Youn wins in SA election landslide

by Jocelyn Wright

A record turnout of 1,231 students voted this year in the Student Association elections, which closed at 2 p.m. Wednesday.

Brown College junior Matt Youn was voted president, internal and external vice president went to Brown junior Ashley Dugan and Martel College freshman Nick Muscara, respectively. Villa亥shan College freshman Paige Bailey was vice secretary, and Brown freshman Tiffany Flesch became treasurer.

The number of voters this election year is unprecedented in institutional memory. Typically, elections draw 400 to 500 voters. Director of Elections Andrew Bowen said the higher turnout was due to the combined effect of electronic campaigning and a larger number of paper posters and advertisements put up by Communications Director Stephen Roffe remaining students to vote.

This year, the site set up allowed students to vote in individual elections, such as the presidential race, without voting for other positions. Electronic campaigning swelled this year based on a bylaw amendment passed last year to update the election code. The amendment allowed Facebook campaigning, allowed individualized campaign websites, removed the requirement that these Web sites be located on the SA website and updated the Election Central section of the SA Web site to include a section with the ballots that candidates submitted to the Thresher.

"We were still using election balls that I think in the early 90s, people would have been great, but didn't include or didn't reflect that people are so much more interconnected through the Internet," Bowen, a Shrewsbury, said.

These new measures also made it easier for students to bring off campaigns to stay up to date on election results while doing homework, he said.

Muscara said he thought using Facebook as a campaign tool this year encouraged more students to vote because they were informed of candidates' issues.

"We've seen how much of an influence Facebook has in terms of networking," Muscara said. "I think what it allowed most of the candidates to do was put our names out there and let people who didn't know me see who I was and have a chance to vote for me." Bowen agreed.

This election was also surrounded by a huge number of controversies than in past elections, particularly surrounding Youn's campaign. Last week, a proposal that Youn thumbed Brown Pub might draw controversy for violating the election code, because it exceeded the $35 maximum allotted to each campaign. During elections, which started in February, Youn encountered a complaint from Baker alleging that at March 1 Levels, people were tearing down her posters and replacing them with Youn's campaign posters. Youn and Wu also put up a second round of election campaign posters, which were approved by the elections committee, and Youn also put up a military banner that he did not clear with the elections committee.

Youn said although it is imperative that these controversies had been settled, he has not yet got the events behind him.

"I have course should have been better if those things hadn't happened," Youn said. "But I guess war's pretty much in the past now." Bowen said, however, that the candidates were not named.

"I believe that climate change is real, I think its taking place."

 Clubs face challenges in wake of food ordinance decision

The City of Houston website said Student organizations may not be required to buy a permit to sell non-perishable, dry items like cereal or muffins can be a hassle for students who want to sell bake sales to accumulate most of the bake sale profits. The City of Houston website said that permits are required for the sale of perishable food items, such as bread or milk, which are dry. If an organization does not have a permit, it can still sell food, but they have to sell the food within a week of purchasing it. In a week of selling bubble tea, the Chinese Student Association spent $300 on permits, because the tea must be refrigerated.

"Normally, we make, without the permit costs, $35 a day, so paying $60 a day cuts away one third of our profits," Youn said. "It's hard enough to fundraise, so of course, we'd thought of other fundraising, but that's not as effective as selling bubble tea."
Food ordinance stiffening, detrimental to clubs

For a while, there has been a health ordinance on the books dictating that all food sold at Rice must be homemade or commercially baked and bunned with no added sugar—such as purchased cookies and bubble tea—cannot be sold without the purchase of a permit that costs $60 per table per day. While this ordinance has largely been ignored, city officials have stated that it will be more strictly enforced (See story, page 1).

This law will affect any Rice organization that hosts a bake sale or sells any kind of food that is not homemade, making it difficult to raise money for an event. While this may not sound like much to most students, the ordinance will have a major impact on the Rice community. Many clubs at Rice that do not receive blanket-tax funds sell food to raise much of their money, and if these clubs cannot earn money, they cannot host the social and cultural events that are vital to Rice.

This year, for instance, the Chinese Student Association spent $50 per table per day to sell bubble tea for the annual Lunar New Year culture show, an event put together by the Asian culture clubs on campus. CSA reports that they earn about $350 selling the bubble tea, but this action is illegal under the ordinance, which means that CSA would lose one-third of its fundraising efforts.

But the demise of a free LNY show would just be the beginning of the health ordinance’s effects. Sooner or later, students’ favorite clubs will be forced to find new ways to raise money or fade into the background and eventually disappear. But there is good news: Rice can still do something about this.

National politics do not have to be the only thing students and faculty are passionate about and lobby for—local politics matter, too. If students and the administration care as much at the future of these clubs, they will lobby city hall and encourage it to make an exception for clubs at universities that otherwise will be forced to pay a ludicrous $60 per table per day to sell something as simple as cookies. And if nothing else works, clubs could practice civil disobedience and continue selling baked goods as a form of protest.

Vote in primary

With the 2008 presidential campaign such a hot topic, it has become cool to put up Facebook applications or bumper stickers on your car proclaiming your support for whatever candidate, sometimes without even knowing what the candidate stands for. But showing real support goes beyond putting up an application on Facebook: It involves going out and physically doing something about it.

In Texas, that means two things. First, you can vote in the primary—today is the last day—at the Fiesta on Kirby, and on Election Day.

You can also caucus—which involves people voting on who to send to party conventions and which issues to include in the party platform. Bill Rice Sophomore Kyle Clark and Matt Youn (who was declared the winner of the Student Association presidential election on Tuesday, page 1) wish Youn and his administration the best of luck as they work to influence students three different dates to vote.

Guess who’s graduating?

Thanks to the terrifying and inexorable march of time, the Thresher will soon be in the market for a new editorial cartoonist. If you think you’re up to the job, let us know by e-mailing threshers@rice.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Preemptive mugging a way to curb crime

To the editor:

Due to the rise in violent crime in and around Rice and Midtown, and the spirit of the Rice University Police Department’s offensive strategy of stopping and frisking everyone, I would like to make a public request to RUPD that they begin a policy of preemptive muggings. If students are walking in the Rice area at times or in situations where they might be vulnerable to attack, they should begin to actually mug students and take their possessions in order that some recognize the Rice University community would not have the opportunity to do so.

Student possessions could be held so long as the student is not visibly carrying any dangerous or vicious criminals and raising awareness of campus about the dangers of assault and robbery.

In addition, the policy would deter criminals from preying on students, since thieves would soon learn that Rice students often walk around with no possessions, which have already been secured by the ever-vigilant RUPD.

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Thresher

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Thresher
Guest column

Rice environmentalism just another fad

Junk mail to Rice students? Aside from the obvious concern that it makes us as much as it has others, I am particularly bothered by the slip of social responsibility implicit in such mail. However, it seems to symbolize what its adherents are quick to point out: that the green movement has become as much of a fad as it has been in the past. Sierra Club has been quite vocal in its assertions that students are only interested in global warming because my parents are going to ski on it, and so forth. Others have pointed out that students would not stop them.

Personally, I am not willing to put $10 per month into my parents' retirement fund, and yet I do so without question. I am not sure that the Sierra Club is going to be willing to let the SA do the same thing with rice students. After all, if you do not use it, the effect is not as negative.

The student Association's decision to tax its students in support of this issue bothers, and somewhat frightens, on. As representatives of the entire student body, the SA should be more careful in the future in choosing issues, particularly those related to global warming. We do not want to be the representatives from one college, they do not have the resources to back up a decision like that anyway. I do care.

But for those who do care about environmentalism, the programs does not need to be implemented. Fullerton is right that a majority of Rice students would be willing to pay up to $25 dollars a year to purchase energy from more renewable sources. But I have not heard news of student donations rolling in to the SA just yet.

So, I issue a challenge to the students of Rice University: prove me wrong. If you respond that you would not pay for renewable energy, do it. Write the SA check. Do the presentation without the microphones. Do whatever you wish. But after all, do you do it, for the math, only half the students at Rice give $20, and the amount that would be raised by the SA's new-drafted blanket tax.

This is an opportunity to prove to the world, the environment and to yourself, that you actually care. Otherwise, you are just another follower in this latest activist fad.

Sean McBeath is a Martel College junior and jacks coordinator.

Guest column

Jacks calls for wit and ingenuity, not damage

There is little debate that the turning point of the tide of Willy Week is in the hands of the students who called it at this school. The brilliance of the planning and execution of this event is impressive. What is perhaps most remarkable is the probability of Rice students having jack happen at Rice, a jack that is truly the stuff of legend.

So why is it that no one, with the possible exception of those closest to those who actually created the situation, seems to be having a problem with these events? Perhaps it is a sign of the times, a sign that we are more accepting of things we used to shy away from. Whatever the reason, it is clear that Rice students are not afraid to use their ingenuity to flow. Allow the jack to take its full course if you can see the fun of its completion, then decide to fear it or shelve or continue to elegantly.

So I challenge Rice University to take each of these NYC, release the ingenuity and let the epic jack flow. When you jack this year, de- stroy nothing (except maybe water balloons) but leave something so that others will remember you in the years to come.

Will Fischer is a Will Rice College commuter and jack coordinator.

Self-proclaimed gadfly

Obama displays qualities of prime Jewish candidate

A few weeks ago, the National Jewish News blog The Covenant ran a very interesting investigation of the Jewish President Bush's religiously inspired history. If you did not know already, Obama has a white mother and a black father. As the straight-talking, soft-spoken, interfaith marriage of the 1950s was usually the result of very specific cultural unions: white Jewish women and black commun- mon men. As this column implied, Obama is probably a "half-black, half-jew, red-blooded American." Finally! The mainstream media is starting to catch on to a point that I have been ranting about for the past few months: Barack Obama is the Jewish presidential candidate. Our nation has seen in quite some time. Yes, despite of Obama's strong Christian rhetoric, accusations of being a crypto-Catholic and his father's alleged bucket list of antisemitic comments, Obama is a far cry from being a member of the tribe.

I know lots of people are probably thinking that this means nothing about this claim. But contrary to popular belief, many great Jews were black — Sammy Davis Jr., for instance. But Obama's Jews does come from the color of his skin, but from his personal experience. As a black man in Hawaii and Chicago, Obama had no need to call his own personal experience into question. The promised land of the continental United States is a foreign nation, and wandering back again. He was on the outskirts, always looking for his place in the world, hoping to fulfill the dreams of his father. And while that father may not have been Abraham, Isaac or Jacob, that yearning for a promised land resonates still in the promise of the American Dream.

Even his college experience was distinctly Jewish, as his first term was spent at Occidental College, and spending his weekends studying. By the time he had grown up, embraced his Jewish heritage and returned to the promised land of the United States, he was no longer the same. At the age of 28, he married a woman who is, as Obama admits, "smart, better looking, and a little meaner than he is. And now they live in a chic Chicago neighbor-

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper at Rice University since 1899, is published biweekly by students under the guidance of the Rice University Student Press. The Thresher reserves the right to refuse any advertising for any reason. The Student Press reserves the right to edit, paraphrase, and abridge any material submitted for publication. The Rice University Student Press...
Willy Week coordinators Michelle Kekstra and Samantha Tellez of the beer debate, will be posted on the poster board in the arcade game "Whack-a-Mole." The subcommittee devoted its $3,000 budget to create weeks of activities leading up to the Beer Bike race and changing competition, culminating in a day of celebration, a campus-wide water balloon fight, and Beer Bike. Activities will include free beer, cheap T-shirts and discounted beer.

On Monday at 8 a.m., clues for the scavenger hunt will be posted. The scavenger hunt will kick off at 9 a.m., with a departure from previous years, groups of three to five students will be given a list of Rice people, places and objects to photograph. Students on the scavenger hunt to Friday night's scavenger hunt will be awarded points based on the number of items they successfully photograph. Winners will be announced Friday, and the first place winner awarded $100. Teams can sign up by e-mailing Kerkstra (mker@rice.edu) with the names of the people in the group. On Tuesday, the Beer Debates, in which people ask inebriated professors arcane and often embarrassing questions, will take place at 9:30 p.m. in Willy's Pub. Telster said this year will feature a new lineup of professors to replace the usual combination of religious professors William Parsons and philosophy professor Ahsair Nescor. On Wednesday, all campus servers will be closed for dinner, so students can go to the Academic Quad at 5:30 p.m. to participate in Willy's Birthday Picnic. Food will be served both on and off campus servers and will include traditional picnic fare such as turkey sandwiches and brisket, as well as vegetarian alternatives. On Thursday, International Beer Night will start at 10 p.m. at Willy's Pub. Beer will be available by the case, and the keg, in about 20 varieties, so students can go to the Academic Quad for the first of everything and are doing everything according to health codes.

South Asian Society president Amy Matthews said the club will have to work with regulations when planning Dhamaka, its April show. "It is just another added expense," Matthews said. "Organizations don't have that much to be creative."

He said the club is contemplating going to Rotary clubs to raise money or selling tokens to raise money. It would really be nice if Rice at least made bed our fundraising efforts, just a little bit, to make sure it's not all from our families," Gorlach said. "Since Rice has the outside community, one of the ways is to connect with the community and work together."
In general, candidates were very vocal supporters, and I think voter turnout in the 150s. Lovett, Sid Rich, and Will Rice Colleges came next with voter turnouts in the 120s. Baker and Wiess Colleges had the lowest turnouts, with their number of voters just under 100.

Bowen said that more candidates were from the north college than the south colleges could account for the discrepancies in voter turnout. Three of the five north colleges had significantly higher voter turnouts than the south colleges, with their number of voters ranging from 275 to 416. Baker said that more candidates were from the north college because the south colleges had more vocal supporters with whom they give posters to or who participate in their campaign. It raised concerns, especially with Brown College.

In previous years, the north and south colleges had a significantly larger distance from the campus. Brown had the greatest turnout, with 184 voters. Jones, Martel, and Hanszen Colleges followed, with voter turnouts in the 150s. Lovett, Sid Rich, and Will Rice Colleges came next with voter turnouts in the 120s. Baker and Wiess Colleges had the lowest turnouts, with their number of voters just under 100.

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McCAIN From page 1

'I'll be glad to continue the debate on whether it is or not,' Mc Cain said. "But the overwhelming majority of scientific opinion clearly shows that greenhouse gas emissions are harming our planet."

McCain went on to argue that small energy of the Republican Party — a tax cut as a model for relying on nuclear power to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The senator followed by addressing economic issues, explicitly recognizing the extent of the current economic recession has had on many Americans. "We've been through the same thing," he said. "McCain expressed his constant support for free trade as a solution.

Mc Cain said he was aware of the economic problem as part of a massive shift in the U.S. economy from an industrial economy to a technological one, putting it on level with the industrial revolution. He said that in response, government programs to help laid off workers would have to change, focusing on community colleges providing skills and training in technical fields.

"My goal is to get us out of this mess," he said. "And we're going to use our community colleges, the base of our education system in America, and have them design and implement training, and education programs so we can be the first one to get retraining the workforce in the information technology revolution that we are in."

McCain also explicitly said that he would create policies to ensure that American workers do not fall behind. "We've got people out there who unfortunately are seeing the end of their working lives at a very early age," he said. "We can't do that. Not America. We've got to have the opportunity for citizens as well as we can."

He then advanced this talk of government expansion with calls for lower taxes, specifically cutting mandatory spending and reducing spending. He critiqued massive spending bills that contain pork barrel projects and agreed with his own administration on the proper example.

McCain then switched back to talking about improving government programs, addressing the troops, or imagination of soldiers, especially in the Middle East, and a war of occupation. McCain said that he would like to see candidates if it would help if the Democratic candidate did anything that Senator Barack Obama previously promised that he would do something that he has recently been back off of that promise.

McCain switched to talk about Iraq and the surge in troops that he supported.

"We are carrying out the goals of the surge," McCain said. "The Iraqi military taking over more and more responsibilities, the casualties are down, and we will be able to withdraw and come home, and we will come home with honor."

McCain pointed to the fear of terrorism as the main reason as to why his plan in Iraq is so necessary.

"If we do, I'll declare a date for withdrawal, then Qaddafi will be the worst that they defeated the United States of America," McCain said. "And we will be fighting again in this region and in the rest of the world and they will follow us home."

Q and A

The final hour was called on the senator's views on the war in Iraq, the economy, and issues such as Social Security and healthcare. McCain was asked to respond to a direct challenge from a young Democrat who had served in Iraq for the sake of preventing terrorist attacks on Iraq.

"If our house is in danger of burning down, then we will do whatever is necessary to prevent them from burning down our house, too," McCain said. "Iraq isn't their ultimate goal, the United States of America is their ultimate goal."

He also said that U.S. military commitments is a prime example for many nations for decades at a time after wars are over, such as Germany, Japan, and Japan, pointing out that they are not the only nation to win a major war, 100 years, where he was the Texas  primary has become a war-tosend moment for the Democratic candidates, and to the benefit of political students.

Campus has been filled with political events, with speeches from Senator Barack Obama's policy directors Wednesday night and Obama supporters Ben McKenzie and Kerry Washington this afternoon, who will bring students in to vote in the primaries. Also, KTRU gave away 100 free tickets to see Senator John McCain's speech at the Presidential Summit at the George R. Brown Convention Center downtown yesterday evening. KTRU President Director Alice Chai said that she hoped in town hall election give away would provide students with all the legal and all visits to this campus by political students.

"I think it will raise awareness, especially with other political parties being active, because it shouldn't just be enough," she said. "But I love it at Rice, there is nothing set in stone."

OTHER POLITICAL EVENTS

McCain's town hall meeting has been one of several political events at Rice over the past week, with the upcoming Texas primaries and candidates bringing attention to Houston that is usually reserved for places with early presidential primaries. But with this week's decision, the Texas primary has become a war-tosend moment for the Democratic candidates, and to the benefit of political students.

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McCain's response was fine.

"We have to reach out to the independents and find those sooner Democrats," he said. "But I have to secure the nomination."

Shannon School President and Brown College senior Laura Kelly followed up on asking whether McCain would maintain his dedication to the troops in the event of an election. McCain said that he would adhere if the Democratic candidate did anything that Senator Barack Obama previously promised that he would do something that he has recently been back off of that promise.

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Can YOU do it
two times
in one night?

On March 4, you can – for Obama.

Though most people assume it's not possible, you can
vote once in the Democratic primary during the day,
and then do it a second time in the precinct caucus
that night — after you have, y'know, recuperated
from your first bout of civic action.

You must vote in the primary to vote in the caucus.
If you vote on March 4, caucuses take place where you vote.

Primary voting is 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Caucuses start promptly at 7:15 p.m.

Bring your roommates, classmates — mates of any kind, really —
to the polls, because as we all know, the more people that
get involved, the more fun democracy can be.
With your help, they can do it twice in one night, too.

Find voting and volunteer information at
MoveOn.org/TXvote
Mayor White, Brinkley reflect upon Houston’s Katrina response

by Sarah Rutledge
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2008

Though Houston may be home to extreme gridlock and perpetual humidity, Houston Mayor Bill White and history professor Douglas Brinkley argued that it is a model city because it provided aid for Hurricane Katrina evacuees when the federal and local governments did not.

White and Brinkley spoke at a panel Wednesday as a part of a week-long lecture series on Houston and Hurricane Katrina.

"Our country, federal, state and local government in New Orleans, in particular, let its people down, and it was embarrassing.

— Douglas Brinkley
History professor

White said the disaster demanded immediate action from the surrounding communities since a massive amount of people relocated to Houston in the week following the hurricane. In the ten days after Katrina, 250,000 people fled New Orleans homes and churches. By the end of 2005, 160,000 had migrated to Houston, and at the end of last year, between 80,000 and 110,000 displaced victims and another devastating hurricane. He said programs the city provided offered many people the training needed for entry-level jobs.

Brinkley spoke next, beginning his talk by recounting his experience during Hurricane Katrina. Brinkley said he is a fan of presidential history and has noticed a common can-do spirit among all great presidents.

"There was no can-do spirit on Aug. 30, 2005," Brinkley said. "Our country, federal, state and local government in New Orleans, in particular, let its people down, and it was embarrassing.

Brinkley said the Bush administration chose to quarantine New Orleans off and allow no supplies or relief in hopes that everyone would evacuate the city. He said Federal Emergency Management Agency repeatedly turned away trucks carrying supplies.

"The American Red Cross did not send any relief to New Orleans, refusing to operate during, before or after Katrina, and Brinkley recalled going on a boat with a friend and grabbing people while many New Orleans police officers did not involve themselves in the situation.

"They were the biggest embarrassment I had ever seen or could possibly imagine," Brinkley said.

He said many residents in New Orleans’ Lower Ninth Ward remembered President Lyndon B. Johnson’s visit in the 1960s in the aftermath of another devastating hurricane. He said the residents may have lost their homes then, but they left the country cared about them. Brinkley said the Bush administration failed to repeat Johnson’s actions.

"President Bush didn’t do that," Brinkley said. "Chalk it up to bureaucratic inefficiency and a lack of understanding.

Brinkley ended his talk by noting that in the midst of the natural and bureaucratic disasters that caused Hurricane Katrina, Houston stood as an example of how a city should have reacted to such a catastrophe.

Brinkley and White then opened the panel to discussion. An audience member asked about Houston citizens’ reactions to the influx of Katrina victims. White said while Houstonians wish the disaster had not happened, the flood of evacuees to the city has resulted in economic gains. He said the city countered the increase in crime that occurred shortly after the New Orleans residents relocated to Houston by entering a zero-tolerance policy towards crime.

In response to an audience member’s question about New Orleans’ current sustainability issues, Brinkley said the loss of wetlands is proving dangerous to New Orleans. Since wetlands typically slow down the force of hurricanes, losing a football field’s worth of wetlands each day to the Gulf of Mexico means more potential for damage by future natural disasters. He said New Orleans is like two separate cities right now: one below sea-level and one above sea-level. People from the city below sea-level are receiving no insurance aid because companies are not committed to repairing those neighborhoods.
**RODEO**

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

Staying in town for Spring Break? Stick this in your craw.

**EXHIBIT**

Pompéii: Tales from an Eruption

If you’re still buried in the books, take a study break on Sunday for some unearthing. Tales from an Eruption displays 500 recently excavated artifacts through June 22.

**CONCERT**

Gunther and the Sunshine Girls

You don’t know spring till you know Gunther. Touch your tra-la-la and ring in the last Sunday of break with the Swedish master of Champagne, Glamour, Sex, and Respect. Doors open at 7 p.m. and tickets are available online.

**MAMBO JAMBO, 3 weeks delivers an emotional blow**

**The Rice Thresher**

**Arts & Entertainment**

Friday, February 28, 2008

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**Arts & Entertainment**

Friday, February 28, 2008
Picnic's basket leaves much to be desired

by Nikki Metzgar
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

Easily cluttered in one hand, containing elements of several food groups so as to fuel the eater's day and—most importantly—delicious, the sandwich is a simple yet noble food. Over the years it has become gussied up with ingredients such as roasted red peppers and chipotle sauce, but the basics of sandwich remain the same.

So why do some restaurants make such a difficult time making one good? The owners of Picnic restaurant at Bloomzet and Hazlitt, who also own the Raven Grill two doors down, have continued the sandwich with their cutely themed ones.

Inside, most of the seating is made up of picnic tables that completely sit with strangers, and bright screen prints of gorgeous filming the tops of lakes and butterflies fluttering near giant open blossoms hang on the walls. But alas no one noticed that the actual outdoors is mere steps away! This article is the exact opposite of the nature of sandwich.

Picnic's is not so terrible. Sandwiches and picnics are indeed happy brothers with fervent mental associations that are reasonable to draw from when creating a restaurant theme. But there are few positive mental associations with the food; a sad fact that helps make an innocence with the frilly décor.

There are several different sandwiches from which to choose and all of them have a gourmet touch. The egg salad nabs basil mayo and the chicken salad includes slices of sun-dried tomato. The chicken salad is distinctively flavorful to be found in most of the picnics. Despite the tomato, celery, and toasted basil skin, the chicken salad achieved nothing more than the over-sweetening taste of traditional lunch box mayonnaise. The pork tends to be on another sandwich was thinly sliced and spicy, although again covered in overpowering mayonnaise. Luckily for those who do not eat meat, Picnic does offer a grilled vegetable sandwich composed mostly of zucchini with some red peppers and Portobello mushrooms thrown in.

The cookies, at 81 spiece, are fairly large and perhaps the best items in the store. The chocolate chip variety tends towards crunchiness with a slightly soft center. To go with dessert they have a small bag of coffee, the university brand of local ones. A full box lunch costs $8.50 with fruit, chips, and a cookie, but sandwiches can be bought without the sides and in half portions. Also on the menu are an omelet, a cheese and zucchini sandwich, the prissed-up brand of local one.

To be fair, the sourdough bread used for the sandwiches was spunky and tasty, and even better in roll alongside the butternut squash soup. Made without a cream base, the soup still managed to be smooth and a bit sweet. However, the soup pointed to another small deficiency of the shop: the customer service. I asked for Wednesday's featured butternut squash soup when the next customer in line asked about the ingredients of the butternut squash. Confusing the two oras, I ended up going home with the latter. On another visit I forgot my cookies—precious cookies!

The SANDWICH desires better treatment than it is getting at Picnic.

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The SANDWICH desires better treatment than it is getting at Picnic.
Sophomore third baseman Diego Seastrunk belts a hit in Rice’s 11-7 win over TAMU-CC. Seastrunk’s offense was critical to the Owls’ success, as his pair of doubles drove in three runs to help his team earn its first win of the season.

by Justin Hudson

IN FOCUS: BASEBALL

One of the teams Rice will most likely face in the postseason is SMU. The Owls were able to compete on the road, but after return-

this weekend

Rice vs. East Carolina

When: Tomorrow, March 1, at 7 p.m.

Where: Shallow Gym

Last meeting: In the 2007 C-USA title game, the Pirates (13-14, 7-7 C-USA) fought back from a 12-point deficit with 12 minutes remaining to pull out a 79-70 victory. Rice will square off with East Carolina (11-4, 5-3 C-USA) in a rematch of last year’s C-USA title game. In that contest, the Owls (13-14, 7-7 C-USA) knocked back from a 12-point deficit with 12 minutes remaining to pull out a 79-70 victory. Rice will square off with East Carolina (11-4, 5-3 C-USA) in a rematch of last year’s C-USA title game. In that contest, the Owls (13-14, 7-7 C-USA) knocked back from a 12-point deficit with 12 minutes remaining to pull out a 79-70 victory. Rice will square off with East Carolina (11-4, 5-3 C-USA) in a rematch of last year’s C-USA title game. In that contest, the Owls (13-14, 7-7 C-USA) knocked back from a 12-point deficit with 12 minutes remaining to pull out a 79-70 victory. Rice will square off with East Carolina (11-4, 5-3 C-USA) in a rematch of last year’s C-USA title game. 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Sexual Harassment

Is a form of Sex Discrimination
It is illegal!

The Law

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended), by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and by the Texas Commission on Human Rights Act.

Sexual Harassment Defined

Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and any unwelcome verbal or physical behavior of a sexual nature where:

1. Submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual’s education or employment;

2. Submission or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic or employment decisions affecting the individual’s welfare; or

3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual’s welfare or academic or work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, offensive, or demeaning educational or work environment.

Sexual harassment can occur between anyone persons regardless of gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

In addition, the conduct does not necessarily have to be the person to whom the unwelcome sexual conduct is directed but could be a third party who is affected by behavior that substantially interferes with that third party’s welfare or academic or work performance.

Where To Go For Help

You may bring informal complaints to the attention of any of the following persons, as appropriate:

- College Masters
- Assist. Dean of Student Judicial Prog.
- Department Chairs
- Academic Deans
- Administrative Deputy Heads
- Director of EEO Programs
- Director of Health Education
- Associate VP of Human Resources
- Director of Multicultural Affairs
- Director of Intern'l Students/Scholars
- Director of Rice Counseling Center

Officials designated to investigate formal complaints:

- Director of Equal Employment Opportunity Programs
- 224 Herman Brown Hall
- 713-348-4930

Assistant Dean of Student Judicial Programs

Advising Academic Suite

Ley Student Center

713-348-4786

Sponsored by the Office of EEO/AA
Reality hits hard for men’s tennis with loss to No. 5 Texas

by Casey Michel

Like urban myths or old wives’ tales, athletic rankings are often based on nothing more than a sliver of reality. The 24th-ranked men’s tennis team got a reality check last Sunday against No. 5 Florida State University at Rice Tennis Stadium, falling behind early and losing 6-3. The defeat was Rice’s first against a ranked opponent this season and snapped its winning streak, which dated back to January.

The Owls will get some extra days off to regroup this week, as their next weekend action will be the Pacific Coast Doubles Championships in La Jolla, Calif., starting today and running through Sunday. While this tournament will feature competitive matchups, Rice is looking beyond the brief stop and toward its contest with No. 50 San Diego State University next Monday in San Diego. If ranked, the Aztecs should provide a brief reprieve for the battle-tested Owls, which will need to regroup and tighten up in the defense.

However, Rice travels north two days later to face its third top 10 team of the season. The Owls will square off with the University of California-Los Angeles for the first time in the program’s history, which may be the toughest initial meeting the team has ever had — the Bruins are currently sixth in the nation and feature four players in the top 100, including No. 25 Maarten Haas, No. 19 Jesse Hugues and No. 18 Golden State pair Ramin and Alireza Radizadeh. Behind the huge advantage, Rice will take on No. 73 University of California-Irvine, which holds a 6-2 all-time advantage over the Owls.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rice’s best finish in the Pacific Coast Doubles Championships came two years ago when partners Tony Haerle and Robert Saerle knocked off the Pepperdine duo of Andre Begemann and Scott Doerner before falling in the finals.

SHOULDERS

From page 11

But instead of folding, the Owls turned up the defensive pressure and gradually took control of the ballgame. Rice held Tulsa scoreless for nearly three quarters and only allowed the Golden Hurricane one free throw during the same period. However, after three-pointer and basket by Watts and back-to-back threes by Watts and back-to-back threes by Watts, the Owls were in the lead.

The lead oscillated between sides for the next seven minutes before Florida Gulf Coast University hit a 3-pointer and free throw with 5:00 remaining gave the Owls a lead they hold on to for the rest of the game.

The key to the Owls’ comeback was their pressure defense. These played a huge role in the Golden Hurricanes’ offensive struggles, allowing Rice to hold them to 20 points in the second half. Williams, who had 17 points in the first half, scored only four more after that.

“After we got back to the locker room, it was a huge relief,” Greg Williams said. “We were so happy to be back in the locker room, and that really cut down the time they could run their half court offense.”

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Deadline to apply: March 28, 2008
Women’s tennis heats up before trip to California

by Rhodes Colley

With the weather heating up as Spring Break approaches, the women’s tennis team has been on fire. The Owls steamrolled both Sun Houston State University and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi by scores of 6-1 and 4-0, respectively, in their first home matches of the spring.

Junior Emily Braid and freshman Varsha Shiva-Shankar then notched their fifth and sixth wins this season, respectively, in straight-set victories in closer matches. Shiva-Shankar downed Megan Harless (6-3, 6-4), while Braid defeated Rebecca Lin with an 8-2 victory over Eleonora Shurak (10-16, 6-7 C-USA). Braid pushed the overall victory in straight-set wins to 8-2.

Sophomore Julie Chao had an outstanding match and led the Owls to a quick 8-2 victory over Eleonora Shurak and Patricia Manzur to put the Owls ahead 4-0, the match was called. With the win, Chao and Karas led the way with an 8-2 win over Eleonora Shurak and Patricia Manzur. These boxscores brought to you by: Happy B-Day, Chris Berman's deux-deux-deux's.
Shameless Plug
Hear of the Blue Scholars? No? www.bluescholars.com
Do you want them to come to Rice? Yes? You can make it happen. Go to www.bluescholars.com/news and click the big blue box, then vote for Rice. The top 5 universities win a concert by the Blue Scholars. How sweet would that be? There’s also a Facebook group ("Bring Blue Scholars to Rice") to which you can invite all of your friends! Sweetness.

MacShanigan’s Day!
It’s Sunday!...It’s Sunday...It’s Sunday...It’s Sunday...It’s Sunday...

MacShanigan’s Day. It turned out to be so epic that the Scots couldn’t hold the holiday only once every few years.

TUESDAY
Beer in hand
These are your traditional BEER DEBATES. If you don’t recall last year’s (or weren’t here), things happened that even we couldn’t predict. Even on the Backpack! That—awesome. Rating order for this year (in no particular order): Prof. Phil Bellini, Prof. John Hutchinson, and Prof. TBD. It’s going down in the Pub (of Willy) from 9:30 p.m. to whenever. A chance to really get to know your professors for Blue Scholars.

WEDNESDAY
SERVERIES ON STRIKE! (not)
But they are closed for dinner. Instead, go to one Willy’s Birthday Picnic in the academic quad at 5 p.m. Post meridiem. Come adapting Willy and see how well he’s aged.

THURSDAY
A multicultural extravaganza the likes of which you may have seen last year
International Beer Night is an event that needs no explanation. Mostly, because I can’t find one. But it’s self-explanatory, so I’m off the hook. It is, again, in Willy’s Pub at 10 p.m.

HOW TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS
Deadline is Monday at 3 p.m. prior to Friday publication.
Submission methods:
Fax: (713) 348-5238
Email: thesco@rice.edu
Campus Mail: Calendar Editor
P.O. Box 1846
Houston, TX 77251-1846

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FRIDAY FEBRUARY 29, 2008

$0.40 traditional wings Tuesday
$1.00 tenders Wednesday.
$0.50 boneless tenders Thursday

BUFFALO WILD WINGS

Rice Village:
2525 Rice Blvd
713-521-1100

Midtown:
510 Gray St
713-650-0002

SMU COX
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

UFC March First...no cover
March Madness/bracket challenge begins
Play Wii at the Village location with Tournaments Wed nights

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 29, 2008
Thresher blanket-tax increase passes

We have your blanket-tax monies and we will spend it on drugs.

They fell for it, they fell for it, I can't believe they fell for it! Such cute! Such cute! Such cute!
Yay money! Yay money! Money money money!
Yay drugs! Drugs and booze! Waste away their $ on booze and drugs. Such cute!
I still cannot believe it! Haha. Hahaha.
Haha.
They fell for it, oh man they swallowed it all, hook, line and sinker.

Step 1: Ask for blanket tax increase.
Step 2: Get blanket tax monies.
Step 3: We're off to Rio!!!
Or just drugs?
Do you think newsprint makes good rolling papers?

As promised in last week's Backpage, here is a picture of EIC Stephen Whitfield as a Jive Turkey

The Backpage is satire and is written by CLASSIFIEDS

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