Construction stirs student protest

by Lib Chu

Martel, Brown and Jones College students met under the Martel Sallyport last Friday to discuss the implications of construction in the north has had on student life.

The SA passed the resolution, requesting the university to stop construction around their college in a working to resolve them.

President Kevin Kirby and Eleni Barkouka senior Project Manager for Facilities, Engineering and Planning.

In response, FAAP sent a letter Sept. 6 to members of Marpel, Jones and Brown Colleges addressing issues and listing ways they were working to resolve them.

The resolution, which was presented by Martel President Michael Demerson, raises concerns of parking at Martel, which access to Martel and Jones Colleges, the path from Brown to Junnum Hall, and construction noise during finals period.

Demerson, a senior, said problems with construction started to become apparent last year when the final drawings of the construction projects showed no sign of an access road to Martel.

Demerson said the one-lane road could not accommodate two-lane traffic and parking has been problematic because there are six spots for Residential Associates, visitors, students and drop-offs. Additional five parking spots have been added, but Demerson said the spots are for RAs.

"We became good friends with our RA announcinuig sections," Demerson said. "No matter what, if you need to use the temporary parking by Martel, you will go in a temporary sidewalk then, you have be to walk through grass or on the road through a hallway that we can't access. It's a problem.

Additional Housing & Dining Manager Joyce Myles said the recent lack of alternatives to disposables in the college servers is the result of a staffing issue and an anomaly, as they do not anticipate using disposable paper goods.

"This is a great university that needs in extreme cases, such as Hurricane Rita of 2005. While plastic cups and plates will be left out for students in a hurry, all other disposables will be available to students upon request at service entrances.  

Martel, Brown and Jones College students met under the Martel Sallyport last Friday to discuss the implications of construction in the north has had on student life.
Association to discuss construction issues affecting students' daily lives. When President David Leebron first brought up the idea of growing and changing Rice, he did so through the Call to Conversation. For months, administrators, faculty, staff, students and alumni all joined together in a discussion about plans for Rice's future. While it was not absolutely perfect, the C2C provided great avenues of communication to ensure that students were heard and had their input considered. But now that the call has become a vision, it seems as if the conversation has fallen silent. Even though key aspects of the vision for the Second Century are already being implemented, students still need a way to comment not only on these massive changes across campus, but on the impacts of these changes on their daily lives.

Construction
In last week's Student Association meeting, Martel College President Mikhaila Demison showed that the spirit of the Call to Conversation is still alive, proposing a resolution that Vice President for Administration Kevin Kirby and Facilities, Engineering and Planning Senior Project Manager Eleoni Barzouka meet with the Student Association to discuss construction issues affecting students' daily lives. While the Construction on Campus Web site (facilities.rice.edu/projects_main.cfm) does an adequate job listing information about construction projects and reporting about the effects of something wrong is happening when students need to resort to powerful SA resolutions just to be heard.

During the Call to Conversation, the university had a Web site where students could post their opinions, and it is time to bring it back. Rather than sending administrators to lunches, where they probably won't be recognized by students, or rely on students going to the trailers on Old Wieses field, the university should establish an online system for collecting student input. Even simpler than a Web-based submission system would be a go-to-e-mail address where students could send their concerns. It would not be difficult to establish construction@rice.edu as a routinely monitored suggestions box, so to speak.

Rather than lament at SA meetings about unlit paths or long walks, they could write letters the moment a problem arrives. Ideally, students could list specific problems — a certain corner needs an emergency phone, for example — and construction crews would know exactly what to fix, rather than having to discern ideas from students' vague complaints.

Serveries
Improved communication should not merely end at construction concerns. Communication lines are currently needed for those university services that affect students on a daily basis. Or better yet, thrice daily serveries. Housing and Dining already demonstrated that there is a serveriy communication problem when they abruptly eliminated Saturday dinners with no student input. While we applaud the reversal back to the traditional schedule, students should know in advance if a mealtime disappears.

But is communication, construction needs to go both ways. Students across campus can be heard complaining about the sudden decrease in quality of serveriy foods. With Angelina Riggs' departure, the only way that women can become equal citizens in this nation? Women must not continue to think of women as a victim role of the victim and erroneously claiming prevention. Women should not continue to be the main role model for a female. The only way that someone can become equal citizens is to stop vilifying the role of the victim and erroneously claiming prevention.

Contacting the Thresher
Letters
• Letters to the editor should be sent to the Thresher by e-mail at thresher@rice.edu. Letters must be received by 3 p.m., on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date.
• All letters to the editor must 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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Letters to the editor

Gender preference ad not sexist
To the editor:
"How much longer can we pretend that women are equal citizens in this nation? Women must not continue to think of women as a victim role of the victim and erroneously claiming prevention. Women should not continue to be the main role model for a female. The only way that someone can become equal citizens is to stop vilifying the role of the victim and erroneously claiming prevention."

Student should register to vote
To the editor:
Our generation has experienced many close calls when it comes to elections. In 2000, President George W. Bush took the state of Florida by a 379 vote margin. In 2006, both Senate races in states such as Montana showed a few thousand votes which can make a huge difference.

Bottom line: Your vote does count. We all know how important it is to register to vote, especially in states that are at least 15 years old and United States citizens. A valid sentiment at Rice exists among undergraduates who hold-out-state residents that their vote does not "count" in Texas. To combat this sense of helplessness, take the necessary actions to make your voice heard. If you feel this way, please register to vote immediately by visiting your county's website, following registration instructions, and requesting your absentee ballot in your specific area. If you do not think you will request an absentee ballot, voice your opinion in Texas by registering here and voting in the BMC on Nov. 6, 2007. The greatest victory would be for you not to vote at all.

Claire Randall
Rice Vote Coalition, President
Brown senior

Football advice offered after games
To the editor:
After witnessing the past two football games, I have come to one conclusion: Coach Bailiff is just James Casey play.

Ryan Kreuz
Jones sophomore
In 1972, Texas, now owned by Chevron, began a massive drilling project in the Eastern Amazon. In the 17 years that Texaco operated the field, it spilled 17 million gallons of oil and dumped 12 billion gallons of unfiltered water into the Amazon. The people who are poisoned, the area affected by cancer, leukemia, skin diseases, and birth defects, and have保证金's rainforest have been neglected.

In 1985, local citizens filed a suit against Texaco to force Chevron to clean up the mess it left behind. Nineteen years later, Chevron has yet to pay a single dime for its environmental destruction, the brother of the suits' chief class-action attorney has been murdered, and his widow has now gained the judge in the case.

In America, matters are only slightly better. According to a study of Massachusetts researchers, Enron Mobility and Bell Atlantic are ranking three and six in a list of the top 100 most environmentally irresponsible companies. Such this pollution occurs in the poorest parts of America, where marginalized groups are trying to maintain their way of life.

In her attempt to reach out to those who hate him, Bush has only alienated his core base. Conservatism has become the official language of the Tea Party, and the current crop of Republicans who arenin Washington, D.C. is indeed a place reserved for the political elite.

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By having PAs work with students before they meet with their faculty advisors, Gibson said he hopes that students will be better prepared to discuss their schedule and any long-term academic goals they may have, such as studying abroad. He also hopes this will lead to more meaningful conversations between students and advisors and keep students from viewing their advisor meetings as nothing more than a trip to pick up their registration Personal Information Number.

"I'm sure not going to lose momentum during Orientation Week. He encouraged them to take the lead in organizing the upperclassmen in some type of academic planning session for new students during the week. Although a similar time was scheduled in previous OWeeks, this year the time was more programmed and organized," Gibson said.

Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Brian Gibson

Gibson also said the role of the Office of Academic Advising was a part of a larger system that included students, faculty, and advisors. "I think it's a mistake to understand that advising is about students and their faculty advisors, Gibson said. "The few faculty advisor?" Gibson said. "The few faculty advisor?" Gibson said. "The few faculty advisor?" Gibson said.

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Jim Coleman will be joining Rice in September as the new vice provost for research after spending four years as vice chancellor for research and professor of biology at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Coleman said his primary goal at Rice is to expand Rice's visibility as a prominent research institution. As vice chancellor for research at MU, Coleman worked on expanding the research profile of the university by connecting research between different departments of the university, which enabled students, donors and faculty to understand the importance of research.

"We must talk to donors, researchers, graduates and undergraduates about research to understand what people want as their highest priority to become prominent in research," Coleman said.

"Rice is well-positioned to take an increase in federal funding. It will be my job to help take advantage of it.

Jim Coleman
Vice Provost for Research

"The future workforce needs to be comfortable with solving problems and knowing how to obtain information to find solutions." Coleman said. "The way to do this is to be engaged in research, since research is about solving problems that don't have answers yet.

Coleman said one of his most important responsibilities will be obtaining federal funding to contribute to the expansion of research at Rice. Rice currently receives approximately $75 million for research, but Coleman said one of his goals is to double Rice's research funds in the next five to ten years by working with the president and vice provost to develop a strategy.

Coleman said he intends to expand Rice's research in the area of arts and humanities as well, something he did at MU's Center for Arts and Humanities. Although arts and humanities generally need fewer funds, Coleman said he will find other ways to help the arts and humanities departments find the money they need to conduct research.

"We're really trying to target some of the new technology on the web," Assistant University Librarian for Information Technology Diane Butler said. Butler said instant messaging for reference librarians is a possibility further down the road.

While currently some reference librarians inform faculty and graduate students that they have new books in the areas of their interests, in the future, they can use an RSS feed to automatically inform faculty and grad students, Butler said.

The current online catalog system being used by Fondren was copyrighted in 2000. "The old Web site was so old and antiquated," Butler said. "I know it was done a long time ago, and I don't really think they've made any major change to the look and feel until now."

Brown College sophomore Jasper Van said he found the current Fondren Web site difficult to navigate, but he appreciates any improvement made to the library because so many people use it and its resources.

"It would be great if the Web site were on par with Fondren's facilities," Van said.

Fondren Library Web site revamped, redesigned

Fondren Library's Web site has undergone a make-over, and its new face will be revealed Monday. The revamped Web site, which can be reached at http://library.rice.edu, is phase one of an effort to update and redesign the Web site. The site will be maintained by newly appointed Fondren Library webmaster Jeff Koffler, who previously worked for Information Technology.

Phase one of the Web site will include an option to search the entire Fondren Library catalogue and quick links to commonly accessed pages. Work on phase two will begin as soon as phase one is launched and should include technologies such as RSS feeds and Wikis.

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Housing and Dining cancels Saturday dinners

by Sarah Rutledge

THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

After a largely unpopular test run last year, the serveries will no longer be offering dinner on Saturdays, Associate Vice President of Housing and Dining Mark Ditman said.

"Historically, there hasn't been a Saturday dinner," Ditman said. "I think the reason for that is people actually enjoyed getting off campus once a week."

Alternative options for Saturday dinner will be added soon, he said, with the construction of the new colleges and the Brochstein Pavilion.

Residential Dining Manager Julie Bogar said even though most people would grab dinner to-go from the serveries on Saturdays, attendance was low.

On average, 100 people got dinner from the North Serverie on Saturdays, she said. The contract from last year remains unchanged, Bogar said. Last year's contract only included 18 meals with a complimentary Saturday dinner. This year, there will still be 18 meals but no complimentary Saturday dinner.

In the end, it was the lack of demand, not cost, that drove the decision to abolish the dinners, Ditman said.

However, he said students could use their Tetra points at a variety of locations on campus for dinner including the two future residential colleges and the Brochstein Pavilion.

"The new colleges are going to have a service point that can be leveraged for off hours service," Ditman said.

There are no current plans to adjust Tetra points for Saturday dinner, he said. Will Rice freshman Kristina Butler said she does not feel inconvenienced by this alteration to the meal plan.

"I think ... people actually enjoyed getting off campus once a week."

Mark Ditman
Associate Vice President of Housing and Dining

"I know we're paying for the food here, but in high school I'd eat out for lunch every day," she said. "[I'd] spend $25 to $40 per week, but here, I only spent $10 eating out this week."

Martel College sophomore Sarita Panchang said she felt obligated to eat Saturday dinners in the serveries last year, but the options were limited.

"You would go get the dinner because you were paying for it," she said. "There was no variety, especially in the vegetarian section."

If this change causes a substantial outcry from the student population, Residential Dining will look into implementing Saturday dinner again, Ditman said.

Jammin' with KTRU

Joe Matolete (left) and Ryan Goodland (Lovett '07, right) rock out at Saturday's KTRU indoor concert.
Disposable utensils such as the ones shown above will only be available to students upon request in the servery.

**DISPOSABLES**

From page 1

cause of college idiosyncrasies, Ditman said. "The challenge is to get each of the servery to do it the same way," he said. "Each servery's different."

At Baker, the disposables are not clearly laid out and a student has to approach someone in the kitchen to request them, unlike at the North and South servery entrances, he said.

Lovett College sophomore Reshmi Paul said making disposables request-only is a good step for reducing unnecessary use. "Students take them out of ease rather than because they need [disposables]," she said. "Sometimes when people see that the lines for real plates are really long, they'll take a Styrofoam plate just because it's quicker and not because they actually need it to take it [elsewhere]."

Ditman said that the new Director of Residential Dining David McDonald will discuss more strategies for disposables when he comes to Rice in October.

**STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

The Student Association met Monday. The following were discussed.

- Student Association President Laura Kelley said she will meet with masters and Facilities, Engineering and Planning administrators to discuss the resolution "On Construction Projects and their Effects on Students and Residential Colleges," which was introduced Sept. 3 by Martel College President Mikaela Domenico.

- External Vice President Sarah Baker encouraged students to attend the tailgate tomorrow at 12:20 p.m. outside of Rice Stadium.

- The SA took a roll call vote and approved a request for $300 to record lockers next to the bookstore for students living off campus.

- The SA also approved $500 to cover expenses of the upcoming tailgate. The Athletics department will provide funds for the remaining expenses.

- Hanszen College senior Evan Mintz was voted University Council Representative.

- Hispanic Studies Chair Jose Aranda and Assistant to the President David Vassar, representing the department of Hispanic and Latin American Studies, introduced the Rice University Latin America Initiative to the SA and opened up a forum. The initiative proposed to increase collaboration with Latin American universities, implement improved study abroad programs, and create the Americas Research Center for Latin American research. Aranda also mentioned introducing a Hispanic Studies minor once all faculty positions for the department are filled. For more information on the forum, email Aranda at aranda@rice.edu.

- Lovett College senior Julia Bursten asked about the possibility of a Hispanic Studies Ph.D. Aranda replied that a Ph.D may be available within the next decade.

- Kelley, a Brown College senior, announced that MTVU is available at Rice and will be able to broadcast university announcements.

- Bursten announced her resignation as editor in chief of the Rice Thresher. Sid Richardson College senior Stephen Whitleff was nominated for editor in chief.

- Nominations for editor in chief of the Rice Thresher are open.

The next Student Association meeting will be Monday at 10 p.m. in the Farnsworth Pavilion.
The Brochstein Pavilion’s key feature will be an exterior plaza that will be shaded from the sun by a steel trellis, which will allow light to filter through. The architecture as, say, oil. The idea of the pavilion seems like it’s inspiring outsiders.

"I like the fact that the pavilion is going to be named after an architecture major because you don’t usually see something named after an architecture major,” Baker College sophomore Samuel Jacobson said. “At Rice, money speaks and architecture’s just as big a money-making business as, say, oil. The idea of the pavilion lived kind of in the mind, with natural lighting and shading designed to maximize the efficiency of air conditioning. Fifty-two more trees will be planted around the pavilion.

Construction started in June 2007 and although there were some delays due to summer rains, the project is on schedule and should be finished in late March or early April 2008. "The objective of this project is to bring a sense of occasion, of vitality, excitement and community to this new central hub of the campus," Ramirez said.

As a student, Brochstein, an architecture major, was active in the Architectural Society and the Rally Club. Currently, he chairs Rice’s Art Committee, a new effort dedicated to bringing artwork to various buildings on campus, and is a member of the Building & Grounds Committee that is now overseeing the pavilion construction. Brochstein is also a Trustee Emeritus and served one term on the Board of Trustees from 1998 to 2002.

"When I attended Rice, there was no tuition," Brochstein said. "This is a debt to pay Rice."

Baker RA leaves for Cy-Fair ISD

By Jocelyn Wright

Heather Thompson left her post as Baker College Resident Associate on Aug. 30 to work as Assistant Director of Fitness Programs at the Cy-Fair Independent School District. Although she is no longer serving as RA, she will continue to live at Baker through Jan. 1.

Thompson was unavailable for comment.

Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman sent out an e-mail to faculty and staff on Wednesday, and a couple of people have already expressed an interest in the position, Baker Master Jose Aranda said.

"Dean Forman said recently we will have quite a few applicants for RA [at any college], so he thinks we’ll have a relatively strong pool of applicants and that we’ll find someone who’s a good match for our college," Aranda said.

The search for a new RA will kick off with a reception at the Baker Masters’ House on Friday, Sept. 28, where prospective candidates will meet members of the search committee, made up of a wide range of undergraduate students. They will go on a tour of Baker and answer some preliminary questions.

The pool will eventually be narrowed down to two people, and at this point, the committee will call back the candidates for additional interviews.

Once a consensus has been reached between the committee and the trustees, a name will be forwarded to Forman, who will conduct a background check and approve the selection.

"One of the most important things for the search committee is to find people with broad appeal to the college," Aranda said. "Often they will invite people outside the committee [to meet the prospective RAs] so they can get feedback."

Baker College Resident Associate

Heather Thompson

Aranda said he expects a new candidate to be selected by the end of the fall semester.

"We’re just going to make do [until we have a second RA]," he said. "Typically the college government takes on a larger role. We all sort of check in on each other and try to fill in the gaps as much as possible."

Thompson hosted her last study break on Monday, Sept. 3, Baker plans on throwing her a farewell party on Saturday, Sept. 29.

"Thompson was beloved by her college seniors, who saddled me to see her go," Aranda said.

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Bakery College Resident Associate

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**FESTIVAL**

*Festival de Independencia: El Grito*

Spice up the weekend with south of the border traditions and entertainment. The Festival celebration will feature Mexican music, Maypole dances and more Saturday at 3 p.m. Admission to the concert is free.

**THE RICE THRESHER**

*Editorial Staff*

Perhaps because audiences have little exposure to Westerns, *3:10 to Yuma* is like a breath of FRESH air. Convincingly and unexpectedly. Despite what the movie poster says, *3:10 to Yuma* is not entirely again-singing showdown between Evans and Wade. The two actually reach some kind of understanding, but the conflicts of the film are much more complicated. Wade is a talented artist, an overly obvi- ous signal that he is more than a murderous goon. Although Evans is the honest one, he's actually kind of a jerk compared to Wade. Everyone else is afraid of and part bad, making it hard to form long-lasting allegiances, or draw base ethical distinctions. The film operates as if people are supposed to make moral judgments and in that spirit stops short of giving direct answers. It is left up to the audience to decide which charac- ters are right and wrong, and this is in large part why *3:10 to Yuma* is such an entertaining movie. The Westerns, after all, can oper- ation form, with rules that one must fashion. The territorial division of versus wilderness and the path to manhood are addressed, as expected. How a frontier audience today have little exposure to Westerns, *3:10 to Yuma* is like a breath of FRESH air. More likely it is because this film effectively marries the simple pleasure of entertainment with deeper stuff, a feat so rarely accomplished.

**THE RICE THRESHER**

*ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2007**

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**THE RICE THRESHER**

*ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT*
The show, on view until Oct. 21, is a culmination of the museum’s 20-year history of showcasing native talent, representing 16 artists from across the Lone Star State. Variety is the rule in Nexus Texas. More than 70 works on display are as diverse as the artists who created them and the curators who chose them. Pieces range from powerful sources against discrimination to lighthearted entertainment, just to prove that all that diversity need not be crammed into one section of the earth by a really top hand.

Variety is the rule in Nexus Texas. The diversity of the three backworks, each contributing to the notion of Texas as a "nexus" of national and international art scenes. The artists themselves range from born-and-raised Texans to recent Britsh expatriates and anything in between.

In an impulsive move, all three CAMH curators collaborated to create Nexus Texas, allowing for a confluence of perspectives to produce an exhibit with a distinctly pluralized voice. Patola Oshun, a native of Nigeria, has curated over 25 exhibits at the CAMH over the last nine years. Valerie Cassel Oliver, also a Houstonian, has worked with the museum since 2000. And Toby Kamps, originally of Wisconsin, is curator across the CAMH to Texas. The diversity of the three backworks can be found in the army of artists and works they have chosen for this exhibit.

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Shoot 'Em Up's bizarre plot entertains, barely

by Liz Mallett

FOR THE THRESHER

Men's Hertz (The comedy and melodrama. watching this movie should be dissolution of society and a stylistic brain cells for a few hours, but to prepared not only to abandon their fast-paced, smart, original and unpredictable. Michael Davis' Shoot 'Em Up is not one of them.

Clive Owens (Children of Men) plays Mr. Smith, a terse, brooding man reminiscent of Leon from Luc Besson's The Professional. Early in the movie, Smith is seated with the responsibility of protecting an infant child from the hit men who killed its mother. The rest of the movie is nothing more than a series of wild fights and wilder escapes from these attackers, led by a man known only as Hertz, a one-dimensional, insane arch nemesis (The Nanny Diaries' Paul Giamatti).

Like Crank, last semester's spectaculardly nonsensical action thriller, Shoot 'Em Up is short on plot. Fight scenes are gory improbable, and cooly undeterred by the laws of physics, with an extra dimension of complication added by Smith's need to keep the baby alive. However, Dante Lam's darker than Crank, both in plot and setting. Smith lives in a world full of crooks and prostitutes — most notably his love interest Donna Quinotano (The Passion of the Christ's Monica Bellucci), whose brother specializes in masochistic hookers dressed as nuns. This sense of corruption is prevalent within the movie, with Smith uncovering evil in the highest echelons of both the commercial and political worlds.

Throughout the movie, however, various attempts at melodrama break the flow of action. Both Smith and Donna Quinotano have tragic histories, which are revealed to the audience via half-scripted dialogues. Smith's past trauma is neatly resolved in a gratifying but cathartic coda scene. Donna's back-story, on the other hand, would have been better left on the cutting room floor in order to allow Monica Bellucci to shine through to audiences with her natural beauty and grace.

The over-the-top conflict between the earnest-marching Smith and the villainous Hertz makes an absurd association with Bugs Bunny cartoons. And in case the connection is not clear enough, Hertz even refers to Smith as a "wacky rabbit." While it is conceivable that there are situations in which this type of cartoon comparison would have worked, Shoot 'Em Up is already such a jumbled mess of a movie it comes across as bizarre rather than clever or quickly.

However, for all its faults Shoot 'Em Up manages to entertain — barely. As the movie industry is becoming more aware with successes like Crank and Snakes on a Plane, action-stuffed, endlessly violent action flick Shoot 'Em Up.

SYMPHONY

From page 9

That same concert also includes Max Bruch's heart-stopping first violin concerto, one of the most romantic of all classical works and a must-see for students seeking sentimental music. Smith's past trauma is neatly resolved in a gratifying but cathartic coda scene. Donna's back-story, on the other hand, would have been better left on the cutting room floor in order to allow Monica Bellucci to shine through to audiences with her natural beauty and grace.

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Watch for these key dates on campus:

Panel Discussion: 9/23/07
6:00-7:30pm
Farnsworth Pavilion
Strategy Case Workshop:
9/27/07 6-8pm
Sewall Hall room 303

Strategy Business Analyst Resume Deadline: 9/24/07
Strategy Business Analyst Interviews: 10/8/07, 10/18/07
Consulting Entry-Level Analyst Resume Deadline: 10/9/07
Consulting Entry-Level Analyst Interviews: 10/17/07, 10/19/07

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Summer '04 shows disturbing truths of human nature, love by Carissa Chang / FOR THE THRESHER

Beneath the veneer of a lazy, hazy summer afternoon, Summer '04 packs an intriguing punch that shocks the viewer to the core. A quasi-autobiographical indie sleeper, Summer '04 takes the audience into the depths of childhood memories. The film begins with the creation of a child's perspective, one that is innocent and naive. The viewer is invited to explore the complexities of human nature, love, and the moral ramifications of its actions.

But the crowning jewel of Summer '04 is its portrayal of the young girl who experiences life through the eyes of a child. This perspective is both heartbreaking and heartwarming. The young girl, played by newcomer Lucas Kotaranin, navigates the world with a sense of wonder and innocence.

The film is laced with raw chemistry and sexual tension. The relationship between the young girl and her father is both intimate and disturbing. The viewer is left to ponder the implications of this dynamics, considering the innocence of youth.

Summer '04

The Merry Widow looks good, lacks comedy by Taylor Johnson / HOUSTON BALLET CENTER

The Merry Widow is a romantic comedy only in the sense that it is not a tragedy. A few moments of spontaneous laughter do make the viewer smile — and audience — happy, but there are ample doses of lowbrow humor. But in essence, the ballet wordlessly inspires, leaving raw chemistry and sexual tension thick in the air.

While the performance flounders in the area of comedy, it excels in entertainment through a masterful technical presentation of choreography, music, scenery, and staging. The technical aspects of the film are superior and time flies while watching the performance.

The Merry Widow is the first program of the Houston Ballet's 2005-06 season. It is an old German classic, set in Paris and originally written as an operetta by Austrian-Hungarian composer Franz Lehár in 1905. The story has also been performed as a movie musical of the same title in 1927 and again in 1934. The imaginative Balkan state of Fontovra holds the viewer in suspense as it intertwines the rhythm of music and dance beautifully.

The technical aspects of the film are superior and time flies while watching the performance. Thus, The Merry Widow serves its purpose and provides two hours of entertainment.
Soccer stays undefeated with gritty home wins

Owls beat Horned Frogs on penalty kick in double-OT, will play Magnolia State doubleheader this weekend

by Bobby McFarlane

The soccer team made a bang in their 2007 home debut Friday, defeating in-state rival Texas Christian University 1-0 on a dramatic, double-overtime penalty kick. Two days later they continued their winning streak, coasting past Stephen F. Austin University 4-3.

Rice (3-0-1) now ventures to the Magnolia State this weekend, facing Southwestern Louisiana State University at 7 p.m., followed by a 12 p.m. game against the University of Mississippi on Sunday. But the Owls will most likely be the tougher of the two, as they only have one loss on the season.

Playing in front of a packed and enthusiastic crowd last Friday, Rice came out strong on the defensive end. Let by spectacular play from senior goalkeeper Amy McClintock, the Owls stifled the Horned Frogs attack, not allowing any of TCU's shots to hit the back of the net. Unfortunately, TCU's defense was equally successful, and the score was tied at zero after 90 minutes.

The first overtime was more of the same: strong defense and no goals. But in the second extra period, the Owls' faces were lit up by junior forward Caillin Robbins. Initial attack in the 102nd minute, passing the ball to senior forward Clarity Martin, Martin then found a wide open=# 1 forster, junior midfielder Scott on the wing and Scott passed the ball to the unmarked sophomore midfielder Shelley Wang.

The unmarked Wang, delivered a perfectly placed pass near the keeper's box, preventing a point-blank attempt and setting up a penalty kick for freshman midfielder Katie Edwards, who scored a low past TCU goalkeeper Kelsey Waldrup for the win. Edwards, who had a career-high nine saves, was at the center of the celebration. Her nine saves tied for the fifth most in school history.

"For me, I'm always expecting to have a shutout," she said. "And I know my team expects that." Sunday's game against Stephen F. Austin contained far less drama, as the Owls outlasted the Ladyjacks 2-1 and steamrolled their way to a third consecutive victory.

The action started early when a Clarity Martin corner kick found Edwards just outside the keeper's box in the 10th minute. The freshman quickly trapped and netted the ball, and her third goal of the season gave Rice an early 1-0 lead. An unfortunate bounce thirty seconds later led to a Rice own-goal, but that would be the team's only slip.

Rice quickly got back on the offensive, adding goals from Clarity Martin and Robbins. Clarity Martin's goal came when a long pass from senior midfielder Sam Sankey sent the forward flying past a double-team and inside the 18-yard box, where she doubled just past the 30-yard line for her goals for the season.

In the 81st minute, Wang delivered an impressive cross from Clarity Martin that set her up for her second goal of the season.

"Wong got a good job and we finished a little better than we did on Friday night," head coach Kevin Monahan said.

Freshman Shelley Wang played a crucial role in the winning goal, drawing a foul in the keeper's box in the 102nd minute. Fellow freshman Kate Edwards put in the winning goal on the ensuing penalty kick.

In the 61st minute, Wong deflected an impressive cross from Clarity Martin that set her up for her second goal of the season.

"Kate did an outstanding job and we finished a little better than we did on Friday," head coach Kevin Monahan said.

Freshman Shelley Wang played a crucial role in the winning goal, drawing a foul in the keeper's box in the 102nd minute. Fellow freshman Kate Edwards put in the winning goal on the ensuing penalty kick.

Football team's road foray ends in folly

Armstrong's appeal to Texas hits close to home

I am a liar. I'm not proud of it, but it's true.

Three weeks ago, I wrote a column blasting Texas football — Rice's Alt-Campus College World Series loss was the lowest point of the season, well, glorious season, that Rice fans can ruin a glorious sum-mer. The Rice Owls' season was far from over. The Owls had shown some improvement, but the team still faced the uphill battle of becoming a competitive team.

When they're young, every son looks at his father in awe: 'I want to be like you when I grow up.' 'I want to be like you when I grow up.' 'I want to be like you when I grow up.' 'I want to be like you when I grow up.'

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Casey Michel

I heard Lance Armstrong was having cancer treatments this week, so I jumped at the opportunity, too. Every son looks at his father in awe: 'I want to be like you when I grow up.' 'I want to be like you when I grow up.' 'I want to be like you when I grow up.' 'I want to be like you when I grow up.'

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Seeing Armstrong's appeal to Texas hits close to home. But it's true.
Six upperclassmen return to provide solid veteran core

by Brody Rollins
FOR THE THRESHER

A year ago, the men's cross country team was an odd mix. Despite boasting some of the top runners in Conference USA, the team as a whole was highly inexperienced. As such, Rice mustered no better than a distant third-place finish at the conference championship meet.

Now, one of those top runners is gone, while another battles lingering back problems that will keep him out of the start of the season. Nevertheless, with five upperclassmen returning for the 2007 season, the Owls ran as deep as any team at the top of Conference USA and could challenge for their first conference title in three years.

Rice's season starts tomorrow with its sole home meet, the Rice Invitational. The meet starts at 8:45 a.m. and will take place on the intramural fields across from the Jones School of Business.

The Rice Invitational should be a decent warmup meet. No collegiate teams will compete; with only one — Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi — posing any kind of threat. TAMU-CC features Shadrack Songet, who dominated the 10,000 meters at last years NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships with a time of 28:55.83. Rice finished third in last year's meet with 53 points, 21 points more than first-place Lamar.

Also gone from the Owls this week is junior Charles Hampton. With their own All-American from last year, Pablo Solares, their best runner in the 2006 season. The fifth-year senior is still at Rice taking classes, but he has exhausted his cross country eligibility.

Unfortunately, the Owls cannot counter with their own All-American from last year, Pablo Solares, their best runner in the 2006 season. The fifth-year senior is still at Rice taking classes, but he has exhausted his cross country eligibility.

The Owls, however, will probably carry the load for the team going forward. Robson said the team will benefit from an extra year of experience. "Everyone that is not running 90-100 miles a week is stepping it up a little bit," he said. "Last year there were a bunch of freshmen coming off of high school type of mileage, and they hadn't been running that much."

Although there will be meets interspersed in the next few months, all of Rice's training leads up to this year's C-USA Championship meet, which will be held Oct. 27 in El Paso, Tex. The host school, the University of Texas El-Paso, is undoubtedly the best team in the conference and will be extremely difficult to beat. The Miners feature Stephen Samuel, the two-time defending C-USA Athlete of the Year in cross country. The native Kenyan added All-America honors after placing 13th out of 250 runners at Nationals last year. Nicholas Ng'etich, the C-USA Freshman of the Year in 2006, should also provide a boost for UTEP.

Even though the Miners are the team to beat, they do not have much depth on their roster, and an injury to any of their top runners could leave the conference wide open. Outside of Rice, the University of Tulsa poses the greatest challenge. Near equals skillwise, the two teams match up well on paper. "We should have a good five or six [runners]," Warren said. "So should Tulsa. It's just a question of where we go back on that fifth man. If we have a good meet, we have guys that can run in that pack with Tulsa."

The most intriguing story with Rice and Tulsa is whether or not Robson can stay with the Golden Hurricane's Edwin Hereshaw, the New Zealand champion in the 3,000 meters. However, Tulsa has several question marks on its roster, since three of their starters graduated last spring.

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Owls aim to repeat C-USA title as most of the squad returns

by Justin Hudson

With its seasoned core of runners returning alongside a group of freshmen ready for action, the women's cross-country team looks to make a return trip to the NCAA Championships. The last time Rice made it to the NCAA Championships was 2005, when it also won the Conference USA championship on its way to a top-25 finish.

The Owls' quest for a conference title and national berth begins tomorrow morning at 8:20 a.m. as Rice hosts the 33rd Annual Rice Invitational on the JM Fields near the Jones School of Business.

The key for the Owls to succeed in 2007 will be the performance of the team's returning upperclassmen. Out of Rice's top seven runners last year, only one, Senie Barrows (Jones '07) graduated. Head coach Jim Bevan will look to his three seniors — Marissa Daniels, Laura Kelley, and Callie Wells — to provide leadership. Daniels was the runner-up at the conference championships after being the Owls top finisher last year, while Wells and Kelley have been consistent scorers throughout their college careers. Bevan believes the experience of these runners, which includes the 2005 trip to nationals, will be especially beneficial.

"They were members of championship teams and national top-25 teams," Bevan said. "To have their leadership is invaluable. There are some meets that are completely different than what most of the (freshmen) have ever experienced, so they have people that they can look up to that have been around the block."

A pleasant surprise from last season was then-junior Lennie Waite. Waite, a former soccer player at Rice, finished ninth at the conference championships in her first year running cross-country. Sophomore Nicole Mericle, who became the Owls' second best runner after being the Owls' top finisher at the conference championships and earned C-USA Freshman of the Year honors.

The Owls welcome five new freshmen to the squad next year, with Houston native Allison Pye the strongest of the bunch. Pye was selected as the C-USA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SACC) Coaches Choice Award winner for 2006-07.

Rice head coach Jim Bevan was selected as the C-USA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SACC) Coaches Choice Award winner for 2006-07. Bevan, who has been with the Owls for over 20 years, boasts a 100 percent graduation rate for the student-athletes he has worked with. The Adams State (Colo.) alum has now been named coach of the year six times, including both C-USA indoor and outdoor honors in 2007.

Although the team ran well last year, placing second at C-USA by one point, the gap between Daniels and other runners was often too large for the Owls to truly benefit from his strong performances. This year, Bevan believes that his team is in better overall condition and health and will move closer to Daniels.

"Some of this year's success will be how much that middle group has moved towards Marissa," Bevan said. "But we're [in better shape] now than last year at this time."

Following the Rice Invitational, the Owls will head to College Station for the Texas A&M Invitational. After that, the Owls will either race at Stillwater, Okla., or Falcon Heights, Minn., on the weekend of Sept. 29.

The season then shifts into high gear. The crucial Pre-Nationals race will be held on Oct. 13 at Terre Haute, Ind. About 80 of the top cross-country squads in the nation square off in two separate races. The Pre-Nationals provide both a preview of the national championship course and an opportunity to earn points that can be used to get an at-large berth into the national race.

Two weeks later, the Owls will head to El Paso for the CUSA Championships, which will be followed on Nov. 10 by the NCAA South Regional Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. The top two teams at the regional meet get an automatic bid, while past performances at races such as Pre-Nationals determine at-large bids. If all goes right for the Owls, they will head back to Terre Haute on Nov. 19 for the NCAA Championships.

Senior Laura Kelley runs in last year's Rice Invitational. The Owls usually dominate this season-opening meet, and last year they beat secondplace SMU by nine points.

**2007 WOMEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meet</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Home meets in bold.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/15</td>
<td>Rice Invitational</td>
<td>IM Fields</td>
<td>8:20 a.m.</td>
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<td>9/22</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M Invitational</td>
<td>College Station, Tex.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>OSU Cowboy Invitational</td>
<td>Stillwater, Okla.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Roy Graik invitational</td>
<td>Falcon Heights, Minn.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>10/10</td>
<td>Pre-Nationals</td>
<td>Terre Haute, Ind.</td>
<td>All Day</td>
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<td>10/17</td>
<td>Conference USA Champions</td>
<td>El Paso, Tex.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>11/10</td>
<td>NCAA South Central Regional</td>
<td>Fayetteville, Ark.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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Junior Lea Garcia, a veteran with conference championship and national meet experience, believes this year's team can make it back to nationals.

"I was a freshman and I was really lucky to actually get to go in nationals," Garcia said. "It was really big bonding experience. ... We did really well and really came together as a team and I think we can do that this year for sure."
The volleyball team hopes to lay the foundation for a long winning streak this weekend at the University of Houston Invitational. Held this weekend at the UH Alumni Center, the tournament will feature a long winning streak last night with a match against their old rivals, the Gamecocks. Held this weekend at the University of Houston and tomorrow they will face Stephen Rice (5-5) began the tournament another three-match tournament, Tracey Lam contributed 13 digs. The volleyball team hopes to lay the foundation for a long winning streak this weekend at the University of Houston and tomorrow they will face Stephen Rice (5-5).

Lance Armstrong visited the Rice last week, giving students the opportunity to talk to the cyclist about what can be done to fight cancer.

ARMSTRONG

From page 14

event also featured Texas State Senator Jane Nelson and State Representatives Ellis Coburn and Stephanie Tompson. Armstrong came out with his support of State Proposition 15, which, if it passes, will allow $5 billion for cancer research funding.

Armstrong's successful battle with breast cancer — Armstrong took the stage. He spoke of the 5,000 Tex- an women who will die this year of the disease, of the $30 billion cancer costs Texas, and of the eventual cost of raising $3 billion to form the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.

As soon as the press conference concluded, the cameras converged to get a glimpse of the cyclist. Me- nial fashions — along with my pho- tographer's successful request for an autograph — ensued, but he soon broke into a free-for-all, missing my way. I nervously stuck up my top corner of press credentials, getting an autograph. "What do you have to say to the Rice-student body?" Armstrong replied, "I think we competed really well with South Carolina," McClean said. "We kind of let up in Game 4, but I think we definitely could've beaten them.

Rice rebounded quickly after the losses and won against Appalachian State, winning the match 3-1. The Owls broke away early for a 7-1 lead. The Mountaineers could not hold the match in four games. McClean led the team with 16 kills and 17 digs, while junior middle hitter Natalie Begun scored an impressive 16 kills, and sophomore outside hitter Jesse Boulavsky posted a team-leading .565 hitting percentage to lead the Owls to the victory.

The Owls came back strong in the second game, starting with a 9-4 run. The Owls quickly tied up Game 1 before the Mountaineers broke away in Game 2, winning 25-18. The Owls had their best offensive play of the season against the Mountaineers, finishing with a .351 hitting percentage, in addition to a .306 hitting percentage in the Mountaineers' first set. Both McClean and sophomore middle blocker Natalie Begun scored an impressive 16 kills, and sophomore outside hitter Jesse Boulavsky posted a team-leading .565 hitting percentage to lead the Owls to the victory.

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However, the team ran into early trouble the next day against Troy. Troy took an early 5-1 lead in the first game, but quickly fell behind due to an 8-1 run by the Owls. When Troy pushed it to 28-19, a late five-point run by the Owls made the game interesting before the Trojans sealed the victory 30-24.

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But his clean bill of health is maintained his ethos. I'm not going to use this column space as a pulpit for preaching political ideals. Armstrong started the column with a question: "You see, my dad beat the cancer that they found. Grant- ed, he still has to go in for check-ups every few months, but his check-up of health is the most welcome bill we've ever received. And that's no lie."

Tech

From page 14

should not focus as much on being offensively balanced as simply moving the ball. Sophomore setter Toren Dunn and freshman receiver James Casey must get involved in the offense earlier in order to draw coverage away from junior receiver Jarrett Dillard and keep defenses from being able to blitz junior quarter- back Chase Clement.

While the team was disappointed with the loss, head coach David Baliff said that defensively, the Owls were able to hold the Gamecocks to the second straight game. Dillard finished with 5 catches for 93 yards, including a 34-yard catch that set up an Owls touchdown.

The volleyball team hopes to lay the foundation for a long winning streak this weekend at the University of Houston and tomorrow they will face Stephen Rice (5-5).

AM and

Lance Armstrong visited the Rice last week, giving students the opportunity to talk to the cyclist about what can be done to fight cancer.

SOCcer

From page 14

Coach Chris Huston said: "A lot of our offense comes off of our defensive shape. By stay- ing disciplined we have a bet- ter chance to win the ball and that helps us defend." In just 56 minutes of play, co- captain Cory Martinek notched 4 points (1 goal, 3 assists). He leads Rice with nine points through four games. Edwards is second on the squad with six points, while Robbins and Wong have four points apiece.

The Owls' weekend perfor- mance earned them a Central Region ranking of 14th from SoccerBuzz.com.
Are you a motivated leader looking to make a difference over Spring Break? Apply to be an Alternative Spring Break Site Leader!

- Select the location
- Learn about your host agency
- Choose the participants
- Arrange the work project
- Plan community involvement
- Have a great time!

For more information, please contact Sanna Ronkainen (sanna@rice.edu).

Sponsored by the Community Involvement Center
FRIDAY 14
For Love or Money?
The Houston Ballet opens their season with The Merry Widow, a romantic comedy set in 1905 Paris. The Merry Widow will play tonight and tomorrow night, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 16 at 2 p.m. at the Wortham Theater Center. This is closing weekend, so catch the show while you can.

SATURDAY 15
Movies from sunrise to sunset
The Gulf Coast Film Festival runs all day today, starting at 9:30 a.m. at San Jacinto College. Day passes start at $20. Pretty good for the opportunity to see over thirty independent films. For more info, go to http://www.gulfcoastfest.com.

MONDAY 17
Get your do done
Today is Barber Day at the RMC. Head over to get a cheap haircut.

Publicly funded universities must have a Constitution Day event. (It’s a law.)
Baker Institute Student Forum presents “Affirmative Action at Rice.” The panel discussion will take place at the Baker Institute tonight at 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY 18
Lovett Pub Night
Lovett College’s Pub Night is tonight from 20 p.m. – 2 a.m. at Willy’s Pub in the RMC.

Richard Smith, Fingerstyle Guitar Champion

& Julie Adams, Virtuoso Cellist

Friday, September 14th
8:00 pm
Rice University Chapel, Student Center

Tickets $20.00
(students $10.00 with ID)
NANNY/HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED. This position will care for 2 young teenagers ages 13 & 14. Primary focus will be to assist with car pool, running errands, transportation to be provided. Some housework will be required; live-in a most, room and board provided. Willing to work with studies schedule. Both hours will require a flexible disposition for children. Must have good attitude and willing to work with family. Most have at least 5 references with previous childcare experience. Will not accept applicants that are not serious about the position and their responsibilities. Must start between now and August 31. Contact Tara at (713) 523-0110 or (713) 791-1932.

FRENCH TUTOR WANTED for a high school senior currently enrolled in French V. Proficiency in spoken French is essential. Weekday afternoons would be ideal. $25/hr. Call (713) 348-3974 for details.

ARE YOU GOOD with computers? We are paid for it! Montessori Association, 2242 W Holcombe Blvd, is seeking a school office seeking a part-time IT person as bookkeeper, basic computer maintenance, and office administration help. Call Tara at (713) 524-9476.

FULL OR PART-TIME Receptionist/Data Entry. Experience preferred. FLEXIBLE hours! (Office hours are M-F, 8-5). Montessori Association, 2242 W Holcombe Blvd. A Greendale, send resume & cover letter to richard.elbein@alz.org, or fax (713) 514-1312.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT COORDINATOR I, Baylor College of Medicine is seeking an Administrative Support Coordinator (ASC) in an office that coordinates and conducts programs to train college and PHD students in biomedical research. The position will be temporary, hourly, part-time and will perform a variety of office duties including answering phone, typing forms, correspondence, and other documents; organizing, screening and prioritizing mail and outgoing; answering and directing general correspondence; copying and filing documents; processing various personnel and financial documents within NFP setting up and running financial, statistical and analytical report forms, source documentation in creating spreadsheets and databases, and other job related duties as assigned. Employee will handle confidential information. Some College preferred. Pay is $10.22/hr. Email resume to jump.rightin@baylor.edu.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II, Baylor College of Medicine is seeking an Administrative Assistant II in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The position will be responsible for the scheduling of all outpatient appointments and managing the department's mail, correspondence, and follow-up with patients in a timely manner. The assistant will also be responsible for maintaining the department's inventory of supplies and ordering new items as needed. The position will require strong organizational skills, excellent customer service skills, and the ability to work independently. Pay is $15.00/hr. Email resume to jump.rightin@baylor.edu.

PART-TIME ASSISTANCE WITH 2 elementary children desired. 3pm on most weekdays. By West University Drive license minimum needed (713) 524-9476. Call Eq @ (713) 348-1159.

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