### Vote!

Student Association elections start today. Whether you are running or voting, use this guide to do your research and make your voice heard before voting closes on Wednesday.

**Lunar New Year Show**

A group of Asian culture clubs on campus will host a Lunar New Year show tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in the Grand Hall of the SRC. Dinner, which costs $2, will start at 6:00 p.m. Come enjoy Asian cultural performances!

**John McCain visits Rice**

Sen. John McCain, a candidate for the Republican nomination for president of the United States, will speak at the James A. Baker Institute for Public Policy Thursday, Feb. 28 at 8:30 a.m. Further information will be posted on RiceInfo.

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**Women's tennis falls to UT**

**Quote of the Week**

"I know Matt Youn is like a cult at Brown, but candidates need to exercise more restraint with the use of names."—SA Director of Elections Andrew Bowen on Brown College's Youn-themed pub night. See story, page 7

**Vision Weekend attendance reaches record high**

Approximately 455 prospective students attended Vision Weekend, a recruitment weekend for underrepresented minorities hosted by the Office of Admissions this past Sunday through Tuesday. Many of the students who were invited were either accepted under Early Decision and have committed to Rice or have a strong likelihood of being accepted under Regular Decision. Student Admissions Council Minority Interests Committee cochair Jessica Fowler said the number of prospective students who attended this year is an all-time high.

Fowler, a Hannan College junior, said Vision Weekend had the highest attendance in its history. She said this showed that President David Lechler's Vision for the Second Century, which aims to increase undergraduate student enrollment to 3,900, was effective.

Fowler said no major problems were encountered.

"There are always those little nuances that are easily fixed, such as not being able to get in touch with hosts or hosts canceling at the last minute, prospective students getting lost in the airport or missing airplane shuttles," Fowler said. "Expect the little things that usually happen, but we get those fixed as soon as possible."

One change this year to Vision Weekend included the mixer for the prospective students to get to know each other and their hosts which included Nintendo Wii, Xbox and board games on Sunday afternoon.

"One of the complaints from past prospective students was that they didn't get a chance to meet other students," said Fowler.

### Presidential candidates speak at the Thresher/RTV5 debate

The Student Association presidential candidates gathered together Monday to participate in a debate hosted by RTV5 and the Thresher.

The contenders included SA External Vice President Sarah Baker, SA Internal Vice President Matt Youn and co-running mates Martel College juniors Mithun Mansinghani and Zach Marshall. Thresher Editor-in-Chief Stephen Whitfield and Thresher Executive Editor Evan Mote moderated the debate.

Mansinghani and Marshall's presidential bid was initially rejected by the SA Elections Committee because it was late, but the candidates were put on the presidential ballot after the SA overturned its previous vote. Parliamentarian Chris Warrington was also in the running but dropped out of the election after he was ruled ineligible.

The debate started with the candidates introducing themselves. Baker, a Lovett College junior, said she has been involved in the SA since her first day at Rice as a New Student Representative. She said she has been involved in programs such as the Family Weekend and Homecoming.

"I've been in the SA for a while so I know what it's like here," Baker said.

She said she has also been involved with the Student Admission Council, Re- program Council and College Assistance Peer Program.

Baker said she thinks it's the SA's job to enhance student life. She wants to make sure each candidate and Rice or have a strong likelihood of being accepted under Regular Decision.

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### Rondelet returns with cheaper tickets

Rice students who missed Esperanza have another chance to doso their suits and cocktail dresses during this year's reinstated Rondelet.

The campus-wide spring formal is scheduled to take place March 28 at Treviño's restaurant in the Texas Medical Center. After Rondelet was suspended last year due to low student interest and financial worries, the Rice Program Council hopes to have a turnout this year with a new theme, which has yet to be determined, cheaper tickets and a more convenient venue.

"I was at Rondelet last semester. This year, Rondelet is bringing back Rondelet at a more effective price," Sophomore Jessica Fowler said. "I think it's more affordable than last year."

Rondelet tickets will be sold for $10 starting March 24. Rondelet Program chairman Ron furniture said he thinks the changes to Rondelet will be effective. (See RONDELET, page 7)

### SA elections bring debate and dilemmas

Several candidates ruled ineligible to run, complaints filed

by Dale Siwarz

For a student body used to Student Association election seasons where the most exciting events are multi-colored signs, this year’s tumultuousness has been exciting for campus politics, if not the ordinary.

So far, campus has seen two candidates—presidential and SA Parliamentarian Christopher Warrington and SA secretary candidate Carola Ried—declared ineligible for office. While they were removed from the ballot, three others—co-candidates for SA President Mithun Mansinghani and Zach Marshall, and candidate for RTV5 station manager Will Fischer—were placed on the ballot at the last minute. This election season has also been marked by complaints of violations of campaign rules.

Candidate Eligibility

Two weeks ago, the SA elections committee decided that Martel College senior Mithun Mansinghani and Zach Marshall were not eligible to appear on the elections ballot as co-candidates for SA President because they turned in their petition one day past the deadline. This decision would not have prevented them from running as write-in candidates.

Mansinghani and Marshall first appealed this decision to the Feb. 13 SA meeting, where the SA decided not to overturn the committee’s decision. The duo followed up on their appeal with an unresolved SA motion before the Thresher/RTV5 Student Government’s debate. According to the student candidates, Senator Whitfield solicited a resolution in a sharply divided vote, allowing Mansinghani and Marshall to participate in the televised presidential debate and to be placed on the ballot.

This addition of the debate came immediately after SA Parliamentarian Christopher Warrington withdrew from the race in a surprising development, with Mansinghani and Marshall taking his place at the debate table. Warrington, a Jones College junior, said ELIGIBILITY, page 7

Presidential candidates speak at the Thresher/RTV5 debate

by Lily Chun

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### The Rice Thresher

**Brown College junior Matt Youn, Martel College junior Zach Marshall, Martel senior Mithun Mansinghani and Lovett College junior Sarah Baker engage in a debate hosted by the Thresher and RTV5 Monday.**

**Vol. XCIVII, Issue No. 21**

Since 1916

Friday, February 22, 2008
Popular aphorisms tell us that consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds. They also tell us that the rules were meant to be broken. Yet the Student Association should not be run by petty squabbles. Like all governments, the SA should be managed based on strict adherence to laws and precedent. Unfortunately, on Monday the SA projected the image of an organization with no set sense of ideals or consistency, overturning its own decision from the previous week without any changes in arguments or circumstances.

At that meeting, the SA overturned a decision by the election committee — a decision which was nearly unanimously upheld at the previous week’s meeting — to not allow Martel College senior Mithun Mangshinghani and Maritavishu Zach Marshall on the ballot for SA president because they did not turn in the proper forms on time (see story, page 1). Students mock the SA enough already, but this flip-flop on a simple matter of enforcing deadlines is the biggest joke of all. Over the course of a week no circumstances within the SA changed, Mangshinghani and Marshall did not demonstrate a strong written campaign, nor did the election committee come to a new insight. But the SA changed its vote on the matter for apparently no reason except the whim of senators and college presidents. If students cannot rely on the SA to follow its own simple deadline rules, what can they expect?

We have no problem with Mangshinghani and Marshall’s campaign for president. However, given constant circumstances, we expect the SA to come to constant conclusions. This act of whimsy further illustrates the problems brought to light by the renewable energy blanket tax proposal. Senators and presidents either do not care about their duties or simply do not understand them.

We hope that the newly elected senators and presidents will take the SA’s own rules seriously.

Rondelet on course to class

We are very glad to see the return of Rondelet after a year off, but what really makes us want to dress up for this (usually) annual formal is the reduced ticket cost of $10 (see story, page 1). With a price on par with West寝室’s Night of Decadence or Archi-Arts, the Rice Program Council fixed one of students’ main complaints — after all, it was no so long ago when tickets for a couple were $50. Students mock the SA enough already, but this flip-flop on a simple matter of enforcing deadlines is the biggest joke of all. Over the course of a week no circumstances within the SA changed, Mangshinghani and Marshall did not demonstrate a strong written campaign, nor did the election committee come to a new insight. But the SA changed its vote on the matter for apparently no reason except the whim of senators and college presidents. If students cannot rely on the SA to follow its own simple deadline rules, what can they expect?

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Vote yes on everything

Many students may be overwhelmed by the slew of proposals that follow the list of candidates on the Student Association election ballot. It may be tempting to ignore these bureaucratic barriers, but the future functioning of the SA relies on the passage of these proposals. Many of the proposals correct errors in the SA constitution, updating positions that no longer exist and streamlining an out of date document. However, the most important vote on the slate is the Thresher blanket-tax increase. The Thresher serves as a key resource to students, faculty and alumni for news and opinion. Without this increase, the ability of the Thresher to provide complete coverage of events on campus will begin to suffer.

The increase is just an extra $6,70 per semester, about the cost of one cup of coffee at Smoothie King. It may not seem like a large amount, but the contribution will help the Thresher improve software, staff training and overall quality. Furthermore, it would be first increase in over 20 years — 20 years that have seen increased costs cut into the worth of the Thresher blanket tax. We have stretched ads revenue as far as it will go and cut expenses as much as we can, and it is time for a blanket-tax increase.

The Thresher is the smallest amount possible for a blanket-tax, with the current amount contributing only 16.8 percent of our total income, barely enough to cover half of printing costs. Remember, this is your newspaper, 100 percent student-run and managed. So step up and show your support.

Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff.

Student newspaper does not need paper

To the editor:

Do not print this. The massive amount of ink and paper used by printing thousands of Thresher copies needlessly wastes our planet’s precious resources. Instead, make the Thresher available online only. After all, we are college students living in the 21st century — our labs are online as is. Currently, there is a proposal to raise student fees in order to support the Thresher. Eliminating copies of the Thresher would accomplish both tasks. In short, get with the times, save money and stop printing this rough feeling paper that you call the Thresher.

Mithun Mangshinghani
Martel senior

Thresher miscros Spanish minor, intent

To the editor:

As Center for the Study of Language Spanish lecturers, we would like to offer important clarifications regarding the article about the proposed Spanish minor (“CSL proposes first-language-only minor.” Feb. 10). The article stated that the proposed Spanish language minor may become “Rice’s first minor” when in fact, Rice has already approved several other minors.

Both the headline, “CSL proposes first-language-only minor,” and a misquote about how the proposed minor would differ from a Hispanic Studies major suggest the minor and the course requirements are indeed different. As stated above, there are several advanced CSL classes that exist, our classes integrate language and culture. We seek to advance language proficiency, communicative competence and cultural awareness.

To achieve these goals, we make use of authentic materials including literature, film, music, theater, visual art, historical information, and needs (as appropriate for each course), and we require thoughtful processing of the material in spoken and/or written discourse. We employ many strategies to improve language acquisition to stimulate intellectual curiosity.

Teaching language with a grammar driven “skill-only” approach would be an insult to our students’ intelligence, a waste of our faculty’s capabilities and inappropriate for an academic institution such as Rice.

The possibility of having a Spanish minor at the CSL is exciting because it is a way for Rice to formally recognize students who work hard to achieve an advanced level of Spanish proficiency. As students reach for this goal, we hope to help them build bridges and the understanding necessary to succeed in a global society.

Vagi Arbuthnot-Salazar
Language lecturer
Patricia Burgos-Gomez
Senior language lecturer
Elisabeth Communist-Makar
Spanish Lecturer
Six other lecturers signed this letter

Early voting handy for spring breakers

To the editor:

I would like to encourage students to vote in the Texas presidential primary on March 4, but especially to remind them to vote early if you will be out of town for spring break, during which the primary falls. The Texas primary is open. This means you do not have to be a registered party member to vote, but you may only vote in one party’s primary. To vote early, go to any of the following locations during these hours: Friday, Feb. 22, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 23 from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 24, from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Monday, Friday, Feb. 25 through the 26, from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Lori Berman
Law student and voting春夏

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
As mentioned in the Thresher, Rice's honor system currently allows accused students to circumvent their case by forcing the case to be dropped.

An amendment to fix this flaw was presented last semester by both the Honor Council and the Student Senate, and will be enacted if approved by a minimum of three-fourths of the voting undergraduate student body in the Student Senate's forthcoming election in April.

Under the proposed change, an accused student would still be free to withdraw at any time, but if they did decide to leave Rice, the accusation would no longer be dropped, and it would remain on file.

For the purpose of clarification, the Council officers will host a series of town hall meetings to answer any questions that students may have about this issue.

Rice Thresher
"China's focus is shifting, and we are shifting in our approaches to China.

—Jonathan Spence  Yale Professor

"In the midst of the humiliation of the war, a startling number of Chinese called for increasing the number of Southern China feminists," Spence said. "This ambiguity is the probably example of an enigma: bringing the conquerors to your own country as the pedagogues of the new generation, especially when they don't speak Chinese. What does that say about the future role of your country?" Spence ended his vignettes with an account of the 1907 handover of British Hong Kong to China, symbolic of China's rising role moving into the twenty-first century. Spence said the present offers a connection to these anecdotes. Issues of religion, trade and diplomacy, education and the role of democracy are all relevant to the contemporary discourse on China, and Asia in general, Spence said.

With that agenda, Spence began adding new issues and questions of interest to future scholars. He transformed from a historian to a scholar of geopolitics and public policy, posing questions on a broad range of topics, including international relations, the environment, this year's summer Olympics in Beijing and China as a major naval power. He asked the crowd if China's energy needs are a threat to the United States, as well as China's future if it becomes a major naval power.

"The greatest enigma of all is India and its relationship with China," Spence said, "There are 2.5 billion people between the two." Brown College student Tyler Bard said he enjoyed the lecture.

"It really took his discussion of the current debate over whether China has historically been a single country or an empire," Bard said.

Outlining areas like Taiwan, Tibet and Xinjiang have passed in and out of direct Chinese control throughout the centuries, making Chinese chilms tenuous and controversial.

"My biggest complaint was that Professor Spence had a considerable number of questions, but not many answers," Bard said.

Jones College junior Lily Ban reefer said she was intrigued by Spence's presentation of the material, using the small anecdotes to tell his story as opposed to a connected linear narrative.

"I was intrigued by the topic and said I couldn't get into more detail," Ban reefer said. "Overall, it was very good.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 12 p.m. Wednesday, March 12 in the Founder's Room of Lovett Hall.
Gender inequality, AIDS

focus of Duvury lecture

by Cindy Dish

While Rice plans to raise over $100 million over the next decade to help fight AIDS and support world health, students from a variety of majors and concentrations congregated at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy last Friday to hear Nata Duvury (Jones '73), director of Gender, Violence and Rights at the International Center for Research on Women, speak about the effects of gender inequality as it relates to HIV/AIDS, women's ownership of property and gender-based violence.

Duvury's topic on women's property ownership was the first in the lecture series, "Gender, Health and Human Well-Being." Drawing from her extensive research in India, South Africa and Uganda, Duvury focused on explaining that gender violence occurs across cultures and is isolated to certain parts of the world.

‘People in Uganda and South Africa think that the husband has bought the women when they get married.'

— Nata Duvury (Jones '73)

Disparities between the rights of men and women in certain cultures hinder women's development. Duvury said she believes the key to promoting gender equality is through women's property ownership. She said home ownership in India, for example, is an important right for women.

"There are culturally-specific problems throughout Africa."

Sid Richardson College sophomore Julia Lukomnik was surprised to hear how different the issues between India and Sub-Saharan Africa were. "People tend to group the developing countries together and assume they have the same problems," Lukomnik said.

"Males can use this as a way to manipulate women."

A female student in the audience asked Duvury if they could gain control of their husbands or other women by manipulating them. Duvury said the power is in the hands of the husband and the wife is at a disadvantage of being at risk for contracting HIV/AIDS. She said that women who wish to own the property of their husbands or other women must take into consideration the effects of that property in their husbands' or partners' lives.

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"There are culturally-specific problems throughout Africa."

Sid Richardson College sophomore Amanda Roberts said she was able to relate the various statistics Duvury presented to her classroom discussions.

"It is not enough for people just to hear how to solve gender inequality," Roberts said. "Linking it to a global pandemic like the AIDS makes it more visible." Roberts said. "I also have heard Duvury present the facts and statistics. Lukomnik said she wondered how to best take this knowledge into action.

"This is a good place to go off of instead of a good place to stop," Lukomnik said.

Program for studying in Los Angeles now open to Rice students

by Rachel Carlson

Visual arts majors may find themselves tanning in the sun and rubbing elbows with celebrities through a new opportunity for semester-long study in Los Angeles. A program called University at Texas Los Angeles Center, which coordinates undergraduate studies in Hollywood, announced last Friday that it will now accept students from universities across the country.

UTLA, which was previously only open to University of Texas at Austin students, is a program designed to introduce juniors and seniors of all majors to professionals in Hollywood arts and entertainment through internships and class instruction.

"When I saw the opportunity, I knew I wanted to apply," said Nata Duwury, a former Disney executive, said that students must take at least three classes, almost half of which are held during the early mornings and nighttimes to allow for internships with major film and music studios during the day.


The UTLA curriculum is tailored to students' own interests, Nemy said. Before the semester begins, students are given a packet with about twenty different career paths from which to choose. Students select the three they would most like to pursue. The top three topics voted on by all program participants become the focuses for individual courses.

Course instructors include past executives, producers, designers and casting directors. Nemy said. Paul Leonard, a current co-producer of Battlestar Galactica, is one of the instructors in the UTLA Creative Process class on Visual Production and Editing. Students often have a chance to create their own film or music samples and compare them to professional versions.

Admission requirements

Students with a minimum GPA of 2.5 may apply to UTLA after completing 60 credit hours before the UTLA semester. Completion of a Media Studies course at Rice is also recommended. After fulfilling prerequisites, students must apply and submit a $500 deposit when applying to the program.

Wiese College sophomore Rachel Solnick, a visual arts major, said the film program at UTLA because they allow Rice art students to translate their major to a practical career.

"I'm sometimes concerned about having a major that I'm not sure how to apply after I graduate," Solnick said. "Programs like this get you working and allow you to make connections and make careers more apparent." Students who are not interested in film or music can also participate in UTLA. Some architects and engineers work on set design and special effects productions through companies like Special Effects Unlimited. Writers can participate in classes for composing television scripts.

盥el College freshman Lulu Fang said she appreciated the outside connections for visual arts majors.

"I think that it's really great because our department is very small and we don't have that many teachers, so Rice can't offer that many classes," Fang said. "To have varying opportunities by way of partnerships allows students to have more options. I think a lot of students will take advantage of this."
prospective students, so we thought this would be a good opportunity," she said.

In response to complaints from past prospective students who were upset they did not get to see what Houston was like as part of their Rice visit, another change was an evening tour of Houston on Sunday night. Prospective students toured downtown Houston, the Rice Village and the Reliant Park area.

''I found myself really comfortable with the prospective students and already wanting them to come here.'" — Jessica Fowler

SAC Minority Interests co-chair

Prospective students attended classes and attended panels, including pre-professional panels for prospective pre-law and pre-health professions students, on Monday. Students also went to natural sciences, social sciences and engineering information sessions where current students discussed research opportunities and current projects.

Other events included dinner Monday night at the Cohen House where President Leebron gave welcoming remarks and history professor Alex Byrd gave the keynote address. Prospective students dined with faculty, staff, alumni and Minority Interests Committee members. An open mic night was held in Willy's Pub Monday evening to discuss life at Rice.

The Minority Interests Committee will meet in March to evaluate this year's Vision Weekend and determine what to focus on for next year, Fowler said.

"I think Vision Weekend went really well," she said. "I found myself really comfortable with the prospective students and already wanting them to come here."

Carlos Plata, a prospective student from Amarillo, Texas, said Vision Weekend significantly impacted his college decision-making process. Plata said that although Rice had not been high on his list before Vision Weekend, the positive experience he had changed his mind.

"When I arrived and met all of you and saw how much you enjoy being at Rice I began to see myself there," Plata said. "All the feedback from my host and his friends helped me understand the gist of what it is like to be a student at Rice and how much fun it can really be."

Martel College sophomore Alex Siller said that, as a former Vision Weekend participant, hosting prospective students of his own was a great experience. Siller said, however, that he wished the program had remained an actual weekend like it was when he was a prospective student instead of the Sunday through Tuesday event it is now.

"I think the program has lost something," Siller said. "It was nice to take them to classes and all but I felt like the material in the Systems Physiology class I took them to was way over their head so they didn't get a feel for what classes would be like. I think it would have been better to have them have activities and get them to experience the campus and the college system because that's more of what sets Rice apart."

Owl Days, Rice's general recruiting period for admitted students, will be held three Mondays on April 7, 14 and 21 and, for the first time, will not allow prospective students to stay overnight.

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**RODNELET**

From page 1

"There will definitely be more interest if the theme is something quirky," Diddams said.

Kakkar said he hopes the venue will increase dance attendance.

"Since the Texas Medical Center is so close to Rice, we hope that more people will want to go," Kakkar said.

Kakkar said the location is almost within walking distance and will appeal to those looking to spend an evening dancing.

"It's a beautiful location that is very hip and trendy on the top floor of the waterfall building," Kerksstra said.

SPC will also provide free shuttle service to the site.

Kakkar and Kerksstra estimate the dance's budget at around $9,000 to $9,000. Costs will be offset by money saved from Esperanza, Kerksstra said.

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**ELIGIBILITY**

From page 1

ruled ineligible to run by the Election Committee due to him being on academic probation. Warrington said he missed the final exam period of the fall semester due to surgery, and thus received "incomplete" grades in several classes. This placed him temporarily on academic probation, making him automatically disqualified from seeking campus-wide office. He is appealing to have his good academic standing reinstated by the Committee on Examinations and Standing, and the earliest he can present his appeal is Tuesday.

Since there would be well into the voting process that runs from Friday to Tuesday, Warrington said he will withdraw from the race.

The Senate does not have the power to reverse an eligibility ruling if a student is not in good academic standing. Warrington did not endorse another candidate, but he said he hoped the new president would focus on the core issues of his platform, a heightened sense of the students' responsibility towards the new residential colleges.

In other races, RTSV station manager candidate Will Lucehershaw became an ineligibility candidate due to his medical withdrawal this semester. He saw this year is a little bit higher."

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**POLICE BLOTTER**

The following were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Feb. 14-20.
Students found Rice's first undergraduate science review

by Jocelyn Wright

Students found Rice's first undergraduate science review. Since then the plan has become solidified, receiving funding from across campus, ranging from the Student Association to the dean of Natural Sciences, Engineering and Undergraduates.

Undergraduates wishing to share their research with the Rice community will have the opportunity to do so now that Catalyst, Rice's first undergraduate science review, officially became a student organization at the Student Association meeting Monday. The magazine is currently accepting submissions and is planning on distributing its first, full-color, 40-page issue on April 13.

Catalyst will be a bi-annual research review of the sciences, mathematics, computer science and engineering at Rice. It will be divided into three categories: one with reviews by undergraduates on their own issues, one on research performed worldwide, and one with book reviews, interviews with famous scientists and historical timepieces. All articles will be written by undergraduates.

Catalyst Editor-in-Chief Ye Jin Kang said she got the idea for Catalyst when she came to Rice and saw the lack of a science review on campus.

"When I came to Rice I wanted a club where I could explore all the aspects of science," Kang, a Will Rice College freshman, said. "We thought there wasn't something aimed at fostering discussion and showcasing undergraduate research."

Worldwide Research Executive Editor Yohan Moon said he thought Catalyst would fill a niche at Rice.

"President Leebron's proposal of the Vision for the Second Century emphasized research at the university," Moon, a Baker College freshman, said. "We thought there was something lacking in the undergraduate research community because there wasn't a showcase of research done at Rice."

Moon said the committee behind Catalyst looked at similar publications at Stanford University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University and decided to vary between specific articles and those that appeal to the general public.

Catalyst has several faculty advisors from various fields, the main one being biochemistry professor Dan Wagner. These advisors will help edit articles, give suggestions and, ultimately, comprise the faculty review board.

Moon said Catalyst had secured funding from the President's Programming Fund, the office of Dean of Undergraduates Robin Forman, the dean of Natural Sciences and the Dean of Engineering.

Kang said printing 1,000 issues would approximately amount to $3,500. Currently, they have secured about $2,500 of funding. Catalyst also applied for an Envision Grant. To fund the magazine in the future, Kang said she plans to send letters to companies to get them to submit ads. She said Catalyst had also applied for a student activities fund.

Kang said she would like to see Catalyst putting out issues with a specific focus after the magazine gets its first issue out, such as issues on global health or the brain. She said there were also plans to have a Web site from which all the articles would also be accessible.

"It would be nice to make it into an interactive forum discussion where we would have blog writers and have people post comments so it isn't only a one-time magazine issue that comes out in April," Kang said.

A soul man at Soul Night

Members of the Black Student Association perform a dance on Saturday for Soul Night, BSA's annual culture show. This year's Soul Night, which had a Caribbean theme, featured musical and dance performances from students all across campus.
Mr. Rice University contest raises money for clubs

Eight students and one professor competed Saturday for the title of Mr. Rice University, an event co-hosted by the Humanitarian Medical Outreach, Alternative Spring Break and the Rice Program Council. Held in the Wiess College commons, a panel of three judges awarded the title to both Wiess senior Jon Harris Maurer and Brown College Master John Hutchinson. Maurer won a $100 gift card to Target while Hutchinson, a chemistry professor, kept the crown. Will Rice College freshman Konrad Stoick and Will Rice sophomore Kyle Clark tied for second place and both received $25 gift cards to Target. HuMed participant Donna Huang said over 100 people attended, and the event, which served as a fundraiser for HuMed's ASB trip to Oaxaca, Mexico—earned over $800. RPC helped by paying for the food, hanging flyers, providing volunteers and helping publicize the event. Contestants displayed their talents, which included singing, guitar, standup comedy and spitting fire. Questions for the interview portion ranged from performing a mating call to demonstrating a courtship dance for the audience. Huang, a Will Rice sophomore, said one of the most unexpected events of the night was when Hutchinson performed a ballad version of Sir Mix-a-lot's "Baby Got Back."

Maurer said he applied because one of his friends was involved in ASB and that it sounded like a fun way to raise money. Maurer said he thought everyone who attended had a good time. "Participants backstage had a blast doing it, and the audience was really enthusiastic," Maurer said.

Obamamania

Wiess senior Matt Hagen (far right) attends a rally for Sen. Barack Obama, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for president, at the Toyota Center on Tuesday evening. Many campus organizations organized trips downtown via MetroRail to see the Senator give a speech. Obama is currently campaigning in the Texas primaries, which will be held Tuesday, March 4. Students will have a chance to see Sen. John McCain, another candidate for president, when he visits Rice on Thursday, Feb. 28.

Vote for the Thresher blanket-tax increase. 20 years is too long.
The stake are too high for you to stay at home.
Debate

From page 1

Concerns have been brought up by students themselves.

"If you're really concerned about these issues, the administration should listen to what we have to say," Youn said. "As SA president, I'll continue to... focus on very important issues."

Marshall and Mansinghani were the next candidates to introduce themselves. Marshall said that he and Mansinghani acknowledge that they have not had much, if any, experience with the SA, the two of them having had several years of college governance experience. Mansinghani is the Marcel Chief Justice and Marshall is Marcel Treasurer. Though he feels the SA is central to the role as a student...in the relationship with the Faculty Senate, Marshall said he feels the SA has overextended itself in the recent years. Marshall said he and Mansinghani are running on a platform of giving more power back to the colleges.

"If we can bring some things discussed by the SA back to the students, it will lead to a stronger Rice in the future," Marshall said.

Mansinghani noted that the SA has done some great things but that the organization also had some weaknesses.

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A year after losing 10 players to the Major League draft, the 2008 Rice baseball team shoots for Omaha with a roster of old guns and new fire
"Rebuilding" is a funny word — it implies new faces, change, uncertainty and a shorter-term dropoff in performance. If that is the case, then maybe "reloading" describes the 2008 baseball team more accurately.

As the 2007 season closed with arguably the deepest crop of draft-eligible juniors in school history, head coach Wayne Graham and company know the program was about to run low on ammunition. In order for the team to compete in 2008, the Owls would have to cling onto their draft pool Americans as long as possible while courting a first-rate recruiting class to fill the inevitably empty lineup spots. And it never hurts to get a little lucky.

Nothing Graham could say would make up for junior Cole St. Clair's mind. The Owls' premier closer, hampered by injuries to open the 2007 season, was a seventh-round selection of the Cleveland Indians in the Major League Baseball draft. It was up to him: St. Clair could accept the Indians contract, turn pro and never look back; or, he could return to Rice, finish his economics degree, jump into the starting rotation, take another shot at a national championship and potentially improve his draft stock for next June's draft. After thorough consideration, St. Clair elected to return to Rice, single-handedly setting the "reloading" tone for the 2008 season.

Pitchers Jon Rumels and Chris Kelley and outfields Jordan Dutten, all current seniors, joined St. Clair in forgoing pro baseball for Rice. But, the Owls were not done. Kelley and outfielder Jordan Dodds, all current seniors, joined St. Clair in forgoing pro baseball for one more season, bringing back key figures from the 2007 College World Series team. And maybe this time, unlike the past two heartbreaking seasons, the Owls will return to the glory they experienced in the 2003 National Championship.

"We always expect to get to Omaha. (home of the CWS)," Graham said. "That's the reason we've been there half the time out of the last 12 years. That's what you shoot for. But first, you have to win one game at a time, win the conference, and host a regional."

Starting pitchers

Sophomore Ryan Berry, whose 3.01 ERA, 125 strikeouts and 122.2 innings pitched led the team last year, has emerged as the staff workhorse. Berry, who features a 90 mile-per-hour fastball, slider, changeup and knuckle-curve, returns as the staff ace and will start tonight's season opener against Long Beach State looking to improve on his freshman campaign.

"The staff..." Graham said. "There's no reason he couldn't have a tear equal to or better than last.

St. Clair, who maintained a 1.91 ERA over 28.1 IP, makes the transition to the rotation following three seasons in the bullpen, during which he broke David Aardsma's ('Baker '93) school record for career saves. He will probably pitch four or five innings in his first few starts and the team will evaluate his progress with each start. St. Clair has reached 90 mph with his fastball, indicating a tremendous strength but leaving room for continued improvement to reach his previous mid-90s velocity.

Returning to round out the weekend rotation, junior Matt Langwell, who provided much-needed spot starts and long relief as needed last season, will have every opportunity to establish himself as a premier collegiate pitcher. Graham said Langwell's new pitching repertoire could put him on a whole new level.

"Langwell's stuff is better than last year," Graham said. "He added a split-finger and he's got better command of his slider."

With two mid-week games this season, Rice's traditionally deep pitching staff will be even more of an asset. Sophomore Mike Ojala impressed during both fall and spring practices and should get regular weekend work.

"Ojala looks like the most improved pitcher on the squad," Graham commented. "He could become a top-notch pitcher.

The bottom of the staff will come from a group including Runnels, Kelley, junior transfers Jordan Rogers and Lucas Luetge and freshman Matt Evers. Kelley has been inconsistent in practices but was at times a reliable weekend starter last season. The development of his changeup will be key. Rogers and Luetge feature tremendous movement on their pitches but have struggled with control and consistency. Runnels, a soft-throwing lefty, had perhaps the most impressive fall on the staff and has the ability to work several innings out of the bullpen or make the occasional spot start.

"Runnels made an adjustment where he's throwing with better mechanics," Graham said. "That fixes everything: better curveball, better fastball, better deception."

Bulpen

The deep starting rotation allows the remaining starters to follow useful relief roles. In addition to Kelley, Rogers, Luetge, Evers and Runnels, Graham will have some intriguing options coming out of the bullpen. Junior Bryan Price has perhaps the most dominant repertoire on the staff, when he controls it — Price's wildness allowed his ERA to balloon to 7.84 last year. But with a 92-94 mph fastball and a devastating hard slider, Price fits the closer's role perfectly for now.

Despite normally playing infield, sophomore Diego Seastram saw innings last fall and this spring on the mound before arm soreness forced him off the mound for a few weeks. With a 92 mph fastball and solid curve, Seastram could see meaningful innings out of the bullpen if his arm can tolerate it.

Redshirt junior Bobby Bell, returning from Tommy John surgery, is scheduled for a mid-May return, providing another potentially valuable arm to an already deep staff.

Catcher

Redshirt junior Adam Zornes finally gets his chance behind the plate with the departure of three-year starter Danny Lehman, who was drafted last year in the eighth round by the Minnesota Twins. Plagued by inconsistency in the past, Zornes has tremendous power potential and is solid defensively.

Five years removed from national title, Owls hope this is the year for repeat success

"One of the biggest hurdles the Owls will have to overcome this season is the departure of 10 members of the 2007 squad, including Joe Savery. The Philadelphia Phillies selected this lefty with the 19th pick in the 2007 Major League draft, giving him a $1.4 million signing bonus. Savery is currently stationed at Williamsport, Penn., in the New York-Penn League.
Senior Jordan Dodson will not only provide a presence at the plate — he batted .302 and belted eight home runs during more than capable of handling the power potential out of high school, a .310 batting average and a .451 on-base percentage. But he's friend was Jordan Janish, who was drafted with the 19th pick by the Philadelphia Phillies — last year Rice made its sixth CW appearance and wins 26 of 28 games, marked by a .304 batting average. Freshman Nick DeBiasse and John Hale have adequate bats and have made progress defensively, but may need another year before they are ready to assume a more significant role.

Infield
Senior LP: Padron came on strong last June, finishing with a .316 batting average and a .411 slugging percentage, and continued to impress throughout the fall and spring practices. With tremendous power potential out of high school, Padron looks poised to be a major force in the middle of the Owls lineup. Originally a third baseman, he is more than capable of handling the regular duties at first base.

When he’s not giving Zornes a day off, Buienger will spend most of his time at second base, where he provides an experienced offensive threat. Buienger’s double-play partner will be freshman Nick Hugue, a highly touted high school recruit who will assume the regular shortstop duties. Already an outstanding defender, Hugue’s development at the plate has impressed the coaches.

The ability, the tools are there to play the position well, extremely well,” Graham said. “Right now, he’s still learning the ropes.”

Another impressive freshman campaign ended with a .304 batting average and .338 on-base percentage, and the sophomore will return to play third base in 2008. While he has struggled defensively at times, his offensive contributions are certainly worthwhile.

Redshirt sophomore Jimmy Comerota, who had been stuck behind Brian Friday since the day he arrived on campus, has progressed into a viable player at any infield position and will see plenty of action between third, short, and second.

Comerota’s Division I ballplayer aura,” Graham says. “We’re very fortunate to have a D-I ballplayer backing us up at three positions, and he can play them all average or better.”

Redshirt freshman Abel Gonzalez and senior Jordan Dodson, whose eight home runs in 2007 were second on the team, will back up Padron at third, while freshman Michael Fatiho another viable offensive or defensive option at second base.

Outfield
Coming off of a monster 2007 season — a .335 batting average, a .570 slugging percentage and 13 home runs — junior Aaron Luna returns and will be expected to lead the Owls offensively. After jumping between left field and second base last season, he appears to have settled in left for the time being.

Dodson will see the majority of the time in right field, but center field will be a little more uncertain. Junior Jared Gayhart, who batted .339 last season in 163 at bats, was forced into sharing time last season but is capable of producing in a regular lineup spot in center field. Also in the mix is freshman Chad Monzingo, whose offensive potential and speed could allow him to be a force in the Owls lineup in future seasons.

Redshirt freshman Dong Simmons and senior Derek Meyers are adequate bats off the bench and defensive replacements in the late innings. Freshmen Nick Natale and Joseph Paylor are less polished but have blazing speed that will have some utility on this team.

What does all of this mean for 2008?
Rice Outfielder Jordan Dodson will move to Omaha and have success at the College World Series, Graham said there are three things that will need to come to pass for his team. "To have a successful season, three things need to happen: You need to stay reasonably healthy, you have to keep improving and you have to have a breakthrough or two surprise you with your growth," Graham said. "It wouldn't be such a surprise if Zornes were one of the top two or three catchers in college baseball, if Hugue could become one of the top five (freshman) shortstops, if Montoro could be a bona fide division one star as a freshman, and if Ojala becomes a top-notch pitcher." Considering the relative youth of the lineup, improvement is almost inevitable. "There was no one in 2007 who had any particular experience in more or less a Division-I role," Graham said. "We've never had a team that's ever been that young and had success at the College World Series this year. We've been on the verge of winning games, but we've never really had the right mix together."
Bobby Bell
Position: P
B/T: S/R
H/W: 6-4/195
Exp: RS JR/2L
Hometown: Aledo, Tex.
High School: Country Day

Ryan Berry
Position: P
B/T: S/R
H/W: 6-1/195
Exp: SO/1L
Hometown: Humble, Tex.
High School: Humble

Jess Buenger
Position: 2B/C
B/T: S/R
H/W: 5-11/180
Exp: JR/1L
Hometown: Belville, Tex.
Prev. College: Texas A&M
High School: Belville

Jimmy Comerota
Position: IF
B/T: R/R
H/W: 5-9/170
Exp: RS SO/1L
Hometown: Missouri City, Tex.
High School: Hightower

Jared Gayhart
Position: OF/P
B/T: L/R
H/W: 6-3/215
Exp: JR/1L
Hometown: Katy, Tex.
Prev. College: San Jacinto
High School: Katy

Abel Gonzales
Position: P/1B
B/T: L/R
H/W: 6-1/180
Exp: RS FR
Hometown: Industry, Tex.
Prev. College: San Jacinto
High School: Bellville

Rick Hague
Position: SS
B/T: R/R
H/W: 5-11/200
Exp: FR/HS
Hometown: Spring, Tex.
High School: Klein Collins

John Hale
Position: C
B/T: R/R
H/W: 5-9/190
Exp: SR/1L
Hometown: Houston, Tex.
High School: Lamar

Matt Langwell
Position: P
B/T: R/R
H/W: 6-3/225
Exp: JR/1L
Hometown: League City, Tex.
Prev. College: Sam Houston St.
High School: A&M Consolidated

Lucas Luetge
Position: P
B/T: L/L
H/W: 6-3/195
Exp: JR/1L
Hometown: Dallas, Tex.
High School: Bellville

Aaron Luna
Position: LF
B/T: R/R
H/W: 5-11/200
Exp: JR/2L
Hometown: Southlake, Tex.
High School: Carroll

Will McDaniel
Position: P
B/T: R/R
H/W: 5-6/220
Exp: JR/2L
Hometown: Houston, Tex.
High School: Bellaire Episcopal

J.P. Padron
Position: 1B/3B
B/T: R/R
H/W: 6-1/210
Exp: SR/1L
Hometown: League City, Tex.
Prev. College: San Jacinto
High School: Clear Creek

Joseph Paylor
Position: OF/P
B/T: R/R
H/W: 5-10/135
Exp: FR/HS
Hometown: Dallas, Tex.
High School: Hillcrest

Bryan Price
Position: P
B/T: R/R
H/W: 5-6/200
Exp: JR/2L
Hometown: Marble Falls, Tex.
High School: Marble Falls

Jordan Rogers
Position: P
B/T: R/R
H/W: 6-2/190
Exp: JR/2L
Hometown: Dayton, Tex.
Prev. College: San Jacinto
High School: Dayton

Garrett Tinsley
Position: C
B/T: S/R
H/W: 5-9/170
Exp: FR/HS
Hometown: Ft. Myers, Fla.
High School: Ft. Myers

Travis Wright
Position: P
B/T: R/R
H/W: 6-6/180
Exp: RS FR
Hometown: Paris, Tex.
High School: Paris

Adam Zornes
Position: C
B/T: R/R
H/W: 6-1/215
Exp: RS JR/2L
Hometown: Houston, Tex.
High School: St. Thomas

Wayne Graham
Head Coach
Career: Graham boasts a 740-274 record in 16 seasons, along with 12-straight conference championships and Rice's lone national title.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>B/T</th>
<th>H/W</th>
<th>Exp</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
<th>High School</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nick DeBlassee</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>6-2</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>205</td>
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<td>170</td>
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<td>195</td>
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<td>Cole St.Clair</td>
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<td>225</td>
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<td>Daniel Watson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Hitting Coach**

Career: A former Owl catcher, Hallmark returned to Rice three years ago to marked achievement — the Owls averaged 7.3 runs-per-game in 2007.

**Pitching Coach**

Career: Pierce has spent six years as the Owls' pitching and bench coach. Last year, his staff's 3.04 ERA ranked 4th in the country.

**Assistant Coach**

Career: Taylor is in his 8th season with Rice, where he coaches hitting and defense, as well as first base during games.

**Student Manager**

A Houston native, Watson is a Will Rice sophomore.
national foes join Rice on quest for Omaha

Twelve straight conference titles may seem impressive, but will 13 be tougher yet? With two other C-USA members in Baseball America's top 25 — No. 22 Tulane and No. 24 East Carolina — the Owls could have their work cut out for them when conference play begins. Here's a rundown of the Owls' competition, in addition to approximate geographic locations:

**BASEBALL AMERICA RANKINGS (TOP 15)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>2007 Record</th>
<th>Final 2007 Rank</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. UCLA</td>
<td>33-28</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Arizona</td>
<td>42-17</td>
<td>Not ranked</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Vanderbilt</td>
<td>54-13</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Mississippi</td>
<td>40-25</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. North Carolina</td>
<td>57-16</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Missouri</td>
<td>42-18</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>7. Oregon State</td>
<td>49-18</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Michigan</td>
<td>42-19</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>10. Miami</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. San Diego</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. South Carolina</td>
<td>46-20</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Long Beach State</td>
<td>39-20</td>
<td>Not ranked</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Rice</td>
<td>56-14</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Baylor</td>
<td>35-27</td>
<td>Not ranked</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Memphis Tigers

*2007 record: 35-31 C-USA: 12-12 (tied-4th) Postseason: Lost to Austin Peay in NCAA Regional* 

Outlook: Despite their dismal 2007 campaign, the Tigers returned 12 lettermen — seven position players and five pitchers — and look to utilize their depth to improve on their record.

Southern Miss Golden Eagles

*2007 record: 39-23 C-USA: 14-10 (3rd) Postseason: Lost to Sam Houston State in C-USA Tournament* 

Outlook: Sophomore pitcher Wes Musick posted a 3.00 ERA over 93 innings in 2007, enough to garner honors from three separate Freshman All-America teams, and will be the ace of a talented pitching corps.

University of Houston Cougars

*2007 record: 28-29 C-USA: 12-12 (6th-4th) Postseason: Lost to UCF in C-USA Tournament* 

Outlook: Sophomore pitcher Wes Musick posted a 3.00 ERA over 93 innings in 2007, enough to garner honors from three separate Freshman All-America teams, and will be the ace of a talented pitching corps.

Tulane Green Wave

*2007 record: 34-26 C-USA: 9-15 (7th) Postseason: none* 

Outlook: The Green Wave will play home games on the Tulane campus for the first time since 2005 and will look to senior pitcher Shooter Hunt, a 2007 first team All-CUSA member, for a return to success.

**SCOUTING CONFERENCE USA**

Memphis, Thundering Herd

*2007 record: 21-32 C-USA: 5-18 (9th) Postseason: none* 

Outlook: Despite their dismal 2007 campaign, the Thundering Herd are returning 12 lettermen — seven position players and five pitchers — and look to utilize their depth to improve on their record.

Alabama-Birmingham Blazers

*2007 record: 30-31 C-USA: 12-12 (3rd) Postseason: Lost to Southern Miss in C-USA Tournament* 

Outlook: Despite being unranked at the end of last season, the University of Alabama-Birmingham has potentially the most talented team in the nation, leading Baseball America to place the Blazers at the top of its preseason rankings. However, Arizona State University might have the strongest case for the top ranking if Alvarez isn't the nation's best hitter, the Sun Devils' junior Brett Wallace will stake the claim: He hit a scorching .404 with 16 home runs last season. Wallace's teammates, catcher Petya Paramore and starter Josh Satow, are both featured on more than one All-American first-team as well.

**Central Florida Knights**

*2007 record: 7-17 C-USA: 3-17 (8th) Postseason: none* 

Outlook: With eight returning position players and first baseman Kiko Vasquez, 3-for-8 C-USA All-Rookie team honorees, the Golden Knights should rebound from last year's tough season.
Class of 2007 one of best in Rice’s history

Successful college baseball programs constantly risk losing key talent to the big leagues, and Rice is no exception. 14 Rice baseball players were selected in Major League Baseball’s Rule IV Amateur Draft June 8 and 10 of those signed contracts and began their professional baseball careers after the conclusion of the College World Series.

Joe Savery, a fixture on the mound, infield and at the plate for the Owls for the past three seasons, was selected in the 18th round, and C-USA Pitcher of the Year Ryne Tacker was drafted in the eighth round, Henley as the team’s seventh-round pick. A-14 Rice baseball players were selected in Major League Baseball’s Rule IV Amateur Draft June 8 and 10 of those signed contracts and began their professional baseball careers after the conclusion of the College World Series.

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

PITCHERS

David Aardsma*  
Josh Baker  
Philip Barzilla*  
Kenney Baugh  
Bobby Brumhann  
Tim Byrdak  
Bryce Cox  
Craig Crow  
Justin Crowder  
Eddie Degerman  
Josh Gehrig  
Kris Gunderson  
Marc Gwyn*  
Phillip Humber*  
Scott Lonergan  
Jeff Niemann*  
Lance Pendleton  
Mario Ramos  
Joe Savery*  
Ryne Tacker  
Wade Townsend

Organizations/Level  
MLB Affiliate  
Last year at Rice

Boston/MLB  
Brevard County/High A  
Tacoma/AAA  
Albuquerque/AAA  
West Virginia/A  
Detroit/AA  
Portland/AA  
Bakersfield/High A  
Indiana/AA  
Palm Beach/High A  
Sacramento/AAA  
Elizabethton/SS-A  
Binghamton/AA  
Quad City/AA  
Kinston/High A  
Sacramento/High A  
Portland/AA  
San Diego Padres  
Columbia/AA  

PITCHERS

Eric Arnold  
Lance Berkman*  
Hunter Brown  
Greg Buchanan  
Bubba Crosby*  
Jose Cruz Jr.  
Jose Enrique Cruz  
Brian Friday  
Tyler Henley  
Paul Janish  
Danny Lehrman  
Chad Lembek  
Adam Morris  
Mark Quinn  
Travis Reigan  
Josh Rodriguez  
Adam Rodgers  
Justin Ruchti  
Vincent Sinisi  
Craig Stansberry

Organizations/Level  
MLB Affiliate  
Last year at Rice

Burlington/AAA  
Henderson/AA  
Sacramento/AAA  
San Antonio/AA  
Elizabethton/SS-A  
Nashville/AAA  
Cleveland/AA  
Quad City/AA  
Sacramento/High A  
Portland/AA  
San Diego Padres  

SEVEN QUESTIONS FOR: CRAIG STANSBERRY

When it comes to memorable moments in the history of Rice athletics, the baseball team’s 2003 College World Series win has to be at the top. And no one was closer to the action than Craig Stansberry (Baker ’06), the third baseman who made the final put-out against Stanford University to secure the Rice’s first national championship in any sport. As the only Major Leaguer to have been born in Saudi Arabia — his father was a contractor — Stansberry, a fifth-round draft pick of the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2003, cracked the Major Leagues last fall and battled 286 vs. a September series for the St. Louis Cardinals. The Saudi Arabian native also received a spot in the 2007 All-Star Futures Game, showcasing his talents on the World team among the rest of the Major Leagues top prospects. Stansberry sat down with the Thresher’s Casey Michel last July to talk about his memories, his future and head coach Wayne Graham’s dancing abilities.

CM: Going into the final against Stanford, two outs in the ninth, ground ball comes your way, what’s going through your mind?

CS: It was really..., pretty surreal. Seeing the ground ball bouncing towards me, it was in slow motion. Everything was just, kind of, way over the head coaches and dancing abilities.

CM: Is it possible to put into words your feeling about what you did in Omaha, into words?

CS: I don’t know if it is possible. euphoria’s a great word. It’s just, it’s just the release of all those emotions with you and those memories, and accomplishing that, it’s pretty tough to put into words.

CM: Besides the 2003 championship, what else is right up there at the top of your accomplishments?

CS: You know, as far as a single accomplishment, I’ve won a short-season championship and some other tournament championships, but those don’t really compare to the national championship at Rice, because it is a national championship, it was a different feel there. Personally, the fact that I’m still playing, still progressing and getting better, making my way to the big leagues is an accomplishment.

CM: How was it playing in the Futures game?

CS: It was great. It was really exciting. I was pretty surprised when I found out, especially playing for the World team. But it was a great deal — it was as much fun as I thought it’d be. It was a nice honor to have.

CM: At 25, you were the oldest one out there on the field by a couple of years. How did that make you feel?

CS: That’s why I was surprised going into it. But I didn’t really worry about it. I was glad to be there, and once you get there, you can’t tell one guy’s age from another. It’s all just a bunch of ballplayers blending in. Before I was there, I thought “Oh well, I’m one of the older ones.” but once I got there I fit right in.

CM: Were you on the World team because you were born in Saudi Arabia, and it sounds like you would be the first Saudi Arabian to make it to the Major Leagues, even though you only lived there for three months. What’s the importance of that ever played a motivating factor in your career, or has it just been a coincidence?

CS: Sidiotee. I mean, it is what it is. I’m not Saudi Arabian. I don’t go up there, so as far as that goes, it’s just a coincidence.

CM: Did you see that 6-foot, 8-inch kid who played for Saudi Arabia in the Little League World Series last year?

CS: Yeah... I gotta beat him to the Big Leagues.

CM: I’m sure you’ve seen the clips of you guys winning it all in ’03, including the moment when Graham came sprinting out of the dugout, arms raised. Where does that rank on your list of all time greatest celebration dances?

CS: I’ve seen some funny ones here and there, but as far as it being Coach Graham, it’s gotta be up there.
Make Main Street Your Street!
With the student body.

Could in fact do more for the students.

The theme was deemed a violation and, if so, why he let it a more effective tool for students, "Youn said.

The power of the residential colleges.

Weakening the SA and emphasizing the north colleges.

Orientation Week to encourage people to come to meetings.

We're not destroying the SA, just making the SA more effective.

He asked them to explain what they want.

We feel colleges still are and want to focus on what every college wants, "Mansinghani said.

In response to an earlier statement from Baker saying that the SA was being overexpand it is important to strengthen the role of senators and communicate more with the student body to find out what they want.

The moderators then asked each candidate questions individually.

Giv-en Baker's experience in RPC, Mansinghani asked Baker what she did to help RPC when it had problems with its budget and with housing.

Baker said she tried to increase attendance at events and to get the SA to address the concerns of students.

Mansinghani then asked Youn about Brown College's pub night that was at first scheduled for President's College Pub Night. The Matt Youn Experience. The theme was deemed a violation of the elections code for encouraging the SA to support a specific candidate.

Mansinghani asked Youn if he agreed that it was a violation and, if yes, why he let him use the title.

Youn said he agreed that it should not be allowed. He said the idea for the pub night was brought up last semester but was cancelled so the Brown socials tried to host it this semester without knowing it was not allowed.

Mansinghani asked Youn about Brown College and their approach to weakening the SA and emphasizing the power of the residential colleges.

Mansinghani mentioned that the two had never been to a SA meeting before turning in their bid for a SA president. He asked them to explain what they mean when they say the SA overreaches its boundaries.

Mansinghani asked Youn about what specific things he believes are an overreach of the SA and encourage them to come to the SA with their problems.

Mansinghani asked the candidates what specific things are done in the first weeks of their preparation to improve the interaction between the SA and the residential colleges.

Mansinghani said he would like to attend other college cabinet meetings.

Baker said she thinks flyers should be posted and students should be educated about SA from Orientation Week to encourage people to come to meetings.

Youn said he wants to encourage more interaction between SA officials and the senators and college presidents so that students can be more excited about the SA in the long run.

Youn said the SA spent most of its excess money left over from previous years and that the next year's SA will only start with the blander tax income rather than a $30,000 budget.

Whitefield asked the candidates how they plan to work with students as well as implement policies.

"I think the strongest candidates, have concrete ideas," Youn said.

Baker said that he and Mansinghani have always been very active.

"We're not destroying the SA, just making the SA more effective," Youn added.

The debate ended with the candidates making two-minute closing statements.

Youn said it is important for the SA to be a medium for change for students and to help voters in the north colleges.

"We need to transcend that and focus on what every college wants," Youn said.

"We're not destroying the SA, just making the SA more effective," Youn added.

The debate ended with the candidates making two-minute closing statements.

Baker said the results were skewed but not flawed. She said that the voter tally was usually dominated by one or two colleges, usually the north colleges.

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"We're not destroying the SA, just making the SA more effective," Youn added.
**CONCERT**

Journey of Hope

If you haven’t visited our friends across the Atlantic, let the Society for the Performing Arts bring Africa to you on Sunday with The African Children’s Choir, a group of children aged 7 to 11 that has lifted spirits and enlightened listeners on the AIDS epidemic in concerts around the world. The show begins at 8 p.m. and tickets are available online.

**Wortham Center**
501 Texas
www.saphouston.org

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**DANCE**

Gershwin Glam

Ogle the balletina on the web site and buy tickets to the promise of Stanton Welch’s saucy ballet ‘The Core, a vision of 1940s New York set.’

**College Commons**

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**EXHIBIT**

CSJ; The Experience

Turn off CBS and live the nightmare at this interactive exhibit, where fans play in a fake crime scene with the help of CSI cast members. The exhibit shows daily through April 30.

**Museum of Natural Science**
1 Hermann Park Parking
www.mhs.org

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By Ryan Stickey

For a musical that is based almost entirely on dated suburban stereotypes, Lovett College’s production of the musical Love, You’re Perfect, Now Change manages to connect well with the modern college audience. A collection of a series of vignettes that illustrate a range of romantic experiences, the show catalogues a hilarity of middle-aged romantic stereotypes.

*Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change*

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**INTERVIEW**

Director Tommy Mings, a Brown College junior, and Assistant Director Matthew O’Connor, a Hamline College junior, had initially adapted a number of the more obviously ’70s pop-culture references for maximum humor and impact. However, the directing tandem has kept the more poignant moments intact, making for several seriously moving scenes in the midst of a gamut of pointed silliness.

The lunch scene of the credit union is the most moving and best executed. Lovett College juniors Paula Early and Allie Jordan, both Brown College junior Autumn Watson and Sid senior Dan Wilcox. Each one plays a range of ages from teen to elderly (Williams and Shadko also make convincing children), with a range of personal interactions to reflect self-assured, and they carry on with it, to the credit union’s obvious humor and professional grace in the face of relentless, lightning-fast costume changes.

For the breadth of characters well plotted and greatly delivered with panache, humor and professional grace in the face of relentless, lightning-fast costume changes.

For the breadth of characters well plotted and greatly delivered with panache, humor and professional grace in the face of relentless, lightning-fast costume changes.

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** группа**

Lovett’s I Love You, You’re Perfect needs little change

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**DANCE**

Gershwin Glam

Ogle the balletina on the web site and buy tickets to the promise of Stanton Welch’s saucy ballet ‘The Core, a vision of 1940s New York set.’

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*Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change*
BATTLE BANDS
OF THE

A hard battle will be fought between four salty, axe-shredding and innovative Rice bands on Thursday, February 28 at 7 p.m. in the Lovett Undergrounds. The winning band scores a spot in the KTRU Outdoor Show, which last year gave the band an audience of 1,000 people and allowed them to share the stage with well-known indie band Ratatat.

This year, four bands — The Marrows, The Social Insects, Ben Ba and The J-Strings — will blast sound waves for an audience for the first time. Get to know the bands before the big day, build the buzz and bring the hype.

THE MARROWS
“LOUD. Initially we weren’t sure if we wanted vocals. There’s definitely a post-rock influence but alternative rocky as well. Also, not annoying. Explosions in the Sky comes to mind.”

Brian Gilcrease guitar and vocals Wilbur Wang bass Joseph Rodd drums

ORIGIN “Joseph and Brian went to the same high school and always played together. Brian transferred here and wanted to start something new. Wilbur picked up the bass in October.”

NAMED FOR “Brian and Joseph were walking around Montrose trying to think of bad band names because there aren’t any good bands with good band names.”

SOME DEEPER MEANING “None of us are singers really and it’s hard to put vocal melodies over a song that’s already written.”

MUSICAL MUSES “Houston skies, the new flowers in the academic quad. The Greek project really angers Brian.”

LISTEN FOR “Lunar Sea,” formerly known as ‘Delay,’ our first experiment using weird sounds. We’re probably closing with it.”

THE SOCIAL INSECTS
“Eclectic — we have our own style that’s evident in each song but we like to try different things. On our demo we have a country song and a song we would classify as Albanian.”

MJ Kwan guitar and vocals Kellie Simon drums Josh Levin guitar and vocals

ORIGIN “First it was Josh and MJ. Kellie started playing a coffee table and boxes before she asked her mom for a real drum set. We sounded pretty bad before we got drums.”

NAMED FOR “Josh is obsessed with ants. We sort of had a band name before we had a band.”

SMACK TALK “We do it for fun, we’re not that competitive. We’re just really excited to perform. We’re going to try and play more around campus.”

ANIMAL “Ants. Josh recently got an ant guitar strap as a gift from MJ.”

ICE CREAM FLAVOR “That kind that has all the shit in it.”

LISTEN FOR “Stop, Eel! It’s high energy and samples a number of different styles.”

THURSDAY, FEB. 28 — 7 P.M.
LOVETT UNDERGROUNDS
The Rice Thresher
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2008

The Beatles: Greatest band ever, unworthy of worship?

Definitely, Maybe, then again maybe not

by Jackie Ammons
ACADEMY STAFF

Maybe, Aligail Brezlin (Little Miss Sunshine) is so admirable in Definitely, Maybe. It almost makes up for the confounding plot and Ryan Reynolds (Chase Theory) shaky acting.

Aligail Brezlin (Little Miss Sunshine) is so admirable in Definitely, Maybe. It almost makes up for the confounding plot and Ryan Reynolds (Chase Theory) shaky acting.

The main flaw in Definitely, Maybe, is Reynolds. His acting talents just rub the audience the wrong way, as he comes off as less mature than eleven-year-old Brezlin. Reynolds' voice is often whiny, and when he begins to act as he should, his facial expressions are that of a pint-sized boy who was not invited to a friends' birthday party. Further, Reynolds' plastic, pretty boy face and non-existent five-o'clock shadow just lend extra enforcement to the immature impression he creates on screen.

While his adult-scent personality may give credit to the fact that his character's feckless nature — he is constantly in and out of relationships, after all — his character's tentative and juvenile behavior contributes to the audience's annoyance. On a basic level, Hayes constantly complains, plays stupid jokes and has an inability to respond to the right girl at the right time in the right way.

Most seriously, Brezlin has trouble making the right decisions at the right time. Flip-flopping back and forth among three girls who repeatedly enter and exit the plotlines that he is in. These constant plot twists cause the viewers to grow weary and want to slap Hayes into making up his mind and end their misery.

On the other hand, Brezlin is not only adorable, but an amazing actress. As one of the youngest actresses to be nominated for an Academy Award for her role in 2006's Little Miss Sunshine, Brezlin's risk of childish naiveté and serious maturity finds an interesting meeting point in a young actress that charms audiences. With heracus tuces and bold confidence, Brezlin gives the older Reynolds much-needed acting lessons.

Aside from Brezlin, the only other positive factor in Definitely, Maybe, is its divergence from the typical chick flick plot. There are more twists and turns than one would normally expect from such a film. However, these twists actually make the movie more fascinating, since they usually stem from Hayes' naiveté and the overly dramatic role his girlfriends play in his life.

Definitely, Maybe is not an absolute failure, but it comes pretty close. What's odd is that the thing that saves the film from complete embarrassment is an eleven-year-old girl.

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Definitely, Maybe is not an absolute failure, but it comes pretty close. What's odd is that the thing that saves the film from complete embarrassment is an eleven-year-old girl.
Junior Emily Braid leaps to return a forehand against Northwestern State last Sunday. Trevor Williams / THRESHERSPORTS

THE RICE THRESHERS

Friday, February 22, 2008

Owls fall to No. 26 Texas but rebounded against Northwestern State

by Rhodes Cofer

Over the years, Rice and the University of Texas have played enough close matches in women’s tennis to make the Owls believers that the two teams are no different.

But after the 26th-ranked Owls easily handled the Owls 5-2 in a match last Sunday in Austin, Texas, one might call the rivalry into question.

But that aside, Rice still leads in this weekend’s matches on a high note, having improved to 7-1 on the season after a win over Northwestern State University at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium on Monday. The Owls will remain at home this weekend, taking on Sam Houston State University today at 3 p.m. and hosting Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi tomorrow at the same time.

These unranked teams signify the beginning of a relatively easy schedule from here on out — Rice’s next nine foes are not in the Top 50, and seven of those ten wins will be held at home.

The Owls lead Northwestern State in a much tougher spot against Texas, taking on one of the more stacked lineups in the country. Highlighting the Longhorn roster is the No. 29 doubles duo of Maria Corovic and Vanya Karanovic, Senior Julie Chao and senior Dominique Karas found out just how good that partnership is when struggling in an 8-3 loss at the No. 3 slot.

However, the rest of the team picked up the slack in the other two matches. In a well-played contest, junior Emily Braid and freshman Varsha Shiva-Shankar paired to win 6-4 at No. 3 doubles. With the remaining doubles match staying light throughout, senior Tiffany Lee and sophomore Rebecca Lin gutted out a doubleheader win to earn the Owls the doubles point.

Surprised by the unranked Owls’ triumph, the Longhorns came out for the singles. At No. 5, Briana could not overcome freshman Melissa Molinari, who crushed Braid 6-2, 6-2. Karas quickly made up her opponent, Courtney Zaud, and triumphed 6-4, 6-2 to put Rice up 2-1. The Longhorns then pulled their weight, however, as Caroline Larson defeated Lin 63, 61 and Stephanie Davison overpowered Lee 7-6, 6-1.

IN FOCUS: WOMEN’S TENNIS

Record: 7-4

Last week: Rice lost 5-2 to No. 26 Texas on Sunday but came back the next day with a resounding 6-1 victory over Northwestern State.

Next week: The Owls continue their homestand with a contest against Sam Houston State University tomorrow at 3 p.m. and TAMU-CC tomorrow at the same time.

With the outcome still in the balance at 3/2 in Texas favor, both Chao and Shiva-Shankar pushed their matches to three sets. Shiva-Shankar displayed her speed and agility early, taking the first set to 7-5. However, momentum shifted and she was unable to take the match, falling 64, 63, 6-4 to clinch the win for Texas. The remaining match pitted Chao against Corovic at the top of the ladder. After winning the first set and dropping the second in a tough battle, Chao could not handle Corovic’s vertical surge. Corovic secured the win Wednesday 64, 76 6, 6-2 and thus completed the 6-2 advantage for the Longhorns, who moved to 9-1 on the year.

“We were really all out there, but the win just slipped through our fingers,” Karas said. “The team was excited at one point when it seemed like we were in good position to win, but that is the difference between us and the top 30 teams. They don’t give up points on the court. We have to work for every single point and have the confidence to win the sets that count.”

On a weekend marred by bad weather, Rice was forced to move the match with Northwestern State to Monday. The Owls demonstrated their resilience by bouncing back to go up 4-0.

Setting the precedent from top to bottom, Rice similarly dominating singles competition. Chao earned Bogna Payer 60, 61, finishing just before Shiva-Shankar demolishing Marine Karanovic 60, 61. Rice did not put anything slip by her opponent. Karas defeated Karanovic 6-1, 6-1, a victory that clinched the dual-match win for the Owls.

The Owls were marked by two uneven matches, Bower boosted her singles record to 7-4. Rice pulled off its fourth consecutive victory.

See WOMEN, page 18

Loss to UTEP stops women’s two-game win streak

by Justin Hudson

Apparentlly all it took for the women’s basketball team to win another conference game was an audience. The Owls (16-10, 3-9 Conference USA) edged Tulane University 67-63 on national television in New Orleans, La., in a game that showed that Rice is ready to bounce back from a poor performance in the conference season.

However, after falling victim to a 34-4 run in its next game, a GGSI rout of the University of Texas El Paso last Saturday, the team knows it still has a long way to go if it wants to have any chance of reaching the C-USA tournament next month.

Rice continues its four-game road trip this week at Tulane University. Yesterday, the Owls headed north to play on Southern Methodist University (10-9, 7-7 C-USA) in Dallas, Texas. SMU has solidified its spot as the conference’s second-best team with recent dominating performances against the University of Houston, Memphis University and the University of Alabama — only UTEP still stands in the Owls’ way.

Tomorrow, the Owls face Texas at 7 p.m. The Golden Hurricane (9-9, 5-7 C-USA) will also be a tough opponent, as the Owls defeated them 69-64 last year in the C-USA quarterfinals in the game’s final minutes.

Head coach穿越二世 (Hanszen ’70) said he knows this weekend’s games will be a huge challenge for his team.

“We’re playing an extremely tough team tonight against SMU,” Williams said. “They’re playing just lights-out basketball right now and they always play well at home. And of course Tulas is very upset (because) they thought they could beat us here.”

Tulas may not be the only upset at Rice after last weekend — Rice (14-11, 4-8 C-USA) was playing at home. See BASKETBALL, page 18

OLOOK — THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Friday, Feb. 22

• Women’s Tennis vs. Sam Houston State 2 p.m. — Jake Hess Tennis Stadium

Saturday, Feb. 23

• Women’s Tennis vs. TAMU-CC 3 p.m. — Jake Hess Tennis Stadium

• Men’s Basketball at UH 7 p.m. — Rekha Pavilion

Sunday, Feb. 24

• Women’s Tennis vs. Texas 2 p.m. — Sharb Tennis Stadium

Tuesday, Feb. 26

• Basketball vs. TAMU-CC 4 p.m. — Rekha Pavilion

• Baseball vs. Missouri State 4 p.m. — Duckett Park

• Swimming at C-USA Championships All Day — UH Rec Center

Thursday, Feb. 28

• Women’s Basketball vs. Marshall 4 p.m. — Sharp Pavilion

• Swimming at C-USA Championships All Day — UH Rec Center

Page 15

Thresher SPORTS
Riding a seven-match streak, men's tennis welcomes No. 7 Texas Sunday

by Casey Michel

University in order to continue his dream of being a doctor. But before long, Bower's dreams, like Roger Clemens' prediction, shifted, and he would find himself with an itch that needed scratching. Bower wanted to write about sports.

"I've always loved writing, and I always loved sports," Bower said. "I was the kid in middle school who would bring the sports page to school with him and read it on a daily basis. As I went further along, I realized I could blend both. There was a point in time where I realized I could make a career out of writing and parlay it with my love for sports, and I just had to try that."

However, this realization came having taken four straight matches and were on the verge of a fifth. But how did it happen? As is often the case with sports, there is no simple answer. But looking back, it seems that the Owls' season was built on their ability to blend the two.

There was a part of me that was very interested in covering a school that I once left. I thought when I got here I was going to be one of the few who were interested in writing about the metropolitan area. But the news was also much different in society at large," Bower said. "When I first came here, I thought it would be a great opportunity to write about sports. But as I went further along, I realized that there was a lot of sleepless nights and a lot of deadlines. But even for a sportswriter, this is no normal job.

"There were a lot of sleepless nights when I first started doing this, in terms of what I wanted to try and do with myself," Bower recalled. "I love the idea of being here. I thought when I got here it was too big, and I didn't want to do it.

But, there's always going to be a part of me that's going to love Rice. There was a part of me that was very happy to [see Rice] win the national championship in 2011. There's still a little bit of a fan in me."

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Rieh's second day in a row at No. 42 Old Dominion University, and Mary last Sunday. Fortunately, this year, the sophomore sensation could not defeat his singles opponent, killing 7-6, 6-4, 2-6, 6-1. Although the Owls could have

enough to beat the University of Texas-El Paso, but they will undoubtedly be taking some time off to study for the exams. Rice's good showing at Tyson Invitational...
**Men’s search for first win continues after losses to UCF and Tulsa**

by Kushagra Shrinath

If this is not rock bottom, it is hard to imagine what is. After losing a tight 60-53 contest at home against the University of Central Florida last Saturday, the men's basketball team played one of its worst games of the season, losing a 68-37 laugher at the University of Houston for the second time this season, losing a 68-37 laugher at the University of Houston for the second time this season.

Despite a season of being out of every game almost from the opening tip, the Owls came closest to finally putting out a victory in their matchup with the Golden Knights (14-11, 7-4 C-USA) last weekend. Leading the way for the Owls was freshman forward Suleiman Braimoh, who came off the bench to score 11 points and grab 12 rebounds for his first career double-double.

Leading the way for the Owls was freshman forward Suleiman Braimoh, who came off the bench to score 11 points and grab 12 rebounds for his first career double-double. But the Golden Knights brought their own weapons. Jermaine Taylor, C-USA's second-leading scorer, scored 22 points against the Owls on 7-11 shooting while teammate Dave Noel chipped in with 13 points and a team-high seven assists.

Once again, the Owls came out of the gate slowly and trailed by as many as 12 points in the first half. But the Owls came back strong and trailed by 10 points for the rest of the game. Britton was the only player in double figures for the Owls with 10 points on 10-13 shooting.

**A CLOSER LOOK**

Statistics for the 2007-'08 men's conference basketball season

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RICE</th>
<th>OPPONENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scoring</td>
<td>634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Points per game</td>
<td>52.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field goal%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field goal pct.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-point field goal%</td>
<td>35.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-point field goal pct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free throws</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free throw pct.</td>
<td>.611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assists per game</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnovers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnovers per game</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steals per game</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blocks</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blocks per game</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Owls**

"We did have a lot of putbacks," Perks said. "Someone might miss a shot, but someone will be there under the boards to collect it and put it back up."

Against Tulsa, however, Rice put up one of its worst offensive displays this year, shooting just 32.7 percent on the night and getting outrebounded 36-28. The turnover bug returned, as the Owls gave the ball away 19 times, with junior guard Rodney Foster contributing four.

Rice trailed just 23-18 with 2:09 to play in the first half, but an 8-0 run by Tulsa (14-10, 6-6 C-USA) set the tone for the rest of the game. Britton was the only player in double figures for the Owls with 10 points on 4-13 shooting.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL RESULTS/SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Leading Scorer</th>
<th>Leading Rebounder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 13</td>
<td>UAB</td>
<td>69-60</td>
<td>Britton (18)</td>
<td>Britton (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>UCF</td>
<td>60-53</td>
<td>Britton (12)</td>
<td>Braimoh (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 20</td>
<td>Tulsa</td>
<td>68-37</td>
<td>Britton (10)</td>
<td>Beasley, P (5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date** | **Opponent** | **Location** | **Time** | **Last Meeting**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>Hofheinz Pavilion</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Houston 69-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>UCF</td>
<td>Orlando, Fla.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>UCF 60-53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5</td>
<td>East Carolina</td>
<td>Merrell Center</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>East Carolina 64-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>SMU</td>
<td>Merrell Center</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>SMU 68-53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPORTS**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2008

**FANNIN & DRYDEN**

**GENTLY GOURMET.**

**Chipotle**

MEXICAN GRILL
and riding a two-game winning streak entering last Thursday. How- ever, the Green Wave failed to count on the resurgence of senior center Yalea Berezhynska, who was big reason for Rice's success at Tu- lsa last week.

The Owls’ defense allowed the Miners to go into the break leading 27-26.

At this point of the game, however, the Owls' offense did something the second half was a back and forth affair, with the Owls regaining the lead at 34-33 with 15:30 left. The Owls’ transitional offense and full-court press took over. The Miners managed a meager 3-17 on the night.

Like the first half, the beginning of the second half was a back and forth affair, with the Owls regaining the lead at 34-33 with 15:30 left. At this point of the game, however, the Owls’ transitional offense and full-court press took over. The Owls managed a meager 3-17 on the night. At this point of the game, however, the Owls’ transitional offense and full-court press took over. The Owls managed a meager 3-17 on the night.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UTEP 65 RICE 53

Feb. 21, 2008 — UTEP, Calif.

Player of the Week honors. The Owls’ defense allowed the Miners to go into the break leading 27-26. At this point of the game, however, the Owls’ transitional offense and full-court press took over. The Miners managed a meager 3-17 on the night. At this point of the game, however, the Owls’ transitional offense and full-court press took over. The Owls managed a meager 3-17 on the night.

LIKE THE FIRST HALF, THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND HALF WAS A BACK AND

nationally ranked team and were 8-13 from the line en route to 13 points, Freshmen forward Morgan Maye, who was 8-13 from the line on route to 13 points, and redshirt junior guard Maudess Fulton, who was 6-8 from the field for 12 points, senior point guard Kacie Rivenior led all eight of her free throw attempts to end the game with 12 points. Freshmen forward Morgan Maye, who was 8-13 from the line en route to 13 points, and redshirt junior guard Maudess Fulton, who was 6-8 from the field for 12 points, senior point guard Kacie Rivenior led all eight of her free throw attempts to end the game with 12 points.

However, the Owls’ defense did not have its spark against the Owls. Shooting only 32 percent in the first half, the Owls’ defensive effort to keep the Owls’ offense off balance for the second half was a back and forth affair, with the Owls regaining the lead at 34-33 with 15:30 left. At this point of the game, however, the Owls’ transitional offense and full-court press took over. The Miners managed a meager 3-17 on the night.

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WOMEN FROM PAGE 15

"It was disappointing because we had an opportunity to beat a nationally ranked team and were playing well enough to win," Williams said. "But that's what great teams do. They have those kind of runs and that was the ball game."
FRIDAY 22
Vote or something bad will happen. For real.

Don’t pull a Paris Hilton. Or Diddy might come after you. This is serious stuff going down, sa.rice.edu. Elections end next Wednesday, Feb. 27.

A horse walks into a bar and the bartender says...

The Rice Players’ production of Meteor Shower continues tonight and tomorrow with shows at 8 p.m. in Hamman Hall. Tickets are $5 for Rice students and $10 general admission. There’s actually a spectrum of costs, which you can find online at www.rice.edu/players. Also on the online, this plot description: “Tilly’s melancholy is of an exquisite quality. She turns her melancholy into a sad thing, and every stranger she meets falls in love with her. One day, inexplicably, Tilly becomes happy, and wreaks havoc on the lives of her paramours.”

Also, a sleeveless garment typically worn by girls (March 13-17), frequent outpatient visits that extend for tonight and tomorrow with end next Wednesday, Feb. 27. For more info, go to bang.rice.edu. Elections: Don’t pull a Paris Hilton.

The ACRONYMS host...

The Lunar New Year Culture Show! Put on by the CSA, KSA, ETA, VSA, HISA, JASS, and RCUSA, this mysterious extravaganza of capital letters runs from 8-9 p.m. in the RMC’s Grand Hall. It includes dim sum, I’ll leave the rest of the slogging up to you.

Two Dollars! Hallo! It’s the return of Veggie Club’s $2 Indian Food! Baker Commons, 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY 25
Turn that frown upside-down

The Rice Players’ Meteor Shower Play closes out its time with an tonight and tomorrow with shows at 8 p.m. in Hamman Hall. Cost and plot are presumably the same. But maybe not. You could go to all of the shows and find out for yourself.

WEDNESDAY 27
Last Call for VOTES

The Student Association General Elections end today. Don’t forget to cast your ballot online at sa.rice.edu. No butterfly ballot, no hanging chad, just pure democracy. It’s a beautiful thing, isn’t it?

Surprisingly, no bread is involved

The Toastmasters are meeting tonight from 6-7 p.m. in the RMC’s Miner Lounge. For those of you hoping for some sort of iron chef competition involving the best bread you can imagine, I have some bad news. Not that kind of Toastmaster. I think that would technically be a Toast Master (2 words). They’re an international organization that focuses on improving public speaking.

Thursday 28
Pugilistic performers

KTRU’s annual Battle of the Bands is tonight from 7-10 p.m. in the Lovett Underground. For more info, go to bang.rice.edu/battleofthebands.shtml or e-mail rache@rice.edu. The winner of the Battle of the Bands wins a spot to perform at the KTRU Outdoors Show, (i.e. it’s kind of a big deal.)

FRIDAY 29
A flood occurred

Spike Lee’s two-part documentary, “When the Levees Broke,” will show at the Rice Media Center as an addition to the “Houston and Katrina” lecture series. Part I shows at 7 p.m. and Part II begins at 9 p.m.

MacShanigan’s Day

Ooohs. It’s spring break. And it’s Leap Day. Little known fact: When Leap Day falls on a Friday, it’s known a MacShanigan’s Day, the ancient prude to Saint Patrick’s Day. Jealous of their neighbors to the west, the Scots decided to create a drinking holiday even more epic than March 17. The result: MacShanigan’s Day. It turned out to be so epic that the Scots could hold the holiday only once every few years.

Healthy People Needed for
Clinical Research Study

Researchers at Baylor College of Medicine need healthy, adult volunteers to participate in a research study to evaluate Norwalk Virus, a common cause of short-term vomiting and diarrhea illness that occurs in our community (commonly known as intestinal flu or the cruise ship virus).

Study requirements involve an inpatient hospitalization (March 13-17), frequent outpatient visits that extend for 6 months and specimen collections. Participants should expect to become ill for at least a day or more. Criteria for participation are strict. Enrollment is restricted to qualified subjects and participation is associated with some risks.

Compensation will be paid according to the degree of a subject’s level of participation (up to $1400).

For further information contact study staff at 713-798-0956 or e-mail NORWALK@BCM.EDU (best)
The charismatic Brown guy who is hazy on the specifics but has a huge fan base!

The clear winner in the debate was that charismatic Brown candidate who is hazy on specific issues but is almost a cult figure among his fan base and is viewed as a refuge of hope for students cynical about the SA.

Electoral observers originally believed that his Brown status may harm him, but it has only helped his candidacy, with his supporters not just limited to Brown.

He has show the ability to get people to vote who otherwise would not. Fundalls have attributed this wide appeal to his impressive speeches and rhetorics.

"If I can fit it in my mouth, so can you!"

The weird pseudo-libertarian candidates with Christian ties and some deviant secrets!

After getting on the ballot through a rather queer set of circumstances, this candidate is flying high as a b limb on a plan to break down the central government as much as possible.

He has promised to tackle the hard issues with 20/20 hindsight, mixing investigative judgements with a simple policy of just sacking it up, even if it is a real pain in the rear.

Outside policy, they have been able to build ties with lots of students clubs, putting some pride in Campus Crusade.

In a striking turn of events, the debate was immediately preceded by an heart wrenching speech by the candidate with populist ideals, explaining that he would have to drop out.

"For me, a few hours ago, this campaign came to an end. For all those whose cares have been our concern, the work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives, and the dream shall never die."

He had spent his campaign working to improve the welfare of students in the two colleges currently under construction, among other things.

He continued to build on her theme from the previous debate, discussing her concern about security and threats to students.

Nothing will stop this girl from shining on through.

"If I can fit it in my mouth, so can you!"

1. Vote, damn it!

2. Don’t vote for candidates who did not turn in Thresher blurbs and who are not actively campaigning. Remember, if they don’t care about you, you should not care about them.

3. Don’t help some suckups get another line on their resume!

4. Just because a candidate has dropped out does not mean you cannot write in their name. They may not be able to serve, but it would still be a moral victory.

5. If you do write in, remember, it will only show up if at least two people do it, so vote with a friend.

6. Don’t write in the Backpage for Thresher EIC. It is old and not really that funny anymore.

7. If the Thresher blanket-tax passes, which oh God we need it, so that we will place pictures of EC Stephen Whittfield being a jive turkey on the Backpage.