**Rice-BCM merger falls apart**

BY JOSELYN WRIGHT  
THREDDER EDITORIAL STAFF

As the Beer Bike coordinators prepare for the 60-day countdown to Beer Bike on Jan. 28, they are also prepping significant changes to the parade and security system and have reached a final decision about accommodating Duncan College and McMurtry College in the race this year.

**New track will wait**

Due to time constraints, Beer Bike Coordinator Nazish Malik and Planning and Programming will remain and widen the entire track to make it large enough to accommodate all 11 colleges, as well as the Student-Athlete Student Association.

**Overall, it's going to be a frustrating track, which is going to be great for Beer Bike year and hopefully something that will actually save money in the long run because we actually have a good track,** Henderson said.

**Rice-BBCM sending out memo**

In a joint statement between Rice and BCM sent via e-mail last Tuesday, Rice President David Leebron and BCM President William Butler in-formed their respective communities that while no formal merger will take place, there will be future efforts to strengthen their existing relationship between the two schools.

**In the joint statement, Leebron and Butler laid out the possibility of expanding collaboration between the institutions, such as in the neuroscience and global health initiative programs.**

**While we are bringing the merger discussion to a close, we are opening a new chapter of collaboration that will advance the field of biomedicine and improve human health,** the statement said.

In a e-mail, Director of News and Media Relations B.J. Almond wrote, "Rice and BCM are a lot more cautious in some of the decisions they make."

**In the months leading up to the decision, students and faculty voiced their concerns, both for and against the merger and the proposed public meetings.**

**But the community took in mind that it's not a simple proposition but that it's more complicated situation because there are potential benefits, but also significant costs," Faculty Senate Chair Dr. huber T. Young said. "Most of the people who would like to think that with this kind of scrutiny, the administration and the board, and the faculty, is in some way the decisions they made."**

Hall 22 spent Tuesday at 8 p.m. on identifying 10 percent of the alumni and women's races. For next year, Henderson said, Facilities, Planning and Programming will remain and widen the entire track to make it large enough to accommodate all 11 colleges, as well as the Student-Athlete Student Association.

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Beer Bike proposals poorly calculated

Since Lance Berkman did not answer our calls for aid ("An open letter to Lance Berkman, concerning Beer Bike," Nov. 20), we appealed the necessary parties for taking it upon themselves to pump the funds to construct the new Beer Bike track (Thresher, page 1). The annual event is unfairly shunned by the university, so the recognition of its importance — to the university, as a media organization, as a community — is commendable.

Also, that is where our applause ends. We’ve looked over the proposed changes. We agree with sentiments — safety should be the foremost concern of the organization of the school-wide race. However, and we hesitate to sound like cordogs opposed to any notion of change, the proposed shifts of the parade, both in location and logistics, are reconditiously incompliant.

For instance, examine the suggestion that a neutral third party would somehow monitor fines and penalties with stricter bodies, it would bring in outside parties to a thoroughly Rice-centric tradition. The security must be better trained, yes — but we do not need to bring in Blackwater to do our jobs.

Meanwhile, removing the trucks — long a call from a minority of Rice’s population — seems to be on its way. Which is, of course, a complete atrocity. The limiting of trucks last year was one thing; their removal altogether would be anathema to the fight itself. Safety concerns about the trucks are minimal; the trucks are moving five miles per hour, and that is only after the streets have been cleared. It is borderline ridiculous to believe that the trucks could potentially run over someone out there, unless that person is looking for an excuse not to bike against Will Rice College.

It appears that, unlike previous changes to Beer Bike, these changes are not taking place organically; rather, they seem to be directed in a top-down manner. We call on Student Association President Patrick McNamara to open a centralized, school-wide forum on the manner, both online and at a forthcoming SA meeting. Student opinion needs to govern Beer Bike — not the whims of a small minority.

Unless, of course, that minority is Berkman, in which case whatever he says goes.
Op-Ed

College transfers deserve understanding

As you may have already heard, the Office of the Dean of Undergraduates has allowed a limited number of students the option to transfer to Dunscoc College or McMurry College at the beginning of the next academic year. The process is expected to be similar to popularizing the new colleges, which currently boast one class, with upperclassmen—a necessary goal.

I am not here to argue for or against any of these individual relocations. Each student must make his or her own deliberation. And the decision they must reach is their own. Although we are all Owls, each of us came to Rice for our own reasons. And this decision about whether to transfer is no different.

Kevin Vijayargyia

But unfortunately, a seedy and desperate result has taken place. Instead of defining a sense of community within the new colleges, this process turned into a war of infighting within the oftentimes residential colleges.

It seems that some students feel that those seeking to transfer are disloyal to their original college.

A young and hapless pre-frosh, I claimed my side of the room, rolled out my bed sheets and stowed my belongings as the weeks pressed on. I was merely trying to find a parking space. In McMurtry College’s first jack of boundless joy that radiates from within our residential system, self-centeredness, and divisiveness. Every college houses its own students, uses its own coat of arms and follows its own constitution. Unlike students living in fraternalities or societies, we aren’t urged to spend the majority of our time within our own college. Instead, we are able to make friends from across campus and apply for each college for its own merits.

The Office of the Dean of Undergraduates has indicated that we are still below the required quota of transfers, the original goal being 150 and 150 students per college. As such, there will likely be a third round of transfers, and this process will continue. Decisions will be made—some students will get in, some will be turned away and others will transfer. In order to maintain the belief that the majority of transfers love their original college, myself included.

Whomever it was, I was soon to find out. I was talking to one of the hottest topics was now a reality. Whether to pass or fail, the student I had just spoken to was now a student in Rice University. Instead of defining a sense of community within the new colleges, this process turned into a war of infighting within the oftentimes residential colleges.

First semester challenging yet rewarding

I had not heard before of Rice before applying to college. But upon reviewing my options, I felt most drawn to this school, with its residential college system as a particular standout. It is true that each college offers a close-knit community and a sense of belonging. But what really defines this system from a fraternity or sorority is the tangible unity between the various colleges. I had been involved in various clubs and participation of Greek life at other institutions, but it was something I felt the residential college system would uniquely offer. At Rice, our undergraduate experience is not defined by our individual college, but instead by the union of them.

Kevin Lin

Reactions can vary depending on the student, and answers encompass everything from relief at still being alive and functioning, to the expression of anger that waiting for a child to be born with the warmth of the Houston sun.

I want to take the moment to thank all of my classmates who have been so supportive. This was a moment of optimism, a milestone for me and two hours of hell. Had you asked me a year ago where I would be going to college, Houston, and not this distant city, the answer would be the last thing on my mind.

Yet somehow, here I was. I knew how little about Rice. I wondered if I would fit in. I wondered how classes would be. I wanted to meet some of the smiling people in the Rice student community that frequent mailbox, ask them about the cause of their happiness. I wondered how classes would be. I wanted to meet some of the smiling people in the Rice student community that frequent mailbox, ask them about the cause of their happiness.

Kevin Lin (’12) McMurry College Freshman

When I matriculated, there were nine colleges; now, with the addition of Duncan and McMurry, there are 11. These new colleges have already contributed, and will continue to add, to the diversity of body and spirit of our university, and I know that many transfers will watch them. I realize that some students have different motives for their decision to transfer. Some may hope to meet new people. Some may be transferring for job or family reasons. Some may simply be looking to avoid living off campus.

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I have been at Rice for about an hour. My excitement was tinged with a healthy helping of optimism, a milestone for me and two hours of hell. Had you asked me a year ago where I would be going to college, Houston, and not this distant city, the answer would be the last thing on my mind.

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Student published in national magazine

BY MICHELLE PHILLIPS
THE RICE THRESHER

It is one thing to have your work read on your own campus, but one Rice student recently found her work read on campuses across the nation. Cintia Roman, a Lovett College sophomore, had her short story, “Birthday in Ecuador,” published in the fall 2009 issue of The Collegiate Scholar, which is produced by The National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

The Collegiate Scholar, NSCS’s online literary magazine, is published once at the end of every semester and features poems, short stories, essays, journalism, art and photographic pieces. All members of the society may submit work, Janine Deegan, the Outreach and Communications Coordinator for NSCS, said.

“We wanted this magazine to be a way for students to showcase their talent,” Deegan, who oversees the publication of the magazine, said. According to Deegan, this has been the magazine’s goal since its founding in 2002, when it became the first online literary magazine open solely to college students.

Roman, a cognitive science major following a pre-medical track, was among up to 10 students from around the country whose work was chosen to be published in this most recent edition of the magazine, according to its Web site. The magazine is only one of the many scholarships and awards offered by NSCS, Roman said.

“I just found [the magazine] there, just going through all the options that they have,” Roman said.

After reading the stories of previous winners, Roman said, she decided to submit her own. In what she says was the first story she has ever written, Roman penned a nonfiction piece about her seventh birthday, spent with distant relatives in Ecuador, and the connections she found with the family members she barely knew.

The message of family connectedness and love across the world was very touching, and I wanted to share it with our members,” Kayla Manning, the Region 5 Manager of NSCS, said of Roman’s piece. Manning was on the panel for judging submissions to The Collegiate Scholar this semester. Though they receive dozens of submissions, the magazine’s guidelines allow for only three short stories to be selected for each issue. Roman said that she received notification that her story had been selected for the upcoming issue of Thanksgiving break, though it was only posted online recently.

Roman said she primarily joined NSCS to take advantage of the scholarships and discounts that the society offers. According to Deegan, NSCS is an interdisciplinary honours society that invites first- and second-year students with a GPA of 3.4 or above.

The organization has 240 chapters nationwide. The one-time $5 joining fee primarily goes to funding the scholarships and offerings the society provides, Deegan said, one of them being The Collegiate Scholar.

Roman joined NSCS during the first semester of her freshman year, she said, and is now the secretary of the Rice chapter. As part of her duties, she helped organize an induction ceremony Dec. 7 for new chapter members.

She said she has always been interested in writing, and has had some of her poems published in local, state and national anthologies before. However, according to Roman, it was her creative writing class last semester, ENGL 301, that introduced her to Creative Writing, that inspired her to write this story.

“I didn’t even take the class for the distribution requirement — I just took it for myself,” Roman said. The piece she submitted to The Collegiate Scholar was actually the first assignment for that class, Roman said. She said she hopes to get into ENGL 491, Fiction Writing this semester. While she admits that her hobby does not seem to coincide with her aspirations to be a doctor, Roman said that her dream would be to somehow combine the two.

“I used to tell people that my dream job was to be a doctor in a third-world country who wrote about her experiences,” Roman said.

But even if that dream is not realized, Roman said she certainly intends to continue creative writing as a hobby.

To read Roman’s piece, go to www.tnscs.org/RomanticHughes.

Her story is on page 25.

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"cannot be combined with another offer."
Fond memories abound for Fraser, 52

BY JOSH RUTENBURG
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

Massage therapist Julia Fraser, who worked at the Wellness Center, died Dec. 24. She was 52.

The Wellness Center notified the Rice community of Fraser’s death, of natural causes, via e-mail Jan. 4. A memorial service for Fraser was conducted in the Rice Memorial Chapel Tuesday.

Fraser joined the Wellness Center staff in January 2004 and found ways to share her interests with students, Wellness Center Director Randy Page said. Fraser integrated her lengthy experience with the spa industry and her own personal value into teaching LPAF 176: The Art of Relaxation.

"Fraser’s approach in the classroom was to expand the notion of taking care of oneself and finding balance," Page said.

Students shared in Fraser’s classroom enthusiasm.

"Her class was great, and she was always excited and down to earth," Baker College junior Lauren Rosenberg said. "She tried to make the in-classroom enthusiasm.

The Wellness Center is in the process of searching for a new massage therapist, and it hopes to offer the service again within the next month.

Updates can be found on the Wellness Center Web site at wellness.rice.edu.

Students and faculty wishing to pay respects can visit the Wellness Center over the next few weeks to sign a print that will hang in the office.

The Wellness Center has also made a donation in her name to the Houston Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Students hoping to make a donation in her memory can do so at the Houston SPCA Web site, houstonspca.org.

Loewenstein Fellowship

Earn a stipend of up to $6,500 for a summer of international service in Latin America or Asia! As a Fellow you will have the opportunity to serve in a 4-12 week placement.

International Service Project to Guatemala

Participate in a two-week group service experience in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala. The ISP group will work with a parish on a variety of locally led initiatives such as a reforestation project and a construction project.

Application deadlines:
Wednesday, January 27 at 5:00 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY TO EITHER PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CENTER’S WEB SITE
HTTP://CIC.RICE.EDU

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...and get paid for all the training! Full and Part Time Positions available now. Looking for Dynamic and Energetic Teachers. Pay rate is $18 to $30 per hour. Call (281) 276-7743 or email us at rice-jobs@testmasters.com.

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Earn a stipend of up to $6,500 for a summer of international service in Latin America or Asia! As a Fellow you will have the opportunity to serve in a 4-12 week placement.

International Service Project to Guatemala

Participate in a two-week group service experience in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala. The ISP group will work with a parish on a variety of locally led initiatives such as a reforestation project and a construction project.

Application deadlines:
Wednesday, January 27 at 5:00 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY TO EITHER PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT THE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CENTER’S WEB SITE
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...and get paid for all the training! Full and Part Time Positions available now. Looking for Dynamic and Energetic Teachers. Pay rate is $18 to $30 per hour. Call (281) 276-7743 or email us at rice-jobs@testmasters.com.

Nome memories abound for Fraser, 52

BY JOSH RUTENBURG
THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

Massage therapist Julia Fraser, who worked at the Wellness Center, died Dec. 24. She was 52.

The Wellness Center notified the Rice community of Fraser’s death, of natural causes, via e-mail Jan. 4. A memorial service for Fraser was conducted in the Rice Memorial Chapel Tuesday.

Fraser joined the Wellness Center staff in January 2004 and found ways to share her interests with students, Wellness Center Director Randy Page said. Fraser integrated her lengthy experience with the spa industry and her own personal value into teaching LPAF 176: The Art of Relaxation.

"Fraser’s approach in the classroom was to expand the notion of taking care of oneself and finding balance," Page said.

Students shared in Fraser’s classroom enthusiasm.

"Her class was great, and she was always excited and down to earth," Baker College junior Lauren Rosenberg said. "She tried to make the in-classroom enthusiasm.

The Wellness Center is in the process of searching for a new massage therapist, and it hopes to offer the service again within the next month.

Updates can be found on the Wellness Center Web site at wellness.rice.edu.

Students and faculty wishing to pay respects can visit the Wellness Center over the next few weeks to sign a print that will hang in the office.

The Wellness Center has also made a donation in her name to the Houston Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Students hoping to make a donation in her memory can do so at the Houston SPCA Web site, houstonspca.org.

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**MAN ON THE STREET**

*What do you think about postponing the water balloon fight until after the Beer Bike parade?*

"I think if we make the parade ridiculous enough, it becomes a competition for each college to get their bikes and trucks on the field in the most ridiculous fashion."

Will Randall
Hanszen College junior

"It wouldn't be as fun. In the past, you get to run around on different terrain, and it's super muddy. If it's at the stadium, they should do something like Capture the Flag to defend your territory."  

Vu Nguyen
Lovett College junior

"It's expensive, but it's a necessity. McMurry and Duncan are part of the community now and the two tracks will better integrate them into the Rice community."  

Gracelyn Tan
Hanszen College sophomore

"I'm from Sid and traditionally we don't care about the biking part, I'm assuming for more competitive colleges it's important. It's all about how we can most creatively disagree ourselves."  

Michelle Li
Sid Richardson College junior

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**BEER BIKE**

*FROM PAGE 1*

with or without parades. A caretaker system will be implemented for Beer Bike. The caretakers will be trained and receive the benefits of security volunteers, including free breakfast and a gift. Henderson said the idea for an improved caretaker system came about last semester in campus-wide committee discussions. "Caretakers are a Medical Service expressing concern that in previous years they were distracted from handling more serious cases because there's nobody to handle less serious cases," Henderson said.

Caretaker system

This year, a caretaker system similar to the one at Night of Decadence will be implemented for Beer Bike. The caretakers will be trained and receive all the benefits of security volunteers, including free breakfast and a gift. Henderson said the idea for an improved caretaker system came about last semester in campus-wide committee discussions. "For years there has been a lot of security's reaction is, 'Oh well, we don't want to do that.' But the more you talk about it, the more you talk about how it would increase safety and really maintain the essential elements of a water balloon fight, once they hear the reasons they're more likely to see where we're coming from," Henderson said. Henderson encouraged students to send e-mails to beerbike@rice.edu with their opinions and suggestions about the proposal. "This is new territory for us and everybody and we want to make sure there's plenty of input," Henderson said. "We want this to be something that everybody knows is coming and knows why it's coming and supports."  

**BAYLOR**

*FROM PAGE 1*

could not fully satisfy both institutions, the talks were dropped. "There was disappointment over the last few months, but I think they made the right decision," Vard said. KVOS-TV in Waco sent so far as to suggest Baylor University may have made a better offer for a merger than Rice was willing to make. Regardless, both campuses are open to further cooperative endeavors.

"I think that Rice has lost out on a lot of research opportunities and as a whole, not merging will be hard for both institutions," Lovett College-sophomore Matt Carey said. Ultimately, Vard said, the merger discussions were something that bound the university together, uniting everyone towards a common cause. "We all believe in Rice's potential to be a top institution, and we all work very hard, even if we disagree on means to achieve such greatness," Vard said. Jocelyn Wright contributed to this article.

"I'm from Sid and traditionally we don't care about the biking part, I'm assuming for more competitive colleges it's important. It's all about how we can most creatively disagree ourselves."
New house for Wiess masters set to break ground in February

BY JOCELYN WRIGHT
THE READER EDITORIAL STAFF

Construction of the Wilson House, the brand-new Wiess College masters’ house, will begin next month. The house is named after longtime Wiess Resident Associate Bill Wilson, who died last spring. The construction should be completed by the end of the year, and the house is aiming for LEED certification and Energy Star certification, Project Manager Tina Hicks said.

Design team

The house is named after longtime Wiess Resident Associate Bill Wilson, who died last spring. The house is aiming for LEED certification and Energy Star certification, Project Manager Tina Hicks said. The house will be located next to the east side of Wiess by the South Campus Blood Drives.

Hanszen Masters’ House

The house was designed by the architecture firm Gustin.

Construction

The house will be located next to the east side of Wiess by the South Campus Blood Drives.

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Vanderbilt Masters’ House

Former tenant: Hanszen Masters
Future: Baker Masters

Hanszen Masters’ House

Former: Hanszen Masters
Future: Hanszen Masters

New Wiess Masters’ House

Future: Wiess Masters

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NEWS IN BRIEF

RMC may soon be undergoing new renovations

At the Student Association meeting Monday, SA President Patrick McNamara presented the history of the Rice Memorial Center and opened a discussion over future plans concerning the Student Center. The presentation focused on the Student Center’s fragmented distribution of space. Because of its internally focused circulation design, the building does not interact with the central quad, Brochstein Pavilion or the Barbara and David Giles Recreation Center. Additionally, the RMC is in need of additional space in order to accommodate a growing student body.

The question, McNamara said, is whether the Student Center should be torn down or renovated. President David Leebron has voiced his support for building a new student center, but doing so would require millions of dollars from donors to fund the construction. McNamara said typically such fundraising would not be an issue, since benefactors usually ask only to leave their name on the building, but the Loy Student Center has been home since its opening in 1958. In order to find a solution, the SA passed a motion to form a committee to discuss the future of the RMC. Applications to join the committee will be soon posted on the SA Web site at sarice.edu.

— Benjamin Chou
Subscribe to the Rice Thresher, Rice’s student-run weekly newspaper since 1916. For only $60, you’ll receive a full year of campus news, opinion, humor, college theater reviews and Rice Owls sports coverage you can’t find anywhere else.

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**Holiday movie wrap-up**

A look back at the best (and worst) flicks that closed out 2009

**By Jackie Armon**

**THE WEEKLY SCENE**

Joe’s picks for events outside the hedges, both around Rice and in the Houston area, for this week.

**ROCKETS**

The Rockets take on the Mavs Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at Toyota Center. Man, there are so many fire- and heat-related puns that I could throw in here, but I won’t say that Portland is terrible and the Spurs are going to win tonight. Concrete more, Casey. Tickets to tonight’s game start at $45.

Toyota Center
5510 Polk
www.rockets.com

The weekly scene

Joe’s picks for events outside the hedges, both around Rice and in the Houston area, for this week.

**DELOREANS**

Great Scott! Buck up the Future (aka The Greatest Movie of All Time, “Jerry!”) will be playing tonight and tomorrow night at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., respectively, at Rice’s Midnight Movie Classic series. Lights dim at 11:25 p.m. with a $5 suggested donation per person. Check Rice’s website for more details.

**LIFE**

“Life in the universe — where is it hiding?” This is the question that HMMs’ latest IMAX exhibit, Life in the Universe, attempts to answer. With 20,000 marking 50 years since the first artificial satellite, Sputnik, was launched into space, the film celebrates the beauty of space and the nobility of the chase, along with the approach of “a very Special Day.” The film is playing every day at 11:50 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:50 p.m. with a $5 suggested donation per person.

HMMs
1 Hermann Circle
www.HMMs.org

**LIMBYC**

According to our Backpage Editors, The Limbyc Spyns (a local band from Brooklyn) are supposed to be pretty good. They’ll be playing tonight at 9 p.m. at Rudyard’s (Rice Station at 24th and Main) with a 9 p.m. Strictly 21 and up.

Rudyard’s
2420 Main
www.RudyardMain.com

**Holiday movie wrap-up**

Now loading: 2010

Will this be the year of the Duke?

**By Jetty Dwyer**

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2420 Main
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an incredibly beautiful Armenian woodwind with a deep, sad sound, like a baritone sax. The oud gets its share of solos, as does the kamancheh, a sort of three-stringed violin. Hoffs, the booklet that comes with the CD has color photographs of all the featured instruments in action.

Roughly half of the performers are Turks and Armenians who have been playing this music for decades. They are joined by the Heptagon XXI, a group of Spanish and French artists whose curiosity and talent leads them to play everything from baroque Bach fugues to traditional Afghan songs. The performers are all, for lack of a better word, awesome.

The CD itself sounds invigorating, though better on stereo than on headphones. The ensemble's presence is big and forceful, as if it were in the room with the listener, and the bass is powerful enough in parts (especially in the second track) to create a disturbance at a traffic light.

One interesting lesson from Istanbul is that Turkish folk music has not changed much over the centuries. This album is based on songs composed in the streets and preserved in Ottoman archives, but many of them have since become Turkish pop tunes. My mother began singing along to a song in Istanbul that was a bit more modern and revealed that it was an older folk number. The CD itself sounds invigorating, though better on stereo than on headphones. The ensemble's presence is big and forceful, as if it were in the room with the listener, and the bass is powerful enough in parts (especially in the second track) to create a disturbance at a traffic light.

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It's been a cold winter. A win- ter of moos turned brown. Bones turned brittle and frogs turned from bright green to bluish gray as they huddled up to stay warm. Cold enough that Ti- ger King Joe Exotic's reign as a kindly lord, and it's only a matter of time before Wayne Gra- dine's reign as a back-end starter, has all but burned out, leaving us, once more, with the frostbitten chill of a winter without baseball. As the calendar turns, the Hot Stove season seemed so sappy — the campaign ended with $15 million at Jason Marquis, a rejoinder: You're at Rice. Baseball's annual Hot Stove, there was little discontent to be found. The below-ground economy in driving the current off-season an abnormally quiet one. However, Zduriencik's mastery of decision-making during their recent free agen- cy period showcased the team's ability to make key moves of their own, acquiring John Lackey. Sure, landing the top free agent pitcher, but despite his past achievements, he set an alarm at nearly every deal that mentioned, with Boston finally binding the top Free agent pitcher, former Angel John Lackey. Sure, this was the Tigers' first real attempt at getting under the total of little more than half of their total until this season. Plus, his signings of defense superstud pitcher Roy Halladay, left fielder Gabe Shilling, with the latter filling their need at left field. He is one of the game's best defensive players, and the Tigers have found him. Now, let's talk ball.)

Green Wave washes away Owls

By Teddy Grodek

Fighting place values, injuries and injuries, the women's basketball team began playing up to its true potential over the holiday break. The women started shooting well, were dominant on the boards and played lock down defense when they needed big stops. They ended last semester without a win; now, as the second semester begins, they have six, bringing them in sight of the 50 mark for the first time all season. The Owls (6-9, 0-2 Conference USA) received a medical redshirt and will be able to play their four complete years at Rice. A loss to Lamar University (12-5, 2-0 Southland Conference) stilled the women’s progress, but the team has found four straight victories, including a 69-57 victory against a major power opponent in George Washington University (3-11, 0-2 Atlantic-10 Conference). The win against George Washington was the Owls’ first road win in a year and a half. While the starters maintained their steady pace, it was the bench that began to emerge as an asset to provide depth to head coach Greg Williams’ (Hanszen ‘70) arsenal, according to Starling. “I think in general everyone stepped it up,” Starling said. “Our bench really picked it up. It’s really...

OWLOOK

This Week in Sports

Friday, Jan. 17
Women's Basketball vs. Marshall
7 p.m. — Tudor Fieldhouse

Women's Track & Field at Leonard Hilton Memorial All Day — University of Houston

Saturday, Jan. 16
Men's Track & Field at Leonard Hilton Memorial All Day — University of Houston
Men's Basketball vs. Memphis
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Sunday, Jan. 17
Women’s Basketball vs. East Carolina
2 p.m. — Tudor Fieldhouse

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By Jonathan Myers
Thursday Editorial Staff

Jason Colwick hasn't let up. The defending national champion in pole vault, the soft-spoken sophomore looks as fit in the world in his sport as he has kept a healthy, muscling regimen that should make him the odds-on favorite to grab another crown.

But Colwick can only do so much when trying to attain his final, furtive another crown. So far in

12 SPORTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2010

“...we think he's a year away from being

good, [and] freshman Alex Su was

very, very good.”

The new batch
Replacing last year's crop of produc-
tive newcomers will be a host of year-
ners, as well as a sophomore, Andrew Stin-
gham, serving as a rookie on the
team. Warren is optimistic about
what he has seen from them during
the winter workouts.

“Freshman Tyler Wiest, as a high

jumper, looks very, very good; he
could make an impact right away,”

Warren offered an early prediction

for Spinks' repertoire.

“Since [Moore] scored in the Texas

4A state meet in the 100, 200 and 400

meter events, we're hoping he can

contribute, most likely in the relay

and quarter mile,” Warren said. “Sams

was obviously a great find for us last

year in the 100 meters, long jump and

high jump.”

The thieves will also return from

strong performances last year, with Ju-

sifer Wil Meyers hoping to repeat his

fifth-place finish in the shot put from the

2009 C-USA indoor meet, and junior

Clay Baker coming off a fourth-place

finish in the shot put and sixth place

in the weight throw. Sophomore Alex

Zinchenko will also look to improve

upon his throw this year after adjust-

ing to his first year competing in track

and field in the United States.

Competing for the crown
As far as Rice's chances to lay claim to

the conference crown, they will most

likely hinge on the relay's; chances to

improve upon the University of

Houston, last year's champions.

Warren offered an early prediction

of the}
Women's squad brings in abundance of uppersclassmen, large group of freshmen to extend conference title streak

By Natalie Clericuzio

With six conference championships in three years, sweeping both indoor and outdoor competition, success has become an expectation, not just a goal, for the women's track and field team. Last season, then-senior Leslie Wake helped lead the team to their success, qualifying for nationals in two events and earning an All-American status in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

With the graduation of Wake (Brown oval) and of the rest of the departing class, there are plenty of holes to fill and many opportunities for freshmen and underclassmen to contribute to the team's success in 2010.

Faces worth watching

Luckily, six freshmen in short distance and field events alone enter the team this season. Sojourner Brown—returning from last season's Victor Lopez Classic. Thompson and her Owls enter the 2010 season with six cumulative titles over the last three years to defend.

On track for another championship

This large freshmen class, alongside the number of returning team members, should put the team in good stead to repeat their championships, according to Head Coach Jam Bevan.

"We have a large returning class among seniors, including in the throwing corps alongside senior Brittany Washington. Junior triple jumper Sarah Agana will do the same in jumps with senior Shannon Moran and freshmen Alex Gibbs and Tiffany Fall."

In distance events, seniors Nicole Mericle and distance Ago and Becky Wade—who finished second, third and fourth, respectively, in the 3,000 meters behind Wake at the Indoor Championships last season—return. Sophomore Michaela Reynolds and seniors Brittany Williams will also contribute to the team's run for another championship.

Measuring the competition

The team will begin its search for its next championship today at the Louisiana Tech Invitational at the University of Houston's Yeoman Fieldhouse. Twelve schools will be competing, most notably the University of Texas, ranked preseason No. 6 in the United States Track and Field-Cross Country Coaches Association. Other competitors to watch for include Rice University and host Houston, as well as University of Texas-San Antonio and Louisiana Tech University, defending Western Athletic Conference champions.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing where the freshmen are at because this is the first meet for us," Bevan said. "It's nice to get everyone out and have a facility that you're proud of."

Senior Nicole Mericle says the track reflects the team's success in recent years.

"We just started to run on it, but it's a huge improvement from the track we had—there were hills and holes in the track before," Mericle said. "I think it's symbolic of the start of this new tradition of Rice track. It shows how we've earned it, since we've had so many conference titles over the last three years."

Sophomore Marie Thompson competes during last season's Victor Lopez Classic, Thompson and her Owls enter the 2010 season with six cumulative titles over the last three years to defend.

Application Deadline: February 1

KOREAN LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP CENTER
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
1859 East-West Road, Suite 110
Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone: 808-956-8469
Fax: 808-956-6026
E-mail: korean-flagship@hawaii.edu
http://koreanflagship.manoa.hawaii.edu

www.ruf.rice.edu -parish.

Wiss College announces competition for the 2010 John E. Parish Fellowship. The winner of a Parish Fellowship will receive support of approximately 2 months travel during the Summer of 2010. The purpose of the fellowship is to enhance the undergraduate education of the Fellow by broadening the range of experience via individual travel. All full-time returning undergraduates at Rice are eligible to apply. For further information, call the Wiss College Coordinator, Nancy Leinnew at 713-348-5743, or see the web page at www.mf.rice.edu-parish.

The deadline for application is Friday, December 13, 2010, at 5:00 PM.
We'll know more once some more results come in, but I think Houston is the team to beat," Warren said. "They're pretty consistent and good in a lot of areas. For them, one misstep and there's no big deal. Especially as freshmen," Warren stated. The Owls have been making strides, but Rice has yet to find their rhythm. While the Owls picked it up in the second half, the defense faltered, allowing UCF to put up 46 points. Rice ended up falling by a final score of 76-64.

"Smart has responded really well to the motivation," Warren said. "She started working really hard in practice and changed her game. She's got a great work ethic, which is what we wanted her to do. It was like she had a revelation, it's important because we need fans of our players off the bench.

After two games off the bench, Smart finally returned to the starting lineup against Rice (9-12, 1-7 C-USA). She provided a spark for the Owls, who were on the verge of losing.

"We lost our confidence and got passive instead of staying aggressive," freshman point guard Tanise Jackson said. "When we get physical and don't try to attack, it hurts us on offense." Jackson is leading the Owls with 2.0 assists per game, but sophomore guard Corinne Costa had to replace her on the floor.

"Corinne has had a good basketball IQ," Braun said. "If he can get our post guys up by creating space, then they are going to have to make a decision. Do they give up inside lay-ups or do they go out and challenge Corini?"

The team's top concern is getting things established on the inside on both sides of the floor. UCF also outrebounded the Owls in the paint by a margin of 34 to 14, an instance where the numbers don't lie. On Wednesday at Tulane, the battle in the paint went in the favor of the Owls, but that was a rare exception in 2010.

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the Calendar
JAN. 15—21, 2010
follow us at 7 twitter at threshercal
FRIDAY 15
Pucker up
Central Market, Houston's coolest (and noisiest) grocery store, is honoring Dixie Wine wine week. Stop by the Westheimer location today, Saturday or Sunday for an eclectic assortment of foods, expertly created fruit juices, recipes and two-for-one wine specials. And if nothing else, you can stock up on pins for your margarita.
On this day in 1919
Next time you say "slower than molasses," consider this molasses could kill you. IT'S EVIL. And hot summer days you can still explode through the city streets. 21 tank exploded, causing a 15 foot fireball to burst through the city streets. 21 people died in the catastrophe; 21 more were injured. Because I really desperately miss baseball, five teams which will be significant this year:
1. New York Mets
2. Washington Nationals
3. Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim
4. Chicago White Sox
5. Detroit Tigers

SATURDAY 16
You should go to the Houston Symphony concert tonight
They're featuring Gershwin's awe-inspiring piano concerto, and the Russian literature class!

THURSDAY 21
All they want is your blood
Those crazy Communist cell players are all at it again!

WEDNESDAY 20
The kind of music that soothes Bob Seger's soul
This Richardton College's spring musical is Rock 'N Roll, by Tom Stoppard, and features music by The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, and Madonna and some. You should try out! Auditions are in the Old Commons at 7 p.m., but if you arrive late you should head downstairs to the Big Room. No preparation is necessary.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
Sleep in. They'll go to class. Don't be late. Of course, today's not actually King's birthday (that was February), so since government employees would rather take Monday off, here we are. 'It's a Great Birthday today, if that's any consolation.

On this day in 1778
Captain James Cook committed one of the great marketing errors in world history when he named his new discovery the "Sandwich Islands." Later, somebody real-ized that the name "Sandwich" was not exactly good for tourism, so in 1840 the name was reverted to the archipelago's native name, "Hawaii."

ON THIS DAY IN 1931
"That" that "(Doors"
Down song)
A word that wouldn't describe the marriages of this prize adulterers
26. Pet
28. When you can't get up (21)
29. Swoon with archaic
30. The end of a symphony
31. Parts of Servais's game
32. One... of
35. "That" that 's so serious it that the National Enquirer has become a trustworthy news source
36. At
38. Romantic for Thatchet, Astarte or Giga
39. Takes a break
40. It's good with chips
41. Highs and... 44. Let the buyer
45. Conceal a birthday present
46. Agency that maintains I-65 and US 59 (abbrev.)
49. An urban legend says: Miller had only one
50. Tough, Tintacte
51. Obnoxious species of evergreen
52. Not-quite-so-sexy name for a nemadoko
55. Rope of death
57. "That" that's a film Adultery Achievement Award winner 0-3 a politician who had an affair 40 years ago and got away with it
61. Dallas's advice to Wes-sanian
64. Ex-Senator Coleman
65. Kill, or cause to laugh off
66. Unengaged pool type
69. What a famous children's TV song never does

THRESHER CROSSWORD: THE 2009 ADULTERERS' HALL OF FAME

ACROSS
1. Delay time in a MMORPG
4. Famous cookie maker
8. A recipe you can't make if you punch your nose
12. Note
13. Nixed plan
16. A weapon used in combat
18. It's next to Togo
19. And so on (abbrev.)
22. Feel sick
27... "That..." that (Doors)
34. "That" that "(Doors"
Down song)
39. A word that wouldn't describe the marriages of this prize adulterers
42. Pet
44. When you can't get up (21)
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80. Dallas's advice to Wessonian
81. Ex-Senator Coleman
82. Kill, or cause to laugh off
83. Unengaged pool type
86. What a famous children's TV song never does

DOWNS
1. Leave this on and your picures will all come out black
2. Houston literary critic Shivani
3. Nicer
4. Britney Spears did this to her hair
9. Perverse way of saying raise up
16. Good enough for this adulterer
17. "That" that "(Doors"
Down song)
21. And so on (abbrev.)
22. Feel sick
40. Where 1018 did 11275 do to 11277 women
41. Kill, or cause to laugh off
42. Unengaged pool type
43. "That" that's a film Adultery Achievement Award winner 0-3 a politician who had an affair 40 years ago and got away with it
44. Dallas's advice to Wessonian
45. Ex-Senator Coleman
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rare rice in review

week of jan. 10

student association

SA President Patrick McAndilly

expresses concern over his husband's consciousness about his 3.5 GPA. He is 1.0 GPA short of the bar to

いての新しい若者を体験する。彼は、彼女が自分のバッドの体験を共有することを恐れていたが、最終的に彼女はそれを受け入れて、彼の感情を理解し、支えようとした。

new colleges? in my beer glass

Dormitories and hockey rinks will compete in an exhibition race across the University's Alumni and Student Center.

The back page is the source of all your reading needs.

closing campus over water break saves thousands

...but life, times thousands. You could write a book about it by JOKING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

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classifieds

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HELP WANTED

Come teach for testmasters! No experience necessary as all training is provided. Full and part time positions available. Dynamic and energetic teachers wanted. Pay rate start at $15/hr. Call 877-776-7763 or email rweber@testmasters.com.

Tutoring positions available. Looking for dependable, caring academic tutors to work with students grades 1-12 one-on-one in their homes during after school hours and possibly weekends throughout the 2009-2010 school year. Hourly rate is $25/hour. Please contact Alphonse at Alphonese Tutoring Services for more information at 281-928-3093 or email homeworkhelpgood.com.

The Barbara and David Gibbs Wellness and Recreation Center at Rice University is hiring CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINERS. Applicants must be nationally certified through either ACSM or NSCA with at least 1 year experience. If you are interested please send your resume to fitness@rice.edu.

CAUGHT IN A BAD ROMANCE

a collegiate tragedy of epic proportions

Rice and BCM had been neighbors for many years before they were both tied up and plugged in the seminar of love. Baylor was always inviting Rice over to her house for sleep-overs. Rice even built a giant tree fort in the Medical Center so that the two schools could talk about nearby things, like curing cancer and turning Houston into an academic powerhouse. But the relationship was pure platonic—they dared not let their tongues weave the forbidden language of romance.

Then, one day, a giant recession knocked BCM to her knees. Rice just happened to be the closest person around, so he quickly rushed to her aid. Rice offered to pick BCM up off the ground with his strong and powerful arms. The one-time rivals then became the closest of friends. Rice had never noticed the soporific curvatures of BCM's medical research grants. And just look at the academic prestige on her! BCM eyes moved from Rice's、“bro” to her “sweetheart.”

The two were instantly smitten. What started as innocent flirting and late-night phone calls soon developed into a full-blown facebook-official relationship. Sure, it was “open” at first—neither institution was very good at commitment. But it was also more commitment than either school had shown anyone in a long, long time (even to their students).

One night Rice became so excited (and drunk) that he texted everyone in his “myfaves” and professed his feelings for BCM. “DUDE I love BCM. She complete me.”

A merger could produce something academic & research benefits a both of our institutions & the god we serve... in my pants... b..."

As time went on, though, each institution’s true nature began to push a strain on the relationship. BCM loved to spend money on things like dresses and PET scanners and shoes; Rice had recently dipped into its strained coffers to buy new houses and billboards and athletic directors. Being one of the Princeton Review’s “10 Hottest Couples a Watch” was a big responsibility, and neither Rice nor BCM knew how to handle the pressure.

At the same time all of Rice’s friends began pulling the “bros b4 hos” card. Mossie Vandi, the coziest cat in the computational engineering department, was all like “Dude you deserve better than that.” So Rice responded “DUDE I DON’T KNOW ME!” Rice started de-friending anyone who disagreed with him on Facebook and would have really emo statues like “hes understanding me.”

Finally, BCM became tired of Rice’s being and sad demeanor. She started shopping around for a new sugar daddy. This all culminated last Thursday when Rice received the infamous break-up text.

The rest, as they say, is history.

The back page is satire and is written, awesomely, by Kyle Barnhart and Cristina Tortosilo. Shout-outs to Evan and Dan, who will always be bangable in our hearts.