Tupper elected president

Hanscom College junior Althea Tupper defeated her two opponents in the election for Student Association president. Loett College junior Evan Ross came in second place, and Martel College sophomore Andrew Chifari was third.

After write-in candidates and Chifari were eliminated via the preferential voting system, Tupper had a 59 percent of the votes. However, the preferential voting elimination rounds, Tupper had 419 first-place votes (59 percent), Ross was second with 271 (31 percent), Chifari was third with 125 (18 percent) and absentee write-in candidate Misha Teplyglo, a Jones College junior, had 105 votes (12 percent). The elections, which began March 19 and lasted Wednesday, had participation lower than last year's. This year, 916 online ballots were cast, while 1,325 students voted last year and 544 voted in 2001.

Mishloch first-year Ross Mehta defeated two opponents for SA external vice president and Brown College freshman Abigail Davis won after the candidate ran to become SA treasurer. Loett College freshman Sarah Baker, who is also a Thresher assistant news editor, topped one opponent to become SA secretary, and Brown sophomore Laura Kelley won an uncontested race for SA internal vice president.

Four Honor Council amendments passed, the most significant of which was that lamps in the council saw its three-year term ending. A student who is accused of an Honor Code violation could withdraw from Rice without an Honor Council hearing and avoid any penalty as long as he or she remained away from Rice for at least two semesters. Now, an accused student who leaves Rice without an Honor Council hearing will have the course erased from his or her transcript.

Tupper also said she hopes to organize more campus-wide activities.

"The SA should work with the venues we have to make Rice as a whole a home to the students in addition to the colleges," she said.

Current SA President James Lloyd, who did not endorse any candidate during the campaign, said he expects Tupper will be a good president because of her spirit and leadership.

"She brings a great deal of energy and experience, which is vital to be successful in Houston," Lloyd said.

This year's SA elections are not just the first week," Forman said.

"We emphasize this idea that we are a community, and I think we do that intellectually engaging O-Week.

"O-Week gets so packed with so many events held during O-Week and what comes after that it's easy to lose focus on what students want and what exactly the SA can do for them."

Tupper also said she hopes to maintain open communication with students.

"RPC has not had contract negotiations with Dave and Buster's," Forman said. "Sheley said RPC is strongly considering holding the event at Dave and Buster's and will make a final decision by March 21. Dave and Buster's is a restaurant with a bar and arcade games.

RPC has not had contract discussions with Dave and Buster's, but Sheley said she has confirmed that the venue is available April 22. Sheley, a Jones College sophomore and RPC president-elect, said tickets will probably cost $15-20. If the event is at Dave and Buster's, the ticket price would include game tokens, entrance to the dance room with a disc jockey and shuttles to and from the event.

The event would be semi-formal, which Sheley said would appeal to a wider range of students than a formal event.

After losing about $4,000 on Esperanza in the fall, the formal committee will consider taking a net loss of about $8,000 on Rondelet this spring.

Sheley said RPC is also considering other restaurant venues, like the Rice Village.

"The restaurant would have not just American food but fun Japanese food or Spanish food, so we could bring in music or social cultural aspects to the event," Sheley said.

Rondelet is usually held within a week of RiverBike, which will take place April 3 this year. Sheley said she and other formal chairs decided to hold Rondelet in late April because of conflicting with other large campus events — like Soul Night and Jamboree — as well as Spring Break and Spring Recess.

Sheley said she is thinking about the event in late April would make it more popular.

"People would be really excited about having one last event with their senior friends," Sheley said.

RPC has also considered holding Rondelet at the Houston Aquarium, at the Houston Zoo, at nightclubs and on campus.

Sheley said it is difficult to schedule an event at the aquarium because it is a popular venue, but she is still considering the option of the Rice Village. She said it is also a consideration. Sheley said it is a consideration because of the popularity of the event and the fact that it is a popular venue.

Committee formed to study effectiveness of O-Week

by Alex Stall

The committee was formed to study the effectiveness of O-Week.

"The committee started with the idea that we shouldn't view O-Week and what comes after as entirely separate events," Forman said. Assistant to the Dean of Undergraduates Matthew Taylor '04, a committee member, said the committee will reevaluate events held during O-Week and recommend whether some of the programs would be better off held after the start of O-Week. Sheely got so packed with so many different things and programs that often, it's just like a fire hose in one's face for first-year students," Taylor said.

Forman said he would like to see a more intellectually engaging O-Week.

"We emphasize this idea that we are a community, and I think we do that brilliantly," Forman said. "We might be able to face more emotions on the nation that we're not just any community — we're a community of scholars. And that's separate from any committee, page 6.

INSIDE

SPORTS Page 15
Women's basketball awaits WNIT bid

Baseball

Quote of the Week
"The high notes are a function of kids caring about academics and working hard to do a great job. They always do around here — they care very seriously, and we're proud of the work they do.

— Assistant Director Scott Mo. Rice's academic progress rates. (See story, page 6.)

Baseball

Thursday, 9-8, 5-5

Weekend Weather

Friday, 9-8, 5-5, 65-85 degrees

Saturday, 5-5, 65-84 degrees
The Committee on the First-Year Experience has an important job to do: evaluate how to give incoming students the best possible introduction to Rice. (See story, page 1.) We think such an evaluation is healthy and that the committee’s focus on Orientation Week is appropriate. O-Week has changed for the better, but more needs to be done.

**Programming**

O-Week is too busy. For most of us, it is an incomprehensible blur of activities, leaving us with no time to decompress or do anything else. Also, O-Week has too many late-night events. Some pre-med students, people find it hard to sleep less than six hours per night and still be chipper. By the end of the week, many of us were exhausted.

We believe the following groups are unique to Rice and therefore necessary to explain during O-Week: the Honor Council, the Rice Housing Steering Committee, and the Student Forum. These groups are among our ideas. Also, social events are a more intellectual approach to O-Week; we agree. Most Rice students—do not get the opportunity for hosting guest speakers and other intellectual programs. This would further reinforce student-to-student enthusiasm.

**Academic advising**

Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman said he wants to see a more intellectual approach to O-Week; we agree. Most Rice students are interested in academic advising—which is not the same in college and that showing of side of life early on is important.

Many other universities require all incoming freshmen to read a book over the summer. We don’t require anything, but an optional reading assignment with an accompanying (and optional) book discussion during O-Week would be fun—and fun in a different way than most of the rest of O-Week.

In addition, the academic fair should be expanded. More professors should come, and departments should have generously staffed tables at specific colleges—go to Brown for natural sciences and so on. Keeping faculty together would inspire the faith with more intellectual energy than the current diffuse system, in which each college has a few professors sitting around looking bored. And O-Week advisors should make more of an effort to join the professors in their majors at the fair, so excitement about learning comes from the students and not just the grown-ups.

Finally, the carnival should be replaced with a different kind of fair: one for academically focused student groups, such as the Baker Institute Student Forum and the Society of Women Engineers. This would further encourage student-to-student enthusiasm about Rice’s intellectual life.

**Academic advising**

Departmental advising is a joke and will remain so until more divisional advisors are assigned to each college. A handful of faculty members simply cannot serve a college’s entire freshman class well.

For student-to-student advising, it would have less of a word of mouth character if students could access the written comments from course evaluations online.

**Pitfalls perforate Thresher AP plan**

To the editor:

I am concerned with your editorial calling for an end to credit awarded for Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses taken at the high school level prior to a student's entrance into a Rice undergraduate program, Feb. 3.

The editorial incorrectly states that students are to 2.0 in AP or IB courses already hold. They are not. The Rice Academic Board has made it clear that there are an entire array of reasons that are favorable to giving students credit for their courses. One of these is that it is fair to students who have taken courses at the high school level.

Besides, if students arrive at Rice with AP or IB credit, they are more likely to be successful at Rice in that they are better prepared for college-level work. In addition, the students who are not highly motivated to excel in their high school courses are less likely to take advantage of AP or IB courses if they are not required at Rice for admission.

I am also concerned about the recent decision to charge a $125 fee for hosting guest speakers and other intellectual programs. This would further reinforce student-to-student enthusiasm.

**Biblical, medical, flaws fill letter**

To the editor:

In response to Jesse Chan’s letter in the editorials section of the article containing one error that needs correcting, Jan. 30.

I think there’s anything wrong with healthy masturbation and wish there was better understanding of the benefits. I think there’s anything wrong with healthy masturbation and wish there was better understanding of the benefits.

I think the following groups are unique to Rice and therefore necessary to explain during O-Week: the Honor Council, the Rice Housing Steering Committee, and the Student Forum. These groups are among our ideas. Also, social events are a more intellectual approach to O-Week; we agree. Most Rice students—do not get the opportunity for hosting guest speakers and other intellectual programs. This would further reinforce student-to-student enthusiasm.

**CONTACTING THE THRESHER**

Letters

Letters to the editor should be sent to the Thresher by email to thresh-er@rice.edu. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date.

All letters to the editor must be signed and include college and year. A word or two of the writer in a bio is appreciated.

Letters should be no longer than 300 words. The Thresher reserves the right to edit letters for both content and length.

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Subscriptions are available for S0 domestic and $125 international via first class mail.

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Matthew Taylor

Editor's note: See erratum, page 5.

Thresher-ops@rice.edu

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Rice is a whole is not a par
ticulorly politically active campus. This,
however, can be traced to a large
degree to the Rice student body's
workload and social life. Rice students
are not as likely to vote as students
t from other institutions. This is
because Rice students are occupied
with classes and social events, which
leaves little time for political
activities. However, Rice students
are still able to make a difference
in local, state, and national elections.

As sleeves and pant legs
out and about, soaking
break on the tip of their tongues.

The percentage of young people
who are able to vote is quite
large. However, many students
feel that their votes do not
make a difference. They believe
that the political system is
broken and that there is nothing
they can do to change it.

Students need to stand up for their
politics and voice their opinions.
They need to be more involved
in the political process and
make their voices heard.
ELECTIONS
From page 1

Ross said he plans to look for ways to contribute to the SA next year. Although the number of voters was down from last year, Lloyd said he was pleased with the increase in the number of candidates for SA positions.

"It was great to see so many candidates actively campaigning for positions such as secretary, treasurer and external vice president," Lloyd said. "It brought new energy to those races. It was nice to see those positions drawing more attention from the student body."

Executive committee

As SA external vice president, Mesta said she would like to increase school spirit and awareness of the SA.

"One of my goals is to improve homecoming," she said. "Especially with the new football coach, I think it would help to have more events during homecoming and increase school spirit in general...I think a idea as part of his platform for SA treasurer, Dayal said.

"I really like his idea that we should make the SA spending more transparent and let students know the inner workings of where exactly the money is going," Dayal said.

Blanket tax positions

The presidents of seven other blanket tax organizations were elected in uncontested races. Sammy the Owl and 20 other positions in the Rice Student Volunteer Program, Honor Court, RTSV, University Court and University Council were also filled in the election.

Mesta said she also hopes to improve the SA's relationship with alumni.

Baker said that as SA secretary, she would like to distribute the meeting minutes more widely by posting them in the Student Center, adding more students to the SA listserv and possibly sending the minutes to the college listserv. "I want to make sure students completely understand the issues," Baker said.

Dayal said that as SA treasurer, he wants to be active in overseeing other blanket tax organizations' budgets and informing students how SA money is being spent. Lowell junior Dean Baty proposed the latter idea as part of his platform for SA treasurer, Dayal said.

Although the number of voters are redistributed to their second-place choices. This process continues until one candidate has 50 percent of the votes.

PREFERENTIAL VOTING

The purpose of preferential voting is to establish a majority for one candidate. If no candidate gets 50 percent of first-place votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and his supporters' votes are redistributed to their second-place choices. This process continues until one candidate has 50 percent of the votes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preferential Voting</th>
<th>Tippy 12%</th>
<th>Chiffer 16.4%</th>
<th>Tupper 42.8%</th>
<th>Ross 41.2%</th>
<th>Tupper 58.8%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaglesby 3.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chiffer 31.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tupper 34.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ross 48.7%</td>
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For instance, if a student votes for two candidates, the student's vote is then redistributed to the candidates who received second-place votes in those races. This process continues until one candidate has 50 percent of the votes.

Winners: Ross, Tupper, Chiffer, Teaglesby

PUBLICATIONS

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Winners (s): Ross, Tupper, Chiffer, Teaglesby

With thee said behind you and words still on your mind, you might want to bring your friends with you to the possible direction, to another person right now. And if you do, we'll support you all the way.

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WINNERS

1. Ross
2. Tupper
3. Teaglesby
4. Chiffer

Amendments

Bill name change to RTSV

Honor Council amendments

RPC Constitution amendments

U Blue blanket tax increase

Amendments

Passed

Passed

Passed

Failed

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS INTERNSHIP SUMMER 2006

The Rice publications intern works on the Newcomer's Guide, the Beyond the Hedges guide to Houston, the student handbook and the campus directory. This on campus summer position offers hourly compensation for twelve weeks, minimum, up to 40 hours per week.

Applications are available online at www.rice.edu/studentmedia and in the Office of Student Media in the Student Center.

Contact perseverance for information.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 31.
VP Shepard to retire in May

by Rice Gordon

Vice President for Public Affairs Terry Shepard will retire from Rice at the end of the academic year.

Shepard said there will likely be a national search for his replacement.

In seven years at Rice, Shepard oversaw the creation of two electronic newsletters—one for alumni and one for 1,500 top journalists—and increased exposure for Rice in publications, news and media relations, including The New York Times.

Shepard said before he was vice president for public affairs, he was surprised to hear Shepard is retiring.

"It’s a great leader, and he inspires a great deal of enthusiasm in his staff," Almond said.

Shepard and his wife, Debra Thomas, who is the director of marketing and public relations at the Jesse H. James School of Management, will move to Baltimore, Md.

Shepard said he and Thomas want to be able to pursue issues that are important to them, which include gay rights and the living wage movement.

"We’re ready to follow Thress’s advice. Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you’ve imagined," Shepard said.

RICE UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM (RUSP) (HOY5470/471)

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.oilnet.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 researchwriting and present their results orally and in the form of a scholarly paper.

The RUSP faculty coordinators for 2006-2007 are:

Don Johnson

Michael Watkins

Lora Wildenthal

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.
Rice teams rank high in NCAA academic statistic

by Amber Obermyer

Eight of Rice’s fourteen varsity athletic teams ranked among the top fifteen Division I universities based on the NCAA’s Academic Progress Rates, which were released last week. The golf, soccer, swimming, men’s tennis, women’s cross country and women’s track and field teams all had perfect scores of 1,000, which means that over the last two years, every team member remained both eligible to play and enrolled at Rice.

A team can earn two points per semester for each scholarship athlete—one if the athlete stays eligible to compete and another if he or she stays enrolled at Rice. The APR is calculated by dividing a team’s points by the total number of possible points they face, typically 1,200 for Division I universities and 930 for Division II universities. The maximum number of scholarship athletes a school can have in a sport, and universities can lose rank in the college if they exceed it. NCAA penalties will cause other schools to penalize their athletes with Rice’s APRs.

The baseball team had the lowest APR of 943. Teams with APRs below 925 face sanctions. Men’s basketball was the only team within 45 points of this limit by the maximum number of scholarship athletes a school can have in a sport, and universities can lose rank in the top 10 percent nationally.

Women’s basketball teams also rank high in the new system. Athletic Director Bobby May (Will Rice ’83) said he was pleased with Rice’s APRs.

“[Rice] did very well,” May said. “Athletes and coaches care about academics and work hard to do a good job. They always do around here—they take it very seriously, and we’re proud of the work they do.”

Three Conference USA schools were penalized. East Carolina University in men’s basketball, the University of Memphis in men’s track and field, and the University of Alabama-Birmingham in men’s tennis and women’s basketball.

Also, the University of Texas’ baseball team was penalized for the maximum of four points, due to the 45-point penalty on Rice’s APRs as well as to the averages for Division I private universities. Retention of varsity athletic teams. The tables below compare Rice’s rates to those of selected other private schools as well as to the averages for Division I universities and Division I private universities.

Rondelet

From page 1

that RNC is strongly considering holding Esperanza there in the fall.

Sheley said the Houston Zoo was unattractive as a venue because it closes at midnight, while dinners usually end at 2 a.m., and because the President’s Office hosted a similar Passport to Houston event there during the first O-Weekend this spring.

Sheley said Rondelet will not be held at a nightclub because RRC did not want Rondelet to be alcohol-focused. Sheley said she did not want to hold it at a hotel or on campus because she wants attendees to be eager to participate in a variety of activities at the event.

“Hotels are not really the idea I want,” Sheley said. “We want to get people excited and have a new, fun thing to do. We could always hire people [to perform at a hotel], but at the same time, people just aren’t very interesting.”

New College Presidents

In the last two weeks, Jones, Martel, Sid Richardson and Weiss colleges elected their presidents for 2006-07. The incoming presidents for all colleges are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Sarah Zampieron</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>SariHamilton</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hargrave</td>
<td>Stephen Ruokoj</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jones</td>
<td>Patricia Mahoney</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lovett</td>
<td>Anish Patel</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martel</td>
<td>Manny Gardberg</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidd Richardson</td>
<td>Ashley Rachelle Head</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weiss</td>
<td>Chris Runkin</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Rice</td>
<td>Brian Schwab</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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RODEO
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
Texas' biggest rodeo event will continue through March 19 at Reliant Stadium. The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is known for its daily concerts, country and otherwise, and this year's headliners include Larry the Cable Guy, Hilary Duff, Maroon 5 and Alan Jackson. For more information, including a schedule of events ticket prices, visit www.blr.com.

GALLERIES
The Art of War
Gremillion and Company Fine Art opens a mixed-media exhibit Friday, March 10, featuring pieces inspired by human conflict. The gallery will host a reception from 6-8 p.m. opening night, and the exhibit will be on display until April 23.

FASHION
Sari Workshop
Indian students at Rice present an information session on sari March 24. The study break will cover how to wear saris, including a few of the more than 300 variations on the traditional Indian women's garment.

And the Oscars go to ... by Margaret Tang

As predicted, Jon Stewart was a great host and the rest of the show was ... well, the rest of the show isn't horrid and stuff. The 76th annual Academy Awards ceremony was, like the ones that preceded it, more about Hollywood glamour and red carpet interrogation than filmmaking. The Thresher staff's predictions were accurate in three of four actor-related categories, so we are congratulating ourselves — and Larry McMurry (M.A. '00), who picked up a little gold man for adapting Brokeback Mountain's screenplay. Without further ado, here are some of the other 2006 winners.

Motion Picture of the Year

Rock O' the Irish
Julia Barsten

Episode III: St. Patrick's Day looms just one week away, conveniently scheduled this year in the middle of Rice's spring break. So to prevent students' party playlists from overflowing with complete blarney, here are a few artists who can bring any bland musical lineup the luck of the Irish.

Saw Doctors
A folk-rock band from County Galway, Ireland, the Doctors' most recent release, "Astral," is the soundtrack of that of Van Morrison circa Astral Weeks — with heavy pennywhistle, fiddle and Celtic-accorded vocals.

Top Picks: "I Useta Lover" and "Tell Me and I'll Tell You"

House of Pain Lead singer Everlast, whose band hit charts for the 1990s, has been quiet for a few years. "Jump Around" exhibits a fair amount of Irish symbolism in the vocals of many of its other tracks. While the instrumentals tend to be more rap and metal-influenced than Irish, the lyrics are humorous, energetic and perfect for St. Paddy's votaries.

Top Picks: "Gangstarrocks and Shammagamish" and "Top O' the Mornin" To You"

Dropkick Murphys
The essence of the Bostonian-Irish spirit, this punk-heavy, seven-piece group is often compared to Flogging Molly and the Pogues. However, the Murphys' sound is distinct from these two bands because of its frat-house-friendly appeal. Their songs tend to pop up at concerts, traditional Irish dance competitions.

Top Picks: "I'm Not Your Clown" and "I'm Not Your Wake"

Leahy
The only Canadian-Irish band currently popular on either country's music scene, Leahy is the most melodic of the bands listed here and has the moods emphasized on instrumental and dance numbers. Their songs tend to pop up at concerts, traditional Irish dance competitions.

Top Picks: "Lucky Boy" and "I'm a Hero"

The Corrs
For Irish music fans who cannot stomach punk rock and are not ready for traditional Irish instrumentals, the Corrs are a wonderful compromise. They reached American charts in 1995 with the single "Breathe," and again in 2000 with "Breathless.

Top Picks: "I Never Loved You Anyway" and "With or Without You"

Bad Haggis
Not just an intimidating gastrointestinal for anyone, Bad Haggis is the dashing, jazzy instrumental of Eric Rigler, who played pennywhistle for the movies Titanic and Braveheart. In addition to rounding out the Celtic sounds of Hollywood, the band often plays at cultural festivals.

Top Picks: "Holy Tree" and "Mysterious Integration"

Totsi features realistic, brutal social analysis of South Africa
Margaret Tang

Totsi
Totsi features realistic, brutal social analysis of South Africa

Hollywood exhausted the boy-grows-up-on-the-wrong-side-of-the-tracks movie not long ago. But when director Gavin Hood inserted this cliché plot into an independent foreign production, he proved the story can still be compelling.

In Totsi, Hood invites his audience to see South Africa through the eyes of the title character (newcomer Presley Chweneyagae), both his honest portrayal of survival and redemption, all the facets of human nature are presented in a thought provoking way.

Hood's fictional film mimics a case study as the character takes place when Tsotsi moves to the city, desperate to feed the baby he has run out of options in his small village. Going back to doing what he knows best, Tsotsi resorts to violence.

Since Totsi strives to be realistic, the movie is often BLATANTLY violent.

Tsotsi

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Since Totsi strives to be realistic, the movie is often BLATANTLY violent.
and it happened at the Oscars event to get me writing again, gay cowboys, but do people really want to read 750 gender of Brad and Angelina's baby was finished with pop I told myself cause I was finished with pop Critics found it mediocre at the moment Jack Nicholson was frozen like a bad hangover, the Magno- Coral country music abounds in Houston
MONKEYS
From page 9

barely 20, his smoky Cockney singing voice does not quite seem to match his lanky frame.

Turner's voice does mesh perfectly with the band's youthful exuberance. The Arctic Monkeys' sound is characterized by the jangle of distorted guitars and a precise rhythm section. On "I Bet You Look Good on the Dancefloor," Turner croons something about "dirty dance floors and dreams of naughtiness" over a thumping guitar melody and falling bass line.

The song best by far is "When the Sun Goes Down," the story of a scummy man with a "driving ban among some shite," who doesn't think twice when a homeless man in a wheelchair angers Tsotsi. The quiet, measured way Turner sings allows the viewer to gain insight into his character, his inner turmoil.

"I'm sorry, officer, is there a certain age you're supposed to be?" The song is good evidence of the band's potential.

The Arctic Monkeys are a very good version of the Smiths for a 21st-century audience, but they do not break any ground.

The film focuses on Tsotsi's struggle to respectibility. When a homeless man in a wheelchair is assaulted by a gang while changing a tire, the audience wholly identifies with the character — which first appeared in the opening credits of the 1963 film and is one of the most recognizable elements of the Pink Panther franchise. Because the audience sees every failed attempt at comedy, the viewer's reaction to scenes involv-

ing the baby.

As the world changes, you can be a part of that change. Get ready not just to make a living, but to make a difference.

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BRYCE GRAY

Bryce Gray is a Johns College sophomore and assistant arts and entertainment editor.

New ideas are rare in today's Hollywood. It is cheaper to update an already proven script than to try to rely on creativity. A thick-outlined modern style such as "I zee" and "zank me" has lost most of the charm.

The Pink Panther remake did not bother to remove his pants, but it is otherwise irrelevant presence in the movie is best justified by Clouseau's potential as a comedian. It is not so much that the remake's highly sensitive and upsetting if entertaining if the audience, the film's writer-director, Martin Levy.

Clouseau makes a mockery of Inspector Jacques Clouseau in director Shawn Levy's remake of The Pink Panther.

With a couple of famous actors, a large budget and a dash of bad taste, a remake can be profitable, if forget-

table. The Pink Panther is even worse. Levy's remake of The Pink Panther has even fewer original elements than the original movie.

The Pink Panther cartoon character — which first appeared in the opening credits of the 1963 film and is one of the most recognizable elements of the Pink Panther franchise — makes a cameo in the remake. However, the character of Pink Panther in the technologically advanced form is a complete travesty of the original, a case where "cheaper by the dozen" has even more relevance — or at least a little more in France. France has changed, yet the most recognizable elements of the Pink Panther franchise remain.

Levy's Pink Panther is not satisfied with ridiculing individual characters. Large amount of the movie's slapstick center on crude, sexual humor. It is too unsophisticated for adults and too RISQUE for children.

The movie's slapstick centers on crude, sexual humor. It is too unsophisticated for adults and too RISQUE for children.
Clit curious
a beginner’s guide to cunnilingus

This is the first in an occasional series offering practical advice on sexual health and enjoyment. The Thresher LifeStylists and counselors have specific questions in future columns. Send an e-mail to theshresher-life@rice.edu to reach them.

Jacki
Craig
LOVETT COLLEGE
JUNIOR

The myth of social impotence at Rice is not necessarily true, despite the smart kids-don’t-get-sexed slogan. Rice students are not collectively clueless, but we could all use a little help in some social arenas. I happen to be here to provide that helpful advice in a particularly sensitive area: sex. So let’s get down to business. And I do mean get down. My first and final blossoms of whom, becomes an intimately mysterious topic: cunnilingus.

Cunnilingus, going down or eating out as oral sex performed on a female, is in the stimulation — to orgasm — of the genital area, and for beginners, it is best to focus on the clitoris. It is an act that takes finesse, but given a couple of guidelines, most people who are smart enough to get into Rice are smart enough to follow these fairly simple directions and become proficient. Here are a few helpful tips for my hopeless male cunnilingus out there wishing to score off the intramural field.

Don’t be a jerk. Remember, spending the foreplay of oral means you will be spending a ton of time at the actual oral, and that is enough to frustrate both you and your partner.

Which brings me to my next point: Don’t be an ass. Females are sensitive, and there is always the possibility of coming to a full stop. A little thing going wrong along the way — do I look OK, does he like me, I smell funny, will he like it and so on. There are a ton of negative stereotypes about cunnilingus in general that do not necessarily extend to men and performed on guys. I have had boyfriends tell me they could not or would not go down on me and then convince them to do it. You may want to do the research.

Next, the lips — yes, the ones right below your nose. The fastest way to get a female to orgasm is to mentally prepare her for what is about to happen with a little — or a lot — of foreplay. So compliment her. Take her. Be sure to give her a little smile. Be sure to mind cats in heat are probably a clue that you need to get down. My first lotus blossom of wisdom covers an area of Fondren Library. Suffice to say if you are only unsure of your boundaries, ask her. If you are sure, you may want to do the research. Here are a few helpful tips for my hopeless male CUNNILINGUS out there wishing to score off the intramural field.

Finding someone who is willing to go down on her is to prove that you value her orgasm as much as your own.

On that note, let’s get down and dirty with a few more hows. First, do not bludgeon the clitoris unless you are sure. The best, gentle, repetitive motions are the best. Fast and hard will make friends and influence people. Think massage: much as your own.

Next, work the lips — yes, the ones right below your nose. It is all about the touch, and that is enough to frustrate both you and your partner. Ask her. If you are sure, you may want to do the research. Here are a few helpful tips for my hopeless male CUNNILINGUS out there wishing to score off the intramural field.

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Threscher’s LifeStylist

Westheimer, between Shepherd and Montrose
Buffalo Exchange — Vintage, consignment
1618 Westheimer Rd. at Westheimer and Mandell
(713) 523-8701

Hipsters and peeps all line up at this store to drop off their gently worn items for cash or trade. Shoppers can choose to get 35 percent back in cash or 50 percent back in trade — a la consignment deal. Peruse the denims section to find jeans from the likes of Seven for all Mankind, Bock & Republic. True Religion for women and Diesel for men. Skip over last season’s Gap cardigans and Urban Outfitters tees and look for the occasional Fendi top or Marni blouse. The selection at Taxi Taxi is much like that in its sister shop Leopard Lounge, but it is in a much larger space. The cash-for-trade deal is the most disjointed of any of the Westheimer stores; sellers get 50 percent either way.

There are plenty of Members Only jackets from the 1980s for men and old fashionable basics from the late 1990s or a colorful vintage summer dress on the racks, but usually a healthy mix of Sothe and Armani Exchange tasks can be had for less than $50. There are also many other slogan-happy thrift tees that are worth the extra $2.

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Guitar Heroes just want to rock ‘n’ roll all night, play game every day

by Evan Mintz

It’s a recreation and an obsession for the ages. It takes talent, time and dedication... or a PlayStation. It is the life of the rock star, and in the immortal words of Kiss, “If you want to be a singer or play guitar/ man, you’ve got to work hard or you won’t get far because it is never too late to work hard...”

Harmonix Music Systems created the button-mashing music-based video games Frequency and Amplitude, but the company’s newest game, Guitar Hero, boasts the previous two away. Guitar Hero has rock and roll instead of tectons, rawing fans instead of a roller-coaster-esque background and a mini Gibson SG instead of a standard PlayStation controller. Guitar Hero is hence a game with a guitar controller, and you can build up Star Power, activated by jerking back the guitar in a rock star wail and temporarily doubling points. The more accurate your musicanship, the higher your Rock Meter climbs and the better your combo counts on screen— or if you mess up too much, they will boo you off stage.

While the note-identification system is harder than hovering over his more at home at a jam fest behind his demeanor and shaggy goatee that looks totally awesome.

Jett’s “I Love Rock and Roll,” David Bowie’s “Ziggy Stardust” and Eric Clapton’s “Crossroads,” are some of the game’s current bonus songs. While Guitar Hero’s current bonus songs can be entertaining, they are mostly by obscure indie bands—acceptable sacrifices to the gods of rock.

Nevertheless, Alexander said he has little trouble getting through the song, his favorite. “If only Guitar Hero were as effective as playing acoustic guitar at a party,” Alexander said mid-strum. “The chicks would be all over me.”

The more correct notes you have to hold down the fret and giving you the chance to waist on the whammy bar. Get precise enough and you can build up Star Power, activated by jerking back the guitar in a rock star wail and temporarily doubling points. The more accurate your musicanship, the higher your Rock Meter climbs and the better your combo counts on screen— or if you mess up too much, they will boo you off stage.

It sounds like a lot of fun but then you are on-screen— or if you mess up too much, they will boo you off stage.

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Nevertheless, Alexander said he has little trouble getting through the song, his favorite. “If only Guitar Hero were as effective as playing acoustic guitar at a party,” Alexander said mid-strum. “The chicks would be all over me.”

Then he tweaked the guitar in an aggressive act of frustration, activating Star Power mode.

“I can’t talk and play at the same time,” he said. (Star Power activated for those times when I’m not as good as I thought I was... I’ll help me get back in the groove.)

But Guitar Hero is not just for guys fantasizing about being rock gods. Marist College senior Sheena Barbour has been hopped up and ready to go ever since her brother got her Guitar Hero as a Christmas gift. With a grim reminiscent of High Fidelity’s Marie DeSalle, this punk rocker has turned her living room into a discotheque. A Go Go.

“I was addicted to Amplitude, and my brother was like, ‘This one has a guitar controller,’” Barbour said. “As soon as I started playing Guitar Hero, I sold my real guitar. I like dynamics with a laser beam, this rock chick will blow your mind, anytime— especially to Killer Queen, her favorite song. And walking away to Queen makes everyone feel like a rock star.

“They tell you ‘you rock after every song,’” Barbour said. “And that’s the most amazing personal validation ever. I rock. Over and over.”

Rocking to the beat

Just as “Jukebox Hero” predicted it would, the game’s Gibson controller feels good in your hands. It is never too late to take it on. It is like having your very own Foreigner belt... except for Guitar Hero’s noticeable lack of Foreigner. And Jimi Hendrix’s “Stairway” and other expected homages to guitar excellence.

“The [game] could use a Lynard Skynard song,” Alexander said. “If they come out with a sequel, you should be able to unlock better bonus songs after extended play, including the gigantic ‘Freaked-out’ sets.”

While Guitar Hero’s current bonus songs can be entertaining, they are mostly by obscure indie bands—acceptable sacrifices to the gods of rock.
Florida-based franchise freshens chicken

by Janine Moreau

The newest addition to the Rice Village, Chicken Kitchen, offers inventive, healthy dishes that are just like the ones you would find at many campus eateries—make chicken appealing. It has become the new favorite place of many villagers for a quick and healthy lunch, and it is another notch on the James School’s belt of local success stories.

Chicken Kitchen
2516 Rice Blvd.,
between Kelvin Drive
and Kirby Road (713) 523-2323

Students presenting a Rice ID will receive 10 percent off purchases.

The franchise opened in mid-February under the guidance of Lain Miguel (M.BA ’05), An
drews Rana (M.BA ’10) and busi-
ness graduate student Federico Mayskikhoff.

Chicken Kitchen began in Mi-
ami, Fla., where there are now more than 25 locations. Miguel, who is president of Chicken Kitchen Houston, lived in Miami for several years and said he fell in love with its healthy alterna-
tives to fast food. The restaurant serves the bird grilled, rotisserie-
style or baked, with minimal use of fat for cooking.

Miguel said he was motivated to pursue a Houston franchise of his favorite restaurant because he had trouble finding healthy, quick and affordable food near the Rice area. He hopes to open at least 20 Houston franchises of the restau-
rant within the next six years.

Chicken Kitchen’s unique sig-
nature dish is already intriguing the taste buds of Rice students and other Houstonians, so Miguel’s goal could be well within reach. The Chop-Chop bowl, which ac-
counts for 30 percent of Chicken Kitchen’s national sales, consists of freshly marinated chicken chopped into a bowl and served over a bed of rice or greens.

The original Chop-Chop mim-
ics the simple wholenessomeness of a home-cooked chicken and rice dinnert, while some of the more exotically spiced—such as the Cu-
ban, Mexican and Teriyaki Chop-
Chop bowls—sport complex arrangements of vegetables and sauces.

Customers can order the bowls in either regular portions, which cost $4.29-4.99, or large sizes, which cost $5.29-5.89.

While the Chop-Chop bowl is Chicken Kitchen’s most popular dish, the restaurant’s real appeal lies in a condiment: its mustard curry sauce. The deliciously ad-
dictive concoction flavors many of Chicken Kitchen’s sandwiches and salads and some of its Chop-
Chop dishes.

Many Houston restaurants in the village can be a bit pricey for a student’s budget or a touch too gay for a group after a full week of service food. Chicken Kitchen is filling, cheap and healthy, and it does not sacrifice taste to meet these goals.

Exploring the METEORrail: Ensemble/HCC

by Jennifer Quereau

In a continuing exploration of the entertainment possibilities afforded by Houston’s METEORrail transportation system, the following reviews focus on the area surrounding the Ensemble/HCC stop.

1. The Breakfast Klub

This community brunch spot is popular, so real breakfast here might require a wait in line. Luckily, the lineshortens closer in line. Luckily, the line shortens closer in line. Luckily, the line shortens. Luckily, the line shortens. Luckily, the line shortens.

2. Midtown Farmers Market

On Saturdays from 8 a.m.-12 p.m., the Midtown Farmer’s Market is an afford-
able place to find locally grown and organic produce, flowers, artisanal chocolates, pat-
ties, fair-trade coffee and meats and more. It is held behind Monica Pope’s Tafia, a re-
nowned coastal Mediterranean restaurant that frequently highlights specials from the farmers’ market on its menu.

3. The Continental Club

Unless you are actually doing homework on a Friday night, there seems to be a weird list between dinner and going out. This is the perfect time for a free happy hour show by Mya and the Busloads at the Continen-
tal Club. The awesome 1980s cover band played at Safe 70s party last semester, so they emanate the same infectious energy at this 21-and-up venue every Friday from 7-9 p.m. They also do their own shows, so audience members can get up on stage and sing with the band. The club has two pool tables and a shuffleboard table amid tons of retro signage in its back room.

4. Sig’s Lagoon Record Shop

Before or after the show at the Con-
tinental Club, music lovers can browse next door at Sig’s Lagoon—a record shop, gift shop, art gallery and vintage boutique.

Sig’s has grandma’s funkiest jewelry. Mo-
town singles on vinyl, Capo Crunch action figures and DVDS of Betty-Page.

5. The Mink

Even though this bar is far too casual for the Mink, it aims to be up-and-coming with dark furniture, fancy specials like apple kamikazes and a live disc jockey spinning for a candlelit dance floor spritzer.

But the eclectic atmosphere hides behind the Mink’s thin facade. The front room is the smallest of the several rooms in this venue. It goes to the dance floor and the sexy, dimly it needs tucks throughout, go through the front to an alley in the back.

Around the corner to the left, the bar sud-
dently quadruples in size. Tuesday night’s special wines are $10-12 per bottle.

6. The Big Top Lounge

While the Continental Club charg-
es cover for its later shows, the Big Top — also the property of Continental Club owner Steve Wertheimer — has free live music on Friday nights. It also has football, Pac Man and beer on other nights of the week. Once visitors step through the side doors, the dreary midtown neighborhood outside dissolves into a stop on Route 66, with taxidermy and the classic Wild West Girl painting on the wall. But its toy store past also at-
tracts an eclectic crowd, and this kitche

bar exudes honky-tonk circus vibe

We want to pay out for You! Thresher-life@rice.edu

Top: Chicken Kitchen serves fresh chicken dishes affordably and in short order. Above: This quarter-chicken and in-nowale meal costs $+9.35.
Errors plague Owls in losses to Titans, Longhorns

by Matt McCabe

The baseball team's streak of losses to No. 1-ranked Texas University of Texas is now at eight games, after Tuesday's 9-5 defeat. However, Rice took two of three games from No. 7 Cal State Fullerton University over the weekend. The third-ranked Owls committed a season-high five errors against UT following a four-error performance against Fullerton in the Sunday finale, a 13-4 loss.

"Everybody can have a bad game, and we did," head coach Wayne Graham said. "These guys have all proven that they can handle adversity. We're in the midst of a little adversity."

Rice (13-4) will aim to end its first-place game being slid of the year at the Whataburger College Classic this weekend in Corpus Christi. The Owls open the tournament with familiar foe Texas Christian University today at 2:30 p.m. TCU (8-7) also enters the tournament having lost two straight, dropping games to Oklahoma and Florida Atlantic. The Horned Frogs will toss ace Jake Arrieta at the Owls, who enters the game with an undefeated 4-0 record and a 1.37 earned run average. Rice will counter with senior right-hander Eddie Eggemeyer, who has been dominant in five appearances, striking out 42 in 30 innings with an ERA of 0.90.

The Owls will send sophomore left-hander/first baseman Joe Savery to the mound Saturday against Arizona State University (14-5), which is ranked 17th nationally. "We've had a good April so far," said Graham. "Joe [Urlah], who is undefeated on the year with a .750 winning percentage, and Texas A&M Corpus Christi entered the weekend with an 8-3 record. Arizona State enters the Whataburger College Classic on a four-game winning streak, including a three-game sweep of Auburn University, in which the Sun Devils outscored the Owls 34-6. Eggemeyer's 12-96 breaking ball and Savery's left-handed power pitching make them effective against left-handed batters.

"We may not win the games, but Eggemeyer is a good match for TCU and Joe is a good matchup for Arizona State because both teams are loaded with left-handed hitters," Graham said.

Rice will round out the tournament with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (9-8), against the Owls led by Christian Morris Almond was the only effective pitcher for the Owls, and a 4-2 record. The Lions are undefeated on their season opener Feb. 5, the Owls wanted revenge but were unable to execute in Tuesday's loss. UT used 12 hits and 5 walks to lead the game from start to finish. Junior right-hander Craig Crow took the loss, surrendering five hits and two runs in 2.2 innings. However, he was also hindered by errors.

"We didn't play behind him," Graham said. "I thought he was behind in the count a lot, and when he was ahead in the count he didn't make the pitches that he usually makes."

The bright spot in Tuesday's game was freshman right-hander/first baseman Trey Spotted Feather, who saw his first appearance on the mound Wednesday. He pitched 2.2 innings, 2 runs scored, 3 hits, 2 walks and 1 strikeout.

The Longhorns have won their last eight games against the Owls, who took two out of three in their series against No. 7 Cal State Fullerton last weekend. Rice will face No. 17 Arizona State, TCU and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi as part of the Whataburger College Classic in Corpus Christi.

Sophomore catcher Danny Lehman watched UT's Chance Wheeless score a run in the seventh inning of Rice's 9-5 loss to UT Tuesday. The Longhorns have won their last eight games against the Owls, who took two out of three in their series against No. 7 Cal State Fullerton last weekend. Rice will face No. 17 Arizona State, TCU and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi as part of the Whataburger College Classic in Corpus Christi.

Men's basketball falls to SMU in CUSA tourney

by Chris Pasich

Just four days after defeating Southern Methodist University in a 69-68 thriller in its regular season finale Saturday, the men's basketball team entered the season in the first round of the Conference USA tournament with a 65-60 loss to those same Mustangs.

Wednesday's loss marked yet another game in which junior guard Morris Almond was the only effective player for the Owls. Almond scored 29 points on 12-17 shooting and senior forward J.R. Harrison added 13 points in the game at Rice, but no other Owls had more than five points.

Rice was out-rebounded 42-30 and allowed SMU to shoot 58 percent from the field. The Mustangs' 21 turnovers kept the game close, although the Owls lead in the game by 13:32 remaining in the first half. Freshman Cory Wigger nailed the game on a three-pointer with about six minutes remaining, but Rice could never lead the game.

Entering the game, the Owls knew they were in for a struggle against the Mustangs, given the team's previous two meetings this season. Rice lost at SMU 86-69 in overtime Jan. 21 and came back from an eight-point deficit in the final eight minutes in Saturday's rematch.

In Saturday's game, Almond led the Owls with a career-high 30 points and a game-high 9 rebounds. It was the first 40-point game by an Owl since Ricky Fierce, by Adrienne Giese

Women's tennis improves to 5-0 at home

by Emily Braid

The women's tennis team snapped a five-match losing streak last weekend, beating Texas A&M University 7-2 Saturday and the University of Texas-Arlington 5-1 Sunday to improve its home record to 5-0. No. 72 Rice will face Columbia University, No. 70 Sacramento State University at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium Thursday and Friday, respectively.

Freshman Emily Braid said she believes Rice can be competitive against any team it faces.

"I see us neck-and-neck with the top players," Braid said. "There is really no difference in ability level, it just comes down to a few moments in the match where [you need] to finish a point."

Every single team that we have played — from [No. 33] Georgia Tech to [No. 1] Mississippi State — we have been able to compete with, and I feel no differently about the teams that we still have to play on our schedule."

We feel much more confident at home, especially since we are undefeated on our home court."

— Emily Braid

Freshman

Columbia enters the weekend with a four-match winning streak and a 4-2 record. The Lions are not ranked and have not played a ranked team since losing to fifth-ranked Boston College 5-2 Feb. 4.

Head coach Roger White said the Owls have a good chance to beat the Lions.

"Columbia has the strongest team [I think they] have ever [had]," White said. "Most of their players are ranked around [the top] 100 in the nation, but player-after-player I think that we have a strong lineup."

Sacramento State has been successful against ranked schools this season, narrowly losing to then-No. 33 Harvard 4-3 Feb. 12 and beating then-No. 46 University of San Diego 5-2 in its season opener Feb. 3. White said the more experienced Hornets will pose a threat to the Owls.

— tennis, page 17

O W L S E A R C H -- T H E W E E K I N S P O R T S

Friday, March 10, 2006

Baseball vs. TCU (Corpus Christi)
Baseball vs. Arizona State (Corpus Christi)
Baseball vs. San Diego (Reckling Park)
Baseball vs. Sam Houston State (Huntsville)
Women's Tennis vs. Columbia (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)
Women's Tennis vs. Sacramento State (Jake Hess Tennis Stadium)

The CUSA women's basketball final was one of the more painful games I've watched in a while. Rice did everything it could to lose to TCU at Tulane. We had unbalanced two weeks ago. There were too many turnovers, too many missed jumpers, too many wide-open shots passed up and no defense. These were not the same Owls who won 10 of their previous 11 games.

What hurt me most was that Tulia looked just as bad as Rice did. The Golden Hurricane shot a dreadful 29 percent from the field and could not defend at all. The Owls should have gotten this out of the way.

Next year, Rice will be back in this position, and hopefully the Owls won't back down from the challenge.

— Stephes Whitfield

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THE RICE THRESHER

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Tulsa stops women's basketball in C-USA championship

Owls await Monday's WNIT selections after three-point loss, could host early-round game

by Amber Obermeyer

TULSA — Twice, the University of Tulsa needed to have pulled away from the women's basketball team late in Sunday's Conference USA championship game. And twice, senior guard Amber Cunningham was hit a three-pointer to bring the Owls within four points and change the momentum.

"The turnovers weren't because they had this great pressure that we were overwhelmed with ... we were just making poor decisions," Williams said. "Most of them were unforced turnovers where we were just making poor decisions. Part of that was just the mental, physical and emotional fatigue that you have when you have to play three games in three days."

The Owls continued their good defense against the Golden Hurricane, holding them to just 39 percent shooting, but Tulsa was never one of those games that were out of our mind, but we had the whole team. We played our typical team game against Tulsa, and we were overwhelmed with, which happened before Williams said. "Most of them were just making poor decisions. They were constantly pressuring the ball in the left corner but was just the mental, physical and emotional fatigue that you have when you have to play three games in three days."

"We had the losses to UI in the back of our mind, but we also knew that it's really hard to beat a good team three times," Neaves said. "We were pumped up for that game, and we were more rested because we had the whole team for practice. We just played our typical game against UH."

Rice was ahead for the last 30 minutes of the game, leading by as many as 23 points, and had 22 assists on 28 baskets in the 76-64 victory. That win set up a game against SMU, which had defeated the Owls at Moody Coliseum in January. On Saturday, though, the Mustangs had no answer for Neaves, who scored a career-high 36 points on 12-21 shooting to carry Rice to a 57-52 win.

"We had the harder road to get there — having to play Houston, who beat us twice, and having to play SMU on their home court," Neaves said. "That's not an excuse for why we lost." Despite the loss to Tulsa, Williams said he was proud of the way the team rebounded after that January loss to SMU, when the Owls fell 5-24 in C-USA and 6-11 overall. Williams said, at that point, he did not think it was possible for Rice to come so close to a conference title.

I would have said, "I would like to recommend a very good psychologist for you," Williams said. "Or, Go over to Willy's Pub and have another one on me." Postseason chances

As of Wednesday, the Owls had an RPI of 81 according to realcare.com, leaving them in good position for a bid to the 40-team Women's National Invitation Tournament after the 64-Game tournament teams are chosen. Both tournaments will be held later this month, and opening-round WNIT games could be played at home. All WNIT games are played at the campuses of participating schools, and Williams said Senior Associate Athletic Director Steve Masiello has a good chance to host an early-round game.

"I think we're a really strong candidate for the WNIT," Williams said. "In the last two years, we had an RPI of 81 according to realcare.com, and we're just moving the ball as much as we usually do — we were kind of standing around, waiting for somebody to do something." To get to the championship game, Rice first had to defeat the University of Houston (12-17, 8-4), the only team to beat the Owls twice this year, and smu (16-14, 10-6) five of the Owls' top eight games last weekend had been out of the lineup due to injury, for the last two months, and Neaves said it was tough to play UH while the team was fresher.

"We weren't moving the ball as much as we usually do — we were kind of standing around, waiting for somebody to do something," Neaves said. "The attitude going into the WNIT is much more important than [it is] going to the NCAAs, because some teams aren't excited." — Williams

Despite the close loss and roundabout path to getting to the NCAA tournament for the third time in seven years, Williams said he thinks playing in the WNIT would be good experience for the young team.

"Our seniors still want to play basketball," Williams said. "They're going to get the tone for our attitude — the attitude going into the WNIT is much more important than [it is] going to the NCAA, because some teams aren't excited." Neaves said she's looking forward to a potential WNIT bid. "I think everybody definitely wants to end the season on a different note — not with the Tulsa loss," Neaves said. "It's going to lose, we'd rather playing our game against a better team, not from shooting ourselves in the foot."

Williams said senior guard Rosalyn Jeffries, who has not played since Jan. 13 after injuring her shoulder in a car accident, might be able to return in the WNIT.

"She's continuing to rehab," Williams said. "She was fitted for a special brace in hopes of being able to play in the conference tournament, but it was just prohibitive — it didn't give her enough movement and flexibility to be able to shoot the ball. I don't know if next week will be enough time, but if it is, she would help us."
Women’s soccer

Martel beat Martel, Sid will represent Monday League in semifinals playoff berth and will square off (4-1) which knocked off previous the Monday League in the men’s League. With a 16-0 shutout of Wiess (3-0) already representing is set, and both members come with Sunday League champion Lovett (3-1) its only loss of the season with a 20-6 win Friday. Brown defeated Wiess 27-13 to finish and Wiess decided the final playoff spot in the Friday League. In the Wednesday League, Will Rice (3-0) was a 5-0 winner against Brown (0-2) — Hanszen squeaked out the win with a three-set victory over Jones (1-3), in the final game of the three-game series. But Brown was rewarded for its performance when it tied Wiess (2-1) Wednesday, Brown advances to the playoffs on tiebreakers. The win was significant as the second representative from the Premier Division, Brown will face the Championship Division champion Jones (4-0) in the semfinals. In the other semfinal, Practice Division champion GSA (3-1) will play Sid (3-1) March 26.

College Sports Roundup

Monday’s game between Jones and Wiess decided the Friday League. In a game that was closer than the final score would indicate, Jones defeated Wiess 21-17 to finish second in the division.

Coed football

The final for coed football is set, and both members come from the same division, the Grey League. With a 16-0 shutout of Wiess (3-0), Martel (5-0) advanced to the final, where it will play Sid (4-1) which knocked off previously undefeated Jones (4-1) by a 10-0 score Wednesday. Martel beat Sid 16-7 in the regular season.

Women’s soccer

With a 2-0 win over Will Rice (0-3), Brown (3-1) earns the playoff berth and will square off with Sunday League champion Sid (5-0) in the semifinals March 26. In a game without playoff ramifications, Jones (2-9) kept Martel (3-0-1) winless with a 4-0 shutout. Brown beat Martel, 9-0, by virtue of its 51st win over Sunday League runner-up Lovett (2-1), has earned a spot in the final and will play Sid. Jones and Brown are set to play for the championship March 26.

Women’s volleyball

Brown (5-0), which had already clinched a playoff spot in the Monday League, forfeited to Hanszen (3-0) Monday, and Will Rice (2-2) evened its record with a straight-set win over Hanszen. GSA (3-1) claimed the second playoff spot in the Monday League with a three-set victory over Jones (1-3), including a third-set shutout.

Baker (5-0) completed the season sweep of the Tuesday League with a three-set win over Sid (2-1), but both will represent the league in the playoffs.

Open Floor hockey

In the Thursday League, Lovett (2-0) was a 50-0 winner over Sid (0-2), and defending champion GSA (2-0) beat Baker (0-2) convincingly.

Men’s softball

In a low scoring affair March 2, Sid (2-0) recorded a 4-2 victory over GSA (0-2) in Wednesday. In the other semfinal, Practice Division champion GSA (3-1) will play Sid (3-0) March 26.

Men’s soccer

Brown (2-1-1) replaced two players after using a community associate — who cannot play college sports — in earlier games. But Brown was rewarded for its perseverance when it tied Wiess (2-1-1) Wednesday, Brown advances to the playoffs on tiebreakers. The win was significant as the second representative from the Premier Division, Brown will face the Championship Division champion Jones (4-0) in the semfinals. In the other semfinal, Practice Division champion GSA (3-1) will play Sid (3-1) March 26.

Men’s tennis

Junior Heon Young Lee ended up with a 225, which was good for 50th. But Rice — which did not play against any of the top 10 teams — will play in the Courtyard by Marriott Thunderbird Collegiate in Raleigh, N.C.

Men’s baseball

Sophomore Jeff Krakowiak, a left-handed pitcher, fielded a dribble hit and doubled up one unearned run — until the eleventh inning, when Rice record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ’88) exactly held March 10-11 in Fayetteville, Ark., to record the season in the mile, edging the team’s record in the process. Jon Warren Oones ‘...
**Men’s tennis falls to Seminoles**

by Dylan Farmer

Despite suffering an ankle injury two weeks ago against Middle Tennessee State, redshirt senior Tony Haerle teamed with fellow senior Ralph Knuefner to compile a 4-2 match record in route to a second-place finish last week at the 17th Annual Pacific Coast Doubles Championships in La Jolla, Calif. The two were named Conference USA players of the week for their efforts.

The Owls returned home and lost to 35th-ranked Florida State 4-3 on Wednesday in its first home match. Tomorrow the Owls will face 44th-ranked University of Miami in another dual match at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium.

Minnesota is 4-7 on the year, but all seven of its losses have come against teams ranked in the top 10. The Golden Gophers’ record includes wins over 60th-ranked Pepperdine and 62nd-ranked Van Nuys before the C-USA Championships, to be held April 20-21 in Tulsa, Okla.

“It’s been a hit and miss so far for the singles players, but overall we’re around, the harder it’s going to be for us to win this event. I’ve always said, ‘Hopefully we’ll all take care of the doubles.’”

In California, the 10th-seeded Owls fell in five sets against Pepperdine’s fifth-seeded team, but defeated five opponents on the way to the championship match, including a three-set win over 62nd-ranked Pepperdine’s University’s fourth-ranked and top-seeded team of Austin Williams and Scott Dovery.

“Rob and Tony had a great weekend,” assistant coach Ed Stutsker said. “The sad part is that this tournament doesn’t affect the national rankings. But it was a very good outing at a prestigious tournament.”

Searle and Haerle fell to Pepperdine’s fifth-seeded team of Lorkov and Pedro Rico 6-4, 6-2 at the fifth and sixth spots, cutting the Owls’ lead to 3-2.

At No. 1, Searle recovered from a first-set loss with a win of his own in the second, forcing a third set. But his opponent, Ahsung, took the momentum after a questionable line-out call, and Searle dropped the set 6-2.

At No, 4, the deciding match of the day, sophomore Ralph Knuefner won the first set and was up late in the second before Florida State’s Sam Chang rallied to force a third. Knuefner took an early 3-1 lead in the decisive set, but Chang proceeded to win five straight games, giving Florida State the 4-3 victory.

“We competed hard, so it’s a shame that we didn’t get to see the fruits of our labor,” Stutsker said. “Maybe later we’ll be able to see some positives, but right now I’m just disappointed.”

**BASKETBALL**

From page 14

who played in the NBA for 16 years, scored 40 against Hawaii in 1988. No other Rice player scored more than 7 points against SMU Saturday.

“I’ve seen a load of games from a lot of different guys... but Morris just was a man,” head coach Will Wilson (Will Rice ’92) said. “He had a look in his eyes — confidence. He wanted the ball, and he really made it look easy. And if you’ve ever played basketball, you know that’s not easy to do.”

This year, Almond broke the CUSA single-season scoring mark, putting up 21.6 points per game. He was also named to the first team all-conference roster, the only Rice player on any of the all-conference teams.

Wilson said he hopes Almond can continue to develop next season.

“Almond had a great year,” Wilson said. “He broke the single-season league conference play scoring record, but it’s not over and, for Almond, if those things become more important than winning and playing on game day then I think it’s all for naught.”

Almond also led the Owls this season with 3.8 assists per game. Pregnan averaged 5.8 rebounds per game, and junior guard Lorenzo Williams led the team in assists with 178.

Against against the Mustangs on Saturday, the Owls were down by 10 points early in the second half when Almond began to catch fire. At one point in the half, he had outscored SMU 17-10, including two ferocious dunks. By being aggressive, he drew the fouls. Rice was able to overtake a mediocre Marquis 38-35 percent shooting night. The Owls made 32 trips to the free throw line compared with 6 attempts for the Mustangs, thanks mostly to their aggressiveness in the lane.

By contrast, Rice was hurt mainly by a lack of aggressiveness on Wednesday, taking only four fouls. On Saturday, the Owls starting playing an uptempo style of offense, they were able to make a run.

“Think the transition looks made all the difference in the world,” said Wilson. “We were able to turn up our defensive intensity, we were able to rebound the ball a little better and we were able to get a lot of looks in transition. I think that put SMU back on their heels.”

Next year, Rice should be in good shape in CUSA. The Owls will return two of their top four scorers — Almond and Williams. The departure of senior guard Lamarr Moore and Fredrick should provide more opportunities for younger frontcourt players such as sophomore Paulus Packeri and freshmem Nick Preka, who averaged a combined 4.1 points per game this season.

The Owls will also lose senior forward Jason Bridges and senior guard Archer Calvert. **SUMMER TENNIS FEE**

**TENNIS**

From page 14

"This is the first time we have played Sacramento," White said. "I know that most of their players are... I don't know, they're a little bit of a slight advantage because of their experience. It will definitely be a challenge to play them.

The Owls victory against Texas State marked their first win since a 4-2 victory over Mississippi State University Feb. 10. Against the Bobcats, the doubles team of sophomore Eric Braid and junior Chris Dao started with an easy 6-1 win at the No. 3. Then senior Ed Flood and senior Amy Cao then secured the doubles point for the Owls, defeating Lee Strick and Jana Costello 8-3. **You have to lead your guard down against teams that you are supposed to beat, but you have to go out there focused.** — Emily Brab Freshman

Braid said staying sharp against the Bobcats, who have lost eight of their ten dual matches this spring, was difficult.

“You tend to let your guard down against teams that you are supposed to beat, but you have to go out there focused,” Braid said. “I had my typical game plan and followed through for the win.”

Against UT Arlington, Rice lost the doubles point, but Lee and Dao knocked their third consecutive doubles win when they defeated the Mavericks’ Mattiets, Wenselt and Martaas Brown 8-5 at No. 3.

The Owls took a 3-1 lead in the dual match after Braid and Brig scored impressive back-to back wins, setting the No. 9. Senior Bobcats’ positions. Lee then overpowered Monika Pedicini of the Bobcats at the fourth spot to give Rice an insurmountable 4-1 lead.

At the second position, Dao pulled out a three-set victory, beating Dimitri Kosakovsky 6-0, 6-7, 6-4, to give the Owls their third point. She was named Conference USA women’s tennis athlete of the week on Tuesday after going undefeated in singles and doubles last week.

"Most of the players feel confident during a match," Braid said. "We feel much more confident at home, especially since we are undefeated on our home court. Now we have a reputation that we have to hold up, and that will definitely give us more drive in the upcoming matches."
FRIDAY

10

Run fast, run far

Step one: Get out of class. Step two: Take the subway to the bookstore. It’s a beautiful day, you’re out of school for nine days. Build a car, watch some concerts, travel, dance till your feet hurt — just go do something. For that matter, why are you even reading the calendar right now?

SATURDAY

11

Our weather skinks when no one is in school, their weather skinks all the time

Men’s tennis takes on the University of Minnesota at 11 a.m. at Lake Jess Tennis Stadium. Expect the opponents to be stunned by the sights of sunlight and people walking outside.

MONDAY

13

The final countdown

Some of you (OK, probably one of you, but I can still pretend) have followed my countdown to Spring Break Monday well kiddo, here it is: the moment you’ve all been waiting for. Hopefully you’re reading this issue of the Thresher on a chase lounge by a pool somewhere, or over the sound of a bubbling hot tub. If other engagements kept you on campus for the break, the next few entries should help you find ways to occupy your free time. If none of the listed events appeal to you, you could always use the free time over the break to submit a few events to the calendar, or maybe just to complain. Even better would be to turn your room into a spring break diorama of sorts with a kiddie pool, reasons drinking and a truckload of sand. Put on some Jimmy Buffett music, a Hawaiian shirt and a flower lei and you may have just created absolute brilliance.

FRIDAY

17

Like money? Like dropping out?

You can’t have it both ways for much longer. Today is the last day to withdraw from Rice and receive a tuition refund — of a paltry 10 percent. By now, the university has blown the rest of your money on the new signs.

SUNDAY

19

Last call

In remembrance of spring break 2006, let us observe a moment of silence. Thank you. Now that spring break is over, students should start thinking about the future and start preparing themselves for the final half of the spring semester.

EDL RRPub

Lowett College’s pub night is at Willy’s Pub, of course. This is Lowett’s Beer-Bike pub night, and therefore Lowett will be raising funds for Beer-Bike with its annual servant auction. So, head on down to the pub to bid on your favorite, or least favorite, Lowett — and drink their beer. The festivities run from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. See you there.

Recognizing Rice University students dedicated to community service!

Nominate a friend, volunteer buddy, or yourself now!

Rice Student Volunteer Program (RSVP) is seeking nominations for students dedicated to long-term service projects who demonstrate compassion, sincerity, and initiative as part of RSVP’s 20th anniversary celebration on Friday, March 31, 2006.

If you have any questions please contact Cara Virgil (cwirgil@rice.edu) or Ted Chen (tedchen@rice.edu), Co-Chairpersons of RSVP, or Mr. Goots (713-348-6163), Director of the Community Environment Center.

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