Jumped 11 percent, allaying fears that it would adversely affect the number of prospective students. Additionally, the number of deadlines and had easier access to standardized tests like the PSAT and SAT. Enrollment staff also improved exposure to high school students, and ultimately led to more applications.

**Enrollment growth matches V2C plans**

By Dale Swartz

Applications for the Class of 2012 jumped 11 percent, allaying fears that the elimination of Interim Decision would adversely affect the number of prospective students. There were over 9,700 applicants for 2008, compared with about 9,600 in 2007 and 8,200 in 2006. Additionally, the number of students who applied early decision rose 28 percent.

"It simply is, this is the largest applicant pool in the history of Rice University," Vice President for Enrollment Chris Munoz said.

Munoz credited new recruiting techniques for much of the success. He said there was a more concerted effort to target students by selectively sending emails to those who took standardized tests like the PSAT and SAT. Enrollment staff also improved internet-based communications with prospective students by making sure they were informed of Rice-related deadlines and had easier access to marketing materials.

Student and alumni efforts also played an important role, Munoz said. The Rice Alumni Volunteers for Admission, RAVA, completed 2,000 more interviews this year than last. Similarly, nearly 1,000 more-prospective students visited the campus, participated in tours, and met with students. Munoz said all of these factors resulted in increased Rice exposure to high school students, and ultimately led to more applications.

**APPLICATION NUMBERS**

2008: Over 9,700
2007: About 8,960
2006: About 8,700

"I'm not sure these things never were done, but the frequency and quality of our efforts this year made a big difference," he said.

This was the first year that Rice did not offer Interim Decision, which requires students to apply at the beginning of December for a non-binding admission decision. The new plan implemented in February, Rice stopped the Interim plan because it would not and be able to evaluate a larger number of applicants in that short period.

Munoz said the decision to eliminate Interim Decision was not a reaction to the recent decisions of schools like Harvard, Princeton and the University of Virginia to abandon early admissions. These schools did so because they felt such programs disproportionately benefited upper-class white students. Critics also say that these policies limit the options of students needing financial aid by not allowing them to compare different financial aid offers.

Historically at Rice, approximately eight percent of admitted students come from the early admission pool. This figure is low compared to peer institutions, Munoz said. There is an effort to make Rice more attractive to these interested in applying early, but Munoz said this is balanced by the desire to ensure that all students make informed choices, especially early admission is binding.

"Rice is also lower than its peers in terms of the number of members of the freshman class who are victims of theft, "Munoz said. "The same analogy for these thieves: You've attracted somebody to campus that not only victimizes you but is victimizing other people."
agents of change. Only then will Rice see any progress. To ensure that all racial and ethnic minority groups feel welcome at Rice.

We do not exactly have a positive history when it comes to race relations. But when Rice has had as many forums as downtown Rome with little to show for it.

However, the vandalism undeniably has brought attention to the issue of race at Rice. Black Student Association President Taylor why RUPD had not bothered to the thief: RUPD. After asking Bill to the competency of RUPD. I, and I

We must also consider the idea that Rice has not taken the proper steps to try to heal wounds inflicted by the Thresher. sidewalk.

Coffee lounge useful, aided by student input

To the editor:

I am surprised that the Thresher fundamentally believed that students created in the Fondren coffee lounge (“Fondren, hoor and the quirky human touch but is also a piece of crap no thief would steal

Fishes and Pearl’s Coffee Lounge in the nearest source of espresso.

When I was a student at Rice, libraries, we can either re-

I think that this is their job to do. It seems that with all that is going need to be educated. That is the only way to ensure that all racial and ethnic minority groups feel welcome at Rice. Students are not administrators, but must become the agents of change. Only then will Rice see any progress.

BSA calls for end to racist party, behavior

To the editor:

The Black Student Association would like to stand with President Leebron and Dean Forman in disapproving of any planned or actual celebration that includes drinking malt liquor on Martin Luther King Day — a party cel-

There is no room on the first floor for a lounge. And as far as I am concerned, placing a coffee machine there destroys the meaning of what a lounge is.

Thirdly, putting a cheap coffee machine on the fourth floor avoids even more competition with the coffee house — our place.

Registering to vote a crucial rite of passage

To the editor:

I still remember the day I registered to vote. I had just turned 18 and my dad was coming for Christmas break. Maybe the campus police can set up motion-activated digital monitors similar to ones used to record the activities of black students so students can feel safe.

For those of us that have been around campus a while, we remember a Rice safety officer who would have nightmares about the Thresher students by ‘standing up’ or ‘getting a foot in the front door’.

Anonymous is 10-30 to replace a bike that just

I would have a hard time shelling out another $300 to replace a bicycle that just got stolen. Surely this is what they mean by the right to vote.

If you are a Rice student, I would have a hard time shelling out another $300 to replace a bicycle that just got stolen.
Guest column

Racist events place Rice culture under scrutiny

Every year during the month of February, the black community takes time to celebrate its successes and remember the struggles of blacks as we look back on our history. This celebration should not be viewed as important only to a section of the population of black Americans, but to all Americans. After all, blacks have been a part of American history since Jamestown. Nevertheless, it seems like most Americans mockery our successes fade away and breeds the ignorance. There is no separation between race and class interaction by the education system. There is no sense of the perpetrators of the crime from the victims. I am merely asking that we all recognize the need to continue to fight for our rights and to fight for the equal treatment that benefits such acts of hate and bring the real healing process by openly confronting the ignorance that pervades Rice’s campus.

Kelli Newman is a Senior Black Student. 

Guest column

Holiday potential lies in groundhog's tiny paws

I just took a look at the calendar and noticed that one of the largest holidays is rapidly approaching: Groundhog Day On Feb. 2, the poor report for Punxsutawney Phil, the famous ground squirrel, at Punxsutawney Phil’s Home in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. It is the beginning of February and he will be starting to wake up from his winter hibernation, and with his spring awakening, some say that this will be an indication that there will be no more snow for the rest of the season. However, if Punxsutawney Phil says that he will be staying in his burrow for another six weeks, it means that there will be more snow on the way. This holiday has its origins in the tradition of the Germanic people, who believed that if a groundhog emerges from its burrow on Feb. 2, it will be a sign of more winter to come. However, if the groundhog remains in its burrow, it is believed to be a sign of an early spring. 

Brian Reinhart is a Wharton College freshman.

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper at Rice University since 1916, is published twice weekly except during examinations, holidays and breaks. For the students of Rice University. 

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**Groundhog Day**

*Looking at the end of the line.* And, just like any corporation that reaches its last dying breath, it has two options: bankruptcy or merger. But the sad truth is that Groundhog Day is now looking at the end of the line. Why couldn’t we just make it one big six-week-long holiday? Like constant Saint Patrick’s Day all the way March 17? I like your drinking, but the danger of that would be horrendous. After all, leprechauns and St. Patrick’s Day get old after a while. If you are in permanent internationaization, it is true, though, that some places already celebrate Saint Patrick’s Week. On the other hand, WI changes its name to New Dublin for a week every March, which I just don’t see how that would be much of a stretch.

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Enrollment VP Muñoz: No concerns over black male athlete ratio

by Stephanie Jennings

In response to a Jan. 11 story on InsideHigherEd.com called "Diversifying Through Football," which cited an NCAA study that said 43 percent of black undergraduates at Rice are athletes, Vice President for Enrollment Chris Muñoz said no concerns had been expressed to his office about the representation of black males in Rice athletics and that the Enrollment Office planned to increase the number of black students overall.

Muñoz said that athletic enrollment is based upon a minimum enrollment requirement for Division I athletics and that this requirement will remain the same as the student body increases.

"Overall, in terms of student body, we're going to grow, but in terms of athletics, there will be little to no growth," he said. "That, in and of itself, will make a change in the percentage of black males who are athletes — a smaller portion overall of the undergraduates will be athletes.'

There has been an increase in the overall black enrollment in the past year. For 2006-07, 38 black students enrolled; in 2007-08, 38 black students enrolled. 13 of those were athletes.

Muñoz said he was unsure why there is a high number of black males in athletics.

"While not everyone would agree or believe that a student is able to be successful without a 1500 SAT, the student athletes that we admit to Rice, relatively speaking, compared to other universities who admit athletes, are really good," he said. "I said before that 90 percent of universities would love to have the SAT distribution of the Rice football team."

Muñoz said his concern with the release of the report was with the generalizations and assumptions about athletes made by non-athletes.

Muñoz said that many Rice athletes had gone on to be successful in many areas besides athletics.

The implication is that if you are African-American and a male athlete, there is a problem with this,” he said. "Why aren’t we saying this is awful?"

Muñoz said that Rice as a community has to wrestle with the negative stereotypes of athletes.

"Rice athletes, in general, we owe a debt of gratitude to all the athletes who have participated in our teams. They are our ambassadors to the community. They do an excellent job of representing Rice," he said.

Muñoz added that he would not consider the difference in Rice’s black student population when choosing which university to attend.

"Honestly, I had no idea about the black percentage," he said. "Originally I was set to go to the University of Arkansas to play football and was going to ignore the offer letter from Rice, but my teacher was like, ’Oh, Rice, that’s a good school, you should consider going there.’" As an African-American student, he would not believe the opportunity to play football would last forever and that he wanted to receive a degree from a good school.

"I’ve been pulled over by the cops and have told them I go to Rice," he said. "Usually, they’re like, ’Oh, that’s Rice, I have to show my Rice license.’" He said he should have been attending Rice because of athletics.

"When we’re recruited, it’s because of skills, not because of color," he said. "If more players just happen to be black, that can’t be controlled."

"I feel naturally that people are friends more with people they see more often," Anderson said. "Furthermore, Anderson said that the summer football practices encouraged closer friendships.

"I think it’s as much of a case of non-athletes not saying hello to athletes as it is athletes not saying hello to non-athletes," Anderson said.

Anderson said that the thought that perception of isolation between athletes and non-athletes is wrong. He understands where it could come from.

"I think (non-athletes) see the athletes at certain times such as meal times, see a group of athletes sitting together and think that we don’t have any non-athlete friends," he said. "However, Anderson said that he could not think of one athlete who did not have a non-athlete friend."

"I think (non-athletes) see the athletes at certain times such as meal times, see a group of athletes sitting together and think that we don’t have any non-athlete friends," he said. "However, Anderson said that he could not think of one athlete who did not have a non-athlete friend."

Another statistic that the study highlighted was that 53 of the 47 black athletes, or 74 percent, were football players.

Anderson said he thought this was coincidence and that the football team did not need to actively recruit more diverse players.

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Proposals for Sport Management major now under committee review

by Joyce Yao

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee is currently reviewing proposals for an independent sport management major. Under these proposals, the sport management major would replace the much-overlooked degree of kinesiology that currently centers around kinesiology and sport management, health sciences and sports medicine.

The decision was not made without a proposed when it meets later this month. The issues currently under discussion at the UCC are primarily directed at the logistics of a sport management major. Committee member Christine Muran said the two biggest issues discussed at the meeting last Monday were the program's link to a sport management major within the School of Humanities and the sustainability of the program. The current curriculum does not have any tenure-track professors for a permanent director.

"It's not that people don't agree with the idea. There's just been a lot of technical questions about it," Morin, a Martel College junior, said. English Professor Terrence Doody, committee co-chair, said the proposal the supportive Dean of Humanities Gary Wihl and there have been plans made for the hiring of tenure-track professors.

"There are a lot of committees, members who are willing to support sport management before sport management officially a major, since there have been cases where departments have dangled in the past.

The current sport management program centers largely on the health sciences. Director of Sport Management and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee chair Clark Haptonstall. Uncertainty over whether Haptonstall, who has headed the kinesiology program and shape the sport management major into something distinct, would stay at Rice was also a primary concern. Haptonstall said the lack of associate professors to take over as chairs of committees was a concern when the program was problematic.

"He said he sees no reason to want to leave Rice," Haptonstall said. "At Rice University, we have the potential to develop the most respected undergraduate sport management major in the world, and I am committed to lead that charge.

"The opportunity for application is Friday, February 15, 2008.

"The first time I found out about the sport management option was when I literally went through all the processes of redevelopment curriculum, faculty, and faculty members, and adding the academic rigorous necessity. We've exceeded the guidelines set in the Senate 2007-2008 by far. The proposal is on almost every stage and feel that our program is very strong."

Haptonstall has been largely responsible for implementing improvements to the major over the past four years. He said the kinesiology and sport management departments have been working on the program's proposal for almost two years, with the goal of providing for Rice students with a degree in sport management a chance to accurately reflect their field of study when they graduate.

"At Rice University, we have the potential to develop the most respected undergraduate sport management major in the world, and I am committed to lead that charge."

Director of Sport Management

Professor and Chair of Health Sciences Nicholas Lammarino said Rice's independent sport management program is centered around a program's visibility on campus. Since sport management is currently listed under kinesiology, students have been overlooking the program as an option of study because Kinesiology is not usually associated with Sport Management.

"I've been here five and a half years, and I've had a lot of interest in graduation and students take sport management classes and didn't know we had sport management as an option," Haptonstall said. "When students look at the major in the catalog, sport management is not listed." Rice College senior Brod Jedlovec, kinesiology major, voiced similar concerns.

"students studying in the sport management program are currently majoring in it without being officially called a sport management major," Lammarino said.

Haptonstall said the kinesiology major could also be misleading and that the sport management program reflected efforts to give students a degree more accurately reflected what they studied.

"We have a lot of students who graduate and go on to get an MBA, or go to law school, where almost all of them have to explain in interviews why they have a kinesiology degree," Haptonstall said.

Although current plans do not include any proposed changes to the sport management program except for the name change, Kinesiology students in the sport management major will form a more beneficial organization with Sport Management.

"We will help enhance student desire to the degree productively, and the sport management professor or a worker in that career field," McCull, a Rice director of communications, said.

Jedlovec also thinks that an official sport management major will enhance student connection with sport teams and organizations and that the sport management major will play a role in the development of student organizations.

"The new major will form a beneficial relationship both Rice and the organizations."

JOHN E. PARISH FELLOWSHIP FOR Summer Travel

Wess College announces competition for the 2008 John E. Parish Fellowship. The winner of the Parish Fellowship will receive support of approximately 2 months travel during the Summer of 2008. The purpose of the fellowship is to enhance the undergraduate education of the Fellow by broadening the range of experience via individual travel.

The next Student Association meeting will be Monday at 10 p.m. in the Rathmann Pavilion.
accepted early, currently 25 percent. By comparison, Rice, Dartmouth and Dartmouth College are 35 percent, while at MIT and Harvard, 55 percent of the classes at University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University and Northwestern University are accepted early. Generally, those who apply to a binding early decision program have a high degree of passion about their school choice, and some have argued that a high proportion of early decision matriculants would increase the quality of the experience for those in the class.

'The number of African-Americans, while increasing, is still lower than we want.'

Chris Munoz Vice President for Enrollment

Munoz said he does not see Rice as a campus problem. In his eyes, the early admissions program has an important role in Rice's overall mission, but he also stresses the high quality of the students in the early admissions pool. This is one of the primary reasons the admissions office keeps the number of early decision acceptances low.

Friday and attempted to steal a bike, evading the police, delivery of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, two counts of possession of a controlled substance, driving while intoxicated, auto theft, theft and evading arrest.

Taylor said there was absolutely no indication that the thief hit the officer over the head. If the thief ran away and is still on the loose, the thief has been across Houston. "It's a fact that [President Lee Bollinger] wants to raise $100 million in new strategies, currently underway, to be able to fulfill plans for growth as laid out in the Vision for the Second Century and properly fund the new two colleges, Rice will need around 11,300 applications for the fall 2013 matriculation.

Applications on the rise

The number of applications for undergraduate admission grew dramatically over the past year due to increased advertising and a new PR strategy, with around 9,700 applicants for fall 2008 matriculation. To be able to fill these plans for growth as laid out in the Vision for the Second Century and properly fund the new two colleges, Rice will need around 11,300 applications for the fall 2013 matriculation.

The greatest is to repeat these levels of growth in other years. To maintain current levels, the enrollment office will need 11,300 applicants in the class of 2013, an increase of over 6 percent over 2008. Since 1998, Rice has to continually expand its applicant pool in order to prepare for the admission of 1,300 new students.

Men of Rice's greatest weaknesses is still lower than we want. It's a fact that [President Lee Bollinger] wants to raise $100 million in new strategies, currently underway, to be able to fulfill plans for growth as laid out in the Vision for the Second Century and properly fund the new two colleges, Rice will need around 11,300 applications for the fall 2013 matriculation.

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www.alexanmainstreet.com
Roe v. Wade established a woman's right to choose ... how many sprinkles to put on her cookies

Lovett College seniors Jen Shiv (left), Emery Gullickson (center) and Baker College sophomore Julia Lukomnik (right) decorate cookies as Rice for Choice celebrates the 35th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision last Thursday. And the abortion debate has been settled ever since.

Religion vs. Morality

presented by Ayn Rand scholar
Dr. Andrew Bernstein

Religion is winning the culture wars because it seems to address the common misconception that morality is relative and, as such, offers us no guidance for living our lives. But religion quite literally gives us no earthly reason to accept its code of morality. Do our options in ethics really boil down to no guidance at all vs. pie in the sky? Or can we discover an absolute morality for living on this earth by means of reason?

In his upcoming lecture, "Religion vs. Morality", Andrew Bernstein argues that we can, through reason, discover the proper code of morality, and that it offers us practical guidance for living our lives.

Thursday, February 7th
7:30 pm Sewall Hall 309

Sponsored by the Rice Objectivism Club
For more information, contact rice.objectivism@hotmail.com
Parking changes planned for North Lots

In an effort to reduce morning traffic, Rice Parking announced changes to select parking rules in the North Lot to be implemented over the next few weeks. The North Visitor Lot will merge with the North Lot during the workday and will no longer be open to visitors. This newly merged North Lot will open to visitors and students after 5:30 p.m. on weekdays and all day on the workday and will no longer merge with the North Lot during the few weeks. The North Annex Lot will simultaneously house North Lot parkers and visitors who pay by credit card.

Parking Manager Mike Morgan said the changes in parking times were implemented to make the rules more consistent with other lots across campus, such as Lovett Lot.

"If there was a really good reason to have different rules, it would be good to have them, but if not then it would be good to be consistent," Morgan said.

Changes to parking rules were also made to reduce the congestion in the North Lot from faculty and staff who were displaced by the disappearance of Abercrombie Lot at the beginning of the year due to construction.

Morgan said the signs were being changed to end problems caused by poorly designed visitor parking signage that draws visitors into the lot opposite the one in which they are supposed to park. The signs will also clearly note that visitors can only park in North Lot after 5:30 p.m. and on weekends to clear up confusion.

Morgan said Rice Parking was working with Facilities, Engineering and Planning on the details of the signage plan. Work has already started and temporary signs have been erected. Morgan said the project could be completed as early as the end of next week but will likely take a few more than that. Rice Parking will send out an e-mail when all the changes are complete.

—Jocelyn Wright

State of the Student Union address held

If students are still curious why the office of the Dean of Judicial Affairs Don Odiusk is now olive green and the hallway outside his office in purple, they should have attended the “State of the Student Union” address yesterday afternoon in Fondsworth Pavilion.

At the address, Director of the Student Center Boyd Beckwith and Associate Director Pam Sherman summarized the many changes and construction projects the Rice Memorial Center has undergone in the past few years.

Most recently, the Academic Advising, Student Judicial Programs and International Programs/Study Abroad suite underwent major renovations, carving out new offices and color-coding each of the distinct departments.

The address also discussed the changes in the RMC basement, with the new Graduate Student Lounge and expanded 24-hour access area, which provides vending machine access at all hours. Prior to this expansion, students who swipe in at the BMC’s south side entrance couldn’t access only the Student Organization Resource Center.

But change over the past year has also included office changes on the second floor, which now house the Center for Civic Engagement after Alumni Affairs and Career Services moved to Doherty Hall.

The Center for Civic Engagement includes the Community Involvement Center, Leadership Rice and the Center for Civic Research and Design, all of which underwent renovations during summer 2007.

The address also covered changes throughout the RMC, recent renovations of Sammy’s 13th Street and Coffeehouse and the creation of the new University Copy Center in the location of the old Blue Lagoon.

—Evan Meste

RICE UNIVERSITY

Poverty, Social Justice and Human Capabilities Program

(PJC) Internship Summer 2008

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 longstanding 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 disadvantage communities and people. The summer internship program places students with organizations where they work directly with clients to enhance their well-being.

INTERNSHIP DATES

Friday, April 25, 2008, 12pm Opening Event
Monday, June 2, 2008 – Friday, July 25, 2008 Internship
Friday, September 5, 2008, 4pm Closing Event

INTERNSHIP EXPECTATIONS

• All internships are full time positions with a 40 hour work week.
• Interns should not accept other employment during this period or combine this internship with another offered through Rice or elsewhere.
• Interns are required to attend the opening and closing events.

STIPENDS

Students will be awarded $4000 for participating in this program. Stipends may be slightly higher for internships outside of Houston where the cost of living is higher. Stipends will be awarded in installments, with each payment contingent on satisfactory completion of all requirements to that point. Failure to meet any of the requirements may result in the forfeiture of part or all of the stipend.

If interested join our facebook group Poverty, Justice, & Capabilities Program (PJC)

QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for an internship, students need to be taking or have taken the following courses:

- Econ 450 World Economics and Social Development
- Econ 451 Urban Economics
- Econ 452 Distributive Justice
- Econ 453 Public Finance

- English 342 WGST 372* The Nineteenth-Century Novel
- English 371 Survey of Chicana Literature
- English 492 Southwest Narrative: Writing from Below
- Hist 215/Hist 315 Blacks in the Americas
- Hist 342 Swedish 335* U.S. Women’s History, II
- Hist 269 Bondage in the Modern World
- Hist 332 Mexican-American Civil Rights
- Hist 335 Caribbean History in 1838
- Hist 127 History of the Civil Rights Movement 1954 - Present
- Hist 455 History of Human Rights

- WGST 465* Women and the Welfare State
- HuMa 200/Soci 200 Introduction to Poverty, Justice, and Capabilities
- Phil 407 Social and Political Philosophy
- Phil 316 Philosophy of Law
- Pol 318 Policy Analysis
- Pol 319 Environmental Politics and Policy
- Pol 401/CIE 490 CIE 490 Hurricane Risk Assessment
- Soc 1340 Sociology 1340
- Soc 245 Introduction to Medical Sociology
- Soc 476 Urban Life and Poverty

APPLICATION PROCESS

• Applications available at wwww.rice.edu/pjc
• Please submit applications via email to Christine Medina, cmedina@rice.edu
• Application deadline: Monday, February 29, 2008
• Decisions will be announced in April.
• Students graduating May 2008 are ineligible to
REACTION

From page 1

Newman said she felt people were being ignorant of what message their actions were sending and taking political correctness too lightly. She also said that people who choose to be politically incorrect should not be surprised at the commotion surrounding the 40s Party.

"You can't throw a party like this and allow that politically incorrect stuff to happen and then, when an incident like the vandalism comes up, act shocked and say, 'How did this happen? There's no place for this at Sid!" Newman said.

Sid senior Matt Davis disagrees that there is a need for people to be politically correct all the time especially when so many college parties mock other cultures or groups.

"We have all kinds of themed parties, and they might be offensive to some, but don't attribute it to us," Davis said. "In the end it's just fun — and politically incorrect, yeah — but we're in college. It's a time when we're allowed to be politically incorrect."

Davis, who has attended the party annually since 2004, said when he thinks of a 40-ounce bottle of malt liquor, he simply considers it a poor person's drink, not a stereotype exclusively identifying black people. Davis said the party was not a problem for him at all.

"[The 40s Party] is racist in the kind of ridiculous, in my opinion," Davis said. "I would say at worst it's politically incorrect. My whole opinion of all that kind of stuff is, if someone didn't go to the party, it really shouldn't be any of their business. If it bothers them, don't go."

Sid Socials Chair Liz Ericson, who was at the party, said she did not make the connection between the theme of the party and the date on which it was held.

"While I understand the correlation between the theme and the date of the party is completely inexorable, I don't feel like it was a malicious party," Ericson, a sophomore, said. "I think the main thing people were trying to do — whether or not it was appropriate or successful — was to make fun of racism, not to make fun of any particular race."

Eriason said that though she does not think the 40s Party was a racist party, she does think the party should be moved from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day weekend or cancelled altogether.

Sid senior Andrew Sinclair, who was also present at the party, said the presence of a three-day weekend where no other public parties were being held on campus made it a perfect time to hold 40s Party.

"In fact, Sid junior Kwasi Mensah, who is black, said he went to the party simply because it seemed like fun to do."

Ericson said. "It's just one of those things that happens at Rice, and you just go." Mensah said. "This was the first year I heard about it, and I just went."

"We have all kinds of themed parties, and most of them are not aware of the racial stereotype associated with it," Mensah said. "I also did not know of the stereotypes associated with 40-ounce bottles of malt liquor when he attended the 40s Party. But after learning of the stereotype, Mensah said that as a minority, he did not think the party was a good idea.

"Once the meaning behind the party was explained to me, I understood that people were upset with it," he said. "Whatever you do, especially on campus, you have to be sensitive towards others. You have to be aware of cultures."

Now what?

To put the past behind them and move forward positively, Sid President Sean Monks asked the entire college to wear their Sid T-shirts and sweatshirts on Monday to show support and solidarity for a united community.

However, Newman said she thought the gesture was inappropriate.

"I feel like this is a time when we should be demonstrating solidarity," Newman said. "I don't think it's really [a good idea]."

Director of Multicultural Affairs Cathi Clack said people have been split between whether or not the perpetuator of the vandalism was from Sid, but also the most important course of action at the moment is to find the perpetrator of the vandalism and stop blaming Sid as a whole.

"It's not a Sid problem," Clack said. "It's just an individual or individuals' problem."

Sid Master Melissa Marschall has other ideas for how to move forward.

"One of the things we'd like to talk about is how do we develop a culture where people feel comfortable discussing these sort of issues," Marschall said. "There were a couple of messages on our list serve presenting different perspectives about this issue."

Newman and Davis were two individuals who posted messages through the Sid listserve.

In her e-mail, Newman expressed her anger toward Sid about the events of the weekend, especially given previous complaints about 40s Party.

Director of Multicultural Affairs Cathi Clack

Davis said he replied to Newman's initial letter to the Sid community because many people were upset over Newman's message.

"I don't want to be accused of being racist," Davis said.

In order to facilitate conversation about the topic on a space besides the listserve, a forum was held in the Sid commons last night. Newman said the forum would open lines of communication and show that the race issue will not die.

"We don't talk about diverse issues," Newman said. "At one time, we don't talk about it. Because we don't talk about it, something like the 40s Party continues, and these people that have racist feelings in their hearts. No one's going to say this out loud, but there are people who have these feelings and having something like the 40s Party makes this more acceptable."

Marschall also said the Rice community needs more communication between students and those in leadership positions.

"I think people are working really hard to make sure we are at the forefront of confronting all these feelings that have been a part of our society for a long time.

"We need to talk about diversity," Clack said. "It's the best way to deal with the racism, though. She said dealing with individual problems can be a minefield of wrongs.

"You can't really change people's views in an hour and twenty minutes in terms of an O-Week workshop," Clack said. "It's an ongoing process."

Newman said she could imagine conversations of racism occurring in another school, but the thought of happening at Rice is surprising.

"I'm not sure what that means or that we're so intelligent, but this still exists," Newman said. "This was at University of Georgia or University of Virginia or I could imagine this, but I feel like we should have higher standards."

The magic treehouse

The 2008 treehouse built by architecture students in January perches on a tree outside Anderson Hall. Architecture students build a treehouse every year in the spring.
New design kitchen to help engineers cook up ideas

Architects to be recycleable, held at the Meridian

Catalyzing new ideas

Students meet in the Baker Commons last Thursday to discuss Catalyst, a planned Rice undergraduate science review. It will contain peer-edited, faculty-reviewed articles on topics of a scientific and technological basis for the purpose of engaging public interest. The publication, which is planned to be a 40-page full-color glossy, will be funded largely by the Dean of National Sciences, Dean of Engineering and Dean of Undergraduates. Baker College sophomore David Ongay (right) is Catalyst's Student Research Executive Editor and Baker College freshman Yolanda Moon (left) is Worldwide Research Executive Editor.

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WRITE THE THRESHER
LOVE THE THRESHER
BE THE THRESHER

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Complex Persepolis not a typical animated film
by Amanda Melchor

Persepolis is a distinctive animated film that weaves a compassionate tale that seamlessly guides the viewer from heartwrenching situations and laughter and heartwrenching horror and loss. Even audiences who know better than to expect a Pixar film with a cute, anthropomorphic protagonist and a typical happy ending may not be prepared for the film's unexpected emotional complexity and relatability.

Based on an autobiographical graphic novel of the same name, the movie is a coming-of-age tale following nine-year-old Marjane Satrapi. She grows up amidst the Islamic Revolution in Iran. As an older Marjane narrates the story as she recounts her experiences and emotions. The animation and style raise the question of their efficacy. Can an animated film — nominated for an Oscar alongside ‘Toy Story 4’ — really convey the intensity of a story that not only charts the transformation of a young, idealistic girl into an experienced and politically-aware woman, but also the complexity of a nation's political revolution — the answer is a resounding yes.

The lack of computer animation differentiates the movie from other animated features currently in theaters. Little to no computer-generated imagery exists in the film, but the characters' expressions and designs successfully convey emotion and empathy. Political turmoil, death, execution, women's oppression and depression are just a few of the issues Marjane tackles and Persepolis presents beautifully and effectively in poignant detail. Marjane’s typical teenage rebellions — right down to her affinity for Adidas sneakers, Iron Maiden and defying authority — contrasts with the larger political rebellion she and her family confront. Her defiant attitude continues through her adulthood, setting her on a journey that forces her to question her principles and identity. The film acts as a study of morals and behavior in a world that is constantly changing — but not for the better. Yet, the film's pace and attitude refuse to be bogged down by its grave setting and situations.

The color of the movie is crucial to storytelling. The story of Marjane's past appears in black and white while the color depicts her present. But more significant color changes occur that indicate important events and themes in the film. Characters fade to black with white outlines to highlight important themes or moments in the film. This color change allows the viewer not only to be visually stimulated but also to follow along with and experience the intensity Marjane does.

The film acts as a study of morals and behavior in a world that is constantly CHANGING.

The only real weakness in the film is its ending. The title of the film originates from an ancient, half-finished ceremonial Persian city in what is present-day Iran. And in a way, Persepolis and its tale are only half-finished. After experiencing her transition from child to young adult, Marjane again ventures out into the world armed with her principles and knowledge. The rest of her life and story has yet to be lived and told. After reliving Marjane's experiences with her and seeing the world through her eyes, the viewer is not rewarded with an explicit, final ending.

One of the main appeals of the film stems from a distinct paradox: Marjane's universal experiences and her individual story. We all understand what it is like to feel isolated, confused at the intricacy of the world and thrilled at the prospect of entering adulthood and becoming authority. But few of us experience these changes while the world shifts rapidly and violently around us. Unlike less sonorous films, Persepolis succeeds at addressing serious issues while portraying the universal struggle to understand ourselves. The movie — like real life — is an expression of human and tragedy that reaches viewers on multiple levels.

Design Life Now exhibit showcases other modes of art
by Rachel Green

Design Life Now exhibit showcases other modes of art. Art does not always come in a frame; it can appear as a doodle on a piece of scrap paper or in the lines of a light fixture. The Contemporary Art Museum, Houston’s latest exhibit, "Design Life Now: National Design Triennial," features the latest, most innovative and most bizarre designs from 2003-06 and leaves every type of viewer filled with wonderment and the occasional chuckle.

The exhibition includes works from several genres, including home furnishings and interior design, architecture, clothing, technology, printmaking and graphic design and advertisement. Nike shoes, images of Google Earth and the now-famous silhouetted iPod icons are found alongside more unfamiliar works, such as Orlando Pita's wig.

Many of the pieces have a practical bent, such as the military training applications created by the University of Southern California’s Institute for Creative Technology and Graham Hawkes’ Deep Flight submersible that is "piloted" underwater in a manner that reduces the disturbance of marine life. Other works seem to have been created purely for the pleasure of the viewer or just the artist himself. The humorous trompe-l’oeil "trick of the eye" furniture of Jason Miller, the sculpture-cum-wearable jewelry in Terre du Lac by the Ladd Brothers and the Koirobot Smokin' Sabbath Stool, in which a rabbit smoking a cigarette greets visitors as they enter the exhibit, are whimsical above all else.

Many works blur the line between practical and amusing. The best example of this is Hunter Hoffman's SnowWorld video game. Hoffman, a professor at the University of Washington, created a seemingly simple video game where the player throws snowballs at penguins and snowmen in Antarctica. However, when set to the happy tunes of Paul Simon and placed in the hands of a six-year-old born patient, SnowWorld has been seen DESIGNS, page 13.
All I ever want to be is a music video vixen

After years of a laborious pursuit, all I want to do is be in a music video. Just picture it.

Me, in bed with my cat who wears tiny jammies, and we are dissatisfied with our relationship. So, like Björk in her video for "Triumph of the Heart," I go on a drunken bender that infuses me with new life and love for my cat. Waking on the side of the road while pink petals stream alongside my head, my cat pulls up in his car and we do a happy dance together.

Or me, spinning around with my hands in the shape of a gun, causing all the backup dancers to collapse in a circle around me like Feist in the video for "1234." Or me, covered in silver paint wearing tiny jammies, and back bending or dancing with an umbrella under a shower of sparks like Rihanna in "Umbrella." Actually, no one should picture that. Just picture it.

Walking on the side of the road with champagne.

Or me, wearing a robot that might hit on you, if you are lucky. The whole exhibit is lighthearted and exciting with new curiosities literally around every corner.

How does what a person CREATED relate to what I know about the world?

The traditionalist may shun a design exhibit at an art museum, wishing to keep art conventional. But even though it displays the latest and greatest innovations and inventions, Design Life Now is also successful from a purely artistic standpoint. The works, like any other successful display of good artwork, evoke responses, whether it be activist or condition. They make viewers question the inspiration of the designers and, in turn, question their own inspirations. How does what a person created relate to what I know of the world? How could I come up with something like this?

An exhibit can ask why people create, how exploring the world both visually and scientifically provides us with new perspectives, and why our fellow humans are capable, then the medium of art

How are tables you might find at IKEA compared to tables you might find atwd in art museums? How are black dresses for the fashionistas compared to kayaks for the outdoorsmen and blogs for the Internet savvy? There are tables you might find at IKEA or light fixtures you might find at Urban Outfitters. There is even a robot that might hit on you, if you are lucky. The whole exhibit is lighthearted and exciting with new curiosities literally around every corner.

From page 12

Vividly, automatically have one big opportunity to out— and do other stuff—to music. It can make any moment seem epic.

The answer for me probably lies in the universe as we know it.

Nikki Metzgar is a Baker College senior and Arts and Entertainment editor.
Cougars stymie Owls' comeback

by Justin Hudson

On the verge of yet another Owls' loss, the women's basketball team pulled off its best stretch of basketball in a long while in the second half of last Saturday's game against the University of Houston. But that inspired stretch only made the score appear respectable — the Cougars (11-8, 5-1 Conference USA) hit key shots down the stretch to win 70-64.

With the loss, Rice (0-12, 0-5 CUSA) has now hit rock bottom. At 1-5, the Owls find themselves last in place last in CUSA, and to make matters worse, their next two chances to climb out of the cellar come on the road. Tonight at 7 p.m., Rice takes on UAB, which is 5-1 in CUSA.

Rice run that rejuvenated the Owls and brought them back within striking distance. But just as quickly as Rice seemed to be gaining momentum, UH matched it back. The Owls had back-to-back defensive lapses that led to wide-open Cougars baskets, in addition to a layup off a UH steal which made the score 53-58 with 9:49 left.

The club now continued, as a basket and free-throw shot by freshman forward Meg Mobley and a three pointer by senior point guard Katie Rivett started a three minute, 9-0 run that put the Owls down 67-58.

Senior guard Katie Rivett may be leading the team with 3.6 assists per game, but her 17 points in a three minute, 9-0 run that brought the Owls back within striking distance.

For the Owls to be successful on their upcoming road trip, they must avoid starting like their first half against UH. From the tip, the Cougars seemed to be in control of the game, shooting 50 percent from the field en route to a 34-23 halftime lead. Rice's offensive production came from sophomore guard Tara Watts and senior forward Tiffany Loggin who combined to shoot 67% in the half while the rest of the team went 5-24. Worse yet, the Owls shot 0-9 from the three point line.

The ebb and flow continued, as a basket and free-throw shot by senior forward Megan Mobley and a three-pointer by senior point guard Katie Rivett started a three minute, 9-0 run that brought the Owls back within striking distance. But just as quickly as Rice seemed to be gaining momentum, UH matched it back. The Owls had back-to-back defensive lapses that led to wide-open Cougars baskets, in addition to a layup off a UH steal which made the score 53-58 with 9:49 left.

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And in what has become an all-too familiar pattern, things worsened for the Owls in the second half. The Cougarsgomery's 3-3 run that seemed to put the contest out of reach. But with the score tied at 67-67, the Owls finally woke up. A layup by senior point guard Katie Rivett started a three minute, 9-0 run that brought the Owls back within striking distance.

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And in what has become an all-too familiar pattern, things worsened for the Owls in the second half. The Cougars (11-8, 5-1 Conference U.S.A.) may be just under .500 overall, but the Blazer's have been red-hot in conference play, winning five of six games. Memphis (6-4, 2-4 Conference USA) might look like an easy opponent, but the Tigers have already doubled their conference win total from a year ago, having beaten both Tulane (11-0) and Houston (10-1) in CUSA regular season champion, and East Carolina, the defending CUSA tournament champion.

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Whether from North Carolina or the North Pole, go Tar Heels!

Two weekends ago, sports fans across the country tuned their televisions to see if they could get to see Jimmy Johnson go giddy over contests — the AFC and NFC Championship Games. From the grizzled gunslinger Brett Favre’s possible final hurrah to the Packers’ run for the Super Bowl, well, at least most of America did.

There were a couple of stragglers last weekend, a few people stream through living rooms and college dorms for whom the highlight of the sporting world was not seeing Philip Rivers get stuffed at the goal line by an Iowa State defense harder than a Thanksgiving turkey (exactly what the highlight of the sporting world was not seeing Philip Rivers get stuffed at the goal line by an Iowa State defense harder than a Thanksgiving turkey). But every couple of minutes, the silence of the cool January air was shattered with an resounding screams of either pure joy or unadulterated agony. These primal screams, falling on our ears from four floors up, came from none other than sophomore Patrick McAnaney.

Anyway, back to the fanatics of last weekend. Kind of like Bigfoot or Miguel Tejada’s integrity, you never attend from a state or city that their team will never force you to waver. And just like the santee, Favre will return again.

So, when the then-top-ranked Sooner State and city boundaries blur and friendless since, McAnaney’s eyes would be glued. And thus it was no surprise when, upon the Terps taking the game, a strade of "CRAPSH**!&* BALLS" ensued. Another heart broken, another spirit deflated, another fanatic thrown to the wayside by a team’s failures. Fortunately for us all, it was not Duke that knocked off UNC — we would have surely put Mr. McAnaney in a straight-jacket for a couple of weeks. But in an ironic twist, Maryland is the best school — which up until this year never set foot in Wisconsin. Your proximity, or lack thereof, to your team will never force you to waver. After all, absence makes the heart grow fonder.

As long as it’s not absence from the Super Bowl, that is.

Casey Michel is a Brown College sophomore and does not like to discuss his obsession with the University of North Carolina Tar Heels men’s basketball program. He would be easy to call this mostly irate Irishman a front-runner, but that would not be fair. Granted, he also roots for Notre Dame football — again, he neither attends nor lives near the school — which up until this year he never attended from a state in which he has never lived. Mr. McAnaney loves the University of North Carolina Tar Heels men’s basketball program.

It would be easy to call this mostly irate Irishman a front-runner, but that would not be fair. Granted, he also roots for Notre Dame football — again, he neither attends nor lives near the school — which up until this year he never attended from a state in which he has never lived. Mr. McAnaney loves the University of North Carolina Tar Heels men’s basketball program.

The worst film/TV show/musical/whatever is ever to grace our screens is thoroughly unadulterated agony.

I WANT YOU

To cover Rice baseball for the Thresher

Watch future stars play baseball.

Write about it.

Hang out with Wayne Graham.

Get paid.

Interested? Email thresher-sports@rice.edu

THE WORST OF THE WORST

For those of us here at Page 2.5, striving to be the worst is what we do. When confronted with questions as to what they felt was worst, a few of the best athletes Rice has to offer — including Scott Zivick — chimed in with their opinions. Let’s have a look at what they had to say...
Men’s tennis struggles against unranked USF to open season

by Casey Michel

While most teams relish a break in the action of a grueling season, the men’s tennis team can argue that its break came at the most inopportune time — right before the beginning. After a hard-fought first dual-match at UC Irvine Saturday, No. 32 Rice struggled to maintain any level of competitiveness in the next day against the unranked University of South Florida in Tampa, Fla., falling 8-2 to open the season.

The Owls, who dropped three spots in the rankings to No. 41, will face their toughest test of the season this weekend. Rice heads to Raleigh, N.C., today to take on 29th-ranked North Carolina State University, which played into the Elite Eight in the 2007 NCAA Tournament. As if this stop in the Tar Heel State will not be difficult enough, the equal must-conquer-rice No. 10 University of North Carolina Sunday in Chapel Hill, N.C.

While wary of his team’s upcoming opponents, assistant coach Elie Ustundag (Baker ’99), says he hopes last week’s surprise loss will energize the Owls.

“Maybe [the loss to USF] will be a rude awakening for us,” Ustundag said. “Hope so, because the road will just get tougher. Our opponents are very, very talented teams, and very intense teams, so we have to match their energy and intensity if we hope to have a shot.”

**THIS WEEKEND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rice vs. No. 20 N.C. State</td>
<td>Today</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNC</td>
<td>Feb. 3</td>
<td>Chapel Hill, N.C.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Feb. 8</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami (Fla.)</td>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Dominion</td>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Feb. 17</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>Raleigh, N.C.</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego St.</td>
<td>Mar. 3</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCLA</td>
<td>Mar. 5</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Irvine</td>
<td>Mar. 7</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>Mar. 11</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSU</td>
<td>Mar. 18</td>
<td>Athens, Ga.</td>
<td>All Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice Invite</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa</td>
<td>Apr. 2</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCU</td>
<td>Apr. 4</td>
<td>Fort Worth, Tex.</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMU</td>
<td>Apr. 6</td>
<td>Dallas, Tex.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEN’S TENNIS UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

**Rice vs. No. 20 N.C. State**

**When:** Today at noon

**Where:** Raleigh, N.C.

**History:** The Owls hold the all-time advantage, having won three of the four meetings, although none of the current Owls have ever faced the Wolfpack.

**Rice vs. No. 30 UNC**

**When:** Sunday at noon

**Where:** Raleigh, N.C.

**History:** Rice is only 1-3 against the Tar Heels in their four meetings, and lost 4-2 in their last meeting on Feb. 9, 2007.

Going into last weekend’s match with the Bulls, it seemed that the Owls would come out victorious just by showing up. They had all the momentum after playing close matches with both No. 7 University of Texas and No. 8 University of Illinois in the preseason. They were healthy — senior Filip Zivojinovic’s back ailments were a thing of the past, and junior Tobias Schell’s foot was holding up well. And their two sophomores, Choung Wang and Bruno Rosa, were dominating nearly every singles match. Rosa even won the 2008 National Collegiate Tennis Classic Jan 20 and subsequently earned a spot in the ATP Pacific Life Open Qualifiers.

Wang and Rosa got Rice off to a quick start by taking the opening doubles match 6-2 at the No. 3 position. But soon after, the Owls’ play turned lethargic. The pair of Zivojinovic and junior Christopher Miller, ranked 58th in the nation, took the first set in their match with USAF’s Michael Nusslein and Lucas Jordi, and the Bulls clinched the doubles point with an 8-6 victory over Schell and No. 45 senior Ralph Kropper.

While the Owls may have come out slow due to the lack of action on Saturday, Ustundag attributed the poor doubles play to a lack of consistency in the pairings.

“Today we were playing around a lot to find the right combinations,” Ustundag said. “Maybe we haven’t been patient enough, but at the same time we don’t have too many options or time to play around with.

Already down a point on USAF’s home court, Rice seemed unable to put up a good fight. Schell was swept in straight sets 62, 64, at No. 6, and Wang soon dropped his match against Nusslein by the same score. Down 3-4, Müller could not gather any momentum, and his 62-63 loss sealed the Owls’ fate.

“I think we gave South Florida a chance to think they could win the match, and they have lived them up even a little bit more,” Ustundag said. “So, when that happened, [those players] that really were down had to somehow get up for singles in 10 minutes or, quite frankly, that wasn’t the case.”

Rosa was one of the few bright spots for Rice, refusing to relent in his assault on No. 84 Mahmed Hamed. Rosa downed the Bulls’ top player 7-5, 64, at the No. 1 position to take his eighth singles match in a row.

For Ustundag, Rosa’s play has not been the only thing remarkable about the sophomore — so too is his ability to lead.

“Rosa has been fantastic from the start, and I like the fact that he’s leading by example,” Ustundag said. “I just hope that some of the guys realize that, and actually try to match it. He’s certainly one of the best players in the country — his potential is great.”

Junior Tobias Schell struggled last Sunday, dropping his singles match in straight sets against USF as the Owls, ranked 42nd in the nation, lost 5-2.

**When Owls and Longhorns scrum**

The Rice rugby team will play in one of their toughest matches of the season this week, as they face Texas tomorrow at 2 p.m. on TM Field to begin their O1 competition. The Owls have played one contest thus far this season, beating Texas State 35-10 at home on Oct. 27.
Men remain winless with flop at Southern Miss

by Kashagra Shrinath

As the losses keep piling on, there seems to be no end in sight for the men's basketball team. After another disappointing second half -- this time against the University of Southern Mississippi last Saturday in Hattiesburg, Miss. -- Rice (516, 64 CUSA) extended its winless streak in conference matches to six games. Rice was led by sophomore guard Lawrence Graham's 14 points, six rebounds and four assists in the contest, while guard Jeremy Wise paced the Golden Eagles with 17 points.

The schedule will not get any easier for the Owls as they prepare to square off with Tulane University tomorrow night at the Merrell Center in Katy, Texas. The Green Wave (146, 42 CUSA) features a solid Gomez, who leads the team in scoring with 14.2 points per game. Gomez also posts a team leading 5.1 rebounds per game. The Owls lost by a slim margin when the two teams last faced each other, falling 61-56 in New Orleans, La., on Jan. 19. Trailing by twelve at halftime, the Owls battled back in the second half and were down by one before folding in the final minutes.

The contest against Southern Miss (10-10, 2-4 CUSA) started out well for Rice. Playing without leading scorer and rebounder Paulius Packevicius, the Owls jumped out to a quick 9-7 lead alongside in conjunction with an impressive 11-0 run. However, the Golden Eagles countered with an 11-6 run of their own towards the end of the half, turning a 25-17 deficit into a 28-25 lead heading into the halftime. The scoring from Southern Miss was spread out across the team, as the leading scorer of the run only put in four points. To compound matters, Rice's inconsistent offense went scoreless for the last 4:52 of the half.

Rejuvenated by the break, the Owls took a slim 3-3 lead early in the second half on a layup by sophomore guard Bryan Beasley, but a quick score by the Eagles on their next possession led to a 16-9 run that put the game out of reach. Rice would not trail by less than five points in the second half and lost by eighteen to finish out the game. The Achilles heel for the Owls was, once again, turnovers. The team added to their league-worst total with 21 turnovers, including six by Beasley and five by Graham. By contrast, Rice stole the ball only six times from Southern Miss.

The game was a textbook example of how Rice has played in recent weeks. A strong first half was offset by several cold stretches of shooting leading to a double-digit loss at the end of the game. To add insult to injury, Rice went to the free-throw line just fourteen times, while sending their opponents to the charity stripe thirty-eight times.

### THIS WEEKEND

**Rice vs. Tulane**

**When:** Tomorrow at 7 p.m.

**Where:** Merrell Center in Katy, Texas.

**Last meeting:** Despite being tied at 48 with 6:11 left, the Owls could not hang on against the Green Wave on Jan. 19, falling 61-56 in New Orleans, La.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Top Scorer</th>
<th>Top Rebounder</th>
<th>Top Assists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>69-60 (L)</td>
<td>Packevicius (20)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 26</td>
<td>Southern Miss</td>
<td>71-53 (L)</td>
<td>Graham (14)</td>
<td>Braimoh (5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date** | **Opponent** | **Location** | **Time** | **Last Meeting** |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2</td>
<td>Tulane</td>
<td>Merrell Center</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>61-56 (L), Jan. 19, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 6</td>
<td>East Carolina</td>
<td>Greenville, N.C.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>83-74 (W), Feb. 3, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>SMU</td>
<td>Dallas, Texas</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>75-66 (W), Feb. 24, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 13</td>
<td>UAB</td>
<td>Reliant Arena</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>83-74 (L), Feb. 14, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>UCF</td>
<td>Reliant Arena</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>53-51 (L), March 8, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>Tulsa</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>73-65 (L), March 3, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>Hofheinz Pavilion</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>69-60 (L), Jan. 23, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>UCF</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>First meeting on Feb. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>SMU</td>
<td>Merrell Center</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>First meeting on Feb. 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TENNIS

North Texas to take a 3-2 lead.

The last two matches went to three sets each, with sophomore Rebecca Lin battling Rachel Wilson and Pradeuman Varsha Shoba Shankar pitted against Amy Jouvert. After giving up the first set, Shiva Shankar recovered to win 4-6, 6-4, 6-4. With the overall score knotted at three, all eyes turned to Lin and Wilson. Fortunately for Rice, Lin led her opponent in a thrilling three-set match, ending with a 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 win to secure a Rice victory.

At the time, Lin said she had no idea that the match was still even. "Actually, I did not know that it would all depend on my match," Lin said. "Luckily, I pulled it out. I was able to just grind out a victory by winning the last couple of games." Relieved to have edged out North Texas, Rice hit the courts on Sunday to face Lamar. Once again, the doubles duo did not play well, but with a couple of comeback stretches Rice gutted out the doubles point.

The Owls carried their momentum into singles, as Lin, Beasley and Chao quickly pushed Rice to a 4-0 overall lead and clinched the victory through dominant singles play. The Owls finished the day 5-2 and improved to 4-2 in just two days of competition.

Capping off the long weekend, Rice squared off against UTSA on Monday. The Owls made quick work of UTSA on Monday, demolishing the Roadrunners 7-0 to remain undefeated in the season.

"The girls were excited for the 3-0 start," head coach Roger White said. "Every third match now was high-level confidence-building. The confidence, the toughness, and knowing they can get it done are the things that will really matter in the spring."

Lin also said that beyond the victories, the Owls also gained some confidence. "We struggled last year with confidence," Lin said. "We are coming out now and saying that we are good and that we won't lose to better teams. The process was all about executing. There is always room for underestimating, but we didn't let that get in the way of our focus.

### FROM THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF ABOUT A BOY AND HIGH FIDELITY.

**NICK HORNBY**

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**

"Hornby's witty, gentle genius shines through."  
-USA TODAY

"Hilarious."  
- THE WASHINGTON POST

"Hornby truthfully dissects the male psyche."  
- ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

C. P. PUTNAM'S SONS  
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WWW.MYSPACE.COM/CONNICKBOOKS
Swimmers split double-duel meets
by Tracy Dunbar

Today, the swim team bid adieu to Rice Pool, its home for the last 57 years. Rice's meet against the University of Louisiana in New Orleans at 5 p.m. will be the last meet held at home this season, and the last one before the completion of the new Hutson Center. The Owls and Privateers have already met once this season, at the Phil Hardin Duals on Oct. 8, and both teams did not put up much of a fight against the dominant Owls, who won 244-101.

Although Rice should have an easy time closing out its home, the team will be hard-pressed to match the Anthony Pice set it last week in a double-duel at the UH Rec Center.

Go up against LSU and host UH, the Owls set 19 season-best times. However, with numerous swimmers out due to injury and illness, Rice could only manage a split, falling 216-119 to the 19th-ranked Tigers while demolishing the Cougars 225-117.

Although Rice could not drop any individual medley, it scored well in the distance events, with a layup to shut the Owls out of the UH 200-free relay. But Rice's backstroke performance held the team will be hard-pressed to make the NCAA meet next month.

Even at 10 recent years, the Year candidate Evan Longoria in the UH Swimming and Diving Duals.

SOUTHERN MISS 71 RICE 53
Jan. 26, 2008 - Hattiesburg, Miss.

Women's

- 100-yard freestyle: Vani Paul 55.6, 2, 1 (Miss); Melissa Gu 55.7, 1 (Rice);
- 200-yard freestyle: Gu 2:23.4, 1, 1 (Miss); Paul 2:25.7, 2, 1 (Rice);
- 500-yard freestyle: Gu 4:54.4, 1, 1 (Miss); Christine Campos 5:39.6, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 100-yard backstroke: Campos 1:00.8, 1, 1 (Rice); Tania Campos 1:04.4, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 200-yard backstroke: Campos 2:12.0, 1, 1 (Rice); Campos 2:14.8, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 500-yard backstroke: Campos 5:15.3, 1, 1 (Rice);
- 100-yard breaststroke: Campos 1:05.5, 1, 1 (Rice); Campos 1:08.9, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 200-yard breaststroke: Campos 2:11.7, 1, 1 (Rice); Campos 2:15.0, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 100-yard butterfly: Campos 57.3, 1, 1 (Rice); Campos 57.7, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 200-yard butterfly: Campos 1:59.7, 1, 1 (Rice);
- 500-yard freestyle relay: Campos, Campos, Campos, Campos 3:38.3, 1, 1 (Rice);
- 3-meter diving: Campos 257.0 (Rice);

Men's

- 100-yard freestyle: Henry Miller 50.2, 1, 1 (Rice); Jose Casillas 51.7, 2, 2 (Miss);
- 200-yard freestyle: Miller 1:41.0, 1, 1 (Rice); Casillas 1:43.2, 2, 2 (Miss);
- 500-yard freestyle: Miller 4:37.5, 1, 1 (Rice); Casillas 4:40.7, 2, 2 (Miss);
- 100-yard backstroke: Miller 55.2, 1, 1 (Rice); Casillas 57.6, 2, 2 (Miss);
- 200-yard backstroke: Miller 2:05.1, 1, 1 (Rice); Casillas 2:07.8, 2, 2 (Miss);
- 500-yard backstroke: Miller 5:04.2, 1, 1 (Rice); Casillas 5:06.7, 2, 2 (Miss);
- 100-yard breaststroke: Casillas 58.2, 1, 1 (Miss); Miller 1:01.6, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 200-yard breaststroke: Casillas 1:59.2, 1, 1 (Miss); Miller 2:04.0, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 100-yard butterfly: Casillas 54.8, 1, 1 (Miss); Miller 56.1, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 200-yard butterfly: Casillas 1:54.8, 1, 1 (Miss); Miller 1:56.8, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 200-yard medley relay: Casillas, Casillas, Miller, Miller 1:39.2, 1, 1 (Miss);
- 200-yard medley relay: Miller, Miller, Casillas, Casillas 1:39.1, 2, 2 (Rice);
- 200-yard freestyle relay: Casillas, Casillas, Miller, Miller 1:39.7, 1, 1 (Miss);
- 400-yard medley relay: Casillas, Casillas, Miller, Miller 3:37.5, 1, 1 (Miss);
- 3-meter diving: Miller 264.4 (Rice);

Swimming

UH 70 Rice 64

Women's

- 100-yard freestyle: Sarah Henry 54.6, 1, 1 (Rice); Emily Hinnant 56.7, 2, 2 (UH);
- 200-yard freestyle: Henry 1:53.4, 1, 1 (Rice); Hinnant 1:55.8, 2, 2 (UH);
- 500-yard freestyle: Henry 4:50.4, 1, 1 (Rice); Hinnant 4:53.6, 2, 2 (UH);
- 100-yard backstroke: Henry 1:01.3, 1, 1 (Rice); Hinnant 1:01.8, 2, 2 (UH);
- 200-yard backstroke: Henry 2:02.5, 1, 1 (Rice); Hinnant 2:03.4, 2, 2 (UH);

Men's

- 100-yard freestyle: Henry Miller 52.3, 1, 1 (Rice); Jordan McNeil 52.8, 2, 2 (UH);
- 200-yard freestyle: Miller 1:42.5, 1, 1 (Rice); McNeil 1:42.9, 2, 2 (UH);
- 500-yard freestyle: Miller 4:36.1, 1, 1 (Rice); McNeil 4:36.9, 2, 2 (UH);

Tennis

Rice 1 0 UH 0
Jan. 27, 2008 - Rice Tennis Stadium

Women's

- 1. Chao (Rice) d. Martinez/Guzman 6-0, 6-2
- 2. Koszelnik (Rice) d. Chan/Max 6-3, 6-1
- 3. Braid/Shiva-Shankar (Rice) d. Aranda/Harbuzi 8-6, 6-2
- 4. Lin (Rice) d. Dedering (USF) 6-2, 6-2
- 5. Braid (Rice) d. Hasking (UTSA) 6-2, 6-2
- 6. Shiva-Shankar (Rice) d. Phillips (UTSA) 6-3, 6-2

Men's

- 1. Chao (Rice) d. Martinez/Guzman 6-0, 6-2
- 2. Koszelnik (Rice) d. Chan/Max 6-3, 6-1
- 3. Braid/Shiva-Shankar (Rice) d. Aranda/Harbuzi 8-6, 6-2
- 4. Lin (Rice) d. Dedering (USF) 6-2, 6-2
- 5. Braid (Rice) d. Hasking (UTSA) 6-2, 6-2
- 6. Shiva-Shankar (Rice) d. Phillips (UTSA) 6-3, 6-2

ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATION BEST ANIMATED FEATURE

RATATOUILLE

THREE LIONS

SOO-FANDANGO

SOUTHERN MISS 71 RICE 53
Jan. 26, 2008 - Hattiesburg, Miss.

Women's

-83-3, 3-0 (Doubles)
-209, 0-1 (Singles)

Men's

-209, 0-1 (Singles)

NUMBERS

Assists - UH 18 (Jackson 8, McIntyre 4, Taylor 2, Obaze 14, Joseph 1, Craft 3, Bain 1); Rice 9 (Ghoram 3-6, 5-7, Deyote 2, 3-4, 0-0 6, Obaze 14, 0-0 6, Joseph 1-1, 00 2.

Rice (3-16, C-USA)

-3-5 15, McIntyre 3-8, 2-2 10, Hill 3-7, 00 6, Meyers
-3-5 15, McIntyre 3-8, 2-2 10, Hill 3-7, 00 6, Meyers
-3-5 15, McIntyre 3-8, 2-2 10, Hill 3-7, 00 6, Meyers
-3-5 15, McIntyre 3-8, 2-2 10, Hill 3-7, 00 6, Meyers
FRIDAY February 1

More friendly fun facts from Registrar David Tenney!

Fun facts 1-5:
1. Today is the last day to complete late registration or add courses.
2. Today is the last day to adjust variable credit courses.
3a. Today is the last day to drop courses online without a fee.
3b. Don't worry, it's super classy courses.
4. Today is the last day to designate a course as "Audit" or vice versa.

OWL-CON!!!

"Operas are amazing, shut yer courses.

Fun facts 6-10:
6. Today is the last day to drop courses online without a fee.
7. Two Rows, Chicken Kitchen and Buffalo Wild Wings.
8. Tame that Shrew, Willy!

SATURDAY February 2

Why is it called Punxsutawney?
Celebrate the world's oldest, postcard-grazing, Punxsutawney Hall. It's been predicting the weather for 120 years. Pretty amazing, considering that the average lifespan of a groundhog is less than ten years. For more info, you can visit the official Web site of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, www.grouadhog.com.

"Operas are amazing, shut yer courses.

WEDNESDAY February 6

Back to grassroots cinema
Rice's Cinemascope brings back the glory days when film societies were born, people just talking about things. In this meeting, explore how reality and film are connected in documentaries and fiction. They meet 7-9 p.m. in the Rice Media Center's Film Auditorium.

THURSDAY February 7

Tame that Shrew, Willy!
Actors From The London Stage, an international touring troupe, will be performing Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew," at the Rice Media Center's Film Auditorium.

FRIDAY February 8

K Tran's Birthday
Yeah, I'm talking to you. Happy Birthday. Maybe we'll bust out a little bit of West Side story...
Campus shocked by racial strife not caused by Backpage

In a startling turn of events, Rice has been wracked by serious charges of racial ignorance on campus. But in a diversion from what Rice has been used to, the charges are not being directed at the Backpage.

"When I first heard that the RUSA was having a sit-in at Sid, I turned to the Backpage to see what they were so angry about," Brown College junior James Bransley said. "But it was nothing more than a mediocre mockery of Library policy and some hastily done Photoshopping. What a gift."

Indeed, upon hearing complaints about the use of racial slurs and racial stereotypes, Dean of Judicial Affairs Don Outdick instantly called to his office Thresher Editor-in-Chief Stephen Whitfield and Executive Editor Evan Mintz.

"I just assumed the Backpage was responsible," Outdick said. "I really didn't know what to think."

"It wasn't!" Whitfield said. "This really sticks in my craw."

Various student groups have decided to arrange forums to discuss the disturbing events on campus.

"When I heard that it wasn't the Backpage, I really didn't know what to do," Market College senior Bill Natali said. "I'm just not sure if I feel comfortable at a university where events like this can happen and not be the fault of the Backpage."

Barack Obama and David Leebron: Brothers from another mother?

It may seem a little odd to compare Rice's President with a candidate for U.S. President, but look at the facts. Leebron and Obama have strikingly similar lives, with Obama always just a few years behind Leebron.

So prepare yourself for Obama's Vision for the 21st Century, which will include massive infrastructure construction across the nation, the addition of two new states, and a tax increase of nearly 50% over four years.

1979: Leebron earns his JD from Harvard Law School, where he was President of the Harvard Law Review.

1991: Obama earns his JD from Harvard Law School, where he was President of the Harvard Law Review.

1995: Obama writes "An Overview of the Orugay Round Results."

1999: Obama becomes a U.S. Senator

2004: Leebron becomes president of Rice

2008: Obama becomes president of the United States

The Backpage is satire and is written by Evan Mintz.

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME NANNY needed - medical center area. Duties include afternoon picking up 14 month boy from daycare required, meal preparation & play activities. Parents work from home. MIN 15 hours per week $10.00/hr. Competitive hourly rate. Home and daycare within a mile from campus. References required. Call 832-389-0002.

PART-TIME ASSISTANT in translating English and Vietnamese. Fluent in English and Vietnamese. College Education. Knowledge of both cultures. Computer MS Office Skills. Must be able to type in Vietnamese. Email Internet Capabilities. Contact nguyenq@gmail.com.

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