Rice ranked 4th best value

BY JOSH RUTENBERG
THRESHER STAFF

Rice was ranked fourth last week on both the Princeton Review and Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine's lists of best value private schools for 2009, falling from the number one position it held last year's Princeton Review and improving by one spot on Kiplinger's list.

The lists compiled data from private campuses across the country. Schools were ranked on the basis of academic quality, student opinion and financial aid packages. Other consistently high-ranked institutions include Princeton, Harvard and Yale universities.

Princeton Review ranked Rice as first in 2007 and 2008 on its "America's Best Value Colleges" list. Kiplinger's ranking of Rice as a best value college has remained fairly consistent over the past three years, fluctuating from fourth in 2007 to fifth in 2008.

"We tend to bounce a little from year to year," said Rice. "But I've built a strong track record of being within the top five schools." Vice President for Finance Kathy Collins said.

She attributed Rice's fall from first to fourth to the sweeping changes Harvard, Princeton and Yale made to their financial aid policy last year. Harvard began limiting tuition to 10 percent of a student's family income. None of those schools require students to take loans as part of financial aid packages. However, Collins says she is not worried about the change in rankings.

"Look at the company we're in," Collins said. "Rice makes a point of wanting to be affordable and be a high-quality place, so it's great to have that affirmation. And it's great publicity to be right up there with really top schools."

With the recession looming overhead, families are sure to pay more attention to the tuition rates of major universities, an area where Rice has consistently outperformed its competition.

The rankings reflected changes made in December 2007 for the 2008-'09 academic year, including the increased no-loan threshold from $40,000 to $60,000. Vice President for Enrollment Chris Munson said Rice has continued to make accommodating undergraduate financial need its number one priority by raising the no-loan threshold this month from $40,000 to $60,000, and lowering the loan cap to 50 percent for students matriculating in 2009.

Registrar deadlines

This is the last day to add or drop courses without a fee and the last day to convert Pass/Fail from last semester to a letter grade. For those of us graduating this spring, today is the last day to add or drop courses via ESTHER. Afterward, it will be a pain. Better do it now.

No classes on Monday!

The first day off of the semester is finally here, and not a moment too soon. We at the Thresher will be spending the day catching up on lost sleep and work we're already behind on. Then again, some of us will sit around and watch TV. Happy Martin Luther King Jr. Day!

Chao directors chosen

BY CINDY DINH
THRESHED EDITORIAL STAFF

While the rest of Rice may be experiencing a temporary hiring freeze, the Ting Tsung and Wei-Ning Chao Center for Asian Studies welcomes new leadership. Earlier this month, Tani Barlow started her five-year term as the inaugural director of the Chao Center after being selected from the national pool of applicants in May 2008.

Barlow, who previously worked as a professor of art history and curator of exhibition, traveled to Rice two years ago to research the collection and spoke at the Sane and Celia Chao Foundation in 2007.

"Really, the leadership transition is to honor the work of the people who founded Asian Studies at Rice and look forward to creating a Chao Center that has an international reach," Barlow said.

She credits her predecessors — including Dr. Martin and Professor Stephen Lewis — with helping to develop the Chao Center, which was created with a $15 million endowment from the Chao Foundation in 2007.

"We're building on a great foundation, so my vision for the future includes intellectuals, students working together across national lines," Barlow said.

The Chao Center is a new research oriented center, whose staff is housed in various locations on campus including Fondren Library, Rusk Hall and the Humanities Building. Though the Chao Center is separate from the Asian Studies program, they will still work closely together, Barlow said.

"We're building on a great foundation, so my vision for the future includes intellectuals, students working together across national lines," Tani Barlow, Director of Chao Center said.

The overarching focus this year is on the 10-year transnational movement ideas, people, products and technology moving across borders which makes Asian Studies at Rice distinctive, Barlow said.

"While the rest of the world is studying Asia, their interest and expertise tend to stop at the national border," Barlow said. "What has been significant about our focus from
Rice has always been about getting a good education for the best value. From the free-tuition policy that lasted more than 50 years after the university's opening day to the No. 1 "Best Value" ranking in the latest Princeton Review view, maintaining the ability to educate students more effectively while charging less than our competitors has been central in Rice's institutional goals since day one. This is why we hope that Rice's placement of only fourth-best on two separate best value lists is only temporary (see story, page 1). It is true while we fell from the top spot in the magazine's annual Princeton Review, we did see one slot from fifth in Kiplinger's Personal Finance, but it might be worth asking: why did we stop the ascent at number four?

Certainly other universities took the spots ahead of us: Swarthmore, Harvard and Princeton in the Princeton Review, and California Institute of Technology, Yale and Princeton in Kiplinger's. Most of those schools sport tens of billions of dollars in endowment funds, and, consequently, no loan thresholds higher than the clouds—a factor to which both sets of rankings give great weight. Rice has some reason to complain, though, since the rankings came out before the administration announced a raise in our own no-loan threshold from $60,000 to $80,000 ("Rice modifies financial aid," Jan. 9).

Nevertheless, while Rice should by no means feel disgraced for receiving a fourth-best ranking among a pool of several hundred private institutes of higher learning, we feel that the more lists we can top, the better. Any ranking in which we can best schools on a variety of proven criteria is one that helps build our reputation and assists us in our struggle to the top of the collegiate heap.

Therefore, the administration should continue to prioritize making Rice as good a value as possible, and hopefully when next year's potential applicants flip through Kiplinger's or Princeton Review, they will find Rice no further down the page than the very top.

International notability a good sign

If it seemed like there were a lot more tour groups going around than usual last semester, you probably were not imagining things. For the Fall 2009 incoming class, a record 10,818 prospective students applied to matriculate at Rice, an 11.5% spike from the previous admission year. But it is not just that more students were applying—approximately 28 percent of those who applied early decision were offered early admission over last year, a trend that was not unexpected. There are a number of difficult situations that face out-of-state students face that the average Texan or Houstonian doesn't really have to consider. The snow blizzard that hit this area in early April, the newly-converted Metro Q-Cards, and the late finalization of the finals schedule are all examples of inconveniences that inconvenience out-of-state students (and many in-state students as well).

Undoubtedly, Houston is hot during the summer, but the earlier we end our spring semester, the earlier we are forced to start again in August. This year, expect students who want to advise during Orientation Week will have to be back at Rice on Aug. 13, which severely limits summer internship options.

In previous years, students have received U-Pass and Q-Cards at their colleges and never needed to renew them (as we do, with the $90 cards we get). Since public transportation is crucial for students without cars, we should be working to make this system as simple and painless as possible, instead of forcing students to revisit the Cashier's Office to pick up and renew their cards.

Finally, in countries where the dollar doesn't buy within a day's drive of Rice, transportation is that much more expensive. Students consistently lay down hundreds of dollars for plane fares to get to and from school on time while spending as many dollars as possible with their families. This is preventable, but not knowing the finals schedule until October makes it impossible for students to book affordable round-trip fares for the semester. Setting the finals schedule before classes begin would eliminate this concern.

There are certainly valid concerns in the ranking tables that deal with those issues. Moving up the scheduling of finals, making our semester scheduling match with more traditional calendars and removing the availability of public transportation would certainly require some logistical work, but it's time for the administration to put its foot down and do its art on the matter. There's a chance the administration may in fact be doing exactly that in the move it says it's making. If there is time to make negotiations on ES-THREE more complicated with each consecutive semester, there should be little to no need of this even more expediently.

The changes over the last few years have shown us that Rice is really dedicated to addressing my concerns as a current student. Everything from this rash of construction (and the poor handled student concerns surrounding it), the " skepticable" assimilation of college and club funds into BANNER and the usurpation of the "Student"

Admissions Council tells me that Rice is more interested in the Second Century than the current one, as the goal of the Second Century was more important than how we achieve that vision. While the word of mouth about Dan Lebowitz and David Leebron is hanging on this generation of students peering into the night, after which he will recruit a new set with more or the troubles we've faced under this leadership.

But I think that our power as current students is absolutely overwhelming.

Coming from a state that generally produces a small number of Rice students, I think it's fair to say that I have done more for Rice in terms of advertisement than how much money (or any) the university has used to advertise us. The word-of-mouth component is crucial to Rice's marketing strategy, especially in places where few Rice students live. It would really only take one dedicated student to turn an entire high school away for years to come.

Instead of tackling the problem most important to the administration, we should make some of the changes that are already beginning to occur. If students start aligning the sum brooks with the student-run newspaper, the Rice Thresher, we'll see what happens. Maybe Rice will be true to its word and start catering to the needs of all students, not just the students inside the Rice East-West Center.

The Rice Thresher, the official student newspaper, now publishes a student-run Reader each Friday during the academic year, which is submitted and published by the students of Rice University.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 370 words, be typed double-spaced and submitted by the Wednesday prior to publication and must be signed, including college and year of the writer's first degree. Letters should be no more than 370 words. While the Thresher reserves the rights to edit for content and length, it places priority on the writer's opinions.

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A substantial hazard exists that surrounds all of Rice University: the Outer Loop. As someone who has traveled and crossed the Outer Loop daily for the past two years, I can only speak solely for the women of the Rice community. The Outer Loop serves as an extended feeder lane for drivers and pedestrians. I often remarked that the Outer Loop provides a convenient route to different parking lots and barriers that block the ability to enter the Rice campus. This traffic also creates an unnecessary environmental hazard. However, the Outer Loop can be improved by creating a separate jogging and walking lane. Such a setup would be especially helpful for students who want to exercise without the risk of collision. I applaud FE&P for installing light fixtures along the Outer Loop. However, it is time for us to realize that this trend of increasing traffic on the campus has been problematic for our campus community.

David Sorge

On the other side of things, surely, scrap the Democratic Party and its questionning. Someone who was disapproving in both Democratic candidature before they were enough. Someone who seems to take the high ground positive of Rich and Faulkner at face value.

Rachel Solnick

Luckily, there is something relatively new on the horizon that people probably don’t know about now. You will have to excuse me, guys, because although the environmental issue affects all of us, this column is mainly directed at women. Enter: the menstrual cup. This small silicon cup looks like a bell pepper and is reusable. It is also economical and environment friendly.

New hybrid product can aid green effort

Perhaps if there were fewer tampons and pads, fewer drivers choosing to speed on the Outer Loop, fewer students and professors driving to class, and fewer students and professors who travel by car, the environmental effects would be less severe. However, it is time for us to realize that this trend of increasing traffic on the campus has been problematic for our campus community.

Rachel Solnick is a Wiess College junior.
increase in the same category.

Vice President for Enrollment Chris Munoz attributed the significant spike in foreign national applicants from the People's Republic of China to extensive exposure of the university and Leebron and his wife Ping Sun in the PRC.

Last summer, Rice played host to a number of PRC university presidents who visited to learn more about U.S. educational systems.

"That was an agreement that was made between the Chinese Ministry of Education and Rice which really was engineered by President David Leebron," Munoz said.

Leebron was also one of 11 university presidents from around the world invited by the Chinese Ministry of Education to the opening ceremony of the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

"The president and his wife Ping have been traveling all throughout Asia, but focusing upon the PRC," Munoz said. "That kind of relationship-building and connections are important ways to gain more name recognition, and certainly the president has done a good job."

Despite the economic downturn, Rice remains one of the best values in education and thus one of the top choices of highly qualified applicants. In the 2009 rankings released earlier this month, Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine and Princeton Review's "Best Value Colleges" for 2009 both ranked Rice as the fourth best value of private schools. Last year, Princeton Review ranked Rice as #1 in best values among private schools in its 2008 edition of "America's Best-Value Colleges."

Kiplinger's used metrics of academic quality and affordability in ranking colleges, with academic quality accounting for two-thirds of the total score. The Princeton Review based its rankings on more than 30 factors in the three areas of academics, cost of attendance and financial aid.

"The early signs suggest that low-income students in the end have not been discouraged, that they are applying," Munoz said. "Rice has historically been known to attract lower and middle income students, and whilst I think that's changed somewhat as our tuition has gone up, one metric you can look at is the number of students receiving Pell Grants, and for that we are among the top. We're way up in African-American [applicants] and we're way up in underrepresented minority [applicants] in general. We're going to have a very diverse socioeconomic profile of students, as we have in it's past."

In order to encourage low-income students to apply to Rice in current hard economic times, the university expanded its financial aid policy while retaining its policy of need-blind admission last December. Rice extended its no-loan policy to students who qualify for need-based aid from families with annual incomes of $60,000 or less.

"We have a very defined approach to administering and awarding financial aid," Munoz said.

ED applicants must sign a binding agreement to attend the university if admitted, an agreement acknowledged by not only the student but also his or her parents and the guidance counselor.

Munoz cited the challenge in making admission decisions when most applicants are similarly academically qualified.

"The truth is that the difference between the students we admit and the students we ask to be on our waitlist — if we use academic qualifying standards, in general you could not tell any difference," Munoz said. "So those are the hard conditions. If you don't fit that, then you have no chance of being admitted. If you didn't have enough of the tools to meet the high quality education, it'd be awfully difficult for you."

However, Munoz said academic qualifications were not the only criteria Rice looks for in a student.

"What other qualities would you bring?" Munoz said. "Do the students have experience? Have they participated in co-curricular activities that would speak to leadership? Have they been involved in some way that enhances the experience of where they've been? Have they contributed to make their school, club or community better? It's not just academics. Although academics is absolute, it's more than academics."

In an attempt to predict the number of applications this year, the Admission Office used a number of tools and data, including assessment of demonstrated interest expressed by students, to anticipate a sizable increase in the number of applications this year.

"The size of the pool of applicants was going to be up significantly," Munoz said. "But what became very concerning was that at one point we were down 24 percent in applications. The deadline of Jan. 1 came and just the day before there was a rush of applications. We ended up not just being even but being up significantly, which correlated with our projections and predictions early on. We simply were not seeing the behavior of a large applicant pool."

However, Munoz pointed especially to the hard economic times in trying to predict the number of students applying to Rice.

"I also was concerned by the fact that we were down significantly in the number of financial aid forms," Munoz said. "We were very concerned because it looked to us as though the economy was influencing students not to apply — the student's capacity to meet the cost in light of the environment if they're worried if Mom or Dad going to keep their job, all those kinds of things. I am so pleased that we are up."
In the eye of the sun

A closer look at a new solar panel shows potential to make solar power more accessible

By Michelle Phillips

Throughout the world, the importance of the sun is clear. At Rice University, the need for clean, efficient energy has prompted innovative solutions.

Chemistry Department Chair Andrew Barron

Since 2004, the Chemistry Department has been searching for a way to use solar panels more efficiently to generate electricity. In doing so, Barron said he hopes to produce something that has potential to improve the retina model, which is a scaled-down version of the human retina's rods and cones in order to show how people see. They can produce something more efficient to use solar power, he said, and use more advanced technology to make it easier to use.

Barron said the solar cell was nothing more than a scaled-down version of a retina in the way it converts light into electricity. "But their structures are completely different and, so we are interested," Barron said. "We can use this to understand how to make something that can be bought at Home Depot of solar cells, which is something that you buy at Home Depot or in a store. But the technology has potential to improve the retina model.

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the very beginning is our emphasis on movement through borders." The Chao Center plans to develop a seminar series on transnationalism, expected to last a year or two, which will help define and refine ways to analyze the term's various uses.

"I subscribe to Google Alert for the term transnationalism and have seen it used in many ways," Barlow said. "If we work together in a discourse community, then we can get a working definition of what we mean or don't mean [by transnationalism]." Michele Verma, the new assistant director of the Chao Center also hired this month, said the seminar series seeks to identify the historical development of the term as well as its usages. She said she hopes to see students, researchers and faculty alike from a variety of disciplines at the seminars.

"I think you're going to find transnationalism as a key term in every discipline because it's fundamental about crossing borders, whether you are talking about people, goods, ideas, finance or other things," Verma said, whose background is in the Indian diaspora. "One of my interests is the development of religious practices among migrants and the kinds of attachments they may have to one or more homelands."

Other terms caught in the fray include internationalism and globalization, which are used pervasively but sometimes in the wrong context. For instance, Barlow suggested transnationalism is a more accurate term to use in certain areas of studies like migration. She stressed the importance of using words precisely.

"If we consider migration cross-border Mexico or the transmigration of Chinese from Taiwan, Indonesia or Vietnam into this community, transnationalism would be a better word than globalization," Barlow said. "We need a way of understanding why we put so much emphasis on the relationship between countries."

The transnational theme seems to be embedded in Barlow's own life. While at the University of Washington, Barlow noticed how traditional Asian studies departments focus on area studies with little collaboration across national boundaries. "I belonged to the China program, and my other colleague belonged to the Indonesian program," Barlow said. "We had no institutionalized way of talking across borders." With funding from the Rockefeller Grant in Humanities, Barlow experimented with ways of talking across national boundaries with specialists on common topics such as war trauma and revolutionary trauma. Trauma seems to be a common recurring theme in Barlow's work. She is the founding, current editor of the academic journal, positions: east Asia culture critique, which recently won the "Best Special Issue" on War Trauma in December 2008. It is the publication's second award from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals of the Modern Language Association.

Assistant Director of the Chao Center for Asian Studies Michele Verma, Associate Editor of positions: east Asia culture critique magazine Meagan Williams and Director of the Chao Center Tani Barlow sit outside of the Brocklehurst Pavilion. Verma and Barlow were appointed earlier this month to lead the Chao Center.

**THE ONE-DAY COURSE WILL BE OFFERED ON THREE SEPARATE DATES:**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2009**
Hyatt Regency Austin

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009**
Hyatt Regency Austin

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2009**
Westin Oaks, Houston

**TOPICS COVERED IN EDWARD TUFTE'S ONE-DAY COURSE INCLUDE:**

- fundamental strategies of information design
- use of PowerPoint, video, overheads, handouts, multimedia, website design
- statistical data, tables, graphics, semigraphics
- business, scientific, legal, financial presentations
effective presentations: on paper and in person

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Special course rates for full-time students.
Data show modest increases in Rice faculty salaries, continuing salary disparities based on gender

By KENN VASSYAGIIYU

In 2007-08, Rice University faculty earned the highest average faculty salaries and compensations of any Texas university, according to data published by the American Association of University Professors. In that term the average salary for Rice faculty was $103,300. When benefits are included, the average compensation for all Rice faculty was $160,900.

The data also showed that salary disparities continue to exist between men and female faculty members.

Looking at the University of Texas-Dallas with an average salary of $101,700 and the University of Texas at Austin with $102,200, UT Dallas and UT-Austin were also second and third in terms of compensation.

The high SAT scores ranging from 1330-1510 on a 1600 scale, a strong academic edge over other colleges when they applied for admission, is important for Rice's applicant pool, and Rice's seniors this year.

Levy said he did not believe there was an imbalance in salary between males and females, claiming that two main factors that an average does not account for. First, he cited a large number of women employed early in their careers, since their starting salaries for their thesis positions tend to increase with time. Second, he noted a trend where women are entering higher-paying fields including science and medical fields.

"I am currently working out with the provost a structure that will ensure reports to the Faculty Senate on salary gender equity," she said.

FACULTY SALARY INCREASES AND GENDER DISPARITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>Rice Average</th>
<th>Rice Gender Gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Professors:</td>
<td>$171,600</td>
<td>Professors:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of 4.7%</td>
<td>$137,100</td>
<td>Males make on average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Associate Professors: $87,600</td>
<td>$64,900</td>
<td>$7,200 more than females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of 4.2%</td>
<td>Increase of 7.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Assistant Professors: $50,000</td>
<td>$36,600</td>
<td>$2,300 more than females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of 3.6%</td>
<td>Increase of 6.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Instructors:</td>
<td>$46,300</td>
<td>$1,800 more than females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase of 7.2%</td>
<td>Increase of 6.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VALUE FROM PAGE 1

Student indebtedness upon graduation is a factor in val-

ue rankings, and on average Rice students graduate with a debt of up to $20,000 or more.

The data also showed a trend that women's salaries continue to increase faster than men's salaries.

"I have not seen this type of trend at Rice yet," Levy said.

RUPP POLICE BLOTTER

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Jan. 1-6.

ACADEMIC BUILDINGS

Anderson Library Lab Jan. 7
Mudd Lab Jan. 7

THEFT

Criminal Trespass

OTHER BUILDINGS

Fondren Library Jan. 8

PARKING LOTS

South Colleges Lot Jan. 10
North Colleges Lot Jan. 10

THEFT

Failure to stop and give information
Driving while license is suspended
Driving while intoxicated

Criminal Trespass

Jan. 10

LOCATIONS

Off Campus Jan. 9

Drunk Driving

Criminal Trespass

Jan. 10

Cite Site

Jan. 10

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FRIENDS OF FONDREN LIBRARY

The Fondren Library is pleased to announce new awards funded by the Friends of Fondren Library for undergraduate and graduate students who demonstrate extraordinary skill and creativity in the application of library and information resources and original research and scholarship. This year, there is one award of $1,000 and one honorable mention award of $500 for each category. For information about how to apply, please see http://library.rice.edu/research-awards.

Individual or team projects in any subject area or media will be eligible for consideration.
How will you spend your summer?

My summer mentorship was an incredible experience. I grew so much as a leader after first setting foot in New York City, over a thousand miles from my comfort zone. I met Barbara Walters on my first day and was setting up interviews for John Stossel on my last.

Katherine Gomer Hanszen '09
ABC 20/20

My summer mentorship at Salem Oncology Centre was any pre-med's dream. I was able to explore multiple medical fields, identify my strengths and weaknesses, and grow substantially as a leader.

Chris Lam Jones '10
St. Luke's Hospital

The Summer Mentorship Experience

My summer in Pune taught me so much about myself, about leadership, about my goals and ambitions. In so many ways, my time in India helped me gain direction for my future.

John Land Brown '09
Virgo Engineers

The SME is different from a regular internship because the expectations are set very high from the beginning. The trust of a boss always has to be earned, but I was initially afforded greater credibility through my association with Leadership Rice, and this translated to more opportunities to demonstrate my abilities.

Dylan Guyer Brown '09
Horizon Wind Energy

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 23rd
Apply now at leadership.rice.edu
Yes, there are many chances for Eastwood (Dirty Harry) to whip out a gun and terrorize bad guys in this movie. His character, a crooked old man named Walt Kowalski, speaks almost entirely in racial slurs, contends various thugs, beefs up a guy one-third his age and says things like, "Ever notice how you come across somebody once in a while you shouldn't have messed with? That's me." But, for the most part, the film substitutes violence for actual drama.

The plot is relatively promising. Walt, a Korea veteran and Detroit native who hates the world and most of the people in it, tries alone and drinks a dozen beers a day. Eventually events force him to overcome his racisms and befriend his Hispanic neighbors. As a gang of thugs threatens the Kowalski family, Walt becomes a father to the neighbor's son Thao, protecting him against the machinations of gang violence in the neighborhood.

Unfortunately, Gran Torino is constantly sabotaged by its script, which combines often painfully bad dialog with plot turns that feel false. Walt speaks in rapid old man lines like "kids these days" and "Get off my lawn." He also has a dog, which allows him to disclose key expository information without sounding like he is simply talking to himself or to the audience. In some scenes, especially one in which Walt and his neighbors' son carry a refrigerator out of Walt's basement, the conversation is so petroly written that it actually gets in the way of telling the story. Perhaps this is not surprising, given that screenwriter Nick Schenck's other feature-length film is a comedy called Factory Accident: Sex. The Big 5. (Schenk, who for some reason went direct to video).

Schenk did not just have problems writing dialog, unfortunately. His supporting characters tend to be stereotypical, especially Walt's own children and grandchildren, who have swooped into peak homes.

**See TURINO, page 12**

The Unborn

**BY FASHEEM AHMED**

**THE WEEKLY SCENE**

**THE WEEKLY SCENE**

The Unborn churned out a solid financial performance at the box office — $22.6 million — on a very slow weekend with little competition. When news of its low critical reception spread, Hollywood insiders were shocked — is that the layers are complimentary and lush. Unforseeably is none plotted to-gether in such a way that it somehow makes music — and it is altogether beautiful. "My Girls," the album's second and perhaps strongest track, begins with descending glockenspiel rhythms whose repetition creates an almost numbing effect. The numbness is suddenly penetrated with vocals that float on top of the whole thing, but they sink into the overall sonic tapestry.

The event is an out-of-this-world experience. The music hits some sort of resonant place, which for...
Nocturnal noshing: Because all-night food still lives off-campus.

A diverse student body in a diverse city needs a diverse selection of dining options. Along with T.C. and House of Pies, here are a few more ways to ward off the midnight munchies.

1) La Tapatia Taqueria — 1749 Richmond — Tex-Mex — Open 24 hours
2) West Gray Cafe — 415 W Gray — Cafe — Open 24 hours
3) Ruchi’s Taqueria Las Americas — 3002 S. Shepherd — Mexican — Open 24 hours
4) Agora — 712 Westheimer — Cafe + Wine Bar — 9a.m.-2a.m.
5) Late Night Pie — 302 Tuam — Pizza — 12p.m.-3a.m.
6) Chapultepec Mexican Restaurant — 1839 Richmond — Tex-Mex — Open 24 hours
7) 59 Diner — 3801 Farnham — Soups, Salads, Burgers, and Breakfast — Open 24 hours
8) Mal’s Restaurant — 3403 Milam — Vietnamese and Chinese food — 10a.m.-3a.m.
9) Katz’s Deli & Bar — 616 Westheimer — Deli, Hot Meals, and Bar — Open 24 hours
10) Bibas One’s a Meal — 812 Westheimer — Greek — 24 Hours
11) Mai’s Restaurant — 3403 Milam — Vietnamese and Chinese food — 10a.m.-24 hours
12) Bibas One’s a Meal — 812 Westheimer — Greek — 24 Hours
13) House of Pies — 3112 Kirby — Desserts, Breakfast, Coffee Shop — Open 24 hours

KTRU周间音乐Top35

BY JORDAN DAVIS

KTRU's pick of the week

BY MIGUEL QUIRCH FOR THE THRESHER

The compilation Bollywood Steel Guitar, on the Sublime Frequencies label, is an engaging collection of some of the best Indian steel guitar pop music from 1962-’86. The album contains 21 tracks collected by Stuart Katz from various artists. The tracks call to mind genres ranging from action-packed thrillers to romances to Western gunfighters’ tales. There is an obvious Western influence here, but it has been seamlessly integrated into the Indian musical style to create an irresistible fusion.

Ellis and features such greats as Van Shipley, Kazi Aniruddha and Charan Singh in their finest moments performing for Bollywood film soundtracks. The music featured on Bollywood Steel Guitar is highly evocative. Each artist's individual style brings to mind the setting of their respective movies without the need for a visual aid, a fear that few modern movie soundtracks can accomplish on their own.

Most current soundtracks just don't cut it the way the plethora of musical styles presented on this album do. Though the steel guitar takes center stage, the album's lush sound is enriched by numerous other instruments.Tabla, sitar, santoor, harmonium and even the accordion join in to augment the skillful melodies of the album's namesake instrument.

The tracks call to mind genres ranging from action-packed thrillers to romances to Western gunfighters’ tales. There is an obvious Western influence here, but it has been seamlessly integrated into the Indian musical style to create an irresistible fusion.

With this accessible yet authentic blend of East and West, Bollywood Steel Guitar gives listeners a window into an underexposed part of the world.

Write for A&E. Get paid.

friday, january 16, 2008

thresher@rice.edu
TORINO
FROM PAGE 9

in the suburbs and drive humongous sport utility vehicles. Walt’s family becomes largely irrelevant as the film progresses, which is fortunate for Walt and for the average audience member, neither of whom want to put up with them.

Poorly written dialog and shallow characters do not always destroy a movie, but a bad plot can, and the storyline in Gran Torino is formless and artificial. It is also one film you have seen before. Like Eastwood’s character in the classic Unforgiven, Walt is a man with many regrets about his mundane past but called upon to be a fighter again. If only this movie had an ending as good as the one in Unforgiven!

Here, Walt does what the screenplay requires, push the correct emotional buttons, but fails completely to give the audience something to think about. And, disproportionately, the movie lets this nauseatingly agonistic character leave the final scene in a puff of superficial religious imagery.

compiles; they do not coexist.

In the cinema lift “In the Flowers,” Panda sings, “Then we could be dancing, you could dance with me while I am gone / Then we could be dancing, and you could say, ‘I like this song.’” The words are difficult to make out behind the music, but they do not need to be discerned; Panda sings with such earnestness and is so integrated into the music that the listener feels a sense of exhilaration. At 55 minutes, the album is an exhausting listen, but immediately after

ANIMAL
FROM PAGE 9

with the plot. After that, the movie descends into the familiar formula of predictable scares and hilariously bad dialogue.

In one scene, Casey babysits a creepy five-year-old and his infant brother. She hears weird noises coming from the baby monitor and decides to investigate, but does not turn on any of the lights and slowly walks up the stairs at about one mile per hour. In another hilariously awkward scene, Casey’s boyfriend, played by meathead Cam Gigandet “Don’t you, like, get terrified by the roommate standing in her yard in the middle of the night, everyone in the theater erupted into nervous laughter. Needless to say, the theater let out a collective sigh of disappointment.

The Unborn would’ve fared much better as a horror spoof; the major problem is that it takes itself too seriously. The mythology behind Nazi experimentation is interesting but it is convoluted and disorienting film experience.

This confusion and general feeling of “what the hell is going on?” can be attributed to the horrendous editing. One scene would end 30 seconds too soon and almost immediately cut to another scene, resulting in a disjointed and disorienting film experience.

The biggest surprise was that the film was written and directed by David S. Goyer, who could be legitimately hailed as a genius for writing The Dark Knight and Batman Begins. What was this guy smoking? You would think a veteran like Goyer would have known from the start that this movie sucked.

Another major surprise is that Goyer got Gary Oldman (The Dark Knight’s Jim Gordon) to play a role in the movie. Not just any ordinary role, but a rabbi who can translate ancient texts.

Oldman is extremely versatile and talented, which is why it is so baffling that he would agree to be in this movie.

Sadly, he is guilty of some of the randomness throw in to confuse the audience. During Youngman’s exercises, he blows into a huge animal horn because ... it unsettles the demon? Also, the dybbuk possesses the bodies of around thirty different people, but it’s focused on Yustman because ... it enjoys the taste of her bloodline? It inhabited the body of a little kid in a concentration camp during the Holocaust? What is so freaking sweet about that?

Additionally, throughout the movie, Youngman sees her eerie five-year-old neighbor standing in her yard in the middle of the night. What the hell is he doing out there? Where are his parents? What if henak a cold? If you couldn’t already tell, The Unborn is terrible. The trailer is fascinating, but it reveals the only good parts of the movie. It’s a great trick to rent with your friends if you want to die laughing at how bad it is. The Unborn should have stayed right where it belonged — in the dark netherworld of Goyer’s imagination.

©2006 THE RICE THRESHER

As the slimeingly haunted Casey Beldon, Cleverfield’s Odette Yustman provides the only incentive for watching Goyer’s disappointing screamer, The Unborn.


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Men break 19-game conference losing streak
by Brody Rollins
Investigator Staff

The men’s basketball team’s conference drought stretched a span of nearly two years, but as of last Wednesday, the Owls’ Conference USA woes are no more. Although they lost the C-USA opener against Tulane University, Rice (4-6, 1-1 C-USA) rocked Southern Methodist University on home on Wednesday to leave the season’s biggest remaining monkey off their back.

The Owls will attempt to continue their mastery of home play in tomorrow afternoon’s match-up against the University of Central Florida at Tudor Fieldhouse. UCF’s (14-6, 0-2 C-USA) biggest threat is pressure. Although C-USA guard Jermaine Taylor, averaging 10.8 points per game, including 17.5 points per game and has been instrumental in the Knights’ hot start, which includes a close loss to the University of Memphis in their C-USA opener.

“UCF is one of the top teams in our league,” head coach Ben Braun said. “They’ve got some good players, (and) they brought in a couple of good recruits.”

UCF returns two of five starters from last year’s squad but only two players who averaged more than five points per game. However, this year’s team, head by 15-year head coach Kirk Speraw, looks just as talented as the previous three that finished fifth, second, and tied for fourth in the conference.

Aside from Taylor, UCF has two other players averaging nearly 10 points per game, including freshman guard Isaiah Sasa, who was named C-USA Rookie of the Week earlier this season.

If the Owls are to get by the Knights, they need to learn from the mistakes they made against the Green Wave. Tulane (14-7, 2-0 C-USA) led throughout most of the first half before the Owls went on a 9-2 run, which tied the game at 23-23. Senior guard Lawrence Ghoram, who started 27 of 30 games last season, seemed to carry with them the momentum from the win against GW: Their last conference victory in 686 games.

Ghoram, who started 27 of 30 games last season, has struggled to find minutes while

SPORTS

recouping from off-season surgery. Freshman guard Connor Frizzelle has played admirably in his place, but Braun credits Ghoram for his patience and impressive experience when on the floor.

“Cliff is one of our best competitors and I think he has really given our team a lift,” Braun said. “He was injured to start the year, but I think he’s playing at a very high level. He’s healthy again, his experience is kicking in, and he plays hard.”

Ghoram finished the game with a season-high 17 points on 5-10 shooting. Nine minutes into the second half, Frizzelle tied the game at 49-49 with a jumper. Unfortunately, the Owls would not score again for another 2 1/2 minutes and only a half minute before the Owls were down by only three.

The Owls remain within striking distance for most of the second half, closing within six with only two minutes remaining. But they would not score another basket in the final minutes of the game, and UTEP went on a 10-0 run to finish the game with an upset.

“Jareica Hughes really stepped up her game in the second half,” Williams said. “She is a very difficult match-up for everybody in the league.”

Despite an impressive 19 points from point guard D’Frantz Smart, seen here driving to the basket, Rice was still dominated by the Green Wave.

Owls continue search for offense in pair of road losses
by Yan Digilov
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The University of Houston Cougars continue to become an increasingly larger team during the 2008 season. The University Athletic Department’s office doorbells. Not only did the football team circle the final tiles on the 2008 schedule against UH as an important match-up that could possibly make or break their season, head men’s track and field coach Jim Warren (Jones ’88) has stated that the Houston men’s indoor track team will be a competitive rival in the battle for the Conference USA men’s indoor track title.

The Cougars are a preseason pick to win the title, while the Owls from South Main St. are picked to finish second, Rice outlasted UH in November in football, 56-42, and Warren hopes for the same result Feb. 27 at the conference meet.

“I do think we can beat Houston, if we’re healthy,” Warren said. “We’ve got an excellent team in place.”

Across the board, the Owls appear to have an incredibly talented squad. This is largely because of the balance of seasoned veterans, many of them former conference medalists, and talented freshmen who could do some damage throughout the season. The best meet of the year will be the Leonard Hilton Memorial meet, held Jan. 30 at the Yeoman Fieldhouse on the University of Houston campus.

Warren saw the freshmen contributing to the team from the start. “The freshmen alone are solid, and you couple them with Shea Kearney, who’s a conference medalist, and Connor Hayes is a huge asset,” Warren said. “Jack Spinks should be right in the hunt to medal at the conference meet. Michael Izuchukwu is a jewel-in-the-rough triple trades athlete who could perform well in hurdles and the decathlon. Colin Shurbet could run the short or long distance hurdles and could also run a leg on the 4x400 squad.

Our pole vault crew may be the best vault crew in the country.”

The Owls previously will take a break from their regular season meet schedule against UH as an important addition to their indoor schedule. The Owls appear to be a competitive rival in the conference level, Michael Izu-Hmaidan and Dan Sloat.”

Sophomore Shurbet placed third at the 2008 C-USA indoor championship in the pole vault, and sophomore Connor Hayes placed fourth in the decathlon at the same meet, and could also contribute in the long jump. Many of the true freshmen will be expected not only to compete but to medal in their respective events. Jack Spinks is capable of a seventh-foot jump in the high jump, and Clayton Chaney is a pick-of-all-trades athlete who could perform well in hurdles and the decathlon. Colin Shurbet could run the short or long distance hurdles and could also run a leg on the 4x400 squad.

The team’s strong areas include shot put, discus, triple jump, pole vault, hurdles and the distance events. The Owls will be a competitive rival in the conference, and both Chaney and Hayes could also join him on the winner’s podium. The sprinters are somewhat of a question mark, as Dan Sloat and Pete Naturia are both freshmen. Nevertheless, Warren is optimistic that some of the wide receivers, cornerbacks or running backs on the Owls football team who have run sprints in high school or with the Owls previously will take a break from the offseason to compete with the Owls.

Our pole vault crew may be the best vault crew in the country.”

Our pole vault crew may be the best vault crew in the country. Jon Warren (Jones ’88)

At the 2008 C-USA outdoor championship, so he will be looking to bring home the individual crown in the indoor championship this year.

Warren was especially enthusiastic about his throwers, freshman William Meyers and sophomore Philip Adam, who took second in the decathlon at the 2008 C-USA outdoor championship, and sophomore Clay Riker, who placed fourth in the shot put and discus at the 2008 C-USA Outdoor Championship.

“Their real good throwers that will all compete for medals this season,” Warren said.

The Owls will encounter plenty of competition in their quest for the indoor title, namely the aforementioned Cougars, who are eager to defend their back-to-back indoor titles. Tyrone Carrier and Justin Davis lead UH’s throwing contingent with last season ranked third in the nation for long jump. The University of Tulsa will look to their distance runners that were part of squad that won the 2008 C-USA girls indoor championship for guidance on the track. The University of Memphis also could be a surprise this season, as they were nearly two years ago in winning the 2006 C-USA indoor championship. Warren believes the Owls’ strength, most notably their distance events, as El Paso are going to have a down year, so he doubts that they will be too much of a factor in the distance and long events.

With it looking as though UH and Rice will battle it out on the track to see who will take home the title of C-USA indoor champions, it wouldn’t hurt for Warren to post a poster of the Rice Owls’ Sports Pavilion. “I hope they lose their change to fight for Rice’s Honor.”

Warren also applauded his three triple jumpers, sophomore John Ben, sophomore Ugo Nduaguba, who had a jump over 51 feet on his way to a second place finish at the 2008 C-USA outdoor championship, and freshman Michael Izuchukwu.

Warren was adamant in his confidence in his pole vaulters as well, who include Keamy, sophomore Jason Coleman and sophomore Chris Kato. Coleman placed third at the 2008 C-USA Outdoor Championship with a vault of 17 feet and finished third at the 2008 NCAA Regional. Kato finished sixth at the 2008 C-USA Outdoor Championship.

As far as the multi-event competitions, including the heptathlon and decathlon, Adam obviously has established himself as a force to be reckoned with in the conference and both Chaney and Haynes could also join him on the winner’s podium.
**TRACK & FIELD 2009**

Women’s squad aims to lay low opponents through balanced performances in pursuit of Indoor and Outdoor Championships

Before the team can start their journey to repeat success, however, they will have to find replacements for the seniors who departed after last season. Marissa Daniels-Brown, who placed 23rd in the 10,000 meters at last year’s national race, was the All-American-distance runner for the Owls. Rachel Geoff (Hassan) also held a large role in the squad when she fell in an all-American pole-vaulter who placed fifth at NCAA nationals last year. The team also misses the leadership of sprinters Desirae Walsley and Chandra Davis with that of hurdler and jumper Loree Carman.

Bevan believes despite the loss of their leadership, the team members can step up and fill those roles.

“We have lost some great performers and we lost some great leaders, but we hope to have new leadership, and we hope to have new great performers,” Bevan said. “I think we do have great leadership and a group that is more mature and an incoming group of freshmen who can fill up the spots of those that graduated last year.”

Hopefully, the talented group of new team members can help relieve some of the stress from the departure of the seniors. The Owls added sprinter and hurdler Lucie Cincinatis from Belgium and sprinter Maya Kin Kirt from Austin. Also transfering for the Owls will be Kylee Stanford, a transfer from Iowa. In field events, transfer Brittany Tause from Cooper, Colo., jumper and pole-vaulter Kirk Rouse Fellah from New Zealand will be to the Owls. Additionally, the freshman numbers of the cross-country squad will join the team as distance runners.

The Owls will certainly aim to win the meet, the team will be happy enough to just begin competition, according to head coach Jim Bevan.

“We’ll be a nice start because we’ve got a lot of people,” Bevan said. “If all but the cross country rookies, it’s been eight months since they competed last. I think they’re dying to get started.”

Junior distance runner Nicole Marie concurs with Bevan, referring excelling that the anticipation of the non-racing season will be returning.

“For the cross country runners, we’ve already been through cross country so this is just like our second season coming up,” she said. “For track runners, they’ve been training the whole half a year. I know they’re probably a little more eager to start racing. A few of the freshmen who didn’t compete in cross country are nervous because we’ve built such a build up to racing.”

**Flexible evening/weekend shifts Sunday-Thursday.**

Looking for a part-time job?

The best paying student job at Rice is currently hiring!

Join other Rice students in calling alumni for the Rice Annual Fund over the phone.

**$9.00/hr plus bonuses!**

Flexible evening/weekend shifts Sunday-Thursday. Work short 3 hour shifts, and 2 - 5 shifts per week.

Immediate placement.

To schedule an interview call 713-348-3287 or e-mail seanb@rice.edu
MEN'S TENNIS 2009

With the most talented batch of new faces in the program's history, the Owls look to finally move past a three-year roadblock

by Casey Michael

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2009

What is leadership? Is it respect? Is it the ability to lead? Is it the respect a coach brings in the locker room? Is it the respect a coach brings in the presence of a player? Is it the respect a coach brings to the University of Tulsa.

Leadership is a lot more than just what you bring to the locker room. Leadership is what you bring to the court. Leadership is what you bring to the practice. Leadership is what you bring to the team. Leadership is what you bring to the tournament. Leadership is what you bring to the yard. Leadership is what you bring to the court.

Leadership is what you bring to the court. Leadership is what you bring to the practice. Leadership is what you bring to the tournament. Leadership is what you bring to the yard. Leadership is what you bring to the court.

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Leadership is what you bring to the court. Leadership is what you bring to the practice. Leadership is what you bring to the tournament. Leadership is what you bring to the yard. Leadership is what you bring to the
With Darius, the list of issues carries on for miles

My issues with Darius Miles began at a Chipotle. Unlike most, I hate the place. I hate the overpriced food, hate those silver-plated tables, and hate the infernal cups that tell me why a farmer in Iowa thinks pigs are sexier than Marisa Miller.

Darius Miles, on the other hand, loves Chipotle. I saw him out the 2006-'07 and '07-'08 season an onslaught of injuries. He sat with a Chipotle. I saw him hand, loves Chipotle. I saw him at a Chipotle. He made me wonder what kind of food would make him escape the netherworld of injuries he was in.

In a letter to his fellow executives, one of whom underhandedly tipped off the NBA to the news that Miles had a torn ACL — Miles said Portland would threaten litigation if a team signed Miles solely to mess with the Blazers' salary cap. The backlash has been swift, as both the league office and the players' union immediately seized their support of Miles' fair and unencumbered return. Miles, meanwhile, has been conspicuously silent.

Enraving, deplorable, and amica
tify: Hope, Complicated, awkward, and unprecedented! You be
tica.

Miles and his comrades may have Plaintiffed themselves — shot themselves in the leg, that is — with their heavy-handed letter. Every
ty team knew of the Blazers' pre
discussion but without the threat, inter-team relations were at least palatable. New Portland fans
couldn't have cared less about the favor. The Grizzlies stepped up to the plate first, signing Miles to a 10-day contract through Ian. Two weeks later, $18 million goes back on the Blaz
er's cap space — leaving them a $7.9 million tab in luxury tax this sea
son. Portland sealed Miles' fate and the double-digit limit, but just barely. The hand-wringing came to a head last week when it was re
discussed his repugnant, disreputa
tion.
are looking for more options on the offense that ranks second worst in the CUSA at 69.6 points per game.

Following the loss in New Orleans, the Owls returned to Tudor Fieldhouse on Wednesday to continue the search for its first conference win of the year. SMU (5-9, 0-2) and the Owls entered the matchup as the only two teams in CUSA with losing records.

The Mustangs were an abysmal 0-4 on the road heading into the game, likely a result of the team's youth.

The Owls exploited the Mustangs' inability to handle inside pressure, and with a 69-57 win, they made their 19-game C-USA losing streak a thing of the past. Rice took advantage of a slow start by SMU to jump out to an 11-0 lead. After being elevated to the starting lineup, Ghoram has been the team's most consistent offensive threat, averaging over 14 points over the past three games.

The Owls' frontcourt defense set the tone as the platoon of posts used by Braun limited the shot count of SMU's talented big men. Led by forwards Bancha Fall and Papal Dias, SMU outscored the Owls 40 to 20 in the paint, but all too often Rice's defense held the Mustangs to jump shots. SMU shot 36 percent from the field for the game and hit on just three of 14 shots from beyond the three-point line.

"I think we've done a pretty good job this year on limiting the other team's best player," Braun said. "Our problem has been sometimes letting other guys get loose. So while you put all your attention on the other team's best scorer and try to hold him under his average, you don't want to do that at the expense of giving some guys careers nights."

A CLOSER LOOK:

Men's Basketball Statistics

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30 @ 35

Doubleheader @ UH Coliseum

THE RICE THRESHER
FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2009

Women

Williams said he wanted his team to redeem itself, but he also knew Tulane would be difficult to beat. "We talked about bouncing back," he said. "We talked about how Tulane was defensively going to be very focused for us."

On Friday, as the Owls played UTSA, Tulane was at home taking on the University of Houston. The Owls were up by 18 points in the second half before UTSA rallied to win the game by four. Tulane wanted no time in taking out the resulting frustration on the Owls.

"It is not a very emotional team," Williams said. "You do not see very evident emotions."

The Owls had a problem choosing and making the best shots. Throughout the year, shot selection has been as big a factor as the actual shooting numbers for the Owls. They were outscored by 22 points in the paint, while the starting forwards, senior Emoni Carter and sophomore Morgan Mayse, scored a combined 10 points for the second game in a row.

"The team's under-achievement was discouraging, several bright spots emerged in New Orleans. First, Jerishma Brittanna Hypolite scored 15 points on the night. She proved herself to be a scoring threat early in the year, but has been quiet and ineffective since the start of the winter vacation."

"She seemed to play a little more relaxed, and we ended up giving her more minutes," Williams said. "She played well. We are hoping there will be some carry over from her this week, because we certainly could use that type of production this week."

Another part of the silver lining was the play of sophomore center Melissa Willmeyer. She finished the night with seven blocks, five points and nine rebounds. Freshman center Candace Ashford also finished the night with five points.

The Owls face two opponents this weekend, starting with Memphis University tonight at 7 p.m. at Tudor Fieldhouse. On Sunday, they play host to the University of Alabama-Birmingham.
THE RICE THRESHER

CALENDAR

JAN. 16–23, 2009

FRIDAY

The End of Innocence
The Register says that today is the last day to:
• Add courses without a fee
• Add a course without instructor permission
• Adjust variable credit for courses online, convert a "Pass/Fail" to an earned letter grade for courses taken until Fri., 1/22
• Withdraw with a full refund of tuition and fees
• Drop to part-time status with a full tuition refund

SATURDAY

Hey now, you’re an all star
Can’t wait for OWLCON! Get out Your Warbelt till Oth now. It's time for KYT’s Defense of the Ancients tournament at Farnsworth Pavilion from 11–7 p.m.

Shiner Bock
Top NCAA football players from around the country hit and play for the Shiners Hospitals for Children’s East-West Shrine Game at 3 p.m. in the University of Houston’s football field. Jaret Bellard will suit up and win the hearts of thousands. He’ll be on the same team as Oregon4’s Oregon Fannicka Tups, who weighs almost two JBS. The whole thing will be on ESPN, so get yourself near a TV.

Listen to “Club Action”

I’ve heard Yo! Majesty described as a clue to chauvinism in hip-hop. That may or may not be true, but this crush-electro lesbian duo is sure to please. I’m probably going to tell the latter. Don’t tell my mother.

THURSDAY

The End of an Era (of Terror)
It’s President George W. Bush’s last day in office. I’ll certainly miss the great times I’ve had in the past eight years... HE’S GONE - THANK GOD YES YES YES!

FCU
The men’s basketball team takes on the University of Central Florida today at 3 p.m. in Tudor Fieldhouse. Unfortunately, Athletics only invites five people on Facebook. Only a few thousand left! Nice Fight, Never Duf!

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WEDNESDAY

McMurtry 2009: I Don’t Know How To Play YO-Week
Oscar and Pulitzer winner Larry McMurtry ‘60 speaks today at the Friends of Fondren Library Distinguished Guest Lecture at 7 p.m. in the Grand Hall. I’ve never seen Brokenback Mountain but I’m sure I’ll have to check this lecture out. And Mr. McMurtry, if you read this, I love you! Hire me! Please! I’ll wash your car!

I Dream of Genome
Campus Ministry brings us Francis Collins, former director of the Human Genome Project, as part of their Veritas Series. Be in the Shell Auditorium at the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Management at 7 p.m. to learn about God and science (and, I assume, the Human Genome Project to turn ourselves into mutants & a X-Men).

Rockets vs. Jazz
Heat on down to the Toyota Center or call 713.262.DUNK. Has there ever been a more appropriate phone number? A: No.

Save a life, get a lifetime of phone calls to donate again
Donate blood in the KXV Blood Drive from 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. in the Grand Hall. Beat my second record of five and a half minutes, if you can (you can’t).

THURSDAY

In the "biz," we refer to this as a "Twofur."
Rice Cinema will screen two movies back-to-back: Seven Blinds Tables and Said’s Journey. Both are part of the Human Genome Project to turn ourselves into mutants & a X-Men.

FRIDAY

Today’s Date: 1-23
I giggie whenever this happens. See also: March 12, Sept. 5, and June 9. Especially June 9.

I guess she really “Never Could Say Goodbye”
The Houston Symphony Orchestra takes the stage with Gloria Gaynor. Gloria Gaynor? — for “30 Years of ‘I Will Survive’” A Sunday Evening With Gloria Gaynor.” Gaynor’s very first appearance with an orchestra to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of ”I Will Survive” should be something to tell the grandchildren about. The afterparty at South Beach? Not so much.

HOW TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS
The deadline for submission is 3 p.m. the Monday prior to publication. Submissions are printed on a space-available basis.

Submission methods:
Fax: 713.348.5238
Email: live@ricevoice.org
Campus Mail: Calendar Editor
Tudor, MS-12

Note from the editor:
I got a new job. Please send me your events so I don’t need to search for them. Otherwise, welcome to the backpage of the Backpage. You’re almost to the good part! Keep going! Just one more page!

only on ricethresher.org
The Backpage presents
Selections from Closed
Rice's first admission-only literary sex magazine

The best part about ABSTINENCE is...
when you get married, and you take your virgin bride to bed for her first time, you can rest assured when you tell her...
Four inches is ABSOLUTELY GIGANTIC.

You will say I love you.
I will say I love you.
You will plunge
Your manhood
Into my delicate blushing flower
Yet
It will be sweet.
After we are committed
In a marriage

Excerpts from the Closed sex survey

Have you ever engaged in sexual intercourse?
[ ] Yes
[ ] No
[ ] I don't think that's an appropriate question

Which is your preferred abortion-only sexual alternative?
[ ] World of Warcraft
[ ] Dry-humping
[ ] Fantasy football
[ ] Bible study
[ ] Student government
[ ] Anal

Have you ever purchased contraceptives, just in case?
[ ] One or two
[ ] Six to eight
[ ] More than ten

PART TIME WORK: West U family—Help with afternoon carpool, 3 and 5 yr old children. Family car provided. Hours 3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. M - Thurs (Fit optional). Call Jayne @ 832-397-2231.

$EASY MONEY $1000's weekly. Anyone can do this! CALL NOW 281-485-7465.

Full/part-time jobs available at Rice! Other Rice Students in calling alumini to tell them about the Annual Fund. Be/leh plus bonuses, incentives. Flexible evening shifts Sunday through Thursday. Contact 713-201-7449.


RICE ALUMNI SEEKING after school nursery for 2 daughters (ages 3, 6) 3 days per week from a to 6pm in West U. Car + good driving skills required to pick girls up from school/activities. Contact mb@alumni.rice.edu.

MEMORIAL AREA FAMILY seeking part-time help. Job Description: experienced female who can care for our 14 year old Daughter. Safe and good condition car required. Hours are 3-6 during school year and noon - 5 in summer. Job will include driving, errands, laundry and light housekeeping. Looking for a commitment of at least one year. Call Joe at 832-237-3175 or PATTY at 713-999-1518.

FREE HOUSING FOR a Korean Female student wanting to live with senior citizen. Couples welcome. Minutes from Rice campus. Please call 713-591-4196 or email mcchito@wirless-wood.com.

THE WEEKLEY FAMILY YMCA is looking for Swim Instructors and lifeguards. To work morning, afternoons and/or weekends. Lifeguard Candidates must have CURRENT certifications in: life-guards (YMCA or Red Cross), CPR - R, and First Aid. Lifeguard classes held April 19th-26th and May 17th - 24th. Training will be provided for Swim Instructors. Contact Holly Jenkins at hollyj@ymcas ashamedtongue.pivotalk9.co

"Dance"

Mary fell John's anxious, uncertain hand in her own. Clasping tightly. Tighter. Tighter. TIGHTER.

"John, stop it," Mary said coquettishly. "It's only the fourth date."

But John didn't stop. His hard, long fingers brushed the hairs on the soft, pink back of her hand.

"Mary, I can't stop," John said. His hand throbbed in agony while a thick, full snake swirled through his wrist. Sweat drained down his forehead and slid down his convergent forearms. He moaned and drummed his fingers against the fleshly back of her hand and felt those tendons which let her fingers move.

Suddenly John gave him. He let go of Mary's hands and lurched his fingers between hers. She slapped him — hard — on the left side of his face.

"You predator!" she screamed.

The Backpage is satire and is written, poorly, by Timothy Faust, who experienced entwined in sin.

Mary felt John's anxious, uncertain hand in her own, clasping tightly.

For after-school activities from 3pm to 6pm. Please call 281-520-0617.

An Excerpt from "Entwined in Sin"

John didn't stop. His hard, long fingers brushed the hairs on the soft, pink back of her hand.

"Mary, I can't stop," John said. His hand throbbed in agony while a thick, full snake swirled through his wrist. Sweat drained down his forehead and slid down his convergent forearms. He moaned and drummed his fingers against the fleshly back of her hand and felt those tendons which let her fingers move.

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Help Wanted

BABYSITTING 3 CHILDREN age 2 to 4 for after-school activity from 3pm to 6pm. Please call 713-520-0617.

UNIQUE S-BEDROOM IN 1970s historical building. Minutes from Rice campus. Completely restored to its old glory with all new appliances, wooden floors, central air, dishwasher, washer/dryer, city views, carport $599/mo. 516 Aeros Street.


Have you ever engaged in sexual intercourse? [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] I don't think that's an appropriate question

How many of your abortion-only friends are pregnant?
[ ] One or two
[ ] Three to five
[ ] Six to eight
[ ] Eight to ten
[ ] More than ten

How many of your abortion-only friends are pregnant?
[ ] One or two
[ ] Three to five
[ ] Six to eight
[ ] Eight to ten
[ ] More than ten

Have you ever purchased contraceptives, just in case?
[ ] One or two
[ ] Six to eight
[ ] More than ten

Hand out pamphlets. Make jokes. Use them in class presentations. Call 832-545-7478.

"fossil" we share a hug in front of the dinosaur exhibit and maybe you hold me too tight or too close or something I don't really know why but I sense a little stagnation of my own

I know you know and you know you know but we say nothing and move on to Body Worlds