Tuition for incoming students rises 14 percent

by Amber Obersmeyer

New student tuition and fees will be $28,094 next year, a 13.6 percent increase from what the Class of 2011 freshmen paid. Returning students will pay about 4.5 percent more than what they paid this year. Room and board for all students will be $30,598 next year, a seven percent change that is similar to past increases.

Tuition, fees and resident board rates were approved at the March 8 Board of Trustees meeting and announced by President David Leebron Tuesday.

Freshman tuition will probably increase by a similar amount next year before leveling off, Leebron said. Leebron said he expects Rice's tuition to be $5,000-6,000 more than peer schools in the long run. Next year's freshman tuition will be about 87,000 less than other elite private universities.

"There are some people who think because we are a high-quality institution, we ought to be priced with other high-quality institutions," Leebron said. "That is not the present goal — it is just that giving everybody a one-third discount in today's competitive environment didn't seem quite right to us.

Leebron said that in the future, returning students' tuition will probably increase by about 5 percent annually.

Rice's financial aid budget will expand to cover the increased cost of attending, Vice President for Finance Kathy Collins said. Student Financial Services Director Julia Benz said Rice's method for calculating a family's expected contribution will not change, so students currently receiving need-based financial aid will not pay more.

Leebron said he thinks the percentage of accepted students who matriculate will not change substantially because of recent tuition increases. Rice received about 12 percent more applications this year despite last year's 12 percent tuition increase, Leebron said.

"What we're learning is that the biggest need is to get out there and see," Leebron, page 5

U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison speaks at a memorial service for Nobel Prize winner Richard Smalley in the Grand Hall Tuesday.

Smalley honored at service

by Sarah Taylor

A model of a buckyball sat on the podium as colleagues, students and family of Richard Smalley spoke about his influence on Rice and the world at a memorial service Tuesday. About 150 people attended the service held in the Grand Hall.

Smalley, a physics and university professor who died in October 2005, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1996 for discovering buckminsterfullerenes, now known as buckyballs. Smalley came to Rice in 1973 and devoted four new fields of chemical research while here. President David Leebron opened the service by praising Smalley's contributions.

"Rick was much more to Rice than a successful scientist and teacher," Leebron said. "He embodied the spirit of our university and the great desire to serve.

After Leebron's opening, eight speakers followed with memories, insights and anecdotes.

Physics Professor Neal Lane, a former National Science Foundation director, spoke about Smalley's public advocacy for nanotechnology. Lane said many policies resulted from Smalley's efforts.

"Rick was the model of a civic scientist," Lane said. "He went out to the public in an effort to solve the world's problems.

Richard E. Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology Director Wade Adams praised Smalley's effect on the academic environment at Rice, which he said Smalley loved. Adams said Smalley cared about other faculty members at Rice and was determined that his dreams be carried out after his death.

"What we've left with from Xe's scientific career is his vision," Adams said. "He was a pied piper, and many of us answered.

Nobel Prize winner and former chemistry professor Robert Curl ('54) worked with Smalley for 10 years. During that time, Smalley and the University of Sussex professor Harold Kroto discovered buckyballs.

Curl said Smalley was remarkably See SMALLEY, page 7

Faculty Senate approves take-home final exam policy

by Rio Gordon

Starting in Fall 2006, final papers, final projects and take-home final exams can be assigned a due date earlier than the last day of the final-exam period. The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve these changes to the General Announcements at its meeting Wednesday. Restrictions on the number of exams allowed in one- and two-day periods were also altered.

In the fall, the senate eliminated self-scheduled final exams and abolished the minimum class size required to schedule a final exam. The senate also changed rules about due dates for spring 2006 take-home exams because members did not want to alter the General Announcements in the middle of the year.

Tuition & Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th>Juniors</th>
<th>Sophomores</th>
<th>Entering students</th>
<th>Graduates students</th>
<th>Professional masters students</th>
<th>Continuing grad students</th>
<th>M.B.A. students</th>
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Tuition and fees are due by the Registrar's Office based on course meeting times. The take-home exam may be due no earlier than the end of the specified examination period — for example, 12 p.m. for a 9 a.m.-12 p.m. exam slot. However, professors may schedule the take-home exam to be delivered later than the assigned time slot.

Under the new policy, students who have three or more scheduled final examinations in a consecutive calendar day can arrange to exchange exams. As has been the case this year and last year, but in a new policy, the third exam's instructor must allow the student to take the exam at a different time if an agreement cannot otherwise be reached.

Free Your Willy Week

Monday: Owl Egg Hunt, Academic Quad Electric chair, 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday: Beer Debates, Willy's Pub, 9 p.m.; Wednesday: Academic Quad, 5:30 p.m.; Thursday: International Beer Night, Willy's Pub, 10 p.m.

SA petitions: the sequel

Petitions are due today at 1 p.m. for the SA Spring Elections, Four Horsemen Council at large positions, one University Court at-large position and RSVP treasurer are available.

Senior interviewer applications due

Applications for rising seniors interested in conducting on-campus interviews with high school seniors in the fall are due Friday at 5 p.m. at the Admissions Office. Forms are available at the Admissions Office and on the colleges.

Take-home exams — which the policy-drafters as including final papers and projects — will be automatically assigned a due date by the Registrar's Office based on course meeting times. The take-home exam may be due no earlier than the end of the specified examination period — for example, 12 p.m. for a 9 a.m.-12 p.m. exam slot. However, professors may schedule the take-home exam to be delivered later than the assigned time slot.

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See EXAMS, page 6

TAYLOR JOHNSON/THRESHER

INSIDE

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See EXAMS, page 6
Final exam system still needs reforms

The new final exam system is not as bad as we thought — that's the good news. (See story, page 1.) Professors are requiring fewer scheduled exams than in previous years, making the finals period more bearable and therefore less stressful for students. We thank these professors.

But the exam system for next year, approved by the Faculty Senate and still has the potential to stress students. More can and should be done to make the new setup work for everyone involved.

First, it makes no sense to require faculty to distribute exams by the first business day after the last day of classes. It doesn't matter in the spring — the first business day is the Thursday following the Wednesday end of classes — but in the fall, the policy means students might not be able to work on their exams during the first weekend after the end of classes, since the first business day is not until Monday.

That is unfair, especially since students are likely to be swamped with work during that first week of finals under the new system. Exams should instead be distributed at each class' last regular meeting — when, after all, students are in class.

In addition, the maximums currently set — and set not — for numbers of exams and take-homes in short time periods are misguided. Under the system approved this week, students could have two exams to take and two take-homes due within 48 hours. The total number of exams of any kind that can be due in a two-day period should be capped at three.

Finally, we hope professors do not take undue advantage of the perks they get under this staggered exam setup. It would be tremendously stressful for students if all professors chose to make their exams and take-homes due on the first possible dates, and the quality of student work would probably diminish. Flexibility is built into the new system, and we hope professors let some of that flexibility work for students rather than against them by making assignments due later in the exam period or, even better, moving them to the end of finals.

Unsigned editors represent the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff.
Guest column
Student Association needs serious reform

We are living in an age of reform. The Student Assembly (SA) has recently overturned a number of SA policies, and the University has met the demands of the Human Rights Council, which has caused the SA to reassess its human rights policies. The SA has recently revised its election rules, and the University has seen a number of SA policies overturned.

The SA has recently changed its rules regarding the election of senators, and the University has seen a number of SA policies overturned. The SA has recently changed its rules regarding the election of senators, and the University has seen a number of SA policies overturned.

In an age of reform, we need to see a new level of engagement from the SA. The SA has recently changed its rules regarding the election of senators, and the University has seen a number of SA policies overturned. The SA has recently changed its rules regarding the election of senators, and the University has seen a number of SA policies overturned.

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Connors, Swanson, Wright win travel fellowships

by Kirili Dutia

In the fall, three recent graduates will begin year-long research projects in multiple countries after receiving $25,000 grants. Last week, Sid Richardson College senior Kim Swanson and Wiess College senior Ellen Connors were named 2006-'07 Watson Fellows, and December graduate Kelly Wright (Brown '05) was named a Zeff Fellow.

The Watson Fellowship rewards 50 applicants who develop creative and independent projects. Each of the 48 participating schools, most of which are small universities and liberal arts colleges, can nominate up to four graduating seniors. The Zeff Fellowship was endowed by Accounting Professor Stephen Zeff and is an award equivalent to the Watson Fellowship, given by Rice to its highest-ranked applicant who does not win the Watson.

Swanson will travel to Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda for her project, "Women, micro-finance and the division of labor within the household." Swanson said her project is unique in that her study will be qualitative, unlike most past research in micro-finance, which provides financial services to low-income people who are excluded from other financial services based on their income. Swanson said she developed her idea through coursework in her major, mathematical economic analysis, and through past internships.

"My sophomore year, I interned with the United Nations Population Fund and did a project on female condom distribution in West Africa," Swanson said. "I came up with an idea to link condom distribution with micro-finance programs, which are directed towards women. That's where my interest in micro-finance and women started."

Connors, a music major and bassoonist, will travel to Canada, China, Iceland, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and Norway to gain exposure to and training in the folk song traditions of the circumpolar North.

"I've always been attracted to folk song," Connors said. "My bassoon teacher has been incorporating song into the curriculum. We study it because it is expressive and human — things that we strive for as instrumentalists. I'm interested in using song to become a better bassoon player."

Wright will research "Contemporary Art in the Chinese Diaspora." Her project will focus on the changing cultures of transplanted Chinese people as reflected in their art.

With a degree in political science and Asian studies, Wright will visit Australia, England, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Singapore and Taiwan following biannual contemporary art festivals.

"I planned my route around the festivals and what times they will be occurring," Wright said. "I'm going to visit galleries in the meantime and talk to curators and hopefully artists as well."

Wright said two of her courses — HIST 342: Modern China and ASIA 470: Visual Culture in Revolutionary and Post-revolutionary China — piqued her interest in the Chinese diaspora and that she thought the fellowship would be an ideal way to explore that interest.

"I'm going to visit the world to fulfill personal dreams with someone else's money," Wright said.

Scholarships and Fellowships Director Mauro De Lorenzo said he was not surprised when Swanson and Connors won.

"I think Rice students are very competitive, and after four years they are looking to do something more creative," he said.

De Lorenzo said he will hold a workshop for current junior and senior students interested in the Watson and Zeff fellowships later this semester.

"Anyone with a 3.0 should consider themselves competitive," he said. "Especially with the Watson, a student's GPA is less important than how innovative and appropri- ate the application is."

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Career Services Director Matherly takes Tulsa job

by Beko Binder

Career Services Director Cheryl Matherly will leave Rice at the end of the semester to take a senior position at the University of Tulsa’s international education program.

‘When you work in Career Services, you have to be able to recognize when good career moves come along.’ — Cheryl Matherly

Career Services director

Matherly, who is also the international opportunities director, has worked at Rice for 15 years.

Dean of Undergraduates Rob Forman said a job description for career services director was posted on the Rice Web site and national Websites last week.

Forman said he hopes to hire a new career services director within two months.

Matherly also developed courses such as HUMA 311 Career and Life Options.

Matherly said that when she was first hired by Rice in 1991, she did not intend to stay for more than a few years. But promotions and other opportunities kept her from leaving.

‘It just seemed that every time I got to the point that it was maybe a time to think about a new professional challenge, there was an interesting opportunity that came along here at Rice,’ Matherly said.

Matherly said her decision to leave was a difficult one.

‘I’ve stayed at Rice for as long as I have because it’s a place that I feel very happy at and affectionate toward,’ she said.

‘But when you work in Career Services, you have to be able to recognize when good career moves come along.’

Finding something Matherly will be difficult but that he is glad for her new job.

‘If you have to lose someone this is really the way to do it — in a way that you get to take advantage of an opportunity that is so exciting and for which she is so uniquely qualified,’ Forman said.

Matherly said she will miss watching students discover opportunities after college.

‘(Rice has) people who are so amazing individuals who I think are really going to be making a difference in the world,’ Matherly said.

Fondren to archive Thresher online

by Amber Obernauer

About 10 years of the Thresher will be available in a searchable online archive in the fall, and almost all years of the Thresher should be available by spring 2007.

The Fondren Library project began in 2000, when all issues of the Thresher were converted to microfilm. However, the project stalled because at that time, there were no standards for online newspaper archives and because Rice did not have the infrastructure and personnel to build the archive.

Electronic Resources Center Director Lisa Spiro said,

“We have a growing number of people on the staff at Fondren with an interest and expertise in digital images,” Spiro said. “Now, we have a critical mass of people and technologies available to make it happen.”

A pilot program consisting of the 1958-59 Threshers should be available online this fall. Currently, the project calls for the Threshers from 1916-2000 to be put online, but Spiro said more recent Threshers may also be added.

Putting the 1946-2000 Threshers online will cost $50,000-60,000, Spiro said.

Spiro said one reason to put the archive online was in preparation for the Rice centennial in 2012 but that she expects it to be useful to alumni and current students also.

“The Thresher is where we can find out about student life — and about what the hot topics of the day were,’ Spiro said. “The people at the Woodson Research Center who have the paper copies of the Thresher see a fair amount of research going on now, and that research would be so much easier if you had a fully searchable archive.”

Rice has hired Archives, which has previously worked with the Library of Congress, to build the archive, Electronic Resources Center Director Lisa Spiro said.

“Typing turned out to be prohibitively expensive,” Spiro said. "OCR... is not 100 percent accurate, but by and large, the print in the Thresher is pretty clear, so we think that the results are going to be good."

Images of each page will also be available in the archive, and they will have a high resolution, allowing users to zoom in on different sections of the page.

The archive will be available to the general public, Spiro said, and it will adhere to standards developed by the National Digital Newspaper Program.

Spiro said the archive will include a link to the Thresher’s current Web site, and Thresher Editor in Chief-elect David Brown, a Brown College junior, said the Thresher’s Web site will also link to the online archive.

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The Dallas Morning News, the University of Utah and Brigham Young University, to implement the project.

The company uses “optical character recognition” to interpret a digital image of a page and guess which characters are used, similar to when a document is scanned into a computer and then read by a word processing program. However, Spiro said Archon has software to make the results more accurate than they would be in a normal scan.

Using this OCR technique and various correction software is much cheaper than having individual articles typed into a computer. Spiro said.

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SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
EXAMS

From page 1

Additionally, students cannot be required to turn in more than two take-home papers on the same calendar day, unless it is the last day of the final exam period. If a student has three exams due on one day, he or she can reschedule one exam. Again, a student’s third exam must be rescheduled if an agreement cannot otherwise be reached.

Speaker of the Faculty Marj Corcoran said placing a limit on the number of exams a student could have to reschedule for a short amount of time was an important issue he addressed with Corcoran.

"Take-homes can be just as difficult and time-consuming as scheduled exams," Lloyd, a Brown College senior, said. "Therefore, they deserve just as much attention as in-class exams."

It is important to make take-home exams available to students by the end of the first business day after the last day of classes. In Fall 2006, the last day of classes is a Friday, so take-home exams must be available to students by 5 p.m. that Friday. The first day of final exams is that Wednesday. In Spring 2007, the last day of classes is Wednesday, so take-home exams must be available by Thursday at 5 p.m., which is the first day of final exams in that quarter.

Corcoran said he does think this policy will create difficulties for students. Corcoran said he thinks it will be difficult for professors to have multiple take-home exams due in the first few days of the final exam period.

"Right now, the hope is that professors will remember that they require take-home exams to be due after the last day of classes," Lloyd said. "Unfortunately, the [scheduled] due dates are the earliest due date possible, so we hope that professors will recognize that and work with students to find a solution," Lloyd said.

"I think you could stagger due dates for take-home exams," Corcoran said. "This would allow for professors to give assignments that cover their course material in a way that allows students to work on their own outside of class."

Corcoran said that professors should be able to set their own guidelines for final exam times and due dates. However, Provost Eugene Levy said he was uncomfortable completely separating undergraduate and graduate final exam guidelines because undergraduate and graduate departments are usually able to set their own guidelines. Corcoran said that graduate courses have more flexibility than undergraduate courses.

"Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor Jim Young proposed that graduate courses with many undergraduate fellows follow the undergraduate guidelines, but that graduate departments ultimately be able to set their own rules. Corcoran said that students should not anticipate further changes to final exam policies, although the senate might consider the effects of the changes."

"We'll watch and see how it works," Corcoran said.

For More Information:

http://www.rice.edu/ginard

Please note that the information in this ad supercedes the website. The website is offered only as a supplement to this ad.

golard@golad.rice.edu

Golard (go-lourd, -lord) n. A wandering student in medieval Europe disposed to conviviality, license, and the making of raucous and Latin songs.

Encrypting Faculty Names

Some faculty members proposed allowing students to request the encryption of their faculty names on their transcripts to set their own guidelines for final exam times and due dates. However, Provost Eugene Levy said he was uncomfortable completely separating undergraduate and graduate final exam guidelines because undergraduate and graduate departments are usually able to set their own guidelines. Corcoran said that graduate courses have more flexibility than undergraduate courses.

"Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor Jim Young proposed that graduate courses with many undergraduate fellows follow the undergraduate guidelines, but that graduate departments ultimately be able to set their own rules. Corcoran said that students should not anticipate further changes to final exam policies, although the senate might consider the effects of the changes."

"We'll watch and see how it works," Corcoran said.

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Application Details

• Interested students should submit a 2 to 5 page proposal describing plans for use of the funds. A pdf or hardcopy of the proposal is required.

• Application must be submitted by the deadline.

• Cover page should indicate your name, major, minor, and major college.

• Submissions of two or more pages are acceptable, but must be complete. The submissions should include a cover page, a table of contents, a narrative, a conclusion, and a bibliography. The proposal should be typed, double-spaced, and include a table of contents. The maximum length of the proposal is 20 pages.

• Students may not submit multiple applications.

• Application deadline is Wednesday, March 29 at 12:16 PM.

• Finalists will be notified by the end of this quarter.

For More Information:

http://www.rice.edu/golard

Please note that the information in this ad supercedes the website. The website is offered only as a supplement to this ad.

golard@golard.rice.edu

Golard (go-lourd, -lord) n. A wandering student in medieval Europe disposed to conviviality, license, and the making of raucous and Latin songs.
SMALLEY
From page 1
flexible and was never discouraged by an unsuccessful experiment. Carl also said Smalley had tremendous personal charisma, which he used to persuade the U.S. government to support nanotechnology.

“Rick always wanted to make an impact,” Carl said. “He was enormously creative, unpredictable, schemes, persuasive and tenderhearted. I will miss him.”

Chemistry graduate student Paul Cherukuri, one of Smalley’s students, spoke about visiting Smalley in the hospital during the last few weeks of Smalley’s life. Cherukuri said that even as Smalley was dying, Smalley talked to him about career options.

“He cared about each and everyone of his students,” Cherukuri said that even as Smalley was dying, Smalley talked to him about career options.

“Over the years, I came to regard Rick as one of the world’s paragons

POLICE BLOTTER
The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period March 7-9:

Residential Colleges
Jones College March 10 Window broken.
Brown College March 11 Bicycle stolen.
Sid Richardson College March 11 Internal parts from two computers stolen.
Sid Richardson College March 19 Laptop stolen.

Academic Buildings
Hermon Brown Hall March 7 Laptop stolen.
Mechanical Engineering March 10 Drafting tools stolen.
Laboratory

Other Buildings
Aury Court March 8 Backpack stolen.
Willy’s Pub March 8 Five students removed for Alcohol Policy violations.

Rice Memorial Center
March 10 Officer observed subject unloading unsecured patrol car and subject ran. Student arrested for evading arrest, assault and remained in Harris County Jail. Student also referred to Student Judicial Programs for public intoxication and unrolling in public.

Aury Court March 14 iPod stolen.

Other Areas
Rice Track/Soccer Stadium March 7 Scrap materials, antique light poles and light hats stolen.
Rice University March 10 Staff member reported assault by family member.
Rice University March 14 Vehicle hubcap missing.

Entrance 8 March 15 Vehicle stopped for defective brake lights. Prescription pills found during consented vehicle search. Driver did not have prescription or medication. Driver arrested for possession of dangerous drug and remainder to Harris County Jail.

Morningside Drive at University Boulevard March 16 Rice bus involved in traffic minor accident.

University Professor Nest Lane speaks at Nobel Prize winner Richard Smalley’s memorial service in the Grand Hall Tuesday.

"What we’re left with from Rick’s great career is his vision. He was a pied piper, and many of us answered his call.”

— Wade Adams
Richard E. Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology director

“The great man who touched so many will never die,” Hatchinson said. “When a soldier’s life is saved because better, stronger, lighter armor is on him: when a lighter, stronger airplane flies in the sky: or when a particular bloodstream protects against a disease, Richard Smalley lives.”

Debbie Smalley, his widow, concluded the service by presenting Smalley’s Nobel Prize to the university and by thanking Rice for its outstanding love and support.

“Rick was true to Rice, and you were true to him,” she said. “Rice, you are the rightful heirs to Rick’s mission.”

RICE UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM (RUSP) (HONS740/471)
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.cwuite.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, students focus on research 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 (donj@rice.edu) X3486
Michael Watkins Psychology (matt@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.

www.riceaesheiser.org
The Faculty Senate met Wednesday. The following were discussed:

- Psychology Professor David Schneider said the working group on standing committees will not be able to make changes to standing committees before nomination ballots are distributed to faculty. He said the working group would eventually like to create new standing committees and eliminate S-4 inactive committees.
- Deputy Speaker Deborah Harter, a French Studies professor, said nominations for next year’s senate seats have been completed, with all but one engineering seat filled. Ballots were distributed Thursday, and Harter said the Nominations and Elections Committee will meet next week to nominate the University Council and Executive Committee positions.
- The Student Association senate did not meet this week. Its next meeting will be Monday at 10 a.m., in Farnsworth Pavilion.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS CHANGES
The Faculty Senate amended the policy as defined in the General Announcements, prohibiting student participation in mandatory university-sponsored events during the last week of classes and final examination period. Activities such as club sports and debate are not university-sponsored events during the last week of classes and final exam period. Announcements, prohibiting student participation in non-academic university-sponsored events those times. The proposal was approved by a 13-3 vote. (See box, below.)

The new policies will affect the 2006-07 academic year.

Current policy, from the General Announcements:

During the last week of classes, from Monday through Saturday, an individual student may participate in only one university-sponsored event, which may be scheduled or rescheduled, so long as no more than one night would be spent outside of Houston from the previous Sunday night through Friday afternoon. However, no event may be scheduled on Sunday and thereafter until the conclusion of the final examination period. Exceptions may be authorized only by the Committee on Examinations and Standing.

Policy for next year’s General Announcements:

No non-academic university-sponsored event at which student attendance is required may be scheduled or rescheduled for any date after the day following the last day of classes. Exceptions may be granted by a quorum of the Committee on Examinations and Standing only for events where scheduling is not under the control of the university. On the class days falling during the last calendar week of classes, an individual student may participate in only one university-sponsored event which may be scheduled or rescheduled, so long as no more than one night would be spent outside of Houston for travel. For events during the last week of classes, the reading period and on Sunday. However, no event may be scheduled on Sunday and thereafter until the conclusion of the final examination period. Exceptions may be authorized only by the Committee on Examinations and Standing.

Search Committee Chair Sarah Wolf, a Wiess sophomore, said Houchens was selected from seven applicants. Wolf said the committee chose Houchens for his energy and his involvement with Wiess.

"He was very engaging with the students during the interview process — coming to finals, Wiess Cabaret and associations' barbecues." Wolf also said Houchens understands students well and will be a really solid guy to go to for advice.

Houchens said he decided to accept the RA position in part because he enjoyed interacting with

Undergraduate Prizes in English
The English Department would like to invite submissions for two of its annual prizes:

Submissions are due by Friday, April 7 for The Lady Geddes Essay Prize for the best academic paper written by a freshman or sophomore at Rice. Papers must not exceed 5000 words in length. First prize is $500. Second prize is $300.

The Department also welcomes submissions for this year’s Academy of American Poet’s Prize for the best poem written by a currently enrolled Rice undergraduate. Students may submit up to five poems. First prize is $100, and deadline for submissions is Monday, April 3.

Please Note: Interested students should comply with all formal requirements specified on the English department’s web page under “Fellowships and Awards” in the Undergraduate program section.

Engineering professor Houchens selected to be new Wiess RA

by Ted Wieber

Mechanical Engineering and Material Science Professor Brent Houchens will become Wiess College’s newest resident associate. Houchens, who is currently a faculty associate at Wiess, will take the place of Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor Bill Wilson, who will retire at the end of the academic year after 28 years as an RA.

The Rice Philharmonics perform Wednesday night at a joint concert with a cappella groups from Johns Hopkins University and the University of Illinois.

Harmonious

The Rice Philharmonics perform Wednesday night at a joint concert with a cappella groups from Johns Hopkins University and the University of Illinois.

Mechanical Engineering and Material Science Professor Brent Houchens says he will UTA as Wiess master this summer. Houchens, a Rice faculty member, will return to his alma mater to take the place of Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor Bill Wilson, who will retire at the end of the academic year after 28 years as an RA.

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TUITION
From page 1

marked the school," Leebron said. "We hope to over and over again that the sticker price is not a predominant influence on people's choice, partly because they want the best quality they can get and partly because it's the after- financial aid cost that drives decisions." Collins said tuition must increase because Rice's costs rise every year.

The per-student, per-year cost reflation is at least $50,000, Leebron said. "Students pay less than half of that cost," Lebron said. "That's not to say that you want them to pay more, but only to say that for the students who can afford the education, it's not unfair to ask them to pay a little more of the burden."

Financial aid and scholarships

Because of the tuition increase, about 38 percent of undergraduates received need-based financial aid this year—up from about 30 percent of the previous four years, Leebron said. About 76 percent of students receive some form of financial aid, including merit-based scholarships, athletic scholarships, student loans and outside scholarships, Benz said.

Last year, Rice changed its financial aid policy, replacing all loans with grants for students with families incomes of less than $30,000 annually. Leebron said the $30,000 cap may be increased in future years.

"Over the next five years, we are going to have to move the aggressiveness of our aid package further up the income spectrum," Leebron said. "Our price is pretty low for people in the $60,000 bracket, but I think in the $50,000 income bracket, we're going to need to be more competitive.

In past years, about 10 percent of undergraduates had family incomes of less than $55,000 per year, but that number increased to 14 percent this year after Rice's financial aid policy for low-income-students changed, Benz said.

"We wanted to make sure that the message was clear that even if you have a very low income, Rice is affordable for you," Benz said. "I think the message got out."

Benz said Rice's demographics are similar to those at other private schools.

"The makeup of our student population actually is not different than our peers," Leebron said. "People think we have this very different student population because of the lower nominal price of our tuition, but it's just not borne out by the facts. There's some difference among the top schools, but it's not so much as though the Rice population looks different than everybody else's."

About 45 percent of incoming students do not apply for financial aid, Benz said. Among these students, those who do not report their families' incomes to Rice, Leebron said it is possible that there are differences between Rice's demographics and those of other schools.

"There could be differences, but people tend to over-file [for financial aid]," Leebron said. "Our view is that if our education is priced, over the course of the four years, $25,000 less than the competition, that's a significant difference."

In February, Rice began a $100 million, 12-year fundraising campaign for need and merit-based scholarships. Ben said she expects tuition to rise faster than family incomes nationwide and that the scholarship campaign will allow Rice to continue to meet students' need. The campaign will also allow Rice to keep offering competitive merit-based scholarships, she said.

Leebron said the value of Rice's largest scholarships has increased in order to maintain the same net cost for students receiving those awards.

Room and board

Housing and Dining Director Mark Ditman said higher energy costs, especially a 40 percent increase in the cost of natural gas, led to the higher room and board rates for next year.

"You always have escalation in cost," Ditman said. "It's just not visible to hold rates static. At times when people try to do that, instead of having small, incremental increases, they set themselves up for huge increases.

Tuition and fees this year are $26,974, up from $25,074 in 2005. Tuition increases for students who matriculated in 2003 and earlier cannot exceed the inflation rate. The Board of Trustees voted to stop indexing returning students' tuition to inflation in December 2002, and the change took effect with the class that matriculated in Fall 2004.

NEW-STUDENT TUITION AND FEES OVER TIME

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<tr>
<th>Matriculation year</th>
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<td>2005</td>
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Pepper Necklaces by Olivia Bartlett

"Stuck in the Ma'erking, Aba Prefecture hospital for a few days due to 'too much yak butter tea', I met Adgi and her family, we walked around the town. I started stringing peppers along with her as she made fun of my 'amdo hua' funny smell, and her hairy arms. She introduced me to her family, we played around the town. I started stringing peppers along with her as she made fun of my 'amdo hua' funny smell, and her hairy arms. She introduced me to her family, we played around the town.

Pepper Necklaces

Small, medium, and large necklaces

- University credit
- Scholarships
- Housing

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You & Us

UBS
Mass meeting held to tell the trustees about troubles

First time in Rice's history trustees have met students in such a get-together meeting — frankness keynote of the affair

Talks made to Board by many cadets and co-eds, giving students' opinions of how Institute has been mismanaged — resolutions are passed and petition is drawn up for trustees' consideration.

The students of Rice have had their grievances before the Board of Trustees and are now awaiting the board's reply on February 14. On February 18, the student body in mass met in the office of Mr. McCants to present to the trustees a day or two after the mass meeting, will be acted on at the Thursday meeting.

Major Duggan Makes First Speech

Cadet Major Duggan started for the students in a talk where he made a resume of the affairs from the sending of an anonymous newspaper "Tape" until the present date.

"We are not insurrectionists," said Major Duggan. "We are here to make students working for the bettering of Rice Institute and for the perpetuation of an Institution which we are interested in and that has given us years of almost phenomenal success."

Going on, he recited how, after the appearance of "Tape," there had been a number of disturbances in the dormitories when lights had gone out.

"This," he said, "was not without precaution. We knew the outbreak of youthful spirits followed the plunging of the dormitories into total darkness." Continuing, he said how the trustees had been called on Friday, that this board met the cadet officers on Saturday, and how it was thought best to let the entire student body go before the trustees in a meeting where the matter would be threshed out.

Jay Alexander followed with the big speech of the day, wherein he drew a picture of the trustees of conditions at the Rice Institute before and after the introduction of the military regime.

"The cause of the present controversy lies far back than in the introduction of the military regime. It lies as far back as the beginning of the Institute in 1912, when the spirit was inculcated in the student-faculty committee to the Board of Trustees. His action has also opened the gates to a broader examination in some quarters of the relationship of students and tutors. It lies far back from the students and the community.

The appointment of Master- sons which had been unanimously agreed upon by the Board at their meeting on Feb. 14, was announced to the student-faculty President Selection Committee on Thursday, Feb. 19, at a hastily-called emergency meeting; board members Herbert Allen and James Trauger attended. Board Chairman H. Malcolm Lowert was confined to Methodist Hospital after an operation for a slipped disc.

The meeting was frank and open, and the talks of the students and the trustees. Several cadets made short speeches, and the co-eds carried their case through the agency of Miss Camille Waggaman and Miss Edith Rowe.

T. Alexander who spoke was Jay Alexander, Alston Duggan, James Mabry, Thomas Coleman and Emmett Niland.

After the meeting the trustees received a surprise that conditions were as the students had pictured them. They also said they regretted that instead of the day they had looked into affairs at the Institute. The board has a meeting on Wednesday, February 26, and it is expected that the cadets will be represented to the trustees a day or two after the mass meeting, will be acted on at the Thursday meeting.

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Thresher, were questioning all their friends with a familiar song: "What College
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tinue to come from the students
and administration. It will have considerable weight with
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be elected to the Cabinet, and
might be from any. Committees
are formed to work on the problems of the colleges as follows: Athletic Committee, Constitution Committee, House Committee, Non-Resident Participating Committee, Executive Committee, Non-Resident Participating Committee, and the Social Committee.
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Committees Formed
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their first election this morn-
Rice maintain polling places near
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Representative: Nowton Burkett,
Chairman: Douglas Byrd, George Mc-
Senior Representative: John N.
Chambliss, Ben Harter, Jr., Richard Smith, Sophomore Repre-
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be resident members.
the IBM 4341 and PC Owlnet software, the community after a demonstration today at Rice microcomputers to be linked in but the ability to send executable programs we are not stupid people."

from the students we once had. And of the Board’s actions, and therefore he emphasized, had heard nothing and dealings with the Board since its history of his committee’s activities Selection Committee, recounted the ties, and foundation officials to sub-

the Board in a letter received by Mal-

dreas M. Masterson, but said he felt the meeting of the Presi-

dent was previous connection to the Board’s criteria for a good

Brotzen said, replied that the Board no better way to say they we have signatures, and after much discus-

the committee before choosing appointment) was done without they fear their own inadequacies Masterson, but said he felt the meetings in each of the seven

chairman of the English depart-

protesting the procedure, would


"what has happened is an unfortu-

tune to the university — the faculty, students, Board of Trustees, Board of Visitors..." If there was one element of the University — the faculty, students, Board of Trustees, Board of Visitors..." If there was one element, Dr. Masterson said, he had known of the "existence of the advisory committee, but had not consulted it. He had been quite an unpleasant experience and I can’t say it was pleasant."

Masterson said that communication between these elements of the university — the students and faculty, and the Board — was often poor, and that it would be his job to try to improve this communication. Masterson went from his press conference to Lovett Hall, where 700 students and faculty members were gathered in a gymnasium. The meeting was to discuss the Board’s selection of Masterson as president, and students and faculty were expressing their concerns and criticisms.

In reply to a question, he said he did not feel that a mass meeting of students, faculty, and the selection committee would be helpful, and he wanted to meet with small groups of students and faculty before returning to Charlottesville.

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Trouble Deeply Rooted
The president declared, "The trouble is deep in the heart of the campus. Some students here are so deeply rooted in their beliefs that they are unwilling to change them, no matter what the circumstances."

However, the president insisted, "I believe that the situation can be resolved if we work together. It is important that we continue to communicate and find a way to work towards a solution."

The president also acknowledged, "I understand the concerns of the students and their desire for change. But we must also remember that Rice Institute was founded on the principles of freedom of speech and expression."

In conclusion, the president stated, "We will continue to work towards a resolution that is fair to all parties involved. It is important that we maintain the spirit of unity and respect that has always been a part of Rice Institute."
Baker's Cymbeline shines with novelty

Julia Bursten

THESSER EDITORIAL STAFF

The only thing better than good Shakespeare is good, obscure Shakespeare, Cymbeline, a comedy written late in the Bard's career, features all the intrigue of his more famous tragedies without the expression of over-publication in high-school textbooks. Within Italy, culminating as Octavia's logo and a heroine more independent and more deeply deceived than Juliet, Baker College's spring production is a refreshing break from Shakespeare's traditionally performed literature.

cymbeline

**** of five

March 23-25, 30-April 2
8 p.m., Baker Commons
Tickets cost $5/Students, $10/other; $25/Bard passes

Like most Shakespearean drama, Cymbeline teems with convoluted subplots centered on love, honor and inheritance. In Romeus and Juliet and Hamlet all these are common knowledge, and audiences expect them. Cymbeline does not have this advantage and, consequently, the quality of a production depends heavily on actors' abilities to convey the unfamiliar and complicated story. Baker's actors rise to the challenge magnificently.

Set in Britain and Italy, Cymbeline starts as a story of a wedded couple—Princess Imogene (Baker sophomore Michelle Moller) and Posthumus (Baker sophomore Jared Blakely) —torn apart by opposite royalty, King Cymbeline (Hanszen College senior Aamer Ghanbari) and the inevitable Shakespearean poison scene. The actors' rhythmic recitation of Cymbeline's dense, melodic lines is captivating, energetic temps without detracting from the actors' emotional range or expression. Except for a few minor, hurried scenes, scripting lends itself to physical, pun-filled comedy and character development, and Turner delivers with beautiful posturing and stage presence. Turner, who choreographed the play's light scenes with James Cooper (Brown '02), successfully balances physically out of the rest of the cast as well.

A physical comedy plays a set piece, action, and director Joseph Lockhart (Baker '03), and set designer Cat Coombes, a Baker freshman, accommodate Cymbeline's unique and plentiful scene changes with a highly functional, geometric stage. The stage lies in the middle of the commons with seating on each side—a mock-up of the Globe Theater that has become Baker Shakespeare tradition. Instead of a customary trapdoor, necessary for a breaking and entering scene, the stage has a cavernous opening beneath one of its multi-level risers. Not only does this innovation add another dimension to the characters' motion; it doubles as a den for an exiled trio of energy-turning mountain men shortly after intermission.

Baker's production of Cymbeline illustrates the merits of thoughtful selection and casting. The plot can be difficult to follow because it is not common knowledge, but the production's actors engage the audience consistently, and the Shakespearean approach to the action is less bewildering. The play's success lies in part in its relative obscurity, but the cast and crew take full advantage of this asset for a thoroughly enjoyable show.

for more college theater reviews, see inside

VENDETTA, 11

Revolutionary Vendetta
proves visually stunning

Tasha Chenglawi

THESSER STAFF

Let the six-eyed bargain begin. Director James McTeigue's V For Vendetta has just started a Guy Fawkes-like revolution in film adaptations of graphic novels.

'v for vendetta'

**** of five

in theaters

With a cast and crew brimming with Hollywood hipsters who have led their own careers over the past decade, the masked hero of Vendetta, V (The Matrix's Hugo Weaving), is an actor of beautifuly assembled cardboard minds. In this motion-picturesque portrait of Alan Moore's (League of Extraordinary Gentlemen) graphic novel of the same name, writers Andy and Larry Wachowski (The Matrix trilogy) create a hero who is every bit as engaging and thought-provoking as Neo of the cyber-centered films. Vendetta takes place over the course of a year in a futuristic Britain where a Big Brother-esque dictatorship controls its citizens' every move. Curie-wear imposed, news is fabricated and all forms of art are banned.

At the beginning of the film, V, whose face is always concealed by a baroque-style Guy Fawkes mask, saves Evey (Natalie Portman) from being taken to the Old Bailey building. Viewers learn V's motives for wanting to destroy the institution through flashbacks to his stint at Latrellia Detention Center, where prominent members of Parliament conduct sordid business. The mysterious, stylized protagonist teases physicality out of the rest of the cast as well. The production's actors engage the audience consistently, and the Shakespearean approach to the action is less bewildering. The play's success lies in part in its relative obscurity, but the cast and crew take full advantage of this asset for a thoroughly enjoyable show.

for more college theater reviews, see inside
Margaret Tung

The word "opera" usually conjures up images of overweight women in thick clown makeup singing melodramatic Italian. But "Ruddigore"

★★★½ of five stars

March 23, 25, 30 April 1 10:30 a.m. March 24 2:30 p.m. March 26
Hanszen Commons $5 students, $10 others

Hanszen College and Rice Light Opera Society's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's Ruddigore.

The word "opera" usually conjures up images of overweight women in thick clown makeup singing melodramatic Italian. But Hanszen College and Rice Light Opera Society's production of Ruddigore showcases vocal talents, set design and the most noticeable and unique feature of Copper's performance is his voice. While his posturing is consistently jovial and rotund, his inflections—especially during the opera's longer songs—appeal to everyone's sympathies through the ear more than the eye.

To counter Copper, Hanszen junior Andrew Reich, who plays Ruthven's foster brother Richard, provides comic relief with his vocal stylings. A sailor who speaks almost entirely in unintelligible metaphor, he skillfully keeps his mariner's accent while singing. His physical presence and onstage confidence reflect that of his character. Even when he reveals Ruddigore's secret to the baronet's cousin Denzil (Alex Hennart), Will Rice '05, the sailor's edging persona allows viewers to forgive him quickly.

Both characters, while they deliver captivating performances, encountered costume difficulties at times. They fought with their obviously fake moustaches in an effort to keep up with whiskers, and although they were unfazed by these malfunctions, they did not, as they should have, improvise to improve the situation.

Luckily, the show's other technical aspects held together much better. Even before the house lights dim, audiences get a preview of the play's high-tech backdrops. The set features a series of stylized portraits that double as stage wings, where live characters playing the paintings' subjects appear suddenly.

The show's choral and brassy instrumental moments flow well but do not stand out in comparison with its vivid musical acting. Although the majority of the play's script is set to melodic background, the cast's use of the stage and vocal inflection do more to capture Gilbert and Sullivan's comic brilliance. Witty and often hysterical, this production of Ruddigore illustrates the influence of the creators cast and crew can have on an already humorous show.

We Are Scientists outmatchs audience energy at Monday concert

Bryce Gray

Weeeknight rock concerts make for an interesting crowd. The usual student weekenders who come to off campus steam rarely make appearances, buried under academic deadlines until Friday comes. The career-driven yogis often work late nights Monday through Thursday or are busy writing and dining each other in hopes of another minor promotion.

So the assembled leftovers scattered around Walter's on Washington Monday night comprised a formidable lackluster audience for New York City-based We Are Scientists.

Luckily, the band shook off the crowd's case of the Mondays and settled into a tight set worthy of a much more devoted fan base. As the upbeat musicians staggered into the spotlight, a few high school girls sat by the stage pouring over U.S. history textbooks, and a smattering of 20-somethings drank Lonestar longnecks in quiet moderation. The club was only half-full and felt more like an anemic Le Tigre imitations. It was obvious immediately that the band needed neither confidence nor poise to overcome its audience's apathy.

"But this is a party, isn't it?" Keith Murray, We Are Scientists' lead singer and guitarist, asked brightly before launching into the band's hour-long set. He might have been looking for reassurance, but it was obvious immediately that the band needed neither confidence nor poise to overcome its audience's apathy.

We Are Scientists shined in the wake of several tame opening acts—Los Angeles-based Foreign Born played a short set with a swaggaing stage presence but completely unintelligible vocals, and England's The Grapes pounded quickly through a furious series of Le Tigre imitations.

In comparison, We Are Scientists stayed professional and vivacious. Murray's well-timed six-string riffs skidded off the walls of the club with impressive power. Bassist Chris Cain danced up and down the fret board of his vintage Fender Thunderbird while keeping beat with the band's hour-long set. He might have been looking for reassurance, but it was obvious immediately that the band needed neither confidence nor poise to overcome its audience's apathy.

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It was Thursday night—time to suit up and party down. The event: opening ceremonies for the Houston Museum of Natural Science’s new dinosaur exhibit, “Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries.” Like a juvenile Tyrannosaurus, this dinoophile was in its element, and that feeling was felt throughout the urban center. I was to suit up and party down. The lookout for mass transit and martini-filled scene—on the District on the way to a swanky, like I was in a real science museum made me feel schmoozing. Dinosaur enthusiast like I was in a real museum made me feel like I was in a real schmoozing. I was in a real

LESLIE KOERBER

The computer-created, Baskan, a tiny brother who was really may be, Mesozoic-age fossil that looked like Apatosaurus’ fossil looked like Apatosaurus’ fossil

Bryce Gray

The play is stronger when only one pair of actors is present onstage. Each couple has a slightly different chemistry, and the variation holds the audience’s attention. Rodin and Conroy showcase their vocal talents in several duets. An upbeat tango number provides welcome energy early in the show and is countered by a dramatic song about the couple’s marital problems after intermission. The second, Nick (Isaac Cram Crew, Inc.

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Bryce Gray

The couples of Baby, an idiosyncratic musical about the joys and perils of pregnancy, pair off for a dance number.
in his heels to the rock-solid rhythms of drummer Michael Tapper. The three have an innate national tour. On Monday the band rhythms of drummer Michael Obernauer.
Indiana defeats Owls in WNIT

by Amber Obermeyer

With 12 players returning from the team that won the 2005 Western Athletic Conference championship, expectations for the women's basketball team were high entering the 2005-'06 season, which concluded with a loss to Indiana in the Women's National Invitation Tournament. But those expectations were 6-11 and had just lost our lead before the Conference USA match against a conference opponent six-match homestand Saturday at 3 p.m. (against Indiana), we were on the edge of making a first-half run. The Owls couldn't stop Indiana, which had strong post play — despite using just an eight-player rotation for most of their games — won 12 of their last 15 games, advancing to the C-USA championship game as the No. 3 seed. Indiana had the team in shooting percentage that isn't indicative of their level of play,
Three Owls compete at NCAA meets

Freshman Diane Gu and sophomore Brittany Massengale each made her debut appearance at the NCAA West Preliminary Round in track and field's 100-meter preliminaries. Massengale, who finished 16th in 11.25 seconds, will continue to compete in the 100-meter preliminaries. Gu, who automatically qualified for the 50-yard freestyle at the Conference USA Championship in late February, finished 36th out of 76 swimmers. Gu's time of 23.12 seconds is three-hundredths of a second away from qualifying for the finals. Gu finished the 100 freestyle in 51.31, about two seconds behind the mark needed to qualify for the finals. Massengale posted a time of 5:40.91 in the 500freestyle preliminaries to finish 27th of 54, missing a spot in the finals by about two seconds. Massengale had qualified for the 500 freestyle after swimming a Rice-record 4:54.45 in the Conference CUSA Championships. She also swam the 1,600 freestyle at nationals, finishing 28th in 16:22.35.

Senior Julio Galli was the Owl's lone representative at the NCAA Invitational at the Big State Championships in College Station, Texas. Galli's time of 4:45.10 in the 400 freestyle preliminaries was good for a 1.7-place finish in his heat and 15th overall, but he finished 3.37 seconds behind the last qualifier for the finals. Some other members of the men's and women's track teams provisionally qualified for nationals, but their marks were too slow to be held through finals at the NCAA meet. 

Brian Moroselli

Golf finishes seventh at Border Olymics

The golf team finished seventh at the Border Olympics tournament among eight teams participating at the 55th annual Border Olympics, held March 16-18 in Laredo, Texas. Reopened the tournament with a season-low round of 285 and added 290 and 305 in the second and third rounds, respectively. The team's total score of 896 was its second lowest of the year and was three strokes behind fourth-place University of Houston. Baylor University won the tournament with a score of 860. 

Individually, for the Owls, warier Parker Lallago finished seventh overall with an even par 201, 23 strokes behind the tournament winner. Sophomore Jeff Fehr finished 21st with a four-over 220 and sophomore Addison Awe's 226 placed him tied for 31st. On the women's side, Freshman Young Lee and freshman Kyle Kelley rounded out the scoring for the Owls, tying for 36th with a score of 228.

The team next competes in the American and Marist Intercollegiate April 19 in Raleigh, N.C. The tournament is one of the remaining events for the Owls before the Conference USA Championships, which will be held April 24-26 in Columbus, Miss. 

— Dylan Farmer

Men's tennis wins four straight matches

Owls host two ranked teams at Rice Invitational this weekend

After suffering its fourth loss in five matches two weeks ago to Florida State, the men's tennis team rebounded, winning four straight matches to improve its record to 9-4 on the year. The Owls defeated 46th-ranked University of Miami 4-0, 49th-ranked Duke Lake Tennis Stadium March 11 before hosting to San Diego to best Montana State University, Gonzaga University 36th ranked University of San Diego.

'San Diego was the first match that we had everyone together and healthy since the season started.' 

— Ron Smarr

Head men's tennis coach

This weekend, the 47th-ranked Owls will host 32nd-ranked Texas Tech, 73rd-ranked Purdue University and the University of South Florida at the Hyatt Regency Downtown/Rice Invitational, where they hope to step three wins closer to an NCAA tournament berth. 

Texas Tech has defeated three top-100 teams on route to a 7-4 record, including a win over 38th-ranked Middle Tennessee State, which defeated Rice 5-2 Feb. 25. However, the Red Raiders also lost in the same San Diego team the Owls defeated Friday.

'The senior leadership will help tremendously. It's starting to sink in that they're nearing the end, but I think it's affecting them positively.'

— Elle Utundag (Baker '99)

Assistant men's tennis coach

Against Minnesota, the Owls opened the day with a quick win at No. 1 and No. 3 doubles to secure the doubles point. Searle and Haerle and Gabriel secured the team's second victory with straight-set wins, and sophomores Ralph Kuepper and Ustundag added a third victory to give Rice the 5-2 dual match win.

In San Diego, the Owls again opened play this time against Montana State, with a quick doubles-point victory. Searle and Haerle defeated the Bobcats' Marek Gebicki and Kyle McDonald, decisively at No. 1, and freshman Christian Muller teamed with Kuepper to add another victory at No. 3. Searle, Haerle and Muller won at the first, third and fourth singles spots respectively, and junior Ben Mok added another victory at No. 6.

'Since [the Florida State loss], everybody's been fighting hard through all the matches, and that's what made the difference.'

— Tony Haerle

Senior

The Owls returned that night to sweep Gonzaga 7-0. The Bulldogs did not win any sets in either singles or doubles, and the highlight of the match was Kuepper and Muller's 6-0 victory at No. 3 doubles.

Two days later, the Owls posted their biggest victory of the week, upsetting San Diego State 6-1 in San Diego. Searle teamed with sophomore Filip Zivotic on a victory at No. 2, and the doubles point despite Searle and Haerle's loss at No. 1. Searle then dropped singles with a 7-6, 6-2 victory over Yvera. Kuepper, Haerle and Zivotic won two at the third, and the Owls routed the Bulldogs for the scoring of the Owls. 

Haerle attributes the team's recent success to an improvement in attitude.

'The season started to come together when we played Florida State, even though we lost,' Haerle said. 'They went on to defeat (a top-10 team), and we know we can beat those types of teams because we should have beaten them. Since then, everybody's been fighting hard through all the matches, and that's what made the difference.'

Fielding their roster of players, the Owls have beaten seven of their last nine, something they have not been able to do consistently throughout the season. "San Diego was the first match that we've been one together and healthy since the season started," head coach Ron Searle said. "And that made it a very good win."
From page 15
momentum changing three- pointers.
'Coach had been telling me to focus intensely on offense because this was the time to do it,' Rettin said. 'No one else was really stepping up, so I felt that I had to.'
Due to the injuries, senior guard Amber Cunningham and junior forward Savannah Williams played more minutes than would have been expected entering the season. Cunningham said he was pleased with the 6-foot Stovall's development this year.
'When Kristal had her injury, we were playing Samantha on the perimeter and in the post,' Williams said. 'From that point on, she became strictly a perimeter player. She made some huge improvements in that part of her game and it gives us a great dimension to have someone with her size who can play on the perimeter.'
Another possible benefit from the injuries, Williams said, is that the team now has a more equal distribution of talent between classes. Patton and McCasley both redshirted, meaning that they will be sophomores next year.
'That balances our talent and our class size, and down the road that could really be the hidden blessing of this year, and that is what Williams said.
Next year, Rice will have to do without the four seniors on this year's roster: Cunningham, Elder guard Rosyland Jeffries and center Catherine DuPont.
Cunningham was a key offensive contributor for the Owls down the stretch, scoring 12 or more points in four of their last 15 games. Cunningham played a key role in the team's development.
Williams said he has high hopes for next year's team.
'Then look at the job and start looking at our roster,' Williams said. 'I know that - even though this team had high expectations - our best team on paper would be next year. If we said, 'We're going to win our last six games along with Maunder and Whitten who would have certainly been in our top six rotation this year.'

BASKETBALL
From page 15

The inquisitive ball, senior right- hander Ryan Tucker and junior shooting guard Rodrigue have allowedreserves some recognition on the mound and in the field.
"Having a couple of injuries gives you some opportunity to step up, which I think will help in the long run," sophomore right- hander Will McDaniels said. "They're giving more experience on the mound. Against the Rodriguez and Tucker back, we'll have more guys with experience, and we'll be at full strength with everybody going.
"McDaniels got the nod as the starting pitcher after defending championship and in the middle of national collegiate pitching.
Top collegiate pitching.
"Will has got a lot of character, and I think that he is a pitcher very much in the developmental stage," Graham said. "He's going to keep getting better, and he showed (Wednesday) that he can pitch under pressure."
But the Longhorns took the early lead in the game, scoring a run in the bottom of the third inning and again in the bottom of the fifth, before sophomore shortstop Brian Friday and senior second baseman Greg Buchanan scored for Rice in the top of the fifth, rookie outfielder Jordan Dodson's infield hit.
The score remained tied 2-2 until the bottom of the seventh, when Bramhall walked hit centerfielder Drew Stubbs and then surrendered a double to UT leftfielder Carmen Nacional. Nacional plated Stubbs, who knocked the ball out of sophomore catcher Danni Elman's glove as he scored.
"There is a premium on every run," said Rodriguez. "You can't afford to slip up against the second tier.
- Wayne Graham
Head baseball coach

BASEBALL
From page 15
After UT starter Riley Boron gave up two runs in the sixth, the Longhorns bullpen was perfect, allowing no hits and striking out three in 3.1 innings.

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ăn

TENNIS
From page 15

After the Lions scored a singles point at the second position against sophomore Christian Lien, Lee answered with a win at No. 4. Senior Victor Soderlund continued his dominance with a straight- set win at the fifth spot. The Owls took their doubles point with wins at all three positions.
Rice returned to the court the next day against Sodium College-

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RICE vs. TEXAS 3
March 20, 2006 — Minute Maid Park, Houston, Texas
Score by inning: Rice 0 1 0 0 7 0 0 1 — 11 18 0; Texas 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 — 0 2 3

Rice (15-7) — Scott (1-0) 9 6 0 1 0 1 0 0 0; Texas (18-12) — Albers (0-1) 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0.

Rice — Wright 0-2 0-0, Elder 2-3 0-16, DuPont 11 0-0; Texas — Burns 4-17 2-2 10, Liddell 4-10 0-0 12, Easley 0-0 0-0 0.

Attendance — 2,890

RICE vs. TEXAS 2
March 20, 2006 — Minute Maid Park, Houston, Texas
Score by inning: Rice 0 2 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 — 11 18 0; Texas 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 — 0 2 3.

Rice (15-7) — Scott (1-0) 9 6 0 1 0 1 0 0 0; Texas (18-12) — Albers (0-1) 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0.

Rice — Wright 0-2 0-0, Elder 2-3 0-16, DuPont 11 0-0; Texas — Burns 4-17 2-2 10, Liddell 4-10 0-0 12, Easley 0-0 0-0 0.

Attendance — 2,890

RICE vs. TEXAS 1
March 20, 2006 — Minute Maid Park, Houston, Texas
Score by inning: Rice 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 — 0 2 3; Texas 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 — 0 2 3.

Rice (15-7) — Scott (1-0) 9 6 0 1 0 1 0 0 0; Texas (18-12) — Albers (0-1) 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0.

Rice — Wright 0-2 0-0, Elder 2-3 0-16, DuPont 11 0-0; Texas — Burns 4-17 2-2 10, Liddell 4-10 0-0 12, Easley 0-0 0-0 0.

Attendance — 2,890

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

RICE vs. INDIANA 87
March 19, 2006 — Assembly Hall, Bloomington, Indiana
Score by inning: Rice 28 29 57 — 86; Indiana 35 31 42 — 108

Rice — Rice (18-14)

March 17, 2006 — Autry Court

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MEN’S TENNIS

RICE vs. SAN DIEGO
March 17, 2006 — San Diego, Calif.

1. Parcerizo/Perz (Rice) d. Harknett (Rice) 6-4, 6-3
2. Plotnik (USD) d. Harknett (RU) 7-6, 6-3
3. Adam (Rice) d. Pineda (GU) 6-3, 6-1
4. Muller (RU) d. Fratt (GU) 6-0, 6-3
5. Gabriel (RU) d. Penny (GU) 6-4, 6-1

MEXICO 5 MONTANA STATE 2
March 17, 2006 — San Diego, Calif.

Doubles
1. A & B (Rice) d. A & B (MSU) 6-2, 6-2
2. Searle/Haerle (RU) d. Adams/Arthur (GU) 8-4
3. Haerle (RU) d. Pineda (GU) 6-3, 6-1
4. Muller (RU) d. Fratt (GU) 6-0, 6-3
5. Gabriel (RU) d. Penny (GU) 6-4, 6-1

MINNESOTA 2 RICE
March 16, 2006 — Austin, Texas

Doubles
1. Barke & Gabb (Rice) d. Schmitt/Deutscher (MSU) 6-2, 6-4
2. Searle/Haerle (RU) d. Adams/Arthur (GU) 8-4
3. Haerle (RU) d. Pineda (GU) 6-3, 6-1
4. Muller (RU) d. Fratt (GU) 6-0, 6-3
5. Gabriel (RU) d. Penny (GU) 6-4, 6-1

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SATURDAY 25

Got soul?

Regardless of your answer, the Black Student Association has Soul Night, and you are invited. Soul Night is a show to honor the influential members of society who have contributed to the African-American community. The benefit dinner and presentation will be held in the Student Center from 6-9:45 p.m. Tickets are $6 for students and $8 for non-students, and dress is semi-formal or formal.

MONDAY 27

Billy Beek ...

I mean Willy Week, kicks off today. As the festivities begin, join your college-mates in some good, old-fashioned shenanigans. Avoid the unjackables and look out for your own college's honor — and elevator lobbies. Festivities run, well, all week, leading up to some intramural thing you've probably never heard of.

TUESDAY 28

Great taste or less filling?

While Miller Lite's over-enduring saga may not actually be the topic of the beer debates, it leads into the events quite well, don't you think? The beer debate basically entails faculty members making their way to Willy's Pub in order to, you guessed it, drink beer and I debate. Students ask questions, and everyone has a grand old time. The event starts at 10 p.m.

FRIDAY 31

Because some people read the calendar for important information

Today marks the final day to drop a course, but it will cost you $30. Equally important, today also marks the final day to designate a course Pass/Fail this semester. So whether you need to "get out now" or "coast on through," today is the final day you have the option to employ this sort of action. Also, Add/Drop PINs expire, disabling online registration, at 5 p.m.

HOW TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

Deadline is Monday at 3 p.m. prior to Friday publication.
Submission methods:
Fax: (713) 348-5238
E-mail: thresher-calendar@rice.edu
Campus Mail:
Calendar Editor
Thresher, MS-524
Submissions are printed on a space available basis.

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Eevery March, people around the country get all hyped about March Madness. So what? It's only basketball, and only college basketball at that. Seriously, what college player can match Wilt Chamberlain's 20,000 career points? The real March Madness is for the Trescher's historic annual Tournament of Everything. Who said go all the way this year? The Defenestration of Prague? The Tau Neutrum? Gonzaga University? Only the Backpage knows. Will we see a 16 seed upset a first seed? Maybe, because the rankings don't mean anything.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

### HELP WANTED

**THRIVING PHOTOGRAPHY BUSINESS** needs a rice grad who is administrative help. Looking for a self-starter who works well with lists, knows Adobe, digital post-production, etc. Light accounting, errands, etc. We're building a new gallery this summer. Learn entrepreneurship firsthand. $9/hr. Immediate opening. Fax cover sheet, emailing hours, PT, PT, FT summer 512/86. Visit www.truelustrelaxation.com for more info on it.

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**WAITSFAP WANTED. UPScale catering company looking for reliable/washable. Previous experience is a plus. Flexible hours, attractive pay; great part time for students. Contact George (713) 738-1135, 9am-5pm.**

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**BUSTY FEMALE PROFESSIONAL looking for part-time personal assistant to systemize and maintain home office. Qualified candidates will have excellent administrative and organizational skills, including knowledge on how to use appropriate software. Fax resumes to 713-984-1251.**

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**SPOTLIGHTS:**

- **Cotton Candy vs. The Sid Backpage:** Cotton Candy's desert doesn't do it. Oma dissolution, L.A. comes over to the Sid Backpage.
- **The Internet vs. Guitar solos:** The internet may get you porn, but ideally guitar solos can get you the real thing.
- **Dalal Lama vs. The Cedils Effect:** The Lama may be the world's top panda trainer, but we saw what happened with Hurricane Rita. Plus, too much Richard Gere.
- **Gonzaga University vs. Belgian Waffles:** The Zags may have the best player in the country in Adam Morrison, but Belgian waffles are delicious!

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**The Tournament of Everything '06**

The Tournament of Everything '06 is a first annual Tournament of Everything. Who will win? It's up to you. Maybe, because the rankings don't mean anything.

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**The Final Four: Burton vs. Superhero. Surely, the Internet can get you any opponent at any time. But Grey Goose actually gives us meaning, or at least makes us feel like we're part of the historic swell of intellectuals' claims of "This is not a loss" and "UHQQ" and "The Zags may have the best player in the country in Adam Morrison, but Belgian waffles are delicious!"**

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**Gutenberg's Bible vs. Star Wars:** Gutenberg's printing press could have been one of the greatest inventions in human history, but there is nothing greater than the power of the Force.

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**CATEGORIZED ADS **

- **Beer Debates**
- **Beer Bike Trivia**
- **International Beer Night**

Apply to work at Pub! Applications at Pub and college directors' offices.