Tutle's assistant athletics director of media relations, said, "We've put it behind us, and we're over with it now."

Tutle dismissed to comment further on the situation.

The show announcer concluded the show with a joke: "A priest, a nun and a rabbi walk into a bar. Now, I think in the end Todd Graham is a douchebag."

Director of Bands Chuck Throckmorton said the use of the word "douchebag" has resulted in complaints from both sides for family

**In the wake of a controversial performance that mishook its current head football coach, Todd Graham (left), the University of Tulsa filed a formal complaint to Conference USA on Monday against the Marching Owl Band, in/any Director of Bands Chuck Throckmorton (right). The performance took place during halftime of the football team's 48-43 loss to the Golden Hurricane at Rice Stadium Saturday.**

MOB makes national headlines in wake of Tulsa outrage

**Faculty Senate looks to extend winter break, debates mid-term spring recess**

**by Jocelyn Wright**

Faculty Senate discussed the calendar Wednesday as efforts to revise the academic calendar came to their conclusion. They will vote to approve a final version at a meeting Jan. 26.

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology professor Evan Siemann, Regent David Tenney (Sr '87) and Associate Dean of Architecture John Casbarian finalized two proposed calendars for 2009-10 and interyears. The proposals are identical except for the extension of the spring mid-term recess.

For both proposed calendars, the full senate will start on the fourth Monday of August, and the spring classes would start on the second Monday of January, there will be four study days followed by spring exam days at the end of each semester, and the separate exam dates for degree and non-degree candidates in the spring will be eliminated. Commencement will be held on the second or third Saturday of May, depending on circumstances.

Tenney said the changes to the calendar would not prevent students from leaving certified by the Registrar's Office before walking at commencement, despite the growing number of students and it is thus more certain to certify. "It's a long-standing tradition that all students will, Tenney said, "It is absolutely expected that we will certify all students before commencement. No one will make class days commencement day unless they have been certified to graduate."

Under the calendar grades for graduating seniors are due before other students. Tenney said the mid-term spring recess was at the forefront of the debate in the last Faculty Senate meeting.

A poll on the Student Association Web site showed 52 percent of students prefer to keep the mid-term spring recess. Siemann said he would like to hear from more compelling academic reasons for keeping the break, since it creates complications for scientific laboratories courses and reduces the number of instructional days in the spring from 60 to 67.

SA Internal Vice President Matt Yuam said he plans to create a new poll on the mid-term spring recess and distribute it during the first week of classes in January so he can share the results with the Faculty Senate before they vote on it Jan. 26.

French Studies professor Deborah Harper said the Faculty Senate was working on a compromise to keep the spring recess, though the crucial instructional days would have an opportunity to announce in the course catalog that their courses are CALENDAR page 7

**What do you really think?**

**by Larry Bookhout**

College sophomores David Downing and James Bookhout. Three remain at large. Downing and Bookhout were returning to the North Colleges from Autry Cour. As they passed in front of Lovett Hall on the Inner Loop, a truck pulled in front of them. Four Hispanic males jumped out of the vehicle and moved towards them. One approached Downing and Bookhout were immediately Bookhout called the Rice University Police Department and flagged down a passing runner for help. He said RUPD arrived promptly, followed by Rice EMS. They attended to Downing, who had regained consciousness by that point, and took him to the hospital. Bookhout said.

**Celebrate World AIDS Day**

**Drop by the RMC Saturday between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. and you'll find numerous events hosted by ADVANCE, RSA, CAPPE, CSS, HoMed, 4AVA, RASA, RSVP, and SAS in commemoration of World AIDS Day. Events planned include free HIV/AIDS testing between 12:30 and 3:30 p.m., "The Age of AIDS" documentary 2 to 6 p.m., "Journey to the Shore" by Lauren Tenney 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., "The Thing That People Are Focusing On Is A Misunderstanding Of What A Year Long Job Is. We're Not Insulting Todd Graham's Mother, It's Actually A Tribute To Her Quality," Chuck Throckmorton, Director of Bands.

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**OPINION**

**in/any Sunday evening**

**Quote of the Week**

"The thing people are focusing on is a misunderstanding of what a year long job is. We're not insulting Todd Graham's mother, it's actually a tribute to her quality." — Chuck Throckmorton, Director of Bands.

**Monday**

**Women's Basketball**

Colorado 72, Rice 55

**Men's Basketball**

Arkansas-Little Rock 59, Rice 52

**Wednesday**

**Futsal**

Rice 83, Tulsa 18

**Friday**

**Party Clouds, 59-73 degrees**

**Saturday**

**Party Clouds, 65-79 degrees**

**Sunday**

**Isolated T-storms, 47-78 degrees**
After months of worrying, Student Association polls and Thresher editorials, the Faculty Senate has narrowed down academic calendar proposals to two similar plans (see story, page 1). Given its long-term status, the question of whether Rice should consider making a change is one that will last a week later and winter break a week longer — we support the proposal wholeheartedly and encourage the Senate to vote for Plan A, which maintains Mandurah, weekend recess, at its next meeting.

There has been some faculty opposition to the spring recess because the resulting incomplete week does not give classes enough time to complete all assignments. Our proposal is to fix this problem by allowing students to simply hold classes over the break — something that could be announced in the course description so student would know in advance. While we worry about the logistics between courses, some courses already have mandatory meetings over weekends. And if this compromise will save the spring recess for most students, then it certainly seems like a wise decision. We merely hope that this habit of required meetings during breaks becomes a rare move, used only when absolutely necessary.

After all, students have expressed passionate support for spring recess in the SA online forum. Furthermore, eliminating this break would probably require expanding and moving the week-long spring break — a牵制ination that would require too much duration to be completed before Rice’s deadline for a new calendar plan. Therefore, any discussion of the spring recess should be held off.

Over the past year, we have proposed a calendar plan that would extend winter break by gaining days via eliminating the requirements that students’ graduation status be confirmed before commencement (“Calendar conversation,” Oct. 12). We made this proposal under the assumption that Rice’s growing student body would make this requirement too great a burden on the Registrar’s Office and would eventually be eliminated no matter what the calendar. Furthermore, the proposal was intended as a stopgap measure until the typically static commencement date could be moved (“Longer break — a reorganization that would require too much effort to be completed before Rice’s deadline for a new calendar plan. Therefore, any discussion of the spring recess should be held off.”)

On another note, we would like to remind readers that ideas expressed in editorials are intended to reflect the opinion of the Thresher editorial staff, not overall student opinion, as was implied in the academic calendar proposal.

Nice job MOB

Over the past week, the Marching Owl Band has made national news for their performance at the halftime of the football team's game against the University of Tulsa last Saturday (See story, page 1). What did the MOB do that was so amazing? They did their job — entertaining Rice while acting as a thorn in like a wise decision. We merely hope that this habit of required mandatory meetings over weekends. And if this compromise will save the spring recess for most students, then it certainly seems like a wise decision. We merely hope that this habit of required meetings during breaks becomes a rare move, used only when absolutely necessary.

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Questionsforumdoesnotactasconversion

To the editor:

The comic in the Nov. 16 issue of the Thresher depicts in an anti-Semitic manner an event that happened in the Middle East. The comic is offensive and inappropriate. The cartoon, which is titled "The Modern Jewish Experience," shows a Jewish man wearing a Star of David being asked by a Arab man if he is a Jew. The comic then goes on to depict the Arab man stabbing the Jew with a knife. The comic is a gross violation of the rights of Jews and the Jewish community.

We strongly condemn this offensive漫画 and urge the Thresher to publish an apology and retract the comic.

The漫画ist should be held accountable for this act of hatred and discrimination. We demand that the漫画ist be fired and that the漫画 be removed from the Thresher's website.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Organization]

RUDP criticism sells its mission short

To the editor:

I read Accountancy’s recent column criticizing the Rice University Police Department to be both unsensitive and disrespectful to the campus community. The column was published on Nov. 16.

First, RUPD’s primary role is to provide security and safety to the Rice community. In fulfilling this role, RUPD officers and the work they do can be a source of pride for Rice students.

However, the column’s author seems to have ignored this fact. Instead, the column criticizes RUPD for its responses to certain incidents, such as the October 2016 event where a student was found unconscious in a dorm room.

The column also criticizes RUPD for its treatment of students who may have committed minor infractions, such as those who were found in possession of alcohol or marijuana. The author claims that RUPD’s policies are unfairly harsh and that they do not adequately consider the context of each situation.

While RUPD officers are trained to handle situations with the utmost professionalism, it is important to note that they are also trained to follow departmental policies and procedures. These policies are in place to ensure the safety and well-being of all students, and they are designed to be fair and consistent for everyone.

In conclusion, while RUPD may not always get it right, it is important to remember that the department is made up of dedicated and highly trained professionals who are committed to serving the Rice community.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Organization]

Will Rice students only support conversion

To the editor:

I completely disagree with the recent statement by Will Rice College at the Tulane-Rice tailgate and football game on Nov. 17.

Their maroon college t-shirts were completely inappropriate. When Rice fans did not inspire any Rice spirit for the team or the fans. To reinforce the idea that they only support Rice, they separated themselves from the student section by free rows and talked to each other during the entire game instead of cheering for our team.

As Rice students, we should not be influenced by the actions of the football team — it is because "Students" like those from Will Rice did not come to support the team.

Will Rice, A&M that any decency you would return would ruin the legacy to the Athletics Department and apologists. The Rice Owls Outlaw the Will Rice Thoroughbreds.

Bill Rimowski
Hales junior

Contacting the Thresher

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

All letters to the editor must be signed and include the name and year 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 space, content and length.

The Thresher also reserves the right to place letters on our Web site.

Subscribing

Annual subscriptions are available for 360 domestic and 512 international via mail, and online.

Advertising

We accept display and classified advertisements. Advertisements, must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to the publication date. Please contact our advertising manager at 713/527-4545 or thresher-uds@rice.edu for more information.

Cartoon poorly paints nature of Questions

To the editor:

I am writing in response to the cartoonist’s earlier critiquing the Questions of the Ages, open discussions sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ (Cartoon, Nov. 10).

Derdan’s cartoon expressed a common misconception among Rice students concerning the Questions of the Ages. Namely, that the discussions are simply a deceptive cover for Christian evangelism, often called “proselytism.” As a facilitator for Questions of the Ages I can tell you that this is not the case. The open discussions promote the exchange of ideas and thoughts on philosophical and critically examined areas. The Questions of the Ages program provides an environment where people are free to express their opinions and question each other’s ideas. Each person should leave the discussion with a better understanding of why other people hold their beliefs and what those beliefs really are.

The open discussions have widened differing viewpoints on the issues discussed and do not attempt to get all to answer. If any Christian had attended the discussions they would have seen the problem of evil then she or she would be in the first 2,000 years of Christian history. Everyone can benefit from explaining their own reasoning and listening to others. Isn’t this what those beliefs really are.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Organizati on]
Apathetic attitude unavoidable at Rice

Think of one word to describe every university campus this semester? Finished? All across this campus, it would appear that this would be the answer. As the cold weather begins to set in, it is likely that it will continue to rain as much as it has this fall. Although it may not seem like it, there is a reason to rejoice. The end of the semester is near, and it is time to take a break from the endless cycle of tests and assignments. However, there is only one word that describes the attitude of students on campus: apathy.

Texas among us can name or the Thursday nights and rehashing the concern for the big issues. You probably would have expected the use of non-uniformed labor to be the first comment levied against the jolly icon, the Daily Mail last week. However, that would be a mistake. The problem of those who live in the world right now, it is very easy to be distracted by political events that are dominating the landscape. But the media only responds to that which is newsworthy—people face the blogosphere? Here is the sad fact: Rice students are not only creative but also the biggest beer cannamy. Rice students listen to be creative. Once before the traditional Santa laugh because you use your traditional Santa laugh because it is going to be in the year 2050. This will be an unfortunate statistic, mandating Santa students get in the college junior.

From the man upstairs

Campaign against attention spans

When it comes to politics, American students are not as informed as we would like to think. With upcoming elections, many students are feeling the pressure to stay informed. However, this does not mean that they are actually paying attention to the issues. Many students have become complacent and are no longer interested in the political process. This can be seen in the way that students vote and participate in elections. It is not uncommon to hear students saying that they are not interested in politics or that they do not have enough time to learn about the candidates. This complacency is a major problem.

The Rice Thresher
Job market for grads stays consistent

by Diana Lee

To get a job or to not get a job. That seems to be the eternal question for graduating seniors. And the answers seem split down the middle. The Career Services Center hosts two career fairs at O'Connor House each year to facilitate students' job searches.

The 2007 Post Graduate Survey reported that 52 percent of respondents planned to work immediately upon graduation, comparable to 2006's 51 percent. In 2007, 39 percent of respondents were planning on attending graduate school or having accepted job offers. Although some students do decide to work immediately after graduation, there is a trend for the majority of Rice students to go back to obtain advanced degrees in the future.

Students without definite plans can attend any one of the two career fairs hosted by Career Services. Career Services Center Assistant Director Heidi Glantzberg said 80 companies are recruiting on campus this year, which is comparable to 89 companies last year.

The Rice Career Expo, which takes place in September, is primarily focused on full-time jobs. The Rice Collegiate Job Fair and Summer Opportunities Fair, scheduled for Jan. 28, is composed of two segments. The first half, the Rice Collegiate Job Fair, is for permanent positions, while the evening session is geared towards summer opportunities that are available to seniors.

The companies that come on campus are typically large corporations, such as ExxonMobil, Microsoft and Schlumberger.

Students looking to publish journals, go into the arts or focus on fellowships after graduation or planning to travel, volunteer or focus on other aspects of life are split down the middle. The Career Services Center assists students in job searches.

Glantzberg said 52 percent of respondents were planning on attending graduate school by this time of graduation, such as pursuing a master's degree or a PhD. However, since every company has a sales, marketing or human resources aspect, Glantzberg said companies tend to hire approximately equal numbers of science & engineering and liberal arts students.

Glantzberg said she encouraged employers to take a holistic approach when evaluating applicants.

"Career Services tells employers not to focus on the Rice major but to look at the skills sets that are necessary for the job," Glantzberg said.

Call and you could save.

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- Convenient local office
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Houston, TX 77401
713-665-4667

Plans by the time of graduation, such as attending graduate or professional schools or having accepted job offers, are available to seniors.

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713-665-4667
Rondelet dance to return in spring

by Jocelyn Wright

The half-mile walk to Astry Court is over for Brown College students, who celebrated the opening of their own fitness center on Tuesday.

The Brown Fitness Center has a cross trainer, bike machine, rowing machines, and a flat-screen television. The equipment and television are all embraced that and have formals every semester like we used to," Taylor said.

The theme for this year's study break is "Treasure Island." The Student Association met Monday. The following were discussed:

• SA President Laura Kelley announced the University Parking Committee will be held on Monday, Dec. 12, in the Brown College conference room.

• Director of Sustainability Richard Johnson explained the President's Climate Commitment and the Greening of Rice to the Faculty Senate.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 12 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23.

ROBBERY

"Right now there's some speculation that this is gang related, but we can't say that at this point," Taylor said.

"[Gonzalez] doesn't appear to be in a gang, but of course we don't know about the others." John Dues. He clearly knows who they are but won't give them up."

The other three suspects remain at large.

"Gonzalez] didn't really cooperate with us," Taylor said. He gave us names, but they were either first names or nicknames, he said. "It's something that has been the works for a number of years but for some reason has never gotten off the ground with anything more than a bunch TV in there and some weights," Davenport said.

Brown spent $4,000 from its permanent improvements budget on the fitness center, and another $5,000 came from matching funds from Housing and Dining. The remaining cost was covered by the H&H Ambiance Fund, and the Permanent Improvements Committee.

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FACULTY SENATE

The Faculty Senate met Wednesday. The following were discussed:

• Vice President for Enrollment Chile Muñoz said he is compiling information on athletics admission regulations for a faculty meeting in January.

• Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness John Conn- well said he will present the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools report at the Faculty Senate meeting in January.

• Ecology and Evolutionary Biology professor David Simpson presented two plans for future academic calendars. Featuring a longer winter break and a later commencement.

Siemann said the Academic Calendar Committee is still trying to figure out whether or not to have spring mid-term recess.

The full text of this article is available online at the Rice Thresher website.
Wellness Center announces short-term goals in report

by Margeress Clemins

The Wellness Center recently published the center’s 2010 goals, a diverse range of health issues on campus and future assessment is just what the doctor ordered to affect student wellness.

At first glance, the goals for changes from 2006 to 2010 seem sporadic; a 25 percent decrease in reports of students using marijuana, a 25 percent increase in condom use by sexually active students, a 3 percent decrease in the number of students identified as obese and other more qualitative initiatives such as increasing awareness about eating disorders, depression and spiritually needs.

However, the objectives were inspired by the Healthy Campus 2010, a document created by the American College Health Association. Based on a similar document designed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy Campus Establishes a set of baseline targets for universities to reach in regard to physical, mental and emotional health. Wellness Center Director Emily Page said.

She said assessment is important for the center’s future programming. The Wellness Center, which operates independently from other campus resources such as the Counseling Center or the Student Health Services, plans to take part in a national study for the future.

In 2006, the Wellness Center’s Student Alcohol and Drug Survey polled over 1,200 undergraduate students and revealed that 20 percent of those students were obese, 10 percent of students classified themselves as heavy drinkers. Students who classified themselves as heavy drinkers also reported a higher rate of prescription drug use and, on average, had a lower body mass index than their peers. Students who classified themselves as heavy drinkers also reported a higher rate of prescription drug use.

The amount of reaction it has gotten is that "someone is misunderstanding what this complaint will mean for the Rice band. Rice has been in CUSA for three years and this is the first complaint the band has received.

The rice Thresher staff

The MOB

From page 1

appropriateness at the game.

"It's a mild variation," he said. "We're not talking about a big deal. We're just trying to say about Graham that has some sort of emotional edge to him but isn't too dire.

The word "douchebag" often appears in the astfima script. If you are between 18-60 years of age. How do you know when the viewers deemed appropriate so he can take these concerns into account and make the show more relevant.

"Sometimes the new [ideas] are dismissed. Past programs that have been successful have a 23 percent increase in condom use.

Jake Neu

MOB script coordinator

"Throckmorton's gonna give each script before the show can be performed. He will reevaluate these shows at the end of the season to determine what shows are appropriate so he can take these concerns into account and make the show more relevant.

"Sometimes the new [ideas] are dismissed. Past programs that have been successful have a 23 percent increase in condom use.

Jake Neu, the script coordinator for the MOB, said Graham is a topical issue for Tulsa and they take him seriously. The show seeks to poke fun at these issues.

"If you do satire, some people are going to get offended because they don't understand or it hits too close to home," he said.

"All the Rice fans were looking forward to us doing something about Todd Graham," Neu said. "[Originally] we didn't know how to approach it, but Dan's Interboro had just the right amount of satire and just fun having with the show.

"Throckmorton said he has thought it didn't really cross any one of the season to determine what shows are appropriate so he can take these concerns into account and make the show more relevant.

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Youn said that he felt this was a decent compromise because the break was critical for students' mental health. "It's a weekend that's essential to helping students regroup in preparation for the final stretch of the school year," Youn said. "It's a time where students are very close to burning out, and the weekend is key to helping them remain sane.

Also up for debate is the starting date of the spring semester. The calendar may be revised to start on the first Monday of January in cases where the second Monday was significantly late, Siemann said. The Senate was also interested in how the number of contact hours—time spent in the classroom per credits given for a course—at Rice compared to those at other institutions.

Included with the calendar is also a proposal to reduce the shopping period for courses from four weeks to two weeks to add courses and 10 weeks to four weeks to drop classes. Harter requested that the reduction of the shopping period be made separate from the discussion of the academic calendar so that an appropriate body, such as the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, could examine it carefully.

Tenney said there were many reasons for shortening the shopping period. "For many faculty they are unable to determine who's really going to be in their class until the fifth week," Tenney said. "I've been told some faculty save their best lectures for after the fourth week because there's so much movement in the first four weeks."

While Youn acknowledged the logistical problems with the lengthy shopping period, he said a long shopping period was important for students, especially those in seminars that meet once a week.

Tenney was also concerned about having a drop deadline that would be after the fourth week because in most classes you have no idea how hard it's going to be until the sixth or seventh week when you have a big test or something," Youn said.

Despite the current debate, this should be the last major change to the calendar for several years. This is because the calendar was completely matrix-driven, meaning that if keeps dates from being assigned arbitrarily from year to year and makes it possible to plan for academic calendars 10 to 20 years in the future.

"Today, the way it works is we have a calendar for two years, and then it changes and changes again," Tenney said. "I like the fact that the calendar that we have proposed actually sets a formula for future years."

### SA Academic Calendar Poll

At left is a graph representing responses given by students for a Student Association poll on the academic calendar. 619 undergraduates responded to at least one question in this poll, which ran from Nov. 5 to Nov. 9.

**Questions**

1. Do you support the current Rice policy that graduating seniors have had their degrees guaranteed and their honor status determined before graduation day?

2. Do you believe that the final exam schedule should be modified to prevent possible grade discrepancies?

3a. In order to have a common final exam period for all students, would you be willing to come back earlier from Winter Break?

3b. In order to have a common final exam period for all students, would you be willing to give up Spring Recess?

3c. Would you be willing to take more than two final exams in two days in order to have a longer Winter Break?

4. In previous semesters, which has been more stressful for you: the last week of classes or the final exam period?

5a. Do you agree with current policy that students should not have to take more than two final exams in two days?

5b. Would you be willing to take more than two final exams in two days in order to have a longer Winter Break?

5c. Would you be willing to take more than two final exams in two days in order to retain Spring Recess?

6. Would you be willing to arrive at Rice one week earlier in the Fall if it meant having a longer Winter Break?
Jones named Texas Professor of the Year

by Hajera Blagg
FOR THE THRESHER

As a mathematics professor at Rice for 46 years, Frank Jones (Wiess '58) has taught and inspired thousands of students. So it is no surprise that the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching honored Jones with the prestigious Texas Professor of the Year Award last week.

The Carnegie Foundation annually bestows the award to a professor from each state who, according to the program's Web site, "exceeds in teaching and positively influences the lives and careers of students." Jones was chosen from over 300 nominees in the United States from every field of study at a wide range of universities across the nation.

Sid Richardson College junior Preston Smith said Jones was one of the most approachable teachers at Rice.

"Whenever I had questions about homework or anything, I just had to knock on his door and come in," Smith, a former student of Jones' who took his Honors Calculus IV class last semester, said. "The only time he couldn't help me was when he was busy helping someone else."

Smith also said Jones reaches out to students even in non-academic matters.

"Last semester, I played tennis with him, and he was the one who asked me to play," Smith said.

Math Department Chair Michael Wolf said he was everyone's favorite professor.

"When I once emailed [Jones] former students for recommendations for a different assistant professor position, Wolf said. "And these were students from every decade that he taught."

Wolf also said Jones was enthusiastic in helping everybody learn, whether they be undergraduates or high school students or people in the community who simply want to know more about math.

During the summer, Jones works with undergraduates in a scholarship program helping them solve new problems in math.

"He learns along with them," Wolf said. "I also know that he has been helping a community businessman who is an amateur mathematician, prove a difficult theorem."

Jones said he was thrilled and humbled to receive the award, but that the most rewarding experience is teaching students.

"I love the students, and I love the process of being revised. We felt that that wasn't the best way to accomplish our mission." Jones said the new policy is an improvement for two reasons. First, the center gets so many requests for co-sponsorships that the center does not have enough funds to sponsor all of them. Secondly, it encourages different groups that do not usually work together to do so.

Quillen said she thought the question-and-answer session was a legitimate exchange and that the speech had been misquoted.

The Boniuk Center was founded in 2004 when Milton Boniuk, whose father lost his family in the Holocaust in 2004 when Milton Boniuk, whose father lost his family in the Holocaust, inherited a fortune from his father that made him the world's 25th wealthiest individual. The center's mission is to "understand and advance the study of religious tolerance and religious pluralism through research, education, and outreach programs that promote understanding and respect for religious diversity worldwide."
THE RICE THRESHER  NEWS FEATURE  FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2007

THE RICE THRESHER

STAFF FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER 2008

CLASSES RECOMMENDED TO YOU BY THRESHER STAFF FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER 2008

ENGL 321
SHAKESPEARE

Meredith Skura
11-11:50 MWF
CRN: 21485

We read a variety of Shakespeare's plays, both well-known and obscure. Dr. Skura's lectures were comprehensive and the class discussion was extremely inviting and stimulating. The highlight of the course was the final: performing a scene(s) from one of Shakespeare's plays and explaining choices for costume, staging, and character development. This was a great course for beginners as well as those well-versed in Shakespeare's works.

— Amanda Melchor, Opinion Editor

HUMA 251
PRINCIPLES OF TYPOGRAPHY & DESIGN

Jen Cooper
11-12:15 MW
CRN: 20941

This class is a gem of design at Rice; it offers something for students with all levels of design experience, whether you've been designing yearbooks and newspapers for years or you're looking to break into the exciting field. The workload is extremely manageable, too, so don't worry about this class taking up too much extra time in your schedule.

— Sean McBeath, Design Editor

ARTS 205
PHOTOGRAPHY I

Paul Hester
1-4 TR
CRN: 22315

There is nothing greater than the thrill of developing your photos in the dark room in the chemical baths and watching them appear on the photo paper. It's fun to play with them until they turn out the way you want them to look. And of course, arts classes are really soothing and stress-relieving.

— Lily Chun, News Editor

PHIL 205
INTRO TO THEORIES / PRACTICES OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY STUDIES

Prof. TBD
9:25-10:40 TR
CRN: 22753

At a university full of aspiring scientists and engineers, it is extremely important that students experience a direct study of science from an external and internal perspective. It may be scary to face a harsh analysis of the concept of scientific objectivism, but it is absolutely necessary for the sake of ensuring proper understanding of what science is.

— Evan Mintz, Executive Editor

ENGL 305
CREATIVE WRITING: PERSONAL ESSAY

Emily Gordon
2:30-3:50 TR
CRN: 21584

Or, Creative Non-Fiction. They say to "write what you know" and students learn how to put the events in their lives into thought-provoking context. Students also get to read personal essays by "real writers," which are not only short, but you probably won't read them in any other class. Plus you get to learn the secrets of all your classmates.

— Nikki Metzgar, A&E Editor

PHIL 311
PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

Baruch Brody
2:30-3:50 TR
CRN: 21584

I haven't taken this class yet, but everyone I talk to says it's one of the best at Rice. I'll be taking it next semester, so if you take it you'll have the double reward of getting to hang out with me, Dan.

— Dan Derozier, Cartoonist

HUMA 318
HITCHCOCK

This course would ideally screen several of Hitchcock's films including Rear Window, North by Northwest, Vertigo, and The Birds. The course would discuss recurring themes in the films as well as their impact on American culture and philosophical thought.

— Amanda Melchor, Opinion Editor

LPAP 126
ADVANCED SOCCER

With the enormous soccer-playing population at Rice, why are there only two soccer LPAPs a semester? And both are supposedly for "beginners," when a large portion of the players in the class are for beyond that level. Come on, LPAP department; it's time to come to your senses and offer a fashion design class. How cool would that be? And seriously, Rice needs this class. Have you seen the way people dress around here? (Just kidding ... not really.)

— Lily Chun, News Editor

THEA 400
FASHION DESIGN

I know they offered a class on "draping" — what fashion designers do — a couple years back, but it's not being offered anymore. They should straight up offer a fashion design class. How cool would that be? And seriously, Rice needs this class. Have you seen the way people dress around here? (Just kidding ... not really.)

— Lily Chun, News Editor

BIOS 338
DINOSAURS!

Learn about dinosaurs. Observe over the Mesozoic like you did back in fifth grade. Take field trips to the museum and South Dakota. What else is there to say ... Dinosaurs!

— Evan Mintz, Executive Editor

ENGL 322
WOODY ALLEN

Three things will come once in your life: sex, death and this class. This course would focus on Allen films like Annie Hall, Manhattan and Hannah and Her Sisters, analyzing the works within a cultural and historical context. There would also be studies of his filming technique and some of his written works.

— Evan Mintz, Executive Editor

COMM 400
COCKTAIL PARTY CONVERSATION

Or, How To Look Intelligent While Holding A Glass of Alcohol. I need a comprehensive guide to classical music, important cinematic moments, political theory, and art history so that I can show up to parties and impress people with not only my acerbic wit but my extensive knowledge about, well, everything.

— Nikki Metzgar, A&E Editor

POLI 397 / ARTV 397
POLITICAL CARTOONING, PAST & PRESENT

This course would cover political cartooning in America, tracing the development of the medium as both an art form and political expression through the revolutionary period to the present day. Cartoonists covered would include Thomas Nast, Bill Mauldin, Herbert Block, and Garry Trudeau, as well as modern-day artists such as Ruben Bolling and Tom Tomorrow. In addition, students would be asked to produce political cartoons of their own on both past and current issues.

— Dan Derozier, Cartoonist

— Sean McBeath, Design Editor

Amanda Melchor, Opinion Editor
— Sean McBeath, Design Editor

— Lily Chun, News Editor

— Nikki Metzgar, A&E Editor

— Evan Mintz, Executive Editor

— Dan Derozier, Cartoonist

— Dan Derozier, Cartoonist

— Evan Mintz, Executive Editor

— Nikki Metzgar, A&E Editor

— Dan Derozier, Cartoonist
Nudity does not save predictable Beowulf

by Ingrid Nortberg

For the Times

When Beowulf previews first popped up, the obvious certainty was that Hollywood had really run out of steam. The same Beowulf that students skimped on in 11th grade does not really seem like movie material.

As it goes, hero kills monster. Hero kill monsters—in either progressive, if misogynistic, idea. They live happily ever after—except the monsters. The original version, however, does not include a nude, evil, dripping wet tongue twister. Angeline Jolie’s description.

Beowulf

1 1/2 of five

hoop jumping at AMC and Edwards theaters

In the film, the aging king Heorthgar (The Silence of the Lambs’ Anthony Hopkins) leads a primitive, bustling life that is shattered by the arrival of young hero Beowulf (James Turrell), a man known as a hero among the Danes. Heorthgar, suspect priest Unferth (Bring King Malkovich’s John Malkovich) asks King Hoogfahd if they should pray to Jesus Christ, but he is rejected as a Roman god, to deliver them from the monster and the king replies, “The gods will do nothing for us until we do it ourselves. What we need is a hero.”

Enter Beowulf (The Departed’s Ray Winstone).

The movie proceeds in a less than historically accurate way to the tale of a modern standards to a Robin Wright Fry (The Princess Bride), Allison Loeman (Married Men’s Angela Jolie (Mr. and Mrs. Smith)) bring the sex, appeal, big names and decent acting but fail to make Beowulf anything extraordinary.

Undeniably, take over the settlement. The project may be rather progressive, if misogynistic, idea. They live happily ever after—except the monsters. The original version, however, does not include a nude, evil, dripping wet tongue twister. Angeline Jolie’s description.

Beowulf

1 1/2 of five

hoop jumping at AMC and Edwards theaters

The plot is a little dull by 21st century measures. Monsters need names. “People talk good” doesn’t work for anyone except zombies nowadays. And frankly, heroes and monsters! It has been done. Here is the secret: The hero wins.

The attempts to jazz things up would have helped if not for the fact that even the supposed twists are almost blatantly predictable. Scenes of barbareans cavorting in a drunken melee, cracking jokes about bodily functions, dispersing attacks and kicking slavets take place with little to no regard from the filmmakers. The result is not only not funny but also rather upsetting.

The only interesting part of the film was the intriguingly unclear religious agenda.

The Christians, led by 

by Evan Mintz

The thrill city-scape is alive with the voice of Julie Andrews. As part of the brilliant Lectures Series, the legendary star will speak and answer questions Monday at 7 p.m. Tickets and student discounts are available online.

Hobby Center
800 Bagby St.
www.brillianttrectures.com

ART

James Turrell Skyspace

People tell you to never stare directly into the sun, but 

Willie’s House
1318 West 26th St.
www.friendshouston.org

Yale Street Arts Market

This Heights market is where Houstonian and Texas artists display and sell original works while local musicians entertain all day. This small art fair only happens on the first Saturday of every month.

From 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Wind Water Gallery
548 West 21st St.
www.yalestreetmarket.com

TALK

A Conversation With Dame Julie Andrews

The hit musical comedy is alive with the voice of Julie Andrews. As part of the brilliant Lectures Series, the legendary star will speak and answer questions Monday at 7 p.m. Tickets and student discounts are available online.

Hobby Center
800 Bagby St.
www.brillianttrectures.com

New Futurama flick scores big with old diehard fans

by Chance Yule

Good news, everyone, Futurama is back. After four years of production and heading against Adult Swim, that jocular, sordid, choked-off show once again shows off its wits and heart. The series’ first foray back into the world’s television screens and hearts in the feature-length “Beowulf’s Big Score.”

Futurama follows the footsteps of that other renewed series, Family Guy, and spends the first five minutes mocking the network executives who cancelled it. But unlike Family Guy, the joke doesn’t stop at the open-

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Counting the best pop culture moments of 2007

The air outside is crisp and cold and it makes me think fondly of the year that is now coming to an end. 2007 is the year I turned 31, the year I first wore a fake mustache, and the year Michael Ray got bitten by a dog while recreating his pooh pooh. A million "Best of 2007" lists have already been published, which I think actually qualifies them as pop culture. So I won't try and fight it, and instead make my own. Robert, Anna Nicole, and celebrity jail time did not make the cut, which only serves to underscore what a great year in pop culture 2007 truly was.

The Spice Girls are back. Reunion tour tickets sell out in seconds. Posh comes to America along with Becks and Scary Spice gets ingratiated by Eddie Murphy—who makes her like "Icees" and I can't help but think "Humps," Alas, Morrisette covers "My Humps." The musical adaptation of The Simple Life, is not the Smith most. Surely they could have gotten Brody Jenner to foot the bill so that Spencer would not have to be the lone cameraman. Or they could have given a couple of back to the fisherman set. Heidi to move down the shoreline a bit. Color. This is not.

Nicole Ritchie gets pregnant. Not surprising, considering she is the family rat, but they should be. Nicole Ritchie is hilarious. Now that she's got a bonin' on the other, she looks amazing.

I Know Who Killed Me: I probably don't need to see it again, but this movie was exactly the best I've ever seen. Twin Lindsay Lohans, prolonged gratuitous sex scene, robotic arm—I didn't make that up. It's true.

J.K. Rowling announces Dumbledore is gay. As if you hadn't already thought it. But at New York's Carnegie Hall Rowling officially noted the world's most powerful wizard as part of her U.S. book tour in October. Does Hogwarts have a "Don't ask, don't tell" policy? Did Dumbledore and Grindelwald have a more-than-friends relationship? My god, the possibilities are endless. Just type "Dumbledore gay" in the Google search bar to get the news on this.

More about Dumbledore. Also this quote from David Yates, director of Harry Potter 5, "I didn't know how to show it, but I wanted to. I just thought it was pretty cool." Indeed.

The effect is altogether creepy and shudder inducing. The effect is her wont — while a guy smacks her ass in slow motion. The effect is a parallel connection between sounds people encounter every day and the relationships we share with each other.

August Rush is the unique musical experience

by Jackie Ammons THRASHER STAFF

August Rush is not your typical movie. It is based on sounds instead of visual imagery, but with choreographed numbers it is not a musical. Rather, the film makes a parallel connection between sounds people encounter everyday and the relationships we share with each other.

August Rush is the story of eleven-year-old Evan (Freddie Highmore), a talented cellist (Willem Dafoe) and an Irish rock singer (Robin Williams, along with his multiple piercings, rhinestone-encrusted armor) in the mold of Oliver Twist's Fagin, who runs an underground circuit for homeless children. While August Rush features a cellista, a boy band and a young prodigy, the film's heart is rhythmic sound, music of any form, whether in the quiet, rustling grasses of a country field or the busy streets of New York City. This distinctive take on perception and music makes August Rush stand out. The vibrant music is a metaphor for Evan's desire to be with his parents, and the rhythm of the city streets and the calm countryside contrast the different lifestyles.

The unique theme is even better served by the excellent acting. Highmore convincingly plays the adorable musical prodigy with a wistfully detached attitude, while Russell is ideal for the sweet and innocent young mother ripped away from her child. Rhys Meyers completes this family portrait by adding rugged rebelliousness to its otherwise flawless charm. Audiences actually grow to fear and hate the red-topped Williams, along with his multiple piercings, rhinestone-encrusted vest, and constant manipulation of the homeless children under his care. His role is a bit bewildering, but Williams does a great job.

The film also gives a broad view of urban America. Set in New York City, Chicago and San Francisco, August Rush also touches on the different ethnic and economic backgrounds of Irish Americans, the New York homeless and privileged musicians. The film even drives into the subsets of the music industry, with the Philharmonic Orchestra, students at Juilliard and hard rock bands.

The only chink in this movie's armor is its length. While it has amazing music and stimulating visuals, the small amount of dialogue makes August Rush seem rather long, its two-hour duration feeling more like three. Anticipation is built up dreamily throughout the entirety of the film, only to fade quickly without a satisfying resolution.
The only thing more frightful than the weather during the football team’s game against the University of Tulsa last weekend was the crowd. And considering that this game marked the return of Todd Graham, Rice’s head coach last season who bolted for Tulsa after verbally agreeing to a contract extension with the Owls, the crowd’s reaction was expected.

In spite of the horrific weather, the game proved to be an offensive explosion, but junior quarterback Chase Clement’s 604 yards of total offense were not enough as the Owls (3-9, 3-5 Conference USA) fell to the Golden Hurricane 48-43. Clement threw for 541 yards and ran for 60 more against Tulsa, setting a C-USA single-game record for total offensive yards. In the process, the quarterback also passed Tommy Kramer (Iowa 77) for Rice’s all-time career and single-season total offense marks. While his stats were impressive, Clement said he was anything but satisfied with his offensive performance. “We did so many good things, but when you don’t pull out the win, it doesn’t matter if you put up a thousand yards or a hundred,” he said.

A week after being torched on the ground in a 45-11 home loss to Tulane University, Rice’s defense once again struggled, though this time Tulsa exploited the Owls with deep passes down the middle of the field. Tulsa rebounded and continued to score quickly as Rice’s offense sputtered, going ahead 27-9 to start the second quarter as the Owls paused on three straight possessions. However, Rice scored on a touchdown run by sophomore running back C.J. Ugokwe and a touchdown reception by junior wide receiver Jarett Dillard to take the score to 9-6.

The Owls indeed found them- selves in a very tough position—trailing 10-10 at halftime. Tulsa recovered an onside kick with 1:15 left to end the half and drove 80 yards to go up 27-10 with 13:20 remaining on the clock in the third quarter. Rice was not far off the pace, scoring on a touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Paul Smith to returner C.J. Ugokwe to close the gap to 27-17. However, Tulsa extended the lead to 45-17 with two laterals. “It’s a get-well tournament for the Owls,” said head coach Jim Bevan. “They have been playing in a very tough light right now, and that bubble out there is a survival type of a race.”

“This was a good test for us,” added head coach John Guidry. “I wanted us to run at the same rhythm we’ve been going out at.”

The Owls found themselves in a very tough fight right from the start. Rice was not far off from its goal of placing in the top 10, as its 137 points were only 26 points from 10th place University of Iowa. In fact, a top 10 finish would have likely had it not been for the tremendous pace. Senior Callie Wells, normally a top-five finisher for the Owls, collapsed due to the stress of the race. See NATIONALS page 18

Cold reception, hot offense not enough to overcome Tulsa

by Nathan Bledsoe

Early woes continue for men’s basketball

by Kasandra Shintani

The Owls’ basketball team has had a tough start to its season. After suffering two straight blowout losses, Rice (0-4) stayed within striking distance of its next two opponents — Richmond University and the University of Arkansas-Little Rock — before ultimately falling in close contests.

This weekend the Owls will travel to Iowa City, Iowa, to take part in the Hawkeye Challenge. Rice’s 59-52 loss to Arkansas-Little Rock (15-8) on Tuesday was close throughout. The two teams went back and forth for much of the game before the Trojans put the game away in the closing minutes. Following a 12-0 Arkansas-Little Rock run that pushed its lead to 43-34 midway through the second half, Rice bounced back with a 13-5 run of its own to take a 47-46 lead with seven minutes to play.

After the Trojans grabbed back the lead, the Owls took a 52-51 lead with just four minutes remaining on a three-point shot by junior guard Cory Flieger. However, the team then went into an offensive drought, plagued by missed shots and errant passes as Arkansas-Little Rock scored the last eight points of the game to win 59-52.

Women’s cross finishes 16th at harsh NCAA meet

Facing an injury to its top runner and a blistering pace that taxed every runner on the course, the women’s cross country team still managed to place 16th at the NCAA Women’s Cross Country Championships held Nov. 19 in Terre Haute, Ind., the national meet capped an amazing year for the Owls, which saw the team go from an unknown, unranked challenger to winners of the Conference USA title and, eventually, their first-ever South Central Regional title on Nov. 6.

Individual winner Sally Kipyego of Texas Tech University set an astounding pace on her way to a 19:39 minute, 31 second finish over the six-kilometer course. Stanford University took the team title with 74 points.

“Tainted as it run at the same rhythm we’ve been going out at,” head coach Jim Bevan said at the post-race press conference. “The field of runners gotackered out and at that juncture it became a survival type of a race.”

The Owls indeed found themselves in a very tough fight right from the start. Rice was not far off from its goal of placing in the top 10, as its 137 points were only 26 points from 10th place University of Iowa. In fact, a top 10 finish would have likely had it not been for the tremendous pace. Senior Callie Wells, normally a top-five finisher for the Owls, collapsed due to the stress of the race. See NATIONALS page 18

Freshman guard Jasen Williams adjusts while attempting a layup in Rice’s 63-55 loss to Richmond Nov. 20. The Owls will look for their first win today against Eastern Illinois.

**FOOTBALL**

FOR MORE SPORTS NEWS See HAWKEYE, page 18

**WOMEN’S CROSS**

FOR MORE CROSS COUNTRY NEWS See NATIONALS, page 18

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

FOR MORE MEN’S BASKETBALL NEWS See NATIONALS, page 18

FOR MORE WOMEN’S BASKETBALL NEWS See NATIONALS, page 18

FOR MORE FOOTBALL NEWS See NATIONALS, page 18

FOR MORE CROSS COUNTRY NEWS See NATIONALS, page 18

**OLWOK** — THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Wednesday, Dec. 5
- Men’s Basketball vs. Texas State
  7 p.m. — San Marcos, Texas

Thursday, Dec. 6
- Women’s Basketball vs. TCU
  7:30 p.m. — Sharp Gym (HBU)
Women’s basketball coach pulls out with losses to Clemson, Colorado

by Justin Hudson

On the road for the third straight weekend in a row, the women’s basketball team dropped both of its games last weekend at the Coors Classic in Boulder, Colo. Last Friday, Rice (5-3) was unable to overcome a double-digit deficit as it lost 62-59 to former coach Cristy McKinney and Clemson University. The next day, Rice failed to capitalize on a great start and fell 72-55 to host University of Colorado.

The Owls will once again be on the road this weekend. Tonight at 6 p.m., the Owls will take on Furman University (5-2) in Greenville, S.C. Rice will then travel to Winston-Salem, N.C., to take on Wake Forest University (5-1) at noon Sunday last weekend, the Demon Deacons upset 10th-ranked Texas A&M University on route to a victory in the Paradise Jam Tournament Nov. 24.

Rice began its recent road swing in impressive fashion by winning two of its first three games — the Owls won 81-55 over California-Los Angeles on Nov. 18. However, Clemson (4-3) proved to be perhaps the most intriguing opponent on the road trip. McKinney guided Rice to two NCAA tournament appearances during her 12-year tenure at the university.

Head coach Greg Williams (Hammern 70) attributed the Owls’ early struggles against Clemson to the nervous energy of McKinney’s recruits — which includes the senior trio of center Valentina Berezhynska, guard Kadie Riverin, forward Tiffanny Loggins — going into the contest.

IN FOCUS: WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Record: 5-3

Last week: The Owls struggled at the Coors Classic in Boulder, Colo., dropping games against Clemson and Colorado.

What made the difference: Struggling from the field in both games, the Owls relied on a tough defense to keep their opponents within striking distance, but it was not quite enough.

Up next: Rice will continue its second extended road trip of the season, traveling to Greenville, S.C., to take on Furman today at 6 p.m. and Wake Forest on Sunday at noon in Winston-Salem, N.C. The Owls will then return home to face Texas Christian University Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in H.B. Shop Gym.

"It was a difficult game, because, ... there was a lot of adrenaline [and] a lot of emotion," Williams said. "It was hard for them to settle down and focus on relaxing [and] just letting the game come to them."

The Owls struggled mightily from the field in the first half, shooting only 22 percent. Berezhynska started the game 0-11, and junior guard Manessa Fulton — another McKinney recruit — went only 1-6.

However, Rice stayed in the game because they held the Tigers to 31 percent shooting on their own. The Owls made a run in the second half, cutting a 12-point Tiger lead with 8:05 left down to four with under ten seconds left. Riverin, who had to sit out the Arkansas-Little Rock game with a sore ankle, then went on a crisp pass to Fulton, who drained the three-pointer to bring the Owls within one. But on the ensuing foul, Clemson’s April Parker put in two free throws, and the Owls could not set up a game-tying three-point shot.

Once again, Rice seniors led the way down the stretch. Berezhynska again stepped up in the second half, scoring 16 of her 21 points down the stretch. The center was also 13 from 15 from the free throw line.

The comeback was also sparked by 15 points from a healthy Riverin, who had sat out the Arkansas-Little Rock game with a sore ankle.

The Owls could not recover. Rice failed on offense, shooting only 29 percent in the second half, while Colorado shot 47 percent.

Furthermore, Loggins, Berezhynska and freshman center Melissa Wittmayer all fouled out against a physical Buffalo team.

"That was probably our most disappointing performance of the season," Williams said. "We didn't execute the game out great ... and then we stopped executing offensively. Foul trouble hurt us."
By a senior all season.
While fans and the media played up the motivation the Owls had in playing their former coach, players discounted that this played into their motivation for the game.

"I did not take note that that was my ex-coach over there," Dillard said. "It was just another coach on the other side of the ball."

Dillard, who led C-USA with 14 touchdowns and 7.5 catches per conference game, was named to the first team All-C-USA for the second year in a row. Clement also received all-conference honors, being named second team All-C-USA alongside senior lineman Robby Heos, junior linebacker Brian Raines, and sophomore defensive back Andrew Sendejo. Four newcomers were also selected to the C-USA All-Freshman squad: tight end James Casey, lineman Scott Mitchell and defensive ends Scott Solomon and Cheta Ozougwu. Casey was also named to Rivals.com's Freshman All-America second team.

A CLOSER LOOK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Old record</th>
<th>Held by</th>
<th>Set in</th>
<th>New Record</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pass attempts, season</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>Tommy Kramer</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>312</td>
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<td>Pass completions, season</td>
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<td>1976</td>
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<td>Griff Vance</td>
<td>1916</td>
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<td>6,336</td>
<td>Tommy Kramer</td>
<td>1973-76</td>
<td>6,741</td>
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Junior quarterback Chase Clement, who started all 12 games for the Owls this season, set numerous Rice records during the 2007 campaign as the Owls stumbled to a 3-5 conference record.
Sid ends rocky year with fifth consecutive powderpuff title

by Kushagra Shrivas THRESHER SPORTS

In a season filled with upsets and wild finishes, Sid Richardson once again claimed the top spot in the powderpuff championship game, beating Tulane 3-0 in the second round of the Conference USA Tournament, which was held Nov. 16 in Huntington, WV.

Early on, neither team could establish a solid lead, with six ties leading to an 11-11 deadlock. At that point, Tulane was able to put together a slight advantage, pulling away 24-18. Rice fired back and came within two of the Green Wave at 25-23, but Tulane’s strong hitting was too much for the Owls to overcome.

After Rice established a 4-1 lead in the second game, Tulane fought back with a five-point run to go ahead 6-4. A nip-and-tuck battle ensued, but following a 22-22 deadlock, Tulane pulled away to take the second frame 30-26. Trailing 2-1 in the match, Rice managed to take an early 3-1 advantage over the Green Wave. However, Tulane was not deterred and quickly tied the game up at nine each. Once again, the teams were neck-and-neck throughout the middle portion of the game. But Tulane was able to stave off Rice’s late-game attempts, and grabbed the 30-28 win to clinch the victory.

Although this season ended prematurely, freshmen middle blocker Caroline Miles and outside hitter Taryn Lambert helped lead a positive outlook for next season. I think the season went well,” Miles said along with freshman libero Tracey Balthrop, who was named to the C-USA all-freshman team Nov. 18, said. “We might not have finished every game, but we gave it our all, and I think it was a great building block for next year.”

Head coach Genny Volpe said she also sees next year’s season shaping up well.

“I am definitely pleased with how we progressed and how we finished. We were definitely a team that relied on the outside hitter, and that brought us to the C-USA all-freshman team that relied the outside hitter, and that brought us to the C-USA all-freshman team,” Volpe said. “We might not have continued to grow, then there are definite positive signs for next season.”

The volleyball team’s youth finally caught up with it last weekend as Rice was ousted by Tulane University 3-0 in the second-round of the Conference USA Tournament, which was held Nov. 16 in Huntington, WV.

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“I am definitely pleased with how we progressed and how we finished. We were definitely a team that relied on the outside hitter, and that brought us to the C-USA all-freshman team that relied the outside hitter, and that brought us to the C-USA all-freshman team,” Volpe said. “The seniors became really vocal and it carried through to the rest of the team.”

This season, Sid also saw Balthrop develop from a game manager to the local point of the offense. Tulane only attempted seven passes in the season opener against Baker on Sept. 15, but was 17 for 25 passing for 328 yards in the championship.

Although Sid’s four previous championship teams were better than paper, Balthrop said this particular team stands out from the rest, especially considering that Sid lost Christi Dieck (Sid 19), the most explosive player in powderpuff history.

“I’m more proud of this team than any other team I’ve played on,” Balthrop said. “Knowing who we lost last year, no one expected us to be here. We would have been happy just to make the playoffs, but to win it all again is just great.”

A LOOK BACK

Past Powderpuff championship scores

2007  Sid 7, Jones 0
2006  Sid 13, Hanszen 12
2005  Sid 19, Jones 7
2004  Sid 13, Wes 6
2003  Sid 24, Lovett 7
2002  Wes 15, Sid 7

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and did not finish.

Bev said he was proud of his team's effort in light of the hard circumstances.

"I thought we gave a great ac-
counting of our team and how
good a team we are because we
be a lot of good schools, and a
lot of good schools beat us," Bev
said. "But we fought, and we
hurt, and we are as hard as we
could. In fact, you can even
say we ran harder than we could
because Callie didn't even finish.
She ran harder than she could
actually run.

In the second round race
to finish, senior Marcella Daniels, the Owls' top runner, was hampered by injuries.
The calf cramps that afflicted Daniels at the regional meet led to
further injury. Daniels felt better
Monday after struggling through the weekend, but decided to run
with the team instead of taking
her customary spot among the
leaders. Her determination paid
off, as she finished second for
Rice and 62nd overall with a time
of 25:27.

With Daniels hurt, freshmen
Becky Wade and Allison Pye would once again carry the Owls. Wade
led Daniels with a time of 25:23
for first place on the team and 53rd
overall. Pye would finish third on
the team with her time of 25:33,
and did not finish.

"We just missed some shots that,
bad we made, the outcome would
have been a lot different."
FRIDAY
30
Light up with Mayor Bill White and Santa

Calm down, it's just a Christmas Tree. Houston Mayor Bill White will welcome the Honorors Nicholas, aka Santa Claus, the Jolly Old Elf, Kris Kringle, and all his other friends to Houston for the annual lighting of the Christmas Tree at Houston City Hall in a celebration of America's separation of government and organized religion (like Christianity). Traditions are being followed and the square, known to the locals as Hermann Square, is decorated and lined with booths offering refreshments and holiday crafts. Hermann Square is located at 900 Smith Avenue. And the lighting ceremony begins at 6 p.m.

Posada, by HACER

It sounds somewhat like a party, but actually HACER's (Hispanic Association for Cultural Enrichment at Rice) Holiday Festival Theatre this year (it actually HACER's (Hispanic Association for Cultural Enrichment at Rice) actually means "night of hot dancing, amusing singing and delicious food") In a celebration of diversity, Posada will be hosted in the same venue as all other Rice cultural group events: The Cooperative Dorm, 6-9 p.m.

Bah Humbug

"A Christmas Carol — A Ghost Story of Christmas" returns to Houston's Alley Theatre this year at actual-all parts of the book. The classic Dickens tale shows Thursday through Sunday at 7:30 p.m. every weekend through Dec. 29, with 2:30 matinees on the weekends. Tickets start at $21. For more info, go to www.alliedy.org.

SATURDAY

An Age-Old Question

"Have you always wanted to see an iridium flare or the International Space Station in under an hour?" If you said yes, you're in for a wonderful surprise! Because this Sunday, between 3:40 and 6:30 p.m., you can see both; there's a predicted iridium there at 5:55 a.m. with a magnitude of -1.5, and the International Space Station (ISS) will pass overhead around 6:40 a.m. And if you understood all of that, you're probably already going to the International Space Station in under an hour? If not, show up and maybe someone can explain it to you. Everything is going to be set up on the Rice West Tower. For more info, email Dillon Miles, at dillonm@rice.edu.

Tuesday

In touch with your inner child

In an original musical written for young audiences, the Hobby Center's Theatricals presents "The Shoemaker and the Christmas Elves," a whimsical story of the shoemaker's mad rush to finish his work before the party and the elves helping out. This is probably the cheapest show you'll ever see at Hobby. Tickets are all $5. It opens today with shows at 9:30 and 11 a.m. All shows are in the morning; there are 11 a.m. showings every day through Dec. 11, and 9:30 a.m. showings on Dec. 4, 5, 10 and 11. For tickets or more info, go to www.hobbycenter.org.

AIDS by AIDSWatch

If you've been in the KMC recently, you've probably noticed the giant timeline on the wall by Farswarth. It's part of World AIDS Day, which is today. It's taking place at "multiple locations int eh BMC." It's something: Multiple places in the BMC. The official running time is 11 a.m.-9 p.m., with latch and dinner provided. The Rice Acronym Squad (RAS) is hosting the events: ADVANCE, ISA, CAPY, COS, Hashed, OAS, RASA, RSVT, and SAS.

SUNDAY

Guatemala

The Community Involvement Center is looking for a dedicated student to serve as the Student Coordinator for the International Service Project to San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala this summer (Approximately May 11-25, 2008).

Help coordinate and plan this amazing 2-week service immersion experience!

Check out the CIC's web-site (http://www.rice.edu/service) for more information and to apply. Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 5th.

Questions? Please contact Christa Leimbach (leimbach@rice.edu) /713 548-6044

How to Submit Calendar Items

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

Submissions Methods:
Fax: (713) 548-9238
E-mail: thresher-calendar@rice.edu

Campus Mail:
Calendar Editor
Thresher, MS-524

Submissions are printed on a space-available basis.

A Note from the Editor:
Calendar submissions are like uncooked carrots. They are extremely rare and they make me really happy when I see one. So, if you want to make my day and get into the calendar regardless of how wide spread your submission is, just do it. On a side note, everyone please avoid confusion: Do not list "fast". Thanks for your time.

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Who knew a school would be such wombats as to go tattle over some namecalling?

Last Tuesday millions of Americans awoke to the news that provolone in the Darfur region of Sudan had officially ended thanks to Martel sophomore Kal Edgstudent wearing his “Save Darfur” t-shirt. Apparently, public awareness finally reached the critical threshold at the instant North Servrey worker Sophie Montanaro sees the shirt, immediately halting the violence in the troubled Darfur region. In an official press conference by the United Nations, Secretary General Ban Komton announced the end, amidst cheers and applause, thanking Edgstudent for “raising such awareness” by wearing last-shirt. “At these moments in history,” he stated, “we realize the power of public knowledge to defeat global problems. This joyed like the 1960’s when everyone became aware of Racism and there’s no racism anywhere!”

Scientists at MIT are working round the clock to analyze data collected from public awareness gauges to find a numerical relationship between awareness and the end of genocide. “We always assumed genocide and disease-epidemics were complex socio-political issues that required multinational cooperation by a variety of local and national actors,” Professor M’s Bebelet confided. “Boy, don’t we feel silly.”

Students all over campus are responding by springing even more production of trendy cause-t-shirts, jumping on the “I want to look like I care about global issues that I don’t actually do anything for” bandwagon. Even the student government calls to get in on the action by making cause-shirt’s for cause-shirts and selling CauseS-true rubber bracelets to raise money for causes they play in global politics by their casual attire. “We just want to make sure causes will be around for our children,” President Laura Kefer said. “They deserve that from us.”

When asked what he planned to do next, Edg student, whose personal role model is US’s Bone, modestly remarked, “Well, I can’t say for sure, but I was thinking of designing my breast cancer ribbon on Thursday, and maybe my AIDS shirt Friday.” This has really given me purpose. I guess I really know what I want to do with my life.”

This article is written by Bonner Reed, not Evan Mintz. Bonner Reed.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

EGG DONATION, Earn $5,000 to $15,000 helping couples. Based on your age, health, positive makeup, education, aptitude, and other attributes. You can earn up to $10,000. Donors donating your eggs to help scientific dreams come true. To learn how you can help, visit our website @ http://www.nationwideeggdonation.com or call 203-330-1430.

SOUTHGATE FAMILY seeking 2nd grade boy who loves books and wants to learn about global issues that I don’t actually do anything for. Fee negotiable. E-mail info@hashir.com.

HOUSING

OTHER

EXAM SLAM DUNK patent pending program that helps students kick it up a notch. Suitable for all school and educational levels. This is not time sav- ing! Some college students jumped an entire letter grade after working through EXAM SLAM DUNK. EXAM SLAM DUNK has a special section for students being outside of English as a Second Language. This proactive program only costs $32.05 per month to purchase and download at www.examslamdunk.com. Email zemex@dialhimdaddy.net

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Who knew a faculty member would go out of his way to insinuate students in a calendar proposal?

If you are interested in working on a calendar proposal, please contact your dean or chairperson. Work on the 2008-2009 Rice University Calendar is now under way. The deadline for submission of completed proposals is Tuesday, November 20 at 5 p.m.

The Wellness Center’s health report seems nice, but it doesn’t really apply to the Al- Wrist. The biggest problems we’re facing are that I don’t eat enough and I don’t get enough sleep. If only there were something out that would help. If only there was something we could do that made me hangry for a week? But what makes you hungry and why? Please help, Wellness Center, you’re my only hope.

The Backpage is satire and is written by Evan Mintz.

Who knew it would take a university 95 years to start a severely needed PR campaign?

Rice University is in the final stages of its $30,000 million campaign. Rice students and faculty are being asked to contribute to the “Save Darfur” fund.

Has anyone heard of the “Save Darfur” campaign? It seems to be a very popular cause among students, but there is still a lot of work to be done. The campaign is still in its infancy and needs more support from the community.

The Rice Thresher, official student newspaper of Rice University, will be featuring a special section on the “Save Darfur” campaign. The section will include articles on the history of the campaign, the current state of affairs, and how you can get involved.

The campaign is being led by Rice University President John Lee. Lee has been a vocal advocate for the cause and has been working hard to raise awareness.

Please consider making a donation to the “Save Darfur” fund. Together we can make a difference.

Rice University

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2007

THE RICE THRESHER BACKPAGE

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