SA RUPD create lost-and-found site

by Jocelyn Wright

In response to Rice University Police Department's self-policing policy implemented at the beginning of last semester, Brown College second-year Patrick McNamara, Lovett College student Fiona Adams, and Student Association Director of Technology J.D. Leonard worked with Police Sergeant Jesse Salazar and Officer Christine Cornwell to create a searchable database of all the items left behind, taking in any other items that are lost or found.

McNamara, a sophomore, first thought of the idea when a friend had his backpack confiscated by RUPD and spent time looking for it at many lost-and-found boxes within separate buildings before finding that RUPD had it. Adams, a sophomore, said the database would eliminate those unnecessary steps by listing the lost and found items in one central location.

"It's a more efficient than having your friend suggest that maybe you look for it all after you've been looking for it for weeks," Adams said. The database, which McNamany said should be available to all students in a couple of weeks on the website, is developed by low students to search for missing items, including laptops, bicycles or backpacks. The database will contain a description of the item, its location to where it was taken, and where it can be retrieved.

Cornwell said the SA will appoint someone to ensure the database is functioning properly and being used by students. Since it is still in trial mode as they work out any problems that arise, the database is currently only accessible to students approved by Leonard, a Jones College junior.

Adams said the database should make it easier for students to locate lost property.

"I was lost several times, see LOST, page 9.

Senior testing included in new national accreditation measures

by Sarah Rutledge

Seniors who dreamed that their last semester of college would be filled with constant parties, easy classes and the occasional contemplation of their future may now find that fantasy this year due to accreditation assessments, which began last week.

Though Rice was reaffirmed for accreditation in 2004—who all colleges and universities are reaccredited every five years—students, teachers and faculty members at Rice are now undergoing an examination process to test what seniors have learned in their college careers.

Jesus Precedent for Institutional Effectiveness, John Cornwell, said accreditation of a college or university indicates a government seal of approval on that institution. If a school is not accredited, it cannot receive governmental funds in the form of loans or grants, and a student's degree will not be recognized by other universities.

"In order to receive and be recognized by degrees are recognized by Rice. Rice is part of the Southwestern Association, which consists of about 900 institutions in the southwestern part of the United States. Each region's accreditation agency acts as a self-policing entity, according to a New York Times report. The assessment visit of representatives from all the schools in the region. In the past, accreditation was a two-step process. Teams of six to seven representatives from other universities in the region of the university to ask follow-up questions or to reconstitute the university can be accredited. Accreditation assessments continue at all regions regardless of whether an institution is public or private.

Cornwell said stricter measures of the federal government to track universities spending have resulted in the need for college assessments. The assessments will impact students at universities nationwide. Accreditation agencies will continue to facilitate universities this way but starting this year, a few colleges will participate in these assessments.

The students, who are randomly selected, are asked to take a total of about four-and-a-half hours of tests in two sessions, Cornwell said. Testing is not mandatory and will not affect students' grades, but they will receive $150 for participating.

Cornwell said he ideally would like 100 seniors taking each of the four tests, so assignment to the tests will be random, and students will end up taking more than one. Since tests are not given on days that students could take two or three exams, depending on their total test time. However, students will not take all four.

The CLA, a take-home exam, is composed of two written sections which provide students with scenarios to test their critical decision making skills. Selected students will just take one section of the CLA. If a student is selected to take the writing section, his or her results will be compared to his or her freshman composition exam score. Other tests include on-site exams, a 45-minute online test which assesses students' knowledge of information technology, and the paper and pencil multiple choice California Critical Thinking test.

Cornwell said the idea for testing seniors has been around for a year, Rice also has to declare its goals for undergraduate education last year due to increased pressure from the test. See TESTS, page 9.

Willy Week jacks reach outside of the box

by Sarah Rutledge

Although spring break may allow students a relaxing reprieve from school, Willy Week, which began Monday, more than made up for the previous week's lack of activity. Mock Beer-Bike, the Beer Debates and Willy's Picnic may have enhanced the Willy Week experience, but colleges were the real stars of Willy Week with the many jacks they executed across campus.

Late Sunday night, members of Marrott College opened WiD-40 in trachalons filled with water balloonists from Brown College to pop the balloons. Brown President John Land said he was surprised that Marrott was so quick with their jacks.

"It was pretty clever, actually, because it was midnight on Monday morning," Land, a Brown junior, said. "They just put an on the defensive." Monday night, Marrott students walked through the Jones-College hallways late at night every hour, a tradition Marrott does every other year.

"We were waking up people on the hour, every hour," Marrott Jacks Coordinator Matt Drwensky said. "We would march, a line of people with pots and pans, shout, 'It's 5 o'clock, and all is well,' and stop at 3 a.m." Consequently, a Jones student called Rice University Police Department for a noise complaint, and the police told the Marrott group to stop the jack.

Drwensky said the noise complaint was unreasonable given that it was Willy Week. You have to expect to get woken up in the middle of the night, Drwensky said. 'Don't call the police. Wear earplugs. Turn off the police on people, then the jacks will be over.'

Hanszen College's first jack was not against another college but was on the grove face in front of Hanesen. Hanszen Jacks Coordinator Ron Miller said Hanszen was inspired by their Beer-Bike theme, 'Dr. Brews, Shmammed Jams,' sprayed the fence with slogans, pictures and poetry. However, he said the artwork was starehlized, because someone was offended by the graffiti and it had to be taken down Tuesday morning.

On Monday night, Hanszen hung PVC pipes that spelled out HFFT from the roof of the Wiles College commons in its first jack on another college.

That night, Willy College see JACKS, page 9.

Declare your major today!

Today is the last day for sophomores to declare their major. Students must get a departmental advisor to sign their form and turn it in by 6 p.m. to the Office of the Registrar.

Beer!!!

Tomorrow is the week we've been waiting all week long, darling: Beer!!! Have fun and enjoy the madness. Don't do anything too stupid. And if you do, tell us first so we can get a picture of you.

Fait aimes les films!

The French Studies department is sponsoring the Trailere French Film Festival, and you are showing Chat Perdu (The Grinding Wheel) today at the Rice Media Center from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Admission is $5 w/ Rice ID.

Unsolog The Musical!

LUS: The Musical!

The Rice Players are performing CALCIU, which is performed at midnight at the Rice Media Center at 8 p.m. Tickets cost $2.50 for students and senior citizens and $5 for everyone else.

Math: The Musical!

The Rice Players are performing OYSTER, a musical that is performed at midnight at the Rice Media Center at 8 p.m. Tickets cost $2.50 for students and senior citizens and $5 for everyone else.

OPINION

Milk goes very well with...

Soccer

Scoreboard

Men's Basketball

Rice 8, TAMU-CC 3

West's Tennis

Rice 5, J.W. 2

Men's Basketball

Southern Miss. 59, Rice 50

Quote of the Week

"We outlined our muscles in Sandwiches so we looked like Sparrow. We took as much lunch as we could, ate (at Rice), we saw as much as we could, and quoted lines from the movie, 'Hey, onion, we're in love,' meaning Lunch." - Matt Jacks Coordinator Matt Drwensky on a jack at Lovett. See story, page 1.

Weekend Weather

Friday

Pl. Sunny, 62-71 degrees

Saturday

Clouds, 61-71 degrees

Sunday

Pl. Sunny, 56-62 degrees

INSIDE BOX
SA, RUPD take strides with collaboration

Rice University Police Department caused quite a stir when it implemented its laptop-retrieving policy at the beginning of last semester — in which officers picked up items left unattended within Fondren Library and stored them at police headquarters. To prevent thefts from occurring, many students reacted negatively to this, saying that RUPD did not inform students when they recovered their items or where they were stored.

At the present time, Rice has not created a centralized lost-and-found location. If someone were to lose an item, he or she would have to check different lost-and-found locations such as the ones in Fondren Library, RUPD headquarters and Rice Memorial Center.


Obama belongs to Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, which is headed by Rev. Jeremiah Wright, a long time supporter of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan. Wright, in addition to making anti-Semitic comments equating Zionists with world's most evil dictators without stipulations, would sit down and talk with some of the world's most celebrated dictators without stipulations. Although Obama may fool the rest of America, the Jewish community should open its eyes to Senator Obama's hateful friends.

Matt Wasserman
Marti freshman

Letters to the editor

Letters should be no longer than 250 words in length. The Thresher reserves the right to edit letters for space, content and length.

Civic duty requires insight and concern

To the editor:

As the next generation of leaders of Rice University students are called to participate in the political process of this country. They are obliged to be well-informed and to act on them. However, they must not forget the homeless they have left and should tend to the community that nurtured them. University students have the unique power to strategically decide where to register to vote. This may seem Machiavellian, but I implore members of the Rice community to exercise their constitutionally-given right to vote wherever they believe their voice matters the most.

I, a sophomore at Rice, was asked to submit one of the members of the Rice community to exercise their constitutionally-given right to vote wherever they believe their voice matters the most.

I speak to the students at Rice University who compose a strong and vibrant part of the Rice population. The district 22 congressional race to determine who fills the post once held by Tom DeLay remains of critical importance. Democrat Nick Lampson currently holds the position but expects to face a significant challenge from the Republican candidate, who will be determined in a runoff election on April 8.

Voters need to explore the two GOP candidates rather than depend on name recognition. On the night of the primaries, Republican Shelley Sekula-Gibbs finished first despite her poor record. During her brief stint in Congress finishing DeLay's term, she found the criticism of C-SPAN cameras more appealing than breaking ground for sensible policies. Her reputation for opportunism and unprofessional behavior may hurt her legacy. I admit I have not fully looked into her opponent, Republican Pete Olson (Junior), but as a responsible citizen, I plan to do so. Nonetheless, Olson's status as a fellow Rice alumni has its appeal. His venture into public service also proves that individuals of all backgrounds can participate in performing their civic duties, as Olson graduated with a computer science degree.

Leonard Chan
Loret '07

President and Congressmen contract columnist

To the editor:


Obama belongs to Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, which is headed by Rev. Jeremiah Wright, a long time supporter of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan. Wright, in addition to making anti-Semitic comments equating Zionists with world's most evil dictators without stipulations, would sit down and talk with some of the world's most celebrated dictators without stipulations. Although Obama may fool the rest of America, the Jewish community should open its eyes to Senator Obama's hateful friends.

Matt Wasserman
Marti freshman

CONTACTING THE THRESHER

Letters

• Letters to the editor should be sent to the Thresher at editor@rice.edu. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date.

• All letters to the editor must be signed and include college and year if the writer is a Rice student.

• Letters should be no longer than 250 words in length.

The Thresher reserves the right to edit letters for space, content and length.

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

Subscribing

• Annual subscriptions are available for $80 domestic and $125 international via first class mail.

Advertising

• We accept display and classified advertisements. Advertisements must be received by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to a Friday publication date. Please contact our advertising manager at (713)348-3971 or thresher.ads@rice.edu for more information.
College system strains university bond

Serendipitous musings

Beer-Bike tradition as quirky, unique as Rice

If you think milk “does a body good,” think again. As consum- ers, we have fallen prey to conspiracy of propertions. Thus, the idea that milk is good for health is, I believe, a complete nonsense. The truth is, if it is not good for health, then it is not good for health.

Inner Loop going out to the stadium parking lot to chug beer. The first winner of what would officially be called Beer-Bike in the mid-'90s was Baker, followed by Will Rice in second place, and then in third place was Harmoney. The first was the first college campus to officially take a “drinking tour” in front of Foerster Library. The parade and water balloon fights traditions began when students were without a parachute or balloon. An opportunity to enjoy a drink was all right back then, some say they dream of the next one, just 12 months away.

Amada Melchor

Guest column

There’s no use crying over spilt carcinogenic milk

If you think milk “does a body good,” think again. As consumers, we have fallen prey to conspiracy of proportions. Thus, the idea that milk is good for health is, I believe, a complete nonsense. The truth is, if it is not good for health, then it is not good for health.

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper of Rice University since 1910, is produced each Friday during the school year, and is published every Monday during the summer months.

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important books in my one-and-a-half years at Rice, and I wish I had a way for someone who had found it to connect it back," Adams said. "If they could turn it in to the RMC info desk and put it into the database, it would keep me from frantically going around all the buildings to find my missing book."

Wiess College freshman John Trier said he thought the database would be a good resource for students, although it presented a few problems. "I'm concerned that people could access the database to take things that are not theirs that they have, in fact, not lost," Trier said. "But I think as long as this issue is resolved, it is a terrific idea because it will help us find our lost things."

Happy birthday, Willy!

MSEE graduate student Scott Harrison cuts a piece of cake at the Rice Program Council's outdoor picnic Wednesday.
Wiest College junior Steve Xu joins a small group of undergraduates nationwide who have been recognized by USA Today for their accomplishments in many areas of study.

by Jocelyn Wright

Wiest College junior Steve Xu became one of 20 undergraduates nationwide to join USA Today's 2008 All-USA College Academic First Team. The group of selected students consists of undergraduates throughout the country who excel in various fields.

USA Today featured the 20 winners who took home $2,500 in prize money. Xu estimates that between 550 and 600 undergraduates applied for the team this year.

"I've always been interested in research," said Xu. "It's a part of developing new technologies to lead to better outcomes for patients."

Xu also volunteers for a robotics program at Jane Long Middle School—an underperforming school about 20 minutes from Rice. The program is part of an after-school science and engineering competition program for seventh- and eighth-graders. Xu also participates in intramural sports, is a member of the biomedical engineering society and works in the research lab.

"I thought I'd try it out," Xu said. "I was surprised I won."

"I'll probably save it up for tuition this year," Xu said. "Nothing too exciting."

Rice-Baylor scholar earns national recognition, $2,500 from USA Today

STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Student Association met Monday. The following were discussed:

- President Laura Kelley said elected members of the senate will be voting for the recipient of this year's SA Mentor Award, which is given to an exceptional faculty member. Voting for the award will take place during the second-to-last meeting of the year. Kelley, a Brown College senior, said students who have nominated a faculty member should write and submit a brief paragraph about the nominee's involvement in the Rice community.

- External Vice President Sarah Baker said "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" is scheduled to take place April 12. Baker, a Lovett College junior, said some of the details need to be worked out and that a couple of colleges still need to confirm that they will be participating. The athletics department will be doing the grilling for the event.

- The senate approved the 2008 General Election Results. The list of results can be found at sa.rice.edu.

- Martel College senior Matt Dunn proposed the Rice Sextant Club, which provides a liaison between the Rice Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps program and students, which was then approved as an official club. For more information, email mattr1@rice.edu.

- Kelley reminded the senate that the posthumous Rice Student Volunteer Program Chair, RSVP Secretary, Campfire editor-in-chief and University Blue editor-in-chief would be considered in the 2008 Spring Elections. She said the elections packet and timeline can be found at sa.rice.edu. The elections will start March 17 at 11:59 p.m. and will end March 21 at 2 p.m.

- Brown senator Patrick McKernan said an online database of items taken as part of Rice University Police Department's crime-prevention program as well as other lost items has been established and will be available at sa.rice.edu/inlost_and_found in about two weeks. (See story, page 1)

- Parking Committee Student Representative Eric Max said the committee has decided to reduce student-parking surcharges, and was working on the specifics of the new policy. Max, a Hanszen College senior, said the committee was looking into making General Lot more affordable and adding close to 500 new parking spaces in the lot. He said the committee was also attempting to lower overall student surcharges to make West Lot more affordable. The senate decided that it was best to focus on Greenshirt Lot parking price reduction before focusing on reduction of overall surcharges.

- The proposed by-law amendment "Information Technology Advisory Committee Representatives," which involves that the Director of Technology will be the SA's representative to the ITAC, was approved.

- Kelley introduced the proposed by-law amendment "To Update the Duties of the Senators," which will add the stipulation that senators consult with their constituencies to gather feedback about issues discussed in the senate. Voting on the amendment will take place next Monday.

- Director of Communications Stephen Rooke reminded the senate that Beer-Bike will take place tomorrow.

The SA will meet next Monday in Fannintham Pavilion at 10 p.m.

POLICE BLOTTER

The following were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Mar. 7-13

Residential Colleges

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<th>College</th>
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CALL AND YOU COULD SAVE.

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Can Help You Make More Dollars And Cents.

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STUDENT ASSOCIATION SPRING ELECTIONS 2008

VOTING BEGINS MONDAY, MARCH 17 AND ENDS FRIDAY, MARCH 21. VOTE ONLINE AT SA.RICE.EDU

HONOR COUNCIL AT-LARGE REP
(PICK 3 CANDIDATES)

NORMAN PAI
for Honor Council At-Large Representative

I am Norman Pai, currently a freshman at Hanszen College. I would like to run for one of the three Honor Council At-Large Representative positions out of a desire to deal with the Honor Council cases. This semester I was a Sophomore Class Rep on the Honor Council, but did not get elected to that position, and this is another great opportunity for me to still be part of Honor Council. I feel that I would represent the student population well in my judgment if I were to be elected. Thanks.

ADNAN POONWALA
for Honor Council At-Large Representative

MICHAEL NELSON
for Honor Council At-Large Representative

RSVP CHAIR

KATHY ZHANG
for RSVP Chair

Hi! I'm Kathy Zhang, I am a sophomore a Brown, and I am running for RSVP chair.

I have been an active member of RSVP for the last 2 years. Currently, I am the Hunger and Homelessness committee chair for RSVP. Being committee chair has allowed me to provide convenient yet meaningful volunteer opportunities for Rice students in an area that I am particularly passionate about. I am also the Agency Coordinator for the 2008 Spring Outreach Day (March 29), which matches students with one time volunteer opportunities with various service organizations.

My main duties are to contact agencies and to assign students to the most appropriate and interesting opportunity for them. This position has allowed me to understand what types of volunteering Rice students are excited about, which will help me improve the volunteer opportunities RSVP can provide in the coming year.

I want to see more Rice students participate in volunteer work and advocacy. I also want RSVP to work more with other organizations on campus. Truly believe that Rice students can really make an impact in the Houston community. I hope you will allow me to take Rice in that direction, so please vote for me.

CAMPANILE EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOHN MICHAEL CUCCIA
for Campanile EIC

RSVP SECRETARY

GRACE CHANG
for RSVP Secretary

MABEL CHAN
for RSVP Secretary

STEPHEN KRUZICK
for RSVP Secretary

QIAN (HENRY) ZHANG
for RSVP Secretary

U BLUE EDITOR IN CHIEF

No NOMINATIONS

Elections packet and timeline can be found at sa.rice.edu. Results will be announced in the March 28th issue of the Thresher and via the SA listserve.

Economist and AYN RAND SCHOLAR
Richard Salsman will speak on

CAPITALISM & ENVIRONMENTALISM: THE VIRTUES OF EXPLOITATION

7:30 PM on TUE., MARCH 25 at 212 HERZSTEIN HALL

Man achieves his survival by using his mind to alter his environment to suit his needs and improve the conditions of his existence. It is this process — expressed in science, technology, and capitalism — that has allowed man to rise from the hunger, drudgery, and misery of primitive existence to the comfort of modern civilization. But it is precisely this process that is under attack by the reactionary “greens” — who want to return man to the pre-industrial era or even to the Stone Age. In this talk, Mr. Salsman demonstrates that the improvement of the environment — for man — can be provided only by laissez-faire capitalism and that it is the environmentalist movement itself that is today’s greatest danger to human health and happiness.

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For more information contact rice.objectivism@hotmail.com
Hanszen College decided to jack Wiess College first by spelling out HFH on Wiess College common’s nod with PVC piping.

JACKS
From page 1

decorated the Sid Rich College common with objects in Will Rice colors. Twenty Will Ricers stapled 550 paper cups together to form "WFR" on the Sid commons floor and filled each cup with water.

Will Rice Jacks Coordinator Will Fischer said the cups held 50 gallons of water altogether. Since the cups were stapled together, it was difficult to move them off the floor.

Fischer, a junior, said the jack was well-executed.

"It went very well and was relatively harmless," Fischer said. Fischer said someone with Will Rice allegiance also installed randomly beeping sirens in the Baker College commons.

Baker Jacks Coordinator Matt Taylor said the commons were supposed to be off limits because of the annual Baker blake production. Taylor, a sophomore, said Baker did not approve the jack.

"It feels like it’s been done before," Taylor said. "It’s not very creative." On Tuesday night, Will Ricers installed a sign in the Brown College parking lot which read: "No Parking Between These Signs" with a siren inside.

Land said members of Brown were not impressed by the jack.

"It was pretty pathetic," Land said. "No one really knows what happened because it was taken down really quickly, but now we have the sign in our commons.”

Will Rice also installed sirens in the Lovett College commons. They hid three sirens in the ceiling tiles and tied one to a tree outside.

Lovett sophomore Spencer Johnson said the sirens were irritating but that people at Lovett were able to ignore them.

"We were able to find all of the alarms within 30 minutes or so," Johnson said. "They look like they’ve been done before." Fischer said. "It’s not very creative.

On Tuesday night, Will Ricers also installed sirens in the Lovett College commons. They hid three sirens in the ceiling tiles and tied one to a tree outside.

Lovett sophomore Spencer Johnson said the sirens were irritating but that people at Lovett were able to ignore them.

"We were able to find all of the alarms within 30 minutes or so,” Johnson said. However, in removing the dividing walls from the stalls, the Martel group also removed the support for the front of the stalls. Fischer said the front of the stalls caved in just a few hours later.

"This is not [Martel’s] knack or direct doing, but it’s an unfortunate side effect," Fischer said.

He said most colleges have a budget for these circumstances and Will Rice and Martel will work something out.

Earlier in the week, Jones placed saran wrap and baby oil on the Martel bike racks as well as on their stacked chairs in the commons and the commons entrance. Jones Jacks Coordinator Rachael Orucso said this made it difficult to clean the saran wrap.

On Wednesday morning, Johnson said someone, with the assistance of Hansen, did an unauthorized jack by pouring syrup on the steps, elevator doors and counters. Fischer said several Will Ricers hid three sirens in the ceiling tiles and tied one to a tree outside.

"We thought it was really clever, but it was unfortunate that they ate all the cookies," Johnson said.

On Wednesday night, Martel had planned the grand opening of the Martel Village with the keys to computer keyboards in computer labs around campus and at the colleges to spell "Martel." Also on Wednesday night, members of Sid Richardson College painted their faces and ran around campus in dark clothes as part of their ore raid.

Fischer said he emailed Hansen to throw water balloons at the running Sid Rich students.

Whitfield College planned to jack Hansen Thursday night by pasting hair on the doors around Hansen, thus turning Harry Hansen into Harry Hairness. Whitfield Jacks Coordinator Austin Gay said Whitfield did not experience as much enthusiasm for the Willy Week jack as it did for the Orientation Week jacks.

Fischer said Will Rice planned to put siren in the tree in Martel's

gard on Wednesday or Thursday. The sirens, which he had planned to string eight miles of fishing line around campus in a spiderweb on Thursday night. He said non-Will Ricers were welcome to join in if they did not mind switching allegiances for a night.

Johnson said Martel planned to build a wall between Will Rice and Lovett Thursday night to block Sef from its most direct path to the rest of campus.

Also Thursday night, Martel was considering, in accordance with its Beer-Theme, "Ashby High Life: The Champagne of Towers," to jack Sef with Ashby High Life signs from the surrounding neighborhood.

Miller said Hansen planned to mock Will Rice’s lack of sense to a hotel by placing copies of USA Today and hotel receipts in students' rooms along with orange juice and a typical continental breakfast.

Miller said Hansen also planned to string ropes between the buildings in the academic quad from the roof of Foundren Library and Sewall to hang the keys on computer keyboards in computer labs around campus and at the colleges to spell "Martel.

Miller said he planned to set off the alarms Friday morning in Will Rice's long hall, which lies between Baker and Will Rice.

While Gay, a freshman, said he noticed few, if any, interest in jacks since Owasso at Wiess, Drwenski said he did not think the incident would affect Martel freshmen this year.

"People look forward to jacks, especially if they haven’t done them before," Drwenski said. Fischer said Will Rice has been planning jacks since January while the other colleges typically start planning a week before Willy Week.

"We stepped up our game a lot," Fischer said. "We have enthusiastic freshmen, and we got our [jacks budget up from] $300 to $500 this year. I hope the trend will continue, so the jacks next year will be as good or better than this year."

The Champagne of Towers: to Jasons, turn down the sirens in the ceiling tiles and tied one to a tree outside.

Lovett sophomore Spencer Johnson said the sirens were irritating but that people at Lovett were able to ignore them.

"We were able to find all of the alarms within 30 minutes or so," Johnson said. However, in removing the dividing walls from the stalls, the Martel group also removed the support for the front of the stalls. Fischer said the front of the stalls caved in just a few hours later.

"This is not [Martel’s] knack or direct doing, but it’s an unfortunate side effect," Fischer said.

He said most colleges have a budget for these circumstances and Will Rice and Martel will work something out.

Earlier in the week, Jones placed saran wrap and baby oil on the Martel bike racks as well as on their stacked chairs in the commons and the commons entrance. Jones Jacks Coordinator Rachael Orucso said this made it difficult to clean the saran wrap.

On Wednesday morning, Johnson said someone, with the assistance of Hansen, did an unauthorized jack by pouring syrup on the steps, elevator doors and counters. Fischer said several Will Ricers hid three sirens in the ceiling tiles and tied one to a tree outside.

"We thought it was really clever, but it was unfortunate that they ate all the cookies," Johnson said.

On Wednesday night, Martel had planned the grand opening of the Martel Village with the keys to computer keyboards in computer labs around campus and at the colleges to spell "Martel." Also on Wednesday night, members of Sid Richardson College painted their faces and ran around campus in dark clothes as part of their ore raid.

Fischer said he emailed Hansen to throw water balloons at the running Sid Rich students.

Whitfield College planned to jack Hansen Thursday night by pasting hair on the doors around Hansen, thus turning Harry Hansen into Harry Hairness. Whitfield Jacks Coordinator Austin Gay said Whitfield did not experience as much enthusiasm for the Willy Week jack as it did for the Orientation Week jacks.

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gard on Wednesday or Thursday. The sirens, which he had planned to string eight miles of fishing line around campus in a spiderweb on Thursday night. He said non-Will Ricers were welcome to join in if they did not mind switching allegiances for a night.

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ASB participants trade beach parties for volunteering

by Jocelyn Wright

WHILE some students were spending their spring breaks at the beach or on the ski slopes, about 100 others decided to devote their time to volunteering with Alternative Spring Break, a program in which teams of college students in communities do short-term community service projects addressing issues such as racism, homelessness, poverty and the environment.

This year, there were 10 ASB trips organized by students appointed to site leaders and coordinated through the Community Involvement Center.

"The trips require that participants pay a $500 registration fee. The rest of the money for the trips was raised through individual fundraising by each student group," said Emma Ennamuri.

Although most of the trips were able to finish all their fundraising before spring break, some trips had to raise additional funds. Emma Ennamuri said the Oaxaca ASB group still had to raise between $2,000 to $4,000 to pay for their trip. Ennamuri said, a significant number of students, who said the trip was particularly expensive because "(people went, and they were going through their whole savings, which is more costly than most ASB trips within the United States." Ennamuri said new regulations issued by the City of Houston regarding selling food really affected her trip's fundraising because it limited some fundraising they had originally planned to do through bake sales.

Despite the fundraising difficulties, Ennamuri said her ASB trip was a lot of fun. "Going on the trip has really shown us that all of the fundraising was worth it," Ennamuri said. "It was one of the best experiences I had, so we were ready to come back and finish the rest of the fundraising because we knew all of the fundraising we have done so far was worth it. The trip was just a great experience." 

Ennamuri's group taught women about nutrition in Spanish, taught 100 hotline volunteers in Tijuana about health and nutrition and helped out at a local clinic. Ennamuri said the volunteers were very responsive to and enthusiastic with the volunteers.

"It was amazing because we communicated completely in Spanish and they were very, very responsive to what we had to say," Ennamuri said. "I know a lot of them got really enthusiastic with trying to take care of their health and making sure their kids would have the proper nutrition daily."

Wiese College senior Igor Gorlach, who was a coordinator for the other trip to Mexico in San Miguel de Allende, also said he also enjoyed working with members of the community. His group had to raise about $2,000 for different issues of reproductive health, helped out in clinics and visited the Women's Center.

Gorlach said this was his second year to participate in ASB although it was his first time being a site leader. "He said his least favorite part of both trips was that his favorite part was getting to know his fellow Rice students in these other communities."

Bundling in unexpected situations also happened at the ASB trip to Washington, D.C. Meg Goswami, a Sid Richardson junior, said her favorite part of her ASB trip was watching the group bond and get comfortable working with each other on the first day.

"It felt really great to watch everyone become friends with each other," Goswami, a Baker College junior said. "At first, it was kind of awkward because it was 14 people who didn't know each other, but after the first day people got real comfortable working at the women's shelter. It was just a really good bonding experience for all involved."

Goswami said volunteers on her trip did maintenance work and painted a mural in their dining room and interacted with the women.

"Basically we just involved ourselves with the days-to-day activities of the center and let them get to know how the place functions," Goswami said.

She said the trip was extremely rewarding and everyone learned a lot. "I feel like I've learned a lot because everything fell into place, even though planning it was stressful at times. "I think the best part was probably my favorite part, but it all worked out nicely," Goswami said. "I want to be involved in the program again next year. This is the most fun spring break I've had in memory, and I definitely want to be involved in the program again next year. I'd encourage everyone to do it as well."

GSA AWARDS -- CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

It is time once again to recognize those outstanding graduate students, faculty and staff who do their utmost to enrich the lives of Rice graduate students by nominating them for the 2008 Graduate Student Association Awards.

The GSA annually centers five awards, as described below in THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS MARCH 1. A cover letter of nomination describing why the individual is deserving of such recognition should be submitted to the GSA at MS-527 or, preferably, via email to the current Internal VP Natasha Leewski at natasha.leewski at rice.edu. The Sallyport Award should be submitted directly to the Student Alumni Association at AlumniAssoc at rice.edu (or hard copies to MS-528). Nominations may be submitted by faculty, staff, graduate students, and graduate student alumni.

The GSA awards are meant to encourage and recognize outstanding graduate student service and education at Rice. The award criteria are intentionally kept vague in order to permit recognition of the broadest possible candidates in the Rice graduate community.

1) FACULTY TEACHING/MENTORING AWARD: Recipients are selected based on demonstrated commitment to graduate education and teaching graduate students at Rice. The award consists of $1,500, funded through the Office of the President, and a plaque. Up to two awards may be conferred each year.

2) FACULTY STAFF SERVICE AWARD: Recipients are selected in recognition of efforts beyond the call of duty to improve the quality of life for graduate students at Rice. The award consists of $1,500, funded through the Office of the President, and a plaque. Up to two awards may be conferred each year.

3) ROBERT LOWRY PATTERN AWARD (FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS): The award, named in honor of the GSA's faculty advisor, recognizes graduate students who may not otherwise have been honored for their service and achievements on behalf of graduate students. The award consists of $400, funded by a dedicated endowment, and a plaque. Up to five awards may be conferred each year.

4) GSA SERVICE AWARD (FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS): Recipients are selected based on contributions of time, effort, and devoted service to the cause of improving graduate student life and education at Rice. The award consists of $300, funded by the GSA, and a plaque. Up to two awards may be conferred each year.

5) FRIEND OF RICE GRADUATE STUDENTS AWARD: Recipients are selected in recognition of significantly enriching the lives of graduate students at Rice University in some way. This award is a token of appreciation to those person within and beyond the Rice community who have contributed to the quality of life of graduate students. The award consists of $500, funded by the GSA, and a plaque. Up to two awards may be conferred each year.

6) SALLYPORT AWARD: Is presented by the Association of Rice Alumni to recognize a deserving graduate degree candidate for contributions to the Rice community above and beyond his or her individual department and who may not otherwise be recognized. The winner will receive a silver bowl (with his/her name engraved on it) and a trip to graduate school reunion at the Graduate Student Alumni Association Conference. The award consists of $500, funded by the GSA, and a plaque. One award may be conferred each year.

The participants on the Alternative Spring Break trip to San Miguel de Allende worked with the locals to raise awareness about issues of reproductive health, domestic violence, children's rights, public health, and rural health. From top to bottom: Sid Richardson College junior Parker Davis, Wiese College senior Igor Gorlach and Sid sophomore Zoe Yeates show off the signs they made while volunteering to raise awareness about health issues. Yeates takes the blood pressure of a villager at the clinic. Will Rice college junior Meledy Mue

March 15, 2008

Beer Bike

The times for the respective teams to obtain the course. The chugger tells the next chugger to begin chugging unless any penalties were determined by the Chug Judge or reported to the Chug Judge and need to be enforced. This procedure continues until the last team finishes. 4. Head Judge: The Head Judge determines that the race is ready to begin. In the event of any type of false start or misfire of the starting pistol, the race shall be stopped. A new start will be attempted and all teams will be required to complete the course. The race will be started at 10:23 a.m. and a penalty of 10 seconds will be imposed on any team that is not ready to race for that team. This time will be used to check the official time kept at the finish line by the Track Keeper. The penalty time will be added to the official time kept in the course. Each timer indicates to the Chug Judge when the race is ready to begin, provides an appropriate countdown informing the teams that the race is about to start, and starts the race. 5. Chug Judges (10): a. Keep track of the chugger's performance and send out a chugger when his/her time has expired. b. Adhere to the Race Regulations and Procedures. c. All chuggers must be in his/her chugger's area at all times during the race. d. No chugger, rider, or member of a pit crew may commit any act that could be deemed grossly unfair or unsportsmanlike as determined by a majority decision of the Chug Judges together with the Rules Committee. 6. Water Bottle: I. The course, including the pit lanes and staging areas, will be marked with water bottles at 10 yard intervals. II. Each chugger must carry a water bottle at all times during the race. III. The water bottle must be carried in his/her hand or at his/her side at all times during the race. IV. The water bottle must be held in a manner that allows the chugger to drink from it at any time during the race. V. The water bottle must be used to demonstrate that standard. 4. Head Judge: The Head Judge determines that the race is ready to begin. In the event of any type of false start or misfire of the starting pistol, the race shall be stopped. A new start will be attempted and all teams will be required to complete the course. The race will be started at 10:23 a.m. and a penalty of 10 seconds will be imposed on any team that is not ready to race for that team. This time will be used to check the official time kept at the finish line by the Track Keeper. The penalty time will be added to the official time kept in the course. Each timer indicates to the Chug Judge when the race is ready to begin, provides an appropriate countdown informing the teams that the race is about to start, and starts the race.

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### Beer Bike 2008 Violations and Fines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water/Balloon Violations</th>
<th>Fine/Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consistent under-filling of water balloons [monitored by the Parade or Security Area Coordinators]</td>
<td>$1500 (assessed against the violating college)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filling balloons with any substance but water</td>
<td>$1500 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hitting Beer Bike officials, campus police officers, security volunteers, bike team members, non-student participants (College Masters, RAS, etc.)</td>
<td>$100 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using any method to propel water except balloons (including but not limited to hoses, trashcans, water guns, etc.)</td>
<td>$250 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of fire hose</td>
<td>$500, plus $10 per minute of use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of departmental-style, wheeled, blue recycling bins</td>
<td>$250 per bin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Throwing balloons outside the defined parade route</td>
<td>$500 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water balloons transported in/thrown from any containers or vehicles except for the approved water balloon trucks</td>
<td>$100 per incident</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parade Route/Vehicle Violations</th>
<th>Fine/Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than 10 people on the bed of a balloon truck</td>
<td>$100 per excessive person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol on parade route or on a parade vehicle</td>
<td>$250 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approaching vehicles while the parade is in motion (all participants must remain on the curbs while the parade is in motion)</td>
<td>$100 per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing in between vehicles while the parade is in motion</td>
<td>$250 per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating in the parade and/or water balloon fight without wearing an obvious symbol of college affiliation</td>
<td>$150 per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attacking the cab of a parade vehicle</td>
<td>$100 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climbing off a truck at any time without the expressed and documented permission of a security official</td>
<td>$500 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climbing onto a truck at any time after the start of the parade</td>
<td>$300 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-participation in after-parade clean-up</td>
<td>$1000 (assessed against the violating college)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving a tagged vehicle off campus after the parade</td>
<td>$500 per vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving a tagged vehicle off campus before the parade</td>
<td>Exclusion of vehicle from the parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impersonating a security or Beer Bike official</td>
<td>$1000 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck moving with its gate open and/or unlocked</td>
<td>$500 per offense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of any sort of portable, shield-like device</td>
<td>$100 per offense</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Track/Race Violations</th>
<th>Fine/Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present on the track without a wristband</td>
<td>$100 per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossing the track during race</td>
<td>Penalty of 10 seconds per person to the team of the offender's college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating in the race without utilizing a bicycle (walking, running, non-bicycle vehicles)</td>
<td>$1000 per participant and disqualification of the team from the remainder of the event</td>
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### Beer Bike Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Parade Line Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Parade Begins at Sallyport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Alumni Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Women’s Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>Men’s Race</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Campus Wide Coordinators

- Tim Faust
- Bhavika Kaul
- Heather Masden (Staff)

### Area Coordinators

- **Concessions**: Gillian Smith, Claire Hein
- **Judges**: Sanya Desai, Amy McNair
- **Parade**: Adnan Poonawala, Katie Ortbahn
- **Publicity**: Teddy Bucher
- **Security**: Brian Henderson, Ricky Mercado
- **Technology**: JD Leonard
- **Track**: Larissa Charnsangavej

*Folio provided by the Office of Student Activities*
**Scene**

**Thresher editors recommendations for arts and entertainment around Houston through March 21.**

**Movies**

**Jewish Film Festival**

Sober up from Beer Bike with a little Jewish film. The Jewish Community Center of Houston has teamed up with the MFAH to bring you a series of mainstays from Sarofim Hall on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are $6 with a student ID, and more information can be found online.

**Music**

**Gogol Bordello**

In case you run out of time to read the column on page 12, don your indigo garb and 20-22 in Wiess College Commons.

**Broadway**

**The Rat Pack: Live at the Sands**

Long before Hunter S. Thompson made Sin City his « own, Las Vegas belonged to entertainers like Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Dean Martin. This hit musical recreating their epic night at the Sands Hotel in Sarofim Hall is playing through March 23. Tickets are $6 with a student ID, and more information can be found online.

**Arts & Entertainment**

**MFAH**

The MFAH to bring you a series of mainstays from Sarofim Hall on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are $6 with a student ID, and more information can be found online.

**Jewish Community Center of Houston**

In case you run out of time to read the column on page 12, don your indigo garb and 20-22 in Wiess College Commons.

**Marfa: West Texas ghost town doubles as desert oasis**

Marfa, which was the setting for the film "No Country for Old Men," is a town of about 2,100 people located about 170 miles northwest of Austin. It is known for its art scene and the Chinati Foundation, which houses the work of artist Donald Judd. The town has a population of about 2,100 and is located in the middle of the Chihuahuan Desert.

**By Rachel Selnick**

The pressure of high expectations is a powerful motivator. Cleared from Wise Acre to Texas, and amidst the hustle of Beer-Bike festivities, this year's production of the original play Hello Hamlet! delivers a polished diamond of a show, jam-packed into two hours of comedic pleasure and Monty Python-like acrobatics.

**Director Caitlin Miller's attention to detail pays off in a show that is as full and strong as the baby grand accompanying them. Like Shakespeare's original Hamlet, this unit does not just the opposite. The fast pace of the show does not hamper the good-humored parade of的老 movies musical numbers, ranging from Les Misérables to Paderewski on the Bass.**

**Monty Python-like**

**Improvement, it is in playing up the actors' singing talents. Many of the lyrics of the larger choruses numbers are inaudible, but the dancing and visual parade is as familiar the plot, distract from these flaws.**

**Rice women may sympathize with Ophelia (Sid Richardson College freshman Christine Gerbode), as she struggles to keep her strong demeanor falls into a nagging series of grimmaces and repetitions of "Let's get married!" that destroy the potential for character development.**

**The most memorable characters are also the two most changed from their original forms. Weiss freshman Adrian Frimpong as the Food Shark and the Pizza Roasters, whose operations and organic coffee from Big Bend Coffee Roasters, whose operations and organic coffee from Big Bend were the only kind found across town, and the quaint, book-lined bookstore which was once a Spanish villa-styled architecture and now is today an art space far more permanent and temporary exhibits and a home to a series of artists in residence. Around this compound, now known as the Chinati Foundation, has grown a veritable artitic and otherwise bohemian oasis in the midst of Texas desert.**

**Donald Judd's**

**Fraudulent is it still impresses with its Spanish villa-styled architecture and lush gardens. The bar is as hopping as it was during the famous movie's filming and turns out a mean margarita, too. The only bar that recommended by locals was the lounge in Thunderbird Motel. Luckily, we ventured past its impressively sketchy exterior, an unbroken concrete wall and until now "hidden" sign, to find a surprisingly cool room, its high walls painted dark blue and covered in larger-than-life sized portraits of Marfa locals.**

**The "Snake Bite" sounded like an intriguing drink, but the bartender at the Food Shark and the Pizza Foundation proudly declared that their produce was organic and their organic sodas are the only kind found across town, and the quaint, book-lined bookstore which was once a Spanish villa-styled architecture and now is today an art space far more permanent and temporary exhibits and a home to a series of artists in residence. Around this compound, now known as the Chinati Foundation, has grown a veritable artitic and otherwise bohemian oasis in the midst of Texas desert.**

**Ingrid Norbergs**

**Donald Judd's titanium box sculptures glisten in Marfa's afternoon sun. The boxes are a highlight of the two-legged Marfa tours.**

The juxtaposition of old and new giving off an eerie yet appealing atmosphere in this town. It is as if you're the only people wandering around on a Thursday afternoon, wandering into the silent, empty galleries was a little intimidating. But it turned out not to be: the gallery employees were entirely friendly and inviting. Last but not least, the festival included all this activity. The Chinati Foundation. The grounds are so See MARFA, page 13.
Tuesday is made for gypsy punks: Gogol Bordello, coming to town

Imagine taking the Grandmaster Flash out of Gnarls Barkley and replacing it with a Weezer All Star. Basta bar bravo: Presto, you would have Gogol Bordello, the self-described gypsy punk band that is known to confuse, enthral, and energize audiences at the Meridian on Tuesday. The eight-piece set of romers from New York City, by way of custom-designed blend rockers, metalic core rhythms with instrumentation that is decidedly out of the mainstream. Accordion and fiddle buckets, as well as percussive dancing, are common fare for stage shows.

This is not your mama's world music. It is no goodwill musical mission, no sweet-voiced cultural petit four. It is impossible to walk away from Gogol feeling like you have witnessed a quaint foreign concert, a quaintness foreign to you. Gogol Bordello, and replacing it with a Weird Al vs. Borat bar brawl: Presto, you would have a gypsy punk band that is slated to melting pot / I get penciled in amongst the thrills of crossing new boundaries.

But with international bordello of immigrant punks behind and beside him, Hiitz is undoubtedly at his best. Their Tuesday takeover at the Meridian will be one of the best Houston concerts of 2008, even in the face of the Rodeo. Hiitz has been known to crowd-surf on top of his own drum set and fire buckets while continuing to sing and play. It is hard to imagine Big N Rich & The Rodeo's Tuesday performers, getting that passionate about their music. So while his Thailo-Israeli-Japanese-Kroatiadian-Ritopian-Romani cadre of punks may not have the lids-and-spurs crowd at their show next week, Tuesday's best concert will undoubtedly be the one with vodkas, berrying, gypsy punks — and plenty of purple.

Julia Bursten is a Lovett College senior and former Thresher editor in chief.

Vapid. Penelope provides timeless empowerment

by Jackie Ammons

Penelope is not practical. She has the face of a beautiful wood nymph and the voice of a fairy, but also the pronouned nose of a pig. She lives in a modern world of high technology subdued by 1950s clothing and milk trucks that heave ken from the early twentieth century. Like its principal characters, the movie Penelope is neither practical nor persuasive enough for thrill-seeking audiences but is perfect for a quiet, simple afternoon viewing.

Eugene Hutz drops ARTICLES

like a freshman pre-med dropping honors org: with a reckless abandon full of exhuberance and the thrill of crossing new boundaries.

But with international bordello of immigrant punks behind and beside him, Hiitz is undoubtedly at his best. Their Tuesday takeover at the Meridian will be one of the best Houston concerts of 2008, even in the face of the Rodeo. Hiitz has been known to crowd-surf on top of his own drum set and fire buckets while continuing to sing and play. It is hard to imagine Big N Rich & The Rodeo's Tuesday performers, getting that passionate about their music. So while his Thailo-Israeli-Japanese-Kroatiadian-Ritopian-Romani cadre of punks may not have the lids-and-spurs crowd at their show next week, Tuesday's best concert will undoubtedly be the one with vodkas, berrying, gypsy punks — and plenty of purple.

Julia Bursten is a Lovett College senior and former Thresher editor in chief.
BakerShake's Richard III a true thriller
by Brian Reinhardt
708.305.3309
Shakespeare's play Richard III begins and ends with tremendous onrushing energy and bloody deaths, but the production's holdout is that it plays out in between. In this production of the late Sunday Shakespeare company, a strong cast features numerous Rice alumni and employees in the billing Baker College performance.

Richard III
by William Shakespeare
Directed by BakerShake alumni Katy Mulvaney, features a strong cast in this new production by the Baker Shakespeare company. A strong cast in this new production by the Baker Shakespeare company. A strong cast in this new production by the Baker Shakespeare company.

Richard III

Richardson excels as the king's insatiable underling. She gives her character depth and pathos, making Buckingham's transformation over the course of the play just as fascinating as Richard's. The reign of Queen Elizabeth (Baker senior Michelle Moller) is one of the few characters to stand up to Richard's deadly devices, and she does so with ferocity that rivals his.

Equally gripping in their roles are two of Richard's victims. His ambitious George (Camront Cooper, Brown '02) and King Edward IV (.transforms into a giant Richard). When Richard is√ªs triumphant Joe takes a moment to deliver a speech on the evils of Richard's regime. Even after watching the evil king order the deaths of a dozen people, the audience might suspect that Shakespeare has exaggerated Richard's actual cruelty.

In fact, the performance is so thought-provoking performance is so thought-provoking that one might have Shakespeare rolling over in his grave, but it will have the audience rolling in the aisles. Even if one isn't a perennial fan of college theater, this show is a must-see; that it comes around more than one every four years is all the more reason to go.

Hamlet
by William Shakespeare

The production's few problems are trivial. Some of the smaller roles are played by students who are not fully prepared or who have not had enough time to memorize their lines. But these criticisms are basically secondary and do not detract from the overall quality of the performance. The production's few problems are trivial. Some of the smaller roles are played by students who are not fully prepared or who have not had enough time to memorize their lines. But these criticisms are basically secondary and do not detract from the overall quality of the performance.

Richard III

Richard III

The morning light, the desert sun through the windows, the vast, austere landscape and the clear blue sky are as much a part of the piece as the sculptures themselves. The morning light, the desert sun through the windows, the vast, austere landscape and the clear blue sky are as much a part of the piece as the sculptures themselves.

Set in a beautiful, big sky desert landscape, this part West Texas scene also has a part of the piece as the sculptures themselves.

Ingrid Norgaard is a Baker College senior.

Brown seniors Bryce Esken and Michelle Moller shine as King Edward IV and Queen Elizabeth in Baker College's performance of Richard III.

From page 11

MARFA

From page 11

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Richard III

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Brown seniors Bryce Esken and Michelle Moller shine as King Edward IV and Queen Elizabeth in Baker College's performance of Richard III.
**The Rice Thresher**

**Texas routes Rice 9-1 at Reckling Park**

by Jessica Cannon

The baseball team book-ended the last two weeks with a sweep of the Minute Maid Park College Classic and a 7-0 win over Texas A&M-Corpus Christi University, but there were a few bumps on the road in between. Not only did No. 12 Rice drop two one-run games in a row against Sam Houston State University and Southern Methodist University, but the Owls were smacked by Ohio State University in the opening game of the Rice Classic. While the team rebounded with wins over Western Carolina University and Creighton University, the Owls concluded the weekend with a Preliminary Round win over the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Since the Conference USA Championship was their last meet as an Owl, Brittany Massengale — the sole healthy senior on the swim team — was anticipating an extra dose of emotion. But as the meet wound down, there was too much excitement surrounding Rice’s second-place finish for her to shed a tear for herself. For the second year in a row, Rice finished the dual season with a 10-4 record and took second place in the third consecutive year.

**In Focus: Baseball**

Record: 9-6

Last week: After taking two of three in the Rice Invitational, Rice lost 9-1 last Tuesday to Texas at home.

**What made the difference:** Texas Tech runs four inning inning proved too much today, but not enough for the Owls to overcome.

Freshman outfielder Chad Martinez continued his hot hitting and became a team leader with a mark of 1:43.29 — an NCAA top-five mark and the team’s fifth-fastest time of the season.

**In Focus: Softball**

Record: 5-0

Last week: After two of three in the Minute Maid Park College Classic, the Owls picked up wins over Western Carolina University, Winthrop University in the opener of the Rice Invitational, and Louisiana-Lafayette at home at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

These upcoming opponents will be relatively easier than the foes Rice faced two weeks ago at the Minute Maid Park College Classic, which the Owls began with a 7-2 drubbing over the University of Oklahoma.

**In Focus: Softball**

Softball uses forgotten play as means for success

The game of softball has many great moments any fan loves to see — don’t think you can throw a successful “double play” pickoff move with one baseball, never mind with two. But what about a scenario that the Owls now face?

Casey Michel

Coming off a six-game winning streak, Rice found itself with a chance to prove its worth once again. Not only did the Owls get multiple hits, but they also managed to execute the play of the season.

See **SWIMMING**, page 17

**THRESHER SPORTS/commentary**

Softball uses forgotten play as means for success

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See **SWIMMING**, page 17

**OOWLK — THE WEEK IN SPORTS**

Friday, March 14

- Baseball vs. Winthrop 6:30 p.m. — Reckling Park
- Women’s Tennis vs. Albion College 3 p.m. — Lakeview Tennis Stadium

Saturday, March 15

- Baseball vs. Winthrop 3 p.m. — Reckling Park

Sunday, March 16

- Baseball vs. Winthrop 6:30 p.m. — Reckling Park

Monday, March 17

- Baseball vs. Winthrop 6:30 p.m. — Reckling Park

Tuesday, March 18

- Men’s Tennis vs. LSU 1:30 p.m. — Lakeview Tennis Stadium

Wednesday, March 19

- Baseball vs. Louisiana-Lafayette 6:30 p.m. — Reckling Park

**Massengale PACES SWIMMERS TO SECOND PLACE**

Since the Conference USA Championship was their last meet as an Owl, Brittany Massengale — the sole healthy senior on the swim team — was anticipating an extra dose of emotion. But as the meet wound down, there was too much excitement surrounding Rice’s second-place finish for her to shed a tear for herself. For the second year in a row, Rice finished the dual season with a 10-4 record and took second place in the third consecutive year.

Despite failing in the Mustangs’ meet, the team performed above and beyond any of its recent finishes. Not only did the Owls get multiple swimmers into the finals in 33 events, but they also managed to break six school records and come very close to matching several others over the four days. Finally, Rice’s third-oldest record. She also took second-place in the final swim with a career-best time of 16:17.73 to take the team’s to finish with a mark of 1:43.29 — an NCAA top-five mark and the team’s fifth-fastest time of the season.

See **SWIMMING**, page 17
After jump in ranking, men’s tennis falls against No. 17 Florida State

by Casey Michel

For the men’s tennis team, the conference of Jake Hess Tennis Sta-
dium are a welcome sight. In most

instances, that is. The Owls, ranked
20th in the nation, found themselves
rudely treated by a visiting Florida State University, which pulled out a 4-3 come-from-behind win last Tuesday. Rice’s loss to the 17th-
ranked Seminoles came on the heels of a California road swing that saw them drop two ranked opponents. However, those wins sawymbled a 7-0 weekend in the No. 9. University of California-Los Angeles on March 5, Rice’s first road loss of a top-50 opponent this year.

The Owls finally get a reprieve from their strenuous schedule, with an entire week off until their next match — a home contest against No. 28 Louisiana State University next Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. The Tigers have been struggling, winning three in a row after a string of matches to rank seventh in the Southeast region, and boast only one ranked player, No. 86 Michael Venus, in their top 15.

Rice’s success this season was especially remarkable, given that his previous best win a jump of 164, which he realized during his senior year of high school. What was even more impressive was that he finished an astounding eight matches higher than the second-place finisher from the University of Houston.

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Top-seeded UTEP ends Rice's hot streak in C-USA quarterfinals

by Justin Hudson

Going into the Conference USA quarterfinals with No. 34 University of Texas-Pan American, the Owls' basketball team has come out on top. The Owls (14-18, 6-10 C-USA) were peaking when they needed to, having won four in a row. They had hardly defeated East Carolina University 68-55 in the opening round of the tournament, holding their opponent to its lowest output since December.

And as UTEP contested against the Miners (27-2, 16-0 C-USA) entered the final stretch of the second half, the Owls had not buckled — unlike in the equally previous meetings — and locked up a run to make a stretch of five in a row. They had handily won four in a row. The Owls' run, it also marked the end of an era for the Rice women's basketball. For the first time since the 1995-96 season, the Owls finished with a losing record, and they will miss the postseason for the first time in five years. Head coach Greg Williams (Hannaw 71) also lost one of the most distinguished coaches in the team's history: Senior guard Radie Riverin and senior center Valeria Berzhynska were both 1,000 point scorers, and along with senior forward Tiffany Loggins, they made the team's Automatic Tournament in 2006 and back-to-back trips to the WCC in 2006 and 2007. Kristal Frazer (Will Rice '10) and Lauren Neaves (Geest '07), members of last year's senior class, were also members of the 1,000 club.

"Along with the class right before them, [the seniors] represent the golden era of Rice women's basketball," Williams said. "We've lost four 1,000 point scorers in the past two years. Any program in America is going to take a hit when that happens." Fortunately for the Owls, Riverin and Berzhynska were on hand for the C-USA Tournament, which began with a very familiar opponent.

On the same night that one Houston basketball team scored 209 points in a game, another dropped its 209 consecutive contests. The men's basketball teams' season came to an end Wednesday in a disappointing yet telling way, as Rice dropped a 55-50 contest to the University of Southern Miss in the first round of the Conference USA Tournament in Memphis, Tenn. The defeat ended what could be claimed as the program's worst season in history — not only did the Owls (26-10, 36-13 CUSA) become the first team ever in C-USA to lose a single conference game, but they failed to win any games at all in 2008.

However, the final record could be a deceptive. Prior to the season-ending loss, the Owls lost three hard-fought games during spring break.

In Focus: Men's Basketball

Record: 32-3, (20-0 C-USA)

Last week:5-2; ending 65-58 against SMU to pull out the win.

What made the difference: Despite losing four starters, Rice fought hard and played well, especially in the second half, scoring a career high 49 points on 14.8 shooting, but the Owls lost 85-60 in Orlando, Fla.

Finally, in order to get the most out of the immediate victory, because of all the things that they've been through over the course of the year," head coach Billy Bank said. "The last six of our last seven games, we've been in tough situations like this going down the stretch just to come up short.

Bank, who made a solid post game effort, had similar sentiments. "It was a competitive game and you always want to come away with wins like that, but there's not much you can do," Britton said.

The game against the Golden Eagles (19-14, 7.5 C-USA) was played on Wednesday, March 19, in the first round of the C-USA Tournament. The Owls fell behind early and, after lagging by a double-digit margin, could not pull within a possession, not withstanding a late run. The Owls poured in 41 points in the second half, the Owls, however, won a 45-24 run to cut the lead to 24-17 with five minutes remaining. A jump by sophomore guard Ryan Harkey made the score 37-44 with 2:26 left, but that was as close as Rice could get.
Women's track uses potent team effort to defend indoor title

by Natalie Cleverio

Even though track and field is not always recognized as a conventional team sport, the members of the women's track and field team were anything but individualistic in defending their league title two weeks ago at the Conference USA Indoor Championships. Despite placing first in only two events, Rice used 15 top-three finishes to pull out a nearly twenty-point spread to the second-place University of Texas-El Paso to win the meet for the second time in a row, said head coach Jim Bevan, who was named C-USA Coach of the Year for the second time in a row.

Junior distance runners Beth Hindman and Allison Pye also posted provisional qualifying times during the season. Although the win was largely a team effort, Lyons and Greff were the only two Owls to make it to the top of the podium. Lyons nabbed first place in the 400 break with a time of 54.35 seconds while Greff cleared the pole vault with a height of 13.5 feet, 7.25 inches. Greff broke a school record — both Hindman and Nicole Mericle placed fifth in the mile at 4:50.36. Freshmen Becky Wade and Allison Poe also pulled double duty in the 200, with Wade finishing third in 17.05.89 and Pye fifth in 17.06.37.

Led by Lyons, Walwyn and sophomore Shalora Ricevce, the Okies carried that team spirit to the victory. In addition to her first-place finish in the 400, Lyons placed ninth in the 200, second at a height of 12.345 inches and seventh in the 100. Wade matched third in the 60 and seventh in the 200, just 33 behind Walwyn.

Senior Lacer Carmona continued her pattern of competing in an amalgamation of events, taking fifth place in the long jump with a mark of 18.60. In addition to Carmona's points, Rice scored in five field events, high jump, pole vault, long jump, triple jump and the pentathlon. Sophomore Europ- Hamilton leaped to 5.44 in the high jump, garnering fifth place. Freshman Sarah Agara also placed in the triple jump at 18.65. Greff's first-place finish in the pole vault was complemented by freshman Articee's fourth-place finish with a 12.66 leap. Lastly, junior Andrea Jackson nabbed seventh place in the pentathlon with a score of 3305.

SWIMMING

From page 14

pleased with the achievements. "If we were going to pick a good time to swim fast in relays, we did right there at conference," he said.

After winning the optional All-American Long Course Champions Meet last week, Massengale and Miller both qualified to swim at the Olympic trials this summer, Schacter, Chua and Hyde, who came very close to qualifying, attended the meet as well.

The Black Graduate Student Association at Rice University Presents

The 2nd Annual BGSQA Spring Lecture Featuring

Kathleen Neal Cleaver

Former Member of the Black Panther Party, Human Rights Activist

Senior Lecturer of Law and African-American Studies at Yale and Emory Universities

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

Lecture

6:00 p.m.

Shell Auditorium in McNair Hall

Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Management

Followed by

Reception and Book Signing

Furnsworth Pavilion

Rice Memorial Center

Made possible by:


3 Rice University

Beautifully rich.

THE RICE THRESHER SPORTS FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2008 17
Three good reasons Rice students should consider
Summer School this year:
1. Pay full tuition for your first course and get subsequent courses at half price.
2. You can now take up to 12 credit hours during the summer.
3. You no longer need to apply to attend.

For courses, dates, registration deadlines and other details, see
www.gscs.rice.edu/summercredit
or call 713-348-4803

2008 Year-End Awards
The Office of Student Activities, the SA Awards Committee, the Association of Rice Alumni, and the Community Involvement Center coordinate their respective year-end awards that recognize service by students to the Rice community. Any member of the Rice community may submit a nomination. Qualified candidates may be considered for any of the five awards. If you have any questions please contact the Office of Student Activities (x4077).

The RICE UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD, given in memory of Dean of Students Hugh Scott Cameron, is awarded to as many as four individuals of the Rice student population, past and present, who have been most exemplary in rendering service to the student body.

The SALLYPORT AWARD is presented by the Association of Rice Alumni to recognize a deserving:
(i) undergraduate degree candidate who has made contributions to the Rice community above his or her individual college and who may not otherwise be recognized; and
(ii) graduate degree candidate who has made contributions to the Rice community above his or her individual department and who may not otherwise be recognized.

A faculty letter of recommendation and a resume are required for the Sallyport Award.

The OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARDS are given to graduating seniors who have contributed the most to excellence at Rice University. This award recognizes excellence not only in service but also performance, dedication, and character.

The MORTY RICH SCHOLARSHIP is awarded to a continuing student who has distinguished himself/herself through his/her commitment and service to Rice and/or to the greater community. The successful candidate(s) will have recognized a need in the community, developed objectives, and implemented or established program(s) that would benefit the community and will realize no personal gain for these efforts.

The ALAN GROB PRIZE is awarded annually to the Rice undergraduate who, through service to the larger community, has demonstrated the most devotion to the needs and interests of the economically and culturally disadvantaged. The recipient(s) must be a current Rice University undergraduate, but does not have to be continuing (can be a graduating senior).

You may nominate a student for one or more of the above awards at:
http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~stact/awards.html

The deadline for nominations is 5 pm Friday, March 28th, 2008.
FRIDAY

Meet the Competition

Ummm... BEER BIKE?

SATURDAY

Race by Raceview
today. You probably should've
must declare your major
started working on this
already, considering that you
turn that into the Registrar's *
department chair. Then
of arithmetics at the Rice Play-
your notebooks to Sammy's
But now math can be fun, too!

TTie show runs again, tomor-
their. Ticket price $2.50. The

Cafe at 8 p.m. for three and
eiShake production, Richard
performance is tonight at 8
ing night for this year's Bak-
are Thursday, Friday, and Sat-
row at 8 p.m. in the Baker

BY ITS OWN HANDS

This all takes place at the Bike
Trade, which is in Greenbriar
Alumni race: 1 p.m. Women's
paramount importance; you

WEDNESDAY

Empire of Ice Cream
Is that title alone not
eough to make you want
to go to this? I don't usu-
list the various and sundry
ries that go on here, because
of empire. If you can
you to go to enjoy a ride and see

MILLIONS of them. But

I'm sure they had the word "Ice
cream" in the title, so I just put it in. The lecture is by
Jenny Smith, a Duke Uni-
versity post-doc from 4-6 p.m.

in HUMA119. (Full
title: "Empire of Ice Cream:
How Life Got Sweeter in Post-War Soviet Union")

THURSDAY

Bakershake is back
Richard III returns tonight,
tomorrow and Saturday at 8
p.m. in the Baker Commons.
See above for more details.

FRIDAY

Full
Or Pass. Today's the last
day to declare a class as "Pass/ Fail" for the spring. A bit of
advice: Do it even if you don't
think you'll need it. You can
remove it next semester and
say you're into that sort of thing.

Cultural

ADVANCEs Culture Fair runs
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the RMC's
Grand Hall. Experience every
cultural club on campus in one
place. Club booths will be judged and the winner gets
a prize. Everyone loves prizes!

The plot of this play is no remi-
inant of A Few Good Men. It makes me
want to burst into inappropriate
lyrics song

It's the "Ode to a" Will
Rice's spring historic effort.
The opening show is tonight
4 p.m. at Will Rice College
unexpected location). And
it's FREE. Other showings
are tomorrow at 8 p.m. and
next Friday and Saturday, again
at 8 p.m. (Plot outline: Two
dudes move in together. They
are different types of friends
but good friends. Hilarity of the
sitcom style ensues. Tuscan
eye reunion. Curtain.)

Last call
Last day to register online for
RSVP's Spring 2008 Outreach
Day. Outreach Day is Satur-
day, Mar. 29. Go to www.rice.
edu/op to sign up.
Beer-Bike racers to face construction, wood planks

Due to ongoing campus construction, bikers at tomorrow's Beer-Bike race will be forced to round a track beset with puddles, construction equipment and wood planks routed around transparent green fences.

The administration has assured students that the construction is the bare minimum necessary and should not impede Beer-Bike in any way.

"Safety is always our first concern when it comes to construction," Vice President for Administration Kevin Kirby said. "Which is why we've laid down wooden planks for students to ride their bikes on, rather than walk through the mud."

Planks will be used to redirect the track around random green fences, giant cesspools that smell like human fecal matter.

He's got 40 yards out, so he's 30 yards out, so, fence fence fence! Bikers drastically try to avoid green fences along the track, and instead divert towards rickety wooden planks.

Thanks to a hot tip, behold a picture of Leebron from college. What luscious locks. He's so handsome, like a young Robert Redford. Seriously, just... wow. Um... yeah. Seriously, I'm impressed. It makes me feel for my own hair. That's it, no more headspins.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED with two small children in the evenings, some weekends, and during the rare work-day. Experience and references desired. Pay negotiable $12-20/hr. Contact miriammila@sbcglobal.net.

HELP WANTED for information. Please send inquiries to resumes@HumanistsOfHouston.org.

INTERNS WANTED for Rice alum owned IT consulting firm. We are searching for students from campus and within walking distance of the light rail. Telecommuting also considered. If you're excited to work with the latest technology and have a working knowledge of software development we'd like to speak with you. Please send inquiries to resumed@humanistsofHouston.org.

Housing

DUPLEX 2BR, 1.5 baths, brick, doc. rm, study, pvt ct, off st parking,Walk Score: 70, $1090/mo deposit, 8321 Greenville. 713-348-3974


classifieds@rice.edu
(713) 348-3974