Tuition, H&D fees to increase for 2008-09 year

Loan threshold doubled as Rice responds to announcement of increased aid

by Sarah Rutledge

On the heels of a landmark decision by Harvard University to lower tuition costs, Rice students can expect no change in planned tuition and fees heading into next year. Tuition for incoming students will increase by 5.5 percent from $28,430 to $29,960 next year. Housing and dining costs will increase by $300 to $6630.

However, in response to Harvard's decision, Rice is also doubling its no-loan threshold so that students from families with annual incomes of $60,000 or less will not be required to take out loans as part of their financial aid, Vice President for Finance Kathy Collins said. The one-time event — called the sticker price, because it does not take into account individual financial aid a student may receive — is reached when Collins and the office discuss a possible range for tuition and look at tuitions of peer institutions, including the Ivy League schools, Stanford, Duke, Northwestern, Vanderbilt, Emory and Brandeis. After the budget office met with President David Leebron and the vice provost, the Board of Trustees approved the tuition increase.

Collins said Rice has maintained tuition amounts considerably below those of peer institutions and that the tuition is increasing at a lesser rate than in the past. "The 5.5 percent increase in tuition after years of a much higher increase is a combination of Rice being sensitive to the environment with pressures from the government and press, and people concerned about the growth in tuition," Collins said. Harvard University announced its Middle to Upper-Middle Class Income Initiative in December, which will ask families with annual incomes between $120,000 to $180,000 to spend 10 percent of their incomes on tuition, compared to what otherwise would cost from Harvard's full tuition amount of $31,456. This initiative will not require students to take out loans to cover tuition and will not consider home equity when determining financial aid, which will reduce the cost for tuition, see TUITION, page 7.

Search for missing Rice student garners national attention, but few clues

by Jocelyn Wright

Four weeks after the disappearance of Hanxten College junior Matthew Wilson, students and Rice University police are searching the country and thinking outside the box for clues as to what could have happened to him.

But as the new semester begins, students find themselves staring at the same scant few clues as they were weeks ago. And in what may be a sign of the growing bleakness of the situation, Hanxten junior Elliot Harwell, Wilson's roommate of two years, is looking for a new roommate.

However, there is still hope as the search continues. Wilson's mother is in Houston helping RUPD search for her son. The national media has picked up the story, increasing awareness of Wilson's disappearance nationwide. Rice and Wilson's mother are offering a $20,000 reward and Crime Stoppers are offering a $5,000 reward for information leading to his return.

Wilson's story has been picked up by the national media and covered across the country. Wilson's mother said the media attention began when her daughter Kelly Parkider contacted Greta Van Susteren from Fox News about the story. Rice Public Relations has also been working to help, putting up posters and offering rewards.

"The one thing that's common to all of these efforts is that there's really a desire to find him and find him safely," Vice President for Public Affairs Linda Thrane said. Hanxten Master Wesley Morris said that although there have been reports of sightings all around the country, none of them have led to any news of Wilson's whereabouts.

A $20,000 reward is offered for information leading to Wilson's return. See WILSON, page 5.

Matt Wilson

Harvard College junior

20 years old
5'9"
$1670
Caucasian

Red hair, green eyes
May wear a beard or glasses

Last seen:
Friday, Dec. 14, 2007

Missing Car:
Silver 2004 Dodge Neon
Oklahoma plates 883 M3C

PLEASE CONTACT RICE UNIVERSITY POLICE AT
(713) 348-6000 WITH ANY INFORMATION.

Academic Deadlines

Today at 5 p.m. is the deadline to resolve grades of "Other" from the Fall 2007 Semester. The grading period and normal registration continues for undergraduate, graduate, and visiting students. You will have until Jan. 18 to add and drop courses on line without a fee and without obtaining instructor's permission. Make sure to also take care of converting any "Pass/Fail" to an earned letter grade for courses taken in Fall 2007 if you'd like this week.

Back in the pool

Come out and support the swim team as they take on Texas A&M in a home meet Friday at 5 p.m. at the Rice Pool. The meet will feature 14 short course events, including relays to start and close out the meet.

Speak out

Don't forget to log onto the SA website at www.sa.rice.edu for more news and give your input on the Academic Calendar Plans poll.

Burning the midnight oil

Construction workers build the infrastructure of the Brochstein Pavilion Wednesday night. The pavilion will have a lounge, study area and coffee shop and is expected to open in April. The pavilion will be located between Fendren Library and the Rice Memorial Center.

OPINION

Regulations on the rise

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Pathways is awesome?

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SPORTS

CUSA season starts badly

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I made a playlist of intense songs for the game. It was really fun and really crazy."

— Will Rice College junior Matthew Dalgin on playing GoCrossCampus. See story, page 5.
Rice, Harvard and tuition

In wake of a rising tide of calls for top universities to use more of their endowment money to help students with the cost of tuition, Harvard has quietly lowered tuition for students from middle and upper class families (see story, page 1). This seems to be a good answer, but the real question is: What does this mean for us, Rice? Will this steal away potential Rice students? Will this ruin Rice’s reputation as a best buy school?

We do not think there is much to worry about, for two reasons. First, there is nothing Rice actually can do in this situation. Rice has doubled the loan threshold but is still struggling to keep tuition below the symbolic $30,000 mark. The endowment is already being stretched to the limit and large donations are earmarked for specific projects and cannot necessarily go towards helping tuition issues. All the while, faculty are clamoring for deserved pay raises while students bemoan even a market-based tuition hike. The administration is stuck between an ir-royed rock and a very hard place.

Rice could spend money out of the endowment to lower tuition, but this would merely be a temporary band-aid that would lower returns — and raise the amount of money needed from tuition revenue — in the long run.

Rice could also follow in the steps of many small liberal arts schools by massively raising tuition but offering large amounts of financial aid. Unfortunately, this system leaves out those middle-class families who may not qualify for financial aid but who cannot stretch their budgets without suffering major lifestyle changes, leading to highly polarized student bodies where the difference between students who pay full price and students receiving aid is all too clear.

In concept, Rice seems to have a sense of middle-class egalitarianism, where a full spectrum of students is represented. So while Rice’s tuition may seem to be growing, which it is, it is doing so in a way that attempts to maintain the Rice social status quo.

And honestly, we do not think that many students turn down admission to Harvard or Yale to come to Rice because of the cost, which leads to the second reason not to worry: Rice is not Harvard.

Rice is not the Harvard of the South. Harvard is not the Rice of the North. They are two completely different schools and it is time to abandon comparisons between them. Students come to Rice because they want to be in our small college system and our student body.

Instead, Rice should be compared to schools that are actually on our level, places like Washington University at St. Louis, Duke and Emory. When Rice’s tuition is viewed in context of comparable schools, the university still has a financial advantage that makes it want Rice: Our small size, our college system and our student body.

Last December, Stanford Law School made a bold move in the face of mounting pressure from groups and students to lower tuition. Stanford lowered tuition for students from middle and lower class families by massively raising tuition but offering large amounts of financial aid.

Rice could do the same thing by raising tuition and offering meager financial aid. This would merely be a temporary band-aid that would lower returns — and raise the amount of money needed from tuition revenue — in the long run.

However, the gap is closing and once we fall off the "Best Buy" list, it will be rather difficult to get back on. So for the time being, administrators have to make sure that Rice remains cheap, small and academically excellent. After all, what else can they do?

Rice PR made the right choice in Wilson drama

Over the last month, the Rice University name has been tossed around the national media circuit, from local news affiliates to the Associated Press to the New York Times, all in an attempt to find Hanover College junior Matthew Wilson.

It was a risky move to put the name Rice out there, distributing media releases and furthering the story by offering a $10,000 reward for information. After all, most universities try to be known for their national image via a massive campaign, it seems the last thing they need is media releases and furthering the story by offering a $10,000 reward for information.

The administration showed that the most important issue was finding Matthew Wilson. Rice seems to care about its students, and there is no better PR than that. Who knew?

New Year’s resolutions

We know that New Year’s Day was nearly two weeks ago, but New Year’s resolutions are still fresh and we have thought of a few good ones.

• Watch more RTVs.
• Listen to more KTRJ.
• Be thankful. Acknowledge Facebook friends when you see them in real life.
• Get fewer parking tickets.
• Have more classy parties with good food.

Self-proclaimed gadfly

It is called law school, not lawyer school

Last December, Stanford Law School was flummoxed by a gleaning of ideas from 10 law schools that are in the process of revamping their educational programs — one of many meetings springing up to attempt revamping legal education. The apparent problem is that law school students do not graduate with the practical skills necessary to be practicing lawyers. And as a second-generation law student desperately — oh feels desperate — is applying to law school, I cannot help but stand around this plan, much like a lawyerly Neo who can see the symbolic $30,000 mark. The endowment is already being stretched to the limit and large donations are earmarked for specific projects and cannot necessarily go towards helping tuition issues. All the while, faculty are clamoring for deserved pay raises while students bemoan even a market-based tuition hike. The administration is stuck between an ir-royed rock and a very hard place.

Rice could also follow in the steps of many small liberal arts schools by massively raising tuition but offering large amounts of financial aid. Unfortunately, this system leaves out those middle-class families who may not qualify for financial aid but who cannot stretch their budgets without suffering major lifestyle changes, leading to highly polarized student bodies where the difference between students who pay full price and students receiving aid is all too clear.

In concept, Rice seems to have a sense of middle-class egalitarianism, where a full spectrum of students is represented. So while Rice’s tuition may seem to be growing, which it is, it is doing so in a way that attempts to maintain the Rice social status quo.

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Instead, Rice should be compared to schools that are actually on our level, places like Washington University at St. Louis, Duke and Emory. When Rice’s tuition is viewed in context of comparable schools, the university still has a financial advantage that makes it want Rice: Our small size, our college system and our student body.

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Campus changes at expense of prestige

In light of Harvard's announcement that it will divest its fortune in tobacco companies, it is more than ever pertinent for Rice students to ask themselves what actions are they willing to take to raise their profile. As a university ranked for its academic prestige and not its athletic prowess, Rice students need to put a change in focus in order to improve the campus's image. And don't know if any new changes are in store for the Rice community. The administration is scrambling to shore up student fears and to reassure everyone that nothing is being done.

And while the administration is scrambling to shore up student fears and to reassure everyone that nothing is being done, there is one thing that is certain: This is not the first time this has happened. In the past, the administration has taken steps to improve the campus's image, only to fail in the long run. But this time, they are making a serious effort to improve the campus's image, and students should be supportive of these efforts.

Rice needs to start making changes to attract prospective students. It needs to be more responsive to student needs and to keep up with the latest trends in higher education. If Rice wants to continue to be a top-tier university, it needs to take a look at its image and make the necessary changes to improve it.

Guest column

Kirti Dutia

The Vision for the Second Century

In an era when colleges and universities are being treated increasingly as businesses and less as institutions of learning, Harvard's universities are being treated in the same manner. We should be swift in following their move. "Harvard of the South," we should be excited. But when I looked at the New Hampshire debates on Saturday, the Republicans were not the only ones who looked at Harvard. They were looking at Rice.

Rice will be accepting considerably less funding in the future. With the Supreme Court debating the issue of affirmative action, Rice could improve itself. But this doesn't mean that Rice is going to be putting more money into things that will not benefit current students.

This pressure for improvement causes the resolution to inadvertently carry with it some potentially negative effects. The remainder of our lives and our future rests front and center, ripe for the taking. Though resolutions give us a positive goal and opportunity for improvement, this pressure to improve causes the resolution to inadvertently carry with it some potentially negative affects. If students don't find a way to change things in the year in which to improve themselves, resolutions may become haphazard and abrupt. In reality, resolution-setting is a practice that helps improve ourselves in an upbeat manner.

Kirti Dutia is a senior at Rice University.
I scream, you scream...
Students scoop ice cream and create ice cream sundaes in the South Servery during an ice cream study break Wednesday evening.

Baker Institute 2008 Summer in D.C. Intern Program
The James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy is seeking applicants for its 2008 Jesse Jones Leadership Center Summer in Washington D.C. Policy Research Internship Program. The program will provide stipends sufficient to support a select group of Rice undergraduates conducting policy-making research at government agencies, private think tanks, and NGOs in D.C. in Summer 2008. Those accepted must be currently enrolled as full-time undergraduates through Fall 2008. Those selected will attend a seminar on public policy and global affairs coterminal with their internships in D.C., write a research report for publication and presentation before Rice faculty and researchers at the beginning of Fall Semester 2008, and also organize a public policy education activity for academic year 2008/2009. Applicants are individually responsible for selecting and establishing internships and residency in D.C. Interested students should send the following materials by January 28 to Dr. Steven Lewis, Washington Internship Committee, Baker Institute, MS-40:

1. A letter of application with your campus and home addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses;
2. A short essay of no more than 600 words describing your career goals, your internship plans (including the organizations to which you have applied or intend to apply), and how these tie in with the mission and policy research programs of the Baker Institute;
3. A resume;
4. An official, sealed transcript;
5. One letter of recommendation, preferably from a Rice faculty member or researcher, who can discuss your ability to conduct policy research.

Questions should be addressed to stevlewis@rice.edu.

New computer science chair pledges curricular overhaul

Joe Warren (Sid '83) will take on the position of Computer Science Department Chair in July, replacing current chair Keith Cooper.

by Sarah Rutledge

Computer Science professor Joe Warren (Sid '83) is trying to challenge the popular conception that most jobs in the computer science field are outsourced. As the man picked to take over the Computer Science department this July, he will lead a complete overhaul of the department's curriculum in order to attract more students to the field.

Warren said he plans to revitalize the current computer science department, which has experienced a decrease in computer science majors over the past four years. In spring 2005, the computer science department boasted 72 computer science majors, compared to last fall's 44. In spite of this decrease, however, Warren said he feels the department is still maintaining its quality.

"I think the department is very strong, and we have a good department in terms of research and in terms of the quality of the faculty, in terms of the Ph.D. students we turn out," Warren said. "I think we also have very good technical education for undergraduates... undergrads who come out of here are well prepared for graduate school."

Warren said he wants to spread the message that computer science is about more than just programming, since programming is a basic skill. Instead, he plans to institute more introductory classes with a focus on real-world applications to excite students previously uninterested in computer science. He plans to have a course focused on biological computation, which will put computer science in an applied context and integrate science.

Warren plans to revamp the undergraduate curriculum, which was set during the dot com boom of the late 1990s, when the number of computer science majors at Rice peaked.

"One of my mandates as chair is to look at the undergraduate curriculum and try to make it something that's more exciting for students that are thinking about majoring in computer science," Warren said. "We want to change the curriculum in such a way that students get exposed to that early on."

Instead of merely focusing on building from the bottom up, Warren said future introductory courses should encompass the big picture, including courses focusing on themes in biological computation that join computer science with other fields of study.

Warren received bachelor's degrees in mathematics, mathematical science and computer science at Rice, and a Ph.D. and master's degree from Cornell University in computer science. Last semester, he taught COMP 260: Introduction to Computer Game Creation, which focused on building and designing computer games.

THE WARREN FILE
• B.S. in math, mathematical science and computer science at Rice University
• M.S. in computer science from Cornell University
• Ph.D. computer science from Cornell University
• Taught at Rice since 1986

GRAD
From page 1

Conservatory of Music from 2001-2005. She lived alone in the Rice Graduate Apartments.

"Emma was a lovely young woman and gifted violinist," Dean of the Shepherd School Robert Yekovich said. "Her passing has been particularly difficult for the faculty and students she worked with most closely and it has deeply affected everyone in the Shepherd School community who shared her love of music."

In a memo to the Rice graduate student body, Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Paula Sanders said there were plans for a campus-wide memorial service, although a date has not yet been set.

Rice music graduate student Emma Lundgren
What began as a simple way to pass the time soon turned into an all-out battle of strategy, diplomacy and many sleepless nights. Now the battle has ended. GoCrossCampus, an online game in which residential college via territory, finished competition Dec. 31 at midnight. 

Due to the highly competitive intercollege atmosphere on campus, GXC was an exceptional number of people, including residents of all ten universities that played this year. Rice's participation was the highest. Fifty-five percent of undergraduates played the game while participation from other schools varied from 15 to 50 percent.

However, this percentage may not be accurate because of the possibility that one student could register multiple addresses, as if they belonged to separate people, and play on that account.

Will Rice College won the competition, capturing 33 territories. Junior Matthew Dahlgren, who commanded the team along with seniors James Depierle and Eastman Landry, said his college had a highly coordinated and intense system for staying on top of the game. "It was really fun and really accurate because of the possibility that Wilson's control must have happened. "Something has gone very wrong for Matthew not to have turned in his finals." Cathy Wilson, Matthew's mother, said. "Never in his life has he not completed a class, a final or a project. Never until now."

Hence, junior Emily Fortuna said even if Wilson left off of his own accord, his lack of communication with anyone in the past month was out of character and a cause for concern.

"He was just very easy to get in touch with," Fortuna said. "That was never on issue. I'd call him and if he didn't answer his phone it'd be because he was in class and he would call me right back." Harwell said Wilson could have left as a result of stress, but that it would be symptomatic of him not to interfere anyone of his departure. "He's a great student and he works really hard," Harwell said. "It's clear though that whatever happened, he's not behaving in the way I'm used to or his family is used to. Honestly, I think probably felt like he was under a lot of stress and worked really hard and wanted to get away from things."

Harwell also made a Web site, with Wilson's sudden departure was due to stress. "He's very chill and so I don't think it could have been like 'Oh I can't take the stress at finals,'" she said. "It doesn't seem to fit." Wilson's mother also found it odd Wilson withdrew $400 from an ATM before he disappeared. She said he was frugal and did not find money important. Wilson even had three paychecks he had not picked up before he went missing.

Harwell also found it odd Wilson and his car were missing on Dec. 15 but said he was not concerned because Wilson had a lot of finals to take. Harwell called Wilson on Dec. 16 and sent him an email Dec. 17, neither of which received a response. Harwell found Wilson's cell phone in his room that evening.

Concerned, Harwell contacted Wilson's study partners and Morris and looked for Wilson in Fondren Library, the Rice parking lots and of the Student Parking lot, where Wilson most frequently shopped. Harwell reported Wilson's absence to RUPD on Tuesday.

Wilson's mother said along with his cell phone, Wilson had also left behind the computer he built himself, something she said would never do if he had planned to go somewhere for an extended period of time. Cathy Wilson, who works as a pre-school teacher, said that although she hates to be away from her students, she cannot bring herself to leave Houston.

"It seems so uncanny and unreal," she said. "I miss all the little kids at school. I bumbled with them, and I hate being away from them, but I can't just leave them and desert Matthew either."

Wilson's mother said she will become an advocate for missing children.

"It seems that there are so many college students missing," she said. "I want to advise everyone at Rice and anybody, always have a buddy system to let people know where you are, and if you see something that's wrong, tell them. It may be something that's big or small, but even something small could be a big deal, so definitely let them know."
POLICE BLOTTER

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period of Dec. 2 - Jan. 7.

Residential Colleges
Will Rice College Dec. 8 Judicial referral made for minor in possession of alcohol
Hanszen College Dec. 9 Judicial referral made for possession of marijuana
South Colleges Quad Dec. 9 Judicial referral made for consumption of alcohol by a minor

Brown College Dec. 12 Theft
Jones College Dec. 13 Theft
Weiss College Dec. 13 Theft
Brown College Dec. 14 Theft
Hanszen College Dec. 14 Theft
South Colleges Quad Dec. 15 Municipal citation made for public intoxication

Weiss College Dec. 15 Theft
Weiss College Dec. 15 Theft
Jones College Dec. 15 Theft
Lovett College Dec. 16 Criminal arrest made for criminal trespass

Brown College Dec. 16 Theft
Lovett College Dec. 17 Theft
Baker College Dec. 19 Theft
Jones College Dec. 19 Theft
Sid Richardson College Dec. 25 Theft

Academic Buildings
Jesse H. Jones School Dec. 12 Burglary of a building
Abercrombie Dec. 25 Theft
Abercrombie Dec. 31 Theft
Abercrombie Dec. 31 Theft

Other Buildings
Rice Media Center Dec. 15 Criminal mischief
Facilities & Engineering Dec. 29 Burglary of a Motor Vehicle
Facilities & Engineering Dec. 29 Burglary of a Motor Vehicle

Parking Lots
South Colleges Lot Dec. 3 Criminal mischief
South Colleges Lot Dec. 6 Burglary of a motor vehicle
West Lot Dec. 11 Burglary of a motor vehicle
Lovett Lot Dec. 14 Burglary of a motor vehicle

Other Locations
Off Campus Laboratory Road Dec. 5 'Threat of violence'
Judicial referral made for public intoxication
College Way Dec. 9 Judicial referral made for consumption of alcohol by a minor
Academic Quad Dec. 9 Judicial referral made for public intoxication
Off Campus Dec. 9 Harassment
College Way Dec. 10 Municipal citation made for driving while license suspended
Off Campus Dec. 18 Criminal arrest made for possession of marijuana
Off Campus Dec. 20 Theft
Off Campus Dec. 22 Criminal arrest made for driving while intoxicated
Entrance #21 Dec. 25 Criminal arrest made for driving while intoxicated
CRC Site Dec. 29 Theft

Apply to be the

STUDENT DIRECTOR
OF ORIENTATION

Applications are now available in the Office of the Dean of Undergraduates.
Contact kenn1@rice.edu
for more information

DEADLINE:
JANUARY 18, 2008

THE THRESHER NEWS FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2008

WELCOME
BACK TO
CAMPUS

Pursue it
A more exciting
career experience

Get involved in O-Week —
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
average affected student’s tuition by $4,000. The announcement follows the congressional debates about Harvard being unaffordable even for upper-middle-class families. Monday, Yale announced plans to follow in similar suit.

Harvard leads the nation in university endowment, with nearly $30 billion. Rice’s endowment for 2007 was $5.66 billion.

Vice President for Enrollment Chris Munoz said he does not expect Rice to offer a similar tuition break. “I don’t think Rice in the near future would be able to match Harvard,” Munoz said. “Our endowment is really very small compared to Harvard. It’s highly unlikely that we would ever be in the financial position to do something like that.”

Munoz said the no-loan threshold will give students from low-income families the opportunity to attend Rice without having to take on any debt. “It’s something we’re doing responsibly and it’s our commitment to try to ensure that students from lower incomes are not excluded from Rice just because of an inability to meet all of our costs,” Munoz said.

Martel College sophomore Neil Parikh said Harvard’s new initiative may lead students who might otherwise choose to attend Rice to pick Harvard after weighing the comparative costs of both schools.

“I don’t think Rice in the near future would be able to match Harvard.”

Chris Munoz, Vice President for Enrollment
Baker Institute Intern Program

Be a part of the solution. The Baker Institute is seeking highly motivated and dependable undergraduate students for Spring 2008 intern positions. This is your opportunity to work directly with Baker Institute Fellows and Scholars on critical national and international policy issues. These are paid internships that require working up to 10 hours a week. The work may involve research, writing, editing, and office work including copying, filing, maintaining office supplies, light cleaning, etc.

We have positions open for research interns for the Energy Forum and the Tax and Expenditure Program, and an administrative intern that will work with our development team.

Applications must include the following:
- Letter stating areas of interest and why von would like to intern for the Institute
- Resume
- Official Sealed Transcript
- One Letter of Recommendation

Applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

Completed applications should be addressed to: Baker Institute Intern Program, Attention Jason Lyons, Senior Research Coordinator, Baker Institute MS 40. Questions may be sent to jelyons@alumni.rice.edu.

Wiess selects CIC’s Leimbach as new RA

By Rachel Carlson

In a unanimous vote, the Wiess College Residential Associate Search Committee selected Christa Leimbach to become Wiess RA next fall.

Leimbach, who is the Assistant Director of the Community Involvement Center, said she chose to become a RA in order to interact more with the residential college and student community.

Leimbach said several Wiess students approached her about becoming a RA.

"I came to Rice about a year and a half ago, and the more students I got to know, the more I enjoyed it here," Leimbach said.

Leimbach said she met many Wiess students through the CIC where she advised service organizations and counseled individual students interested in service. She also said she is excited to learn about Wiess customs and to start connecting with all the students.

"I want to provide a support network for students, become a part of their college careers and create a positive impact on the Wiess community," Leimbach said.

Alex Bonnel, co-Chair of the Wiess RA Search Committee, said Leimbach was chosen for her warm, sociable personality and compatibility with the Wiess student body.

"We like the way that she is able to conduct conversations with many different types of students," Bonnel said. "Wiess is extremely excited to have such an awesome person joining our community. She is a perfect fit."

Leimbach will replace Development Research Analyst Doward and Christie Hudlow who are leaving at the end of this semester.

FOO FIGHTERS

JANUARY 22ND
TOYOTA CENTER
HOUSTON, TX

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
JIMMY EAT WORLD
AND AGAINST ME!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

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TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE, CHARGE BY PHONE 1-866-4HOUTIX OR ONLINE AT TOYOTACENTERTX.COM A SERVICE CHARGE IS ADDED TO EACH TICKET PRICE.
Book sculptures kick off new effort to increase campus art

by Margaret Clemmons

The stacks at Fondren Library seem to have taken on lives of their own following the permanent installation of Mike Stilkey's art exhibit "When the Animals Rebel" while he was organizing the library's annual book sale. A former summer exhibit at the Rice Gallery, the sculptures are now on permanent display throughout the library.

"When the Animals Rebel" is an exact what inspired Davenport to ask Stilkey to create a large-scale piece for the Rice Gallery's first summer exhibit. She discovered the new artist's work while searching for gallery commissions in Los Angeles. At that time, unfamiliar with the art business, Stilkey told Davenport he was just beginning his career and that he didn't know what to expect about the space he was being asked to transform and the artists he was following.

The exhibit was originally established merely to keep something in full operation, but according to Davenport, the unusual enthusiasm for art at Rice increased their efforts to commission high-profile pieces on campus. Nearly 150 people attended a talk by the artist Aug. 30, making it the best-attended Rice Gallery talk to date.

"It brings some whimsy to the library," Bixby said. "It brings some warmth into the space."

Stilkey first heard of the "Animals Rebel" theme while he was organizing the library's annual book sale, a major fundraising event for Fondren Library. Friends of Fondren Library donated over 100 books for the art project out of a total 5,500 hard-back books used in the installation.

The effort of relocating the exhibit was tackled by Rice Gallery Curator David Krueger. Krueger led a team who disassembled the art piece, storing the painted books in meticulously labeled boxes for their trip to Fondren. For one segment of the piece, library volunteers pushed 80 books from Sewall on carts.

"This is a way of building bridges with the community," she said, stressing that projects such as the one being planned near the Collaborative Research Center on Main Street hold particular potential.

But the list of recent university actions to improve aesthetics on campus does not stop at Stilkey's new position. The university has also established a policy that will ensure 40 percent of all new large-construction project budgets will be dedicated to commissioning an artist specifically for that type of building. Buildings on the list include the new residential colleges and the Brockman Pavilion.

Despite these future projects, Davenport said many existing high-profile pieces on campus go unnoticed or unappreciated, including the sculptures in the engineering quad by popular contemporary artist Michael Heizer.

"There are a lot of things hidden in plain sight," Davenport said. She also suggested that a student project featuring current Rice art through a brochure or guided campus tour would highlight Rice's unique history and myths.

Nevertheless, many students, faculty, and staff are outspoken in their desire for more art at Rice which will be enjoyed by all and enable the university to stand its own amidst Hermann Park and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston.

"You don't have to be an art major to have something to say," Strayer said.

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows Program

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT GRADUATE STUDY LEADING TO THE PH.D.? IF SO, READ ON.

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows Program (MMUP) at Rice University has three goals. First, it seeks to increase the number of minority students, and others with a demonstrated commitment to underscores, who will pursue Ph.D. in core fields in the arts and sciences. In doing so, the program aims to reduce over time the serious under-representation on the faculties of individuals from certain minority groups, as well as to address the attendant educational consequences of these disparities. Second, it seeks to prepare these students to be the scholars, teachers, and mentors of the highly diverse college student bodies of the future. Third, it seeks to encourage study abroad experiences as part of their research agenda. The fields that the Academy at Mellon Foundation be targeted for support are Anthropology, Art History, Classics, Computer Science, Demography, Earth Sciences, Ecology, English, Ethnomusicology, Foreign Languages, History, Literature, Mathematics, Sociology, Philosophy, Physics, Political Theory, Religion and Sociology.

Applicants should normally be anticipating their sophomore year as a student at their University. Students are invited to apply at Associate Fellows. Selection will be based on a number of attributes including the not entertained automatic appointment. Academic achievements and experiences, commitment to building bridges in multicultural settings, and interest in pursuing graduate study. Students who participate in the program receive a yearly stipend of $2,000, work closely with a faculty mentor for two years, and are eligible for the participation in summer fellowships programs at the end of their sophomore or junior years. Finalists will be interviewed. Announcements will be made in March. Visit our table at the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Fair for more information on Thursday, January 17, 2008 in the Grand Hall. RMC at 7 PM.

For more information and to download the application go to:

http://www.rice.edu/mellonmays

Application deadline is February 4, 2008

CONTACT:

Dr. Roland R. Smith, Jr. or Gloria Bean

Office of the Associate Provost
Rice University
713/348-5868

This sculpture by Stilkey is also located on the third floor of Fondren Library.
mention this ad to receive 1 month free!

ALEXAN

MAIN STREET

713.839.0897

www.alexanmainstreet.com
**Upcoming Hello Hamlet! continues Rice tradition**

by Caitlin Miller

Hello Hamlet!'s 80th anniversary show, the leading student dramatic ensemble at Rice University, continues its long history of innovation and tradition with its newest production, Hello, Hamlet! This year Wiess Tabletop is produced by Main Street Theater to aid and excellence, the group realized that the script and plan on a performance of the show was not yet invented. The play was even produced by the Main Street Theater to back support and donations for the campaign. Hello, Hamlet! became a tradition on the Rice campus, and Wiess Tabletop Theater started performing it every four years to give every student a chance to be involved in it during their time as an undergraduate.

At the time of Hello, Hamlet's debut, many of the institutions, traditions and points of pride Rice students hold near and dear today had not yet been invented. Beer-Bike was still in its early years. No one had thought of rotating Fortunata's Whiskey. Coffeehouse and Pub had not been founded yet. No one had attended a Night of Decadence. Needless to say, Sid's 60s party had not been conceived. But Hello, Hamlet! is a tradition that has been going strong for many productions.

This year Wiess Tabletop is producing Hello, Hamlet's, 40th anniversary show. The leaders of this year's production are updating the song list and enhancing the overall quality of the show. In addition, the spirit of Rice's every musical will remain true to the ambitions and performance standards of the original 1967 production. The Rice community can look forward to the swashbuckling, expansive show numbers and a unique musical original to Hello, Hamlet! in March.

---

**Old favorites enliven en classica lalbums of 2007**

by Brian Reinhardt

Some might suggest that the art of classical music is dying — even dolefully — but a rash of recently new albums in 2007 proves that is not the case. This past year was characterized by phenomenal young performers, major performers, and with fresh interpretations of old favorites.

**TALK**

Radio Stories and Other Stories: Ira Glass

Host of "This American Life," turns his observational wit to mannerism and absurdity. That much tragedy in a razor-sharp, heartrending, and lines.

**EXHIBIT**

Vivid Vernacular

Amber waves of grain are replaced by modern images of American landscapes by three photographers: Wiley, Chevrolet, William Eggleston and Walker Evans. The exhibit opens Friday, February 15 at the Menil Collection, 1515 Sul Ross. 713-227-4SPA.

**The Five Browns**

Bally I like you in those genes. The first family of the sibling to simultaneously attend Juilliard showcases its skills on Steinway pianos Friday at 8 p.m. The Five Browns is said to be stealing up classical music. This concert is part of the $10 Student Series.

Jenius Hall
615 Louisiana
www.sphausdoung.org

In 1996, members of Wiess Tabletop combined spirited word with period dress. Twelve years later action will take the stage again to renew this tradition.

---

The Pavel Haas String Quartet evokes powerful emotions with their latest album Janacek, Haas: String Quartets.
MUSIC
From page 11
Concerto, an old audience favorite, from the past year should make it this all-time classic. With young artists as extraordinary as Yevgeny Nikolai Medtner. This piece is less immediately appealing, but fortunately Sudbin provides an informative essay explaining its style and meaning. Given the masterful performances and thoughtful booklet, Tchaikovsky/Medtner: Piano Concertos has to be the best classical recording of 2007. Listeners who can only buy one compact disc from the past year should make it this all-time classic. With young artists as extraordinary as Yevgeny Sudbin delivering such inspiring new CDs, the future of classical music is no longer in doubt.

BEST CLASSICAL ALBUMS OF 2007
• Beethoven: Symphonies 1 and 6
  Minnesota Orchestra, Osmo Vanska
• Janacek, Haas: String Quartets
  Pavel Haas String Quartet
• Kalinnikov: Triptych, Symphony No. 3
  Jacobs, Weisser, et al
• Rachmaninov: Complete Preludes
  Eldar Nebolsin
• Scriabin: Piano Works
  Yevgeny Sudbin

In the studio: It has come to our attention that you, with caution, leave the studio. This inaudible studio tour may be recorded on tape...

Pianist Eldar Nebolsin masters a variety of moods on his album Rachmaninov: Complete Preludes while wearing a sweet suit.

I love a man in tights; his name is Batman

As we enter 2008, I can make only three guarantees: Britney Spears will remain mobbed, at some point we will eat Tia Cibani, and The Dark Knight will be the best movie of the year. Oh, they’re not the best predictions — I’ll probably be forced to go to GCU against my will — but the latter is the one I’m most about. And after scoring last month’s seven minute prologue, to say nothing of the first ten minutes of the film, I’m more positive than ever that The Dark Knight will make my life complete (it’s why my girlfriend doesn’t read that last statement).

For those of you unfamiliar, The Dark Knight, which comes out July 18, is the highly anticipated sequel to 2005’s Batman Begins. Under the helm of the much-lauded Christopher Nolan, Begins rehashed a dead-in-the-water franchise: — dead courtesy of directors (the devil incarnate, Joel Schumacher) — and raked in praise for its realistic, quasi-documentary interpretation of the Caped Crusader. Not only did it erase all memories of Arnold Schwarzenegger’s “Terminator” Mr. Freeze but allowed Batman to rightfully reign Indiana Jones and John McClain on the list of top American badasses.

During the spine-tingling calls of Begins, after Batman rescues the reprobate Ra’s Al-Ghul, Lieutenant James Gordon reveals the sign of the Dark Knight’s next nemesis: A Joker card.

Well, two long, cold years have passed since Begins, um, began, and there was little to show for a sequel other than the rampant rumor mongering that was more prevalent than champagne toasts on New Year’s. Actually, that’s not true. One hard fact was revealed to the public: The man shared by the composer, performers and audience.

As Bat-fans across the nation pondered these questions, the marketing team working with Warner Brothers was putting together a promotion scheme that the likes of which have never been seen. Starting in late July, the marketing geniuses first staged a scavenger hunt around the host city of the 2007 San Diego Comic Con, requiring those at the convention to actually get painted up like the Clown Prince of Crime.

Following that stunt, a snowball effect ensued, as more and more viral Web sites and nation-wide scavenger hunts were put into play. From finding cakes with phones in them to putting up certain landmarks across the nation, fans from coast to coast were forced to partake in the Joker's musical games. And while the rewards may have been mundane — a few photos of the Joker in action — the inclusion of thousands of Batman fans made the action seem, in a sense, real.

And that is exactly what Nolan and his gang are going for. A gritty Gotham and corrupt political system — an atmosphere which could, in practicality, allow for a real-life Joker. This realism is why I’m in full support of the Ledger’s portrayal of Batman’s arch-nemesis. If you were one of the lucky ones to witness the prologue in IMAX theaters last month, you know exactly what I’m talking about. Instead of the Joker’s famed purple visage, Ledger’s clown face is painted on — “war paint,” as one of his goons calls it — highlighting the fear induced by this “mass-murdering clown” (Ledger’s words, not mine).

Now, the naysayers claim that this break with canon is exactly why The Dark Knight will be panned, but I disagree. After all, the original Batman claimed that the Joker killed Thomas and Martha Wayne, which obviously required a break with tradition. What about when the Penguin of 1992’s Batman Returns somehow found himself literally raised by Penguin? Ledger’s* *war paint* is no different than those cinematic inventions, and his face — or, smile and all — is undoubtedly the perfect way to incorporate the Joker into Nolan’s Gotham.

I’m more positive than ever that The Dark Knight will make my life COMPLETE.

Maybe I am a little biased. After all, I did live the Batman shirt, a Batman bobblehead, Batman binoculars (Batman-oculars) and the Frank Miller Batman compilations for Christmas. But no fanboys are going to be in for one awesome ride — and as the posters indicate, The Dark Knight cannot get here soon enough.

Casey Michel is a Brown College sophomore and sports editor.
**THRESHER SPORTS**

**How a fading conference can ruin it for the rest of us**

by Justin Hudson

The women's basketball team recently took a lopsided loss to Tulane. And the corporate bowl sponsors have shown a recent interest in the sport and the corporate bowl sponsors control a system in which an athlete's self-worth is based on post-season play replacement years. Even if you were to replace an injured player, your team would be looked upon as an easy mark for the competition. But the Owls are out of the Big Ten conference and can not be that bad. They are a solid mid-range conference and can still compete for a conference championship. If they can get into the Big Ten conference, they can compete for a conference championship. If they can get into the Big Ten conference, they can compete for a conference championship.

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**Women's losing streak now at four games**

by Kushagra Shrinath

The Owls look to get their first win of the season on Wednesday night against UTEP. The Owls have struggled offensively in their last few games, shooting only 36% from the field and 26% from the three-point line in their last two games. However, the Owls have been able to outscore their opponents in the second half, shooting 47% from the field and 40% from the three-point line in the second half.

---

**Owls face difficult tests in UTEP, No. 2 Memphis this week**

by Ankshita Shrinath

The Owls travel to UTEP this week to take on a tough conference foe. UTEP is currently in the middle of a three-game losing streak and is looking for a win to get their season back on track. Meanwhile, the Owls are coming off a loss to Texas A&M and will be looking to use their newfound confidence to help them in this game. The Owls have a tough challenge ahead of them, but they have the talent and experience to pull off a victory.
From Boston to Blazers to Bill Simmons: What kind of state is the NBA really in?

One of the perks of being sports editor is that I get to decide what exactly you loyal readers will perceive while reading the sports section. And, while some people are clamoring for a sidelong interview with Roger Clemens and others may merely want to know what Dylan Farver’s position really is, I feel that since we’ve reached the one-third mark of the season already it’s time to see just how far we’ve come in the good of NBA.

Some parts of the Eastern—er, Eastern Conference have finally shed their JV status and returned to their is alive and well in the Sunshine State. For additional information, please visit http://cce.rice.edu or contact the CCE at cce@rice.edu or 713-348-2223.

For example, the Pistons past the point of patching themselves back together and shots have been rifling in. Meanwhile, Dwight Howard, the Lakers, the Warriors, and the Knicks have all put on enough temper tantrums enough to push a feel-good movie, and almost all of them have been rewarded with uncomparable depth, sound play, and a coach who was undoubtedly a boot camp instructor in another life. But fear not — the rest of the Eastern Conference has not yet risen to see just how far we’ve come in the good of NBA.

“Boston Three Party” that has catapulted the East to respectability with uncomparable depth, sound play, and a coach who was undoubtedly a boot camp instructor in another life. But fear not — the rest of the Eastern Conference has not yet risen to see just how far we’ve come in the good of NBA.

Thom, the Knicks have brought shame upon Madison Square Garden, and fans may not own the league’s highest payroll, but so-called “stars” Stephon Marbury and Zach Randolph have opted out of playing, either literally or through on-court malaise. But at least they have one road win on the season. However, after gaining a little bit of much-needed momentum, the Knicks recently suffered a double-digit home loss to a West power. Oh, well maybe Minnesota isn’t a power per se, but they’re at least in the Western Conference, which automatically means they’re better than half of the East. Unfortunately for the Shockers, ridiculously high number of losseshere! Wolves, they still must compete against the bland Spurs and dive Kobe Bryant.

The Terrible Texas Threeome of the Mavs, Rockets (is this the year Tracy McGrady makes it out of the first round? Um, no.) and aforementioned Spurs may have slipped a bit, but they still remain tough. And although the Phoenix Suns’ window for success is closing faster than Chris Paul on the MVP award, Steve Nash has kept up his vow not to have a decent haircut until he wins a title.

But fear not, there is one team that has taken all others by surprise. No, I’m not talking about the Oklahoma City/Las Vegas/any place but Seattle SuperSonics, even though Kevin Durant is good for upwards of 30 shots a game. In fact, I’m speaking of none other than my very own Portland Trail Blazers.

With the help of future superhero Brandon Roy and UT alum LaMarcus Aldridge, the Blazers — with the third-youngest roster in NBA history — have taken the league by storm with uncomparable depth, sound play, and a coach who was undoubtedly a boot camp instructor in another life. Plus, the Blazers have what ESPN columnist Bill Simmons termed “Chemonactuality” — a fancy word for teamwork — that allows them to perform like a well-oiled machine. Sans ego, boxscore watching or old knives (for the Blazers, of course), the Blazers have vaulted into first place in the Northwest Division and show no signs of slowing down.

Have I forgotten anyone? Thug-gist A.J. looks purely dapper in the powder-blue Nugget threads; Stephen Jackson has yet to sell any ad space on his body and Yi, who looks like he is perpetually grinning at something in the distance, has actually shown Milwaukee a future.

The season may be young, and much will change between now and Finals time, but know this: The current slate of NBA basketball is a million times more exciting than anything Mike Wallace can come up with, Rocket or no Rocket.

From Boston to Blazers to Bill Simmons: What kind of state is the NBA really in?

Casey Michel

CIVIC RESEARCH AND DESIGN COURSES
AND CIVIC EXPERIENCE COURSES
SPRING 2008

Bringing academic insight to real world problems

Civic Research and Design courses incorporate community-based research or design projects which encourage faculty and students to work alongside Houston-based partners to address a variety of challenges facing our community.

Courses for spring 2008 include:

BIOE 260: Intro Global Health Issues
BIOE 432: Biotechnology Design II
BIOE 310: Independent Study for Undergraduates (sec 101)
BIOE 326: Insect Biology
BIOE 327: Biodiversity Lab
BIOE 304: Honors Research in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
CEVE 312: Hydrologic Design Lab
CEVE 449: COMP 495: POLI 481: Hurricane Risk Assessment and Design of Evacuation Policies for Houston
CEVE 254: ENS 281: Engineering Solutions for Sustainable Communities
CEVE 438: Wireless Networking for Under Resource Urban Communities
CEVE 454/CEVE 453: Geographical Information Science
POLI 156/SCIE 361: Policy Analysis
SOC 308: Houston: The Sociology of a City

Civic Experience courses allow students to engage and experience the Houston community. Students go “beyond the hedges” as part of their coursework.

Courses for spring 2008 include:

BIOE 115: Freshmen Seminar in Local Biology
BIOS 213: Intro Lab Mod Ecology & Evolutionary Biology (sec 003)
CEVE 412: Hydrology & Watershed Analysis
HUMA 289/SOIC 290: Introduction to Poverty, Justice and Capabilities

The Center for Civic Engagement promotes a culture of civic engagement across the Rice academic community through research, service, and leadership. It connects Rice faculty and students with each other and with Houston-based partners.

For additional information, please visit http://cce.rice.edu or contact the CCE at cce@rice.edu or 713-348-2223.

Casey Michel is a Portland native and, despite what Stephen says, hopes no one will hire Bob Whitsett ever again.

CASEY MICHEL

OR, HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE LIGHTER SIDE OF SPORTS

THE RICE THRESHER

SPRING 2008

Casey Michel

PHOTO COURTESY OF SATCH ELIOT

INTERNSHIP POSTCARD FROM AN OLD FRIEND
### A CLOSER LOOK

**Statistics for the 2007-08 women's basketball season**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RICE</th>
<th>OPPONENTS</th>
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<td><strong>Scoring</strong></td>
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**The Poverty, Social Justice, and Human Capabilities Program**

The Poverty, Social Justice, and Human Capabilities Program aims to give students a rigorous understanding of human well-being, both in the US and internationally. Well-being reflects not just levels of income and assets, but also human capabilities—what people are able to do and be. The program therefore acknowledges the central importance of a variety of additional influences on well-being, such as gender equality, racial and ethnic disparities, health status, education, human rights, political freedoms, and material necessities like food and shelter.

A key goal of the program is to enrich students' understanding of poverty and inequality, so that, regardless of their choice of occupation, they will maintain a strong commitment to enhancing the well-being of all people. This interdisciplinary program combines high caliber undergraduate courses with opportunities for students to work with agencies that help disadvantaged communities and people. The summer internship program places students with organizations where they work directly with clients to enhance their capabilities.

**AFFILIATED COURSES SPRING 2008**

- **HIST 268** Bondage in the Modern World, Ward
- **HIST 332** Mexican-American Civil Rights, Pastrano
- **ECON 450** World Economics and Social Development, Gillis
- **PHIL 215** Black on the American, Ryd & Co.
- **ECON 521** Public Finance, Michalowski
- **POL 313** Policy Analysis, Osiek
- **PHIL 314** Philosophy of Law, Meumann
- **POL 439** Hurricane Risk Assessment, DeLisi-Osola, Meek, Subramanian
- **HIST 242** U.S. Women's History, Civil War to the Present, Kroyer
- **POL 331** Environmental Politics and Policy, Mortensen
- **ENG 371** Survey of Chicano Literature: The Chicano Movement and the Writing of the La Raza, Aranda & Tapia

For more information visit: www.rice.edu/pjc

### SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

**Students who have taken one of these courses may apply for a summer internship that will allow them to combine course study and practical experience in the field working for a nonprofit organization or charity.**

For the summer of 2008, we will offer a number of paid internships of approximately $4,000 each. The internships will offer nationwide placement and the selection process will be competitive.

Applications will be available mid-January and the selection process will begin in February.

### PLEASE ESPECIALLY CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- **ENGL 490** Southwest Narrative: Writing From Below, Hennessy
- **HIST 268** Bondage in the Modern World, Ward
- **HIST 332** Mexican-American Civil Rights, Pastrano

**The course focuses on several key issues in the history and culture of the region where Mexico meets the US—revolution, migration, labor relations, and the traffic in drugs and goods. We will consider the discourses of gender in their narrations, track the encrypted histories in official stories, and consider what it means to write from standpoints of rural, urban poor, and working class people. Also offered as SWGS 490.**

**HIST 332 Mexican-American Civil Rights, Pastrano**

This course examines the history of Mexican-American civil rights from the 1930s to the 1960s. We will discuss the labor struggles of working class men and women in the workplace and union halls; the rise of middle-class ethnic organizations and their role in politics; the student movement and the cultural revolution; and the movement for community empowerment.

### IN FOCUS: WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

**Record:** 7-9, 0-2 USA

**Last week:** The Owls opened up their conference schedule with two games against Tulane and UTEP, both by 23 points.

**What made the difference:** Second-half collapses.

**This week:** Despite either having the lead or being within striking distance heading into the half, the Owls struggled throughout the rest of the contests. Rice allowed runs of 17-2 against Tulane and 29-0 against UTEP to erase any chance of wins.

**Next up:** Rice continues conference play with a Sunday road game against Houston at 2 p.m. at the Hofheinz Pavilion, then travels to Hattiesburg, Miss., to take on Southern Miss at 7 p.m. Thursday.
MEN

From page 13

his loss would be a major blow to an already banged-up squad. If Foster misses significant time, Rice will be playing with only five scholarship players on their roster.

Wilson said. "It either makes you callous, or it toughens you up. This baptism by fire that we're going through is only going to make us better."

CONFERENCE USA BASKETBALL

Overall standings as of Jan. 10

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<th>Team</th>
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<th>Overall</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>C-USA</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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Upcoming Scholarships, Programs, and Funding Opportunities

Loewenstern Fellowships - Deadline: 5:00pm on Friday, February 1, 2008

Earn a stipend of up to $5,000 for a summer of international service in Latin America! As a Loewenstern Fellow you will have the opportunity to serve in a 4-12 week placement, receiving a stipend to pay for travel to/from host country, living expenses, program fees, and other expenses. In this pilot year, up to 10 Fellows will participate in direct service work and will be required to select their individual project through a list of approved third-party providers.

Rice Developing World Student's Scholarships - Deadline: 5:00pm on Friday, January 18, 2008

Do you have plans to participate in international service work over spring break or the summer and need financial assistance? Apply for the Rice Developing World Student's Scholarship! Two $1,000 need-based scholarships will be awarded to assist undergraduate students with the funding of independent service trips to a region that is considered a developing or Third World country.

International Service Project to Guatemala - Deadline: 5:00pm on Wednesday, January 30, 2008

Interested in participating in a two-week group service experience? Apply to be a participant on the Community Involvement Center’s twelfth annual International Service Project! This year’s trip will return to San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala from approximately May 11-25, 2008. The team will be working with the local parish on reforestation, construction, and other community-driven projects.

To find out more about the Loewenstern Fellowships, the Rice Developing World Student’s Scholarship, and the International Service Project come to the Information Session on Monday, January 14, 10:00pm, in the RMC Farnsworth Pavilion.

Community Service Grant - Deadline: 5:00pm on Monday, January 21, 2008

Have an idea for a community service project or a student service organization and need funding? Apply for the Community Service Grant! The purpose of the grant is to help community service organizations (such as Habitat for Humanity, ESL Tutoring, and others) establish and develop their programs and to help individuals initiate community service projects.

For more information and to apply for all of the above programs, please visit the Community Involvement Center's website at http://www.rice.edu/service. If you have any questions, please contact us by phone (713-348-4870) or e-mail (service@rice.edu).
Undergraduate Research & Summer Experiences Fair

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17 @ 7:00 PM
GRAND HALL, RMC/LEY STUDENT CENTER

Are you looking for research experience to advance your academic career?

Do you want to stand out when applying for graduate school or prestigious fellowships?

Are you searching for a valuable summer opportunity such as a mentorship or research project?

If so, we can help!! Please attend this information session to hear from a wide variety of campus centers and departments to find out more about the summer, semester and year-long opportunities that are available.

We will also provide information on how to search for funding if your ideal experience or project is not an existing program.

All Majors are Welcome.

Find out about a wide variety of opportunities including:

- On campus
- Houston area
- Out-of-state
- International

*Summer, semester & year-long*

Sponsored by the Office of Fellowships and Undergraduate Research and the Center for Civic Engagement.
Contact scholars@rice.edu with any questions.
BY THE NUMBERS
Dec. 28-Jan. 9

MEN'S BASKETBALL

MARSHALL 66 RICE 47
Jan. 6, 2008—Reliant Arena

Marshall 29 37 — 66
Rice 33 14 — 47

Rebounds — Rice (22); Griffin 8, Litwack 4, Palmieri 3; Marshall 15 (Wells 5)

Assists — Marshall 14 (Dorris 6, Chillar 2, Baines 2, Marshall 1, Saunders 3); Rice 13 (Carter 3, Witter 3, Tisdal 5)

Three-point goals – Texas 2-12, Rice 0-12

Turnovers – Marshall 21, Rice 22

Fouls – Marshall 27, Rice 22

Mens Basketball Boxscore

OREGON 90 WASHINGTON 67
Dec. 21, 2007

Oregon 33 41 — 76
Washington 21 46 — 67

Rebounds — Oregon (23); Conseil 9, Calvert 9, Wheaton 2, Johnson 1; Washington 15 (Robinson 5)

Assists — Oregon 20 (Thomas 4, Allen 3, Hogue 3); Washington 11 (Johnson 7)

Three-point goals – Oregon 3-10, Washington 0-6

Turnovers – Oregon 16, Washington 10

Fouls – Oregon 24, Washington 29

Total Attendance: 13,935

THE RICE THRESHER

SPORTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2008

TWO DAYS AFTER... Ankeny’s Tantrum

BY NIAMAL AHMED

Tantrum

From page 13

conference most opposed to any sort of playoff. The president of one of the important state university in Ohio recently said that a college football playoff could be, ahem, “priced from my cold, dead fingers.” The unfortunate truth for the Big Ten is that they have had all of two national championships in the past 30 years and suffered a pair of embarrassing losses in the BCS title game. Without the current system, which is as mixed up in biased media opinions not even a partisan political pundit would consider it fair, the Big Ten could be ready to march out of the first round of the playoffs. Television network would want to make money. And with the financial success of March Madness, they would quickly sign off on a playoff. Corporate sponsors want their bowls to make some money. With only eight teams in a playoff, the bowls wouldn’t lose any money.

Bowl committees want to maintain their conference ties and their prestige. These committees are staffed by — you guessed it — conference luminaries. So again we come back to the Big TenTantrum. Which bowl game has been the most adamant- ly anti-playoff? The Rose Bowl Game, which, as far as I can tell, would gladly take two subpar teams to keep their precious Pac 10/12 Big Ten matchup. (Or you listening, Illinois?)

Am I saying that getting a playoff would be easy? No. Am I saying a playoff off would be a fair way to determine a champion? Well, as the eternal supporter of the mid-major conference, of course not — but at least there would be a shiver of an opportunity for the non-BCS conferences. What I’m saying below, along with the conference with all the money and none of the talent are the most influential, are we could no longer have any semblance of fairness.

Nathan Hildreth is a Lovett junior and football writer.

RECENT BCS CHAMPIONS

YEAR

2007

2006

2005

2004

2003

2002

2001

2000

1999

1998

TEAM

LSU

Florida

Texas

LSU

Ohio State

Miami (FL)

Florida State

Tennessee

CONFERENCE

SEC

SEC

SEC

SEC

Big Ten

Big East

ACC

SEC

Big Ten champions in bold.

Interested in becoming a DJ? Then come to our DJ Recruitment Meeting!

Who: YOU! We are especially looking for students (undergrads and grads), but community members are welcome too. No radio experience necessary!

What: Your chance to find out what KTRU is all about, meet some current DJs, fill out an application, and enjoy some FREE FOOD!

When: Wednesday, January 16th at 10 pm

Where: Kelley Lounge in the RMC

Why: Because KTRU needs your voice!

Can't make it to the meeting? Pick up an application from outside the station door on the 2nd floor of the RMC, down the hall from the Thresher, or print one out online! Return applications to station by Wednesday, January 23rd. Check ktru.org for more information!
You can do what you love or for the love of money. Either way.
Classifieds

HELP WANTED

EARN $22 PER HOUR tutoring! Varsity Tutors LLC is looking for bright Rice students to tutor local high school students inside their homes. Please review sites and AP/SAT/ACT sources to brushup! www.varsitytutors.com 832-748-1733.

FEMALE STUDENT NEEDED to help attorney by picking up son from school (Second Baptist), getting son started on homework, and occasionally starting dinner. Exchange room with private bathrooms, board and gas money will be provided. Numerous references will also be provided. Student preferably a Christian, no drugs, alcohol etc, and must have permission of parents. Off on weekends. House schedule loose, close to Rice Campus. Please contact Scott at 713-589-7017 or 713-628-2235.

PART-TIME AFTERNOON Babysitter Needed. 3 days/week: 2:30/4:30-7:00/8:00. 4-year-old boy. 7-months-old for shorter periods. Car required (must pickup from school). References required. Memorial area. $150/week. baby@comcast.net.


DOG WALKING/PET SITTING positions available for dependable and service-oriented individuals. Serving area 5 miles radius of Rice Village. Reliable transportation a must. Compensation from $50-$100 monthly. Contact Rice Village Pets at 713-847-5037.

PREGNANT? PROFESSORmom wants to give your baby a loving home and a life free of the issue or problem...or to some who read my posting you may ask yourself, "what is she talking about...this is a problem...here goes. I spent severalubber days and nights with my roomies while I was there. I made plans and did meet her at my room and now I am hooked. Like to know if there are other girls who have lived the commercial...what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas...but now I have a desire for another girl to do the same and encourage another maybe that she is too. When experienced before girls said it wasn't right..."

THE BACKPAGE is satire and is written by Evan Mintz. classifieds@rice.edu

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