympic Rugby team will do whatever it takes to survive, and to them, survival means victory.

The players in Murderball do not want pity or charity — they just want to bust some heads. This documentary blows every preconceived notion about the physically disabled out of the water. Even with limbs missing, the athletes still get more action than most Rice students in more ways than one. Their all-guts, all-glory attitudes make Murderball a true tale of the survival of the fearless and the obvious choice for this year's Oscar.

— Tasha Chemplavil

Animated Feature: Wallace and Gromit and the Curse of the Were-Rabbit

It would be an injustice, a disgrace, perhaps even a crime against humanity if Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit did not win. No member of the Academy, it is obvious this film must win. You have already revealed your commitment to prejudice and politics, passing over Gromit for supporting actor — how could you still have feelings, too?

How who see the film will miss Gromit's subtle mastery and presence. This lovingly claymated canine does not have a single line in the entire movie. The film reveals the complexities of this character's psyche through powerful body language and what may just be the most creative clay-face scenes to ever grace the screen. But the corrupt Oscar politics of making Steve Martin a nominee in B-listerlike a gag in George Clooney from Syriana and a multi-talented Jake Gyllenhall from Brokeback Mountain. Sure, the subject matter of those films might have been more "substantial" than The Curse of the Were-Rabbit's themes of cheese and vegetable theft, but you would be hardly pressed to find a more skillful performance than Gromit's in any film from 2005.

— Bryce Gray
Men’s basketball hosts SMU to end regular season

by Chris Facilik

The men’s basketball saw its four-game winning streak come to an end after a 74-71 loss against Southern Methodist University at the University of Houston in a conference game on Tuesday 3/7. SMU defeated Rice 80-69 in Dallas in a game in which the Mustangs’ Dez Williams hit a three-pointer with one second left to force overtime.

Tomorrow’s game will also mark the final regular season game for the team’s senior forwards: J.K. Harrison, Jamaal Moore and Jason Bridges. Head coach Willie Wilson (Will Rice ‘82) said the seniors’ presence helped the team rebuild after a highly regarded class exhausted its eligibility last year.

“They have been a cornerstone of all the success we’ve had the last four years,” Wilson said. “They gave us a lot of energy and a lot of experience that the younger guys didn’t have. The thing that I’m proud of is that there’s not been a more competitive team than we haven’t won more games.”

— Willie Wilson (Will Rice ’82)
Head men’s basketball coach

But tomorrow’s regular season finale against Southern Methodist University is not the most important game in the Owls’ schedule for next week, the C-USA tournament, which will be held in Memphis, Tenn. The Owls will have to beat Southern Methodist University—at the seventh seed and to avoid a possible quarterfinal matchup with Memphis, which is ranked third nationally.

The Owls had to assign a road loss to the Mustangs earlier this year. SMU (12-14, 4-9 C-USA) defeated Rice 80-69 in Dallas in a game that was hardly a surprise — the Owls had already placed sixth in the 5,000, 3.24 seconds behind the 5,000 record for the Conference USA Indoor Track and Field Championships.

“His weekend low-scoring game in a row after scoring at least 30 points in the four previous games. They got off to a good start,” Almond said. “A lot of that was our fault — they didn’t come out ready to play.”

See BASKETBALL, page 21

Men’s tennis splits weekend dual matches

by Dylan Farmer

Senior Robert Seare’s double ended with an ankle injury in Rice’s 5-2 loss to 31st-ranked Middle Tennessee State on Saturday, but the Owls rebounded Sunday to beat 52nd-ranked Vanderbilt University 4-3 without his top players.

“This weekend, the 42nd-ranked Rice Owls competed in the 117th annual Pacific Coast Doubles Championships in La Jolla, Calif., which is open to amateur double teams from around the world. Rice has a storied history in La Jolla — William (Lowitt ’94) and Richard Parker (Baker ’99) said. “We need to work on doubles and come back ready to take on Florida State.”

This year, Seare’s participation in the tournament is uncertain. Upcoming senior Seare’s progress will be monitored throughout the week to determine his tournament status.

“Pearl’s first match is scheduled for Friday morning,” Ustundag said. “But if it’s not 100 percent, there’s no need to play him.”

Seare and senior partner Tony Haerle are seeded 39th in the bracket. Haerle might team with another unpartnered player, either from another school or independently entered, if Seare cannot compete.

Against Middle-Tennessee State in Murfreesboro, Tenn., the Owls started the day well. Seare and Haerle were leading the nation’s second-ranked doubles team 4-1 before Seare’s injury, and they eventually lost 8-6. Haerel and freshman Christopher Miller were at the third position to keep Rice in contention, but sophomore Ralph Solares also played a key role with another unpartnered player, either from another school or independently entered, if Seare cannot compete.

Junior guard Lorenzo Williams drives to the basket in Rice’s 77-64 loss to UCF Saturday. Williams set the Owls’ single-season assist record yesterday against UH, breaking the mark held by Rashld Smith (Sid ’04). Rice will play its final game of the regular season tomorrow when it hosts SMU at Autry Court. The game starts at 6:05 p.m.

Solares, Walsh win C-USA title meet

by Stephen Whitfield

Junior Pablo Solares set the record in indoor mile, senior Ryan Walsh set the record in high jump as the Owls swept the indoor track and field championships.

Walsh’s height of 7 feet 10 inches and red-shirt freshman Tyler Whitman won the pole vault to lead the men’s track and field team to a third-place finish at the C-USA Indoor Track and Field Championships. Whitman was named CUSA Freshman of the Year after the meet, held Friday and Saturday at威尼斯人 Fieldhouse at the University of Houston.

Solares’ victory in the mile was hardly a surprise — he entered the meet with the top time in the conference — but he won the mile using a different strategy. Instead of trying to maintain a lead for most of the race, he stayed close to the pack for the first six laps and then ran a sub-2:30 split on the final two laps to win by 4.6 seconds over Marca Bogan of the University of Texas-El Paso.

The indoor season is now over for most of the Owls, but Solares will compete at the junior championships in an attempt to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships.

Solares also played a key role in the Owls’ two relay teams. He ran a good 5,000, then helped the Owls to a fifth-place finish on the distance medley relay, running a 1:01.5 split to make up a 12-second difference against UCF’s Colin Nef and the Owls finished third. Solares also ran the anchor leg of a 4x400-meter relay team that included Whitman, senior Eric Spears and senior Ralh Harknett Miller. That relay was the last event of the meet, and Warren said the timing contributed to the relay team’s fifth-place finish.

“I thought we could do a little better [in the 4x400], but by that point in the meet, we had won earlier,” Walsh said. “We had to put some guys,” Warren said. “That’s the risk you take in a conference meet, you run people and you hope...”

See TRACK, page 21

OW LOOK — THE WEEK IN SPORTS

The women’s basketball team has a 0.714 winning percentage in conference tournament play since 2000. The year, Rice won its first NCAA tournament game. The Owls will play their first CUSA tournament game tonight at 6 p.m. against the winner of the UH/UTEP first round game. Rice won its first seven games and none of its first seven games were played in the tournament, which will be held in Dallas this weekend. If they win, the Owls will face SMU, Tulane or UCF in a semifinal game Saturday.

Friday 3/3
1:30 p.m. Women’s Tennis vs. Texas State (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)
6 p.m. Men’s Tennis vs. UT-Arlington (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)

Saturday 3/4
1:30 p.m. Women’s Tennis vs. UT-Arlington (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)
5:30 p.m. Men’s Tennis vs. UT-Arlington (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)

Sunday 3/5
1 p.m. Women’s Tennis vs. Texas State (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)
5 p.m. Men’s Tennis vs. South Florida (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)

Tuesday 3/7
7 p.m. Women’s Tennis vs. Reckling Park (Reckling Park)

Wednesday 3/8
3:30 p.m. Women’s Tennis vs. Florida State (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)

BY THE NUMBERS

The men’s basketball team has a

0.714
Women's basketball seeded second in C-USA tournament

by Jamer Obremske

With two victories on the road last weekend, the women's basketball team won six of its last ten games, and the Owls will probably have a chance to average their only loss in that stretch tonight.

Rice (35-12, 15-6 Conference USA) is seeded second in the C-USA tournament, and head coach Greg Williams (Hannan '70) said he does not think Rice would have a chance to get an at-large bid.

"If we're fortunate enough to win, we're the only team in the conference that's beaten Rice twice and the only team that's beaten us in our last 10 games," Williams said. "I think we have a chance to avenge our only loss in that stretch. And the Owls will probably have a chance to average their only loss in that stretch tonight.

Playing Houston is just the way it is," Williams said. "In some ways, I kind of like that, because they're the only team in the conference that's beaten us twice, and the only team that's beaten us in our last 10 games. We want another win against Houston.

"I think we're the only team in the conference that's beaten us twice and the only team that's beaten us in our last 10 games. We want another win against Houston.

The Owls almost ended up on the opposite side of the bracket in the NCAA tournament—the team's only shot to get an at-large bid.

UH mounted a furious comeback in the second half to win the game, and Williams said he will have to force their best players to play roles they're not used to.

"We have to force their best players to play roles they're not used to," Elder said. "Everyone will have to adjust to an almost entirely new coaching staff.

"We spend a lot of time shooting the ball, and Williams said he will have to force their best players to play roles they're not used to.

"We have to force their best players to play roles they're not used to," Elder said. "Everyone will have to adjust to an almost entirely new coaching staff.

Against UTEP, tonight's other WAC tourney opponent, the Owls won both of their games this season, including a 52-40 win in 15 games.

"If we're fortunate enough to win, we'll have to adjust to an almost entirely new coaching staff," Williams said. "We want to try to send a subliminal message to the Owls who play UH tonight.

"That's the one game in the last 10 that I didn't play her, and that's the only one we lost," Williams said. "I'm using my Rice degree to figure that one out.

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"And Sunday's 3 p.m. final, which will be shown nationwide on ESPN2, will be a rubber game between the Owls and UH as they try to accomplish offensive. We brought a whole new system in, and I think we took time for them — as well as us — to get a better rhythm offensively.

"The main thing we've been working on is knowing how to guard them," Elder said. "Every time we look at them, they have strengths and weaknesses - we need to understand that they're not perfect and just concentrate on taking away their strengths.

"We have to force their best players to play roles they're not used to.

"We're in a rhythm right now, and we're peaking at the best time," Elder said.

Senior guard Tye Jackson has had much success against Rice, averaging 39 percent in their first 20 games. However, junior guard Krystal Frazier, then the team's leading scorer, tore her Achilles tendon in the game that weekend, so when the Owls played UH at Autry Court Feb. 3 was the only team that's beaten us in our last 10 games. We want another win against Houston.

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Against UTEP tonight, it will likely have hard and third-seeded Southern Methodist University (11-12, 46 percent) or sixth-seeded Tulsa (11-12, 39 percent) in a 5 p.m. game Saturday that will be rebroadcast nationally on ESPN. And Sunday's 3 p.m. final, which will be shown nationwide on ESPN2, could be a rubber game between Rice and top-seeded University of Tulsa (22-3, 15-0), which has developed a competitive rivalry with the Owls over the past few years.

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Rice, which currently has an RPI of 89, has advanced to either the NCAA tournament or the Women's National Invitation Tournament in three of the last four seasons.

I think we might be on the WNIT bubble," Williams said. "Hopefully, we're on the radar screen with our RPI and the strength of schedule that we've played. Certainly we want to win the conference tournament, but I think we've got to win the championship game; we will be a much more respectable WNIT candidate.

"Last weekend, the Owls 83-40 at Alf Hall before beating Memphis Sunday. Rice continued to shoot well, hitting 46 percent of their shots from the field on the weekend. In the Owls' current seven-game winning streak, they have shot 40 percent, compared to 30 percent in their first 20 games.

Williams, who is in his first year as head coach, said he thinks the tournament is partially a result of players adjusting to an almost entirely new coaching staff.

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Williams said maintaining the winning rhythm, and head coach Greg Williams (Hannan '70) said he does not think Rice would have a chance to get an at-large bid.

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The Owls almost ended up on the opposite side of the bracket from the Owls, but the昂as' lost the University of Alabama Birmingham (14-13, 7-6) Sunday when Sha-Rutta Haywood scored a third-team all-court as time expired. With the victory, the Cougars' sixth-place finish with Tulane University (14-11, 8-8) and East Carolina University (14-1, 88) UH almost ended up on the opposite side of the bracket from the Owls, but the昂as' lost the University of Alabama Birmingham (14-13, 7-6) Sunday when Sha-Rutta Haywood scored a third-team all-court as time expired. With the victory, the Cougars' sixth-place finish with Tulane University (14-11, 8-8) and East Carolina University (14-1, 88)
Women's track finishes second at C-USA indoor championships

by Katy Miller

The women's track and field team finished fifth at the University of Houston Invitational on Friday at the Conference USA Indoor Championships held at UH. Rice placed in the top three in seven of the 25 events.

Sophomore Calle Welles led the way for the Owls and was named Performer of the Meet after winning the mile and 3,000 meters with respective times of 4 minutes, 59.2 seconds and 9 minutes, 45.03 seconds.

“Rice had a chance to force the waves at C-USA meet,” said Head coach John Bevan. “We’re pleased by the runners’ performances under pressure.”

Sophomore Lorraine Williams passed Rashid Smith for the single-season school assist record. She had six assists on the night, raising his season total to 163. Almond missed two three-pointers, including an open look from the corner, with less 15 seconds left, and the Cougars held on for the victory.

Adding to Halsey’s success was second-day surge and several points, well behind champion University’s 846. However, the point totals are not reflective of the Owls’ performance, because we didn’t have every point that we could,” Halsey said. “It was an exciting meet in that every event had its own competition for every place. For me, it was a special situation for us to have women and lifetime bests and it lay all out there like we did.”

As they had done the entire season, the distance runners made a bold statement. Behind Wells’ winning time of 4:44.74 in the 3,000, Rice filled three of the next four spots. Sophomore Maria Daniels placed second in 9:45.78, senior Sarah Yoder took fourth in 9:48.69 and junior Kate Gery was fifth in 9:54.25. Daniels and Gery also placed first and second in the 5,000, with respective times of 16:30.00 and 16:32.90.

Welles, Daniels, Yoder and Gery travel to South Bend, Ind. this weekend to attempt to qualify individually for the NCAA Championships to be held March 11-12 in Fayetteville, Ark. They will be joined by sophomore Rachel Greff, who won the pole vault at the C-USA championships by clearing 12.17. Johns will compete in the pentathlon at the USA Multi-Event Championships in North Carolina after not competing last weekend. The rest of the Owls will return to fundamental training — resting and preparing for the start of the outdoor track season in late March.

BASKETBALL

From page 18

Four of the five players in Rice’s starting lineup scored in double figures, with Harrison’s 14 points a team high. No Owl, however, had more than four rebounds on the night.

The Owls followed their poor shooting at home with a tough loss on the road at UH. The Owls showed more energy playing with more energy in front of a raucous crowd of more than 7,000 at Hofheinz Pavilion.

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Swimmers make waves at C-USA meet

by Brian Mothersole

Despite a great start, a third-day surge and several NCAA provisionally qualifying performances, the swim team finished fourth in last week’s Conference USA Swimming and Diving Championships, which were held at the University of Houston.

Nevertheless, several Owls posted strong times at the conference meet.

Sophomore Brittany Massengale placed third in the 50-yard freestyle, breaking Carl Miller’s 12-year-old Rice record by finishing in 49.93 seconds. Massengale would later go on to place fourth in the 1,500 freestyle with a time of 15:36.85. The 200-yard freestyle relay team of junior Laura Hayes, freshman Diane Gu, freshman Skylar Craig and freshman Carlyann Miller also posted a school-record time, taking second place in 1:52.94. All of these times were enough to provisionally qualify for nationals in the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships, which will be held March 16-18 at Athens, Ga.

Joe Moore, a senior, and John Bevan said he got every point that we could.”

The women’s track and field team finished fifth in the high jump, with less 15 seconds left, and the Cougars held on for the victory.

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Texas A&M University last week, Women's tennis loses at concluding a five-match road trip. The Owls play the first of six consecutive matches against Texas State University and they will follow with a match against the University they wouldn't have been able. Both matches will be played at Jake Trends Tennis Stadium.

"We need to be prepared to come out from the first point and be really aggressive this weekend," Schmidt said. "We're 3-0 right now at home, and we're expecting that to carry over into this weekend.

Against the Commodores, Rice defeated Vanderbilt, being one of their worst defeats of the year. "I thought the seniors Blair DiSesa and freshman Alana Rodgers fell 6-3 to start the day," Senior Medic Egic and sophomore Kim bicyclist Patenaude lost at the second position, followed by sophomores Christine Dao and Tia Lewis at No. 3. The slide continued in singles, with DiSesa losing to 40th-ranked Amanda Fish 6-4, 6-3 at the top spot. At No. 2, Dao lost 6-3, 6-0 to ranked Taka Bertrand. Rodgers, Lee, Egic and Patenaude lost matches as well. However, Schmidt said, the team is looking to take something positive from the loss. "It was a good experience for us to see what top-20 teams are like and identify what we need to do to play at that level," Schmidt said. "We didn't win the match, but the effort and work ethic and competitive spirit that we saw is going to carry over into the conference tournament.

W. A&M. Dao played well despite an otherwise lackluster team performance. Schmidt was happy to provide the only Owls doubles win and 6-3, 6-4 against the first set. Singles - Eugene scored the only other team point with a 6-2, 6-0 victory at No. 6. At the top spot, in a limited number of events. Rice's third-place finish was attributed to the Owls' doubles sweep. "They can't win 7-0, but Texas A&M was a big step for them," Schmidt said. "It was good, but after losing the doubles point, they still competed from the get-go in singles.

It's unfortunate because [Searle and Harris] lost more than the match," head coach Brian Mothersole said. "They probably lost an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament." The Owls finished fifth, but Texas A&M was a big step for them. "People are going to be ready, but Texas A&M is 1-0," Warne said. "It's one of my strongest events,

Despite the easy victory, Walsh said he had the flu the whole week but after losing the doubles point, he will train for the doubles point at No. 2. Harknett and Muller went at the third spot to finish the doubles sweep. The Owls lost the opening six singles matches with decidedly better play than the day before. Harris and Zivojinovic came up big.

The Owls will be present to help you prepare for your big day!!!

Time & Date: March 21 - March 23, 2006
Place: Grand Hall Lobby
Rice Memorial Center

2006 Graduation Fair
29th GRADUATING CLASS CANDIDATES
Helping you prepare for your BIG DAY!!!

Hansen beats Brown 19-8 in softball

Hansen (1-0) opened the season Sunday with a 19-8 win over defending champion Brown (0-1). In Sunday's other game, Jones (1-0) defeated Lovett (6-1) by a score of 9-4.

In the Wednesday League, Will Rice (10-9) took an 8-5 victory over Sid Richardson (0-1) before defeating Wisconsin (1-1) 14-15.

Men's #20 football

Rice Military League, Will Rice (2-1) recorded its first win of the year, defeating LSU (9-3) by a score of 19-13. Martel (5-3) edged 56 (5-4) by a point, rushing 13, thus clinching the division title.

Kuppler and Filo Zivinovcich lost a singles point at No. 2 to surrender the double point.

"We're 2-3 against ranked teams of the day, GSA (2-1) came from behind to win the second point against Vanderbilt," Zivojinovic said. "Everybody stepped it up, and we swept the doubles point for the first time this season — without our No. 1 player. That shows that we're a very good team.

Despite the meddler 1-0 record on the trip, the team is trying to draw positives from the experience.

"I honestly think we're in a better situation now than we were a couple of weeks ago," Smart said. "Single-wise, I think we'll still be up and down, but we're improving, and that's going to be the key for the rest of the year.

Smart said the Owls' upcoming schedule includes 11th-ranked UT (6-0), ranked No. 5 and ranked Tulsa — should be the barometer by which they measure their season.

"We're 2-3 against ranked teams so far this season," he said. "But we've got several more ranked teams to go, so it's not time to worry yet.

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2006 Graduation Fair
29th GRADUATING CLASS CANDIDATES
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Place: Grand Hall Lobby
Rice Memorial Center

Time & Date: March 21 - March 23, 2006
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

- Herff-Jones reps will be present to assist you with your personal
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  can purchase them in the Bookstore.
- Balfour reps will be present to assist you with your custom class ring.
- Oak Hall reps will be present to assist you with your regalia orders.
- Rice Career Services will be present to help you get started on your
  career path.
- Alumni Affairs and University Events will be present to congratulate you for your graduation achievements and continue your
  commitment to Rice University.
BASEBALL

FROM PAGE 1

teams have good pitching depth this season. With junior shortstop/ second baseman Jordan Rodgers still unable to play shortstop because of an elbow injury, Graham has considered putting Rodgers in the outfield or at first base so the Owls have the best possible batting lineup.

When senior right-hander Eddie Diege-Degerman starts Saturday, Rodriguez will likely remain the DH. However, when sophomore left-hander/first baseman Suey Cox pitches Sunday — and Bibby is out — Rodriguez will serve as his designated hitter — Rodriguez will be forced to the field or on the bench.

"To beat Fullerton, ... we need Josh," Graham said. The problem is, we have two quality outfielders in Henley and Adam Zornes, but we don't want to take out of there. It's possible Rodgers will play first base on Sunday. That would be the best way to get to all of those runs in.

Unlike in less competitive midweek games earlier this season, Rice (11-2) will have to be at its best against UT (9-6) Tuesday. The Longhorns defeated the Owls on a walk-off two-run home run Feb. 11 at the Houston College Classic. Rice seventh-straight loss to UT in the Ocelot's last win against the Longhorns was in the 2002 College World Series.

Junior right-hander Craig Crow, who started against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi last Tuesday, is likely to get the nod against UT this week.

Crow earned the win, holding the Islanders to three hits and striking out eight in four innings. The freshman, the longest outing in his Rice career, A&M-Corpus Christi held the Owls scoreless until the sixth inning, when a solo home run run from sophomore right-fielder Conoco put a 2-1 score on the board.

Rice added three more runs, including one in the seventh on a home run by redshirt-sophomore catcher Adam Zornes.

Sophomore left-hander Bobby Brumblaw, who had worked three innings in relief, started the ninth inning but allowed the first two hitters instead to reach base, leaving Graham to bring in senior right-hander Beyce Cox. Cox was ineffective, allowing the runners on base to score while getting just one out, so Graham inserted sophomore left-hander Cole St.Clair, who quickly got two outs to earn his third save.

Cox has only been a pitcher for a few seasons, and Graham said he expects Cox to continue to develop.

"I still think there are times when he drifts mechanically," Graham said. "He's going to have to keep working, because he's still young as a pitcher. Just like a lot of people in the big leagues, he's going to get puzzled over sometimes, but not often." 

Graham said he will continue to use both Cox and St.Clair late in games and that he does not feel compelled to name either one of them the team's starter.

"All this stuff in pro ball with closers is basically an inefficient structure that people have approved," - Wayne Graham

Head baseball coach

Dudson, who was an all-state football quarterback at The Woodlands High School, played sporadically last year. Bounced by a solid summer in the Cape Cod League, he is now a regular starter and leads the team with a .378 batting average.

"Jordan is one of those guys who we really needed to develop," Graham said. "He's an extremely intense player who always gives you everything he has. He's not making the conversion from playing two sports and transferring all of his attention to baseball. It's great to see him do well.

Degerman effectively countered Chamberlain and earned the save, allowing just two runs and a walk while striking out nine in seven innings. After the Owls scored a run in the bottom of the seventh to take the lead, Graham inserted Cox, who faced just seven batters while earning his first save of the year.

A late-inning home run by the two seniors — Newcomb and Cox — put a 1-0 score on the board in what was ultimately an 11-6 Owls win.

A successful summer in the Texas Collegiate League and the development of a breaking ball have given Cox more confidence and control this season.

"I think I mainly grew as a pitcher and a little as a person as well," Cox said. "I left here last year, had a good summer, had a good fall coming back in, got my confidence back up and I've kind of rolled with it from there. I go out and try to do the same thing every day, no matter what's going on — whether it’s the bullpen, [in] the mound, starting or a team like Texas or Cal State Fullerton.

In the Owls' final game at the Rice Invitational, the team won 3-2 against Texas State (16-3) Sunday. With the win, Cox earned his second win of the season with a solid, seven-inning outing, striking out five and allowing just two runs while allowing six hits.

In the Friday game, Rice used six pitchers against St.John's (13-3) in a 14-7 victory. The Owls' 11 hits included a season high three home runs. Sophomore centerfielder Tyler Unruh had a breakout game, going 4-4, scoring four runs, driving in six and recording five hits.

Although Unruh has struggled overall — he is hitting just .200 — Graham said the freshman has been "amazing" in the leadoff spot for most games.

"All this stuff in pro ball
**FRIDAY**

Sell, sell, sell!

Today is the middle day in the three-day Owl Weekend for students admitted through Interim Decisions. Show those prospects what Rice, and Houston, in general, have to offer. Show them the parts of campus where you hang out — and the ones you've supposed to spend your time. Founders Library is in the academic quad, if you were wondering.

**SATURDAY**

SMU is the new UN

Not really, but why shouldn't a private school in Dallas be a rival for the Owls? Jump up and down at the men's basketball game at 6:00 p.m. at Autry Court, as the Owls take on the Mustangs. At the same time, send winning thoughts north to the women's team, which is hopefully in the Conference USA tournament semifinals.

Getting crunk in the club

Head to Numbers night club for Masquerade, the Artsy Arts party. The masquerade theme lends itself to a forthcoming March Crisis festivities. Tickets are $30; and can be bought at meals or at the door. The party goes from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

**MONDAY**

Get those reservations finalized

If you are like me in the least, you are beyond ready for some relief from the midterms, papers, projects, and presentations. It only took some kind of break in the middle of the spring when you got a week to do things, like ski or go to the beach or just find some time to be away from the school day grind. And if only, just only, the first actual weekday of this break were our week from today.

**TUESDAY**

Rematch

Rice gets a chance to repay U of the loss earlier this year when the boys in orange come to Reckling Park to take on the men in white. Some of you may never have made it out to watch a game in Reckling, and there's no better way to start a new tradition than by watching your Owls beat the defending national champs in the national pastime. The first pitch is at 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

I voted!

This is the last day to vote in the General Elections, including the Student Association presidential election. Cast your vote at an election desk, and then go buy some "I voted" stickers online to feel that much more in tune with your civic duty. Or order yourself some "future voter" stickers so that you can reconcile going to the polls with your parents and feeling like the big people.

**THURSDAY**

Shower day

Today, we celebrate that king of the hygiene world. Some showers, some just spray, some have pressure, others, not. Shower heads swing, shower heads dance, in the shower you wear no underpants. All the railing aside, from your shower you should never hide. Seriously, though, take a minute to look at your shower head today. Who in the world designs these things? So many different types, yet they often go unnoticed and toil in anonymity until finally, after years of abuse and neglect, they fall. Such a sad existence. But boy, at least they aren't trains.

**FRIDAY**

School's out for the ... week

By 5 p.m. today, you should be home free for a delicious nine-day break from classes. Nine days of freedom, nine days of love, nine days of life.

Nine days to reflect on the first half of the semester and prepare for the second portion. While spring break may excite the high-schooler, it exists as a sort of social hiatus for the college student. Places like South Padre Island, Jamaica and ski resorts do an unbelievable portion of their business in one short period of fun and sun or snow. And there's a greater meaning than fun and sun — an escape from everyday life if only for a while, if only for nine days...

**HOW TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS**

Deadline is Monday at 3 p.m. prior to Friday publication.

Submission methods:
Fax: (713) 348-5238
Email: theshelfer-calendar@rice.edu

Campus Mail:
Calendar Fattore
Thresher, MS-524

Submissions are printed on a space available basis.

**The RICE Coffeeshouse is now hiring!**

Pick up an application from the Coffeeshouse anytime you are open from Monday, March 6 until they're due on Wednesday, March 22. Application is for Summer/Fall 2006 employment.

**TUESDAY**

**LOOK BETTER**

In everything you wear, specially after you take it all off.

5182 Buffalo Speedway
713.667.1826

8366 Westheimer Rd. Ste. D
713.266.8267

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**THURSDAY**

**ADD WATER**

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Lucky
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OP Swim
Shelli
Spank Piccone
Tommy Bahama
Bella Brazil
BOBO

justaddwater.com
Student wears ‘Feminist’ T-shirt, extremely short miniskirt

The attractive young woman, as that her feminist stance had attracted such a crowd, stood by her controversial political stance.

“If I’m a feminist and I’m going to wear this shirt, no matter what some man tells me. Also, it makes my boobs look great,” Maureen said.

“Plus, I look really hot in this miniskirt. I know it is hard, but I kind of like it when guys stare.”

Maureen’s break from a history of subversive women who did not have important political pieces on their shirts has attracted the attention of Rice’s Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies department.

“Truly, Maureen has broken from the stereotype that she can do whatever she wants,” Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Professor Karin Wilson said.

“It’s a shame people are like that,” she’s saying. “Look, out-male-dominated world, here come me and my legs.”

Some young women have even seen this feminist revolution as an opportunity to turn the table and control guys inspired by MaureeTy, example, they have donned their “Feminist” T-shirts and miniskirts, setting out to right what history has wronged.

“I was at a party and this guy was totally staring at me. So, I decided to get me a drink— I’m totally in power now,” Kathleen Anns said.

“Sure, I can run well in this skirt and the heecloth really hurt my feet, but the ability to get guys to do things they don’t want to do is worth it.”

Many chauvinists have felt the sting of women finally fighting back with their skirts.

“I told a state straight to our guy’s breasts whenever she starts a tight T-shirt,” Chad Hudson said. “Now all these tight, revealing T-shirts have feminist savages on them. I’ll have to wait until a private party, or a private tour, or Girls Gone Wild ad to see women.”

However, women have expanded their feminist suit to some of these traits as well, pointing to Girls Gone Wild as the latest front for a feminist war to some of those realms as well, my feminist stance for women’s rights and equality in a history has wronged.

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The student wears a “This Is What A Feminist Looks Like” T-shirt and stance for women’s rights and equality in a history has wronged.

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