Soccer gets first win over Texas

by Matt McCabe

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"For the program to beat a team that was ranked [that high] was a huge psychological win," head coach Chris Huston said. "It just proved to the girls that when they're on, they can compete with anybody. This program that was ranked that high was a soccer program, as well as their first loss of the season.

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University (3-2), in Nacogdoches and Syria's 1975 invasion of Lebanon was a Middle East conflict that happened on the same night. Ayalon said, "I think it was just one of those things that happened more naturally. I believe it was just a matter of students that made a mistake. I believe students will not make any changes as a result of the calls.

Decker said most of the calls were not serious enough to require ambulances. "The fact that the majority of these calls were [ambulance transport] referrals would generally lead to the presumption that these students aren't drinking to a point where they need to see an ambulance," Decker said.

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Decker said he thinks the number of calls may have been influenced by the joint EMS, Rice University Police Department and Student Judicial Services presentation during Orientation Week.

"If our messages we gave during the time the presentation were incredibly well received, then that is not a call to handle the Owls on first loss of the season.

Rice Emergency Medical Services responded to nine calls in a 24-hour period Sept. 9. A comparatively high number for a day without a major public party. Three of the alcohol-related calls that Friday were to Hamlins College.

Compared to the second Friday of classes last year — when five calls were alcohol related — Rice Emergency Medical Services Captain Cameron Decker said: "Last Friday the majority of the calls were alcohol related calls." Decker, a Martian police officer, said: "Hamlins College President Stephen Booie said his college rarely has EMS calls of any kind.

"Booie, a Baptist, said he think's it was a coincidence that the calls happened in one night. "It was just a matter of students that made a mistake. I believe students will not make any changes as a result of the calls.

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"I think that we've got the cases covered and we haven't run into a situation that makes us have to adjust the method of operation," Decker said.
C-USA codes for sporting events stifle expression

The first home football game of the year rehabilitated fan enthusiasm and attendance. New and returning students united to ignite the War Owls student cheering section. They joined alumni, the Marching Owl Band and others to defend the blue and grey honor against rival University of Houston (game Jan. 9). The shining brought to the game a distinctive zeal that students used to reserve for select public parties and finals studyhmonds.

Unfortunately, Conference USA rules are smothering Rice's newfound pride, placing limits on students' freedom of speech. We are not amused.

C-USA bans athlets, staff and support groups from "Public criticism of or publicly disparaging statements about an opposing team, institution, contest official, staff member, or spectator," not to mention a ban on "Obscene, profane, demeaning or unduly provocative language." These are regulations for high school assemblies, not Division IA football games.

We realize these rules will hold little credence in the stands — at least they had better not. Anyone entering the War Owls' section has undoubtedly seen and heard violations of the C-USA statutes in mass. Rice students are used to a certain degree of verbal liberty — just listen to college cheers.

However, what does concern us is that C-USA rules have oppressed the MOB's halftime shows. Anyone who watched the performance at the UIH game noticed the band impugning censorship more than the Cougars — which was not at all. Past years have brought paper mache and mockery of the UIH band, in addition to more common mascot snubs, to the field.

Like them, the part of the MOB's halftime taunting of opposing schools is as much a part of football at Rice as the adulation of a scrawny, neutrered bull at the University of Texas. But now MOB humor is relegated solely to non-conference games, a turn of events lamented in September's Texas Monthly by famed pundit, Rice alum and former Thresher sports editor Paul Burka (Hanszen '63).

In the end, we'd hit Orwellian — and an American — that CUSA wants to impose these speech codes. CUSA's Ha. More like CUSRR.

Saturday dinner a useful improvement

To the editor:

Let's get this straight. Eating Saturday dinners around Houston will make you rich? Why isn't Leebron Lethen of this? Because this is practical. Providing meals for students on campus Saturday evenings took thought and consideration from Housing and Dining. This was not something thrown together late in the last minute without thinking of students.

We love eating meals in Baker. But every Saturday we scrambling for something to eat. Some of us don't have the necessary funds available in our lunch wallets to eat off campus... every single week.

We're thankful the presence of Saturday dinner allows us to spend that same money (when we have it) on activities other than scavenging for food, especially for those who don't have a car and spend Saturday nights hiding in their holes due to high food prices.

Saturday dinner is as much a part of football at Rice as the adulation of a scrawny, neutrered bull at the University of Texas. The showing brought to the game a distinctive zeal that students used to reserve for select public parties and finals studyhmonds.

Thanks for listening,

Baker sophomore
Will Rice '91

COLUMN REMINISCE OF RICE ROMANCE

To the editor:

I experienced time travel tonight and I felt I had to let you know about it. My wife, Leila Elam, Stilsworth (Will Rice '91) just saw Evin Mintz's opinion column and asked me to read it as well ("Student quirks create exceptional dating scene", Sept. 8).

He gave the best summation of the dating scene at Rice that I've ever heard when he wrote, "the choices are just too good. Meek, former social rejects are too afraid to ask out that cute, in class, and these girls don't know how they actually are."

That was an imperfect description of Leila and me and is precisely what I tried to say back when I was at Rice from '90 to '91, though lacked the ability to say it as well — and yes, I was in the five-year program for the slow kids. I couldn't believe all the complaining by the men about the ugly chicks, and to the women about the dorky guys, when I was completely surrounded by smart, talented and good-looking people — now students at Rice.

I fell in love with Leila at Rice. She's a wonderfully intelligent, thoughtful, talented, forgiving and gorgeous woman with very poor eyesight and a weird sense of humor I met during my second freshman year in Aug. 1987. I stalked her all the way to Georgia, where we were married (or each other), practicing pediatrics and bringing up two smart and beautiful future Rice babies, training them to appreciate the finer qualities of Rice men.

Also, thanks to Mr. Mintz for the last-to-first last incident in that article: "Either way, if Rice students finally figure out a relationship, they don't want to let up on the amazing person they've found." Amen!

Clay Stilworth
Will Rice '91

CONTACTING THE THRESHER

Letters

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

- All letters must be signed and include college and year if the writer is a Rice student.

- Letters should be no longer than 250 words in length. The Thresher reserves the right to edit letters for both content and length.

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FINANCIAL AID

The Rice University Office of Financial Aid is a national leader in financial aid. Rice Financial Aid serves over 5,000 students with more than $400 million in aid each year. For more information, visit www.aid.rice.edu.
Diversity rank deserves closer look

The Princeton Review's Best 361 Colleges for 2006 gives the Rice University one-star diversity rating, and some students and prospective students have been surprised. Rice, the only other U.S. college to get this rating, is one of only four schools with a majority of non-Christians, athletes and minorities in its student body. Rice is certainly better than the University of Texas at Austin, with its pronounced best diversity U.S. colleges but this one rating and believe this. If most students object to being called black, it may also have been an unconscious statement about diversity. I usually won't comment on the issue because I think it's too big to deal with. Rice has come far from the days of blackface parties called Dark-Arts.

Let's all take a step back. H&D should nip mold problems in the bud.

I love Baker College. I love that it is the oldest college in the country. And, as unaffordable as it is, it is the alma mater of many of the newer colleges, I'll say. I used to be a resident hall, a crumbling building. It makes up in history what it lacks in size and amenities. However, one sign of aging I could do without is the mold, especially since my roommate is an asthmatic. While I applaud Housing and Dining for keeping historical Baker buildings functioning and inhabited, I entreat them to make sure that they are also livable.

H&D has done a good job of responding to what seems a serious problem now — I have to give them that. However, the fact that they wanted to handle this problem until the second week of classes shows either poor organization or poor communication. Even if one could argue that the mold was not serious until this week, the mold problem was being handled in a very poor way. The second week of classes was far too late to start this process. For the reasons stated above, I believe that the mold problem has been handled in a very poor way.

Asst Editor

Katy Malvany

In fact, Facebook endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It endangered the social privacy of many people. It ended...
Baker roof leak briefly displaces students

Three students on Baker’s third floor moved into a hotel Sept. 8 when water from the roof leaked into their room.

Business and Facilities Director Frank Rodriguez said workers found the leak, caused by cracks in the roof, when water from the roof leaked into their room.

"I’m glad that our stay in the hotel was mainly over the weekend because it wasn’t as fun as it seemed to other students," Wang said. "I know people thought it was cool that we got to be in a hotel for free, but we were cut off from Rice.

Because all Baker's rooms are occupied, the students were housed at the Best Western on Main Street for three nights. The students were able to return to their room Sept. 11 after the plaster ceiling in their room was repaired. Rodriguez said.

Baker College junior Jen Wang said, "I'm glad that our stay in the hotel was mainly over the weekend because it wasn't as fun as it seemed to other students." Wang said, "I know people thought it was cool that we got to be in a hotel for free, but we were cut off from Rice."

Rodriguez said maintenance workers are replacing the exterior top ceiling where the leak occurred. He said the repair will cost several thousand dollars.

- Anne Hiebeler

Dining director proposes meal changes

In response to student concerns about the changes to meal plans that took place on Saturdays, Residential Dining Director Angela Riggs spoke at Monday's Student Association meeting. Riggs proposed holding continental breakfast from 10:15 a.m. on Saturday and moving dinner to 4:00 p.m. Brunch would still be available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Riggs said she will not make a final decision about changes until she hears from college presidents, who were asked to gather opinion at their colleges.

Will Rice College President Brian Schwab said he surveyed students at Will Rice Diet, and they were split on whether Housing and Dining should keep Saturday dinner. Most students, who want Saturday dinner per the plan that is set from 5 p.m., will not be able to do so, he said. Will Rice also agreed that they would like a weekly continental breakfast to begin at 9 a.m.

Baker College President Sara Zampierin said most Baker students like the proposed plan, although they think dinner may be too early. Zampierin said "It’s nice that they’re offering breakfast early because the staff will be there anyway," she said. "And as long as they aren’t changing anything extra, it’s good that students have the option."

Zampierin said Housing and Dining is able to provide another dinner due to greater efficiency. Recently, the department instituted a six-week recipe schedule on which chefs at all services prepare the same recipes.

The predetermined recipes allow Housing and Dining to order more precise amounts of food, which saves money, Riggs said. Chefs can innovate by coming up with new recipes to replace or augment those currently in the recipe book, Riggs said. The chefs will participate in blind taste tests to determine which newly created recipes taste best.

- Alisa Gordon

Diplomas mailed to students in late July

The first mail delivery of all diplomas went smoothly this summer. Of about 1,800 diplomas mailed to degree recipients, fewer than 20 had delivery problems, Registrar David Teuney said.

The Registrar’s Office mailed diplomas to the permanent addresses of all graduating students for the first time this summer. The office made the change to prevent graduates from delaying their diplomas in the mail. Most degree recipients received their diplomas in early August, as anticipated, Tenney said. He said the options was particularly popular with international students.

Preventing the diplomas from shipping took Registrar’s Office staffers about 200 labor hours, Tenney said.

"It’s a lot less stressful for us to try to do it in the summer as opposed to late April when everything else is happening," Tenney said.

- Alisa Gordon

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- Alisa Gordon

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

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Brown College freshman Paul Cannon began playing the bass during his sophomore year. When the orchestra teacher introduced instruments to Cannon's fourth grade class, the teacher introduced the bass first. Then Cannon fell asleep. When he woke up, the teacher asked what instrument he wanted to learn to play. So Cannon picked the only instrument he could remember; the bass. Now, nine years later, Cannon plays bass, keyboard, and double bass performance major at the Shepherd School of Music.

Cannon, who was born in Portland, Ore. and moved to Olympia, Wash., when he was nine, said he chose Rice because of Bass Professor Paul Lipscomb's reputation. "[Ellison] is the guy to go to in this country for bass study." Cannon played a handful of really good bass teachers out there, but [Ellison] is just the best, simplest. The [Shepherd School] has such a great reputation. I'm happy to be here. I feel really lucky," Cannon said. He is enjoying his bass studies, piano lessons and playing with the concert band and performance groups.

Although Cannon doesn't play much music at his job, he does enjoy being so connected to the college, he has found a social circle within the Shepherd School.

"I'm not as involved in the general undergraduate life that most Rice students are, but don't mistreat that," Cannon said. "I'm not the kind of person who enjoys going to huge parties—that's not really my scene."

Cannon said he knew about Texas before he came to Rice, having heard primarily about the problems of the state government. His low expectations for Houston have been met so far, he said, citing the city's poorly maintained roads, bad-smell and water that tastes like dust.

"It's gotten me used to the weather and I'm not complaining," Cannon said. "I'm not sure I can get used to rain when I get home." -- Risa Gordon

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Lovett freshman at home far from New Jersey

Less than a year ago, Lovett College freshman Grace Nasek had never heard of Rice. A native of Holdfilder, New Jersey, Nasek discovered Rice in December on a list of best value universities.

Nasek said she first considered applying to Rice after she learned the siblings of one of her brother's friends are students here.

"I was like, 'Oh, maybe I can go downtown,'" Nasek said. "Whoever considered Dartmouth and Georgetown, and she decided on Rice because she was impressed by both the student and the residential college system."

"When I visited, everyone was so nice and they made themselves to help me and put me at ease," Nasek said. "I thought the people had a lot of substance and cared about the people in the world."

One of Nasek's first experiences at Rice surprised her and made her feel at home in a new city. She met her college the day before O-Week began because she was nervous about the new environment.

"We came around to Lovett," Nasek said. "I didn't know him at the time, but [Lovett O-Week Coordinator] Jake Lopez was wandering around outside and was like, 'Hey, Grace!' and I had my sunglasses on and everything. From that moment I knew that this was going to be a good time." O-Week also helped Nasek meet new people and make friends. Nasek said she was glad to interact with so many students.

"I love hearing verbal quips from people across the country — it makes me laugh hearing all the different expressions." -- Grace Nasek

Lovett College freshman

"My friends [at other schools] really lacked this," Nasek said. "They were so homogeneous the first couple of weeks. I was like, 'Oh, that's too bad. I have friends.' I know people." A soccer player in high school, Nasek said she plans to participate in a variety of intramural and extracurricular activities. Sailing, running, volleyball at the Rice Club and football are some of Nasek's classes so far.

Although Nasek would like to do well academically, Nasek said her main goal is to be happy. "If the world is saying we're adults, we'll have to be able to take care of ourselves... completely," Nasek said. "I think obviously your parents are worrying you more than adults [do]."

"If I was a student here in high school, I would have stayed there. That's not true — everyone really wants to get to know freshmen, and they're really accepting of new people. Anderson, who is considering majoring in either mechanical or biomedical engineering, said she enjoys the choices even though they require a lot of reading."

Navy recruit returns to Texas

Marti College freshman Ryan Kennedy is excited to be back in Texas.

"It's definitely nice being back in Houston because [Texas] is where I'm from, and the people down here are a lot more courteous and easier to get along with than in the Northeast." -- Ryan Kennedy

Marti College freshman

But last year, Head Football Coach Todd Graham's staff contacted Kennedy's coaches and offered him a scholarship, whom he had not been offered by former Head Football Coach Ken Hatfield when he was a high school senior. Kennedy said he did not re- gret playing at the Naval Academy, which has won three consecutive Commander in Chief's Trophies, awarded to the winner of the triangular series between Army, Navy and Air Force.

"Navy's pretty successful, and I was a starter," Kennedy said. "If I wanted to be guaranteed home runs and championships, I would have stayed there. But I thought this was the right place, and the football team is red hot right now," Kennedy said. He is impressed with his new team. Kennedy said he is looking forward to his redshirt season and plans to be a redshirt freshman as a wide receiver.

"I've been talking to friends at other universities," Anderson said. "They've been saying that people don't want to get to know the freshmen. Here it's like, either that's not true — everyone really wants to get to know freshmen, and they're really accepting of new people. Anderson, who is considering majoring in either mechanical or biomedical engineering, said she enjoys the choices even though they require a lot of reading."

"Everyone seems to really like learning here," Anderson said. "They have an interest in learning instead of just getting their work done — that's something that I haven't really seen before, especially in high school."
Wiess College freshmen Rachel Solnick and Margaret McKeehan compete in the "Iron Chef" contest at the Student Center's welcome back event Tuesday. What's the secret ingredient?

The following incidents were reported by the Campus Police for the period Sept. 5-11.

Residential Colleges
Brown College Sept. 5 Laptop stolen.
Hanszen College Sept. 9 Students referred to Student Judicial Programs for throwing soda bottles off patio.

Academic Buildings
Dell Butcher Hall Sept. 6 Cleaning equipment stolen Aug. 30.
Sewall Hall Sept. 8 Textbooks stolen.
Sewall Hall Sept. 11 Laptop stolen.

Other Areas
Entrance 22 Sept. 8 Warrant obtained for subject who failed to stop and give information after hitting an unattended vehicle.

South Colleges
Sept. 9 Student found urinating in bushes and referred to Student Judicial Programs for minor in consumption and disorderly conduct.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The following were discussed:

■ SA President Althea Tupper announced that 500 T-shirts for the Rice University of Texas football game would be sold Sept. 14. The T-shirts are blue with "Flick Texas" in orange on the front. The back of the shirts say "Friends don't let friends go to UT" and "Braves, bowtie, beer."

■ Hanszen College sophomore Abbie Ryan is the SA's communications director and Weiss College junior Niral Gandhi is the SA's elections director.

■ Tupper, a Hanszen College senior, asked for comments on the proposed SA bylaws change. The change — introduced last week — would allow the senate to appoint a leader for 18 weeks, allow the SA president to temporarily appoint a leader for 18 weeks, and have the senate vote on candidates for members of the SA's executive council.

■ Tupper said Parliamentarian Chris Warrington would revise the bylaws change next week.

■ Sid Richardson College President Ashley Rachael Head said she was concerned about the temporary appointment being allowed during the school year when students were available to vote.

■ Tupper said Parliamentarian Chris Warrington would revise the amendment to specify that a temporary appointment would only be effective during the summer. She said the senate would vote on the bylaws change next week.

■ Residential Dining Director Angela Riggs spoke about "Tuck Fexas" and referred to Student Judicial Programs for minor in consumption and disorderly conduct.

The next SA meeting will be Monday at 10 p.m. in Farnsworth Pavilion.

**NEWS**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

**AYALON**

From page 1

terrorism. "Right now, there are many countries sitting on the fence trying to see what model will succeed," Ayalon said. "And we hope that democracy and modernity will succeed."

Sid Richardson College senior Aaron Reeve said he enjoyed Ayalon's speech, although he disagreed with some of the points. "I don't think stressing the dichotomy between Israel and Iran is conducive to a diplomatic solution," Reeve said.

After the speech, former Ambassador to the United States Edward Dickson — who also introduced Ayalon — moderated a question-and-answer session. Ayalon said he is not confident in the potential of a Palestinian National Unity government, the formation of which Abbas had announced that morning.

"I would much prefer for Abbas to use his presidential authority to dismiss terror in Hamas and appoint technocrats," Ayalon said. "We are not meddling in Palestinian internal politics through." Another question challenged whether Israel's response to the kidnapping of two Israeli soldiers by Hezbollah was proportional. Ayalon dismissed the relevance of proportionality.

"What is proportionality?" Ayalon said. "They kidnapped two soldiers; are we supposed to kidnap two members of Hezbollah? We have to make sure the other side is not going to do it again."

In response to the final question, about Iran's perceived strength, Ayalon referred again to Iran's internal problems. "Iran is like the old Soviet empire — it looks invincible from the outside, but it may collapse from the inside," Ayalon said. "It is a matter of mustering the political will of the free world to confront Iran."

Brown College junior John Stallcup said he thinks the comparison between Iran and the USSR is accurate and shows there is a possibility for a peaceful resolution to Iran's confrontation.

"As [Ayalon] pointed out, President Reagan was able to topple the Soviet empire without firing a shot," Stallcup said. "Only because Reagan saw significant dissent beneath the strong Soviet exterior was this possible. Because of the similarities, this world must come together — as it did then with the Soviets — and condemn the recent actions of Iran to develop nuclear capabilities."

Ayalon has served as Israel's ambassador to the United States since then-Prime Minister Ariel Sharon appointed him in 2002. He has been involved in Arab-Israeli peace negotiations since 1997 and previously served as deputy foreign policy adviser to two Israeli prime ministers.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

**STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

The Student Association met Monday. The following were discussed.

■ SA President Althea Tupper announced that 500 T-shirts for the Rice University of Texas football game would be sold Sept. 14. The T-shirts are blue with "Flick Texas" in orange on the front. The back of the shirts say "Friends don't let friends go to UT" and "Braves, bowtie, beer."

■ Hanszen College sophomore Abbie Ryan is the SA's communications director and Weiss College junior Niral Gandhi is the SA's elections director.

■ Tupper, a Hanszen College senior, asked for comments on the proposed SA bylaws change. The change — introduced last week — would allow the senate to appoint a leader for a vacant student leader's position by appointment or special election. It would also allow the SA president to temporarily appoint a leader for 18 weeks.

■ Tupper said Parliamentarian Chris Warrington would revise the bylaws change next week.

■ Residential Dining Director Angela Riggs spoke about Saturday dinner. (See story, page X).**
**Weekly Scene**

**Dance**

**Tango Time**

Get cultured! The Casa Argentina de Houston (CAH) is giving a dance recital to piano music this Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Enjoy a blend of traditional tango and modern. Buenos Aires music. Tickets go on sale starting at 7 p.m. at the door for $8.

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**Concerts**

**JET**

With their new CD, Shine On, JET has been busy on the road. They've performed in traditional and modern venues, including the New Rice Gallery and The Damnwells' concert at the Mink. For more information, visit www.jettickets.com or call (713) 522-9985.

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**Campus**

**New Rice Gallery Installation**

Part of the new generation of technology-savvy, design-oriented architects, Benjamin Ball and Gaston Hugues have been featured in 10 magazines, including the New York and Los Angeles Times. They worked for Frank Gehry at Gehry Partners, and in the past year and a half, put out two projects. Their newest, Eye to the Telescope, in 2004 to British critical and consumer acclaim. It has weekly ratings in the United States, as many of its tracks have surfaced in a range of outlets — exposures include a summer's The Devil Wears Prada and television shows such as American Idol and So You Think You Can Dance. The critically acclaimed album, Eye to the Telescope — features a more music than spectrum.

**The Damnwells’ Dezen speaks in ‘Stereo’**

The Damnwells, playing Tuesday at the Mink are one of the few current acts to mesh timeless, four-piece instrumentals with pure passion and energetic lyrics. Their sound is from the ones right before or right after them. However, a clear, folk-pop song is as much a part of the band’s lineup as it is timeless. The venue is also small enough to provide intimate acoustics, especially during the more subtle songs in the performance. Expect a showing of genuine talent and all-around good music.

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**The Damnwells (1)**

**KT Tunstall brings talent, passion to the Houston Saturday**

The Damnwells, playing Tuesday at the Mink are one of the few current acts to mesh timeless, four-piece instrumentals with pure passion and energetic lyrics.

**by Julia Bursten**

**THE RICE THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF**

How does Air Stereo differ from your first full-length album, Bastards of the Beat?

Essentially, Bastards of the Beat was a collection of demos. Air Stereo is really our first attempt at making a real record where we go in and sit down and actually think about the songs we've composed. Bastards had more of the nature of improvisation. The recording is really a moment in time, a snapshot of what we've come out with. What is your favorite thing about “Golden Days”? It's usually jarring: I just enjoy listening to it. I think it sounds satisfying. There's something about it that just expectations for your own self, and sometimes you find yourself unable to do what you thought of or what you've heard/heard. In the seventh use, you may wind up with something even cooler. I think “Golden Days” is one of those songs where we went in and sit down and think about the songs we've composed. Bastards had more of the nature of improvisation. The recording is really a moment in time, a snapshot of what we've come out with.

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**KT Tunstall’s concert tomorrow**

To the Telescope, in 2004 to British critical and consumer acclaim. It has weekly ratings in the United States, as many of its tracks have surfaced in a range of outlets — exposures include a summer's The Devil Wears Prada and television shows such as American Idol and So You Think You Can Dance. The critically acclaimed album, Eye to the Telescope — features a more music than spectrum.

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**KT Tunstall’s concert tomorrow**

**by Julie Rucker**

**AIR STEREO**

Picture a female pop artist performing. A woman graces on stage, most likely lip-syncing, while a pre-packaged music plays in the background. While Christina Aguilera and Nelly Furtado may have talent, their concerts, for the most part, are merely shows. However, a newcomer of hope lies in KT Tunstall, whose performances — like her 2004 album, Eye to the Telescope — features more music than spectrum.

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How, why to collect rare rock releases

How much do you know about your favorite band? Do you listen to all their songs, or do you only seek out the singles? Do you own every album they have released? Do you go to concerts? How much do you know about collecting live albums, singles and rarities compilations? Unfortunately, when it comes to music, casual fans tend to be like sophomores looking at their arch- foes, interminably stuck in the sys- tem. Studio LPs will last far longer than any other recorded music medium, and the overproduced, static sound many of these albums acquire is sometimes unfair to the bands on their covers.

But once musicians start releasing recorded material, they are surrounded by a whirlwind of pressure to write and publish new songs and produce videos, not to mention dealing with the relationship struggles fueled often by greed. What appears on an album is a compromised version of the group, band members and label desires—but not what music enthusiasts actually will perform at the most or what accurately reflects the musician's true feelings. To battle these problems, most fans are turning to off-album, unofficially released tracks to satiate their desires for raw music and many music junkies have discovered that the search can be as fulfilling as the treasures themselves. However, not every record and its obligatory moral lessons feel like a Suave shampoo commercial or a sitcom intro. Sometimes, the truth is that they are worth more than the soap and powder—yes, that is the effect of a Suave shampoo commercial or a sitcom intro. Sometimes, the truth is that they are worth more than the soap and powder.

Material Girls

Material Girls is a 1994 pop hit by "Material Girl," and the song's themes dominate the movie. In fact, Madonna's production company backed the film. Haylie and Hilary Haylie and Haylie sing a remake of Madonna's song and the girls' characters can certainly be defined as materialistic. The movie begins with a fuzzy, mysterious montage of Hilary and Haylie dancing in fluffy white dresses. The camera zooms in as they apply lipstick and powder—the effect is that of a Suave shampoo commercial or a sitcom intro.

Tanzie Marchetta (Hilary Duff) and Ava Marchetta (Haylie Duff) are superficial, self-obsessed he- resses of a makeup company. After their father dies and their mother marries a foreign prince, the incompetent girls are left in charge of the family business. Predictable disaster occurs.

Tanzie and Ava find out that their company is going down the tube due to the release of a frumpy product—a skin-burning moisturizer. They accidentally burn down their presenta-
tion with nail polish remover, have their red carpet style stolen by a vapid journalist and have all of their credit cards cut up by a hotel clerk. This takes only about 20 minutes of screen time. At the news that they will have only 800 million after being forced to sell the bankrupt company, the girls become serious—uncharacteristically serious. The Duff sisters can get—not to investigate the skin-burning moisturizer themselves. Imagine Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson with Gucci bags. Burberry trench coats and Chanel sunglasses.

After a brief, haphazard search of questionable plot and poor acting, Tanzie and Ava solve the mystery, find boyfriends and go to the spa.

The Duff girls do a convincing job of being the two Marchetta sisters, but this is hardly surprising. The script only demands that they appear glamorous and rich—in short, that they be themselves.

Material Girls will not be catching any Academy Award nominations, and its obligatory moral lessons feel trite and stale. The audience is told that money does not buy everything, that it is important to be nice to everyone and that even Hillary Duff's hair is never perfect.

Surprisingly, despite her sis-
ter's bigger fame, Haylie Duff almost outshines Hillary in Material Girls. In her major screen debut in Napoleon Dynamite, Haylie was given some screen time but not asked to do anything too demanding. In Material Girls she actually carries some scenes.

There are only a few plausible excuses for paying to see this film. Perhaps you desperately desire a mindless 90-minute break or enjoy designer-filled fashion shows. Featuring Disney channel stars. Or, an evidence of the whopping budget, the film made in box offices the first two weeks, nothing more. Perhaps has been tricked by Material Girls' profitable Madonna association.

With your money and protect your sanity—there is no truly good reason to see this film. Boys, really need a Duff sister for, turn on the Disney Channel. Let at least that way you will not have to bug your mom for a ride.

When it comes to music, casual fans tend to be like sophomores looking at their arch-foes, interminably stuck in the studio.

Flowering British superstars Radiohead provide another example: some of its six studio releases or even some scenes. This list does not even scratch the surface. Nearly every band has its own, pre-vious, original releases, especially "The Bends."

radiohead fans should also look into 2002's bunc- hing, "In Rainbows," the band's latest release. You can download complete albums for free, as well as other unreleased tracks. "In Rainbows" is available as unmastered versions of the songs, as "Paranoid Android" and "Karma Police."

This list does not even scratch the surface: Nearly every band has its own, previous, original releases. When I encounter new bands and look into their music online or talk to someone who knows a lot about your favorite bands, I often find out that no album is as hidden from the casual listener as a Radiohead's. Perhaps that is the process of acquiring obscure music enthusiast, the truth is that I encounter new bands and make new friends elsewhere besides the Internet.
Bloated Hollywoodland fails to inspire

by Matthew McKee
FOR THE THRESHER

Hopefully the winter season of Oscar-worthy pictures comes soon, because films like the tedious Hollywoodland fail to satiate the demand- ing moviegoer. Released last weekend, Director Allen Coulter tries to make the movie more than a celebrity murder mystery by adding depth to a stock plot, but the film never gains momentum. Hollywoodland shows potential, but the movie is crippled by its ponderous pace.

Adrien Brody (The Pianist) plays Louis Simo, a struggling private detective. Simo senses opportunity when the mother of a deceased actor tells him that she believes someone murdered her son. The police have concluded that the actor, George Reeves (Grant Shively’s Ben Affleck), committed suicide, but Simo jumps at a hunch that foul play was involved, hoping to become famous himself. As the plot thickens, Simo becomes more and more obsessed with the case, to the detriment of his personal life.

The movie is based on the true story of Reeves, who played the role of Superman in a popular kids show of the ’50s and spent the rest of his career trying to live it down. A moderately talented actor and aspiring director, he could not stand letting the Superman gig be the apex of his career. His sudden death shocked the movie world into disbelief and horror.

Running between the purportedly complicated lives of Simo and Reeves, Hollywoodland has enough with which it can occupy itself with, but it often drags its feet in pathos. Director Allen Coulter and writer Paul Bernbaum have had most of their experience in television shows, where character development is less necessary and difficult. Perhaps Coulter, a first-time film director, felt liberated in the cinema and wanted to spend more time on the complexities of character that must be overlooked on TV. However, the movie’s pace is just simply too slow.

Coulter could have easily cut entire scenes. Hollywoodland successfully explores several aspects of its characters’ lives but stumbles over a clumsy mixture of film noir, romance, tragedy, and mystery. Some scenes show the ugly underbelly of the film business in Godfather-like style as the mystery is unraveled; others tell of Simo’s body managed family life, others show Reeves’ relationships and more obsessed with the case, to the detriment of his personal life.

The usually talented Adrien Brody (The Pianist) disappoints as Louis Simo in Hollywoodland.

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We are located 2 miles directly west of campus, 6218 Auden between University and Rice. Free round-trip shuttle service is provided each Sunday morning leaving at 8:15 AM and 9:15 AM on the loop in front of Rice’s Allen Center. See www.wubc.org for more details, or call 713-668-2319.

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on stage and the chemistry between us, so I'm not really trying to recreate the record.

Why should Rice students come to your show?

Rice does have one of the most recognized graduate programs for musical composition. I know that because a friend of mine who I played with in college went there for her master's. At one point when she was a teacher's assistant she had me to come speak to her composition class. Now I don't know anything about the fundamentals of academic music, I don't know how to read music or write music, so this was kind of an interesting idea to have me come in and talk to her students who were studying music in depth out of the textbooks and into the reality of what they're trying to accomplish, which is sound — music. So I think to have the ability to take what you need to step outside of the classroom and see what's relevant artistically or musically, it's essential. When I was in college, I wish I had thought of it as a great opportunity to sit back and let life do its thing in front of me and take in what you want and reject what you didn't mix with. But getting out of the classroom and going to see live music is essential to anybody's liberal arts education or otherwise.

My friend who was TA-ing this class felt like her students were so overwhelmed by the academic aspects that they weren't listening to the music anymore. When you study art, you almost forget that it's art, that it's this amazing work of genius — Mondrian or Monet or whatever — because you're too busy trying to study the brushstrokes.
Mia Lopez
Brown College senior
Major: art history and Hispanic studies
Employer: Smithsonian Institution Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden
Location: Washington, DC

Alice Chai
Brown College junior
Major: architecture
Employer: Musho Architecture and Design
Location: New York, NY

1. Interior ambivalence
For Alice Chai, holding a position at a Manhattan architecture firm meant discovering what she liked—and what she hated—about careers in that field. At Musho Architecture, she faced challenging projects that forced her to focus on interior design. Chai scores creativity from her fashion sense to her extracurricular involvements. She is energetic and pixie-like with a straight-off-the-runway bob haircut and a casual wardrobe offset by eclectic belts and purses. She devotes much of her creativity during the school year to creating logos and decorations for Brown events, as well as designing sets and costumes for Brown theater productions—clear evidence that she likes a little variety in her projects. She said she grew tired of repeatedly drawing interiors.

Chai also mentioned that the projects at her internship demanded a skill set different from what she had prepared for in Rice’s architecture program. She helped to turn a hotel floor into a penthouse suite and redesigned the lobby of a graphic design company—not a bad resume boost for an arch with only two years of undergraduate work under her hand-painted belt.

But Chai said she missed the variety and competition of Rice’s architecture program. “I’d like to work in a small design firm, and not as commercial,” she said. “I’d like to work in a small design firm, and not as commercial,” she said. “I’d like to work in a small design firm, and not as commercial,” she said.

2. Boy Scouts, bears and bombardiers
As a videographer in the wilderness of Philmont Ranch, Andrew Sinclair captured the essence of the 20,000 or so scouts who entered and left the site this summer. When asked about the most unique part of his experience, Sinclair, an emerging visual arts equipment junkie with an appreciation for well-burnished humor, had a definite and immediate response: The back-country toilet—nicknamed the “Pilot-Bombardier” after users’ sitting positions.

“You sit back-to-back, and it’s just a box with two holes on the top and a plants of wood in the middle, and you’ve just out in the field, at the furthest point they can go.”

Fortunately, Sinclair still have flushing toilets in the base camp or when the photo/video lab was located, but he was not entirely spared from the Pilot-Bombardier. On occasion, he had to venture into the usually inhabited ends of the ranch to fulfill his responsibilities as videographer.

“You just get used to it,” he said. But navigating outdoor bathrooms was the easy part of Sinclair’s job. Trying to obtain quality photographs and useful footage of 13-year-old boys while narrowly avoiding bears in the mountainous terrain proved to be much more creative and physically exerting tasks.

3. Gallery opener
Although they would have made an interesting Dadaist exhibit, there was no rustylie restrooms at one of the most coveted curatorial internships in the nation. Instead, Mia Lopez spent her summer handling precious paintings and sculptures, sangling them to D.C. Apart from the shock of counterfeiting pieces that straight-forwardly even in art history textbooks, she still at home in the prestigious museum.

Lopez lit up as she spoke about the masterpieces that became her photographs this summer. “I found it difficult to pitch her favorite part of the internship, but finally settled on art history textbooks, she still at home in the prestigious museum.

Play harder.
Los Angeles President Ajesh Patel took a political hiatus this summer to work at Viasat Inc., a company specializing in digital communications. His project consisted of creating stacks of sizable boards—a specialized form of computer hardware—to more accessible computer chips. Patel and his other interns spent long hours in front of monitor screens coding the schematics of the boards into a computer language called VHDL. Withe such an involved project, it would seem the electrical engineering major was pressed for time. But Patel, famous for his addiction to anything FSN-worthy, said he squeezed in time for sports at every opportunity.

“Football and basketball—both sports were courtside,” he said. “Tennis and basketball—both sports were courtside,” he said. “Tennis and basketball—both sports were courtside,” he said.

While Patel bonded with his co-workers on the court, Viasat offered that he and the company’s other intern had the opportunity to hang out. The company frequently organized internents, and sometimes Patel had a chance to get tickets to some on those. One of the events, Viasat invited interns to a tennis match, and a night on the beach, with a day-long sand volleyball game ensued.

But Patel’s competitive drive carries in him more than that. He completed his project success fully, and several companies have sent the hard-working engineer enticing offers.
Basics triumph at American Apparel

by Margaret Tung

Guilt-free shopping? Well, sort of. Originally from Los Angeles, the best-known brand of clothing trying to compete with sweatshop manufacturers has finally created an outpost in Houston.

Marketed as "vertically integrated manufacturing," which means that the brand's entire production process is completed in the same warehouse—American Apparel boasts clothes made in downtown L.A. by well-paid factory employees. The store has already caused a stir in other parts of the country—ever since New York City shoppers to Origamistan—has and has even gained international attention. The Houston store feels more like an extension of the softest jersey cotton, is completed in the same warehouse—come in sizes extra small to large.

The standout piece of the store this season—which also comes in two-tone halter necks for a night out, cinched around the waist for an obi-style belt or anything else creative minds can think up. The scarf even comes with an instructional video that can be found online, so half of the thinking is already done.

On the men's side, expect to find mom-cuts T-shirts and polos, ranging from sizes XXL to 3XL. Also, T-shirt-style track jackets, track pants, and sweatshirts abound.

The sale-people exude the laid-back concious responsibility sounds appealing, but some students are responding positively to her leadership — when.

Other SA executive committee members share her goals. Internal and transparency are values that Rice undergraduates usually look for.

Tupper urges campus unity

"We are trying to make the SA name and vision of the organization transparent, one that

Tupper urges campus unity

by Jackie Ammons

The Rice Thresher is an independent, student-run publication that aims to provide timely and relevant news and information to the Rice University community. It is published weekly during the academic year and biweekly during the summer. The Thresher is produced by undergraduate students and is financially supported by the Rice Student Association. The Thresher is not affiliated with any other organizations or entities, and all opinions expressed in the Thresher are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Rice University administration or the Rice University Student Association.

While driving, I noticed that the tunes have a soundtrack. Some songs at the top of their lungs — others around me. While driving, at the doctor or the dentist's office, I often find myself listening to the music that surrounds me. Those people have the power to define the ambiance, or for me, the sound that surrounds me. While driving, at the doctor or the dentist's office, I often find myself listening to the music that surrounds me. Those people have the power to define the ambiance, or for me, the sound that surrounds me.

My life has a soundtrack. Some of the music I control — like the stuff in my room and my car. But other people pick the majority of the cacophony that surrounds me. Those people have the power to define the ambiance, or for me, the sound that surrounds me.

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**Women’s cross country wins wins Rice Invitational**

by Justin Hudson

Despite rainy weather, illness and injuries to veteran runners and a highly competitive field, the women’s cross country team won the Rice Invitational in and around the Rice Track/Soccer Stadium last Saturday to begin the season. Paced by top-five runners, Rice won its home meet for the 12th year history. This weekend, the Owls’ win over the 21st-ranked Montana State University and Brad- ley, hosted by the 22nd-ranked University of Montana State University and Brad- ley, hosted by the 22nd-ranked University of Montana State University and Bradley.

The Owls’ top runners, started her year on a good note, winning the Rice Invitational last year. By the numbers, Rice had the Owls’ win over the 21st-ranked Montana State University and Bradley, hosted by the 22nd-ranked University of Montana State University and Bradley.

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SOCCER

From page 1

do everything they could to win the game.

The second half brought even more intensity than the first, as both teams combined for 11 shots and numerous opportunities. The Owls outshot the Cougars 27-14, but neither team was able to find the back of the net.

The second half also allowed McClintock to prove herself. She made multiple diving stops throughout the game, most notably in the second half.

"A goalkeeper having 10 saves in a game is not unheard of," Huston said. "She's always been a good keeper, but she's an indestructible stopper and that's what every one of us wants to see. I think she played a perfect game."

For her efforts, McClintock, who now has four straight shutouts, was named C-USA defensive player of the week.

"We're finally able to be recognized for the talent that we have," McClintock said. "It was hard to believe the saves we made.

The play of the game, however, was not a sprawling stop by McClintock. Instead, the 80th minute, McClintock got her hands on a shot, but the rebound squirted away from her and into the net. The Owls had their second loss of the season.

Rice never stopped pushing the ball up the field and taking shots on goal. In the first half, but her attempt went off the post.

The second half also allowed McClintock to prove herself. She made multiple diving stops throughout the game, most notably in the second half.

IN FOCUS: SOCCER

Conference USA standings as of Sept. 14

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Statistics

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Win over Longhorns sign of soccer's success

Some victories build a team's character, others determine a season's outcome and a select few define a program. The soccer team's 1-0 win over then-eighth-ranked University of Texas Sunday night falls into that last category.

The soccer program is entering its sixth year at Rice under coach Chris Houston. The Owls have already made two NCAA tournament appearances — in 2004 and 2005 — and have won a conference championship.

Sunday's win can and should be the springboard that catapults Rice soccer to another level. The Owls had not beaten a top-10 team. With recruiting letters mailed just a week ago, this win will impress potential players when they research the program. On top of that, Rice was ranked 11th in Division I by Soccer America in its recent poll. Though that poll is not used to determine NCAA tournament bids, it is great exposure for a program that is changing from an up-and-coming to a true contender.

In order to put the win in perspective, consider the two teams that UT beat the week before coming to Rice: then-eighth-ranked Penn State and No. 25 Illinois. In the Owls' first postseason soccer appearance in 2004, they faced the Fighting Illini, who proceeded to beat Rice 3-0 in College Station, Texas. Penn State was ranked No. 1 in the country for multiple weeks last season and was undeniably its season-ending loss on penalty kicks in Portland in the College Cup semifinal.

Rice held the same UT team that beat Penn State 2-1 wordlessly for 90 minutes Sunday, adding another win to a program-best 5-0-1 season record. I have no doubt this is the best soccer team Rice has ever fielded.

If you want more to prove the legitimacy of the 2006 team, consider this — sophomore forward Carlin Robbins, Rice's leading scorer last year didn't, play a minute last weekend, nor did sophomore midfielders Anne Candee, the 2005 Conference USA Tournament MVP. Both players are starters and key members of the team, but have sustained ankle injuries.

What may have been the brightest aspect of the game was the fact that Huston started three freshmen and substituted two others during the game. Huston and assistant coaches Nicky Adams and Justin Zidow have done a remarkable recruiting job. To get recruits in every year who will be starters in January is laudable. The benefits are already here — wins like the one against Texas give Huston and her staff ammunition in the fight for the best recruits in the country.

I feel confident in saying that Rice is winning the battles for soccer recruits in C-USA.

The past two seasons have been marked with unprecedented success for soccer with the postseason appearances. However, this team has realized a new goal. Three players will not be surprised with another first-name exit. This team has the capability to finish its way into the round of 16 come November.

Although many of you are enamored with the advent of the Todd Graham era in the football program, don't forget the soccer — along with men's tennis — is one of only two programs to beat Texas in the past three years. I'm not discouraging you from supporting Renaissance Rice. I look forward to seeing more than 50,000 fans at Reliant Stadium Saturday evening watching the Owls give the Longhorns a run for their money.

However, I am asking you to remember that football at Rice isn't the only bright spot this fall, women's, men's and women's, and are on the same page.

Matt McCabe is a Will Rice college junior and soccer writer.

THE RICE THRESHER SPORTS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

Matt McCabe is a Will Rice college junior and soccer writer.

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THRESHER SPORTS/Commentary

Win over Longhorns sign of soccer's success

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CERTIFIED

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We only serve 100% certified, fair trade organic coffee
VOLLEYBALL

From page 14

In the fifth game, the Owls looked to Kaykendall, who boasted the off-day. After suffering a broken arm, Kaykendall led 12-11, the level of play on both sides turned sour, and the last five points of the game all came on errors. After Morgan hit into a Wildcat team error, the Owls won the score 14-12, Arizona gave the Owls a free point and the match ended on Whitney Dossy's attack error.

Rice was solid on defense, led by Kaykendall's cooled, blocking 19 shots, which combined with her 15 kills for a .358 double. Lopez recorded a team-high 30 assists. In their first of three five-game matches last week, the Owls led Bradley 25-23 in the second game. Despite the Owls' lead, Bradley scored six unanswered to tie the game 25-25. The Owls won the next two games and the Owls went on to win 30-28 in the fifth game.

The Owls won the next two games, but returned refreshed after their break, holding Montana State to a .100 hitting percentage in the third game. In the fourth, the teams were even at 25 points each before Kaykendall scored the first two kills of a 5-1 rally, tying the match at two sets apiece and securing a deciding fifth game.

The Owls began the match with a 3-0 lead, but Montana State quickly countered the run with a 7-3 rally of their own and held on to take the game and the match victory.

Kaykendall finished the match with 16 kills and 7 blocks, and Morgan had 17 digs to go along with 11 kills of her own. However, Rice's .155 matching hitting percentage ultimately doomed them.

Kirk said the loss could be attributed to a depleted squad.

"I think we need to focus at the beginning of the game," Kirk said. "We didn't have many of the things that we got going. Our hitters had a lot of trouble. They would play off and when they did play well, they would play off again. It was our own fault."
by Casey Michel

Coming off a strong showing at last weekend's 2006 Courtyard by Marriott/Rice Invitational, the men's tennis team is looking to put last season's disappointing loss behind them, focusing this year on a return to both the conference and national limelight. In order to do that, however, they will have fill the void in the lineup left by Robert Searle (Will Rice '06) and Tony Haerle (Baker '06), the most decorated seniors from last year.

Under head coach Ron Smarr and assistant coach Elle Untiedt, the Owls will try to win their first title in Conference-USA. In Rice's first C-USA tournament, Rice fell to the University of Tulsa 4-1 in the first match.

"I don't think it was a surprise," Untiedt said. "We came out firing on our side, but it just absolutely came down crashing."

Ranck 30th at the time, Rice still qualified for the NCAA team tournament, defeating the University of Louisiana-Lafayette 4-1 in the first round. In the second round, Rice faced LSU, which had just won a month after defeating them 4-2 at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium. This time, however, Searle, whose comeback at the No. 1 singles spot made the difference in the previous match, was sidelined with a foot injury, and UT swept the Owls 6-0.

Looking both, Searle, who qualified for the NCAA singles tournament, and assistant coach Efe Ustundag said. "We came out firing above the other," he said. "We were really depending on the upperscrammmer to take charge." Joining the team this year are three new players, redshirt sophomores Tobias Schell and freshmen Dennis Polyakov and Filip Parsic. Parsic, from Serbia Montenegro, is already ranked 122nd, having won both the Serbian national championships every year since he was 12 and last year's Serbian national men's open.

Searle said the team is close despite the number of new players.

"Last year we had 10 guys living together in two apartments, one above the other," he said. "We were relatively inseparable. I was interested in seeing it would continue like that this year, and it really does. Although we're not living so close now, we're still close friends... and hopefully that will translate into more success."

Last weekend, Mok won the A-flight singles consolation at the Rice Invitational, defeating 66-63, 6-3 to LSU's Danny Bryan in the championship match of the same bracket. Mok won the consolation of the B-flight singles, defeating Tulsa Andy Connoly in straight sets, and Polyakov won the C-flight consolation. In doubles, Mok and Muller took third place in the A-flight, and Zivojinovic and Parsic, with Greenberg, were to take second in the B-flight.

Harknett said while he has been impressed with the team's play, Rice will not reach its potential for some time. "We lost our number one and number three guys, those players who've been here for four years," he said. "But the guys we've brought in are looking good, and by no means will this be a transition year. But literally for the season it's just about experimenting."

Rice hopes to carry last weekend's success into the Baylor Invitational, which will start Sept. 22 in Waco. The Owls will face host Baylor. Rice finished 29th in last year's event rankings. Texas, which finished third and the University of Louisville, which finished 29th. Rice finished 29th after falling to Texas. Also on tap for the Owls are October's ITA All-American championships in Tulsa, Okla. and the ITA South-Central Regional Championships in Fort Worth.

Untiedt said to expect a lot from Junior Filip Zivojinovic is one of seven returning lettermen leading the Owls into the 2006 season. Now in its second year in Conference USA, Rice is looking for its first conference championship. Its season continues Sept. 22 in Waco, as they face Baylor, Texas and Louisiana in the Baylor Invitational.

Junior Filip Zivojinovic is one of seven returning lettermen leading the team into the 2006 season. Now in its second year in Conference USA, Rice is looking for its first conference championship. Its season continues Sept. 22 in Waco, as they face Baylor, Texas and Louisiana in the Baylor Invitational.
OPENER
From page 14

to relax and run her own race.

"(Bevian) did not put that much pressure on me," said Mericle. "He told us to relax the first half and do what we can at the end."

The Owls' win was all the more impressive considering the sidelined runners. Bevian held out senior Brandi Armstrong and junior Nescie Barrows due to injuries, while sophomores Lea Garcia and Claire Shorall were dealing with a bug that affected their performances — both of them finished out of the top 20.

Bevian said the rainy weather, which was heaviest during the women's race, was beneficial to the runners as opposed to the mud. Humid weather.

"(The rain) was great for us," Bevian said. "Little rain, little bit of muddy conditions are all good."

The Owls also made a statement against their strongest competitors for the conference title this year. Rice is making a strong push to win the 2004 Western Athletic Conference title but finished third in 2005 in Conference USA. Despite placing only two runners in the top 10, the Mustangs signaled a return to form with their second-place finish.

2006 POWERPUFF PREDICTIONS

Stephen "Roids" Whitfield:
1) Sid Rich - 30 straight games and Christ Diack
2) Jones - Bringin' everyone back worse beds well
3) Martel - Can't discount Brian Gibson
4) Hanszen - All that prep has to do something
5) Wiess - One person show isn't enough
6) Lovett - If we win 2004 was a looong time ago
7) Brown - Stuck with Sit, so I can't put em last
8) Will Rice - Lack of prep also does something
9) Baker - They try hard, I'll give them that

Dylan "Coach" Farmer:
1) HANSZEN - Grrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr
2) Sid Rich - Stephen gives them roids
3) Jones - Tough and steady — I appreciate it
4) Wiess - Natalie Galliam... ruff said
5) Martel - is not a college
6) Brown - Props to Amy Richter
7) Will Rice - Have you guys ever practiced?
8) Baker - They can't be last at everything
9) Lovett - I don't like Julia Bursten

one presentation limitless possibilities

[ MERRILL LYNCH PRESENTATION ]

Rice University Juniors & Seniors are invited to attend:
DATE: September 19th
TIME: 4:00-6:00pm
VENUE: O'Conner House, Room 110

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We are family

My brothers and my sisters and me... and my mom and my dad. Whatever the case may be, today is the first full day of Families Weekend, so if you see a particularly old freshman in your HUMA class, don't be alarmed.

Sing the blues

Those who read the calendar every week are sick of jokes about the blues and free cigars. With luxuries like that, who'd be singin' the blues? Sorry, that last one just slipped.

Get on ESPN2

Do your tailgate thing, put on your game face and hop the light rail over to Reliant Stadium to watch Rice square off against No. 8 Texas. The game is broadcast on ESPN2, and kickoff is set for 5 p.m. Students who planned ahead and went by Autry or the pep rally during the week get in for free. Students who didn't should look for a friendly pub night veteran. If not, try the student alcohol information line. Through this evening, and, like other pub nights, there will be drinks and snacks served on a college's budget instead of your own.

Wiess pub night

Rhett Butler. At 3:30 p.m., things are going to get wild. By this point, many of you probably consider yourselves salty pub night veterans. If not, get your work done early and go see what all the fuss is about. Wiess College's pub night is this evening, and, like other pub nights, there will be drinks and snacks served on a college's budget instead of your own. 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. at Willy's Pub. Shocker location, I know.

THURSDAY

Balance

Equal amounts of light and dark. It's like yin and yang or the scales of justice or peanut butter and jelly. Today is the fall equinox, so you'll get exactly 12 hours of daylight to do with what you please. That is, of course, if you don't sleep through the time the sun is up. Sunrise today is 7:09 a.m., so you night owls may be hard pressed to get the day started in time.

Wednesday

Today is Wednesday. Not Tuesday mind you, nor Thursday, but Wednesday. Days like Wednesday sometimes find themselves lost in the shuffle and left out. I say today we stand up for Wednesday and everything it stands for. Make sure Wednesday knows how much we appreciate all it does.

Indecisive no more

Granted you may be indecisive, but your class schedule no longer allows for it. After today you may not add a course, complete late registration, or drop a course without paying a fee for it. Today is also the last day one may withdraw themselves for the semester and receive a 60 percent refund of tuition.