Marshall scholars awarded

BY ELLEN LIU
Thresher Editorial Staff

Rice continues to reach beyond the borders of our campus and the United Kingdom next fall to pursue their graduate studies practically free of charge as Marshall Scholars.

The Marshall Scholarship was awarded in 1953 to recognize students who excel in academics, leadership and ambassadorial potential. The scholarship funds two years of graduate study at any U.S. institution, covering university fees, cost of living expenses, various grants and travel to and from the United States.

Lavett College senior Karenne Ayoub and Temporary Research Program Coordinator Jecca Steinberg (Brown '11) were selected for this distinction from a pool of almost 1,500 nominees.

Ayoub, a bioengineering major, said he plans to complete a master's in neuroscience and master's of research in experimental science at either Oxford University or the College of Imperial Medicine, with focus on an international science policy and ethical issues in the practice of research and medicine.

He said he hopes to pursue an M.D. in neurosurgery upon returning to the U.S.

Ayoub added that his passion in the areas stemmed from his family.

"My younger sister was born to me, had multiple sclerosis, and I was born in the U.S. but moved to several different countries in the Middle East, which opened my eyes to different cultures and sparked my international interest," Ayoub said.

Dhamaka rocks the Grand Hall, again

Groups take to the stage in the Grand Hall for the annual Dhamaka show on Saturday, performances included modern and traditional dance numbers as well as a fashion show.

Alcohol probation to lift next semester

Impetus now on colleges, individual students to promote safe drinking environments

THRESHER EDITORIAL STAFF

BY HALLIE JORDAN
Thresher Editorial Staff

Dean of undergraduates John Hutchinson announced Wednesday that the alcohol probation enacted last February will end the first day of next semester.

Nine months since the probation started, Hutchinson said he feels the colleges, whose presidents were in charge of working to help change the drinking culture, have made all progress toward promoting safe habits.

"The spring semester is a good opportunity for a fresh start, and I feel the student leadership has really earned a positive response to their hard work they have put in, and it is time to recognize that effectiveness," Hutchinson said.

Hutchinson stipulated that each college should create some kind of caregiving culture and program and a needed and meaningful college court system. Hutchinson said he wanted to be sure that these policies were created and implemented by the students.

"I'm lifting the probation to let each college know how to respond in individually, but of course, the laws of the state of Texas and the Rice Alcohol Policy still apply," Hutchinson said.

The alcohol probation was put into effect by Hutchinson last winter in response to a high number of EMS transports caused by hard liquor and drunken students being left neglected.

After implementing the probation, Hutchinson left the colleges to themselves to decide how they would address the probation.

"The presidents really went above and beyond by incorporating personal accountability by the college courts," Hutchinson said. "It's a powerful statement of strength and student self-governance."

With the idea that college is a place to learn how to drink, Hamann College Professor Coco Owens said she was glad that the campus has not gone dry but that she has definitely seen a change in culture around campus since the probation began.

"Trouble emerges when things go unnoticed for a long time; it's like a cycle. Once students were made aware of the problem, we were completely constructive," Owens said. "It's like Keshia's 'shots, shots, shots' culture. In media north campus, we can't do that. Colleges that have dry campuses have less freedom and believe more like that."

West College President Charlie Daigre agreed that the probation started a movement among students to create change.

"The probation has basically been a catalyst for very well-needed discussion regarding alcohol," Daigre said. "It's basically a wake-up call. Going into the probation, was pretty well provided, but it has made community leaders think more about what it means to take care of each other, what it means to be a part of the family."

Establishing a strong college court system has been 'much needed, and focused throughout the probation. College court has been one of our defining aspects. The college court has not many times throughout the semester. What we're working on right now is transitioning to a system that operates behind a set of rules the West rules."

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College presidents weigh in on campus-wide alcohol probation

"Our goal was to produce a culture which at the end of the probation nothing would change... We're not going to punish you for drinking, but we will intervene when students step too far out of line... Formal caregiving is going to be a challenge because it's a little bit unprecedented, but I don't think it will be impossible."

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Removal of alcohol policy probation a testament to quality student leadership

The alcohol policy probation has been lifted effective next semester by Dean Hutchinson after nine months of efforts by student leadership to make the university environment more conducive to safe drinking (see story, pg. 1). The probation rules varied among the residential colleges, but the greatest impact it had on the university party scene was the deprivation of punch and shots at private parties around campus. While the probation seems to have been effective in reducing the ease of binge drinking at private parties, liquor use in private quarters was still quite prevalent. In short, the probation did not seem to stop individual students from drinking heavily if he or she desired to do so; it did, however, serve as a stark wake-up call for students around campus.

The probation prompted students to step back and to put the campus’ blatant abuse of the alcohol policy in perspective. It reminded us about the freedoms we enjoy here and the trust that we’ve been granted. It reminded us what is at stake and that each member of our community would face if this sort of alcohol use continues uninhibited. It reminded us that this sort of irrational abuse is not an identity we want to associate with our university. Most importantly, however, is that our community took this chance for reflection and converted it into a time for action.

Many changes were made around campus to create an atmosphere in which student safety is a priority. All residential colleges have held open forums to gauge what improvements would best suit each individual community. College government members have taken these suggestions and have adopted care-giving programs, overhauled college judicial processes, modified Alcohol policies, and developed a number of other initiatives to improve the drinking environment at the colleges. Campus-wide efforts such as improved O-Week alcohol education have also had discernible success. O-Week alcohol education programs were adapted to be more candid, more practical and simply more effective. New students particularly those with little pre-college alcohol experience, were more prepared for Rice’s party culture more so than any previous incoming class. The college presidents, chief justices and college government members deserve great recognition for their efforts and initiatives in attempting to fix this massive university-wide problem.

Also deserving of this community’s appreciation is Hutchinson. His style of leadership through this entire alcohol probation period has been impeccable. He asserted bold change by instilling the alcohol policy probation when it was apparent that something drastic had to be done. He then worked with students and master to set goals for the colleges to accomplish in order to improve campus safety and ultimately to get the ban lifted. He worked with the students but allowed the student leadership to make its own decisions. He was transparent and available; he served as a resource and an aid rather than plaguing the students with threats and ultimatums. Most importantly, he maintained his promise and lifted the ban once the students had shown improvement. Dean Hutchinson’s actions demonstrate the care he has for our community and the faith he has in this student body.

Out of this extensive and occasionally unpleasant dialogue about alcohol, Rice has yet again demonstrated that its students and college are an incredibly effective and conducive to student involvement. The student body confronted a distinct problem and collectively worked to improve it. While time will determine whether we have fully conquered the alcohol abuses that plagued the community over the past year, the Thresher is optimistic that the students will continue to show responsibility and maturity concerning this issue. While the changes made during this probation may not change the mentality of each and every student, the student leadership has been successful in promoting awareness, instilling practical improvements and enhancing campus safety.

Erratum

In the Nov. 18 issue the letter to the editor on pg. 2 was submitted by Joseph Bickman, who is not a current Rice student. The Thresher regrets this error.
Palestine was accepted into the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as a member state, after a decades-long struggle. The move is a significant victory for the Palestinian people and a symbol of international recognition. However, it also highlights the ongoing conflict and the challenges ahead.

The United States has been critical of the UN's decision, and its withdrawal from UNESCO is a serious setback for global education. The US has been a key player in the organization, and its withdrawal could have significant implications for the future of education and cultural heritage worldwide. It also raises questions about the role of the US in the international community and its commitment to upholding international law.

The US has a long history of involvement in the Middle East, and its policies have had a significant impact on the region. The decision to withdraw from UNESCO is likely to be seen as a move to assert US dominance and influence in the region. This could have serious consequences for the stability and security of the area.

The US's decision to withdraw from UNESCO has also raised questions about the future of globalization and the role of international organizations. UNESCO is one of the world's oldest and most respected international bodies, and its work on education, culture, and science is widely recognized.

In the end, the US's decision to withdraw from UNESCO is a complex and multifaceted issue. It highlights the challenges of navigating the international landscape and the need for countries to work together to address global issues. The US's decision to withdraw from UNESCO is likely to have far-reaching consequences for the future of education and cultural heritage worldwide.

Katie Jenson

Does America have a controversial Israeli leader more than it loves UNESCO's one mile goal of global education, scientific temperance and terrorist violence? Instead of answering this question with any number of political incorrect responses, our leaders should aim American democracy by answering it: "Is there any difference between American democracy and the international community?" In the United States, we have many people who have a margin that pulsed around our forum, and they don't get in order that they throw it up or not. Two percent up their system for America's actions is false and out. We are Americans are responsible for our own actions and we need to take responsibility for our own actions. We are not the powerless in this equation. We are the powerful in this equation.

As an American who chooses Rice for and its policies are not the same as the country's policies, we should not feel the need to compromise with our own people. A glorious victory does not boast a victory in the world and it certainly has too much going for it, and does not need to use this as a cover-up for other more recognized institutions at all available opportunities.

While we cannot control the academic institutions that we should note, they should not be the focus of our ambitions. Many of our university's policies are not as a player. From Rice to the National, we do not strive from the desire to be better than others and have to pursue our own self-interest. Of course, we have our own self-interest and people who enjoy great ideas from other universities, such as the residential college system that first started at Oxford and when you look at it as an university we should strive to have an institution of universities. All the great universities, rather than one trying to pull ahead in the rankings.

In the next year, Rice will very likely rank similarly among the other top universities of the world. I have been a fan of Rice for many years past. I hope that we can acknowledge and be proud of our standing without feeling the need to always overcome our peer universities. We are the Rice of the South and should not seek to be anything different. Continuously comparing ourselves to others and wealthier institutions only makes us look insecure and discontent. We should not strive to become more similar to other universities. We should strive to live up to what Rice is and write our own great history.

Christopher Meyer

Rice University's distinct identity underwritten by our focus on community, entrepreneurship and analytics

Many Rice students from outside the United States can attest to the fact that our university is not the most well-known or prestigious schools on the coast. Instead, when telling friends from Massachusetts about Rice in the presence of Chinese, you are likely to have the same reaction as if you were asked if you were in a liberal arts school or to receive a blank look. However, when we have heard of Rice and a few who know what a great institution it really is, the fact is the matter that our eventual alma mater simply because of the things that are said about Rice, or because everyone can get into Harvard or Harvard or the Rice of the North. I'd add. That which I found in Harvard and Rice in the first place, but I believe the comparison is not only wrong but it seems to have gone too far. During "National Philanthropy Week," I addressed an audience in a more serious and imaginative way that said "Rice is better than Harvard!" The response was one of contempt and ridicule called attention to Rice's distinctive quality of life and happy students, my frustration reemerged and I was proud when I read this caption.

As an institution that ranked number one in both categories and has continuously spoken in these areas, we should not feel the need to continuously compare ourselves to our peers. A glorious victory does not boast a victory in the world and it certainly has too much going for it, and does not need to use this as a cover-up for other more recognized institutions at all available opportunities.

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Throughout my time at Rice, I have realized that I would not want to have attended any other school. It is a place that truly surpasses anything. All of us who choose Rice for and its policies are not the same as the country's policies, we should not feel the need to compromise with our own people. A glorious victory does not boast a victory in the world and it certainly has too much going for it, and does not need to use this as a cover-up for other more recognized institutions at all available opportunities.

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Christopher Meyer

Rice University senior.
THE PALLADIUM BOOTS STORE
NOW OPEN AT THE GALLERIA MALL

20% OFF YOUR FIRST PAIR OF BOOTS WITH THIS AD
Mr. Rice raises money while Rice men show off

Contestants impressed audience members and judges with a host of talents, including a seductive dance or two, while raising awareness and funds for Stone Soup, an AIDS Foundation Houston organization.

Yearly SAS fall show brings spice to Rice

Rice's South Asian Society presented its annual winter dance extravaganza on Nov. 19 to a packed crowd in the RMC grand hall. With dancing, singing and even a fashion show, Dhamaka had something for everyone.
RUPO POLICE BLOTTER
The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period Oct. 12 - Nov. 16.

ACADEMIC BUILDINGS
Continuing Studies
Nov. 9
Thief

Other Buildings
Wiesse Master's House
Nov. 11
Thief

Other Locations
Entrance #1
Nov. 9
Indecent exposure

PRESIDENT AND DEAN'S SNOW DAY STUDY BREAK
Presented by the Rice Program Council, the President and Dean's Snow Day Study Break will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 6 from 9-11 a.m. at the Rice Memorial Center and the Wellness Center. The college will provide free food. Puppies will once again be on hand for stress-relieving petting. Students can make snowflakes and holiday cards, decorate cookies and enjoy ice cream Sundays. There will be performances by the Philharmonics, Spontaneous Combustion, Nocturnal and the Rice Symphonic Band. At the Wellness Center, there will be arts and crafts and free 15-minute chair massages.

PROBATION FROM PAGE 1
Furthermore, the campus is working toward implementing a stronger, more formal care giving program. Though each college is currently doing this individually, the Student Association is creating a campus-wide organization.

Dean Hutchinson select that each college have some type of caregiving program. He kept it loose. The colleges have interpreted it, taken it.

NATIONAL NEWS
Texas redistricting plan revised by court
The Republicans in Texas drew up an election map. But the Democrats went to court and said it was a trap. To disenfranchise minorities in a way against the law. So a new map the three Texas justices did draw. It gives Democrats new seats and so now the Republicans howl. And complaining of judicial interference they ask Scalia to cry foul! So now the Supreme Court will decide if the districts are fair. And which party will win, and which politician will run where.

The Supreme Court will now decide whether to accept Texas' Attorney General's plea to reject a three justice panel's redistricting map which would be an advantage to the Democratic party both in Texas and nationally.

Barney Frank not running for reelection
There once was a man named Barney Frank. A liberal congressman with distinguished rank. But then his district got remade And farewell to the capital he hailed.

Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) announced he would not seek reelection. The staunchly liberal and openly gay congressman had been a champion of progressive causes, but a tougher district after the 2010 census and Frank's claimed frustration with Congress contributed to his decision to leave public office.

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We cater! Please contact us for more information on how Wan Fu can cater your next big event.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2011

FONDREN LIBRARY
RICE UNIVERSITY

Fondren Library Research Awards for Undergraduate Students and Graduate Students
The Fondren Library announces the third annual research awards for students who demonstrate extraordinary skill and creativity in the application of library and information resources to original research and scholarship.

The undergraduate winner will be awarded $1,000, and the graduate winner will be awarded $1,000. An honorable mention award of $500 will be awarded in each category.

For detailed information, please see library.rice.edu/research-awards

Deadline for application: February 1, 2012
During his time at Rice, Ayoub conducted neuroscience research with the Baylor College of Medicine, published several papers, delivered multiple international lectures on practicing research, won the Wagoner Foreign Study Scholarship to study abroad at the Oxford Functional MRI Brain Centre and founded RicEmpower, a science outreach organization that connects Rice students with underserved K-12 students to bridge the gap between science and the public, according to Ayoub.

"There's a huge disconnect in public knowledge regarding science," Ayoub said. "It is disconcerting when you have politicians like Sarah Palin saying things like 'Why do we need fruit fly research?'"

Ayoub said his long-term goal is to influence and inspire people to collaborate internationally in scientific research and education. "People from different countries approach scientific problems in radically different ways," Ayoub noted. "The world needs to understand that if you put these approaches together, you can answer problems at a higher level."

Steinberg, a biological sciences major, said she will be studying at University College London her first year for a master's of science in global health and development and at the University of Leeds the year after for a master's of arts in health management, planning and policy. She plans to pursue an M.D. and become an obstetrician.

Steinberg currently works at Rice as the program coordinator of Community Bridges, an initiative she founded her senior year to encourage students to connect with organizations in Houston's Fifth Ward and address poverty-related issues. As a student at Rice, Steinberg said she learned about health disparities through interning at Centro Las Libres in Mexico and volunteering with women's health organizations in Houston. She added that she decided to further explore and work to improve this issue through forming Community Bridges and teaching a course at Brown called "Poverty in Houston."

Steinberg added that her long-term goal is to collaborate internationally to develop comprehensive health care for women in poverty.

"When pregnant women don't get adequate health care, their child runs a higher risk of mental and physical deficiencies, which can contribute to poverty," Steinberg noted. "We need to learn how to provide proper resources and address the intergenerational cycle of poverty."

Steinberg said she was shocked and then terrified when she found out about being selected as a Marshall Scholar. "There are no more excuses; I really have to go for it now," Steinberg said. "Expectations are high, and I am excited meet them."

Both winners said they were, above all, grateful to their mentors, families and the Director of Fellowships and Undergraduate Research Caroline Quenemoen.

Quenemoen said that she is incredibly proud of the winners and their accomplishment. "They have worked hard and they have noble aspirations," Quenemoen said. "Having such students hold these awards brings great honor to Rice. Universities nationwide nominated their best students for the Marshall. To have two out of 36 Marshall Scholars demonstrates what is possible with a Rice education both in and out of the classroom."

Quenemoen added that she wishes Ayoub and Steinberg the best in their travels. "I am confident that these scholarships will open their eyes to even more possibilities, and I want them to have a great time in England," Quenemoen said.

Don't lose your files!

Spring Cleaning of Podium Computers

Public computers will be wiped clean beginning December 15 to prepare for the spring semester. Existing files and data stored on these computers will be erased. If you store important information on a college, classroom, or lab computer, please move your files.
"Nanoparticles have interesting optical properties and are a fairly new area of research," Vigderman said. "Nanorods scatter light, so you can see them when they are collected together, which is good for imaging, and their photothermal property offers potential for cancer treatment."

"For cancer treatment would involve targeting low-beam laser light on cancer cells that have been injected with nanorods. The light would then induce the nanorods to generate heat, generating enough thermal energy to "cook" the cancer cells, thus killing the cells and preventing metastasis," Vigderman said. Vigderman has been researching gold nanorods as part of his doctoral work since his arrival at Rice four years ago, and his topic of interest proves to be a breakthrough area in nanotechnology research. His recent success in loading nanorods into cancer cells has earned him one better toward the prospective use of nanorods in cancer treatment.

The biological implications of his research, however, were not in his original research plans.

"I'm a chemist," Vigderman said. "My research wasn't originally focused on biological applications, it was with nanorods right away, but the core research I do is how to functionalize the surface of the nanorod, I only use the potential for a biological purpose later on."

Vigderman says the knowledge that nanorods can be incorporated into cancer cells is a true revelation, a new idea, and has been tried in labs around the country. "The sheer number of nanoparticles he and collaborators have been able to induce cells to uptake and the method of eliminating toxic surfactants have made huge effects on surrounding cells."

Vigderman's initial experiments using particles began with funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF). He later explained that the characteristics of the nanorods, however, have been aimed toward functionalizing the surfaces of gold nanoparticles by cancer cells, researchers were facing difficulties in how to get the gold-based particles to disperse in solution without adding solvating agents that could be toxic to healthy human cells. The Rice scientists discovered in dissolving the gold particles and forcing them into cancer cells via development of a new method using a surfactant called MTAB in replacement of the traditionally used CTAB. CTAB is commonly known for its use in hair conditioners and works much like most surfactants by coating particles, allowing them to dissolve into solution, whereas the CTAB is toxic to animals, likely because of its propensity to leak into the surrounding cells rather than remaining contained within regions of nanorod localization.

"Nanorods can't be synthesized without CTAB," Vigderman said. "They just won't grow. We knew CTAB was toxic, so we had to make a surfactant that was similar in structure but had a higher affinity for nanoparticles and would not leak into surrounding media where it could be harmful to surrounding cells."

They called on MTAB, a molecule chemically similar to CTAB but with a greater affinity for the nanorods and thus less likely to leak outside of the cancer cells targeted for destruction. The paper published this month reported their success in using MTAB for nanorod synthesis and effective elimination of toxic CTAB from tissues that previously contained them.

"That's how we made this connection to cancer," Vigderman said. "As for money, these places are priceless. The biological implications of his research, however, were not in his original research plans, but the core research I do is how to functionalize the surface of the nanorod, I only use the potential for a biological purpose later on."

"We're finding uranium in the Grand Canyon, part of the area. And this country is starving itself because we're buying foreign oil," Young said. "Sixty percent of Alaskans support it. I'm listening to the people that live there. Not the people that live 400 miles away. Not the people who say they represent a certain group when they do not."

However, Brinkley said he has received positive feedback from people from all over the nation and nothing but support from the Rice community.

"I didn't expect such a warm... over-the-month embrace at Rice. It makes me feel even closer to the university," he said. "I think that Rice is very proud of its faculty and the Rice community as a whole. We value the written word and the fact that I gave a benign testimony on an issue I care very much about."

His students applauded him in class and his colleagues expressed their support, he said. "It was awesome. He had a right to stand for himself," Brown said. "It's super passionate about what he does. In our class, he ticks a lot about Teddy Roosevelt and how important conservation was to him, and you can tell it's an important topic to Dr. Brinkley as well."

Other students had mixed feelings about the exchange at the hearing. "I just can't believe it's two grown men in this professional setting trying to actually get things done and they're getting no catty," Brown freshman Medin Constant said.

"Though I have seen the footage, I think it is hard to make a judgment on the situation," Sid Richardson College senior Raj Sahshow said. "But if we... focus on the big picture, [the fact that] Rice's faculty are such experts in their field that they are called to testify before the United States Congress ... is a testament to the intellect and firepower of Rice's faculty."

Politicians have debated over whether or not to drill ANWR, the largest of the nation's 55 wildlife refuges, for oil and gas for years. After the quarrel at the hearing, Young said his argument in favor of drilling.

"The Arctic Plain is... part of the most deficit part of the area. And this country is starving itself because we're buying foreign oil," Young said. "Sixty percent of Alaskans support it. I'm listening to the people that live there. Not the people that live 400 miles away. Not the people who say they represent a certain group when they do not."

However, Brinkley received the last word at the committee meeting.

"I don't know a representative who doesn't love their district," Brinkley said after Young left the hearing. "Every state in America's land and its beautiful if you love it. But some people love money more than their homeland."
The Rice Dance Theater performs its fall show "Points of Contact" in the Dance Theatre of the Barbara and David Gibbs Recreation and Wellness Center. The show ran from Nov. 16 through 18 for sold-out audiences of students, faculty and staff.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2011**

**SA tables newspaper amendment**

**BY BROOKE BULLOCK**

The Student Association has pushed deadlines back until next semester that would suggest ways to get outside newspapers brought to the residential colleges. The SA had originally hoped to have a final draft of the bill ready to present by the end of the semester, but talks about financing and concerns from college leadership have postponed the bill. Drafted by SA Secretary Kristin Min, Leaer College sophomores Brian Strasters and SA President Georgia Lapidou, the bill originally proposed to insti-

**RICE MUF ALUMNI WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE PH.D.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree and Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer (Alvarez) Dickson</td>
<td>Ph.D. from University of New Mexico in English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kendrick Matthews</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanessa Erazo</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Princeton University in Ecology &amp; Evolutional Biology</td>
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<td>Fay Yarbrough</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Emory University in History</td>
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<td>Armando Lewis</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Cornell University in Hispanic Studies</td>
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<td>Evelyn Patterson</td>
<td>Ph.D. from University of Southern California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rysydette Ramirez</td>
<td>Ph.D. from University of Pennsylvania in Demography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lindsay Smith</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Georgetown University in Spanish Linguistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Zuniga</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Harvard University in Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Armanda Lewis</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Tulane University in Hispanic Studies</td>
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<td>Jennifer Mihalis</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Boston University in Anthropology</td>
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<td>Tonia Venti</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Yale University in African American Studies</td>
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<td>Miles Rodriguez</td>
<td>Ph.D. from University of Chicago in Anthropology</td>
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<td>Megan Forreston</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Harvard University in Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altovise Rogers</td>
<td>Ph.D. from Princeton University in Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Garcia</td>
<td>Ph.D. from University of Houston in Psychology</td>
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**ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT GRADUATE STUDY LEADING TO THE PH.D.?**

Rice Mays Undergraduate Fellows Program

**Rice Mays Undergraduate Fellows Program (MMUP)** at Rice University has three goals. First, it seeks to increase the number of minority students and others with a demonstrated commitment to elucidating racial disparities, who will pursue PhDs in core fields in the arts and sciences. In doing so, the program aims to reduce over time the serious under-representation on the faculties of individuals from certain minority groups, as well as to address the attendant educational consequences of these disparities. Second, it seeks to nurture these students to be the researchers, teachers, and mentors of the diverse college student bodies of the future. Third, it seeks to encourage study abroad experiences as part of their research agenda. The fields that the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has targeted for support are:

- Arts & Humanities
- Sciences
- Earth/Environmental and Agricultural Sciences
- Ecology
- English
- Film/Cinema and Media Studies
- Musicology and Ethnomusicology
- Foreign Languages and Literatures
- History
- Literature
- Mathematics
- Oceanography/Marine & Atmospheric/Planetary Science
- Philosophy and Political Theory
- Physics and Astronomy
- Religion and Theology
- Theatre
- Interdisciplinary Studies

Applications should normally be completing their sophomore year as a student at Rice University. Selection will be based on a number of attributes including but not limited to academic standing and potential, life experiences and interests, commitment to building bridges in multicultural settings, and interest in pursuing graduate education. Students who participate in the program receive a yearly stipend of $3,000 work closely with a faculty mentor for two years, and are also eligible for participation in numerous fellowship programs. For information or to apply, go to [ritichesr.org](http://ritichesr.org).

**Application deadline is February 03, 2012**

**CONTACT:**

Dr. Robert J. Smith, Jr. or Gloria Bean
Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Rice University, 713-348-5888

For more information and to download the application please go to: [http://diversity.rice.edu/mays-mufes.aspx](http://diversity.rice.edu/mays-mufes.aspx)
Dear Athena and Ares,

I really like a guy, but I don’t think he sees me in the same way. I think he sees me as a friend who can help him around with occasionally no commitments. What should I do? Should I have a talk with him? Or is this a stereotypically psycho girl?

—Anonymous

REPLY TO The Thresher

Trying Not to Make Things Worse

The first thing you need to do is figure out what you want. You say you’re not sure if he likes you, but then you say he’s a jerk. Are you sure you’re not trying to sound like him because you’re already hooking up with him? If you realize that you are, in fact, settling for him because he’s convenient, then you should end all casual, feeling-around, especially because it seems to be bothering you. You definitely deserve someone more committed if that’s what you’re looking for, and this casual relationship model won’t prevent you from achieving that. That being said, there is no wrong way to having a casual relationship but being responsible. In order to remember that upon communication is important, and making sure you’re both comfortable with a situation is a must.

At the same time, if you decide you really like the guy, then communication really is the best option. you are going to want to hear the phrase “Can we talk?” but in the end it will be for the best. While the jerk might not be liking you as much as you like him. Unfortunately, they are the type of guy that will be someone you can talk to and who listens to what you have to say. If you feel like the “talk” could be the beginning of the end, then you should talk or take “the talk” politely. This means probably not worrying too much about liking anything.

—Alasha

“Ask the Thresher” is a advice column written twice a week, authored by two Thresher editorial staff members. Readers can email their letters to askthetheresher@gmail.com or submit their questions through commenting at AskTheThresher.

Cranberries. While nothing quite replaces the feeling of opening the refrigerator after Thanksgiving and being greeted by the theme from the Flinstones at 9 a.m., taking note to spread thinly and evenly. spicy mayonnaise and spread it over the piece on the medium to light toaster setting. Take your slice of provolone until the cheese melts slightly.

First, take your mayonnaise and combine it with the Sriracha in the small bowl until homogeneous. The mixture should be a spicy but balanced spread. Next, slice your bread of choice on the medium to light toaster setting. Take your spicy mayonnaise and spread it over the piece of toast, taking note to spread thinly and evenly. Then, fold your slices of turkey over the spread, and lastly place your slice of provolone atop the nearly complete sandwich. Finally, carefully microwave the entire sandwich in increments of five seconds until the cheese melts slightly.

I’m just a little girl making a pink lemonade as a paired drink by combining equal parts cranberry juice and lemonade. The goal is to incorporate that tart cranberry taste into the meal without the presence of actual cranberries. While nothing quite replaces the feeling of opening the refrigerator after Thanksgiving and being surprised by options, hopefully this sampling brings you a little closer.

If you have any suggestions, comments or favorite servery recipes, please email Reed Thornburg at reed@thor.com.

1. Slice of whole-wheat bread
2. 1 slice of cold cut turkey
3. Tablespoon of mayonnaise
4. Teaspoon of Sriracha
5. Slice of provolone

Technique:

• First, take your mayonnaise and combine it with the Sriracha in the small bowl until homogeneous. The mixture should be a spicy but balanced spread. Next, slice your bread of choice on the medium to light toaster setting. Take your spicy mayonnaise and spread it over the piece of toast, taking note to spread thinly and evenly. Then, fold your slices of turkey over the spread, and lastly place your slice of provolone atop the nearly complete sandwich. Finally, carefully microwave the entire sandwich in increments of five seconds until the cheese melts slightly.

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What's Their Secret?

BY CURRIE CHAN
FOR THE THRESHER

Since the start of the Undergraduate Business Minor program at Rice University in 2009, Business Minor Program Director Rick Schell has increasingly won the attention of students eager to enroll in his increasingly popular and practical RUS 296: Business Communications class.

While Schell often introduces himself as being "bookended" by Rice, the university where he earned his Ph.D. in English 35 years ago as well as his employer and workplace today, the path that took him full circle was obstructed by existential duties and enduring lessons.

His journey from English to business, Schell's personal experiences have equipped and refined the expertise and values that have brought him success and his current role at Rice University.

One of five children, Schell grew up in Battle Creek, Michigan among the purest geneticists. After attending Columbia University, Schell drove to Houston in 1977 to continue his education at Rice. He clearly remembers his first day upon arrival.

"I had never seen so many big water bugs," Schell said. "I thought, 'I'm in the jungle; human beings cannot live in this climate.'"

But he used to.

Schell started originally as a Chemical Engineer at Columbia.

"When I got into the theoretical math, I hit the plateau, and I literally did not understand what was going on," Schell said.

According to Schell, his decision to change his path was affected by a series of unexpected events.

"Originally seeking a offer for a teaching position at Sains Houston State University, Schell drove to Houston only in that he had been disqualified on the grounds of being the black man. And, his offer had been rescinded."

At another interview, he told Schell that he had successfully made it from the pool of 5,000 to the top 5, but he was not going to get the job. Upon making the decision to do something else, Schell applied to an array of jobs, and IBM quickly requested an interview.

"I told the interviewer, 'this all looks very attractive to me, but I don't think I'm qualified.' He said, 'You mean, someone with an advanced degree in engineering can't do this? I'll be your board! He looked at my resume again and said, 'Oh, this is English!'

Schell was directed upstairs to the sales office and met with the regional director who hired him as a salesperson for IBM. "They said, 'We can teach you everything you need to know. We just need people who can absorb a lot of information and communicate it back to customers."

"It was clear, I'd either be doing it, or you'd be in the jungle; human beings cannot live in this climate.'"

What's Their Secret? is a weekly series of popular and practical BUS 296: Business Communications class.

"I'm in the jungle; human beings cannot live in this climate.'"

BY REED THORNBURG

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FOR THE THRESHER

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FOR THE THRESHER
A living room invaded by art and poetry

FARRAH MADAD
THREESER EDITORIAL STAFF

Before economic realities invaded our homes over the Thanksgiving holiday, the home of Duncan College Master Luis Duno-Gottberg and Marnie Hylton. On Nov. 21, the Duncan Theater and Arts Committee, invited students to experience "Alien: An Art Form," a living-room-scale visual and performing arts exhibition.

Marnie Hylton, a Duncan College junior, with the help of Duncan's scholar-in-residence, Miguel Amat Martin, curated the event. Little did Hylton know, the living room became the exhibition's venue naturally. Amat lent the sitting room's walls to the office of reading some truly amazing literature, from Fyodor Dostoevsky's "The Idiot" to Herman Melville's "Moby Dick." Amat's love for the arts found its way to the page, the screen, and the stage. His passion for literature and the arts was evident in his every word.

As the beloved children's novel "The Land Beyond," never accompanied Milo on his journey to the Land Beyond, both Duno-Gottberg and Hylton remained involved in an arts scene. "We want to be involved in the arts community outside of Rice and in the Houston area," Ohm said. "We believe that art is an important part of Houston's identity, and we want to be part of it."

"A wise man, Ruben Sandoval [Duncan senior and president], once told me that you can't force, but you can foster," Bradford said. "If we can create an environment where students feel comfortable expressing themselves, then we have succeeded."

"I was the one who originally inspired me to continue going to Houston slams and kindled my fascination with the local poetry scene," Ohm said. "Unlike the other performers, I delivered my poetry with a script. He was a perfomant poet from the word go. He seemed almost wrapped in his recited poems of juvenile bullies and high school hardships because of being a death." Though Rice students may remain reluctant to venture outside the Houston art community, Bradford believes the attendance and participation at "Alien" was a step in the right direction.

"Metro meals: CoCo's Crepes"

Sasha Schach and Allie Schach

Smoochies, pizzas, salads, smoothies, gelato, soups, and outdoor patios.

There was an excess of raspberries and whipped cream, unlike the peach crepe, the raspberries were fresh. The crepe was so tasty we could definitely have ordered a second.

"Metro meals: CoCo's Crepes"" is a column that features restaurants along the Houston METRORail.

"The Weekly Scene"

Farrah's picks for events outside the hedges, both downtown and in the Houston area.

"Gingerbread"

You don't need to be an archi to participate in the third An "Gingerbread Build-off," which takes place Downtown on Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Gingerbread Build-off" day proceeds will benefit the many "Heights First Saturday" event of the year. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. inside the Architecture Center Houston will host an exhibition of the winning houses.

"Ice Skating"

It's officially the season of ice skating! Skate to upbeat tunes on December 5th at Discovery Green's 3 p.m. ice rink until Jan. 22. The ice rink features art-glass railings, synthetic ice, and a snack and drink stand selling hot chocolate and beverages. Admission is $5, including skate rentals.

"Discovery Green"

LArAB checks in with the Architecture Center Houston about the installation of professional architect Lena Gotschall and a snack-and-drink stand selling hot chocolate and beverages. Admission is $5, including skate rentals.

"Metro meals: CoCo's Crepes"
Martin Scorsese animates children's imaginations with Hugo

BRIAN BERMAN
THRESHER STAFF

Hugo is an emotional children's story, a light-hearted romantic comedy, a thrilling mystery, an existential journey, and an ode to dreams and filmmaking wrapped into one beautiful film. A movie of this caliber is unex-
pected at any director for Martin Scorsese, but this genre of movie certainly is not the last behind the masterpieces Taxi Driver, Raging Bull and Goodfellas is known for ultraviolent, profane gangster flicks. Hugo is Scorsese's first children's movie as well as his first 3-D movie. Scorsese ventures into a new style of directing and owns it like the greatest director of his generation.

Hugo Cabret (Asa Butterfield, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas) is a poor orphan who lives behind the clocks of a train station in 1930s Paris. From flashbacks, we learn that Hugo's father (Taika Waititi, Sherlock Holmes) died in a fire. Hugo is mechanically-witted, so he maintains all of the clocks. He steals food from carts and foods from the toy shop owners. Georges Melies (Ben Kingsley, The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance) is a master of dreams. He is captivated by how films bring dreams to life. Eventually she and Hugo activate the automaton, who in turn provides them with clues of the mystery of Melies.

Interwoven into this main story is a heart-warming romantic subplot involving the station inspector. He is trying to win the love of a flower vendor named Emily Mortimer, Stav- fer Island, but has to battle his own secret con-

Hugo is not only beautifully animated but looks and sounds beautiful. CGI is the right choice to create Scorsese's fantasy of 1930s Paris. The film opens with its score accompanying a fabulous tracking shot that first travels through the train station, then follows Hugo through the in-\n
cards of the clocks where he lives and finally to the image of Paris through a clock face.

The whole sequence is about five minutes and contains no dialogue. We learn more about Hugo in those five minutes than we do about most protagonists by the end of most movies. The score plays for almost the whole film and

rated PG-13.

Hugo's father picks up a mysterious notebook when he

right choice to create Scorsese's fantasy of 1930s Paris. The film opens with its score

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of Paris through a clock face.

The whole sequence is about five minutes and contains no dialogue. We learn more about

Hugo in those five minutes than we do about most

protagonists by the end of most movies. The score plays for almost the whole film and

for good reason; it perfectly accompanies the

mood of every scene. Scorsese uses a sound tech-

ique that I have never heard before. When the

characters have an important line, three voices boom and echo throughout the

theater. I normally hate 3-D movies because it's

usually a director's gimmick to charge an extra $3.50 per ticket. However, Hugo actually

makes sense in 3-D. I can't imagine watch-

ing it any other way.

In Hugo, the characters say that films can

reflect our dreams on the big screen. Beyond that, films can create our dreams. All direc-

tors remember that one movie that made them decide to dedicate their lives to cinema. Hugo

will be one of those films for our generation.
Classic Flicks: 12 days of movies

In case you find yourself at home this winter sipping hot cocoa with nothing better to do than expand your cinematic consciousness, here is a list of some fantastic films, both new and old, which will hopefully while away the winter blues. You will notice that the majority of these films are neither actually holiday-themed nor in any particular order, but great films need no season.

Joseph Allenrenchel

1. Francis Ford Coppola's Apocalypse Now (1979): I saw the Indian version when I was in high school, yet the film seemed as contemporarily desperate despite decades old. Great music, great acting, great cinematography, it's all in this movie. You really need to see this on the big screen. Hopefully you camped out at Best Buy this Black Friday to get that 70" LG with 3-D capabilities and Wi-Fi.

2. Werner Herzog's Aguirre, Wrath of God (1972): This film inspired Coppola's Apocalypse Now. Herzog is easily my favorite foreign director as he can make even the most absurd situations seem so real. He is stillworking at the age of 68 and shows no signs of slowing down. This plotline follows a band of Spanish conquistadors on an expedition down the Amazon in a quest for "the golden city."

3. Hayao Miyazaki's The Gold Rush (1953): In this classic slapstick comedy, the Tramp travels to the Yukon in search of wealth during the Klondike Gold Rush. But be glad your winters aren't as harsh as his.

4. Satyajit Ray's The Third Man (1955): If you're in after watching this culturally important film. How many directors have even made a film inspired by a play by a great playwright? Joe Orton? John Osborne? No, The Third Man, which features a battle between seven veteran actors and 40 bands, is a must-see samurai movie.

5. Charlie Kaufman's Synderocke, New York (2004): (Colin Cowie (Philip Seymour Hoffman, Pooty Peeler) leaves Synderocke to essentially film the bright lights of Broadway. Though the film was critically malignled upon its initial release, this is one of those films that taken at least a couple of viewings to truly understand, and then a couple more to get to its core. This is the defeat of existential-estim- mation Charlie Kaufman (Being John Malkov- itch), who is well-known for his methodical approach to storytelling.

6. Akira Kurosawa's Seven Samurai (1954): This is one of the few three-hour films I have managed to watch in one sitting without even yawning once. The movie, which features a battle between seven veteran samurai and 40 bandits, is a must-see samurai movie.

7. Charlie Chaplin's The Great Dictator (1940): Prophetic performances by Chaplin and Groucho Marx. If you haven't seen it, go see it.

8. Basketball of Last Chance (1956): If you're into basketball, this is the film for you. A heart-warming tale of perseverance and the power of dreams.

9. Charlie Kaufman's Being John Malkovich (1999): This is one of the few three-hour films I have managed to watch in one sitting without even yawning once. The movie, which features a battle between seven veteran samurai and 40 bandits, is a must-see samurai movie.

Kenary King's review of Twilight Saga

Cirque du Soleil-Dralton

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Campus is just across Hermann Park, there is a world-class gym downstairs, and the pool deck reads like a five-star hotel. It's my home base for everything.

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY*

From Page 12

Eventually, Milo learns to appreciate the wonderful things around him and to enjoy learning for the sake of learning itself. If he doesn't know what immediate use it will have, as we tend among all of you, constantly computing our grade point aver- ages and the remaining hours left in the day to sleep, the simple lesson that learning itself is an inherently rewarding task seems as far as ever out of reach. Simple put, knowledge is to me with all the demons that hound de- scendants, but after reading at night reading The Phantom Tollbooth, I am sure you will agree with me that without this lesson, Rhyme and Reason will remain in the clouds forever.

Anthony Cortesillo is a Wessie Kierinan and Thresher Backpage Editor.
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2012
STOP BY BETWEEN 3-5 PM
HUFF HOUSE

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!
☐ Freshmen
☐ Sophomores
☐ Juniors
☐ Seniors
☐ Grad students
☐ Post-docs
Women's basketball wins three of past four games

by Teddy Groehl

Sophomore Jessica Kuster skies over Alcorn State's Kierro Frost during the second half. Kuster had one of her worst games of the year. After a disappointing 0-2 start, the much-hyped women's basketball team finally started playing up to its potential on its recent trip to Chicago before coming back to Tudor Fieldhouse. In her return trip to Chicago, senior guard Di'Pranzo Smart recorded five points, five assists, four rebounds and nine steals, leading the Owls to a 77-50 victory at Chicago State University. Smart, who went to Chicago's Whitney Young High School, dished out 11 assists to lead the team, while Bodiesprigger also had 12 digs of her own. In the final game of her career, senior defensive specialist Megan Meredith had four kills and three digs. Realizing it was her last game, White mentioned that it had not really hit her yet, but she is very sad. White said that she will not lose her excitement about the upcoming season. She said she thinks the returning leaders and the strong recruiting class might help lead the Owls to the C-USA crown. With the season behind them and most of the starters returning, Volpe could not hide her joy about the upcoming season. Volpe said. "If we had beaten the University of Cincinnati earlier in the season at Hawaii, we might still be playing." Women's Swimming vs. Incarnate Word

Last Monday, the most wanted opponents, as Kuster was forced to leave the game in the second half with an unknown injury. The University of Arkansas at Little Rock won the low scoring game, but more concern is over the injury. Rice came out in a full-court press, with both teams having trouble scoring. Kuster only had six points when she was forced to leave the game. Rice, which shot 32 percent in the first half, simply could not score. A run after the Kuster injury cut the lead to nine, but UALR responded, going on a 13-0 run of its own. Rice never recovered, eventually bringing the game by a final score of 69-47.

The Houston Chronicle's Joseph Buont reported that Kuster is out indefinitely with the foot injury, as she was seen on crutches at practice.

The Owls will certainly have to find someone to fill the void if she is out for any prolonged period of time, as Rice is averaging 19.3 points and 15.3 rebounds over the season. This is the right time for an injury, however, as after this weekend's home tournament, the Owls have a nice, long break for her to heal up. Tonight, the Owls take on Texas A&M University Corpus Christi in the Gene Haas/german Invitational. Depending on whether they win or lose, they'll play either Oregon State University or the University of North Texas tomorrow. For the season, the Owls finished with an 18-13 record and a 17-7 conference record that tied the University of Alabama at Birmingham (20-9, 12-8 C-USA) for second place. The Owls missed out on the NCAA tournament for the second straight year, which was tough for Head Coach Genny Volpe because she knew that the team was very close to earning an at-large bid.

"I knew that if we had gotten one top-50 RPI win, we might have made the tournament," Volpe said. "If we had beaten the University of Cincinnati earlier in the season at Hawaii, we might still be playing." Women's Swimming vs. Incarnate Word

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The 2011 football season ended with just as many questions as it started with, as the mediocre 4-8 season did little to prove to die-hard fans that Head Coach David Bailiff is the future of the program. With the disappearance of junior running back Sam McGuffie, another mid-season quarterback change, and a still struggling defense, it's tough to see where the Owl's road is headed before the Owls had a first down. The Owls looked terrible on offense, with senior passer Kyle Martens receiving plenty of chances to show off his passing skills for a possible future professional career. Finally, in the last five minutes of the second quarter, Rice showed life, with senior free safety Xavier White picking off an SMU pass in the Owls' 13-yard line. Senior quarterback Nick Fanuzzi would capitate his drive, finding wide receiver Donte Moore in the end zone for a touchdown and cutting the lead to 17-14.

The Owls would keep the ball on the SMU 35-yard line. SMU wouldn't capitalize, forcing Boswell to kick a 49-yard field goal. The converted kick put the Owls up three, heading into the fourth quarter.

That plan did not work out so well, as Southern Methodist started out to a 14-0 lead before the Owls had a first down. The Owls looked terrible on offense, with senior passer Kyle Martens receiving plenty of chances to show off his passing skills for a possible future professional career. Finally, in the last five minutes of the second quarter, Rice showed life, with senior free safety Xavier White picking off an SMU pass in the Owls' 13-yard line. Senior quarterback Nick Fanuzzi would capitate his drive, finding wide receiver Donte Moore in the end zone for a touchdown and cutting the SMU lead to 17-14.

The Owl's defense finally put together a decent drive, their little change as the teams headed into the locker room. Bailiff said something to his team at halftime, because the defense started stalling, holding a good SMU offense to little ball movement. Sophomore linebacker Cameron Novos would register a game-changing play, running the ball back on a forced SMU fumble from the SMU 21-yard line. The ensuing extra point from sophomore kicker Chris Russell would tie the game, making the score 14-14. A botched punt at the end of the third quarter would give Rice another field position, leaving the ball on the SMU 19-yard line. Rice would not capitalize, forcing Boswell to kick a 40-yard field goal. The converted kick put the Owls up three, heading into the fourth quarter.

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After winning the season opener against a simply overmatched University of New Or-leans squad, the men's basketball team host- ed three more non-conference opponents at Tudor Fieldhouse before a dedication giv- ing weekend trip to South Padre Island where the competition grew tougher.

Led by a career-high 29 points from ju- nior guard Tamir Jackson, the Owls pulled away in the second half to do the early 20-12 deficit to the Owls pulled away in the second half to do the Owls time points with 70 seconds to go, but Northern Iowa responded to the 7-0 run, cutting the lead down to 12-22 seconds before Ben Braun’s backcourt proved lethal in the second half, as Kazemi and Jackson kept the Owls in the game for the remainder of the game. As a result of her effort and a spot as an All-American, the first Owl to have an All-American season in cross-coun- try since Pam Klassen in the mid-80s, Wade made the national championship race and there to support Wade in her fourth appear- ance at the national championship race and Becky has eligibility remaining for the in- ternationals.

Storybook endings aren’t exactly a rar- ity in sports, but when cross-country run- ner and a spot as an All-American, the first Owl to have an All-American season in cross-country since Pam Klassen in the mid-80s, Wade made the national championship race and there to support Wade in her fourth appear- ance at the national championship race and Becky has eligibility remaining for the internationals.

With a roster of six freshmen playing against overmatched competition, there are plenty of questions that remain unan- swered for Head Coach Ben Braun regard- ing the rotation after the first few games of the season. If there is one thing that has stood out from the Owls’ 2-0 home- stand, it is that Braun has been more than comfortable with Ennis in the game. As the starting point guard from his first steps on campus, Jackson’s mindset has been post-first for his entire career at Rice. Although it was against a sub- par opponent, the performance of the two guards against Southern was a small preview of the potentially dynamic backcourt duo.

"Dylan has really given us a spark off the bench," Braun said after the South- ern game, in which Ennis was second be- hind Jackson with 14 points. “He enabled Tamir to do some things from the wing and play well off the ball for a little bit.”

“Playing on the court with (Tamir) makes me more comfortable. He makes it easier for me to make the plays off the wing and play well off the ball for a little bit,” Ennis said of his teammate following the Rice win.

For Jackson, playing off the ball has already led to improved offensive effi- ciency numbers through the team’s first six games. Jackson is shooting 51 percent from the field, up from 47 per- cent last season, and is averaging a care- er low in turnovers per game. As for Ennis, the sharpshooter leads all fresh- men in scoring and assists, creating a two-headed monster at point guard that seems to have allowed Jackson to dis- play his shooting prowess in addition to his ability to beat his defender off the wing to get to the rim.

"Dylan is the energy guy. He’s going to be a great leader for this team," Jackson said after his career night against South- ern, much of which he attributed to play- ing off the ball with Ennis in the game. "He reminds me a lot of a more athletic version of myself." For Braun, the move, the mercy.

Dynamic and Energetic Teachers wanted. Pay rate is $20 to $32 per hour. We provide all training. Email your resume to rice-jobs@testmasters.com.
You're almost there

Put down your pencils and turn yourself on the back for making it through the last quarter of classes. Take a relaxing break on the beach and feel the warm sun and cool breezy air. Now — you wake up because you still need to study for your finals, not to mention it’s winter and Galveston’s beaches are less than beautiful.

A Kindle? What’s that?

DEC. 2 - JAN. 12, 2011

20. Goof up
34. History abbr.
35. in knots

Across
8. Carpet type
15. Holiday locale (under it)
20. Party attenders
35. Leather pull
40. Kinder
46. Echolocating mammals

Down
1. Some cartilaginous fishes
2. The Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra presents their final concert for the semester. Larry Rachbief directs the orchestra in their performance of Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2, Gershwin’s An American in Paris, and Stravinsky’s Suite from Der Rosenkavalier. The concert starts at 8 p.m. in Stude Concert Hall. Admission is free and open to all who know the appropriate moments for applause.

You can’t get AIDS from a fork

To commemorate World AIDS Day, the Wellness Center is hosting Maggie White, a Community Educator with Baylor College of Medicine. She will be talking about HIV vaccine trials, the latest research and new prevention methods. The event will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Hanszen College classroom 207. This event is free and open to the public. Always use a condom!

Back to the standard university diet

We know you enjoyed peppermints, sugar plums and fruitcakes galore over the holidays (maybe a bit too much), but now it’s time to return to bringing on lectures, labs and tests. Today is the first day of classes of the Spring 2012 semester (that is, unless the Mayans were right).

Snow day! No classes!

Too bad there aren’t any classes anyway. The Rice Program Council presents the President and Dean’s Snow Day Study Break from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the Rice Memorial Center, the Levi Student Center and the Wellness Center. There will be a cornucopia of fun activities and delicious delights to while away the time until the blizzard passes. Highlights include performances by the Rice Symphonic Band, Nocturnal, the Philharmonics and Spontaneous Combustion, arts and crafts, a snow machine and the return of the ever-popular puppies.

Crack your knuckles and crack open those tests

Final exams begin today, whether you are ready or not. Some may have already gone home while the rest of you try to cram every last detail into your brain. Keep your minds and your number two pencils sharp!

This crossword was created by Rebecca Jean. The solution will be posted on Twitter at twitter.com/threshercal.

CROSSWORD: WINTER WONDERLAND

Across
1. Leave out
5. Sayonara or adios
12. Carpet type
13. Document of authorized entry
15. Peer attenders
16. Inch, milliliter, coulomb or gram
17. Andean pack animal
18. Winter locales (under it) for a kiwi
20. Glimpse
21. Cereal grain
22. Echolocating mammals
23. Hanukkah icon
27. Shroud in darkness
31. Plan mole
32. Like an old tree covered in
34. Conf. on Latin American
35. God up

Down
1. egg
2. Short skirt
3. Egyptian mothness and fertility goddess
4. The God with the Dogon
5. River, ferry, life, or tug
6. Cellist Ma
7. Ultimatum ender
8. In winter, longest night of the year
9. A whole lot
10. Military branch whose motto is “This We’ll Defend”
11. Much-maligned org. at many universities
12. El Greco, by birth
13. Gather slowly
14. Huge
15. Name of Babydove’s mom
16. Angel accessories
17. Cheerios
18. Extravagant glamor
19. Sophia: Constantineople cathedral
20. Recurring melody
21. Traditional title of India color
22. Secular holiday “for the rest of us” popularized by Senfield
23. Put with
24. Connections
25. Strength, fool if on both sides
26. Follows orders
27. Hell in Beijing
28. Beer or coffee
29. Of the Ancient Mariner
30. Place to drop some coin
31. Goddess of victory
32. Not written
33. Nanday cony
34. English children’s author: Byton
35. There are 60 in a min.

Show with performances and food. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. in the McMurtry College commons and the show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are $5 in advance or $7 at the door. Some of the dinner options include tacos, quesadillas and Colombian empanadas. You know, the ones with cocoa leaves in them.

MONDAY

SATURDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

FRIDAY

61. So-so
62. Ear-related
63. Is in debt
64. ...Avi
65. Puts down turf segments

1. egg
2. Short skirt
3. Egyptian mothness and fertility goddess
4. The God with the Dogon
5. River, ferry, life, or tug
6. Cellist Ma
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SUDOKU

6 4 8
7 1 9
2 3 6

1 5 2
9 3 4
8 7 6

3 2 6
8 9 5 3
2 4

4 8 7
3 6

9 1 4 7
5 6

3 2 4

This sudoku was created by sudokuquzzler.com. It is rated medium difficulty.

The solution will be posted on Twitter at twitter.com/threshercal.
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

was the night after classes, when all through Rice U,
Not a student was studying, not even a mouse;
The Solo cups were placed by the keg with care,
Not a student was studying, not even a mouse;
In hopes that RUPD would never be there;
Perhaps tonight we would reach a new low
So we gave a glance to the objects below,
When the children were exhausted but not in their beds,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
On Absinthe! On Everclear! On Taaka and Punch in a Trashbin!
To the top of the Sallyport! To every party and crawl!
"No Jail, No Hospital and to all a good night.
"No Jail, No Hospital and to all a good night.
The children were exhausted but not in their beds,
And my bro in his tank, and I in my cap,
My brother and I, who made a huge mistake,
On Christmas Day, we went to a party,
And away the bottles flew like the down of a thistle.
And away she rode on a little flying sleigh.