TRENDS TANKS and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) at the University of Pennsylvania recently ranked the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy as one of the top think tanks in the world. In its latest “Global Go To Think Tanks” annual report, the TTCSP ranked the Baker Institute 36th among university-affiliated think tanks in the world and 27th among all U.S. think tanks.

The annual rankings are an improvement for the think tank; last year, the TTCSP ranked the Baker Institute 71st in the U.S. and 51st among all U.S. University-affiliated think tanks.

The Baker Institute world ranking report also ranked the Baker Institute 16th among the top 20 U.S.-affiliated think tanks. Last year, the TTCSP ranked the Baker Institute 37th in the U.S. and 27th among all U.S. University-affiliated think tanks.

According to McLendon, one of the factors that led to the Baker Institute’s success was its ability to attract and retain high-quality scholars and staff. "We are fortunate to have a team of experts in a wide range of fields," he said. "This allows us to bring diverse perspectives to our work and to contribute to important policy debates."
the Rice (Thresher)

General election deserves good turnout

There are few times when we as students have a chance to really voice our opinions, and voting in the Student Association elections is one of the easiest opportunities to contribute (see insert, page 9).

While the Thresher condemned the student body two years ago when it set an record turnout in the general election with 1,616 votes, the number of voting students has declined dramatically since the SA switched to an online voting system in 1996, with a mere 992 students voting in last year's election. Whether this is the fault of the elections committee, heightened student apathy or technological barriers is not for us to say; rather, we encourage students to match — nay, demolish — the record set in the 2009 elections.

With two highly qualified individuals running for president this year, it will certainly be tough to pick which candidate to vote for. And don't forget, it isn't just candidates you will be voting for in the elections: The Honor Council has several referenda to their constitution up for vote which require a three-quarter majority for approval per the SA by-laws. Most of those changes are positive measures by the Honor Council to address clarifications and updates in the language. Additionally, the Honor Council is asking for approval to involve more student representatives to address increases in the council's workload. The Thresher fully recognizes and the need for the proposed changes in wording and addition of representatives and supports all four of the Honor Council referenda. In the past, the Honor Council has come close to passing other referenda, but has typically come up short. Even most blanket taxes in recent years, which require only 66 percent of student votes to pass, fell below the three-quarter mark.

And so we implore you, the student, to go out and vote next week, and encourage your friends to cast their ballots as well. Take the few minutes from your day to read up on candidates to visit our campus. Each year, the institute attracts a plethora of famous speakers to campus, including Nobel laureates, ambassadors and a variety of other leaders. If not for the institute, how many students would have had the chance to see subscribers? •

Baker Institute essential to campus

Congratulations are in order for the Baker Institute's most recent accolades (see story, page 1).

The institute, which made the top 20 global university think-tanks and top 30 national think-tanks in a recent ranking by the University of Pennsylvania, has made quite a name for itself in just under two decades of existence. For starters, the nonpartisan public policy think tank brings together faculty that represent a diverse cross-section of departments and the institute's ability to procure such experienced fellows has profound impacts on Rice's overall visibility. In particular, Director Edward Djerejian should be recognized for his significant dedication to the institute, and we have no doubt it would not be the same without his many contributions.

The effects of the institute can be seen across campus and, on more than a few occasions, beyond the hedges. Take, for example, the numerous connections that Rice students to the American University of Cairo and brought AUC students to visit our campus. Each year, the institute attracts a "pluribus of famous speakers to campus, including Nobel laureates, ambassadors and a variety of other leaders. If not for the institute, how many students would have had the chance to interact with these speakers in person?"

Aside from having a wealth of guest speakers on campus, the institute also provides opportunities that students from all backgrounds would be remiss not to take advantage of, such as research and forums for discussion. The Baker Institute Student Forum also provides a great resource for students interested in public policy at any level. We at the Thresher are proud of the institute's many accomplishments and look forward to more achievements in the years to come.

Coffeehouse renovation long overdue

The Thresher was pleased to hear that Coffeehouse had finally been granted a larger space on campus (see story, page 1). We are excited that the beloved student-run institution, which has certainly outgrown its storage-closet-turned-coffee-shop in the student center, will have the opportunity to expand its services in a renovated section of the Kelley Lounge as early as the beginning of next semester.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I was pleased to read the extensive coverage of RESET projects in the Jan. 14 edition of the Rice Thresher ("RESET Projects Innovative"). After just one semester, RESET is already a great success, investing $1,600 from the student fee to fund more than $30,000 in conservation projects thanks to matching funds from the Facilities, Engineering and Planning Energy Steering Committee (correctly attributed to Housing & Living in the article). As illustrated in the article, this is a shining example of student, faculty, and staff collaboration. Behind the scenes, the FEAP Energy Steering Committee is working on more than $50,000 in facing projects, including a new pump in the central plant, and better controls in multiple buildings to help reduce over-cooling. In addition, H&IT is implementing several conservation projects as well, from window tinting at Wiess College to high-performance, low-flow showerheads to motion sensing. In concert, these efforts are creating a campus-wide conservation culture.

Richard Johnson
Director of Sustainability

Alumni and former Rice graduate students (see insert, page 2) agree with the editor regarding the Graduate Student Association as published in the Jan. 15 issue of the Thresher ("GSA not a residential college"). Of course the GSA, as the name implies, is nothing similar to a Rice undergraduate residential college. It makes sense that the more than 2,000 graduate students should compete in intramurals with their peers and leave the undergraduates to have their own undergraduate experience. Surely the graduate students can come up with their own extracurricular activities or perhaps focus more on their graduate studies or some volunteer activities.

Olivia Rane '86

Last week's online poll results:

What sort of group should KTRU book for this year's Outdoor Show?

• Get some really obscure bands!

29% 17%

• It would be nice if they got someone most of the student body has heard of.

15% 39%

• Lady Gaga is the only acceptable option.

Let Connor Hayes decide.

This week's poll: What renovation would you like to see in the student center?

Cast your vote online at www.ricethresher.org
Baker Institute Student Forum debate: American intervention in Africa

Humanitarian intervention needed

Eric Harrison

Eric Harrison is a Rice College alumna.

This year, the Texas legislature will decide whether to regulate a lucrative business - the breeding and selling of cats and dogs. A group of legislators have introduced a bill that would impose a license on pet breeders and mandate that breeders meet certain health and living conditions for their animals.

Kenna Fowler

Puppy mills are large-scale breeding facilities that produce and sell puppies. As opposed to reputable breeders, puppy mills have low standards of living for their breeding stock. It is not uncommon for animals to remain in their cages for extended periods of time - weeks, months and sometimes years. Animals being bred are often sick, malnourished and overcrowded. Simple conditions such as these can lead to stress and disease.

Puppy mills tend to cause harm to animals even after they have left. Many enter their new homes with an onslaught of illnesses, including diarrhea to their respiratory systems. While good breeders pair dogs for breeding based on genetic considerations, puppy mills breed their animals indiscriminately, often leading in inbreeding and a variety of diseases, which, in turn, leads to a host of potential, costly problems for the puppy's new owners.

Texas currently has an estimated 4,000 puppy mills, although law enforcement officials believe that number is continuing to increase. Unfortunately, they can do little to regulate the puppy mills because, as the Better Business Bureau reports, "Without legislation requiring more inspection, the responsibility for maintaining humane conditions lies with breeders." Along with the inadequate conditions, the large number of puppies produced in the mills poses a problem because, in Texas, there are more animals than owners willing to take them.

The proposed legislation would regulate operations with 10 or more breeding females. Such businesses would be subject to inspection by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. The standards used by inspectors are already contained in the Federal Animal Welfare Act, a law with guidelines on the treatment and living conditions of animals used for commercial purposes. While the act currently applies to fewer animals than those that are truly suffering, few are ever inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture because of cost. The bill before the Texas legislature would mandate inspection of all puppy mills by the USDA, which currently only inspects a small percentage of those that sell puppies.

Anne Kuntz ('11),
Rachél Gilbert ('11).

Got somethin' on your mind?

Write a column for the Rice Thresher.

e-mail thresher-ops@rice.edu for details.
Three colleges have picked new masters, who will start their five-year term in the 2011-2012 school year. Will Rice College chose Associate Professor of Sociology Bridget Gorman and Mike Reed; Wiess College chose Associate Professor of History Alexander Byrd and Jeanette Byrd; Jones College chose Associate Professor of Linguistics Michel Achard and Melanie Achard. Each week we will feature the new masters of an individual college.

ALEXANDER BYRD
HISTORY
SID '90; STARTED WORKING AT RICE IN 1998
MY WIFE AND I WERE RAs AT BAKER.
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
OFFERED A PRE-DOC/POST-DOC POSITION. STAYED WHEN DISSERTATION WAS FINISHED BECAUSE IT WAS A GOOD JOB.
ANDERSON HALL
RED BEANS AND RICE WITH SAUSAGE AND JALAPENO CORNBREAD FROM TREEBEARDS DOWNTOWN IN MARKET SQUARE.
I DIG W. E. B. DU BOIS. I DIG THE FOLKS THAT CAME OUT OF THE RECONSTRUCTION.
THAT IS RANDOM. THAT ASSIGNMENTS ARE RANDOM.
GOOD LISTENING SKILLS, GOOD HUMOR.
"I USED TO HAVE THOSE OWLS THAT WERE KEPT IN THE LOVETT QUAD BUT I GUESS IT'S BEST WE DON'T KEEP LIVE OWLS."

JEANETTE BYRD
MARRIED TO DR. BYRD.
SINCE 1998
WE WERE RAs AT BAKER IN 2000.
THE CULTURAL VARIETY SHOWS.
BARBARA AND DAVID GIBBS RECREATION AND WELLNESS CENTER
VEGETABLE FRIED RICE.
NELSON MANDELA.
IT'S SOMETHING I DIDN'T GET TO EXPERIENCE IN COLLEGE: ONCE YOU GET ASSIGNED YOU GET TO STAY THERE AND BUILD A FAMILY THERE.
BE A GREAT LISTENER. MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON THE SITUATION.
"I LIKE THE RICE OWL. THAT'S AT THE FOOTBALL GAMES IS SAMMY."

RUPD POLICE BLOTTER
The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Jan. 25-Feb. 2.

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES
McMurtry College Jan. 25
Will Rice College Jan. 29
Brown College Jan. 30

ACADEMIC BUILDINGS
Abercrombie Lab Jan. 27
Fondren Library Jan. 30

PARKING LOTS
West Lot Jan. 26
North Colleges Lot Jan. 31

Alcohol violations
Alcohol violations
Theft
Criminal mischief
Theft
Burglary of a motor vehicle

TACOSAGO-GO
“Best Breakfast Taco!”
Houston Press, 2006-2009

“Best Taco!” (Taco Verde)
Houston Press, Editor's Pick

“Taco You Must Eat Before You Die!”
Texas Monthly (Lamb Barbacoa)
3704 Main Street near the HCC/Ensemble Light Rail Stop
tacosago.com | (713) 807.TACO (8226)

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www.chickennkitchenhouston.com
YOUR HEALTHY ADDICTION!
Every day after 4pm $2 off any purchase of $6 or more
when you show your Rice University ID
"Cannot be combined with weather alert offer"

CK RICE VILLAGE
1234 Rice Blvd
Tel: 713-523-2323

CK DOWNTOWN
McKinney Place Tunnel
9030 Main St Suite 1,040A
Tel: 713-752-3323
Honor Council seeks update
Referendums to expand council, clarify constitution

BY ROYCELYN WRIGHT
THE CIRCLE STAFF

The Honor Council is proposing four separate referendums in order to clarify both its language and procedures and enlarge the council's size. The referendums, which began in Spring 2010, are set to culminate in a student referendum on Feb. 14.

The council is seeking to increase its membership by adding an additional junior rep, two new student representatives from between four and six graduate students. Underwood said that this past summer, there were enough Honor Council members to handle cases, but there were long hours, sometimes sitting on multiple panels in one week. Additionally, some hearings had to be postponed because of a lack of available Honor Council members.

"The wording changes are very important to get passed because, especially in the last few years, we've had a lot of problems with procedural unfairness," Baker-Jennings said. "When we hold a hearing, we need to make sure it is fair."

The first referendum will update the language and procedures in this first referendum. Baker-Jennings, a Jones College senior, said. "It will update the language, remove any of the procedures or rules in this first referendum, which is very unfortunate for the accused student," Baker-Jennings said. "The wording changes are very important to get passed because, especially in the last few years, we've had a lot of problems with procedural unfairness."

The second referendum proposes to expand the council from 30 to 37 members. The third referendum clarifies procedures for handling Honor Council cases during the summer session. The fourth and final referendum relates to the SA's election procedures for the handling of Honor Council cases during the summer.

Underwood stressed that students' rights are being expanded. "The referendum includes a timetable wherein the accused student is informed 24 hours before the hearing and thus could not adequately prepare a case, then the appeal should be upheld. However, if a student recovers a letter from Judicial Programs a day late, Underwood said this would not constitute a significant procedural error and would therefore not be grounds to appeal." According to Underwood, the presiding chair will discuss them with the student. "It's very important that the student understand what they are saying."

The new referendums would be referred to the Student Association on Jan. 31. The council is made up of three seniors, three juniors, three sophomores, two freshmen, two graduate students, and between four and graduate students. Due to the inexperience of the council, Baker-Jennings said some Honor Council members had to work very long hours, sometimes sitting on multiple panels in one week. Additionally, some hearings had to be postponed because of a lack of available Honor Council members.

"The wording changes are very important to get passed because, especially in the last few years, we've had a lot of problems with procedural unfairness."

For instance, Underwood said if a student was uninterested in his or her right to view the evidence before the hearing and thus could not adequately prepare a case, then the appeal should be upheld. Underwood said this would not constitute a significant procedural error and would therefore not be grounds to appeal. "The wording changes are very important to get passed because, especially in the last few years, we've had a lot of problems with procedural unfairness."

The referendum proposes to change "procedural error" to "demonstration of significant procedural unfairness that influenced the outcome of the case." According to Underwood, all four of the referendums have been reviewed and approved by Judicial Programs and the General Council's office.

"They're saying what's going on is good and we are saying what we want to," Underwood said. "Most of what we're doing is a result of student requests to improve the system."

"We're talking a lot about this and gotten a lot of input from people about it," Baker-Jennings said. "We think they're very helpful to the student body and the Rice community."

The Student Association is urging students to take the time to read and consider the referendums before voting. They've said our wording is good and we are saying what we want to," Underwood said. "Most of what we're doing is a result of student requests to improve the system."

"We're talking a lot about this and gotten a lot of input from people about it," Baker-Jennings said. "We think they're very helpful to the student body and the Rice community."

The SA will next meet at 9 p.m. in the Farnsworth Pavilion on Feb. 7.
McMurtry crest design draws on symbolism, college culture

BY TIMA OU  THRESHMER, STAFF

McMurtry College's crest committee unveiled its final crest design Tuesday during the college's town hall meeting. The crest design, which prominently features a Scottish and Celtic theme, includes symbols such as swords, a conch shell and a "lion rampant." "I love how they've incorporated not only the history of the McMurtry family but also the history of our college so far." — Hannah Thalenberg, McMurtry '12

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THE LION RAMPANT'
represents leadership, nobility and ferocity.

CIRCULAR BELT
used in Scottish crests to signify clanship.

CONCH SHELL
from tradition of blowing a conch shell as matriculating Murtles walk through Sallyport.

SWORDS
handles have Celtic knotwork.

SALTIRE ('X' ON SHIELD)
from flag of Scotland; also the Roman numeral 10.
Ambassador speaks on Turkey
By RUCY CUI
The Rice Thresher
On Friday night, the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy hosted a panel discussion titled "Thinking Globally: Turkey's Importance as a mediator in the Middle East and a partner with Western powers." The event was moderated by Ambassador Namik Tan, ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the United States, who emphasized Turkey's importance as a mediator in the Middle East and a partner with Western powers.

"Turkey is not going anywhere," Tan said. "It is — and will long be — a reliable bridge that binds the civilizations and cultures of the East and West as well as the North and South."

Tan addressed criticism regarding Turkey's loyalty to the West, citing skepticism and stereotyping as common sources for false perceptions. According to Tan, the same is probably true for how the U.S. is viewed in Turkey, which is unfortunately, he said. "Interventions from both sides are vulnerable to misinterpretations."

"Intentions from both sides are long to be seen as politically motivated," Tan addressed regarding the invasion of Iraq, suggesting that successful results and responses to this kind of tactic are uncommon. "Democracy is not instant coffee - we have a lot of work to do," Tan said. "We are trying to inspire [central Asia], to set an example for them."

Prior to this appointment, Tan also worked as an ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Israel from 2007 to 2009. He holds a law degree from Ankara University, and he first joined the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1989. Brown College freshman Elizabeth Poko said she found this exchange to political relations to be "Turkey very informational."

"I think the embassy is a great way to engage in our community, yet you don't know much about it in the states," said Tan.

The Student Center Renovation Committee, formed by the Student Associations in spring 2010, has been meeting to discuss how the Renovation can be reconceived in the next few years, what the obstacles will be and how much it will cost. Over the past semester, the committee has conducted research on the two renovation plans drawn out in 2004 and 2008 and conducted an online survey of the Rice community's opinions on the renovation, the SCRC Chair Carl Nelson said.

The SA-collected raw data from the survey on Monday, Nelson said. "Three groups of people participated in the survey, but the compiled results will not be out for a few weeks. The majority of the participants were undergraduates, graduate and professional students and a little more than 200 staff, as well as a small number of faculty also participated."

The survey result will be an integral part of any renovations that occur.

"We imagine the architects that design a new student center will take the results of our survey into account," Nelson said.

Even though the SCRC may put more weight on the student body's opinion, Nelson said the committee will try to meet everyone's needs.

Judging by the $17 million renovation estimate for Alum's planned renovations, SCRC anticipates that the renovating cost for the next few years will be around $20 million, Nelson said. SCRC will talk to the Alum Liquidation Funds Appropriations Committee, which is in charge of gathering student opinion on how money from the Alum sale should be spent, about the possibility of getting some of the money from the Alum sale for renovation.

SCRC also plans to eventually draw a floor plan for how Renovation will look after the renovations are complete.

Visser Wakens competition for the 2011 En Pariash Fellowship. The winner of the Parish Fellowship will receive support of approximately 2 months travel during the summer of 2011. The purpose of the fellowship is to enhance the undergraduate education of the Fellow with a self-directed experience via individual travel. All full-time returning undergraduates at Rice are eligible to apply. For further information, call the Wakens Coordinator, Nancy Letness at 713-348-5743, or see the web page at www.ruf.rice.edu//parish.

The deadline for application is Friday, February 11, 2011, at 5:00 PM.
A world without Islam
Fuller: No Islam, similar East-West relations

BY SETH BROWN
THREESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

Fourteen hundred years ago, the prophet Muhammad began receiving revelations from God that led to the creation and subsequent rise of Islam in the Middle East. But what if Islam had never come to be? Author Graham Fuller, the former vice chair of the National Intelligence Council and a former CIA Station Chief in Kabul, argued that the relationship between the West and the Middle East might be remarkably similar to how it is today.

Fuller, who spoke Jan. 27 at the James A. Baker Institute for Public Policy, said that even before Christianity, there were conflicts between the East and West — such as the wars between the Greeks and Persians — and the relationship between the Western Church in Rome and the Eastern Church in Constantinople deteriorated over time. When the two finally split, Fuller said that, despite the official religious explanation, the real causes of the split were similar to those he said have led to the current conflicts between East and West — not religion, but factors like politics, economics, power, geographies, imperialism, colonialism and intervention into the Muslim world.

"Most of the Middle East had remained Christian, would they have welcomed imperialism?" Fuller asked. "Would they welcome constant warfare and invasion?"

Fuller, who published the book A World Without Islam in August, said the title was deliberately provocative but was not meant to suggest that a world without Islam would be a better place.

"The book is really meant to shake up traditional thinking about the conflict between the East and the West," Fuller said. "You can explain huge amounts of what is going on today even taking out this Islamic factor."

Fuller said that states often try to find higher justifications for their actions in religion, but noted that religion is not the only possible source of such justifications. "It's absurd to suggest that religion is not the only possible source of such justifications," Fuller said. "History did not begin with 9/11."

Jones College Freshman Clinton Willbanks said he thought Fuller's point was representative of today's complex global society.

"It's a different perspective than what you normally hear in the news," Willbanks said.

Economics graduate student Emre Coskun said he thought Fuller's analysis was both objective and realistic. "I wish the U.S. politicians would hear what he said and take the necessary precautions," Coskun said.

PAPER

PRODUCTION

Rice Student Film Contest

You could go viral.

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SA President

Georgiia Lagoudas

This has been a pivotal year for the Student Association, and as the current Secretary, I am proud to say that the SA has truly made its mark. I have served for three years as New Student Representative, Senator, and Secretary, and I have worked with the SA to expand the open communication between students and the Rice community.

As we approach Rice’s Centennial and look back on the groundwork laid by students before us, we have the opportunity to build the foundation upon which our next one hundred years will stand. Over the past year the SA has worked to increase student input and create a more approachable image. In recent years we have seen increases in the size of the university and diversity within our student body.

As your future SA Internal Vice President, I will use this experience to encourage involvement and leadership among Rice students by reaching out and letting students know all of their options. The responsibilities of the EVP include assisting the SA president, supervising the Academic, Environmental, Student Life, and Sports & Health committees of the SA, and directing the New Student Representatives Program.

Once elected, I will make these four committees more visible to all students to encourage participation, as well as coordinate and facilitate the program to make them more effective and productive. I will help these committees to work closely with undergraduate programs, as well as staff and administration, in order to imagine and produce projects that will truly benefit all of Rice’s communities.

Over the past year and a half, I have worked closely with students and staff in completing several projects, including a complex list of Lighthouse designations and several intern Leveraging initiatives between various colleges. I am in the process of working with Amherst College to form a stronger relationship between undergraduates and alumni.

As EVP, I will continue these projects, as well as tackling new ones that students deem necessary. I look forward to working with Rice students to make Rice University a more cohesive and influential place than it already is.

Maria Picket

There are three things I would like to accomplish in these few words: tell you a little about myself, let you know why I am running for Student Association EVP, and summarize what my vision is for my future. I am a sophomore at Brown majoring in Anthropology and Biology.

As a freshman I was a SA New Student Representative and am now Brown’s SA Senator. I am also a Rice Health Advisor and work closely with the Wellness Center on health initiatives and programs to keep the Rice community healthy.

I was born and raised in Florida, and have traveled throughout the world. I enjoy going to the beach, playing sand volleyball, and kicking butt at Marlo Katt and Super Smash Bros. (grow up in the middle of two brothers). I have always loved being involved with student government and have found that is through the SA that I can contribute most to the undergraduate community and to my fellow students and friends at campus. This is the main reason I want to continue working through this organization as your next EVP.

If there is one thing I learned from being part of the SA for two years, it is that there are two things that make it strong: the voices of undergraduates like yourself, and the internal structure and function of committees, leaders, and organizations that work together to enhance the value of the undergraduate experience.

The SA has so much potential, and I want to help it reach that by building it up from within. With a strong internal foundation, we will be able to reach to the student population and keep our promise of making your best interests known and your ideas a possibility.

Isabella Adamiak

AS DIFFERENT AS WE OWLS may be, we all want to have the best Rice experience possible.

As External Vice President, I will improve:

1. Transparency of campus issues
2. Communication
3. student amenities

My priority is to communicate the student perspective. I will increase student input in University Standing Committees, giving students more say in issues ranging from athletics to curriculum. This involvement can also be used to address concerns such as the number of fitness classes offered.

In addition to improving Families’ Weekend, I would like to go beyond the Hedges. As a Recreation Center Fitness Coordinator, I organized the Flying Owls Race and secured local sponsorships which I will utilize in order to host more community events on the Hedges. I will explore the feasibility of expanding the weekend shuttle to include venues such as the Rice Aquatics Center and Gallery.

I will work to ensure that students have greater access to career and internship networking through stronger alumni relations. I will invite alumni leaders to discuss different pathways to success, which would provide valuable contacts and opportunities for students.

As Academics Committee Co-Chair, I have facilitated minor proposals, pre-law and business programs modifications, webmail-Gmail conversion, and the transfer credit database. In these roles, I have gained invaluable experience working with external organizations and administrators, which is pivotal to the role of EVP.

If elected, I promise to put YOUR ideas into action to ensure the best possible experience for all Owls.
SA Treasurer

Hello Rice! My name is Yoonjin Min and I’m running for the position of SA Treasurer.

Why Rice? My name is Yoonjin Min and I am lobbying for your vote for the position of SA Treasurer. As many of you may know, Rice has its own blizzard of student groups and I strongly believe that one of the NSR’s this year and want to continue my involvement with the University of Maryland student group. I’ve been involved with Maryland state student.

RPC President

Hey Rice! My name is Grace Ge and I am bidding for your vote for the position of RPC President.

Howdy Rice! My name is Grace Ge and I am bidding for your vote for the position of RPC President. I have been involved with RPC over the past year. With help from last year’s blanket tax in creating, we have seen a significant rise in attendance at our events. We look forward to sponsoring even bigger and better events to come.

RSA Secretary

Hey Rice! My name is Yoonjin Min and I’m running for the position of SA Secretary.

Hello STUDENTS. LOOK AT me! I am Ellen Liu, and I would like you to join the team – not just my temporary campaign team but OUR permanent SA team. As a current New Student Representative and candidate for SA Treasurer, I believe that elected leaders exist for the service of our student body. I hope to help ensure that Rice students are represented and heard.

RSVP Chair

As current RSVP Chair, I have spent the past year endeavoring to improve participation in volunteer projects and visibility of the club both on and off campus. I have insti tuted many other changes, making the club more interactive and group-oriented, rather than just a forum for disseminating information.

RSVP Internal Vice Chair

If you are reading this now and asking, “What is RSVP?”, you are definitely not alone. The fact that so many students are unaware of the Rice Student Volunteer Program’s existence is what I, as Internal Vice-Chair, want to change. Essentially, this change has to start from the college representative, whose major responsibility is to spread word about upcoming volunteer opportunities and events.

RSVP External Vice Chair

As External Vice-Chair, I would oversee the five RSVP committees (Children’s, Education, Environmental, Health, and Hunger and Homelessness). My goal is to facilitate the planning of a variety of volunteer projects and awareness activities that all Rice students (no matter how busy their schedule is) can participate in.

Money talks and with me as your treasurer, money will be your voice. So, vote for me, Ellen Liu, for SA Treasurer, and let your voice be heard!
RSVP Treasurer

My name is Kenna Fowler and I'm a junior at Brown College. I have been serving as your RSVP Treasurer for the last two years, and I recently completed my term as a Student Volunteer Program (SVP) representative.

I believe in the role of the RSVP treasurer, and it's for this position that I am running. My experience has taught me the importance of maintaining the RSVP bulletin board in the Student Center. I am a strong believer in the value of our honor code. Students are uniquely qualified to enforce the code that protects the honor code. As a two-year member of the Honor Council, I am experienced in the process from investigation to hearing, and can speak to the intricacies and details of an accusation.

I have shown every case I have been a part of the patience and careful thought involved. The voicing of opinions on both sides, whether or not you participate in Honor Council, is filled with students so that every person deserves a fair hearing. Every accused student is to have a fair hearing. The Honor Code is an integral part in the way our student community operates. As much as I would like to continue to serve the student body as a representative on the Council, I realized that it is an integral part in the way our student community operates. As such, I would like to continue to serve the student body as a representative on the Council.

I play a crucial part in fulfilling my last two and a half years. I am an experienced council member, and everybody on campus is bound to see the need for an Honor Council representative. I take my role on the Honor Council with great importance and humbly ask that you vote for me so that I may continue your service in this capacity.

Sincerely,

Matthew Nanes

RSVP Secretary

There are three essential ingredients in the recipe for a successful Rice Volunteer Program (RSVP): the vision, the values, and the leadership. The vision of the RSVP secretary is to provide me with an opportunity to continue to represent the student body on the honor council.

One of the most important parts of the Honor Council is to see that the accused students are provided information regarding the nature of the accusation as early as possible. The voicing of opinions on both sides, whether or not you participate in Honor Council, is filled with students so that every person deserves a fair hearing. Every accused student is to have a fair hearing. The Honor Code is an integral part in the way our student community operates. As such, I would like to continue to serve the student body as a representative on the Council.

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Sincerely,

Kenna Fowler

Honor Council Sophomore Representative

My name is Abigail Endler, and I am running for the position of Honor Council Sophomore Class Representative. This fall I was chosen by the Honor Council to serve in one of two Honor Council Sophomore Class Representatives. It was an extremely rewarding experience, and I would love the opportunity to serve as a Sophomore Class Representative in the 2011-2012 year. Thank you for your support!

As a result, I have no problems maintaining an independent opinion, as I value gossip less than the truth. I believe the Honor Code embodies that which is best about our University. I am a logical person but I am also very sympathetic. I am quiet but also very vocal when the situation calls for it and I am not afraid to stand up for what I believe in.

As my year of experience as an Honor Council member I've noticed that our Honor Code isn't as well understood as it should be considering it is the fundamental core of education. It is located as one of your Sophomore Class Representatives, I plan on helping the Honor Council share its knowledge of the Honor Code to all students so that we can truly appreciate its freedom without harboring distrust of the system. Thanks a bunch!

Sincerely,

Abby Endler

Honor Council Junior Representative

Hello! My name is Abby Edler and I am running for the position of Honor Council Sophomore Class Representative. This fall I was chosen by the Honor Council to serve in one of two Honor Council Sophomore Class Representatives. It was an extremely rewarding experience, and I would love the opportunity to serve as a Sophomore Class Representative in the 2011-2012 year. Thank you for your support!

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Sincerely,

Abby Endler

Honor Council Senior Representative

My name is Matthew Nanes. I'm from Baker, and I would like to be one of the senior class honor council reps. I served as the Baker honor council rep in 2009 so I have plenty of experience.

I am a strong believer in the value of our honor code. Students are uniquely qualified to enforce the honor code because we can see potential violations from the perspective of the accused in ways that professors and administrators cannot. That said, I believe that as a council, we need to ensure our comprehension of the duties and our policies. Furthermore, we must ensure that accused students are treated appropriately.

Given that students often feel that accused students are eventually "not in violation," it is only fair that the accused students be provided information regarding the nature of the accusation as early as possible. In the process as possible in the interest of fairness, due process, and peace of mind. I hope you will provide me with an opportunity to continue to represent the student body on the honor council.

Serving as an Honor Council representative since my freshman year, I have really grown to appreciate the many roles that the Honor Board plays in the Rice Community. The Honor System allows us the freedom, responsibility, and sense of accountability that we expect from our peers, professors, and all those around us. I believe this is something we all find valuable, and if elected as Senior Class Representative for the Honor Council, I will continue to fairly uphold the values of the Honor System and actively work to better represent you on the Honor Council.
To all of you who know me, hello again, and to others who haven't met me yet, my name is Tawfik Jarjour, a junior at McMurtry College, and I would be honored to be your next University Council Rep (UCR). The UCR and the Student Association (SA) President meet with the University Council to provide Rice leadership with students' perspective on campus life and important student-related issues. You may wonder what would make me qualified to be your next UCR? I have been involved in numerous organizations on Rice campus and have held leadership positions, including Vice-President then President of Rice Habitat for Humanity, a scholarship and Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), ASRO, so you get the picture. If given the opportunity to become your next UCR, I would do my best to collect student input and work with the administration to give students a larger role in making decisions for important projects and in key areas. I plan on being a different college to seek students' input and listen carefully to your concerns. Last year's UCR, Scott, has encouraged me to run for this position. I look forward to representing you next year!

Dear Rice Community,

I could take this time to tell you about my past year as both Sammy the Owl and a cheerleader, but you didn't elect me to either of those positions, so I want to tell you now why you should select me to be your Sammy. Let me tell you about last year, when I was just like you: painting myself for every home football game, embarrassing my freshman football player during sideline training and winning an old football jersey; screaming my head off at volleyball and basketball games, cheering with y'all in the stand and on the hill during baseball season, and putting my time, my brain cells, and whatever painting myself sacrificed into supporting Rice athletics. I'm pretty committed to being a Sammy. I painted myself black about once a week.

As Station Manager, I will work to get breaking stories online faster and increase content on all broadcast avenues. We will work with students to produce shows as in the past, but we will also explore alternative content sources such as Geo-News Common films and works from Rice's own Film Department.

I've lost count of how many students have asked me in response, "Wait, RTV5? What's that?" The very fact that so many students asked me is evidence of our existence. It tells volumes about the current state of Rice culture. The very fact that so many newer students have mentioned ASRO, perhaps about some event we're filming or about Talk of the Nations, only to hear something we're filming or about something we're helping with. The Thresher is a newspaper for students, by students, and as such, should provide a vehicle for the voice of the students.

Thank you,

Jonathan Hammann

Jonathan Hammann

Kevin Bush

James Morgensen

Josh Rutenberg

Ryan Rightmer

Lauren Thels

Angela Wu

Director

U Court Junior Class Rep.

U Court Senior Class Rep.

Three

Friday, February 4, 2011

THE RICE THRESHER

Instantly crucial for reaching students and important student-related issues. You may wonder what would make me qualified to be your next UCR? I have been involved in numerous organizations on Rice campus and have held leadership positions, including Vice-President then President of Rice Habitat for Humanity, a scholarship and Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), ASRO, so you get the picture. If given the opportunity to become your next UCR, I would do my best to collect student input and work with the administration to give students a larger role in making decisions for important projects and in key areas. I plan on being a different college to seek students' input and listen carefully to your concerns. Last year's UCR, Scott, has encouraged me to run for this position. I look forward to representing you next year!

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James Morgensen

Josh Rutenberg

Ryan Rightmer

Lauren Thels

Angela Wu
Cold War Kids' latest effort, "Mine Is Yours," offers a fresh take on the band's signature sound, blending bluesy and indie-pop influences into a cohesive whole. With their third studio album, the Los Angeles-based group continues to explore themes of resilience and hope, as evidenced by the album's opening track, "Hang Me Up To Dry." The lyrics, written by frontman Nathan Willett, reflect on the challenges of the world and the个体's role within it.

Embracing a more personal and introspective approach, "Mine Is Yours" marks a departure from the band's previous work, which was characterized by its experimental and genre-bending nature. The album features a variety of sounds, including acoustic guitar and electronic elements, creating a unique listening experience. The production values are also noteworthy, with a focus on creating a warm and intimate sound.

Critics have praised the album for its emotional depth and lyrical content, with many calling it the group's most accessible work to date. While some fans may miss the experimental nature of their past efforts, "Mine Is Yours" offers a new level of maturity and growth, promising a broader appeal without sacrificing the band's distinct sound.

With "Mine Is Yours," Cold War Kids continue to evolve as a band, embracing new musical ideas while maintaining their core strengths. The album is a testament to their ability to adapt and grow, making it a must-listen for fans of indie-pop and alternative music alike.
Oh, the Humanity! A tragic failure

BY MATT BANKS

THESPER STAFF

Stages Repertory Theatre's most recent production, Oh, the Humanity! by John runners and other re

On the other hand, the show successfully raises the question of what makes a good life and what are the pitfalls of the American Dream. The actors give strong performances, and the audience is left to ponder these ideas long after the lights go down.

The Fondren Library announces the third annual research awards. The awards are open to all students and faculty. The deadline for applications is February 7, 2011. More information can be found at library.rice.edu/research-awards.

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows Program

RICE MMLF ALUMNI WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE PH.D.

Jennifer Alexis Dickson - Ph.D. in History, University of Virginia
Katherine Mann - Ph.D. in English, University of Texas at Austin
Vemuri Prasad - Ph.D. in Neuroscience, University of Texas at Austin
Kathryn Curtin - Ph.D. in Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley
Leanne Rentz - Ph.D. in Psychology, University of California, Berkeley
Sarah Smith - Ph.D. in Psychology, Harvard University
Evelyn Patterson - Ph.D. in Psychology, Stanford University
Armando Lewis - Ph.D. in Psychology, Stanford University
Reynaldo Romero - Ph.D. in Psychology, Stanford University
Evelyn Patterson - Ph.D. in Psychology, Stanford University

For more information and to download the application go to: http://diversity.rice.edu/mellon_mays.aspx

Application deadline is February 02, 2011

CONTACT:
Dorothy L. Smith, Jr. or Gabriela Bean
Office of the Associate Provost, Rice University - 713-527-5088

HOME-COOKED MAIN COURSE COMING FROM THE KITCHEN. The restaurant has a vegetarian selection that is just as delicious as the regular options. The menu includes tamales, enchiladas, fajitas and centerpiece pork chips with chipotle sauce, which is one of the most famous trademarks of the restaurant is the fresh, organic lemons. At first it looks like lemonade at all. It has a unique blend of melons and other fruits floating in red liquid - but, from the first sip, it was the lemonade! I have ever tasted. The terrilllas are freshly made in the kitchen, the faifia meat is toned with onions, bell peppers and chili peppers for excellent flavor. The tamales have one-impacting flavors, and you can taste the dedication and love in every bite that is served.

In addition to the delicious food, the service is excellent. Because the food is freshly made after it is ordered, the wait time is a bit long, but the servers are very happy to get your order started as soon as you're ready and are delighted to supply chips, salsa and quesos until your food is ready.

Not only is the service amazing, but the atmosphere, with all its quirky decorations, is conducive to good conversation and relaxation. Montero still manages the kitchen and imparts her knowledge and humor in between cooking and serving.

Despite the surplus of well-priced Mexican food points in Houston, Irma's is definitely worth checking out. Whether you go with a friend, a significant other, or a family member, who likes Mexican food, Irma's will fill you up - and comes with new stories of motivation. Get there early, because tables fill up quickly!
Men's basketball treads water in conference play

Men's basketball treads water in conference play but such fate was short-lived for the Owls in the half. Flaggered by turnovers and poor shooting, Rice surrendered the lead with just 46.4 seconds left in the half. With that, Rice was back in the game. But when the Owls came out for the second half, they were able to continue on its rapid ascent in the C-USA standings.

Sophomore forward Arsalan Kazemi, who led Rice with 21 points and 16 rebounds, Nyakundi hit his seventh deep ball of the game with 2:09 remaining to push the lead to seven and put the Owls out of the game once again.

"It’s just hard to come from behind," said Rice, who contributed 17 points, said. "Basketball is a game of runs, and we just couldn’t get enough of them." Senior center Troy Stroman exalted the big night of his three-pointers with SMU free throws to cut the Mustangs put together a 13-2 run into the half. With Dia and Nyakundi in the first half, before back-to-back three pointers inside of two minutes gave the Mustangs 39-29 lead going into the half. With Diaz and Nyakundi combining for 40 of SMU's 59 points, the pick-and-roll defense would have to improve for Rice to battle back in the game.

**Sports**

by Ryan Glassman

With the top seven teams in Conference USA separated by a single game, even the shortest of win streaks can become a season around. For the men's basketball team, such a theory was applied just when back-to-back wins over the University of Central Florida (14-6, 6-0 C-USA) and the University of Houston (16-6, 3-3 C-USA) put the Owls within a stone's throw of the conference leaders. But when Southern Methodist University (17-6, 5-5 C-USA) brought its own two game winning streak to Tudor Fieldhouse last Saturday, only one team would be able to continue on its rapid ascent in the C-USA standings.

Unfortunately for Rice, the weather was not the only thing in Houston that cooled down this past week. The Owls fell to a hot shooting SMU team 75-68, falling back below .500 on the season and putting an end to the squad's short win streak.

Rice jumped out to a 15-6 lead early in the game, utilizing strong pick-and-roll defense to contain SMU's two main attackers, Papa Dia and Robert Nyakundi. With Dia in early foul trouble and five different fouls already contributing to the team's scoring, SMU found itself in a big hole just a few minutes into the game. But Nyakundi was there to dig them out by outscoring the Owls 11-5 over the next six minutes to keep the game close with Dia on the bench. A three-pointer from junior forward Lucas Sipper with 6:41 remaining in the game allowed his team to get back into the game once again.

"I'm in a lot better shape than two weeks ago, eight days ago, was the first week we came back right after Christmas break," Mr. said. "It's a tough turnaround. I didn't get to vault very much over break and then that was my first meet. "Now I am kind of back in the groove of things and I have my head back on straight and I have figured out what I'm doing."

Senior Kimberly Stanford runs against Texas State's Amber Elkins in the prelims of the 60-meter hurdles, finishing with a time of 8.63 seconds.

**Women's track throws and vaults to victory**

by Natalie Clerciutzu

"Be patient. Don't speed up too fast. Get to my mark. Focus on pushing my hands. Up in the air push off the top."

In the couple of seconds of every vault for senior pole vaulter Ari Ince, that's all that goes through her head. Clearly the key steps to clear a bar 13-odd feet in the air are a good plan.

Ince's performance at last weekend's Houston Indoor Invitational, held at the University of Houston, showed her precise approach to her event. After no heighting in the first meet of the season two weeks ago, face turned around with a familiar gravity-defying performance on Friday, clearing a height of 15'5.5". Her soaring vault brought Ince top honors in the event.

"I'm in a lot better shape than two weeks ago, eight days ago, was the first week we came back right after Christmas break," Ince said. "It's a tough turnaround. I didn't get to vault very much over break and then that was my first meet. "Now I am kind of back in the groove of things and I have my head back on straight and I have figured out what I'm doing."

Sophomore forward Arsalan Kazemi that was up the crowd. Following a Kazemi layup and a jumper from junior guard Connor Frizzelle, sophomore guard Tre Mand Jackson's jumper made it a 44-42 game with more than 11 minutes to go. But, as was the theme of the game, SMU responded to the Rice run with outstanding shooting from behind the arc. The Mustangs put together a 19-2 run with a trio of three pointers to extend their lead to 13 before a Frizzelle deep ball at 9:08 woke up the stagnant Rice offense.

McKnee said Ince's mastery of the sport has allowed her to excel at such a high level in the pole vault. "The pole vault is very techni-cal, and Ari only had one practice session before her first meet," Bevan said. "Now she's doing what we saw in the fall. She'll get a lot of high bars and good attempts and clearances. I anticipate her to have a new school record and be a na-tional competitor this season."

Ince's classmate, senior thrower Tina Robinson, countered with a first-place finish of her own. Following up her top weight throw at the first indoor meet of the season two weeks ago, Robinson repeated her gold medal placing with a throw of 99' 11" in the weight throw, a new school record.

Head Coach for Bevan also at-tributed technical improvement to Robinson's repeat performance. "Tina is a master of a difficult technical event," Bevan said. "You can see the progress - there are some finer technical skills and rhythm involved, to maximize the sum of the forces on release. "To take a while to figure it all out. She's becoming a national cal-lier thrower." Bevan and Robinson's excel-lence set the tone for the Owls at last weekend's meet, which saw the team improve from every angle ac-
Women's basketball moves into tie for third
Squad earns hard-fought victory over Tulane, dominates Tulsa in all facets of the game.

by Teddy Godke
Sports Editor

Weeknight road games are dificult for any team; there is just something about having to travel on class days, then getting on the bus and heading back late at night.

Last week's bus ride home was an easy one for the women's basketball team, which had just knocked off one of the top teams in the league and pushed itself above .500 in Conference USA play.

Heading into last week, the Owls were in the middle of the pack, stuck looking upward at a possible bye in the Conference USA tournament. With a tough closing to the conference schedule, the women's basketball team knew that it would have to play well this weekend if Rice seriously planned on moving up in the conference standings.

Thursday, Rice played defending conference champion Tulsa University (17-4, 6-3 CUSA), which was sitting in second place in the standings and was probably looking past the Owls to other match-ups in its schedule.

It was an entire game for the highlight reel, as Rice and Tulsa both played up to their peaks, providing an enthralling finish for fans.

The teams started the second half tied at 31, and once again, neither team was able to get any separation. A layup from senior forward Morgan Mayse with just over one minute left put the Owls up one, only for the Green Wave to tie the score up a few seconds later.

Tulane made a layup, once again tying the score up at 31 in the closing seconds. Forward Megan Elliott tried to make a shot with a few ticks remaining to keep the game from overtime, but the ball rimmed out, forcing extra play.

In overtime, Rice drew first blood, with Mayse making a layup shot to push the Owls up two. Tulane proved unstable to score, and two free throws by Smart put the Owls out of reach and the final score at 72-66.

Mayse led the team with 33 points, with sophomore guard Jessica Kuster, freshman forward Jessica Kuster and Smart all also contributing double-digit points.

Then, next Sunday, the Owls played at home, taking on the University of Tulsa (15-6, 4-CUSA), whom they had already best earlier in the season.

Rice got out to a blazing start, going up 23-2 to start the game and quickly put it out of reach. Tulsa was never able to recover and was simply never a factor in the game. Nineteen points from Kuster helped the Owls onto a 72-47 rout — Rice's third straight CUSA victory.

"The Tulane win was huge for us, and really gave us a confidence boost heading into the Tulsa game," Head Coach Greg Williams said. "Originally, I was worried about matching the intensity of Thursday night, but that was never a problem."

Kuster was named CUSA's Freshman of the Week for her efforts in the game, her second seventh on the season.

Assistant Coach Efe Ustundag felt like Rice had every advantage of their chances.

"When you have the chance to close out sets and close out a game, you have to do it and put pressure on the higher-ranked team," Ustundag said.

Even though Ustundag felt Rice put forth a great effort in Austin, he felt the team could not derive any real satisfaction from its loss.

"In our opinion, there is no such thing as a moral victory," Ustundag said. "We don't go through any game without everybody close, the whole point is to win.

The weekend was not all lost for Rice as the Owls moved on to victory on Friday against the University of Missouri-Kansas City, 70-53. Five players scored in double-digits, thanks to Garforth-Bles and Frank winning the third and fifth spots, respectively. Rice now sits in fourth place in the conference, sitting behind Connecticut, UConn and Pittsburgh, but is only half a game behind the Huskies.

The loss was the first of the spring season for the Owls, whose record is now 4-1 after starting off well in non-conference play.

Assistant Coach Efe Ustundag (Baker '99) said that, although the score did not reflect the true nature of the match, the Owls committed too many errors and did not take advantage of their opportunities.

"When you have the chance to close out sets and close out a game, you have to do it and put pressure on the higher-ranked team," Ustundag said.

West U Baptist Church invites you to worship, the study of God's Word and fellowship. Join us for our new contemporary Sunday worship service, Encounter @ 9:30 AM as well as a college-level Bible study class at 11 AM that is attended by many Rice University students and taught by Dr. Jim Tour.

by Dan Elledge
Sports Editor

All good things must come to end, but the men's tennis team did not expect its win streak to come to such a screeching halt. The 29th-ranked Owls could not pull up the upset over fifth-ranked University of Texas (4-0), falling 4-0. Texas' doubles' squad overshadowed Rice, as the Owls lost all three doubles matches and thus the first point of the overall match.

The fifth-ranked doubles team of Ed Girres and Thomas Eachus took out juniors Christian Saravia and Michael Martincic, 8-3, and continued to falter for Rice. With Texas' Andersson, Raffo and Gibbs, Rice was sticking looking upward at a possible bye in the Conference USA scrum. If the Owls want to remain close to the top of the standings, where they are currently third, this is a game they must win.

The loss was the first of the spring season for the Owls, whose record is now 4-1 after starting off well in non-conference play.

Assistant Coach Efe Ustundag felt like Rice had every advantage of their chances.

"When you have the chance to close out sets and close out a game, you have to do it and put pressure on the higher-ranked team," Ustundag said. 

I N F O C U S: T E N N I S 
R E V I E W S B Y P L A Y E R

Here are the overall records this year by player:

1. Sam Garforth-Bles 4-1
2. Harry Fowler 3-1
3. Christian Saravia 3-1
4. Peter Frank 2-1
5. Hana Tchibana 2-0
6. Jonathan Chang 1-0
7. Andrew Kuster 1-0
8. Phillip Seifert 1-0

THE NEW WESTU EXPECT GREATER THINGS
West U Baptist Church invites you to worship, the study of God's Word and fellowship. Join us for our new contemporary Sunday worship service, Encounter @ 9:30 AM as well as a college-level Bible study class at 11 AM that is attended by many Rice University students and taught by Dr. Jim Tour.

We're located two miles directly west of campus at 6219 Auden between University and Rice. Free round-trip shuttle service is provided each Sunday morning leaving at 9:15 AM on the lady in front of Rice's Allan Center. A return bus leaves the church at noon. See www.wbuc.org for details, or call 713-868-2319.
by Jonathan Myers
The Rice Thresher

Distances runners carry men’s track in UV meet

Throwers continue consistency as Rice gets two top-10 finishers in 3,000 meter run

Junior Clayton Chaney clear a hurdle in the 60-meter hurdle event, which he completed in 8.82 seconds to earn sixth place. Chaney is the only athlete from Rice to compete in the heptathlon in the Frank Swigge Classic today and tomorrow.

Catch Coach Jim Warren (Jones ’90) at the traditional ‘jumping’ stage to the fact that the team has been training since the start of the semester and not distracted by other things.

“When right, a lot of guys are still persistent and doing certain things,” Warren said. “We’re simultaneously training for outdoor in competing in indoor. Hillrethers are learning to deal with running indoors, but we still know February’s a big month for us.

So far it’s been a big month for the long distance runners, as senior Michael Tejoa took silver in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 2:23.82. Sophomore Jake Odell was the 1-2 in the 1,500-meter run, with freshman Travis Roberts and sophomore James Ullmann finishing 20th and 25th, respectively.

Sophomore Alex Lettewski won the mile in the mile along with sophomore Sean Hersch who finished 16th and sophomore Matt Carey ran the 1,500-meter run in 3:55.65 minutes in a first stab at his event. Ullmann commented on the performance of the distance runners.

“When the first meet for the distance guys is just a matter of things, but right now we’re right,” Warren said. “We’re looking forward to racing against great competition this weekend.”

Continuing with the track side of things, Clay Mont Chaney competed in the 60-meter hurdles, running a time of 7.33 seconds for sixth place. Sophomore Mason Moore returned from his backpack workouts even quicker

TENNIS

FROM PAGE 15

Sixers vacations in three and two victories earlier on the way to victory with Ustaodug in, and while senior Dolce Po

The Owls hope to get back on the winning side this weekend as they head to Tulsa, Oklahoma, and New Orleans, La. for road matches against the University of the Sciences and Tulane University, respectively.

Tulane is 1-3 on the season, while LSU comes in with two straight losses, not having yet recorded a win in conference.

Tulane is only in its second year back in Division 1 tennis, as the program was shut down after Hurricane Katrina hit the university in August 2005. Ustundag felt that Tulane is going to be a harder match this time around than when Rice beat them last year.

“I think Tulane will be geared up to play us because we are the defending conference champions and it’s a chance for them to improve, so hopefully it will be a good college atmosphere,” Ustundag said.

As for LSU, even though they are 0-7, the Owls are still worried about the challenge. Hillrethere will bring their A-game Hillrethere knows that this match is going to be tougher than last year, but I don’t think they really had a good match, so they are going to be pumped for this weekend’s match,” Podlewski said.

There will be targets on our backs, as they would love to get revenge, but we’ll have to change the last year’s defeat.

For Ustundag, the goals for this weekend are obvious, as he would like to get two wins, but he realizes that his team cannot just go in there and walk away with victories; they will have to earn them.

“I think it is going to be a battle, it always is,” Ustundag said. “We are going to give it all and they are going to do the same.”

That’s why you destine?!?

In case you’ve run out of 4,000k money (see p.2o for more details on return of 4,000k), you can make some cold, hard cash writing for women’s tennis. E-mail theشرisher-sports@ rice.edu for more details and secrets!!!
SPORTS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2011

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Women's tennis splits matches

With the women's tennis team cruising to early victories, Rice had yet to play a close match until its tilt with Oklahoma State University (1-5) Jan. 29. The Owls took control of the match early on by taking the doubles matches' points, with senior Rebecca Hanle and junior Ana Guzman winning 6-5, while freshman Dominique Harmath and junior Alex Batch fetched the Cougars by with a 6-3 victory. The singles matches went to the no. 1 Owl initially, with freshman Kimberly Anicete and Hanle picking up the first two of the three singles matches to allow Rice to go up 6-3. But OSU scored two points in the No. 3 double and the Farmers' winning finish was finally in sight. Further progress was made Thursday, but perhaps Wednesday night's game at Tulane would be the beginning of another streak. The victory against OSU was the first against a Big 12 opponent of 5:03.47. Pastor was right behind the top Rice spot in the 5,000. Ince's and Robinson's performance on Saturday, finishing fifth among collegians by 18:09.72. Freshman Lindsey Miller finished third (18:24.68) and Rice also took fifth place with say Miller finished third (18:24.68) and Rice also took fifth place with three seconds off her previous time. Also placing first among collegiate competitors was senior Sarah Agar in the triple jump, who placed third overall with a career-best of 41.71.

Senior Kimberly Stanford also improved the women's performance in the persuading event on Saturday, finishing in 1.82.51 in the final after posting a time of 1.84.70 in the preliminaries. "On Saturday, Kimberly ran a tremendous short-sprinter finish, finishing in fifth among collegiate runners by one hundredth of a second," Bevan said. "She looks very, very good — the best I've seen her this time of year."

Rice led the Owls in 91-74.5. Junior so- phomore Foster grabbed top honor in the mile in her first time to run the 1,500 indoors, with a time of 4:36.52. Pastor was right behind her in fourth place at 4:37.60. To round out the second-place Rice runners, defending 800-meter Conference USA Indoor Champion Alexander John finished 21:24.04 in her first time in competition. "She showed the head coach that his finish was fastest start ever and also was the top collegiate finisher. Two other Owl's runners met the 800-time from two weeks ago. Freshman Kyle Colburn's 2:25.30 finish cut her time down by two seconds and 18-year-old Mason Walch cut four seconds off her previous time. Also placing first among collegiate competitors was senior Sarah Agar in the triple jump, who placed third overall with a career-best of 41.71.

The fact that it's our second match, Jackson's responsibility to bring home the fourth point to clinch the match. Jackson dropped a hard-fought first-set that went to a tiebreaker set, but ran the table the rest of the way, winning the last two sets against Natasha Shatkowsky by margins of 6-3, 6-2. The victory against OSU was the first against a Big 12 opponent and allowed Rice to advance to the round of 32 in the ITA National Indoor Championships.

But like the men's team, the women's team's final match met its match in a fifth-ranked Big 12 opponent this time coming in the form of Baylor University (1-0). The scene was an optimistic one set for Rice, with Guzman and Hanle reprising their role as one of the top doubles teams, and senior Hanle and Rice also picking up a second match, Jackson and sophomore Suzie Trigo were there to pick up the last match for the team by a score of 8-6 to earn the doubles point for the Owls. Unfortunately the tide turned at that point, with Baylor earning three of the first four singles points, and all three of their victories coming by comfortable margins against Jackson, Trigo and Guzman. Once again, Anicete was able to cash in on her match, besting Abby Stainback in a close two-set match that ended when Anicete finally took the second set. With the Owls facing a second-straight match that would be decided by the final dress, it was Rice who turned the tables, with junior Luckow their third Big 12 opponent in a third-straight battle. However, to Har- truff's credit, she was able to rally to a second-set victory and send the match to the fifth set. The victory will look to put back on the winning path tomorrow afternoon, as Rice opens the championship weekend at the University of Houston (2-1).

Football hauls in 19 new Owls

Head Coach David Bailiff an- nounced the newest class of Rice Owls today, revealing the 19-play- ers that had to complete offers this morning.

Despite the Dallas area being home to more than 100 TVCs, this season but will be able to access a fax machine, the Owls' football program had commitments from all of those who were expected to sign by the afternoon. Bailiff was eager about the arrival of the future players and expected them to be on all the road to Rice.

"We have young men that are great academic fits at Rice — guys that are absolutely driven to graduate and are true student athletes," Bailiff said. "We're on track here I see us being in bowl games and constantly winning in the near future." The class was Texas-heavy, with all of the signees from inside the state. Only Christian Couvillion, who now resides in Canada, is from outside of the state.

The price of this year's commit- tureship from the Mustangs, and ultimately helped Rice dispatch the Green Wave by a score of 71-16. The Owls head back to Tudor Fieldhouse to take on the University of Texas-Pan American (1-3, 5-2-CUSA) tomorrow at 2 p.m.

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FRIDAY

See the light

Artist Mary Temple will be talking today about her newest work, which is on display from now until May 25 in the Rice Gallery, located on the first floor of Sewall Hall. The installation, "Northwest Corner, Southeast Light," plays with the idea of artificial natural light and attempts to freeze a moment in time. Remarks will begin at noon.

Oh yes, it's ladies night and the feeling's right. Willy's Pub turns 35 years old this week, and as part of the celebration, they are having a happy hour with Soda-oke and food and drink specials. It's ladies' night, and the fun starts at 9 p.m. in the basement of the Rice Memorial Center. Oh, what a night!

Women in Iran

If you've never seen an Iranian film, now is your chance! The Visual and Dramatic Arts Department is hosting a two-day Iranian Film Festival, focusing on women in contemporary Iran. It starts today with We Will Never Forget Iran's Population and Pearls on the Ocean Floor at 7 p.m. in the film auditorium of the Rice Library and continues tomorrow with The Glass House at the same time and location.

SATURDAY

Fun with morphecines

The Linguistics Department and the Rice Linguistics Society are hosting a conference this weekend focusing on language, identity and culture. Various talks will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and tomorrow in Sewall Hall featuring visiting lecturers as well as Professor Nancy Niedzielski.

Owl cuisine

In order to support the various groups of students going on Alternative Spring Break, the Community Involvement Center is hosting a free event called "Owls Who Can Cook." Several members of the Rice community will share their homes and culinary expertise to host a group of people at their house for a home-cooked meal. A ticket costs $25, and the proceeds go to ASB fundraising. Visit calendar@rice.edu for more information.

Happy birthday, Pub!

Tonight is the real deal for Willy's Pub. Join them in celebration of 35 years of existence at their birthday party. They will be serving super cheap Fadst Blue Ribbons, which was the first beer Pub ever sold, and there will be cake, champagne and lots of surprises! Party hard from 10 p.m. onward.

MONDAY

How awesome is the RPC?

We get so many awesome tickets for events from them. Specifically, tonight, if you scored a ticket to Rice Night with "Elia" or the Rice Does the Downtown Aquarium, remember to pick them up before today, because, come 8 a.m., any unclaimed tickets will be made available to any student who wants them on a first-come, first-served basis. Pickup is at the information desk in the Rice Memorial Center.

I am beautiful, no matter what you say

How often do you look in the mirror each day? Looking in the mirror is a first step to believing what someone else wrote.

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

Who turns you on more, Willy's statue or Sammy?

Never fear, single ladies and ladies: Now is your chance to find true love, or at least get a laugh. In preparation for the Crush Party, remember to fill out your Crush Survey by 5 p.m. online at mymeetsheet.com/ricecrush2011 so that you might find your soulmate at the Crush Party tomorrow.

A brisk evening stroll

Join the Wellness Center for the Body Walks as part of Love Your Body Month. Discuss body image while taking a brisk walk around campus. If you can't make it this time, the body walks happen every Wednesday this month, just meet at 7 p.m. in the Wellness Center.

Love acting? Your body?

If you want to participate in this year's Love Your Body Monologues, a series of monologues written by Rice students, get in touch with the director, Helen Shaw, by today at midnight by e-mailing themymeetsheet@rice.edu. You can write your own or read one someone else wrote.

THURSDAY

Free massages!

It's Revitalize Day in the Wellness Center today, so drop in this evening from 7 to 9 p.m. for a free massage, the chance to make your own aromatherapy mist and plenty of tea and healthy snacks.

Do you love vaginas?

The Vagina Monologues, the internationally known series of monologues about women, vaginas and empowerment, returns to Rice again this year. The doors of the Martel College Commons open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are $5 for Rice people and $10 for non-Rice. All proceeds from the show go to a charity of your choosing!

Find your best match

Come to Willy's Pub from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. to find out who, according to the Crush Survey, you are meant to be with. Awkward? Very. Thoughtful to you by the Rice Program Council and sponsored by Yogurtland, the party is sure to be a blast. Who would say no to free yogurt samples, cookies and sodas coupled with everlasting love?

More publicity

More people

More success

More awesome

Publicize campus events in the Thresher Calendar by writing to thresher-calendar@rice.edu

Yes, it's that easy.

FRIDAY

FEB. 4 - 10, 2011

follow us 24/7 at twitter.com/thresherca

 któ


THE RICE THRESHER

TEACH for testmasters!

(...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.

THURSDAY

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

Submission methods:
Fax: 713-348-5238
E-mail: thresher-calendar@rice.edu
Campus Mail: Calendar Editor, Thresher, MS-524

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Threesome penetrates Thresholder staff

HOUSTON — Four Loko stocks and Justin Bieber fans’ hearts plummeted as Anthony Lauriello, Zach Casian and Alex Weinheimer won the ownership of the Backpage in a fiercely contested election. The response around campus was uncertain, as many do not know quite what to expect from the three.

“Quite frankly, I am surprised. From their behavior at parties I thought they were Blatteres,” Baker assistant Allison Highton loudly commented. President David Leebro’s office was mute on the matter, but sources close to the administration seem to report that the three would be immediately put on surveillance and double secret probation.

“They should keep in mind that we are following their every move, from what they eat, drink and throw away,” said an anonymous source. While the new editors will face many challenges, the three seemed proud to have the opportunity to tackle the responsibilities of the job. Hansen College senior Sean Sessell summed up many students’ opinions by saying, “The Thresholder’s That’s what I use to pick up the dead rats.”

The Backpage Crush Party Survey 2011

HEY RICE LOOKING FOR PROSPERITY? yeah, we too. Send your answers to the survey below. We’ll analyze your finds and weed out comparable matches. Look for us at Pub Thursday night and we’ll give you your results.

Our Experiences at OwlCon XXX

This past Saturday we finally had the chance to fulfill our wildest dreams of attending a LARP at Owlcon. Our girlfriends were not pleased. For those of you who do not know, LARP stands for Live Action Role Play, a strange hybrid of improv theater, Dungeons and Dragons and Poker与此相关。Our adventure began as we walked into the KMC, which was transformed into Owlcon HQ. Helping from the legs of an Owl with the title Owlcon XXX, we assumed we were heading to a ruffies-slamming convention. This was reinforced by the tagline “It means what you think it means.” After handing our bio-rogue guidelines for a volunteer named “Spice,” we decided to draw up some simple LARPing guidelines:

1) What is your purity score?
2) What is your favorite baby making music?
3) What are your favorite sex positions?
4) What is your favorite character’s mid-line?
5) What adult movie would you watch on an adult date?
6) No getting kicked out in the first two hours.
7) As always, no jail, no hospital.
8) What is your favorite on-campus crime?
9) What beloved children’s character would you like to bang?
10) How young is too young?
11) A cute member of the opposite sex winks at you at a party and in about to walk over to you at a public party. You:
12) A rule of the game, as we learned that the “fun” is the LARP only served soda. While feared that any time that what was going on, we discovered that apparently we were going back in time. Also, the owner of the club was a witch who turned into the ancient demon Cthulhu for a tentacle orgy. Finally, something we knew something about.

The Backpage is satire and is now written by Alex Weinheimer, Anthony Lauriello and Zach Casian. E-mail questions and concerns to testmasters@rice.edu.

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Price: $75/year foreign
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