Student email set to switch to Gmail

BY HALLIE JORDAN
TOMKIDS EDITORIAL STAFF

More than a year after Rice and Google began conversations about a potential switch from Rice Webmail to Gmail, the university signed an official contract with Google on Feb. 1 allowing student email accounts hosted by Google. The switch was approved by the Student Association today and will be implemented over the summer.

Rice had been poised to sign a contract with the company last May, but the contract fell through, and Rice has since been working with Google to come up with an agreement crafted to fully protect students’ rights.

Students will be the only ones to make the switch. Faculty and staff email accounts will continue to be hosted by Rice Webmail.

“The applications that come with Google, such as the documents, picture editor Photos, contact list and calendar are a real benefit for students,” Director of Systems, Infrastructure and Architecture Barry Ribbeck said. “We had to address each element in the contract separately. Rice needed the right vintage in the contract.”

When a person makes a Gmail account, he or she must agree to terms and conditions that essentially say Google has the rights to the content of all emails, Ribbeck said. As a university, Rice does not feel comfortable with that policy and has worked to make the deal with Google match that of Rice’s own email policy, Senior Associate of General Counsel Joe Davidson said.

Though less than 15 percent of students currently forward their Rice Webmail to Gmail, Ribbeck and the SA felt that all students would be able to benefit from what Google has to offer.

A part of what took so long for the two institutions to work out a deal that Google was simultaneously working with several other universities to make a contract that would please more than just one university at a time, Davidson said.

“It’s important that students feel their communication is confidential,” Davidson said.

That student email will not be directly under the control of Rice administration was another concern about the switch, Ribbeck said. If Google servers are down, for instance, he said Rice will not have any control over the email. However, Ribbeck said he felt the benefits outweigh the potential risks.

Before officially deciding on the deal, Information Technology asked the SA to vote on whether or not students still wanted to make the switch. The SA unanimously passed a resolution supporting the switch at Monday’s meeting.

“We were excited, and it was great because Ribbeck wanted students to have a voice in the transition and approval of it if they disagree it while working on it,” SA President Georgia Lavergne said.

RPC’s Crush Party 2012

Students design portable health-care clinic

BY ELLEN LIU
EDITORIAL STAFF

Rice students created a portable health-care structure that can fit into a backpack. This proposed structure, dubbed the “Accordion Clinic,” was first pitched at the School of Architecture’s third semin-annual spring charrette. The creators are now working toward designing a prototype for use in the field.

A charrette is an architectural design contest, and the objective of this one was to design a health-care structure that health surveillance assistants in Malawi could use for Rice’s Beyond Traditional Border programs. In total, there were three entries. The second place winner was “Under the Wing” - a tent with a square footprint and a gullwing door and a second layer around the clinic space. The “Vertical Tent” - a tent with an inflatable frame - finished third.

Like visiting Taiwan

Rice Taiwanese Association will be hosting a night market tomorrow night from 6 to 9 p.m. in the McMurtry College common space under the management of students and participating Asian student associations and games. Tickets will be $5 at the door, so get two and eat twice as much if your date stands you up.

Bakunin’s Bauhaus party

Archi-Arts’ spring party, Anarchi, is tomorrow night at 6 p.m. at the Caroline Collective. Buses leaving every 30 minutes from the Sallyport will provide transportation to the event, but we recommend building your own car and off-roading it over. Don’t forget to laugh at all those suckers wearing seatbelts!

SA reconsiders LPAPs

BY MOLLY CHIU
STUDENT-RUNOPINION STAFF

The ultimate physical activity program graduation requirement may soon be changing. In response to student concerns about wanting to continue studying and difficulties registering for LPAP classes, the Student Association is evaluating the current LPAP requirement and considering changes to improve the program.

At the SA meeting Jan. 30, four options for requirement changes were proposed: keep the requirement the same, reduce the requirement to one LPAP, allow participation in varsity and club sports to count for the requirement, as long as the LPAP requirement entirely while still allowing students to take LPAPs for credit. According to SA External Vice President Sanjula Jain, these options are not conclusive, but are simply an attempt by the SA to cover a broad spectrum of possibilities.

After reviewing feedback from students, options may be edited or combined.

SA senators have collected feedback back on the possible changes through surveys and discussions at college governing meetings. The SA is currently working to analyze that feedback to get a comprehensive idea of which options students prefer, Jain said.

“This is a big priority for the SA, and we are definitely working to see what happens,” Jain said. “We are trying to reach out to as many students as possible, especially athletes, to really make sure we get a complete picture of the issue.”

The SA is working with Dean of Undergraduates John Hutchinson and Registrar David Terney to implement changes to the program.

Hutchinson said that the university needed to determine whether the LPAP requirement is fitting the needs of undergraduates.

“Many people put off taking [LPAPs] until senior year because they can’t get into classes, which seems to take away the benefit,” John Hutchinson, Dean of Undergraduates said.

“This semester, we had a large number of seniors who still needed the requirement to graduate,” Hutchinson said. “Many people put off taking it until senior year because they can’t get into classes, which seems to take away the benefit. It becomes a self-fulfilling cycle because freshmen can’t get in because the courses are filled by seniors.”

According to Hutchinson, for changes to the LPAP curriculum to take place, the SA will need to present its findings to the Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum. The CUC would then research and debate the issue and make a recommendation to the Faculty Senate. Any changes to the curriculum would then need to be approved by the Faculty Senate.

See LPAP, page 5

NEW SA PRESIDENT
Sanjula Jain

RPC’s Crush Party 2012

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See LPAP, page 5

New SA president Sanjula Jain
the Rice Thresher

Editorial

LPAP program in need of addressing overcrowding issues

The Lifetime Physical Participation Activity Program has proved itself to be about as inefficient as its burdensome name. Fortunately, some much-needed change is forthcoming to the program (See story, pg. 4). Four proposals have been offered to the student body to vote upon, and these ideas range from abolishing the program to maintaining the status quo.

The Thresher believes that the goals of the program are worthwhile, and the program serves an important purpose. However, LPAP overcrowding needs to be addressed in several ways. Primarily, the LPAP requirement for athletes needs to be lifted. Overextending varsity athletes and placing them at risk of injury off the field is simply unacceptable, and this mandate should be lifted. The same logic can be applied to club athletes; however, verification of student participation and activity in club sports could be difficult. If the LPAP requirement for club athletes is lifted, there should be a system implemented in which faculty affiliates or team captains must track the participation of students who opt to participate in club sports for LPAP credit. This change to the LPAP program would not only give our athletes a bit of much-needed rest, but also decrease the number of students attempting to enroll in an LPAP by more than 50 percent.

The administration should also consider expanding the number of available LPAP classes. While hiring new instructors is not fiscally reasonable, the university could allow student-taught LPAPs and S.W.E.A.T. classes to count toward LPAP credit. This would help to decrease the number of overfilled LPAP classes, and it would give students an even more diverse array of options for LPAP courses.

As a result of the increased supply of classes, each LPAP class could have spots available for each grade. This would ensure that each student’s LPAP experience is integrated with the whole undergraduate community.

The LPAP program is an important part of the curriculum which encourages students to stay fit and explore new avenues of physical activity. However, the current program places an unnecessary burden on athletes and is too crowded to be effective. By relieving athletes of LPAP requirements and expanding LPAP offerings, this program can return to a high level of functionality.

Slow Gmail switch protects best interests of students in long term

After more than a year-long attempt to switch from Rice Webmail to Gmail, Information Technology and Google have finally signed a contract, meaning Rice students will begin using Gmail next semester (See story, pg. 1). University administrators decided to switch to Gmail because of student interest and the perceived usefulness of the Google applications associated with Gmail, such as Google Documents.

The success of this switch depended on Rice’s ability to negotiate a deal with Google that would protect students’ intellectual property rights. The length of time Rice took to sign with Google shows the university’s commitment to keep students’ best interests in mind. Under the terms and services that normal Gmail users accept when they make an account, users give Google the rights to everything that is sent through their emails. The protracted wait for Google services is worth it if it has ensured the safety of students’ work.

Another issue with the switch to Gmail is that Google is, of course, in charge of running the servers. This means that if Google crashes or if students need to access archives that Rice no longer has the power to troubleshoot these situations. Though the switch is a trade-off between complete email control and security, as email could be kept in servers in other countries across the world instead of on campus, the benefits and convenience of using Gmail campus-wide should definitely outweigh the small amount of potential risk, especially as the university seems to have taken every measure to ensure that Rice keeps all of its intellectual property rights.

Furthermore, IT worked with the Student Association, which voted for the switch, making Rice one of the only universities in the nation to involve student input in the decision.

When My Facebook Is Filled With "MEMES"

How my friends think I react

It's so true! It's so true!

How I react when I realize I just made one

Last Week's Online Poll Results:

Do you think students should be allowed to live in co-ed rooms without any outside permission?

☐ Yes, college students are adults

☐ No, it will create too much strife if a couple rooming together breaks up

☐ No, but it should be allowed in special instances

☐ Yes, the current policy ignores the fact that same-sex couples can room together
The ball rumbles forward, the ball tucked securely under his arm as he bolts towards the hoop, seeking an opening. The opposing team is clad player comes cartwheeling onto the ground before the goalkeeper can get back in; luckily, his teammate is ready got some experience with it: Harry Potter. It's hard to put your finger on it. The IQA's next big projects include showing it. Players come from all walks of life: Half of them have never tried about what might happen to them in goal hoops, steal broomsticks, add a level of quirkiness to the game itself. Even the most seasoned players, save the snitch, are required to the Mardi Gras Cup in Baton Rouge since 2009, and The University of Tennessee is known for offering the best quality of life to its undergraduates. Students admitted to Rice pay up to $3,900 on tuition and about $12,000 on room and board annually. While Rice has upheld its standard of living in most colleges across campus, some of the older colleges are severely lacking, namely Hanszen College.

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Student Association Executive Board '12-'13

**President**

"I was impressed to see how interested and engaged the entire campus was with the elections. Students really took time to learn about all the issues, and I haven't seen that much excitement toward SA elections in all my time here. I want to see that momentum carry into meeting other college presidents and campus leadership to see what our priorities are and find ways we can all work together."

**RUNNERS UP**

**Ben Chou**

"I am meeting with Georgia and Kate Abad to discuss the possibility of creating a new standing committee that will focus on finances at Rice, such as tuition and financial aid, and government and student relations. People I've talked to think this is a great idea to pursue, and I promised them I would work on this issue regardless of the election result. I am working to fulfill this promise."

**Hersh Agrawal**

"My vision for next year is to use my position as treasurer to shift budget allocation away from food and small activities and toward encouraging new initiatives and helping fund new Student Association programs. I hope to increase the Student Association's visibility through better marketing and strategic branding and will ensure the blanket tax committee continues to allocate funds to items that benefit all undergraduates."

**Secretaty**

"Meeting into the future as SA Secretary, I hope to become a fitting and reliable conduit between the SA council and Rice student body."

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**Results of SA General Election**

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<th>Honor Council Representatives</th>
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<td>Seth Brown</td>
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<td>David French</td>
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<td>Beth Herlin</td>
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**TREASURER**

**Emily Robinson**

"As External Vice President, I aim to foster alumni relationships, reach out to more departments, get University standing committees more involved and show what our desire are as a student body in line with the Vision for the Second Century."

**INTERNAL VP**

"As SA Internal Vice President, I aim to make the standing committees more effective, get more of the student body involved, improve upon success of the best practices program, and communicate with colleges to increase the visibility and effectiveness of SA. I can't wait to serve!"

**EXTERNAL VP**

"As Internal Vice President, I aim to foster alumni relationships, reach out to more departments, get University standing committees more involved and show what our desire are as a student body in line with the Vision for the Second Century."

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**Editors in Chief**

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**Station Manager**

Mark Dudley (KTRU)

**Program Director**

Alex Yang (RTV5)

**Secretary**

Jyra Bickham (Rice Program Council)

**Treasurer**

Grace Ge (Rice Program Council)

**External Vice Chair**

Dorothy Chou (RTV5)

**Student Association**

The following were noted at the most recent meeting of the Student Association on Feb. 13.

- SA President Georgia Lagoudas presented a letter from the student government at Northwestern University urging university administrators to avoid the use of force in dealing with non-violent protests in response to an incident at the University of California at Berkeley. Northwestern seeks the signature support of Rice's SA. It was motioned to table the issue until next week after representatives have discussed it with their colleges.

- SA Executive Vice President Sanjula Jain presented a resolution stating that the student body supports the switch from Rice Webmail to Gmail services because many students found that Webmail does not adequately suit their needs. The resolution passed unanimously.

- Lagoudas introduced a bill to create a student advisory board for writing and communication. The board will represent student interests in the creation of the new writing and communication program.

- Brown College Senator Shaurya Agarwal presented an edited resolution supporting changes to the foreign language program at Rice. The resolution stated that because the Rice foreign language program was found to be behind peer institutions, the SA supports the increase of introductory course requirements. It was added that the SA supports the hiring of new language instructors and the continuation of less popular languages. The motion to approve the changes passed. Students discussed concerns about student-athlete interactions and generally agreed that many athletes seem disconnected from the rest of the student body. Participation at athletic events is low, and some argued it is because other events are often held at the same time as athletic events. Others argued that participation is caused by lack of school pride, which could be solved by making going to games the "cool" thing to do.

- Students discussed the university response to issues caused by increased enrollment such as an increase in the number of classes and finding new classroom space. One said that faculty do not seem accessible. Others argued that they found professors to be readily available if students made an effort. Many suggested that publishing a master list of each advisor's subject area and office hours could help, and advising opportunities could be promoted through the faculty mentor program during O-Week.

- Lagoudas announced that President David Leebron will attend the next Senate meeting for discussion with students. Lagoudas proposed readressing Leebron's Vision for the Second Century, a 10-point mission statement for Rice, in light of the upcoming Centennial. Lagoudas urged representatives to discuss whether Rice is meeting the goals of the mission statement with their colleges.

The SA will next meet on Monday, Feb. 20 at 9 p.m. in Farnsworth Pavilion.

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**The Editors in Chief say, “Read the Thresher, or else!”**
The makers of the winning design in the charrette are architecture graduate students Tucker Douglas, Vy Drouin-Le and Samuel Bilirakis and Jones College senior Michael Matheus. Douglas said the team had two days to complete its objective.

The structure needed to be easily deployable in the field and meet other requirements. Specifically, it needed to fold up into a backpack that health-service workers can carry. Once erected, it needed to be capable of holding an examination table, preparation area and stool while costing no more than $50. Overall, the structure needed to create a safe environment for treatment.

"Health-care workers in Malawi currently do most of their work in the field unless someone invites them into their home, and if they don't have privacy or basic protection from the elements, less people are prone to come forth for treatment," Douglas said.

Douglas said these restrictions inspired the creation of the Accordion Clinic, a structure which would unfold and use locking hinges called Simplinges as an integral part of the construction.

"We focused on designing something different from a regular tent, since lots of inflatable projects have been done before, and became interested in a structure that pops open and projects elements, less people are prone to come forth for treatment," Douglas said.

Douglas said the material cost of the project was just under $35, and the team plans to design the clinic and provide a more accurate cost estimate before entering the prototype phase. While prototyping the structure, the team will test different materials and connections to determine whether any other serious changes are necessary.

Douglas said the RIBA program has expressed interest in their project, and they are working to determine funding and the next steps.

Global Health Program Associate Matthew Andahl (Brown '11), one of five judges who picked the winning entry of the spring charrette, said that of all the entries in the charrette, the "Accordion Clinic" fulfilled the criteria most effectively.

"The design would be instantly recognizable and has a very unique, striking appearance which will unfold and use locking hinges called Simplinges as an integral part of the construction. We focused on designing something different from a regular tent, since lots of inflatable projects have been done before, and became interested in a structure that pops open and projects elements, less people are prone to come forth for treatment." Douglas said.

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NEWS

VISION: students see Rice

BY NICOLE ZHANG
THURSDAY EDITORIAL STAFF

Perspective students from around the country entered the hedges and sampled Rice University life from Sunday to Tuesday when the hosted its annual VISION program.

Minority Interest Committee Chair Reanna Newton said that she believes there was a great improvement from previous years' VISION programs.

"We had students [host] at every college on campus and a lot of students at each of them," Newton said. "VISION participated got a different feel for each of the residential colleges and saw how it all came together through the social events, so they got the best of both worlds."

According to Marriott College senior Jessica Alter, VISION has grown immensely in the past few years. Alter said that when she attended VISION, it was a much smaller group of 45 to 60 students. She added that the increase in attendees could possibly be attributed to increased awareness of VISION.

"People know about it more, and it is easier to find and meet other students who are interested," Alter said. "The more you do it, the more you understand what you need and how to get it done so that you can get the word out faster and between students who are interested."

Newton cited the importance of a diverse student body as a reason for the importance of VISION to the Rice community.

"There are a lot of different people from all different backgrounds [at Rice], yet there are still times where some minority students feel there aren't a lot of people like themselves," Newton said. "We want minority students to see that there are a lot of people like [them] and also a lot of people different from [them]."

The admissions staff invited approximately 400 applicants to attend VISION this year. Admissions officers chose the students, in consultation with the Minority Recruitment Program, based on their academic and extracurricular achievements, Siler said. According to Siler, the prospective students were predominately African-American, Hispanic or Native American ethnic backgrounds.

VISION Director of VISION Coordinator and Coordinator of Minority Recruitment Tamara Siler said that she thought the event was a success based on informal feedback from students as they departed campus as well as members only VISION Facebook page.

"I think some students came with very low expectations," Siler, Senior Associate Director of Admissions, said. "I think many left thinking about Rice as a much more serious contender in their college list."

VISION was coordinated by members of the admissions staff and student groups such as the Minority Interest Committee, Black Student Association, HACER and the Rice Native American Student Association.

Participants received reimbursements for their travel expenses of up to $200 for in-state students and up to $400 for out-of-state students.

The purpose of VISION is to showcase Rice's academic and campus life to highly recruited applicants representing underrepresented minorities, according to Siler.

The program is timed to take place prior to April, when many students usually visit other universities they have been accepted to, Siler said.

"We anticipate that these students will have lots of college choices," Siler noted. "The majority of students who come are still actively engaged in the application process. VISION gives us a bit of a head start and it has definitely added to the visibility of Rice in a very important recruitment demographic."

Rice University dropped to 26th from 47th in 2011 in the Times Higher Education University rankings. The rankings employ multiple performance indicators under five main categories: teaching, research, citations, income and international outlook.

"Rice received an overall score of 89 out of 100, with subscores of 84 in teaching, 91 in international outlook, 76 in industry income, 80 in research and 99 in citations," Siler said. "Unlike the list compiled by U.S. News and World Report, the THES rankings include both international and domestic institutions.

Rice experienced its sharpest score drop in the teaching category, down from 85 to 74, and research, down from 56 to 54. Since teaching and research scores sum to 60 percent of the total score, Rice suffered a net decline in scores from 66 to 59."

Director of Institutional Research Bhatia Sarkar said that the teaching category does not effectively evaluate the undergraduate learning experience. The Office of Institutional Research ran a statistical analysis of the data and found that the scores in the teaching category have a 90 percent statistical correlation to the scores in the research category.

"The THES rankings use metrics such as the ratio of the number of faculty members with Ph.D.s to the total number of faculty members and the ratio of Ph.D. students to bachelor's degree students. These metrics, based on the teaching category, benefit universities with a relatively large number of graduate students," Siler said.

"That's a particular vision that Rice has," Leebron said. "That's not our vision."

"39.7 percent of our students are minority applicants," Almond said. "That's something to be proud of."

McMurtry College freshman Regina Leslie said that Rice's success as a university may fluctuate in a short time period but rises pretty consistent over the long term.

"I've had it accumulated so much great recognition that it would be hard for these rankings to have too significant of an effect," Leslie said.

STEVE PHILLIPS
THE RICE THRESHOLD FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2012

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20
REA presents: Engineer Your Career
A panel of successful alumni discuss how to start and manage a career and take questions from the audience. Dessert reception follows.
7 p.m. in McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall
Sponsored by Rice Engineering Alumni

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
Dean's Town Hall Meeting and Happy Hour for Graduate Students
5 pm in McMurtry Auditorium, Duncan Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
Rice Engineering Competition
Open to all current Rice students
3 pm in Grand Hall, RMC
Cash prizes and more!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
RUiWise? presents Where are all the women?
A panel discussion on gender differences in engineering and science.
3 pm in Farnsworth Pavilion, RMC

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
Dean's Study Break for Undergraduates
Entertainment and food
6 pm in Martel Hall, Duncan Hall

See the events calendar at engr.rice.edu for event details and to RSVP.
Grad meal plan unveiled

BY JENNIFER DING
THE THRESHER STAFF

Off-campus students will have more meal plan options to choose from starting next semester due to the development of a new graduate student meal plan.

The plan provides graduate students with the option to eat lunch in the college serveries. Housing and Dining has decided to offer these meal plans to off-campus students as well.

According to Graduate Student Association President Sumedh Warudkar, many graduate students wish to eat lunch in the serveries. "The options available for graduate students are either on the slightly expensive side or provide you [with] a limited number of options," Warudkar said. "The serveries offer a one-stop shop for a large variety of healthy and fresh food at very affordable prices."

Through discussions with H&D, Dean of Undergraduates John Hutchinson, Student Association President Georgia Lagoudas, and college presidents and masters, Warudkar was able to create a graduate meal plan.

"The goal was to ensure that all off-campus students had the ability to choose from more than one plan to best fit their schedules and other needs," H&D Manager of Communications Susann Glenn said.

One change for the new plans offer is that meals will not expire until the end of the semester. Another change is the number of meals available for purchase. In addition to the 85 meals per semester plan currently offered, students will now have the option to purchase 50 or 25 meals.

Graduate students on the 25/50/85 meal plans will be assigned to a specific serverie. Applicants will be asked to rank their top three serveries in order of preference, and assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. All serveries except the Baker serverie will be offered to graduate students, while off-campus undergraduates will be free to eat at any serverie on campus.

This semester, only 125 spots are available for graduate students to purchase meal plans. According to H&D, more than 80 students have signed up already.

"Warren College sophomore Jim Sheng, who currently lives off-campus, said he would have liked the option to choose one of the new plans. "I would have purchased the 50-meal plan just because there are other free sources for food on campus," Sheng said. "I think this plan will be more popular because it doesn't restrict the number of meals an off-campus student must have on campus in a week."

NEWS IN RHyme

NATIONAL NEWS

Iran threatens oil embargo
There once was a country named Iran
That was more of a pariah than Sudan Ruled by an ayatollah
And Ahmadinejad They made a threat To make Europe fret
Those European oil sales they would ban
Due to rising tensions and increasing embargos, Iran has threatened to cut oil exports to six European countries.

Obama submits 2013 budget proposal
Obama’s administration has been all about money Because our budget is so large it’s not even funny It includes goals like the payroll tax

RUPD POLICE BLOTTER

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period of Feb. 10-15.

Residential Colleges
Hanszen College
Feb. 13
Theft
Will Rice College
Feb. 13
Theft
Will Rice College
Feb. 14
Theft
Leavett College
Feb. 14
Theft
Wiess College
Feb. 15
Theft

ENTREPRENEURS WANTED:
Rice Business Collaborative presents...
Rice Undergraduate Venture Challenge
Thursday, May 3rd
Develop and present a commercialization plan for a idea/venture developed by Rice undergraduates

Criteria for entering the Venture Challenge
- Teams of Rice undergraduate students (maximum 5 per team) from any major
- Idea/venture must be developed by Rice undergraduates
- Idea/venture must not yet be earning revenue
- Business plan must account for remaining idea/venture development, revenue models and expectations, and medium-term business strategy
- Entries will be judged on both feasibility and commercialization potential

Registration Deadline: Friday, March 16, 2012
For more details, go to: oedk.rice.edu/RUVC

Thousands in cash prizes!

This event is sponsored by the Rice Business Collaborative, Rice Center for Engineering Leadership, Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship and the Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen.
There is an image of an article discussing a campus-wide art initiative at Rice University. The article mentions the celebration of ART festival that will take place on March 9. The festival aims to publicize a new campus-wide art initiative and recruit over 50 art enthusiasts to help them realize their plans. The festival will feature art of all forms, including sculpture, performance, and digital art, film, photography, and fashion. It will take place over the central quad, studio art, and other locations. The festival will include both juried and non-juried exhibits, with the juried exhibits offering cash prizes for the "best" art. Teng and Perez encourage all students, regardless of major, to participate. The past plans for March 9 include a day that music and theater arts take over the central quad, studio art, and other locations. An art market showcases large bodies of student artwork. Teng and Perez welcome both undergraduate and graduate students to submit their work during the spring. Perez envisions the festival to function for months, collaborating with students for years to come. The festival is expected to be sustainable and encourage continuous participation. For more information, interested individuals should follow the Facebook page "CelebrateART Festival" or "CelebrateART 2012" on OWL-Space.

The Masculine Salad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items Needed</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 or 2 whole chicken breasts</td>
<td>Sliced into small pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinach</td>
<td>Freshly prepared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shredded lettuce</td>
<td>Freshly torn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalapenos (optional)</td>
<td>Freshly chopped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherry tomatoes</td>
<td>Freshly washed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feta cheese</td>
<td>Freshly crumbled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 baked sweet potato</td>
<td>Sliced into bite-sized pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honey mustard dressing</td>
<td>Prepared ahead of time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preparation:

1. The first step is to prepare the bed of the salad, which will consist primarily of spinach. Place the spinach in your desired size, a plate to form the salad base. Make sure to leave a little bit of the spinach base, sprinkle some feta cheese and some cherry tomatoes on it.
2. For the meat layer, the trick is to dice the chicken into small cubes. You can use a knife to make this happen.
3. For the potato layer, use a spoon or a fork to cut the baked sweet potato into small cubes.
4. Finally, add the dressing to the salad and mix everything together. Serve the salad immediately.

These suggestions or favorite survey recipes, please email Bhagwat Kumar at bhagwat.kumar@rice.edu.

Rice Cribs naps the gentlemen's shot

A clever living arrangement and a lot of Dormon College's chemistry has gone into this new crib, or should I say the next thing?

The social sophomores of Room 421 transformed two fifth flour doubles into triplets, leaving the room downstairs deserted of all the usual accoutrements. In the place of beds and desks are two portable couches, a small TV, a bar, and a few of the most elegant beer pong tables ever created. The men explained how each member contributes these various posters to put their respective parties. Austin said, they cover the walls with paper inscribed with inside jokes and funny sayings.

The most prominent piece of this ex-ceptional dwelling is a fully lit, hand-crafted table used for playing beer pong or other such games. One side of the plastic-topped table has a little box of the Rice University owl and glow blue, while the other side houses a Ducks crested and illuminates with a green glow. "My grandfather and I made it last summer," Clarent said.

These suggestions created an excellent party room at the helm of the Dun-can social scene.

After visiting Room 421, we climbed a flight of stairs up to the room's living space. I stepped into the room and was immediately surprised. There was no mess to move, the room didn't feel cramped. Three beds surrounded by even more posters fit comfortably in the double. "We want people to know that it's really not that bad," Austin shared. This living arrangement seems easily replicable for any students willing to follow suit.

Room 421 has already hosted many a hanging and the roommates have big plans for the rest of the year. Individu-ally, the rooms may not be as spacious as most, but having Room 421 more than makes up for it. Here is a perfect place for the Rice University community.

Rice Cribs explores various dorm designs around campus. If you would like to suggest a room to be featured, email Alex Bubier at abubier@rice.edu.

Rice Cribs invites Fondren Library to help publicize a new campus-wide art initiative. The celebration of ART festival includes art of all forms such as sculpture, performance, and digital art, film, photography, and fashion. The festival will take place over the central quad, studio art, and other locations. An art market showcases large bodies of student artwork. Teng and Perez welcome both undergraduate and graduate students to submit their work during the spring.

Celebration of ART invades Fondren Library to help publicize a new campus-wide art initiative. The celebration of ART festival includes art of all forms such as sculpture, performance, and digital art, film, photography, and fashion. The festival will take place over the central quad, studio art, and other locations. An art market showcases large bodies of student artwork. Teng and Perez welcome both undergraduate and graduate students to submit their work. Perez envisions the festival to function for months, collaborating with students for years to come. The celebration of ART festival is expected to be sustainable and encourage continuous participation.
The Vagina Monologues:

Monologues unify all women

GRACE WENG
THRESHER STAFF

Twenty actresses strut onto the Sid Richardson College basement stage dressed in fierce, clunky outfits of red and black. Rice University’s 2012 production of The Vagina Monologues, directed by Haman College seniors Annie Blay and Kate Snyder, is far from being one of those harried efforts to remind women of how strong, beautiful and superior to men they are. Instead, the play aims to place at the forefront a community that unites a diverse set of women - old, young, rich, poor, heterosexual, homosexual, transsexual, masculinized, feminized - in a common struggle. Each of the poignant monologues in its own way renders the message of learning to accept and love not only vaginas, but also women as a whole.

The Vagina Monologues was written by Eve Ensler for the V-Day movement, which seeks to stop violence against women. The play is founded on a significant degree of truth, which can be simultaneously harrowing and uplifting. The monologues were based off a collection of over 100 testimonies of women discussing their vaginas or female parts in general. Some monologues follow personal testimonies pretty closely, like the heartrending portrayal of McMurry College senior Ellen Marsh as an elderly New Yorker in “The Flood,” Sid senior Karen Frankenhedel humorously and yet strangely plays the transmuted turned-embalmed southern in “The Little Cuckoo, Snorter That Could.” Other monologues reflect more generalized responses, like answers to “What would your vaginal underwear be?” (locally presented by Sarah Jacobs and Maddie Camp, both Sid freshmen) or a compilation of the experiences of feminist rape victims (memorial delivery by Branscum College freshman Clara Roberts).

Interestingly, Brown College junior Kori Bertman comes to the front of the stage to present a couple of facts and statistics, ranging from interesting to startling. The different episodes are linked by the earnest narration, Were College freshman Annie Beamer, carrying the audience through the variety of reflections women can have concerning their vaginas and all the experiences and emotions that come with them.

The staging is simple. The actresses perform their monologues front and center one at a time, while the rest of the cast sits on the stage behind them - a sort of visual net of support. Some actresses use the stage more efficiently than others, but all of the actresses come to fully embody their characters.

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at local coffee shops, including slow-drip coffee machines, mills, teapots, French presses, Wod pour-over cups and tasters. All of the fancy appliances sold there are the same ones that the baristas use at the bar.

For the more particular customers, Catalina sells whole-bean bags of all of the coffees the baristas use at the bar, which consist of a variety of Organic Fair Trade beans. The Amaya Roasting Company roasts all the beans locally and the freshly roasted beans brought from the factory the previous day are available for purchase.

The service was surprisingly prompt, considering there were only two baristas attending to such a large volume of customers. Upon receiving my capuccino, I noticed the foam was carefully steamed to form a multi-leaf flowered plant.

The espresso, Catalina's Brazil Blend, had a very prominent smoky flavor with subtly sweeter tones of chocolate. The flavor was intense, heavy and a bit overpowering. I then tried the French-pressed coffee, since it is rarely offered at the shops I frequented. The French-pressed Peru Amazonas coffee is mild and smooth, with hints of citrus and a bit on the acidic side. It might have tasted acidic because I took my time in drinking it. For future reference, the trick to enjoying a French press drink quickly. Catalina is a bit of a drive from Rice University, but it is worthwhile to stop in and try a cortado, a personal-ized pour-over coffee or a masterfully crafted cappuccino.

Amanda Gutierrez is a Hanszen College junior. Roasted is a column that examines the coffee culture in and around Houston.

Catalina's Brasil Blend

Metro Meals: Barnaby's Cafe

If you're looking for a delicious, hearty meal, Barnaby's Cafe is the place to go. With five locations throughout Houston, there is always the likelihood of a Barnaby's being nearby. They are conveniently open for breakfast, lunch and dinner and serve mainly classic American cuisine. Its prices are very reasonable, especially for the quality and amount of food that you receive.

We visited the Barnaby's in River Oaks. This Barnaby's offers both inside and outside patio seating. For patrons who want to bring their dogs and do not mind sitting outside, the Barnaby's staff will even offer dogs a bowl of water for free.

One of the meals we ordered was the spinach and feta burger. It is layered with fresh spinach leaves and the perfect amount of feta cheese. The burger was cooked well-done but still juicy. The burger had a very fresh taste and was not greasy at all.

The meal also comes with the option of either sweet potato or normal fries, and we asked for half of each. Otherwise the two flavors of fries gives both a sweet and salty option as a side for your meal.

We also tried the Hickory BBQ burger for some Texas-style flavor. The burger was topped with cheese, bacon and barbecue sauce. The cheese and bacon added to the already amazing flavor, making the perfect burger. The barbecue sauce came on the side, so we could decide how much we wanted. The extra barbecue sauce especially complemented the taste of the sweet potato fries.

Sasha Schoch and Allie Schaich of food that you receive.

We ordered Barnaby's freshly squeezed lemonade. Unlike some restaurants, where free refills are only available for fountain drinks, Barnaby's provided us with an entire pitcher of the tangy lemonade.

Sasha Schoch and Allie Schaich are Weiss College freshmen. Metro Meals explores the restaurants along Houston's METRORail.
Remembering 500 Episodes of ‘The Simpsons’

Don’t miss this GREAT opportunity! Visit the Fair to learn about over 40 different figures, board games, comic books, albums, video games, a feature film and a ride at Universal Studios. “D’oh!” is now an official English word. To commemorate the show’s 20th anniversary, its10th year. The Simpsons could air its first of 27 Emmys in 1990. In its first few years, “The Simpsons” was constantly the center of controversy. America had never seen a child on a TV program who openly disrespected authority, didn’t obey his parents and got away with it. But Simpson embodied these traits and, with all of us, we liked him. He was the kid we all wished we could be. The show received a lot of backlash from angry parents who viewed Bart as a bad role model. During George W.K. Bush’s 2000 election campaign, he said in a speech that we needed families “a lot more like the Waltons and a lot less like the Simpsons.”

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However, the controversy only matched for a long time, if ever. The show received a lot of attention from the media and the public. The show’s original creators, Matt Groening and Hank Azaria, were able to develop the show’s characters and storylines to match the public’s demand. The show’s success was due to its unique blend of humor, satire, and social commentary. It was able to comment on a wide range of topics, from politics to pop culture, and was able to do so in a way that was entertaining and engaging.

In recent years, more vulgar cartoons like “South Park” and “Family Guy” have challenged the popularity of “The Simpsons.” Even the creators of these shows acknowledge how “The Simpsons” pioneered the adult cartoon genre. South Park creators Matt Stone and Trey Parker admit that they would probably be unemployed without “The Simpsons.” They even made an episode called “The Simpsons Al- ready Did It” in which the character Butters is frustrated because all of his ideas have already appeared on “The Simpsons.” Ultimately, “Simpsons” fans will remember the show for its loose physical humor, deceptive wit and emotional power. Watching Homer fall down Springfield Gorge was the hardest I ever had to laugh in my life. The episode “Lift on the Fast Lane” in which Marge is seconds away from choking on Homer before she has a change of heart is one of the most emotional episodes of any TV show. When I cried on an airplane for the first time in five years, we overcame the initial awkwardness by bonding over our childhood love of “The Simpsons.” Undoubtedly, the show has been declining steadily over the last 10 years, but when I tune in this Sunday, I won’t be thinking about that.
Men's track rolls past big teams at A&M

by Ryan Glassman

The men's basketball team defeated Southern Methodist University (11-15, 2-9 C-USA) on Saturday evening, moving to 60-52 overall and 4-1 in the conference, clinching the highest overall and conference win totals for the program since the 2000-01 season.

For all of the offensive jewels, stop reading here.

In spite of going without a bucket in the game's final 9:45, the team played stingy defense throughout the game and held the Mustangs to just 47.5 percent shooting, which earned Rice a 43-39 win at Tulip Fieldhouse.

To find the last time that Rice won a game in which it scored 63 points or fewer, one would have to go back to its 20-43-1 win over Texas A&M in February 1990.

For a game in which Coach Ben Braun surpassed the mark for career wins in a season during his tenure at Rice, it was only appropriate that the geese of Braun's first recruiting class led the team to victory.

Back in the starting lineup for the third time in five games, senior forward Lucas Kuipers polished off his four-game stretch with 14 points and four assists.

"It was a win," said Jackson after the game, a victory that puts Rice in sixth place in the conference with just five games remaining in the regular season.

"For the older guys, we've won more games than we did last year, so that's a big thing. To go into the next game with a week, over 50, that's big for us."

Jackson's three with under 10 minutes to play put Rice up 39-37 with 4:40 to go. Kazemi finished the evening with 13 points and a game-high 14 rebounds, tying the all-time C-USA record with his 4th career double-double.

"I was going through a really tough time," said Kazemi of his previous six-game stretch in which, hobbyed by a knee injury, he had averaged a shade under eight points and eight rebounds per game. "Sometimes you don't get a call or your shot is just not falling. I didn't give up. I practiced with the team pretty hard and tried to just get back on track and be patient, I think that's what happened tonight."

Despite six poor offensive production down the stretch, Rice held SMU without a basket on its next four attempts before a jumper with 23 seconds left made it a 43-39 game. After then going one of two from the line to push the lead to four, Jackson stole the ball with eight seconds left before leading a fast break that led to an offensive foul. Trailing by two possessions, the Mustangs missed on a three with one second left, giving the ball back to the Owls and sealing the 43-39 victories.

"This was a game that we had to perform defensively, and the difference for us was that we did a good job with [SMU leading scorer Robert] Nyakakw." Coach Braun said after his team held the conference's leading three-point shooter to just nine points, after he burned Rice with 29 and 26 in two regular season games last year. "(The Mustangs) were taking a lot of things that we normally get on teams. They did a really good job. Arsalan made some really big plays down the stretch, hit his free throws and scored. That to me is a huge key to the game."

With wins in four of its last five games, Rice now sits just a game away from the coveted fourth-place slot and the bye in the first round of the C-USA tournament that comes with it. The next three games for the Owls will be played against teams in the top four in the conference, including a game tomorrow night at the University of Tulsa (15-11, 6-4 C-USA), looking to average a 79-46 drubbing at Tulip Fieldhouse on Jan. 24.

CONTINUING WITH THE OPENING EVENTS, JUNIOR Mike Troop led Rice in the 60-meter dash, placing 13th in the preliminaries, while freshman Chris Sanders and redshirt junior Jon Warren were 18th and 20th, respectively.

Coming in 17th in the 200-meter dash was junior Dylan Bradley, with a personal best time of 22.44 seconds. Bradley also clocked a personal best in the 400-meter dash with a time of 50.84 seconds, but senior Colan suitailer was impressive as well, finishing 12th in the race, while Johnson was 17th.

Senior Dan Short set a personal best for the first time in four years last week. Snapping his best time in the 100-meter run to 11.59 and finishing in eighth place. Senior Jordan Hmaidan and junior Mike Troop ran in 12th and 16th place, respectively. The mile race was less eventful, with only junior James Lomas running in the event and taking 71st place. Sophomore John Calvillo started in the 1,500-meter run, taking second and losing by just three-tenths of a second. Freshman Gerhardus van Steenen and junior Mike Troop were 19th and 20th, respectively.

The 3,000-meter run event was less eventful, with only junior James Lomas running in the event and taking 71st place. Sophomore John Calvillo started in the 1,500-meter run, taking second and losing by just three-tenths of a second. Freshman Gerhardus van Steenen and junior Mike Troop were 19th and 20th, respectively.

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In the relay events, Troop, Short and freshman Will Firth had a great performance in the distance medley relay, they came in third, eight seconds behind Texas A&M University Shalies, Chaires, Johnson and freshman Kyle Kimbray take eighth place in the 4 x 400 relay with a time of 3:39.78, nearly identical to their time last week.

Overall, Warren was impressed with his team's fifth place finish out of nine teams, ahead of schools like the University of Alabama, the University of Southern California and Texas Christian University.

"This meet was filled with great results for us, especially considering that the field was filled with some of the nation's top teams," Warren said. "Dayan Couch's hurdle victory led us, but top finishes by John Cavallo in the 400, Alex Zinchenko's shot put, Chris Pillow's pole vault and many others highlighted a great meet."

With the regular indoor season wrapped up, the Owls will not have a meet this weekend before travelling across town to the University of Houston and Yeoman Fieldhouse for the Conference USA Indoor Championship. With a solid foundation in the middle-distance events, long distance events and shot put, the Owls will hope that events like the sprints and relays can provide an extra boost to push them into the top three teams overall.

Men's track rolls past big teams at A&M
by Dan Eledge
Tallahassee Editorial Staff

Perfect victory cannot last forever, and the women’s tennis team knew its dream start would have to end sometime. After a thorough domination of its first six opponents, including a breezy win over Florida International University on Saturday, the Owls dropped their first match of the year to second-ranked Texas Tech University in a gut-wrenching 4-0 defeat.

Over the weekend, Rice participated in the Lady Raider Shootout in Lubbock where Texas Tech University, Florida International University, Santa Clara University, and New Mexico State University also took part. To get to the Red Raiders, the Owls had to get past FIU first. The Panthers were 4-6 going into the match, but their record was not representative of their true talent as it had already played five ranked opponents in the young season.

The Owls came out swinging first as they took the all important doubles point, 1-0. Freshman sensation Natalie Guzman and sophomore Dominique Harmath came out victorious on court one 8-4, while sophomore Kimberly Acosta and freshman Stephanie Nguyen finished their match in a hairy on court three where they won 8-2. Rice took off and never looked back in the one-sided affair as it soared high in the sky and dismissed FIU with a score of 4-1. Beazant, senior Ana Guzman and Acost recorded wins for the Owls to propel them to the victory and to increase their winning streak to six straight matches.

With FIU out of the way, Rice was ready for the real challenge of the weekend, a match with Texas Tech on its home court. The Owls were in a hole and were not able to crawl out. Even with two strong victories from Beazant and Harmath, the Owls were not able to mount a comeback, and just like that, the winning streak was over at six with a 4-2 loss.

Even with the loss, Beazant keeps on rolling, as she has not dropped a singles match all season with a 10-0 record to start her Rice career. For her efforts in the upset win at Louisiana State University and in the Lady Raider shootout, Beazant was named Conference USA player of the week. She is the first Owl to win the honor since Julie Chao (Will Rice ’10) won it in Feb. 2010.

Beazant and Harmath were hoping to redeem some of their Orlando magic as they opened the weekend with a 4-2 loss against Texas Tech, sophomore Samantha Adams and freshman Keena Kilgo. This time around, Texas Tech took revenge as Beazant and Harmath fell 8-4. The Red Raiders roundup the Owls and took the doubles point as Guzman and junior Katie Gater along with Nguyen and sophomore Leah Fried dropped their respective matches.

With the Red Raiders taking a 1-0 lead, the Owls were in a hole and were not able to crawl out. Even with two strong victories from Beazant and Harmath, the Owls were not able to mount a comeback, and just like that, the winning streak was over at six with a 4-2 loss.

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Even with the loss, Beazant keeps on rolling, as she has not dropped a singles match all season with a 10-0 record to start her Rice career. For her efforts in the upset win at Louisiana State University and in the Lady Raider shootout, Beazant was named Conference USA player of the week. She is the first Owl to win the honor since Julie Chao (Will Rice ’10) won it in Feb. 2010.

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Women's track led by middle- and long-distance
Wade and Pye dominate 3,000-meter run, Peeters and John in top 15 in 800-meter run

The Texas A&M Invitational was nothing but a tuneup for the Conference USA Indoor Championship for the women's track team as the ladies finished second among C-USA teams at the meet and asserted their dominance in a few events as well. Seniors Becky Wade and Allison Pye ranked first and second in the 3,000-meter run and second and fourth among C-USA runners, respectively. Saturday's one-two finish in the 3,000-meter run showed their opponents exactly what they will have to deal with next weekend.

Wade was two seconds off of her personal best after crossing the finish line in 9:31.15, while Pye was almost two seconds behind her at 9:33.12. Sophomore Farrah Madanasy followed closely behind to capture third place and give the Owls three runners in the top 10 of a highly competitive field. In the mile run, four Rice runners competed, with junior Heather Olson and senior Halsey Fowler placing in the top 10 as Olson nearly neared below the five-minute mark. Junior Sarah Mason and freshman Annie Schalch were 19th and 22nd, respectively. In the 800-meter run, seniors Sophie Peeters (fourth-fastest time of any CUSA runner this season) and Keti Joe (19th-fastest) ran well, with Peeters running her way to a personal best in third place, while John was 12th overall and six seconds behind Peeters.

Senior Maya Kirk and freshman Tyneisha McCrory ran neck-and-neck in the 400-meter dash in second and third, respectively. Junior Candace Springer and sophomore Simone Martin put forth solid efforts in the 200-meter dash but have work to do to creep inside the top 10 of CUSA. The 400-meter dash and 60-meter hurdles were no better, with Springer and McCrory finishing one hundredth of a second apart in 5th and 6th in the dash; sophomore Sophie Turner was 16th in the hurdles. The distance medley relay team of Olson, John, Mason and Peeters took first place beating Baylor University and Texas A&M University. The 4,000-meter relay "B" team was next to last, but Head Coach Jim Bevan opted not to run the top team for Rice.

In the field events, the pole vaulters really shined, with all five competitors finishing in the top 10. The upperclassmen led the way; junior Chiona Oliver was fifth with a personal-best indoor vault of 3.70 meters and junior Claire Wilson also set a personal best height of 3.66 meters to come in seventh place. Freshmen Marcellie Rice, Charity Tuney and Alicia Janke also hit 3.56 meters but tied for eighth due to their need for an extra try to clear the height.

Senior Brittnay Brown and freshman Claire like were 15th and 16th in the weight throw, with like throwing a personal best, Brown will look to place outside the top 10 in the CUSA meet next week. In the shot put, like and freshman Olivia Williams took 12th and 15th places, respectively. Martin was 14th in the long jump and freshman Morgan Yarbrough and senior Kiri Kendall finished back-to-back in the high jump, each jumping 1.79 meters. However, it seems clear from the field events that the pole vault will be the best bet for points for Rice, with possible surprise points in the throwing events.

Bevan had some positive things to say about the team's performance heading into the conference meet at the University of Houston's Yeoman Fieldhouse next weekend.

"We made some breakthroughs today as our vaulters made some new bars and learned about some technical changes," said Bevan. "I was especially proud of Casie Wilson, who is really improving after putting in her time. Yarbrough scored in the high jump in her first meet. Olson had a big break-through in the mile, winning her heat handily by outkicking the field with a 3:21.3 in the last 200 meters."

The Owls have the weekend off before taking the best in Conference USA next weekend at the University of Houston.

Follow twitter.com/ThresherSports for updates concerning the men's and women's basketball games this weekend. Baseball season starts today, so be sure to check our feed for play-by-play and commentary. Additionally, check out the report on the men's tennis team's performance this past weekend, who suffered a loss against UTSA but defeated Abilene Christian later in the day.

**Awards Deadline**
Wednesday
March 21, 2012

- Alan Grob Prize - undergrad, who has demonstrated service and devotion to the economically and culturally disadvantaged
- C.M. & Demaris Hudspeth - student organization sponsor, who has shown great dedication to student life and the organizations' success
- Commencement Awards - undergrad or grad - who exemplifies the values and causes of the commencement speaker
- Graduate Student Association (GSA) Awards - five separate awards for grad students and faculty/staff who work with grad students
- Morty Rich Scholarship - continuing student, who shows a commitment to service who has implemented programs that benefit the community
- Outstanding Senior Awards - graduating seniors, who have demonstrated service, dedication and character
- Rice University Service Award - four individuals, past and present, who have rendered service to the student body
- Rice Women's Resource Center-Impact Awards - undergrad, grad, faculty/staff - who have made a positive impact in raising awareness of women's issues
- Sallyport Award - undergrad and grad (degree candidates) - who show great promise in carrying forth the mission of the ARA
- Spirit of Service Awards - undergrad or grad - who has acted selflessly to bring aid to those around and who continually tries to meet the needs of others

**Nominate!**
awards.rice.edu

For questions contact Student Activities sad@rice.edu
Building bridges across the Pacific

The Rice University chapter of Global China Connection presents its inaugural national conference focusing on international collaboration in the fields of energy and technology: “Sino-US Relations through Bilateral Lenses.” The conference runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and takes place in the McMurtry auditorium of Duncan Hall. It is free to attend and registration is available on their website, www.bilateralfriends.wordpress.com.

Last one standing

The Shepherd School Concert will hold finals for winds, brass and percussion at 10 a.m. and for strings at 2 p.m. in the Stude Concert Hall. Admission is free and open to the public. Prepare the timpani for battle; the enemy has launched a volley of violins.

What’s that smell?

The Rice Taiwanese Association with a bloc of Asian clubs will set up their market station on Saturday for the Night Market. Get your dumplings, your egg tarts, your spring rolls, your buns and more! Buy a pre-sale ticket for $5 from a College Representative and enter the Night Market at 5:30 p.m. Otherwise, show up and buy a $5 ticket the night of and wait until 6 p.m. The Chinese Student Association will not be serving tainted milk this year.

It’s electric!

The Rice Electro-acoustic Music Labs presents its second annual concert of new electronic music composed by Rice faculty. Plug in to make music with Arthur Gottschalk, Robert Yekovich, John Driscoll and Kurt Stafmann at 8 p.m. in the Duncan Recital Hall. Discharge any static electricity before entering the concert hall. The concert is open to the public and free of (electric) charge.

L.M.Preparing for a Man van der Revolution

It’s Anarchi, Arts’ spring party. toasted by the Rice School of Architecture and the Architecture Society at Rice will start at 8 p.m. at the Carline Collective. Bus transport provided from the Saddleport every hour until 1 a.m. Anarchi can lead to violence, so it’s best to spend this party in your underground Le Corbusier.

CROSSWORD: URBAN CUISINE

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SUNDAY 19

Seventy-six trombones is 74 trombones too many

The Rice Symphonic Band presents their spring concert on Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Grand Hall of the RMC. Admission is free, and children are welcome. Keep the children on leashes, however, because the flute part will be played by the Pied Piper.

MONDAY 20

MLK IS HERE

Houston Enriches Rice Education presents a lecture by Virgil A. Wood to “Mar- tin Luther King Jr.,” The Or- ganic Scholar: Engagement at the Intersection of Theory and Practice.” Wood is a church leader, educa- tor and civil rights activ- ist who has committed his life’s work to struggle for economic and spiritual development among the nation’s disadvantaged.

You can love your body if you let me love yours

The final week of Love Your Body Month is Love Your Body Week, and it starts off with the Love Your Body Monologues at 8 p.m. in the Duncan Recital Hall. Join other body-lovers for an evening of prose, poetry and discussion dedicated to body image. Body-loving snacks will be provided.

THURSDAY 21

Work for good, not evil

The Good Works Internship and Career Seminar is held in the Grand Hall of the RMC between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. There are opportunities for you to give back to the community.

Tuesday 21

Rice + jazz = razz

It’s the old kaleidoscopic. The Rice Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of the jazz great Larry Slezak, presents its Black History Month Jazz Concert at 8 p.m. in the Sammy’s Cafe, hear the jazz with the perfect choc- olate to cookie ratio. Yum.

President cookies

President David Lebohn has offered $1000 to anyone who makes the best chocolate chip cookie. So, return the cookies with the perfect chocolate to cookie ratio. Yum.

Mirror, mirror on the wall, who has the best art of them all?

The new sculpture “Mirror” by Laume Piensa will be dedicated on Tues- day, Rice Briefing at 6 p.m. at the sculpture in the Central Quad just outside of Her- ring Hall, followed by re- freshments inside Herring.

Not as long as the Ring Cycle

The Rice Medieval Film Se- ries presents Tannhauser, a film of an opera com- posed by Richard Wagner and staged by his grandson Wolfgang Wagner. It will be shown in Herzstein Hall Room 212 at 7 p.m. in Ger- man with English subtitles. The film is free and open to the public, and is that-fu- lly only 186 minutes long.

WEDNESDAY 22

Please only use temporary tattoos

As a final installment of Love Your Body Month, you are invited to “Heat Your Parts.” All day long, it doesn’t matter where you or which part you love most! Students are encouraged to place a temporary sticker on the parts of their body they love the most. Even if you place the sticker where the sun doesn’t shine, that won’t diminish your love.

Black History Month movie isn’t really about Black History Month

The Rice Cinema and the Houston PBS Community present More Than a Month, the story of a film maker’s tongue-in-cheek campaign to end Black His- tory Month. If he succeed- ed, there wouldn’t be any reason to show the movie. The film is free and open to all of post-racial America.
RICE STARTING LINEUP

BRIAN BIEKMAN (Fr)- Keeper
- Holds school record for most blocks in a season.

RYAN GUPTA (Fr)- Beater
- First mudblood on team since Jay Robinson.

JACOB HERNANDEZ (Fr)- Beater
- Named “Master Beater” in the U-17 league.

TROY KELLERS (So)- Beater
- Has never missed a practice.

JEREMY LIN (Fr)- Beater
- Highest GPA on the team.

SETH BROWN (So)- Chaser
- Has a broomless vertical of 69 Qwoggles.

KALEB UNDERWOOD (Sr)- Seeker
- Hopes to one day officiate the Quidditch World Cup.

With inclement weather pouring down on Houston this week, spring may seem farther away than ever. Yet, Quidditch fans know that only one week separates them from the beginning of the Quidditch season, and for the Rice Quidditch League another chance to capture the pennant.

"I am literally soaking wet from excitement for the chance to see those Nimbus 3000s and for all of us to forget last year," Baker College junior Claire Garney said.

The Backpage is satire and is written by Alex Weinheimer, Anthony Lauriello and Zach Casias. Email comments and questions to thresherads@rice.edu

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2012

THE RICE THRESHER

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RICE BASEBALL 2012

SET G.P.S.* FOR OMAHA

*GRAHAM POSITIONING SYSTEM

*OWLS
RICE BASEBALL 2012

With no players boasting College World Series experience, these season's Owls must find way back to Omaha on their own

by Ryan Glassman
Reed's Post

"There is no need to change Austin Kubitza from being our starter," Graham said of his staff use. "We have added experience to an improved command of his pitch."

Senior Matthew Reckling, arguably Rice's most improved player last year, will follow Kubitza in the rotation as the Saturday starter. After finishing second to Kubitza in the country in strikeouts, Reckling was selected in the 22nd round of the draft but opted to return for a final season. If Reckling's command continues to improve, as it did vastly in the fall season, Rice will boast a pair of pitchers atop the rotation that can match up with any team on the schedule. Although the Sunday spot is less of a certainty, it appears that freshman standout Jordan Stephens will get the first crack atsolidifying the job as the final weekend starter.

One of Graham's prized arrivals in a highly-rated freshman class has exhibited a command of his pitches uncanny for a freshman, that a trait has earned him the trust of his coaches. Also in the mix for a weekend is the veteran senior southpaw Taylor Wall, one of the most experienced pitchers on the team. Wall was limited to start the season as a midweek starter but has certainly proven over his career at Rice that he has the potential to contribute to the weekend rotation when called upon.

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Catcher
Back for his final season, you will not find many more reliable all-around catchers in the country than Rice's Craig Manuel. A master of the intangibles, the senior's handling of the pitching staff and approach to specific game situations on the plate make him one of the two or three most irreplaceable players on the entire roster.

"Craig has improved yearly," Graham said of the senior backstop. "I think he's one of the top catchers in Division I, and he may be one of the best situational hitters in college baseball." After hitting .275 with 26 runs batted in and tying for the conference lead in sacrifice flies, his tough to disagree with the praise of his head coach. Backing up Manuel will be junior Geoff Perrott, a capable defensive replacement whose bat continues to improve. Sophomore Andrew Murphy has been identified by coaches as one of the team's hardest workers, and will see opportunities as well at the catcher's position and designated hitter spot.

Outlook
What they lack in star power compared with a year ago, the 2012 Rice baseball team more than makes up for in depth, outstanding veteran pitching and a balanced lineup of returning starters. There are fewer question marks for this team than there were for a team last season that still finished in the top 15 in most polls.

Sophomore pitcher Austin Kubitsz looks to back up writers' claims that he is the best pitcher in C-USA and near the top in the nation.

Craig has improved yearly. I think he's one of the top catchers in Division I, and he may be one of the best situational hitters in college baseball.

Wayne Graham
Head Coach

RICE BASEBALL 2012
Select freshmen will contribute, but 2012 campaign is still on shoulders of draft-eligible veterans in what could be last rodeo for many
STARTING LINEUP 2012

All eight position players return and a stable of experienced arms leaves this Owls team with its highest expectations in years.

DEREK HAMILTON SS
MICHAEL FUDA CF
CHRISTIAN STRINGER 2B

MICHAEL RATTERREE LF

SHANE HOELSCHER 3B

CRAIG MANUEL C
AUSTIN KUBITZA P

ROUNDING OUT THE ROSTER

BENCH

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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PITCHERS

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<td>Alvin, Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taylor Wall</td>
<td>Senior</td>
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<td>Starter</td>
<td>Houston/Westside</td>
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PICTURE-PERFECT SEASON

The Owls made their share of highlight-reel catches and other web gems last year and look to dazzle Reckling Park crowds again.

Sophomore shortstop Derek Hamilton throws a ball across the diamond. Hamilton finished second in the conference with 193 defensive assists along with a .309 batting average with runners in scoring position.

Junior infielder Michael Ratteree throws the ball around the diamond after recording an out. Ratteree was voted to the Conference USA first team after tying for the best batting average on the team with a .327 average.

Sophomore third baseman Shane Hoelscher bunts the ball as he prepares to run to first. Hoelscher was voted to the C-USA Freshman First Team after having 37 RBIs, the second highest number on the team.

Junior first baseman J.T. Chargois gets the ball and runs to first to get the out. Chargois was one of three Owls to start all 63 games last year. He led the team with 24 multiple-hit games.

Senior pitcher Matthew Reckling winds up and throws the ball to the plate. Reckling was selected by the Cleveland Indians in the 2011 MLB Draft, but he decided to return for his senior season to lead the Owls to Omaha.

ALL PHOTOS ARE THRESHER FILE PHOTOS
While Conference USA has consistently ranked in the top five conferences in terms of overall strength and competitiveness, the mid-ranked Owls have supplemented their eight conference series with a host of highly non-conference opponents starting this weekend with their three-game matchup against 28th-ranked Florida International University. The Owls have made the NCAA Tournament the past two years and feature preseason All-American senior outfielder Pablo Weiss, who is the Sun Belt Conference’s preseason player of the year. First baseman Mike Martinez and designated hitter Rudy Filaves all provide power in the lineup.

South Georgia State College’s R.J. Fondon and Mason McClay will provide a formidable left-handed pitching tandem. While Tech features a slugger and a speedster in junior-outfielders Barrett Barnes and Jamodrick McGruder, their pitching staff leaves nothing to fear. The Volunteers will improve with the addition of California State University at Fullerton’s Coach Dave Serrano, but they are still regarded as the least-talented team in the Southeastern Conference. The real test will be in Texas, which was informed last weekend that its top starting pitcher, senior Sam Stallard, will undergo shoulder surgery and will be out for the 2012 season. Additionally, sophomore-outfielder Collin Walla was also ruled out for the 2012 campaign after tearing his ACL. Still, the Longhorns feature a bevy of young players, including sophomore third baseman Erich Weiss, and are expected to contend for the Big XII Conference title.

The remaining marquee game on the non-conference schedule is April 3-5 against the University of Tennessee and the 2012 Campaign. The Volunteers are also patient and will be out for the 2012 season. Additionally, sophomore-outfielder Collin Walla was also ruled out for the 2012 campaign after tearing his ACL. Still, the Longhorns feature a bevy of young players, including sophomore third baseman Erich Weiss, and are expected to contend for the Big XII Conference title.

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RICE BATTERY CHARGED UP

Austin Kubitza and Craig Manuel make up the pitcher/catcher tandem that looks to guide the Rice defensive effort this year.

Manuel aims to remain clutch

According to Kubitza, the Owls are on the right track to playing well this season. Kubitza is confident in the preparation of the team and feels ready for the upcoming three-game series opener against Florida International University at Reckling Stadium starting today.

"Our pitchers are doing well and our hitting is amazing so we’re pretty psyched," Kubitza said.

Kubitza stayed in baseball shape and worked on his pitches this summer, playing for the Santa Barbara Foresters in the California Collegiate League, alongside fellow Rice teammates Brandt Kornack, Tyler Pearson and Michael Ratterree. Kubitza participated in the league on a suggestion from his older brother, Kyle Kubitza, who played last year from Texas State and now plays for the Minor League team the Atlanta Diamond Braves.

"We want to put ourselves in a spot at the end of the regular season to be meaningful and not embarrass ourselves at home again," Austin Kubitza Marlet '14

"My brother told me a lot about it as well as some of the guys that are on the team now. It was a lot of fun, the weather was nice and it was a good experience," Kubitza said.

Though Kubitza said he didn't think he performed as well with the Foresters, the CCL thought otherwise. The CCL named him to the league's all-star team and ranked him as its top professional prospect. Kubitza is scheduled to play in the Cape Cod League in Massachusetts next summer, he said.

Kubitza chose Rice over other schools because he thought he would see the pitch a lot more during games.
where they left off in the fall, the team will score more than enough runs to make a lengthy postseason trip possible.

With outstanding defense up the middle, a bench littered with starting experience, and a group of freshmen hyped as one of the strongest classes in years, the Owls round out as one of the most complete teams in the NCAA.

Ranked between fifth and eighth in most of the preseason major polls, Rice appears destined to continue their astounding run of C-USA dominance.

With veteran experience, depth, and pitching that has been compared to the renowned 2003 National Champion staff, the 2012 Rice Owls baseball team has as strong a shot as any to make a trip that no player on the current roster has taken: to Omaha, Neb. for the College World Series.

Seventh-ranked Texas A&M University. The Owls will travel to Olsen Field for the first time since 2010 and the Aggies will provide a big test for Rice, with right-handed pitcher Michael Wacha and outfielder Tyler Naquin being named to several pre-season All-American teams. Right-handed pitcher Ross Stripling and outfielder Krey Bratsen are also all-conference picks for Texas A&M.

While Conference USA looks to be competitive enough to get four teams into the NCAA Tournament in May, the Owls will need to compile an exemplary non-conference record to boost their chances for a high seed in the tournament.

Sophomore Derek Hamilton drives a pitch during the Owls’ matchup against Tulane last season. The Owls will need more power hitters to emerge with the departure of Anthony Rendon, who clubbed a team-leading six home runs last year. Hamilton will most likely hit near the top or bottom of the order.

"Why not come out? It’s a weekend, I know you don’t do your homework until Sunday anyway," Kubitza said, smiling.

Catch the right-hander this weekend getting in the zone before every pitch with headphones on.

Kubitza’s song of choice? “Can’t Be Touched” by Roy Jones Jr.

Perhaps Rice has Jones Jr. to thank for this underclassman’s 2011 Third Team All-American success. What is for certain is this: Though this humble sophomore may not be one for words, when he is on the mound there is one word he hears time and again: “Strike!”