Students raise funds for Japan disaster relief

Director for Systems, Infrastructure and Architecture Barry Ribbeck said that the campus will not only be getting a new mail system but the whole Google suite of tools including documents, reader and video among others.

"We really feel it is going to provide the next generation of collaborative tools," Ribbeck said. "And, the students are already familiar with most of them."

The switch should be a smooth transition, with each person getting 10 gigabytes of email space, Ribbeck said. In a few months IT will choose students to test drive the new service for two weeks. If anyone is interested in participating they can contact IT.

Once the service is implemented, emails in webmail will automatically migrate to the new service.

Furthermore, when students graduate they will be able to keep their Rice email account forever in a contract with Google and will not have to pay for the service. Faculty and staff will not have their email switched to Gmail and will continue to use the Rice webmail service, Chatfield said.

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Belated Lunar New Year

BY HALLIE JORDAN  TIMES EDITORIAL STAFF

Following the lead of 500 other universities throughout the country, Rice will soon start using Gmail as the campus email provider for students.

The switch to Gmail has been an ongoing project for the past two years, Manager of IT Technical Communications Carly Chatfield said.

"We monitor what our students are asking for, what other institutions are doing, and we watch what's going on in the electronic world," Chatfield said.

June 22 is the targeted date to make the switch. However, IT is unsure if everything will be ready by this time.

In response to the recent devastation in Japan, students have been banding together to raise money and awareness for victims of the natural disaster. Rice's Japanese Association of Students and Scholars responded within days of the catastrophe with boba sales at all of the colleges and widely publicized donation requests. Students from Duncan College, Hannan College and others have also found their own way to help out through events that benefit both Mt. Duncan and Makeruna Japan.

"I think that because we live in the US and Japan's so far away, the support wouldn't be as big," Lim said. "I guess by making it at every college, I made it easy for everyone to participate ... the response was much better than I thought.

As IASS also collected donations during the sales, they were able to raise approximately $4,200 in profits. Lim said that he was surprised by the generosity, as he initially only aimed to cover the cost of the 250 tea sets he bought from Teahouse.

"I was at the donation box, there was a check for $100 ... too bad," Lim said. "I was really happy with the result - I didn't know there was that much cash lying around at Rice."

(IIASS also publicized and collected donations at the annual Lunar New Year Showcases on March 19. IASS will also be collecting donations at its booth at the ADVANCE World Food culture fair on Apr. 1.

"I think a lot of people are concerned and willing to donate - we know it's going to the Red Cross and not us," IASS President Lily Ito said. "I've been pleased with the response, even though there's not much we can do from a distance."

For its, a McMurtry College senior, said she is looking into collaborations with universities across the nation for the "Million Giants" project and a local Japanese organization for a talent show. "I think these fundraising efforts bring the community together, which is good," said Lim. "I think the only thing we have to kind of think about now is if people are going to continue to be concerned for the region."

Rice graduate student Malikito Hirota is organizing a benefit concert that will take place on Apr. 1, at Alice Pratt Brown Hall. Faculty and students, as well as many Rice classical musicians, will be performing at this free concert. The Japanese Association of Greater Houston will be collecting donations at the door and donating the proceeds to the Red Cross.

Duncan College held "Mr. Duncan," in which contestants were auctioned off to raise money. For the fundraiser hosted by all of Rice's East Asian student association. Other acts included both more traditional dances, such as dragon and lion dances, and modern dance forms.

Rice to switch to Gmail as email provider

BY RUBY GEE  TIMES TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Real Americans

The Rice Native American Student Association is holding its 18th annual powwow on the intramural fields between Wins and Tude Fieldhouse from 6 to 10 tonight, with dancing, storytelling, arts and crafts and Indian tacos.

Students dance in a Korean fan dance as part of the Lunar New Year celebration put on by all of Rice's East Asian student association. Other acts included both more traditional dances, such as dragon and lion dances, and modern dance forms.
Rice University recently announced a plan to rejuvenate its webmail system by transferring over to a Google interface and Google servers. Students do not have to face the risk of losing all their email if the system goes down, and IT making a proactive decision to shift our outdated system to one of the best and most proven email clients on the market. This change will most noticeably improve the reliability of our email storage and improve security of student email accounts. With email now backed up on higher-end, more reliable Google servers, students do not have to face the risk of losing all their email if the Rice servers were to crash. Furthermore, the interface and integrated features of Gmail, such as Google Docs and Calendar, will likely serve as valuable tools that will be more accessible when directly linked with students’ Rice accounts.

At the same time, this shift will affect only a portion of students since a great proportion of student body already uses an alternate email client, such as Gmail, and simply have Rice mail forwarded. Unfortunately, changing all of the students on the webmail system, the administration will continue to reserve its right to read your Rice email; thus hanging on to your non-Rice email address may not be a bad idea. Regardless, the new tools provided through the University should drastically improve the Gmail shift is complete. Students, no longer depend the inaccessibility that is Rice webmail.

To the Editor:

Compelled by Eric Harrison’s editorial last week (“Terrorism in the homeland: Islam begins the ascendance of terrorism,” Mar. 19), in part for its unclear — for slandering of Islam, in part for its one-size-fits-all conclusion — he begins his piece by confessing about those who do not take the meal according to a clear standard on an issue, when what he really means is that those who disagree with him about the ethics of profiling Muslims share “Islamic” beliefs. There is a difference between having an open-mind and complexity in a situation and not being able to form a valid opinion.

I rarely see statistics cited in these tales of Islamic being outstandingly guilty of producing terrorists — in large part, because there are a few numbers, and even fewer supporting that argument.

The FBI, which should hopefully be keeping better count than most, released a report breaking down terrorist plots on US soil by affiliation and motive. Only 4 percent of these terrorism were Islamic-ethnic. Seven percent were homophobic extremists, 1 percent were ecological extremists, 1 percent were extremists of other religions, 1 percent were extreme left-wing anarchists, and 5 percent were unspecified.

The Muslim Public Affairs Council, known as MPAC, is a group established to monitor and are an institution that has been criticized by some Muslims for its excessive criticism of Muslims, even and especially for special screening in a passport setting. As a result, it is entirely dependent on the ideals upon which America is built, the ideals that allow us to be the freest society in the world. The FBI refers to the over a billion Muslims, most of whom are non-violent. No group of over a billion is hostile to America, and this situation should be seen as an obvious reason to override the emotional charge on all sides of the debate. As a nation of immigrants, we are not our own opponents, but ours. Most importantly, we are tolerant until proven guilty. To assume or allow that some individuals are “more likely” to be terrorists than others is to ignore their rights to due process, and to base policy on such a generalization is absurd. Islam is built, the ideals that allow us to be the freest society in the world.

Fueling the national fear of Islam is inexcusable from funding a national fear of Muslims — despite the attempt to deceive the two, they are the same thing.

Interestingly, multiple websites, such as The Washington Post, The New York Times, and a real and pressing issue, but it is created by a multitude of facts, not a magic, easy-to-screen-for demographic factor. This is the same lesson we learn, and forget, over and over as a society. Ignorance always ends in tragedy. It always winds up in tragedy. It always winds up in tragedy. It always winds up in tragedy.
Environmental conservation is a duty not a decision

With all the coverage of exciting environmental initiatives on campus recently, Rice looks from the outside like a hotbed of green thumbs and healthy living. We have classes dedicated to sustainable living and top-notch LEED certified buildings, green roofs, single-stream recycling, bike-sharing programs, and even part of our tuition now goes toward improving our carbon footprint. There's no doubt that Rice students are smart enough to know about the importance of maintaining a sustainable lifestyle, but are we smart enough to care?

Christina Hughes

On this wave of new improvements, many of us think that we should be excited and encouraged, but in reality it's only because we are forced to think about it. A lot of students amongst students about personal environmental issues are not aware of this change, and So we're in Texas. So we don't go. We should be making changes every day, the results begin to make a difference. Christina Hughes is a Baker College sophomore.

Cody Shilling

He neither talked about how long it would take, nor talked into our nearest neighbors. Cody Shilling is a West Rice College sophomore.

Environmental productivity key to future

Productivity. We all strive for it. Students inhale Red Bulls and plug themselves into the nearest hearts are always going to beat to make a peep.

Shamsa Mangalji

Interestingly enough, it's that mindset which is stymying us in our quest to stop environmental degradation. We prioritize productivity over environmental responsibility. Put it this way: As much as you'd like to scream at our need to decrease demand for fossil fuels, I'd like to yell. Energy efficiency would mean less waste, less pollution, and less money spent. When we save something in previous years' utilities usage.)

I'm not just talking to students. Everyone, experiences, faculty and staff have even more responsibility as environmental stewards. The teachers at you and follow. Unfortunately, anyone else other than I, have professors who teach environmental studies are subject to living sustainably. Rather than insist on handling out hard copies of all class materials every week. You don't have to be an environmental studies professor to lead sustainably. The teachers at you say this. Tackle challenges yourselves to lead by example. Maybe the environmental movement didn't occur until after your generation, but that doesn't exempt you from your crusading responsibilities. To the students I say: this challenge yourselves to care. Make one change in your daily routine start small. Even a small change, such as yourself to be more involved in environmental organizations. Shamsa Mangalji is a Baker College sophomore.

Environmental productivity is key to future. We do have to take care that our investments are not only steady but actually contribute to our daily lives. We face more responsibility to sustainability, but we should not shrink back from the fact that in the last two years as if the problems haven't been there already. The suffering of the Libyan people would be any less than if this happened when we had a balanced budget and widespread prosperity in the region. We cannot be able to support democratic changes by whoever seems, seems so far away from our country, but that by no means should we be making efforts to be far from the world's best equipped to help deals with situations like this. We have to take care that our involvement doesn't make the situation worse rather than better. Any number of things could happen that would render our action the less desperate course: the tribes united against Gaddafi in rebellion may disintegrate into a civil war after they have no common cause; in the process of overthrowing the government, NATO and the rebels may destroy the infrastructure of the country so the government would have limited ability to govern much like much in Somalia now: or it becomes the case that when the rebels took power, but those events won't end any time soon. But we shouldn't let the impossibility of a perfect end result or the probability of a less than perfect result stop us from helping the world as much as we can. As long as our leaders are knowledgeable about the situation, we can support the fight to stop oppression in Libya and elsewhere. The truth is that there is hope for a better life in a country that opposes support and assistance instead of shrinking away from the opportunity to help others.

Shamsa Mangalji

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So let's start now. Next time your paper is handed off bring back the ways you found to match off your computer to save the environment, and no one make plans.

I've noticed the terms "environmental responsibility" and "sustainability" and "carbon footprint" are terms that you should live by everyday. I'm not just talking to students. Everyone, experiences, faculty and staff have even more responsibility as environmental stewards. The teachers at you say this. Tackle challenges yourselves to lead by example. Maybe the environmental movement didn't occur until after your generation, but that doesn't exempt you from your crusading responsibilities. To the students I say: this challenge yourselves to care. Make one change in your daily routine start small. Even a small change, such as yourself to be more involved in environmental organizations. Shamsa Mangalji is a Baker College sophomore.

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Junior honored with $25,000 Watson Fellowship

BY TINA OU
THE RICE THRESHER

This week the Rice Thresher sat down with Hanszen junior Drake Lebrun, a recent recipient of the Watson Fellowship. As a Watson Fellow, Lebrun will receive money for a project in a foreign country.

The Watson Fellowship: What is it? The Watson Fellowship is a $25,000 grant given to about 30 graduating seniors each year, providing them with the financial means to independently pursue a research project of their own design in countries of their choosing. These projects can involve all sorts of topics, from hop-hop to sword dancing to bio-fishing.

RT: What was the application process like?
DL: The application process involved writing a 2,500-word personal statement, a 1,500-word project proposal and an interview with the director of the program. The project proposal, which entails where you’re going to be traveling, what you’re going to be doing in each country, and how you will survive alone for a year, requires a lot of time. I started planning in May and didn’t finish until September.

RT: Why did you choose to apply for the Watson Fellowship?
DL: Throughout college, I’ve explored surgery in a variety of academic settings, but what I haven’t done is actually go out into the world and see the realities faced by people who don’t have access to surgical care. The Watson Fellowship was one of the few programs that would give me the liberty to pursue a project like that on my own terms. Another reason I applied was because when I found out that I was a Rice Baylor Scholar, I decided to graduate in three years and then take a year off to do something totally crazy and memorable. The opportunity to travel the world through the Watson Fellowship fulfills that goal.

RT: What are your plans for the year as a Watson Fellow?
DL: I’ll be working in clinics and NGOs in Uganda, Bangladesh, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago, and I’ll be studying different surgical diseases in each country. In Uganda, I’m going to work on the surgical ward in the largest hospital in the country and then travel to a rural obstetric facility clinic to investigate maternal conditions. In Bangladesh, I’m going to look at pediatric conditions like club foot, cleft palate and certain types of blindness. In Peru, I will first focus on injuries in the capital city of Lima and then branch out to rural regions of Peru to investigate the effects of socioeconomic disparities on the indigenous Peruvian people. In Trinidad and Tobago, I am going to study the broad connections between race and surgical disease in multicultural settings.

RT: What do you hope to gain from this experience?
DL: I hope to gain an understanding of the “human” symptoms of surgical disease in the developing world. Surgical disease not only causes morbidity and mortality, but it can also lead to extreme psychological trauma, place undue burdens on families and in general, drain communities of livelihood and economic productivity. Using what I learn, I want to be able to identify and implement sustainable and culturally appropriate public health interventions that not only target surgical disease in the developing world.

RT: What do you hope the future will be like in 20 years?
DL: I would like to see more of an emphasis on preventive health measures that broadly improve community health. I would also like to see more of a focus on surgical disease in the public health community. I think the global burden of surgical disease, particularly in resource-poor nations, has been overlooked for too long.

Drake Lebrun

Students shave heads for cancer

BY ANTHONY LAURELLE
THE RICE THRESHER

Three Rice students, Hanszen sophomore Cecilia Alvarez, Steve Sophomore Antonia Lloret-Carreño, and Hanszen freshman Mehakoo Ankoo shaved themselves completely bald in front of a small audience in the Hanszen quad on March 18.

The idea for the event came to Alvarez, daughter of Rice Professors Pedro Alvarez, a year ago when she was attending Austin College in Dallas. She became involved in helping organize an event for St. Baldricks charity, in which students shaved their heads to raise money for research in childhood cancer, and wanted an affordable alternative for cancer patients.

When people see me, I hope to spark interest and questions and start conversation. I hope to make this a campus-wide event next year with all the colleges participating.

Cecilia Alvarez
Hanszen '13

Inspired by the event Alvarez decided not only to organize but also to participate in the event and shave her head, but at the last minute had cold feet and backed out. When she transferred to Rice she decided to bring the event to her new school and of course overcome her fear of going bald.

With the help of Davies and Ankoor, Alvarez raised close to $500, a figure she proudly gave out during a short speech at the beginning of the event.

“They contributed to a good cause, threw away their vanity and gave everyone a good feeling,” Hanszen sophomore Bruna Costa said summing up the event.

While this year’s event is done, Alvarez is already planning for next year. “When people see me, I hope to spark interest and questions and start conversation. I hope to make this a campus-wide event next year with all the colleges participating.”

Halle Jordan contributed to this article.
Budget cuts ended

BY ELLEN LEE
THREESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

President David Leebron announced during his semiannual Town Hall meeting on Feb. 22 that no more across-the-board reductions were expected for the next fiscal year, which starts July 1. However, a revised budget will still maintain a tight budget.

Leebron said each dean and department leader will have discretion about how to implement the cuts. He added that Rice is committed to minimizing job losses for its employees, sustaining growth and campus enhancements, and maintaining its financial aid support.

Ultimately, he said he wanted Rice to strengthen its impact and reputation as one of the finest research universities in the country. "Despite that harsh recession, we emerged with enhanced academic programs, two beautiful and environmentally friendly new residential colleges, the School of Architecture, a new physics building, a new recreation center and many other enhancements to the educational experience here at Rice," Leebron said. "These successes (and others) are the result of prudent financial management and the generosity of Rice donors."

Vice President of Finance Kathy Collins explained that past budget cuts had been caused by decreases in the endowment. She said about 63 percent of the core budget that funds most of the university was supported by the endowment. According to Collins, the endowment lost about $6 billion during the recent economic downturn, so Rice needed to show the necessary spending cuts.

As a result, she said Rice required a 5 percent budget cut in fiscal year 2010 and again in fiscal year 2011. The deans and department chairs again made their own decisions about how to implement those budget cuts in their areas.

For this year, Leebron noted that the endowment market value was up to $3.76 billion at June 30, 2010 from $3.66 billion at June 30, 2009 and $4.46 billion at June 30, 2008.

"Rice is no longer hurting from sharp capital losses," Leebron said. "The endowment is made up of investments and thus has been positively affected by the recent economic recovery."

According to him, the endowment grows through gifts, investment, and Rice’s spending policy.

He said the policy specifically seeks to distribute spending over time so that Rice will be able to support university operations today and in the future.

"Rice’s endowment funds are the permanent capital of the university; they were established to provide a perpetual source of revenue for current operations and certain capital needs," Long said. "So increasing the value of the endowment is always in Rice’s best interest."

However, he said he could not speculate on the future value of the endowment.

One part of the university that is not affected by the end of budget cuts is in the Jones Graduate School of Business, according to Jones School Dean Bill Glick. "He said the Jones School Business will receive an overhead amount from Rice and not be affected by the endowment," Leebron said. "The site was chosen because it is in the natural science area, and we wanted to create a sort of a focus area, but we could not have built a building big enough for astronomy here," Dunning said.

"This is an opportunity to bring together everyone," Dunning said. "Our faculty had been spread out over five buildings."

The idea to have a new physics building was initiated by former Dean of Natural Sciences Keith Matthews. According to Matthews, the project began in 1998.

"Brockman Hall was designed by the firm Eisen Teubal Ascani and emphasizes Rice’s interest in good architecture," He reiterated its importance for architecture to provide environments that inspire people, Leebron said. "It makes every building around it look better as well."

Although it is featured in the building name, the astronomy department will remain at its current location in Hermann Brown Hall. "The site was chosen because it is in the natural science area, and we wanted to create a sort of a focus area, but we could not have built a building big enough for astronomy here," Dunning said.

With Brockman’s two-foot-thick floors eliminating vibrations, physics research can now go on all day and night, Dunning said. In Hermann, researchers had to wait until night to do their work because of so many vibrations from the building, he said.

Herzstein will be renovated this summer, and the political science department is scheduled to relocate there from the Baker Institute. However, some physics classes will still be taught on the second floor and in the amphitheater, Dunning said.

"We are exceedingly fortunate and will be able to move to the next level in physics," Dunning said. "Rice is being very good to us."
The Harold E. and Margaret H. Rorschach Lecture in Legal History

Wednesday, April 6, 2011
Rice University Fondren Library
Kyle Morrow Room
6:30 p.m.

David R. Dow is the founder of the Texas Innocence Network, an organization that investigates claims of actual innocence brought by Texas prisoners. He is also the litigation director at the Texas Defender Service, a nonprofit law firm providing representation to death row inmates.

Dow's work has appeared in both scholarly journals and popular publications. His most recent books are "Executed on a Technicality," "America's Prophets: How Judicial Activism Makes America Great" and, most recently, "The Autobiography of an Execution."

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period March 22-28.

Criminal mischief

Burglary

Theft

Criminal mischief

Burglary

Theft

Burglary

Burglary

Theft

Residential Colleges

March 22

March 25

March 26

March 28

March 22

March 23

Sex offences

Theft

Burglary

Burglary

Theft

March 26

March 26

March 28

March 22

March 23

like the thresherr like facebook? like work for us?...
Students pick Obama in BISF debate on jobs

Ami Dave / Staff Reporter

The Baker Institute Student Forum hosted a student debate on March 22 about the current job market and whether President Barack Obama's policies have had a positive or negative impact on it. 

Teams of four representatives from the Rice University Young Democrats and the Rice University Conservative Forum attempted to persuade the audience to support their positions on government spending, size and regulations as they relate to the job market in the United States.

Representing the Rice University Young Democrats were Hansen junior Myla Bartew and Andrew People. Hansen junior Kevin Bahn and SDS Richon sophomore Rahul Reddi.

Representing the Rice University Conservative Forum were Hansen senior Sean Sessel, SDS Richon sophomore Anthony Lanzello, McMurtry freshman Eli Specter and Hansen sophomore Taylor Williams.

Audience members were given cards before and after the debate on which to vote on the impact Obama has had on the job market. Of the 47 people who voted prior to the start of the debate, eight believed that Obama's policies have had a negative impact, 26 believed they have had a positive impact and 19 audience members were undecided.

Thirty attendees submitted their cards at the end of the debate; seven believed Obama's policies have had a negative impact, 17 believed they have had a positive impact, and six were left undecided.

The debate covered many aspects of job market, focusing on the role of government in economic and related issues, like the stimulus package, health care reform, tax cuts and the deficit.

The debate began with opening remarks from the Conservative Forum.

"The solution is to pursue the creation of wealth by limiting spending, government size and lastly, regulations," Taylor Williams, Hansen '13. "Barack Obama has done the opposite, so we must conclude that he has had a negative impact on the job market in America."

In a middle ground, Young Democrat and Hansen junior Andrew Pegues said Obama's stimulus bill, which he argued generated money in the hands of the American people and was an investment in business in its own right due to the fiscal multiplicative effect. Obama "has helped revitalize and rebuild the regulatory structure and restart the economy during its downturn," Pegues said.

After opening statements from both sides, the issue of government spending was introduced, followed by government size and lastly, regulations. For all three topics, each side was allotted four minutes for opening remarks, 90 seconds for cross-examination of the opposition, a joint two minutes to take questions from the audience and a final 90 seconds for concluding remarks.

"I thought it was a fantastic debate," SDS Richon sophomore Scott Norgaard said. "The debate was so much research and acted very professionally. I attended the debate in order to be more informed about political issues, which I was."

Conservative Forum member Williams argued that regulations instead intrude on the freedom of American citizens.

"The current administration's only concern is to divide up an ever-shrinking pie differently," Williams said. "Its vision is one of people controlling, which, social and economic justice granted, is funded by the government."

Moderator and BISF President Derek Baha said it was a thrill for him to serve as moderator for such an enthusiastic debate. Debates attended were very engaged in the discussion, she said. Even after the debate ended, students were eager to volunteer their thoughts on the issues brought up by both the Conservative Forum and the Young Democrats.

Negotiations continued to discuss the new regime as a reorganized form of the old. Therefore, the debate was a fantastic debate, said SDS Richon sophomore Scott Norgaard. "The debate was so much research and acted very professionally. I attended the debate in order to be more informed about political issues, which I was."
Envision Grants fund student ideas

By Brooke Bullock
(Chronicle Staff)

Leadership Rice's Envision Grants are awarded to students with ideas that benefit a community and facilitate leadership among Rice students. According to Leadership Rice Director Judy Iae, this year's Envision grants fund four projects to create a long-lasting framework for leadership among students at Rice.

"We look for innovative ideas that benefit a community," Le said. "We also look for ideas that students show they are capable of executing." One List, proposed by Baker College junior Violette Krol and Will Rice College senior Emad Steck, received $500 to provide an online resource for Rice students to buy and sell goods like furniture on campus.

"One List shows another side of the Envision Grant," Associate Director of Leadership Rice Dustin Peterson said. "It's a kind of business idea." Moody College freshman Eli Speter and Wills College freshman Rohini Sigireddi's project "Rice Through the Decades," which received $600, has two parts. WebRice, a Wikipedia-like website students can edit about Rice, and a series of Podcasts that will begin in Oct. this year, although the podcasts are not fully planned yet. WebRice has already launched and Speter said it has taken off well.

"We have 2,000 views with 10 percent them making edits," Speter said. "We've had about 2,000 edits since the site opened about a month ago and have about 25 active contributors.

Sel Richardson college sophomore Rahul Rekhi's project RM1 received $500 to work with students at underserved colleges and universities. This organization will create a White Paper to advise universities and colleges on how to start, maintain and improve Rice-like programs like Brown University, Tufts University, UC Berkeley, University of Pittsburgh and University of Virginia.

"The goal of RM1 is to provide a framework for institutions to look at Rice and see how they can implement similar programs," Rekhi said. Finally, Brown College seniors Pierre Elias and Arin Forslack received $950 for the National Conference on Student Engaged Classes. The conference aims to improve SFCs at Rice by communicating with peers institutions that offer similar programs like Brown University, Tufts University, UC Berkley, University of Pittsburgh and University of Virginia.

"The conference will involve different online strategies to improve student engagement at Rice," Rekhi said. "We've had a lot of interest from Rice students and are looking for ideas that students show potential for emphasizing leadership on campus. However, Peterson said that students must develop that leadership and make the project work on their own. "Leadership is about having a big idea and making sure it doesn't die on your bosses' desk," Peterson said. "They have to make it happen."
**Need for competition**

**BY HENRY DENG**

As part of the Shell Distinquished Lecture Series, General Electric Company (GE) Chairman and CEO Jeffrey Immelt spoke on Wednesday at the Janes Center on global competition. Immelt, who leads President Barack Obama's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness, is working with other business leaders and economists to try to get Americans to recommit to work and to strengthen the US economy. In his view, the past decade has been difficult for the US as the global economy has been reset, and Americans can succeed in the new environment.

In order for the country to regain its competitiveness, Immelt said that leaders have to be learned from the past decade. There must be a balance between services and manufacturing. Experts must increase to reduce the trade deficit and savings have to rise while keeping leverage in moderation.

Furthermore, the nation has to cure inequality and unemployment while reducing the budget deficit.

As the CEO of the second-largest company in the world, Immelt said he feels that private enterprises have to be jousting for change by importing, innovating and manufacturing more. Immelt discussed key changes in the view, the past decade has been difficult for the US as the global economy has been reset, and Americans can succeed in the new environment.

According to Immelt, the council has identified some areas of focus around the long-term performance of education. In public schools, maths and science need to be improved to prepare students for the future. Engineers must be given the chance to export, innovating and manufacturing more.

Immelt discussed how he plans to increase the country's exports to reduce the trade deficit and savings have to rise while keeping leverage in moderation. Furthermore, the nation has to cure inequality and unemployment while reducing the budget deficit.

As the CEO of the second-largest company in the world, Immelt said he feels that private enterprises have to be jousting for change by importing, innovating and manufacturing more. Immelt discussed key changes in the view, the past decade has been difficult for the US as the global economy has been reset, and Americans can succeed in the new environment.

In education, every year.

A really impressive slate of candidates applied,” Cason said. “We interviewed 12 or 13, and they were all super. Rice would have been well served by any of them.”

Leibson said that applicants are drawn to the small size of Rice because there is more chance to make an impact and move forward. Thomas in particular stood out because he is an extraordinarily distinguished scientist and has a strong track record as an academic leader. Leibson also said that Thomas’ experience in research and help Rice continue its efforts to become a greater research institution.

“Rice is not a miniature MIT,” Burrus said. “He should listen and learn what Rice is like — especially about what you don’t find online.”

Leibson said that they are very excited about Thomas’ coming to Rice and look forward to his input and leadership to the engineering school.

“We are really thrilled with the results of this search and excited to bring a leader with global standing to the university,” Leibson said.

**NEW DEAN FROM PAGE 1**

MIT's School of Engineering has been ranked number one by U.S. News World Report for all 22 years that Thomas has been on staff there.

Glaser said that the search committee in charge of finding a new engineering dean was able to communicate very well and work together. The committee had a representative from every engineering department, one undergraduate student representative and one graduate student representative. They began searching in August and submitted recommendations to the president and provost around mid-December.

**“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)

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AN OPEN DIALOGUE

**HIV TESTS ARE NOT FOR THE POSITIVE.**

**AN OPEN DIALOGUE**
For those who cannot attend:
An alternate, similar program called Admit Days is offered on three dates: April 13, 15 and 18.

Needed: As many volunteers and hosts as possible. Sign up at http://goo.gl/CRhfl or contact your Owl Days College Liaison to find out how else you can help.

A two-day program including tours of the campus, sitting in on classes, information sessions and panels, student-led activities and staying overnight in one of the residential colleges.

WHAT

April 7-8 (next Thursday and Friday)

WHO

Over 1,000 current high school seniors who have been admitted into Rice.

WHY

So admitted students and their families can get a closer look of life on campus.

Planned Activities

Prospective students will be allowed to sit in on classes, and a group of residential college liaisons are planning various college-specific activities.

The Rice Philharmonics co-ed a cappella group (shown left) and improv comedy troupe Spontaneous Combustion (at right) will perform Thursday night, and a Club & Activities Fair will be held on Friday.

*These events have not been finalized.

Three different perspectives on Owl Days

Associate Director of Admission Fling Jackson

Who: A member of the Admission Office who works with the student Admission Council to plan Owl Days.

Favorite part: "Meeting new and interesting people. It is always cool to see familiar faces matriculate the following fall, sometimes even prospies you hosted!"

Least favorite part: "It is absolutely exhausting in combination with school work! I am sure I will be catching up on some much needed rest the weekend following Owl Days. It's exhausting because the SAC wants each and every prospective student to walk away with a realistic, accurate picture of Rice and how they can fit in here."

Biggest challenge: "Having a little something for every type of personality. That is why we are trying to offer more evening activities than in previous years."

Martel College sophomore Ginny Johnson

Who: A member of the Student Admission Council's Executive Board who helps plan the activities for Owl Days.

Favorite part: "Meeting new and interesting people. It is always cool to see familiar faces matriculate the following fall, sometimes even prospies you hosted!"

Least favorite part: "It is absolutely exhausting in combination with school work! I am sure I will be catching up on some much needed rest the weekend following Owl Days. It's exhausting because the SAC wants each and every prospective student to walk away with a realistic, accurate picture of Rice and how they can fit in here."

Biggest challenge: "Having a little something for every type of personality. That is why we are trying to offer more evening activities than in previous years."

Martel College sophomore Ben Chou

Who: Current student who attended Owl Days before coming to Rice.

Favorite part: "The socials at night. There was a pizza social at Lovett and ice cream in the RMC. I thought, 'Wow, there's lots of free food. This is going to be awesome.'"

Least favorite part: "The tours. Walking around in the heat was unbearable."

Suggested improvements: "I'd make it more formalized in that we should incorporate more current student involvement with the prospies, like having college governments or some large SA event to welcome them. Then, they'll think we really care because we're pulling the big guys out just to greet them, and we'll get a higher matriculation rate."

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Spelling Bee unusual, fun

JOE DYER
THREATENER STAFF

Rice Theater's production of

25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Directed by: Paul Hope
Run Playing: April 1-2-7-9-12 p.m., Hammer Hall
Price: $5 students, $7 faculty and staff, $10 general

Spelling Bee is a musical, with the pit orchestra moved from the usual spot in front of or next to the stage onto the stage itself. This works surprisingly well, allowing for some humorous interaction between the actors and members of the pit, as well as serving the functional purpose of ending competition between performers of the pit. It is a common problem with college theater and Rice Light Opera Society productions for the pit to drown out the cast, but this simple maneuver — why more productions haven't done this in the past is beyond me — coupled with fantastic enunciation makes for a musical that is both entertaining and unusual in almost every aspect. It's a musical squeezed into a single act that runs a mere hour and a half without a single scene change, yet even with this breakneck pace, the viewer becomes acquainted with a disparate gang of middle schoolers all competing for spelling bee glory and the chance to continue to the national competition in Washington D.C.

Even the stage setup is odd for a musical, with the pit orchestra moved from the usual spot in front of or next to the stage onto the stage itself. This works surprisingly well, allowing for some humorous interaction between the actors and members of the pit, as well as serving the functional purpose of ending competition between performers of the pit. It is a common problem with college theater and Rice Light Opera Society productions for the pit to drown out the cast, but this simple maneuver — why more productions haven't done this in the past is beyond me — coupled with fantastic enunciation makes for a musical that is both entertaining and unusual in almost every aspect. It's a musical squeezed into a single act that runs a mere hour and a half without a single scene change, yet even with this breakneck pace, the viewer becomes acquainted with a disparate gang of middle schoolers all competing for spelling bee glory and the chance to continue to the national competition in Washington D.C.

Liz Castillo and Matt Banks play students competing to be spelling bee champions in Rice Theater's new show.

THE WEEKLY SCENE

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

AMADEUS

The Alley Theater's newest production, Amadeus, opens this weekend with special $10 performance tomorrow at 12 p.m. This Tony award-winning play is the real life story of composers Salieri and Mozart which will surprise you.

SISTERS

Glam-pop/disco band the Scissors Sisters are playing Monday at 9 p.m. at Warehouse Live for $32.50. This band is kind of bizarre and their song "Laura" was really popular for a short amount of time, remember?

POW WOW

Did you know pow wow is two different words? I didn't either! Learn about other cool Native American things at Rice's 17th Annual Pow Wow today at 6 p.m. Fire tacos and T-shirts are yeah!

COUGAR

Original musical Cougar High, written and composed by Mar- tel College junior Keill Alle- gretti, opens tomorrow at 8 p.m. for $9. The plot revolves around Reggie, a fallen football captain with explosive diarrhea.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

KENSEY KING

The basic plot of Aida is reminiscent of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, although it is set in a very different time and place. The opening scene takes place inside a museum in Washington D.C. and introduces the story and the audience to ancient Egypt. The production then follows the actions of Aida, a former Nubian citizen, and instantly falls in love with her. Aida, Raah on display, Amneris, comes to life as she captures Aida's inner struggle between the love for her people and for Radames onstage.

Taking the lead male role, Brown College sophomore John Mendell's voice is perfect for the role of Radames and although he does not physically fit the description of an Egyptian war captain, his power and authority is undeniable. Even for seasoned actors, romantic chemistry is challenging to portray, but Mendell and Jeon manage to ignite a few sparks in their scenes together. Jones College junior and college theater veteran Lilla Ponick gives another radiant performance as she plays Amneris, the misunderstood and unappreciated Egyptian Princess. Her songs, especially "My Strongest Suit," showcase her vocal and acting ability. Ponick definitely gives the strongest overall performance in the show.

Two faculty members take the stage in this production. Wiesen Master Mike Gustin plays the dying Pharaoh and does a terrific job, adding humor to the musical. Wiesen Associate Vi- wie Sacker plays the King of Nubia, Amenemhat, and while he is only in a couple of scenes, he greatly executes.

The rest of the cast members, however, prevent the show from reaching its full potential. Aida fails to compensate for their small cast as the dance routines are sloppy and the singing leaves something to be desired. Although the choreography in Aida is
Classic Flicks: My Neighbor Totoro evocative of a simpler time

Joseph Allencherril

Why has animation been so popular these days? Recently, Avatar, a 3D animation-heavy film about a planet of blue-hued alien hybrids, became the highest-grossing film of all time. Pixar, the studio that produced animated films such as Toy Story and Finding Nemo, has also produced great commercial successes worldwide.

After re-watching Hayao Miyazaki's film My Neighbor Totoro, I began to realize just what it is that makes such films so successful. I don't believe the greatest animated films achieve such wide success with audiences simply because there are childrenrug their parents to the theaters to watch some cute live-action films featuring talking animals and hearts for the umpteenth time in a row. It's quite possible for one to mistake Miyazaki's films as manufactured for a juvenile audience (as I did, once upon a time).

In fact, to the uninitiated observer, Miyazaki's home is "haunted" — but not "haunted" in the manner of an American horror flick. The storytelling conventions of Japanese master can appear foreign to westerners; for instance, villains rarely feature in Miyazaki's films. His films brim with sunny happiness and they embrace life: I can't help but recall the carefree innocence of childhood when watching this film.

Furthermore, Miyazaki and his fellow animators at Studio Ghibli take their work seriously. Miyazaki himself meticulously draws tens of thousands of frames by hand, and — unlike his American counterparts — did not add computers to his animation arsenal until 1997. It is difficult not to be tickled by the lovely, optimistic films of Miyazaki. His works completed with Studio Ghibli are worth watching at least once. His films have been delighting international audiences since the early 1990s, and they will continue to do so for current and future generations. I can confidently recommend Miyazaki's oeuvre: Castle in the Sky (1989), My Neighbor Totoro (1988), Kiki's Delivery Service (1989), Princess Mononoke (1997), Spirited Away (2001), Howl's Moving Castle (2004), PONYO (2008). Give them a try, and you may find yourself unable to do anything but smile, laugh and reminisce.

Joseph Allencherril is a Will Rice College sophomore. Classic Flicks is a column reexamining the best that cinema has to offer.

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New adaptation of Jane Eyre beautiful, haunting

AARON PASTOR
FOR THE THRASHER

Eerie music parallels a trembling camera shot of a hearing gate, it seems as if the viewer's own feet are tittering and falling over the moat. In the opening moments of Jane Eyre the audience is Jane Eyre, experiencing her escape from Mr. Rochester's estate after learning about the mad wife he keeps locked and hidden on the third floor.

Jane Eyre

Starring: Mia Wasikowska, Michael Fassbender
Rated: R (13)
Released: March 11

And so, with the flurry of Jane's exodus once more into the bitter wilds of the world, director Cary Joji Fukunaga's (Sin Nombre) stunning adaptation of the Charlotte Bronte classic Jane Eyre begins. Not a prototypical stuffy Victorian literature novel awkwardly transposed onto film, Jane Eyre is a nuanced portrait, tastily exploiting both the introspective and Gothic elements evident in the text.

Fukunaga weaves a compelling narrative, utilizing flashbacks from Jane's present situation at the Rivers to explore her childhood and tenure as a governess. In revealing Jane's "rule of war" eating such a fluid timeline, the audience is kept awak and curious.

Mia Wasikowska (Alice in Wonderland) is haunting as Jane Eyre, the "small and plain" governess and biographer. Jamie Bell (Billy Elliot) charms as St. John Rivers, who seems to harbor a secret affection for Jane even as he tries to build her into becoming his missionary wife.

In a departure from the text's description of a cold and calculating reciter later revealed to be Jane's cousin, Bell plays Rivers with a twinkle and dash of naiveté, and the Rivers family claims no relatives to Jane. Home boy Dev Patel turns a humbling and unassuming man into the character of Mrs. Fairfax, though as a stout English maid she provides some comic relief in her interaction with the country of Jane's French pugil Adèle. Michael Fassbender (just in perfect as Rochester: gloomier, moodily unknown and definitively not a poet) provides the perfect Rochester.

Fukunaga's adaptation highlights the proto-feminist element of Jane Eyre, in its exploration of Jane's journey to independence (wavering in the novel with her inheritance of wealth). Indeed, fate remarks to Mrs. Fairfax at one point that it "pains [her] to agonize that the horizon is so limited." Jane yearns for an independent, secure life beyond the confines of the dowered Red Room where her aunt locks her up.

In the rainy reaction in which Jane and Rochester engage, Fukunaga captures the fighting spirit in the otherwise demure goveness, giving her the tenacity and spirit that set her apart from the staid, shadowy women in the film. Jane boldly informs Rochester she certainly does not consider him handsome and carefully remarks that all though some might submit to anything for a salary, she has standards, Jane has an identity, and although she works as a governess, she will not desert her fate to Rochester with false praise.

Though at times the repressed Victorian state of the characters is too hampered and ceasingly evident that Jane's life keep the film flowing.

Additionally, Bertha Mason, the mad wife of Rochester played by Valentina Cervi (The Portrait of a Lady), is left completely untapped. She represents a truly Gothic character of horror, and Fukunaga neglects to utilize the Gothic and Romantic into a nuance study of a woman's journey of independence and her romantic love. Jane Eyre is a well executed and modern approach to one of the most important novels of the 19th century.
Vinyl: Portishead’s trip-hop synthesis

Siegfried Bilstein

It took a while to get there, but by the late '90s trip-hop had cemented its place into mainstream American consciousness. Ray music was everywhere, from the pop charts with MC Hammer to the underground with alternative groups like The Phynanche. Naturally, as with everything with music genres (think punk or blues music), the movement transformed into a genre, splintering into categories like alternative, gangsta or pop-rap. Even though hip-hop as a unified cultural movement no longer existed, this level of development opened the doors for artists of different traditions to experiment with hip-hop's fundamental ideas. While some bands, like Blodje and the Clash, did incorporate aspects of hip-hop into their music, it wasn't until the '90s that the growth of fusion cross-genre bands really picked up.

Some obvious spin-offs are bands like Rage Against The Machine and The Red Hot Chili Peppers. While they are arguably the most successful, these bands are representative of a very popular Los Angeles aesthetic at the time: occasional rapping and singing accompanied by heavy bass lines and hip-hop drums. Electronic music took a note of hip-hop also; the Chemical Brothers, Prodigy and other artists of the nascent big beat genre took the hip-hop notion of a breakbeat to the extreme.

Trip-hop, a rap-free fusion of hip-hop sampling and sultry female vocals, was also born in this era. Portishead are a representative of alternative groups like The Pharcyde. Gibbons' longing voice and you have an atmospheric sounds and vocalist Beth Gibbons' strength. Throw in some eerie and bass work. Portishead's debut album Dummy is an excellent example of the trip-hop sentiment.

In album opener "Mysteria," trackable swirling, snare rolls and heavy backbeats blend in with the more traditional and dark guitar and bass work. Throw in some eerie atmospherics and vocaliz Beth Gibbons' longing voice and you have a track that somehow takes the fun out of breakbeat and replaces it with a gloomy beauty that is just as satisfying. Most of the album proceeds in the same way, with Gibbons' voice carrying a desperate angst supported by syntexsmiths, samples and beautiful guitar work. Gibbons really drives the band, if it wasn't for her voice "Trip Hop Could Be Sweet," the best would have been simply a generic, unaired beat. While every song on the album is an excellent listen, they sound similar, with varying ratios of guitar to vocals to electronics.

Trip-hop exists in a strange place. Situated somewhere in between trip-hop and electronica with a post-punk attitude, it's difficult to imagine until you listen to it. The slowed-down beats are reminiscent of reggae, and were probably heavily influenced by the large Caribbean population in England. There isn't anything rough or stereotyping about trip-hop; its music merely represents a strictly British re-imagining of American beats in the context of a vibrant electronic scene. British music critic Simon Reynolds even said the genre was "merely a form of globalization." However, trip-hop's lovely aesthetic, presented so well by Portishead's Dummy, forgives the lack of substance.

Portishead entered the mainstream with their big hit "Four Tet," the music managed to chart at number five on Billboard's hot 100, and its unsettling metallic rattling and dissonant bass line would go on to garner a smooth-talking Big Fat breeze on GFI's Talk's recently popular "You're a Star." Portishead's trip-hop never achieved the success or notoriety of its cousin genres like rap-rock, it helped them enter the mainstream like Portishead's Dummy, forgives the stage nails the look of a school band. The stage, designed by director of the college's design, helped them look convincingly like carefree children instead of overworked college students. The costumes went a long way to helping character and each role. Leaf Coneybear wears a patchwork pink dress made to look like a cape, while William Barfee sports taped glasses, apple socks and black and white sneakers.

The stage design and lighting, directed by McMurtry College senior Helen Show, are fantastic. The stage nails the look of a school band. The stage band, including marching band and cymbal room while the lights shined their musical notes at all numbers and help clearly delineate sides or flashbacks into the bee pageant.

And that's where the play succeeds - the auditions and flashbacks turn an ordinary story about children competing in a spelling bee into a deeper narrative about the ripple effect of each musical number coming across clear crystal. Putnam County's simple plot is complemented by a small but extremely strong cast of characters, each with their own unique qualities: Portishead's heavy bass and his "magic words," as he plays out his character in the show "The Gods Love Nick," lacks harmony and unity. When the orchestra is unable to save the show from its usual well-executed music, along with a little audience interaction as well. If you've never made it out to Hamman Hall for an AIDA performance, there's no better time than now.
Whitehead rolls to first career tournament victory
Golf finishes fourth in Laredo behind single-round team score in school history

by Paul Fitzgerald

Whitehead's 62 also set the Rice record for lowest score in a single round, enabling Rice to finish fourth in a field that featured five of the top 10 teams in the country. The fourth place finish gives the Owls a team of momentum heading into The Bankcorp South Intercollegiate in Madison, Miss. Coach Scott thought the team's performance could be a game-changer during the team's final two events.

"Ole Miss won't be as deep as Border, and conference will only have two home meets. We're on our own island in Laredo, and they're looking to connect," Whitehead said.

The Bankcorp South Intercollegiate is hosted by the University of Mississippi and will feature a number of Southeastern Conference schools that will provide Whitehead and Rice with a stiff test. The event will be the Owls' final regular season event before traveling to Texarkana, Ark., for the Conference USA Championship in the latter half of April. With only two events left in his Rice career, it may be time to think about Whitehead's place in Rice golf history. Whitehead, however, refuses to give himself the title of Rice's greatest golfer.

"Chris Brown [Brown '10] won two tournaments this season, and Brad Lardon [Lardon '08] made it all the way to the PGA Tour," Whitehead said.

Yet the presence of the remaining two events, plus a certain appearance at NCAA Regionals, will give Whitehead the opportunity to establish himself as the greatest Rice golfer. However, Brown holds a different opinion than his former teammate.

"Well, I guess I only held the title of Rice's greatest golfer for one year," Brown said.

Men's track at home during Lopez Classic

by Jonathan Myers

The Owls will travel to Nacogdoches, Texas, for the Conference USA Championship, and the team's performance could be a game-changer during the team's final two events.

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With the outdoor season nearly three weeks old, one could have easily expected the Owls' track team to be struggling. Lack of home meets, as in the 29th Victor Lopez Classic last weekend, was a big factor. The Owls fell against the top teams in the country.

"Sophomore Clayton Chaney pole vaults at last week's Victor Lopez Classic at Holloway Field. The Owls' next event is tomorrow at the Stephen F. Austin Invitational held in Nacogdoches, Texas.

For the Conference USA Championship, and the team's performance could be a game-changer during the team's final two events.

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Inconsistency plagues sluggers against Knights
McDowell out for year after surgery, Owls dig themselves hole with series loss to UCF

by Dan Eledge

Inconsistency plagues sluggers against Knights

Freshman Philipp Selkert returns the ball during his singles match against Mario Samson of UCF. Rice will take on Texas tomorrow in Austin.

University in a match that was a thrill-
ing 4-3 victory for the Owls. Tec3 had
the early start, as they took the doubles
point to go out to a 1-0 early lead. The
Owls came back to go ahead in the
match, 2-1, thanks to two-set wins from
Mokyr, Sam and sophomore
Peter Frank. Junior Sean Garforth-Riles
won it for the Owls with a 7-5 win in his
third set tie-breaker to give him the vic-
tory and the Owls the match.

Assistant Coach Elie Unstundag felt
that even though the Owls almost lost
the match, the team did everything that
the coaches wanted them to do and
then some, which led to the victory.

“Overall, it was a phenomenal win
for us, as there was hard work across all
courts, as our panes played well,
looked for openings and never gave up
when they were behind in matches,”
Unstundag said.

However, the Owls’ winning streak
came to a wreaking halt against the
Aggies on Rice was dropped, 6-1. All
three of the Aggies pairs won their dou-
bles’ matches to take an early 1-0 lead
in the match. Rice could not recover
from their rough start as Texas A&M
won five of the six singles matches to
cruise to an easy victory. Garforth-Riles
was the only Owl to win his match to
prevent a 7-0 sweep.

The Owls are now 15-5 and are
ranked 9th in the nation as they head
into this weekend to play at the Univer-
sity of Texas on Saturday before road
meetings with conference foe the Uni-
versity of Tulsa and the Big 12’s Univer-
sity of Oklahoma.

Texas is currently ranked sixth in
the nation, as they also have a 15-5
record on the year including an ear-
er 4-0 sweep of the Owls on Jan. 30 in
Austin. However, the Longhorns have
been struggling as of late as they have
dropped three of their last five matches.

Unstundag worried about these
next three opponents, as they are all
in the top 25, but realizes that the Owls
can compete with them thanks to their
tremendous depth.

“Our biggest weapon is being able
to go after opponents with depth, as
we have good strength through one to
six, while the top teams are usually very
strong at the front but can be weak in
the back,” Unstundag said.

Fowler agrees that these next couple
of weeks will be a challenge but that the
Owls can compete with them thanks to their
tremendous depth.

“We feel like we have a complete
lineup and play consistently, then we
can play with any team in the nation,”
Fowler said.

Unstundag feels that the Owls can
pull off an upset or two if they stick to
the way they have been playing in the
last three weeks, as they have started to
play more consistently and have made
better decisions on the court.

“What matters the most is who can
execute and, in a way, who wants it
more,” Unstundag said. “We certainly
are capable of winning if we execute
and play smart like we have been over
the past couple of weeks.”

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McDowell out for year after surgery, Owls dig themselves hole with series loss to UCF

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THE RICE THRESHER

Friday, April 3, 2003

16 SPORTS
FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2011
THE RICE THUNDER

Baseball compiles winning streak

by Ryan Glassman
Wesyer Stam

As the most successful sports program at Rice over the past few years, the Owls' baseball team faces no shortage of expectations for an annual home run.

Needless to say, a win start as of Mar. 16 and an inconsistent offensive performance might meet these expectations. Rice welcomed Louisiana Tech University to Reckling Park for a three-game series starting on Friday afternoon, with McDowell taking the mound. McDowell was sharp, striking out the side to clinch the Rice victory.

But the fifth inning would be the undoing of the Owls, as seven hits without allowing a run, scoring a career high 10 runners with a late-tailing fastball overpowering the Bulldogs hitters. In appropriate fashion, the game's first run came unearned on a passed ball at the plate.

Continuing the act with the way next at bat was Breihan third baseman Shane Heslacher, who drove a ball in the left field gap for a double of his own and two more hits to give Rice the 9-2 lead. After an unsportsmanlike run extended the Owl lead, freshman shortstop Derek Hamilton slammed the door shut by striking out the side to clinch the Rice victory in the series opener.

Head Coach Wayne Graham's squad takes two of three matches against Tyler Junior College (11-8) to record their eighth loss of the season, as they fell 4-3 to then-unranked Texas Christian University (4-6) on Mar. 25. But the Owls clearly had no score decided by singles wins. With the CGSA Championship looming in three weeks, the Owls lost no match already in hand, Anicete picked up her team-leading 13th singles win on a high note for Rice, as all three USA opponents. The match started off on a high note for Rice, as all three US

Women's tennis takes two of three

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After freshman Dominique Harmath and Kim Anicete picked up their team-leading 13th singles wins of the season, respectively, it seemed that Rice had the match nearly won with a 9-2 lead, but the Hotbed Frosos, who had won 10 against the Owls, were not about to concede the match. The remaining matches were all dominated by TCU early, as each of the first sets of the matches were taken by TCU. But each remaining rice player rallied to force a third set in their match, needing just one more win in one of the matches to defeat their rivals from Fort Worth, but despite their valiant comeback efforts in the single matches, TCU swept all four ties sets in dominating fashion, winning two of the sets 6-0 and two by a score of 6-1 to pull out the victory.

With the season comeback by TCU fresh on their minds, it wouldn't have been easy for the Owls to face their first-seeded singles match, Rice's Carson Campbell, who had won 10 straight against the Shockers' Delia Damaschin, giving campus a first-set victory. The win moved Rice to 3-3 in the season.

TRAILER

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2011
THE RICE THUNDER

Baseball compiles winning streak

by Ryan Glassman
Wesyer Stam

As the most successful sports program at Rice over the past few years, the Owls' baseball team faces no shortage of expectations for an annual home run.

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two runs in the sixth. Beckling un-derlined the first hit of the seventh, before pinch hitter Colby Johnson singled to left field to break up the no-hitter. Beckling received a strong curtain from the home crowd before working out of the inning uncathed.

Beckling would be removed after seven innings, allowing no runs on one hit while striking out nine over the course of the 15-9 win in the opener.

FROM PAGE 17

Rice women run against the opposition at the Victor Lopez Classic on Saturday. The Owls issued a second single to the Stephen F. Austin Quad alongside the men tomorrow in Nacogdoches, Texas.

by Natalie Clericuzio

Unlike any other race in track and field, the steeplechase is like a high-speed obstacle course around the oval. During this 3,000-meter event, competitors cross 28 barriers comprised of 38 inch by four inch blocks of wood and jump over a 12-foot water jump seven times. The steeplechase is adapted from the French peregrinating event of the same name.

Don’t tell that to redshirt freshman Lindsay Miller. Last Friday night, Miller competed in her first and only steeplechase in her career save, as Rice cruised to the 7-2 win. Miller said, “I had no expectation of winning,” Miller said. “It was really exciting to try something new and really go at it with everything I had and have it pay off. I love the steeplechase race because it’s a different race than any-thing else, but that certainly made it really exciting to succeed in.”

Bevan said that Miller’s performance showed that she indeed had what it takes to excel in the race. Miller’s performance overcame people who have good endurance and the ability to adapt for their feet and strong legs and who are fairly coordi- nated,” Bevan said. “It’s a very hard event, and apparently it’s a very good event for Lindsey Miller.”

“She moved up from fifth to fourth to third to second, and she sat in sec- ond place on the heels of the leader for two and a half laps, and then she outled the leader in the last 200.” Overall, Bevan believes Miller has great potential.

“I think her future is very bright; she will only get better.”

In addition to Miller’s perfor- mance, several other Owls shone for the women’s track team over the weekend. Senior Sarah Agana placed first in the triple jump, posting her longest jump in two years at 46’10.” Redshirt freshman Aaron Factor fin- ished third in the 1,500-meter run, posting a lifetime best of 4:09.27. In the hammer throw, senior Dana Rob- linson placed second overall, throw- ing 159’7”, just three feet off her lifetime best mark and ahead of her progress in the time last year, accord- ing to Bevan. Robinson’s younger sister Sharae, a sophomore, placed sixth with a lifetime best of 41’9”, and junior Brittany Brown rounded out the top eight with a toss of 133’4”.

Rice’s 4x400-meter relay placed fifth overall, thanks to the following runners: sophomore Lillian Luevan, Agana, junior Maya Kirk and senior Sarah Lynn. Lynn’s anchors leg, with a split of 53” seconds, was the fastest she has run in two years, Kirk, how- ever, stole the show in the third leg of the relay.

Bevan said that Kirk’s no-holds-barred performance was nothing short of inspirational.

“We had seen glimpses of her ability in practices but never really realized just as fast as she can run until Saturday night,” Bevan said. “When she got the stick on the third leg, she looked the best she’s ever seen her, and she laid it all on the line. She ran an unbelievably fast leg for 56 percent of the race.”

“She inspired me, and she in- spired the team with her ability to just go out and lay it on the line and put the success of hers where it was. If she continues to do that, she’ll become a very good 400 runner because she split her 200 and 300 segments extremely fast.”

Next week the women’s track and field team will aim to continue its successes, traveling to compete at Stephen F. Austin University against SFA, the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff and the University of Louisi- ana Monroe.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2011

WOMEN SOAR AT LOPEZ CLASSIC BEHIND MILLER

Registration start times are available based on the total number of hours completed:

**Priority registration for all students begins on Sun, April 10th. Regular registration continues through Fri, April 15th.**

Students who register after 5:00 p.m. on Fri, April 15th will be assessed a Late Registration Fee.

Students can ADD or DROP courses in ESTHER through:

• Fri, Apr 7th (Week 2—ADD)
• Fri, Apr 7th (Week 7—DROP)

Questions?

Office of the Registrar website: http:// registrar.rice.edu/

http://registrar.rice.edu/students/registration

Academic Calendar: http:// registrar.rice.edu/calendars/fall11/

**Create A World I Love**

**Learn About It (HIV)**

**You MAY HAVE NOTICED THESE BLACK SQUARES**

**AWARE**

**TESTED**

**Graduate Students**

| 1 | 110.00-129.99 | 5:30 p.m. |
| 2 | 120.00-134.99 | 5:45 p.m. |
| 3 | 135.00-159.99 | 6:00 p.m. |
| 4 | 160.00-199.99 | 6:15 p.m. |
| 5 | 200.00-279.99 | 6:45 p.m. |
| 6 | 280.00-330.00 | 7:00 p.m. |
| 7 | 330.00-379.99 | 7:15 p.m. |
| 8 | 380.00-419.99 | 7:30 p.m. |
| 9 | 420.00-479.99 | 7:45 p.m. |
| 10 | 480.00-529.99 | 8:00 p.m. |
| 11 | 530.00-599.99 | 8:15 p.m. |
| 12 | 600.00-699.99 | 8:30 p.m. |
| 13 | 700.00-799.99 | 8:45 p.m. |
| 14 | 800.00-899.99 | 9:00 p.m. |
| 15 | 900.00-999.99 | 9:15 p.m. |
| 16 | 1000.00-1999.99 | 9:30 p.m. |
**FRIDAY**

**J-U-V-E-N-E-S-C-E-N-C-E**

Do you remember middle school? You probably try not to, since you were most likely wearing sandals with ankle-high socks and sporting bright green braces. Relive your past with a cast of socially awkward spoilers at The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, a musical about six kids vying for the trophy and a way to fit in.

Performances are in Hamman Hall and start today and tomorrow at 8 p.m. Sunday at 3 p.m. and next Thursday through Saturday. Tickets are $5 for students, $10 for faculty, staff and 8th grade and $15 for the others.

**Hey-ho Pharaoh**

Wince Talkshop Theatre presents Allo, the classic love story of an enslaved Nabian princess and an Egyptian soldier. Leave your opera glasses and ball gowns at home; this is not the classic Verdi, but rather the piece musical by Elton John. Allo is a series of those roles and has your plate-sized margarita glasses because this show just became a whole lot more exciting. Performances are today and tomorrow at 8 p.m., as well as next week Thursday through Saturday, also at 8 p.m. Tickets are $5 for students, $10 for faculty and staff and $15 for the others.

Don't be a drag

Bring on the high heels and the attitude, the fake moustaches and the stuffed un-done pets. It's time for Queens and Allies Annual Drag Show! There will be professionals as well as student performers, all to raise money for a local LGBT youth organization. Save up all of your dollar bills because those bras will need some stuff. The show starts at 8 p.m. in Willy's Pub, and free food and drinks are provided.

**SATURDAY**

Midnight movie

No, it's not Harry Potter and you do not have to wait in line for it, although you are certainly welcome to dress in costume. The Rice Program Council will be hosting a free showing of The King's Speech in the Grand Hall of the RMC, and refreshments will be available starting at 11:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY**

**Putting the “A” in LGBTQA**

Come to Ally Training for an interactive and thought-provoking training session on how to best be an ally to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community at Rice. Everybody is welcome, and Misters, RAs, RHAs, college coordinators and college leadership are especially encouraged to attend. It will be today from 2 to 5 p.m. in HUMA 119. Attendees will receive a “Rice Ally” placard and pins. Those who do not attend will receive a Westbond Baptist Church placard and pins.

**MONDAY**

Not exactly Peter Pan

The Rice African Student Association and the Partnership for the Advancement and Immersion of Refugees are teaming up with Invisible Children to host an event to raise awareness about the plight of children in African countries who are abducted and forced into child soldiers. The event takes place in the Herschel G. H. Alexander Theatre at 7 p.m.

**TUESDAY**

**Proopie hunting season**

Today all of the impressive youngsters will come to try a bit of Rice life. If you have volunteered to host, please keep in mind that Rice is perfect and all of the universities currently have a chlamydia epidemic. 

**THURSDAY**

A clan of composers collaborated on a piece inspired by current installation at the Rice Gallery, Mary Temple's Northwest Cantata. South is right. Therefore, we can only assume that it is intended for a trio of hurdy gurdies and a solo sousaphone. There will be a performance that piece this evening at 7 p.m. in the Rice Gallery; admission is free.
Rice Bracketology: Win a Final Four Ticket

As Backpage editors we often receive various pitches with the job. The scooter, the women, the women on scooters. This week was no exception as our sports editors offer up four tickets to the Final Four Championships on Monday. Some of our more mathematically inclined readers will realize that this is one more ticket then there are Backpage editors. After realizing we couldn't sell the extra ticket, we decided to do the right thing and offer it to a Rice student whose parents are loyal readers in a contest that would rival Willy Wonka. So hold on to your seats because its time for the Backpage Final Four Extravaganza!

Fill out the bracket below and send it to us. We will announce the winner Sunday to 10 p.m. who will join us at Reliant Stadium on Monday night. Bribes are also encouraged.

FACEBOOK— In a stunning reversal of fate, Duncan College sophomore Farrah Madanay has done well on the organic chemistry test she took last week despite her previous concerns.

"The third problem was something that I never thought would be on the test. And the last one was something from the homework we never went over." She also offered harsh criticism of organic chemistry Professor Eugane Zanane.

Madanay later began visiting different tables in the common discussing the pressing issue of the test. When other students brought up other issues such as spring break plans, Madanay brought the topic of discussion back to her talking points. For instance responding to the comment "I can't wait to go home this May" with "That's cool you're from New Orleans. The devastation of Hurricane Katrina kind of reminds me of my orgo test." The Duncaroo continued such comments and helped brace the Rice community for the low grade she was bound to receive with a media blitz on Facebook.

When the grades were handed out, Madanay was utterly and sincerely shocked by having received 94 percent. In an attempt to remain humble, the sophomore did not publicly reveal her grade, but tactfully brought it up by asking others what grade they got. She also praised Zanane. "I was really worried at first, but luckily he is a great professor." Loober has yet to make a post on Facebook regarding the situation, but is expected to give his opinion on what is obviously campus issue that deserves incredible attention.

The Backpage is satire and is written by Alex Weinheimer, Anthony Lauriello, and Zach Casias. Email questions or concerns to rice-jobs@testmasters.com.