Rice set to refocus after merger falls through

By Josh Rutenberg
TODAY'S EDITION, page 4

Reasons have begun to trickle out why Rice University and BCM failed to reach a conclusion under their Memorandum of Understanding last month.

The two institutions created considerations of a merger Jan. 11, in advance of the Jan. 12 deadline set by the MOU. An e-mail notified the Rice community of the development Jan. 12, while announcing the two schools would maintain a mutual commitment to collaborative efforts.

Responses from the Rice community have been mixed. Rice President David Leebron expressed dissatisfaction at the outcome while saying he remained optimistic about the future of Rice.

“I still believe the vision we had was a good vision, but the truth is, we could not find a good way to implement that vision at this time,” Leebron said.

“I personally disappointed we were not able to achieve a merger,” Leebron said. “I still believe the vision we had was a good vision, but the truth is, we could not find a good way to implement that vision at this time.”

Ending negotiations

The university has not stated its reasons for ending the merger talks with BCM, though rumors have been based on the stipulations of the MOU, such as EOC’s lack of association with a private, non-profit hospital.

Other theories have also cropped up. Following the end of the MOU, BCM/FVCT/V in Waco speculated that the Rice-BCM merger had been influenced by an offer of a merger from Baylor University, which separated from BCM in 1969. However, Leebron said external offers did not play a role in the final decision, citing financial concerns as a key factor.

“We would not merge without protecting the financial health of Rice,” Leebron said. “Taking on a significant amount of debt would have had a consequence.”

Leebron cited the Subcommittee for Academic Matters and the Subcommittee on Collaborative Activities of the Faculty Senate as being especially crucial in determining the feasibility of the merger.

Leebron added that the lack of negotiations, students and faculty alike raised budgetary concerns. In an unusual attempt, Leebron said, the university has no come to a mutual agreement. See BUDGET, page 5

Jump on the soul train

If you’re looking for entertainment, head to the Rice Grand Hall tonight from 6-9 p.m. for the Black Student Association’s Soul Night Jazz. The BSA has raised $35 to get you dinner and endless opportunities for socializing.

Proposed Beer Bike parade changes fail

By Seth Brown
TODAY’S EDITION, page 4

Come March 20, students sober and inebriated alike will accompany a caravan of trucks around the inner Loop toward the Beer Bike track, water balloons at the ready. Because recent changes proposed to the parade route were voted down, most of the participants will be familiar with the route, as this year’s Beer Bike parade will hold the same format as last year.

The college beer bike committee voted Monday against the proposed changes, the mayor-elect of Magnolia, to maintain the current parade format. The result of the vote matched the results from a recent poll conducted by the Student Association, which showed student support for maintaining the parade’s current format.

The college vote, held by secret ballot among the beer bike coordinators, yielded a 91% majority to keep the current format of the parade. A second vote to research alternative date for the parade produced a 7-2 majority, with two abstentions.

Shake what your mama gave you

If you think you can dance, you might find someone to go off campus with you for dinner, movie your way over to the BCM Grand Hall at 9:30 p.m. for Dance Blows Again! “We Want You Can Dance”! Tickets are $10 in advance and proceeds will go to the Texas Children’s Hospital’s Children’s Miracle Network.

Students and faculty alike raised budgetary concerns. In an unusual attempt, Leebron said, the university has no come to a mutual agreement. See BUDGET, page 5
College courses should not fall victim to budget cuts

The Office of the Dean of Undergraduates has announced that college course budgets will be cut in accordance with next school year’s university-wide 5 percent budget cut (see story, page 1). In what was once a budget flush with $5,000 allotted per college, the college course funds were backed by $5,000 this year, and will plummet to a proposed $2,500 next year. It is the university’s expectation that students will come to the courses’ terms regarding to fund college courses from their own general college budgets.

While we understand the need to cut costs in an economy as tepid as this, we are perplexed by the University’s lack of commitment to actually reviving Rice traditions in lieu of other means. For instance, it was just a year ago that we had local and national newspapers scattered on our common’s tables. But due to budget constraints, they are non-existant now.

In past years some colleges have not needed to spend all of the money set aside for college courses, but others, such as Lovett College, which traditionally offers an Intro-all of the money set aside for college courses, but others, college course funds and sometimes even take additional due to a lack of funding would destroy an utterly unique number offered has jumped from around course — it is worrisome that the university is cutting the of Rice’s student body either teaching or taking a college will implement it.

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nation of the Rice Review is a member of the ACP, TIPA and CNBAM. Math is stupid. © Copyright 2009 Thresher,
Rahul Rekhi

To say the last few months haven’t exactly been smooth sailing for Obama would be a tremendous understatement. Job growth remains at best tepid, as corporations, responding from their pink slips and imaging months of hardship and tell, the health care bill, muddied and marred by special interests and backroom deals, still lies on the floor. As a matter of what the president once envisioned, just last fall, the once-imposing Democratic Senate majority plummeted under the weight of independent voters to Republican Scott Brown in Massachusetts. Granted, a new era is hardly a phenomenon unique to the Obama presidency. As an apt analogy, Bill Clinton faced a major retooling with an alteration of health care policy during his first year in office, and ended that year with an approval rating far worse than Obama’s. Even the so-desperately needed.

But what we use as, some, a dramatic conversion of the Obama agenda; rather, it was a rehashing of a sharpening of what got him elected: free health care, more economic egalitarian and ethically, exposing Democrats and he, even the Supreme Court, certainly not an agenda that was laying it out as the American people wanted. Indeed, it was a holder of justices from both parties, with no points of view to mind. Apart from the general appeal of progressives to Congress to enact aggressive economic and financial reform. And Theodore Roosevelt, often hailed for his special interests and an increasingly corrupt Congress to enact progressive reforms that were before the time. These futures of American history were almost perfect caricatures of political symbols that are not yet presidents, but leaders who believe in change. Obama is, by most accounts, a good president. He stripped away the smoke screen around his administration in recent weeks, he is a step in that light, adding the White House in the two-day period since the White House. But to really enact the change he wants us to believe in, he’ll have to stop being a politician and start being the State of the Union. We can only hope.

Rahul Rekhi is a Sid Rich College freshman.

Ellen Kim

Today, when photo manipulation, more commonly referred to as ‘photoshopping,’ is mentioned, fashion, nagging doubt perhaps, even Facebook photos may come to mind. Apart from the general appeal of photoshopping, such as inserting colorful backgrounds for portraits, we have also seen an increasing number of pictures for purely aesthetic reasons. With programs ranging from user-friendly editors to professional-level programs, the ability to create and convincingly enhance images has become prolific in our society. As a result, people are no longer accepting photos as they were when I was a kid, this has led to enhanced images. A couple of years ago, my dad brought back an armful of photos that he had discarded from friends’ sites – the stock for what would represent theKauffman Family vacation pictures. Before I go on, you must understand that these photos are a big deal. We review them carefully and select the best to make a giant photo collage, which is later hung in the hallway upstairs. The family’s growth is captured every year, and looking back on these time capsules is the perfect way to appreciate time spent with loved ones.

I was surprised, however, to find that even one of my favorite photographers had been photoshopped. A recent report of the “burn” tool will darken your acne for several years, the last thing you want is to remind yourself of it with a bad photo. But the second feeling that shook me was not one of relief, I found myself suddenly offended and incredibly self-conscious. But this person found the need to fix my face? Were the biomimics really that serious?

The pragmatist in me cannot criticize the advertisements. Why? Because the purpose of enhancing photos is precisely to elicit that response and propel the viewers of the product. To achieve that end, even the most successful and attractive models and politicians are photoshopped too.

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On one hand, I agree that doctors and photographers yield negative consequences. But I also find it somewhat empowering. Extending a little, you can alter a photo to appear any way you want, often for artistic effect. There’s no real harm in editing your photo for no real reason. Facebook profiles and desktop wallpapers. You shouldn’t, however, continue to use this with your photos. Even the most successful and attractive models and politicians are photoshopped too. Why? Because the purpose of enhancing photos is precisely to elicit that response and propel the viewers of the product. To achieve that end, even the most successful and attractive models and politicians are photoshopped too.
Barnett sentenced for BB gun shootings

BY CATHERINE BRATIS

THE HUMAN EDITORIAL STAFF

Former Rice student Catilyn Barnett was sentenced to two years of community supervision on Jan. 26 for an assault she committed while enrolled at the university. Although Barnett had originally been charged with a felony, a plea bargain facilitated by her lawyer, Houston attorney Brian Warnock of Caplin, Stewart, Warren, and Lill LLP.

Warnock speculated that the charges were downgraded to a misdemeanor because a BB gun is not usually defined as a deadly weapon, one of the conditions for a guilty plea. "I doubt the legislature envisioned this scenario of a couple of kids riding around in a truck with a BB gun when writing the penal code," Warnock said.

The other defendant in the shooting received deferred adjudication for Barnett's guilty plea, Judge Dorian Cotlar, negotiated the settlement that BCM had achieved a positive cash flow and more than $1 billion in cash and investments.

Chairman of the Baylor Board of Regents Barry Stone notified the Baylor community in a Jan. 27 statement of BCM's plan to remain an independent institution. Baylor has since suspended talks with BCM about any possible "strengthened affiliations," Garland said in a statement released to Baylor staff, faculty, and students.

However, Baylor will continue to appoint 25 percent of BCM's board members and retain ties to the Baylor name, Stone said in his statement.

Moving forward

Leebron said that although a merger with BCM would have provided an opportunity to move the university decades ahead in the field of biomedical research, other investments, such as the Rice Institute for Research, may provide an opportunity to move forward.

"We recruited spectacular people, there is great student interest and I think if we continue to invest in those opportunities," Leebron said of the BRC.

The university does not expect the Rice merger with BCM to have an impact on the university's continued growth and advancement, "In the meantime, we will continue to pursue this merger with BCM as we have," Leebron said.

Although Rice will not acquire a medical school, the Rice-Baylor Medical Scholars program will continue.

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BY SCOTT NORGARD
THE RICE THRESHER

RecycleMania energizes students

Prepare your plastic bottles and last semester’s notes, because Rice is participating in the national RecycleMania.

This competition, which started Jan. 17 and runs until March 25, is intended to familiarize students with their campus environmental programs and instill in them a lifelong habit, according to the RecycleMania. www.recyclemania.org, is to prepare students who will become the “eco-friendly generation” in the coming years.

The contest, which ranks schools by several recycling-related metrics (amount of recyclables, amount of trash, recycling rate, etc.) comes with various categories, including the “Gorilla Prize,” which goes to the university with the highest gross weight of recyclable material, and the university with the highest preference for recycling, All categories are dependent on what goes into these two categories, notably waste minimization. A lot of waste is created in people’s residence, which disadvantages residents schools, he said.

In addition to promoting recycling, the competition will also help clear much of the confusion that surrounds the art. "It could do a better job of recycling," Johnson said.

"There aren’t constraints to hold any more," director of sustainability at Rice, Richard Johnson said. "It is our obligation to the environment, and we do things to inform students of the importance of the college courses, and that things that have been cut shares a similar trait.

"Everything we might consider cutting has value," Forman said.

Proposals

From Page 1

"One of the best parts is doing the [the competition],” Henderson said. "Too many violations in recent years, 2003 were being offered with ease, whereas huge numbers (123 instances) and posting between moving vehicles (27 instances)," Henderson said. "There aren’t constraints to hold any more,” director of sustainability at Rice, Richard Johnson said. "It is our obligation to the environment, and we do things to inform students of the importance of the college courses, and that things that have been cut shares a similar trait.

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Two Rice students prepare to tour the nation to promote the cause of equality

by Jocelyn Wright

Nearly 50 years after the Freedom Riders took to the road to end racial segregation, a new group is riding to campaign for another form of social justice: rights for LGBT students. This diverse group of 22 young men and women, the 2006 Southern Equality Riders, come from various religious and cultural backgrounds across the country but are united in their desire for change.

Since the Equality Riders began in 2006, the riders have visited and advocated for change at over 50 of the approximately 200 schools in the United States whose policies actively discriminate against LGBT students.

"The Equality Ride is basically a traveling forum," Equality Ride Director Caitlin MacIntyre said. "What they're trying to do is form a dialogue on these campuses, offer support to those already there and provide an affirming space to students who may not otherwise hear one."

The journey begins

Beginning March 6, the Equality Riders will spend two months traveling across the eastern United States to visit 16 schools. The Equality Riders are collaborating with college administrators to set up an agenda at each stop that will encourage discussion about the discriminatory policies at each school.

"It'd be easier for us to just go and tell the school that they're wrong and have a picket or bold signs, but we try as much as possible to speak with students and form relationships," MacIntyre, a former Brown College student who left Rice to found the Equality Ride, said. "That's where change comes from."

Equality Riders will spend at least three days in each community, focusing on building lasting relationships with individuals to trigger maneuvers that will continue after the riders leave.

MacIntyre took a semester off from Rice last year to work on an Equality Ride. Talking with MacIntyre and preparing for the ride

Although the Equality Riders do not depart until next month, Arquero has been keeping busy. The group prepared for the first time in Austin at the beginning of January for a week of workshops and training. Each of the riders will help plan one of the 16 stops along the way, so one goal of the week was to help them decide what they wanted to do at each stop by studying policies at the school and contacting school administrators.

"I want to change the policies and views on homosexuality so that students on these campuses won't feel afraid to just be themselves," Arquero said.

Darren Arquero Wess '11

As someone who dedicates much of his time to causes beyond Rice, he has written a research paper on anti-homophobia and discrimination against LGBT people, and he plans to use his experiences on the Equality Ride as background for a senior honors thesis.

Arquero hopes that his participation in the ride will give a voice to the LGBT communities on schools.

"I want to change the policies and views on homosexuality so that students on these campuses won't feel afraid to just be themselves," Arquero said.

This will not be Arquero's first trip campaigning for LGBT rights. He has worked extensively with Equality Texas, which lobbies the Texas legislature on LGBT issues, and he has written a research paper on LGBT history in Houston. Last year, he looked at the Houston Independent School District's policies on anti-homophobia and discrimination against LGBT students.

As someone who dedicates much of his time to causes beyond Rice, Arquero also hopes the Equality Ride will inspire other Rice students to continue activist work.

"With the Equality Ride, I felt like I was being called away from what I was doing," Arquero said. "It completely changed the way I looked at oppression and the way I viewed organizing in the LGBT community."

MacIntyre described her last Equal- ity Ride as an amazing experience.

"It completely changed the way I looked at oppression and the way I viewed organizing in the LGBT community," MacIntyre said. "I grew up in a broken home — my parents divorced when I was a kid. I always had a huge support system, but my future's going to be determined by one aspect of my life."

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Taking advantage of one aspect of his life, Arquero described his feelings towards the upcoming ride as a combination of nervousness and excitement. "I'm excited, though. Arquero knows that he will face many challenges.

"I've never really faced any type of adversity growing up, and so far as being made fun of I've always had a huge support sys-

Another rider, Arquero is also responsible for raising funds. Each Equality Rider has worked extensively with the Equality Ride. Arquero said. "It sounds really, really archaic."
Gardner said the idea of a “map of Houston” was a plan he had considered for sometime. The projected footage was recorded on two cameras Gardner mounted to his car, one pointing up and the other forward, so both the Houston skyline and its most manicured areas were recorded.

Gardner said he took friends along with him to resist while making the videos for the week. The length of the strings themselves, Gardner said, gives viewers a general idea of the amount of driving needed for the footage. The idea of the string sculpture itself, however, occurred to him later. Gardner said he considered creating a canvas piece to hang on the wall. His decision to use strings is a wise one. The complexity and beauty of the completed sculpture completely surpasses his original concept.

“I had been building these string sculptures, and one of the critiques was that it was not linked to anything specific, that it was more a setting,” Gardner said. “There was nothing specific about it, so I decided that the Houston idea would be perfect.”

Indeed, the combination of the eternal light with ordinarily mundane, plain white string is a unique take on representing physical space. However, to truly appreciate the full visual effect, one must see this sculpture in person. Pictures prove inadequate at capturing all aspects of the piece, failing to portray the ever-moving suspension of images, the road ahead and the sea.

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**Relish: Sampling the menu at Mai’s Vietnamese**

Houston’s incredibly diverse population is complemented by its array of ethnic restaurants, especially Asian-themed ones. We have always enjoyed choosing down on various cultural cuisines, so it was about time we paid a visit to Mai’s Vietnamese Restaurant.

**Ambiance**

Although the restaurant was bustling with people of various ages and ethnicity, the non-Western atmosphere made us feel like we could very well be dining in Hanoi. The mood was light and very casual with no particular dress code to be noticed.

**Food**

If you’re fortunate enough to go to Mai’s, be sure to bring friends. We dined with a few acquaintances and got to sample several dishes from the restaurant’s extensive menu, which features not only Vietnamese cuisine but Chinese food as well.

![Mai's Vietnamese Restaurant](image)

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**Taco Trek: Doña Maria’s stripes back**

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When in Rome flip-flops between rom-com and awkwardness

BY JACKIE AMMONS  THE RICE THRESHER STAFF

Paris may be the city of love, but Rome is the city of romance, the perfect place to find that special someone. And while When in Rome, which ventures into sometimes bittersweet and overly bully territory, is not a great movie, it is still a fun, playful chick flick about searching for love within the city's beautiful piazzas.

Beth (Kristen Bell, "Gossip Girl"). who helps her snap out of her hectic lifestyle as well as the fountain's magic spell. Magic certainly isn't a necessary ingredient in the rom-com formula, so that way they separate When in Rome from the rest of the typical offerings. But the plot's magic element also allows for some ridiculously corny moments. All four of Beth's admirers literally chase her down in New York City in one of the most memorable scenes, one suite (Baby Mama's Dax Shepard) takes his shirt off in a restaurant to display his six-pack abs to Beth, all the while spouting horrendous pick-up lines about his muscles, such as "Do we need a doctor? Because these puppies are sick." Another one of Beth's suitors is a sausage mogul who provides Beth with plentiful gift baskets of... sausage. Yum!

The most outrageous of Beth's suitors, however, is neither the meat-clencher nor the sausage vendor. Lance, the street magician is played flawless-ly by Jon Heder of Napoleon Dynamite fame. Heder's character pulls off preposterous stunts during his time on-screen, at one point yanking a bloody plastic heart out of his shirt. Efren Ramirez fills a similar role to that of his Pedro from Napoleon Dynamite, following Lance around the city as he performs tricks to no avail. Each of Beth's admirers would among any woman, single woman, but they provide an abundance of hilarity; perhaps they toned down their shenanigans a bit, they would pose less of a nuisance for the audience.

Fortunately, Nick more than makes up for Beth's other nit-shot-suitable suitors. He is as charming as he is handsome, and the audience naturally falls for him and his stumbling attempts to show off his mastery of the Italian language for Beth. Bell's character complements Nick well, with her similarly charming personality and performance, along with a face that made "Veronica Mars" relevant. Her performance, along with a face that made "Veronica Mars" relevant.

The Roman setting is, of course, gorgeous, with picturesque streets, ancient ruins and community fountains providing the perfect backdrop for Beth — or anyone else, for that matter — to fall in love. The symbol-ism of location in When in Rome is obvious, yet it remains endearing. In New York City, Beth lives a busy, fast-paced lifestyle that leaves no room for love, but in Rome she can slow down and take time to en-joy the beauty of the city and the wonder of romance. While When in Rome presents a clichéd dichotomy of setting, the average roman-tic moviegoer and chick flick fan can't help but fall for it.

In spite of When in Rome's romantic relationship theme, audiences are bound to have a love hate relationship with the film. At some points, this romantic comedy is hilarious; at others, it is sweet and sentimental. Unfortunately, during certain nerve-grating scenes, When in Rome is corny and overwhelmingly annoying. It doesn't quite do the city of romance the justice it deserves, but it is a valid attempt.
The artwork is not necessarily interactive as much as it is relational. Several people, after coming closer to the sculpture, exclaimed excitedly when they saw places and locales they recognized in the images. Some creased near the ends of the suspended strings, gazing in the images. Some crouched near the slightly overcooked. were bland, but were paired with a background, the installation presented credibly appealing on the menu, and succulent offerings. The spicy sauces to up the ante of spiciness dle soup that came with various and carrots in a leaf of lettuce. The himself, containing sprouts, peanut nice, light dish the diner assembles sauce, among our favorite dishes. Chicken, which combines fried with a sweet and spicy Chicken, which combines fried through another's eyes. Regardless of the quality of the meats left some- thing to be desired. The spring rolls in a predictable fashion. And while the bread pudding may sound in-
By Natalie Cierciuzo

**Owls continue conference climb**

Had you told women's basketball Head Coach Greg Williams in July that this team would go off to the worst start in the program's history, he probably would have been shocked. Had you told him five games into the season that his team would find itself up to a .500 record and give them a second chance to earn her Conference USA Track and Field Athlete of the Week honors, it is especially impressive, as it comes only three weeks into the season. Bevan says her early showing presages a strong season. "I did really well my freshman year, and this is about where I was then. Now, I've been injured a whole bunch. I expected it later down in the season for sure."

Reece's time, the 14th-best in the country this year and good enough to earn her Conference USA Track and Field Athlete of the Week honors, is especially impressive, as it comes only three weeks into the season. Bevan says her early showing presages a strong season. "I did really well my freshman year, and this is about where I was then. Now, I've been injured a whole bunch. I expected it later down in the season for sure."

Reece is not going to settle for her almost-record breaking time, however. In fact, she aims to break two school records this season. "I definitely want to try to break [see SPORTS, page 11]

**Women whip weak Texas State, wounded Sam Houston**

After a sound defeat at the hands of the University of Texas Jan. 29, a week's worth of practice and reflection was apparently just what the women's tennis team needed to resuscitate its winning ways. Rice's 6-1, 6-1 victory over Sam Houston Thursday night was its fifth straight win, and the Owls' record and give them a second chance to earn her Conference USA Track and Field Athlete of the Week honors, is especially impressive, as it comes only three weeks into the season. Bevan says her early showing presages a strong season. "I did really well my freshman year, and this is about where I was then. Now, I've been injured a whole bunch. I expected it later down in the season for sure."

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Rice Mays Undergraduate Fellows Program

Mellon MMUF ALUMNI WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE PH.D.

Jennifer (Alvarez) Dickson, Ph.D. from University of New Mexico in English

Dr. Aron Alvarez, Ph.D. from Rice University in History

Jessica Zuitiga, Ph.D. from Yale University in Hispanic Studies

Lindsay Smith, Ph.D. from Cornell University in Mathematics

Armando Lewis, Ph.D. from Tulane University in Mathematics

Evelyn Patterson, Ph.D. from Georgetown University in Anthropology

Michelle Starer, Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in Religion

Rosa Gonzalez, Ph.D. from University of Pennsylvania in Demography

Andrew Cook, Ph.D. from Harvard University in Anthropology

Jessica Jansen, Ph.D. from Stanford University in Mathematics

Michelle Han, Ph.D. from Florida Atlantic University in Sociology

Zealous Representation

February 26, 2009

By Casey Michel

The Intercollegiate Tennis Association suggests that, should temperatures fall below 50 degrees during a match, play be moved indoors. Last Saturday, Rice met Oklahoma State University in College Station, Texas, while temperatures dipped into the mid-30s.

But moving indoors required hanging up all the grass, escorting the bus and beginning the warm-up routine all over again. Secondens from Rice and Oklahoma State bumbled, conferred and decided that they would gut out the cold snap.

Turned out to be the right move for the Owls—and no small irony, considering their match against the Cowboys was the first round of the National Indoor Qualifying Tournament.

Despite the cold deafening No. 19 from Houston’s universe-trips, his main weapon, the 79th-ranked Owls (1-6) came out on top of the 141st-ranked Cowboys (2-5) by a score of 6-1, 6-0. Oklahoma State, now ranked 158th, pushed Rice to match point, but the Owls bounced back with stellar play and late momentum.

However, that resolve seems to designate the next day against their 146th-ranked Fresno State University. The Bulldogs (1-6) took the momentum gained from Saturday’s win over No. 12 Texas A&M University and poured it on the Owls, earning a 6-0 win to advance to the third round of the tournament.

It was a tale of two entirely dissimilar matches—the former saw Rice down a higher-ranked opponent with inspired double play and bolt-from-the-ladder success, while the latter saw the Owls fail to a lower-ranked bulldog squad.

Assistant Coach Elle Uttendorf ("Reeve") noted, however, that the rankings should not serve as the be-all, end-all in determining outcomes.

"It’s disappointing in that we fail to a lower-ranked team, but that day we lost to a better team, in reality," Uttendorf said of the loss to Fresno State. "I don’t think they’re necessarily a better team than we are on a regular basis, but on that day they certainly were."

Still, rankings do count for something. Junior Jack Reynolds, sophomore Isamu Tachibana and freshmen Jonathan Chang guided Rice to a 4-2 victory over New Mexico State University’s men’s tennis team.

Fortunately for Rice, the rest of the duals picked up the slack. With the doubles point already in the bag, junior Michael Nueblin, sophomore Isamu Tachibana and freshmen Jonathan Chang guided Rice to a final 6-2 victory over the Owls.

"If you can win one dual, the next thing is to win another dual," Uttendorf said.

"They’re certainly coming back strong after that loss, and that’s what we were looking for," said "Reeve.""We certainly looking to bounce back—we have to not give them that chance."
Men's track gets complete effort at UH Invitational
Newcomers, veterans alike perform up to task during Owls' first meet as an entire team

By Jonathan Myers

Men’s, track and field team began the season as just a collection of individuals with individualized performances and individualized competitions. Granted, most track and field events are individual, but injuries and the track's reconstruction have kept the Owls from truly getting in a team format.

So, the team finally came together Saturday for the Houston Indoor Invitational at the University of Houston's Yeoman Fieldhouse, making the first time this season a majority of the squad competed at a meet. Rolling out veteran experience and poised freshmen, Rice was able to take much away from this meet, according to Head Coach Jon Warren (Box 98).

“Nothing phenomenal, great this weekend, nothing phenomenal bad,” Warren said. “It was a good, solid first meet for the vast majority of the team. It’s hard to go out and meet high expectations, since indoor is such a different animal.”

This weekend, the team will split up when the pole vaulters and javelin throwers travel to Nebraska for the Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational. The rest of the team stays in town to compete in the UH All-Comers Meet at Yeoman Fieldhouse.

The team will split, but they’ll carry last weekend with them. Performing with the short-distance events, it became increasing clear that last year’s inconsistencies with sprinters are well on their way to being erased. Senior John Welch led the Owls in the hurdles, finishing 3.0 in second place in the preliminaries round, while freshman Donte Moore finished 26 seconds behind him. Even two triple jumpers, sophomore Michael Izuchukwu and junior John Berens, got in on the fun, finishing in 15.2 and 15.7 seconds, respectively.

Freshmen, sophomore Michael Izuchukwu behind him. Even two triple jumpers and junior John Berens, got in on the fun, finishing in 15.2 and 15.7 seconds, respectively. “Michael and John were both interested in seeing what their times could do, but we’re not trying to change them into sprinters.”

In hurdles, junior Connor Hayes finished first for the Owls and 12th overall in the 60 meters, followed by freshman transfer Lee Johnson and sophomore Collins Shahit. Hayes and Shahit performed outside of their specialties.

“Connor ran very well in the hurdles,” Warren said. “Those 10 seconds where he didn’t do bad, either. There’s a strong natural event in the 400 hurdles, which is what they’ll do in the outdoor season.”

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Moore continued his breakout performance, taking 4.9 in the 400 meters, just four seconds behind the meet record set by Olympic gold medalist LaShawn Merritt. Johnson took 4.62, followed closely by freshman Alex Francis, one of three football players moonlighting as track stars. The performance of the three hurdles, junior Connor Hayes finished first for the Owls and 12th overall in the 60 meters, followed by freshman transfer Lee Johnson and sophomore Collins Shahit. Hayes and Shahit performed outside of their specialties.

“I think our team was ready to play and was focused,” Head Coach Ben Braun said. “They had a good start for their first meet and 12th overall in the 60 meters, followed by freshman transfer Lee Johnson and sophomore Collins Shahit. Hayes and Shahit performed outside of their specialties.

“One step forward and two steps back is no way to make progress. The men’s basketball team is no exception, but even the simple step forward is a plus for a team that hasn’t stopped a game since tearing apart East Carolina University last Saturday.”

The win against the Pirates (7-15, 0-7 C-USA) was the Owls’ first road win all season long. After showing flashes of quality play throughout the season, finding positives--the Owls (7-15, 1-7 C-USA) were finally able to put together a complete game against the worst team in the conference.

Against the Pirates, Rice reversed several trends that haunted it in the past. First, the team got off to a competitive start, in sharp contrast to the 51 percent limited ECU to 31 percent shooting.

It was a stark contrast to the 51 percent limited ECU to 31 percent shooting.

“Rice was the better team, but it was a typical game,” Ben Braun said. “It is just tough that the Owls couldn’t keep that up. This was overshadowing with lack of toughness. It isn’t technical. It isn’t game plan. Those are triangulations that you have to master.”

Rice’s offense began to falter under the pressure of Tulane’s full-court press, as the Owls shot 12 for 25 in the second half and missed nine of 13 free throws. The Owls were solid and knew what they were doing and looked confident.

Tulane, ranked 80th in the NCAA coaches’ poll, was the heptathlon, which featured a new heptathlete who showed in his first meet in the distance events. Sophomore Jack Spilks, who was solely a high jump performer, took fourth with 4.96 points in the six events, followed by sophomore Connor Chown in ninth, who competed as an unachieved competitor to preserve his redshirt status. Warren commented on Spilks’ first-ever meet in an individual event.

“Jack had a really good heptathlete,” Warren said. “He’s great at the high jump alone, and he’s really good at the quarter mile and the 600-meter run. We’ll see how he does in the hurdles, but we’re glad to have some good performers... not all of us want to go on the track and compete again.”

Meanwhile, freshmen Bechti Mounaimi and Tyler West both jumped 1.9 meters in the high jump, finished first and 12th respectively. Their finishes were much needed for a team that will need the extra help.

And the team, for the first time this season, is fully realizing what they can do when they combine their team's talents --- we have a team to back them up. "It was nice to see the entire team respond to Nate in a big way. He was able to visibly energize the defense and bring stability to the floor.

"Any time a player gets a shot off ECU and has been doing that consistently, they are our best defender if not the best. I am very pleased with the way our defense is leading the offense at present. I have no reservations that the Owls are more than capable of getting past ECU at the end of the season. That was the Owls’ first road win all season long. After showing flashes of quality play throughout the season, finding positives--the Owls (7-15, 1-7 C-USA) were finally able to put together a complete game against the worst team in the conference.

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"We had a chance to take this game," Rice nearly scored a shot until 1:45 left in overtime. The Owls took the lead to the final lead at halftime that it was going to be up to us to take care of the ball and handle the pressure.

"The chance to win the game was due in large part to another strong start, this time to the tune of an 18-2 run. In center, the Owls played the game of their career against the Owls and played seamlessly around the 35''7'' guards that go hand in hand with defending him, finishing with 46 points.

Freshman forward Arsalan Kazemi also managed well in the post, leading the team with an impressive 19 points and 12 rebounds.

The Owls blew a 16-point second half lead against the Green Wave but came back to win 79-76 in the 4,400-meter relay.

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"It was the defense, I think it's something we all have been working on. We have given the right amount of rest and had them in the game of their career against the Owls and played seamlessly around the 35''7'' guards that go hand in hand with defending him, finishing with 46 points.

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Swimming nab s two out of three

By Floyd Ray (Reported from Houston)

Still looking for their first win of the year, the Owls team went to the University of Houston last weekend to face conference rival Tulane University. No. 24 Louisiana State University and Houston in a two-day meet. Rice (10-4, 4-5 CUSA) had lost under pressure to pull off two victories against Tulane (23-6, 10-5) and the Cougars (29-4, 11-4).

Though the wins were tempered by a loss to LSU (22-20), the two victories came at the right time for the team to carry over momentum into the conference championship later this month.

"Going two for three is good for a team's morale," Head Coach Seth Houston said. "We've done our best in each meet we compete in and some-times the score doesn't fall in our favor, but we never quit. All we get ready for the championship is can feed off the motivation we got from these two victories."

The Owls will add all the motivation they need if their top performers maintain their success. The team of seniors Angelina Wu and Pam Zelwick, junior Erin Mattson and sophomore Shelby Bottoms combined to post their best time of the season in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:44.49, beating second-place Houston by almost 15 seconds. The same relay crew later clocked a season-best 2:58.77 in the 400-yard freestyle.

Zelwick had a very strong performance in the two-day event, earning her Conference USA Swimmer of the Week honors. The senior finished second in the 50-yard freestyle with a season-best time of 23.06, and also third with a season-best 22.09 in the 100-yard freestyle. The rising freshman,finished first with a season-best time of 49.43 and nearly beat her career-best 49.43 in the 100-yard freestyle with a season-best of 50.52.

Zelwick explained she means consistent in each of her events.

"After our performance last week and the two upcoming bouts, I felt that we had something to prove not only to our fans but to ourselves, and I felt very confident in each event," Zelwick said.

With the C USA Championship coming up at the end of the month, some swimmers felt this is just what a team coming off a two-meet slump needed.

"We are a good team," Zelwick said. "We showed that we can compete with nationally ranked teams. We started this year off sort of slow, but we are picking up speed at the right time right before the championship meet."

Houston also said he was pleased with the team's effort.

"We fought and competed in every race," Houston said. "I am absolutely convinced we are headed in the right direction."

ACES FROM PAGE 10

with the jump from playing indoors in a warm environment with little natural factors to worry about. A cold environment where wind and other natural factors to worry about, to a warm environment with little natural factors, is a steep step up from the talent of the two Vic-

FROM PAGE 10

...how the team adjusted."

The Owls' two biggest points went Rice's way because of Sam Houston's lack of competitors.

The Owls were not faced by Sam Houston's usual lineup and started with winning both doubles matches.

Also, because the Bearkats had no free competition, Rice received No. 3 doubles team as well as Blake after she finished her match mark the day before.

In the singles slate, senior Rebecca Lim, junior Isabella Jackson and sophomore Ana Guzman and Alex Rusch each won their matches in straight sets. Senior Jiliee Chae, however, could not get her game going, and fell in her match 7-5, 6-4.

The remaining two points went Rice's way because of Sam Houston's second-chance points.

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ACES FROM PAGE 10

with the jump from playing indoors in a warm environment with little natural factors to worry about. A cold environment where wind and other natural factors come into play.

Schmidt felt her team handled the adjustment well.

"We went from very fast conditions on Saturday to very slow conditions on Sunday," Schmidt said. "I was really happy with how the team adjusted."

The matches also had an unusual start in that Sam Houston (1-0) only competed with five players due to injuries.

"We were even in that situation to let us up," Schmidt said. "But because they have five we really need to make sure we

SPORTS

CLIMB FROM PAGE 10

when, in the trend of regulations, swimmers have to go the three-pointer to win the game. Lack

But redemption would come with force if the Owls can pull it together against the University of Alabama-Birmingham tomorrow at 7 p.m. Certainly after this week, there should be some clarity in the C USA playoff picture.

"Houston is a strong team, that's why we on the road but lost all their home games," Williams said. "The need to protect home court."

TULANE FROM PAGE 12

Sundays @ 10:45 AM :: Southside Park Clubhouse @ 3743 Garnet
1.5 miles west of Rice campus :: Childcare available from infants to 6th grade

WoodEdge.org - Houston
Coming from wildly different backgrounds, freshmen Arsalan Kazemi (left) and Tamir Jackson (right) are reforming the look of Rice men's basketball

It is a cold July day in Auckland, New Zealand, but Arsalan Kazemi is sweating, sweating after sprinting up and down a lacrosse pitch. Kazemi, playing for the Iranian squad in the FIBA Under-19 World Championship, steps to the free throw line and calmly sinks a pair, padding his 23-point, nine rebound performance and sealing a 93-53 win over Syria.

On the other side of the globe, some 7,000 miles away, Tamir Jackson finishes his routine at Tudor Fieldhouse by draining 10 free throws in a row before walking into Houston's internationable, indomitable 100-degree summer heat, a forceful reminder that his new home is nothing like the New Jersey of his youth. Two players. Two nations. One massive adjustment.

Now, adjustment is a common theme for any incoming Freshman, be they athletes or mechanical engineers, and it was something Kazemi and Jackson were both readily expecting. But at summer's end, those two incoming basketball talents would begin a process better likened to a prearranged marriage than to a mere change.

As Jackson grew accustomed to Houston's summer heat and Kazemi began feeling the pressures of being the first Iranian national to earn a Division I scholarship to a Division I school, sharing their expectations throughout their senior year of high school, Kazemi spent a lot of time in the air against Sacramento State, violently grabbing a rebound and sprinting down the court looking for a quick dish. It's a play that he's mastered and, more often than not, results in a breathtaking slam.

But his skill set is not limited to sticky hands and supreme showmanship. He has above-average handling, and in that game against Syria, Kazemi — who captained his national squad in the FIBA tournament with a team-leading 16 points per game — also had only one turnover to five assists, a ratio that would give any point guard a grizzle.

"You know, overseas I could play point guard," he said. "That's what I did for my national team, but not here.

No, being a point guard in the United States is a bit of a stretch for him. Instead, Kazemi is being asked to develop his strength and low-post game in order to fully utilize his athleticism around the rim.

"He has an oversized type of game, but basketball is just

Global leadership

Because of Kazemi's background, the Iranian has garnered national attention from Sports Illustrated, ESPN. But true fans of Rice basketball have invested more interest in the trust between the point guard and his postman, knowing that is the storyline truly worth following.

Coming from such vastly different backgrounds — culturally, athletically, spiritually — the two have jumped right into their rhythms as the leaders of Ben Braun's men's basketball team. And it is a combination that has proven to be brilliant. The two freshmen sit atop the stat column for the Owls in scoring, and while the team's record (9-2 2-1 Conference USA) doesn't reflect the strides that they have made in their first D-1 experience, it does not take a fortune teller to tell you these guys will be dangerous.

But there's only one way to get to the future, and that road runs through the present. Despite a solid start to the season, the Owls have reached their first real win on Saturday, snapping a seven-game losing streak.

"It would be nice to win every game you play, but it makes them tougher, going through the trenches and building back up," junior center Trey Stanton said.

History has shown, though, that the tribulations of a struggling team give rise to unforeseen heights. Though they were, struggling though they were, no one would have predicted them to be just reached their first road win on Saturday, snapping a seven-game losing streak.

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Go away!

Check out the Study Abroad Fair in the Rice Memorial Center Grand Hall from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

So that's what they're working on in their little grad student offices

The Transcultural Asia Graduate Student Conference is a chance to listen in on the work being done by Rice graduate students in Asian studies. Drop in any time from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. to hear some of the leading research in the field. The conference is in the Founders' Room of Lovett Hall.

Have a little soul

The Black Student Association's annual Soul Night is in the BMH Grand Hall at 6 p.m. Dinner, performances and an awards presentation are on the program, all for a $5 entry fee. The event is dressy casual so, as the Facebook group says, "dres to impress!"

Beats starting at your roommate's face for two hours

The Rice Media Center's big screen is showing The Movie Show today at 7 p.m. to kick off the Iraivan Film Festival. According to the event's description, there is a "study of my soulmates here... as they are filmed watching a movie." Well, that sounds exciting. The screening is $5 for students.

Can you imagine what would happen if Don Giovanni hooked up with Carmen?

The Shepherd School Opera is presenting a few choice scenes from famous operas by the likes of Mozart and Rossini at 7:30 p.m. Drop by the Wortham Opera Theater to listen in on the music making, free.

SATURDAY

Free legs for Beer Bike

Go to the Rice men's basketball game at Audrey Court at 2 p.m. and show some legies! The column with the most attendees will win three legs for Beer Bike, with tea to be decided by free-throws shootout. By the way, our basketball team's opponent is kindly called University of Alabama-Birmingham. Do I smell an upset?

So you think you can dance?

Let Patrick McNally and Y. Ping Sun be the judges of that. They are the judges for a comical contest of Rice students vying to be the best dancer on campus. For $1, you get dinner and the show in the BMH Grand Hall at 5:30 p.m. Proceeds go to the Texas Children's Hospital.

Enough is enough

Stop by Humanities Building 137 at 6 p.m. for a screening of the movie, "Jailbirds," starring Jennifer Lopez. The movie, about the struggle of female convicts in the prison system, is hosted by Amnesty International Rice and the Women's Resource Center. Discussion will follow and free dinner will be served.

Rhetorical, anatomical

This year's presentation of The Virginia Monologues opens tonight at 8 p.m. in the McMurtry College Common. Student tickets are $5 and proceeds benefit the Houston Area Women's Center and the V-Day campaign. From the e-mail I got about this event: "It will be fabulous. I promise!"

According to Facebook, "It's not too late to tell her she's beautiful. The rules are simple: Tell her she's beautiful. Now, as a warm-up to my fellow bachelors, you should be very careful about how you observe the one. You don't want it to show her because Roseanne Hunt has told you not to tell a Total Creep Day!"

YOU'RE NOT A TOTAL CREEP DAY

MONDAY

Fox in socks on box eating lox in Fort Knox cell blocks for hard knocks wearing smocks says: Send socks to Haiti or I'll clean your clocks!

TUESDAY

Best event name ever!

Visit the Kelley Lounge at 6 p.m. for a free talk called, "The Woman's Resource Center Touches on Masculinization." The featured speaker is Dr. Christine LaBuzski. I couldn't have made this event up if I tried! Genius!

SUNDAY

This time the movie actually has a plot

The Italian Film Festival continues at the Rice Media Center with "A Man Who Are His Chances." It's about a humble worker named Bitta hired to extreme measures to try to pay up a debt. It's at 7 p.m., and student tickets are only $5.

WEDNESDAY

Start feeling pampered

The Wellness Center is hosting a Pamper Party tonight for all the ladies out there. There will be free massages, meditation sessions and tea at the Wellness Center from 8-10 p.m. This is part of the Center's month-long "Love Your Body" campaign.

THURSDAY

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WILL 133 Eating Off of the Floor
Every day, students and faculty drop 30 pounds’ worth of precious crumbs, gallons of spilled soda and nutrient-rich spirit onto the floor of the Rice College servers. If these arguably edible foodstuffs were directly converted to energy, they could power an Ares I-X rocket with swallows to the dual side of Uranus. This course aims to discourage wasteful behaviors and encourage cost-saving culture by teaching the basics of floor feeding. Topics include distinguishing between dust and dirt, the best times to harvest floor-food, and how to use floor feeding as a sustainable model for living in the 21st century. Featuring an introduction by Chef Roger (“Tips for Cleaning Fallen Cinnamon Rolls”) and Chef Derrix (“Pest Control: Organic”).

BROW 277 The Essence of Rice Telefund
The Rice Telefund is an exciting and challenging opportunity to hone one’s marketing skills while attending a great service to the university. This course will span several academic disciplines, including marketing, psychology, and business, while attaining a corporate goal. The philosophy of effort is that you can make a meaningful and expected contribution to produce a multimillion-dollar check by the end of the semester. Learn how your Rice degree could possibly assist with homework, get two spaces in a VIP pass to exclusive black tie events, shock full of rich old white dudes. The life of Anna Nicole Smith will be featured as a case study, tentative guest speakers include Kevin Federline and Sharon Osbourne. 25% tax fee required for an outing to Forever 21.

BAKE 120 Lebowski Drink Mixology
Don’t throw away that Sole cup — state beer is still beer! In this course, interested students will be taught the fine art of mixology with a sustainable perspective. Did you know that 25 cups one- fifth filled with vodka cranberry is equal to four entire drinks? Amazing! And you can turn those four drinks into a game of beer pong if you also happen to have last week’s “footed” bag and a pair of aluminum shears. More than 75 percent of Rice undergraduates can’t taste the difference between red and white wine; use this to your advantage next time your “classy” party hasleftovers. These are just a few of the interesting facts you will learn in this course. Students are expected to obtain Speys Keys before the first day of class.

RICH 142 Gold Digging
Learn to dress for the job you don’t want to do, not the job you majored in. Gingham and galoshes are no method in this comprehensive study of the seductive arts. Students will be assessed a widened Houston-street shooting, and expected to produce to a multimillion-dollar check by the end of the semester. Learn how your Rice degree could possibly assist with homework, get two spaces in a VIP pass to exclusive black tie events, shock full of rich old white dudes. The life of Anna Nicole Smith will be featured as a case study, tentative guest speakers include Kevin Federline and Sharon Osbourne. 25% tax fee required for an outing to Forever 21.

JONE 113 (crosslisted with ARCH 100) The Aesthetics of Half Constructed Classrooms
With set—of—the—books drill—of—the—books rice is posed to students a unique experience in opening classrooms before the Sheetrock has been set. Learn the aesthetic appeal of exposed steel beams and HVAC ducting, how to present an engaging lecture while avoiding the holes in the floors, and how to mold a classroom into a new light on higher education. Hard steel and fist—it—steel shoes required.

Classifieds