A Rice University employee was the victim of an attempted armed robbery that occurred on the sidewalk near the north side Rice Stadi- mum on Wednesday, April 4.

The employee had nothing to fear and was not injured. She, according to a campus-wide email alert sent out by Rice University Police Department Captain Clemente Rodriguez on Thursday, April 5, a few hours after the incident.

"The employee described the suspect as a black male in his late 20s to 30s, short black hair. He was wearing a white jacket with red pants and a blue top," Rodriguez's email stated.

The employee reported that the man held her at gunpoint, demanded money, ran through her purse and, after not taking anything, pushed her over onto her side before running west on the direction West Lot No. 3, according to the email alert sent out.

Rodriguez said he thinks this attempted robbery serves as a reminder to the Rice community to be cautious of its surroundings.

"While I believe the campus remains a safe place, this incident does serve as a reminder that we are located in a large metropolitan city and we are not completely immune to crime," Rodriguez said.

In order to stay safe on campus, Rodriguez said he recommended that students travel in groups at night and stay in well lit and well traveled areas.

"When possible, let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return," Rodriguez said. "That way, if you do not show up on time, they can follow up to make sure you are safe.

Rodriguez said students should not hesitate to call RUPD in question- able situations.

"Go with your gut," Rodriguez said. "If something makes you uncomfort- able, try to remove yourself from the situation and call RUPD." Rodriguez added that students should make sure to carry charged cell phones with RUPD's number programmed in so they can go out on patrol if needed.

Brown College sophomore Ali- son Moscoso said she worries about safety on campus.

"When I'm parking my car in West Lot late at night, I feel very concerned about my safety," Moscoso said. "I ride my bike to try and improve my safety, but there is always a sense of insecurity, especially during nighttime hours."

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call RUPD at 713-942-6000.

By Molly Chu
Rice News Assistant Editor

Gunnar tries to rob Rice employee near stadium.
Dean's Cup both petty and redundant

To eliminate the unfair advantage the Graduate Student Association has in college sports, the idea of establishing a Dean's Cup has been proposed. In this new Dean's Cup, the GSA would be eliminated from the running.

The Thresher believes that the establishment of the Dean's Cup would be both petty and redundant. The university already has a working cup and does not need the addition of a second one. Furthermore, to remove the GSA from this second cup would be a motion contrary to the unified spirit of the campus. Ousting the GSA would create hostilities between undergraduate and graduate students while adding to the divide between the two factions.

Furthermore, the addition of the Dean's Cup would undoubtedly diminish the honor of winning the President's Cup over the next couple of years. In all likelihood the Dean's Cup would supplant the President's Cup and the College Games would go in search of setup matches against the GSA as exhibition games which do not affect standings, and the GSA would be unfairly deprived of quality and competitive match-ups. The accomplishment of winning the Dean's Cup would also be slightly diminished knowing that the cup does not acknowledge dominance over the entire campus.

However, that is not to say that GSA's unfair advantage over the undergraduate colleges has gone unnoticed. The GSA has a far greater pool of students to choose from and a lot of the competitors are much older than the average undergraduate student. Furthermore, once varsity athletes can compete for the GSA, while varsity athletes are not allowed to participate on college teams. To make matters worse, many of the graduate students who compete in college sports have had more experience with these organizations during their undergraduate and graduate experiences.

It is thus apparent that a change needs to be made in order for the President's Cup to stay equally competitive. The best solution to countering GSA's competitive advantage without excluding them completely would be the inclusion of freshman sports in the standings. The President's Cup should begin including the results from the two freshman sports — flag football and basketball — in the final standings. Since the GSA will be ineligible to accrue any points in these two events, the undergraduates will have a chance to bridge the unfair point gap between themselves and the GSA.

This solution allows the GSA to still compete in intramural sports and to do so in a manner that is fair to all the President's Cup participants. Most importantly, it maintains the integrity of one of this campus’s many avenues of undergraduate-graduate student interaction. The Dean's Cup must be rejected because it represents an absolute affront to the values of this university. However, it is important to remedy the current competitive imbalance as well.

The best remaining solution is the inclusion of freshman sports in the President’s Cup standings.
An increased size means increased opportunities

Since I came to Rice University, many students have blamed everything from the weight-lift system to the price of pens in the increased size of the student body. Increased enrollment is the favored scapegoat of the Rice community because it is a large change to Rice that has appeared in a short period of time. We, as a whole, have not emphasized the positive changes that this increased size can bring to Rice in both the present and future. The Vision for the Second Century student body goal of 3,800 students offers the Rice community more career, international, and alumni opportunities.

Christian Neal

With an increased size, Rice offers companies and nonprofits a larger pool of applicants and future employees. Currently, our career fair opportunities are growing but are still limited primarily to energy and technology companies. With more students, different companies will be attracted to Rice. Attractive companies mean a higher quality and quantity of students that we can attract to Rice.

The Center for Career Development has done a great job this year of increasing its visibility on campus and providing students with better career opportunities. As we move towards the Century of Excellence, we need a better quality and quantity of students that we can attract to Rice.

Increasing our size will play a major role in 21st-century competition. The center for Career Development has done a great job this year of increasing its visibility on campus and providing students with better career opportunities. As we move towards the Century of Excellence, we need a better quality and quantity of students that we can attract to Rice.

Christian Neal
KTRU tugs at internet heartstrings

BY NICOLE ZIAD
THEIRIS ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Rice University’s student-run station KTRU was one of the first 14 college radio stations selected for broadcasting on iHeartRadio, a free digital radio service owned by Clear Channel Media, according to a press release.

Clear Channel Media and Entertainment, the largest audience of any radio or television outlet in the nation, according to the company’s website. KTRU Station Manager Nick Ryder said that the station broadcasting on iHeartRadio and the iHeartRadio app itself substantially expanded KTRU’s audience.

“We have been focusing heavily on the last year on trying to get out to as many platforms as possible,” Ryder, a Duncan College sophomore, said. “iHeartRadio reaches an audience beyond the scope of Houston and beyond the scope of anything we’ve done in the past.”

Ryder said he hopes that, over the next year, KTRU will increase its involvement with the campus and local community while also increasing its listener base outside of Rice.

“We hope to bring more local bands to the Rice campus while also focusing heavily on our programming, wally trying to get KTRU’s name out there and get the students excited about KTRU,” Ryder said. “Outside the brochures, [...] it’s a matter of letting everyone know we’re still here; we’re still doing the same thing.”

Brown freshman Elisa Clark said KTRU broadcasting on iHeartRadio may encourage listeners to tune in more often.

“If I do listen to KTRU online [from their website], I could remember on my phone. I’d listen to it more,” Clark said. “It’s pretty awesome that it’s going out to a bigger audience since Rice is such a small school.”

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE DEAN’S CUP PROPOSAL?

“I don’t think the colleges have a relationship with the GSA, and I don’t think sports is the way to foster those relationships. Freshman sports foster relationships because you’re on double duty with the people you play in those sports at parties, in class or around campus, whereas very few people have contact with GSA athletes outside the playing field.”

Will Rice College sophomore and Sports Representative Shanya Agarwal.

“I don’t really understand why people are against the idea in the first place. To those students who are vying for it, I would tell them that the Dean’s Cup doesn’t change anything except to award another college, including its freshmen, for the hard work and dedication they show to college sports. I don’t think that implementing a Dean’s Cup will have any impact on the participation of students—except maybe to make people feel that there is more even playing field, which would in turn promote participation.”

Will Rice College sophomore and Sports Representative Leilani Buit.
UnConventional kicks off
Centennial convention celebrates Rice's uniqueness

BY MOLLY CHEU
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

This weekend, Rice University is inviting Houstonians to come inside the hedges for its UnConventional, a campus-wide open house that will run through Sunday, April 15. More than 200 events, free and open to the public, will be held as part of the celebration for the upcoming centennial.

"The UnConventional is demonstrating all aspects of Rice's mission — education, research, community service — in our home city of Houston," President David Leebron said.

Director of Marketing Bill Courtney said his inspiration for the UnConventional came from articles in Campaniles from 1920s that would have 10,000 people from Houston come to see the latest marvels like X-ray machines, "This used to be just an engineering show, it's interesting to see now the university's mission.

According to Courtney, every department on campus will be offering something at the UnConventional. Houstonians can attend events like an engineering design competition, concerts at the Shepherd School of Music, art exhibits, athletic events, an open house at the Baker Institute for Public Policy, a fundraiser called Pancakes for Parkinson's and a ceremonial tree planting near the Rice Memorial Chapel to commemorate Rice's recent naming as a Tree Campus USA.

In order to attract Houstonians, advertisement campaigns for the UnConventional have appeared all over Houston, including on local radio stations and newspapers, billboards, previews at the movie theaters and Metro Light Rail trains, Courtney said.

Courtney said that there will be events aimed at children as well, including a demonstration by the engineering department using liquid nitrogen to make instant ice cream, activities at Fondren Library and an appearance by an owl from the Houston Zoo.

"We're hoping to attract people who have never been to the Rice campus before," Courtney said. "We want them to see us as a welcoming place."

Leebron said that he hopes the UnConventional will inspire visitors to come back to Rice on a regular basis.

"I hope that our visitors will enjoy Rice's beautiful, tree-filled campus and come away with a strong understanding that Rice University is a resource that serves the city of Houston and is available for all to take advantage of," Leebron said. "They will see Rice is a great place to come to for intellectually stimulating lectures, wonderful music concerts and theater performances, inspiring art displays, lively sporting events, and even a wonderful location for a cup of coffee and engaging conversations."

To see a full schedule of events for the UnConvention, visit unconventional.rice.edu.

HOW IS RICE UNCONVENTIONAL?

"People at Rice are proud of our quirkiness. We have a great sense of humor as a culture. We study hard, we play hard, and we enjoy each other."

Linda Thrane, Vice President of Public Affairs

"I think the openness of the student body is very unconventional. Unlike at other colleges, Rice students are able to have meaningful conversations about controversial topics like our sexuality and faith. I think it's the mentality that others might always know something that we don't which creates this acceptance that allows the student body to share openly."

Hanszen College sophomore Rui Wang

"Rice is a really great example of a rare balance between what is considered conventional wisdom — as in being good at school — and things that make each Rice student unique, things that they enjoy and are passionate about that are different from those that others are interested in."

Weiss College junior Yahaira Verdejo

"Rice is like high school flipped upside down: the nerds are popular."

Martel College senior Katie Donovan

"Rice is not a big university, so we really feel close and can carry out a conversation like a small family."

Senior Lecturer at the Center for the Study of Languages Jose Nurbona

THE RICE THRESHER ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

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Baker Institute banks on financial discussion by JPMorgan Chase CEO

By Henry Deng
Thresher Staff

The Baker Institute invited a speaker that staff, faculty and students look forward to in when it invited chairman and CEO of JPMorgan Chase & Co Jamie Dimon to speak about the global economy, domestic affairs and his personal experiences on Wednesday.

Dimon talked about his perspective on global affairs, saying that he is optimistic about the condition of the United States despite the economic and political turmoil of the past few years.

He noted that the biggest and most innovitive companies in the world are American and millions of jobs were created in the last two years.

"The U.S. still has the best military, universities, businesses and workers," Dimon said. "Why are we so damned depressed all the time?"

However, Dimon cited education, energy policy, infrastructure, fiscal policy and health care as areas that needed improvement.

Dimon also spoke about hacking more specifically, noting that American banks needed to stay large to compete with other global financial institutions.

Although the U.S. used to have 44 of the top 100 largest banks in the world, it now has six, he said.

However, he added that he believes in bankruptcy for banks that use their large size as an opportunity to engage in overly risky undertakings.

Dimon said the 2008 recession was caused not only by individuals doing too much debt but also by faulty banking practices like irresponsible lending.

"I am not against the failure of dumb big banks," Dimon said.

When asked about the Occupy Wall Street movement, Dimon said he agrees that American financial institutions let the public down. However, he noted that not everyone walking around on Wall Street is in trouble.

Dimon said that though many people are angry about the businesses that profited while millions of others failed, energy should be focused on finding solutions, not just on protesting.

Jamie Dimon – CEO JPMorgan Chase

Dimon mentioned Europe's financial woes, stating that the European Union's inability to issue more Euros in individual countries prevented it from stimulating economic growth as much as the U.S. could through its central bank.

However, Dimon noted that if individual European countries were allowed to print their own currency, the economic situation could have been exacerbated.

For example, if Greece had continued issuing its own currency, the drachma, during the crisis, the country would probably be in a better financial state than it is today, Dimon said.

"The U.S. still has the best military, universities, businesses and workers [...] Why are we so damned depressed all the time?"

Jamie Dimon
Chairman and CEO of JPMorgan Chase & Co

Dimon also discussed Chase's discontinuation of college loans directly to students. He said the bank would still lend to parents for their children's education but sending to students directly was too risky.

Many students were not graduating from college and piling up their loans, he said. Dimon noted that government loans should be the first options for college funding.

Marcel College senior Pedro Silva, who attended the talk, said he understood the reasons behind Dimon's position on student loans.

"I think the problem is complicated and there are many aspects to it," Silva noted. "His perspective was obviously that of a JPMorgan CEO, he has a certain job to do."

The last few questions of the session all asked Dimon's personal perspectives. When asked where he would invest, Dimon said he would avoid gold and U.S. Treasury bonds and instead invest in big companies such as General Electric and Walmart because he believes the US will sustain growth over the next ten years.

When asked who his mentors were, Dimon said he admired Nelson Mandela for remaining humble after his long imprisonment. Abraham Lincoln for never designating anyone. Rice University's James Baker for how he conducted himself around the world and former General Electric CEO Jack Welch for excellence at every level.

Silva said Dimon's perspective was refreshing and gave him a positive image of the person and his company.

"What was striking to me was how candid he was," Silva said. "He didn't really hold anything back. Usually when you see CEOs and politicians, people in his position, they don't really want to speak their minds. But he was very frank and cares about educating people and putting his message out there."

JPMorgan Chase & Co. is a global financial services firm with $2 trillion in assets and operations in more than 60 countries.

Dimon, who holds a bachelor's degree from Tufts University and a master's of business administration from Harvard Business School, became CEO of JPMorgan in January 2006 and chairman in 2007.
I-slate electronic tablets to bring low-cost education to Indian district

BY NICOLE ZHAO
THRUNER ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Local government officials in India announced plans to adopt 50,000 I-slates — low-cost educational tablets created and developed by Rice University faculty and students — for use in middle-school classrooms over the next two years.

Officials announced plans for the I-slates' adoption in the Mahabubnagar district on March 19.

The I-slate is an electronic learning instrument designed primarily for supplementary self-education in classrooms that lack electricity and enough teachers. Social media and video game elements were incorporated into the user-interface to cater to the tool for children's education and entertainment.

"[The I-slate] needed to grab [students'] attention and be interactive while also reinforcing math concepts from their workbooks," Lauren Pemberton, Sid Richardson '12

Pemberton said in a Rice News release. The idea for the I-slate was conceived by Rice's Ken and Audrey Kennedy Professor of Computer Science Krishna Palem in 2006, according to a Rice news release.

Palem developed the tablet in consultation with Rice undergraduates, experts from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, members of the Indian nonprofit organization Villages for Development and Learning Foundation and a Los Angeles-based design team.

"Initially, I was thinking of a way of demystifying the low-power, low-energy technology that I was working on as a technologist," Palem, a visiting professor at NTU and co-founder of the Rice-NTU Institute for Sustainability, said in the Rice News release. "I am glad that our work these past two years have made a valuable contribution to the I-slates.

"The Mahabubnagar district in India has approximately 100,000 students in government schools. The rural district has a total population of approximately 1 million. The unit cost for the I-slates will be around $45, Palem said in a Rice News release.

This month, approximately 4,000 I-slates were delivered to a class of 80 to 150 year-olds at a school in the district. Chairperson of VIDAL Jayawarri Pingali selected the district that would receive the I-slates.

"Some of the major issues impeding development in this region include caste, politics, literacy, uneven rainfall and development imbalances," Pingali said. "The infrastructure — roads, schools, piped water, sanitation, clinics and public transport — is in poor condition and stretched to the limits in the villages."

Pingali noted VIDAL's focus as an organization on information and communications technologies.

"Our role is to see technology from the user's side — not only the feel of it, but several other attributes like simplicity, suitability and then if it will become a tool for enhanced learning," Pingali said.

Pemberton said she was excited to find out that a significant number of students will have the opportunity to benefit from the I-slates. "I am very proud that we have advanced to the point where we have established in Singapore, have made a valuable contribution to the I-slates," Palem said. "This is just my way of thanking them."

National News

Rick Santorum, An Inspirational Story

There once was a little candidate named Santorum who wanted to be president. He spent so much time in Iowa that some would even call him a ninja. Everyone said he would fail, but he kept saying, "I think I can, I think I can." All the pundits said Romney, but he said, "I think I can, I think I can." And when the little candidate won Iowa, people laughed, but he kept on winning. He won all the southern states and every¬ one's head started spinning.

Then Romney started to do well and everyone said he would drop out. But the little candidate kept saying, "I think I can, I think I can" and refused to quit.

The election started looking bad for Santorum, delegates fell like dominoes. But his home state was up next, so he kept saying, "I think I can, I think I can." Santorum thought that if you believe in a dream, you can achieve it.

But then he realized that he might lose Pennsylvania, so he quit.

Rick Santorum dropped out before the primary election in Iowa, his home state of Pennsylvania, clearing the way for Mitt Romney to face Barack Obama in the general election.

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Football ends spring practice with high hopes

Teddy Grodek

Over the course of the past month, the Rice Owls took to the gridiron for their annual spring practices, taking an opportunity to hit the field to find out what they have coming into the next season. Gapping two weeks of spring practices, the Owls were excited to play those scrimmages, and on March 30, the team had its annual Blue and Gray game, showcasing the offense against the defense.

The teams both earned points based on big plays: sacks, big holts, three-and-outs, and long passes. While the scoring was a little light overall, the football was the same as both teams looked to improve themselves heading into camps next fall.

The offense had a big game, ultimately winning the game 57-22. The Owls were actually a bit of a kicker, as redshirt sophomore Chris Bowers hit 16-of-16 and 49 yards and had some nice moments, looking to replace All-American senior Kyle Maitre.

Sophomore Marvin Hall catches a ball and tries to get away from a Tulane defender in last November's meeting. Rice won the game 67 to 6 in a 9-point season at home, but that record went for naught as the Owls lost all seven of their games on the road. Rice starts the season at home on Aug. 30 against Pac-12 foe UCLA.

On April 6, at the Stanford Invitational, senior Becky Wade ran a 32:40.8 in the 10,000-meter. This time now stands as the Rice University school record and qualifies Wade for the US Olympic trials this summer. Setting this mark was a major step in what has been an arduous process for Wade, one that began her freshman year and will continue into the Olympic Trials. Wade always wanted to have the 30,000-meter record, but did not really have a chance to go for it until this season.

"I've had my eye on the school record ever since I started running the 10,000-meter freshman year, but hadn't had too many opportunities to go for it until now because I was injured during two consecutive track seasons," Wade said.

Head coach Jim Bevan said that Wade had not participated in the 10,000 much before this season.

"Her last 10,000 was at NCAA Nationals in 2009, where she made All-American," Head Coach Jim Bevan said, after explaining that Wade has not participated in the 10,000 much before this summer. Setting this mark was a major step in what has been an arduous process for Wade, one that began her freshman year. Wade is steadily adapting to her new role as she hopes to continue running for years to come.

"I definitely want to keep competing after I graduate and see myself moving up to the marathon eventually," Wade said. "Female distance runners don't peak until their mid-30s so I'm excited to have over a decade more of running and racing." Becky Wade qualifies for 2012 US Olympic Trials

Senior track star breaks Rice record in 10,000 meters; heading to Eugene, OR, for trials

positive attributes or qualities in a person that you would like to have," Wade said. The team as a whole also continues to improve along with Wade.

"We are making progress in a number of areas," Bevan said.

The team, with new five-time All-American senior David St. Leger, is looking to rebound after a disappointing season last year, is excited about the team's progress this spring.

"It just felt good to be out there and playing again," McGuffie said. "Coach had a lot of positive attributes or qualities in a person that you would like to have," Wade said. The team as a whole also continues to improve along with Wade.

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The Owls baseball team took a conference series to a decisive third game, as they traveled to New Orleans for an Easter weekend three-game set. The Owls were ranked in the Ratings Percent Index top 50 and ranked in the top-25 in Division I in team hitting and staff ERA. The Owls are the No. 8 overall seed, hosting a regional that includes in-state rival The University of Texas at Texas State.

Rice's Rubber Match Against Tulane

Rice Owls baseball took a conference series to a decisive third game, as they traveled east to New Orleans for an Easter weekend three-game set. The Owls are the No. 8 overall seed, hosting a regional that includes in-state rival The University of Texas at Texas State.

In the third weekend of the conference season, the league's top three teams didn't clinch as the third of the standings played just for the week. After dropping the opener, the Owls were ranked in the Ratings Percent Index top 50 and ranked in the top-25 in Division I in team hitting and staff ERA.

Following the opener, the Owls played host to Texas State on Tuesday, their second meeting of the season after the Owls lost in San Marco on March 28 in a walk-off base hit. But this time around, it was Rice coming from behind with some late-inning heroics to clinch a vital non-conference victory. With his team trailing 5-3 in the seventh, Rathjen came to the plate with the bases loaded thanks to a pair of Texas State errors. With two hits on the evening, Rathjen added his total with a triple into the corner in right field to clear the bases, putting the Owls ahead 6-5 through seven innings. Chargois finished the final two innings, holding the Bobcats to a single hit while earning his sixth save of the season.

Postseason Peek

With the regular season now beyond the halfway point, it's never too early to take a look at the early postseason projections. Rank No. 15 in the RPI, the Owls have benefited from the emergence of teams such as Dallas Baptist and New Mexico State, early-season opponents that the Owls handled, to move up to No. 6 in the strength of schedule rankings. With these statistics, Rice is currently in the running to host a regional for the second consecutive season. In its first postseason projection of 2012, Baseball America takes the Owls as the No. 8 overall seed, hosting a regional that includes in-state rival The University of Texas at Texas State.

Redcliff's Super Start Recognized

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Justin Carter  
Defensive Back  
Birmingham, AL  
Ht: 6'0"  
Wt: 190 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

Connor Cella  
Tight End  
Katy, TX  
Ht: 6'3"  
Wt: 245 lbs  
40: 4.7 seconds

Brandon Dawkins  
Offensive Lineman  
Plano, TX  
Ht: 6'6"  
Wt: 305 lbs  
40: 4.9 seconds

Justin Carter  
Defensive Back  
Birmingham, AL  
Ht: 6'0"  
Wt: 190 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

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Plano, TX  
Ht: 6'6"  
Wt: 305 lbs  
40: 4.9 seconds

Garrett Fuhrman  
Defensive Back  
Lansing, MI  
Ht: 5'9"  
Wt: 170 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

Brandon Hamilton  
Running Back  
Copperas Cove, TX  
Ht: 5'11"  
Wt: 214 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

Cody Hennesse  
Defensive Tackle  
Denton, TX  
Ht: 6'3"  
Wt: 263 lbs  
40: 4.9 seconds

Garrett Fuhrman  
Defensive Back  
Lansing, MI  
Ht: 5'9"  
Wt: 170 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

Brandon Hamilton  
Running Back  
Copperas Cove, TX  
Ht: 5'11"  
Wt: 214 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

Cody Hennesse  
Defensive Tackle  
Denton, TX  
Ht: 6'3"  
Wt: 263 lbs  
40: 4.9 seconds

Dennis Parks  
Wide Receiver  
Converse, TX  
Ht: 6'2"  
Wt: 183 lbs  
40: 4.4 seconds

Connor Patterson  
Offensive Lineman  
Tomball, TX  
Ht: 6'4"  
Wt: 287 lbs  
40: 4.9 seconds

Darrion Pollard  
All Around Player  
Gilmer, TX  
Ht: 5'9"  
Wt: 175 lbs  
40: 4.4 seconds

Dennis Parks  
Wide Receiver  
Converse, TX  
Ht: 6'2"  
Wt: 183 lbs  
40: 4.4 seconds

Connor Patterson  
Offensive Lineman  
Tomball, TX  
Ht: 6'4"  
Wt: 287 lbs  
40: 4.9 seconds

Darrion Pollard  
All Around Player  
Gilmer, TX  
Ht: 5'9"  
Wt: 175 lbs  
40: 4.4 seconds

Luke Turner  
All Around Player  
Gilmer, TX  
Ht: 6'2"  
Wt: 212 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

Michael Warren  
Defensive Back  
Frankston, TX  
Ht: 5'10"  
Wt: 175 lbs  
40: 4.4 seconds

Luke Turner  
All Around Player  
Gilmer, TX  
Ht: 6'2"  
Wt: 212 lbs  
40: 4.6 seconds

Michael Warren  
Defensive Back  
Frankston, TX  
Ht: 5'10"  
Wt: 175 lbs  
40: 4.4 seconds

Stars represent a Rivals.com ranking system for recruits from 1 to 5 stars  
Photos courtesy Rivals.com, ESPN.com
Dan Eledge  
Turkmenistan Sports Editor

The countdown to the NCAA tournament is on, and the Owls know that they do not have much room for error. Rice left the court this weekend with mixed results as they easily defeated Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi 6-1 on Friday afternoon but stumbled a momentous chance to boost their NCAA tournament chances as they fell to the University of Oklahoma 6-1 on Sunday afternoon.

The Owls are now 16-7 on the season and are currently ranked 48th. After playing five matches in the past two days, the Owls are fatigued, and the players are looking forward to some rest. Senior Michael Nuesslein said that rest is important at this juncture of the season, but preparation and practice are still necessary to keep their momentum intact.

"It is important to get rest," Nuesslein said. "You still need to get out to the courts, but it is more about maintaining the rhythm and focusing on the little things." Assistant Coach Elan Ustundag is glad that his team finally has some time to relax and get some real practice in. He knows that at this point in the season, he does not need to push the guys to the limit since they need rest.

"We are not going to kill them over the rest days, but we are going to fine-tune some things," Ustundag said. Rice hosts its final two matches this season at Jake Rees Stadium playing in Conference USA archrival, the University of Tulsa on Friday afternoon and the University of Oklahoma 6-1 early Sunday morning.

Going into the final two weeks of the season, the Owls are in the same position they were in last year. Rice is comfortably on track to secure an at-large bid, but its chances are much more ahead in regards to the conference guarantees an at-large bid, but its chances are much more ahead in regards to the conference USA archrival, the University of Tulsa.

"It sounds cheesy, but I am going to be sentimental. This game did not only represent a strong finish to a great season for the Owls, but it also represented a strong finish to a great season for the Owls," Schmidt said. "With two games left in the regular season, the Owls have yet to drop back-to-back games since this season. Both of those occurred during an early season series against Florida State (2-1). This game represented the end of her tennis career at Rice, but it also represented the end of her tennis career at Rice. She coached for three years and has been with the Owls since 2009. She made more College World Series than Rice has in its first 11 years.

Senior Michael Nuesslein volleyed a shot at the net during Friday's match against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. Nuesslein is playing his last home matches this Friday and Sunday against C-USA rival Tulsa and the University of Texas at Arlington.

"The winning streak is not going to end here," Nuesslein said. "We need to stay in tip-top shape. We need to rest. We need to push the guys to the limit since they do not have much room for error. Rice left the court this weekend with mixed results as they easily defeated Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi 6-1 on Friday afternoon but stumbled a momentous chance to boost their NCAA tournament chances as they fell to the University of Oklahoma 6-1 on Sunday afternoon."
"Trig" has problems to work out

MATT BANKS
THRESHER STAFF

High school: So many of us hated it, while others wish we could relive those glory days. From those desires springs Marcel College Theater's new production of "High School Trig." With the potential to be great, Marcell's show suffers from performances, inadequate technical aspects and a script that needs a little time in study hall.

Written by Marcell junior Anna Meriano, "High School Trig" tells the story of a love triangle that develops between two best friends Brian and Casey and a new girl, Danny. What follows is a journey through their last semester of school, where they have to work through classes, arguments, the script's major issues. The performances excel, while others are less successful in a mixture of events, acceptances and the dreaded veterinary meal. The set has several powerful moments, since characters like Brian and Melody, the narrator, have the power to propel to almost every situation the script's more issues. What we love is that the show has the talent of a production theater. There are moments in which writing is impeccable, and some of the characters are worth revisiting. But God's own had the vocabulary and the story framework of the script lose the needed hardwoodness of the scenes depicted. However, with its own new wave, Meriano has the possibility to universally relate to individuals of any age, gender, sexuality or state.

"High School Trig" takes a risk with a relatively novice cast. Some of the performances excel, while others are under par. Marcell College Theater's stage production. However, the cast has a good energy and chemistry that could be improved. The audience seems to enjoy the cast's attempts to bring it to life, but the tension and pace don't deliver the desired effect.

"Trig" has problems to work out

PET EXPO

Do you love pets? The Friends of County Pets needs volunteers to staff its information booth throughout the weekend. Volunteers are needed for shifts between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Duties include informing visitors about choosing the right pet and pet care. Volunteers will be limited based on working the event.

RICE FILMS

From an autobiographical story of a Chinese ballerina forced to leave her home by the Cultural Revolution, "Rice Films" is a film that explores love, dreams and the challenges of the Chinese Film Festival. The film features free film screenings at night, tomorrow and Sunday. The festival is held in the Rice Media Center at University.

RICE DANCE

Whether you are a gymnast or an occasional trickster, the Rice Dance Theater gives you a new reason to visit the Rice Recreation Center tonight and tomorrow. "RDT's" spring 2012 show, Dancing Between the Lines, showcases an array of student choreography and performances by the troupe. Student tickets are $5, and performances begin at 8 p.m.

RICE CINEMA

Rice Cinema Rice Media Center RICE.EDU

RICE DANCE THEATER

RICE RECREATION CENTER RICE.EDU

BETTER FEET

Are you a fan of Bethb, Caleb and Paula? Head over to the Menil Community Arts Festival for "Menil Fest" between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The festival features entertainment varying from book readings, film screenings and workshops. The entertainment, in addition to the arts exhibit, is free to the public.

MENIL COLLECTION

1355 Sul Ross
MENIL.ORG

Houston Hideaways: Ruggles Green puts organic food first

Sasha Schoch and Allie Schach

If you are in the mood for something hearty and healthy, look no further than Ruggles Green. We took a short drive to 3311 West Alabama to try "Houston's First Certified Green Restaurant," as reported by the Green Restaurant Association, and we were not disappointed. Ruggles Green prides itself on "good, healthy, organic, all-natural foods," as well as fast service. The restaurant is busy at all hours; however, there is ample seating both inside and out. Ruggles Green has a conveyor belt that makes for a great environment for either a date or a casual dinner with friends. Even though it was a Friday night, we did not have to wait too long before ordering at the counter, and we were seated personally at a table a few minutes after. Ruggles Green has walk-up service. Under the meal at the counter, sit down, and the waiters will bring the food to the table.

We first tried the grilled chicken sandwich with sweet potato fries. The sweet potato fries were served the best in Houston by CultureMap Houston, so we had to try them. Along with the chicken breast, the sandwich included applewood-smoked bacon, spring lettuce mix, tomato, homemade made-pickle, onion, fresh avocado, Swiss cheese and homemade mango-ranch dressing on a whole-wheat bun. The applewood smoked bacon added an extra sweet-and-salty flavor, and the applewood flavor was apparent but not overwhelming. All the vegetables were fresh, and the avocado added a creamy finish to the sandwich. The mango-ranch dressing was never too sweet but did add the traditional ranch base flavor. The sweet potato fries were delectable and very sweet. The bun was not heavy, which balanced the sweet potato flavor.

We also tried the veggie sandwich, which contained grilled eggplant, chicken breast, the sandwich included applewood-smoked bacon, spring onion, fresh avocado, Swiss cheese and homemade mango-ranch dressing on a whole-wheat bun. The applewood smoked bacon added an extra sweet-and-salty flavor, and the applewood flavor was apparent but not overwhelming. All the vegetables were fresh, and the avocado added a creamy finish to the sandwich. The mango-ranch dressing was never too sweet but did add the traditional ranch base flavor. The sweet potato fries were delectable and very sweet. The bun was not heavy, which balanced the sweet potato flavor.

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Ruggles Green to anyone looking for a place to get an organic meal, do not be discouraged if there is a long line to order the food. The food is outstanding, and the line is worth the wait.

Sasha Schach and Allie Schach are Will University students. Houston Hideaways is a column that explores Houston restaurants beyond the usual Rice student haunts.

Ruggles Green

The rundown: Ruggles Green continues its tradition of presenting students written works with "High School Trig." Unfortunately, the actors need to rework Chemistry. The second act's events are convincing attraction to each other on stage.

Overall, the show is OK. With characters slightly reminiscent of "Mean Girls," the play returns us to the high school, and just like those years, some might find "High School Trig" entertainment, while others will find it laughable.
Words on the Street: Stutter aside, Shields sparks discussion

Johanna Ohm

David Shields is a novelist, though some would prefer to say he writes nonfiction or fiction. In his own words, his writing is described as "meditations on reality." Shields seems to fit into a genre of his own. His works include the New York Times best-seller *The Thing About Life Is That One Day You'll Be Dead*, *Black Planet: Forcing Race During an NBA Season*, *Enough About You: Adventures in Autobiography and Handbook for Drowning: A Novel in Stories*. Frequently piecing together worldly observations with personal memories and life experiences, his work is redefining the way people think about and view the world.

Shields' essays, novels, books and short stories are fast, fragmented and anything but traditional. His reading and question-and-answer session at Brazos Bookstore on Bissonnet Street last Tuesday was similar to his work: startling, funny, eye-opening and sincere. Shields discussed the inspiration behind his works, his motivation to become a writer and shared excerpts from his forthcoming novel *How Literature Saved My Life*, which is projected to appear on bookshelves in 2013.

The reading also revealed something deeply human about Shields: his vulnerability in public speaking. Shields suffers from a speech disorder and has a noticeable stutter that worsens under stress. Throughout the reading, we see a strange and inspiring dichotomy between the voice of the speaker reading and the voice of the speaker on the page. On the page, Shields is confident, sarcastic, amusing; in person, his personality is still very much looking at us through his bifocals, but the confidence is somewhat diminished. We see how his frustration in speaking drove him to fiction rather than journalism, the field in which his parents both worked, because he sought a more "hermetic" existence.

Shields read from *How Literature Saved My Life,* offering a glimpse of the manuscript before its publication next year. The excerpts were memories, present realities, past relationships, a montage of flawed thoughts and real experiences. He began his reading with a story he frequently tells: a strange and striking experience in his youth when he was a child and had been left at home alone. He had just returned from a basketball game with his parents both working, because he sought a more "hermetic" existence. The reading consisted mostly of Shields reading his new work. He also included comparisons between himself and George W. Bush, which included some very self-deprecating humor and witty commentary. His writings are part news, part story, part something in between. We learn about his family: his mother and father, who both held impossibly high standards and found fault with his writing and aspirations to be a novelist.

I write in the form of observations and meditations. It is nonfiction that is collage-like and fragmented. I think of it as a documentary canvas. It is quite serious, but also funny.

David Shields

Throughout the reading, we see a strange and inspiring dichotomy between the voice of the speaker reading and the voice of the speaker on the page. On the page, Shields is confident, sarcastic, amusing; in person, his personality is still very much looking at us through his bifocals, but the confidence is somewhat diminished. We see how his frustration in speaking drove him to fiction rather than journalism, the field in which his parents both worked, because he sought a more "hermetic" existence. The reading consisted mostly of Shields reading his new work. He also included comparisons between himself and George W. Bush, which included some very self-deprecating humor and witty commentary. His writings are part news, part story, part something in between. We learn about his family: his mother and father, who both held impossibly high standards and found fault with his writing and aspirations to be a novelist.

Shields responded with the opinion that, despite some viewing novels as non-novel in a strict sense, truth is more difficult to define than the morality related to Hoagland's counterargument. "Almost every canonical book has taken significant liberties on what is so-called 'truth,'" Shields said. "I write in the form of observations and meditations. It is nonfiction that is collage-like and fragmented. I think of it as a documentary canvas. It is quite serious, but also funny."

Shields also responded to questions of how he defined his class of work by comparing it to what most people define as nonfiction. "Nonfiction is not a very subtle term," he said. "It is defined by what it is not. It is like calling a desk drawer 'non-socks.'"

Shields continued to recount a story in which he and his wife both witnessed the same car crash on a road they happened to be walking by. Their accounts varied wildly, but both witnessed the same event; both, however, "knew" what happened.

"The problem with reality is that the perceiver, by his presence, alters what is perceived," Shields said. "Shields is leading a new movement in nonfiction to make this form of literature entertaining, compressed and new. In one final piece of advice, Shields said: "A book should either allow us to escape existence or teach us how to endure it. Almost all novels do the former; I want the latter.""
Paulie's panders to sophisticated palates

MICHAEL CHEUNG
FOR THE THRESHER

As an insatiable seeker of culinary pleasures, I have never minded exchanging my disposable income for exciting and exotic dishes. While Houston can boast some of the country’s best and most innovative bistro cuisine, honestly, sometimes I just want delicious, no-nonsense food for a reasonable price.

Paulie’s, on Westheimer and Driscoll, fills this function with a much appreciated grace. A casual over-the-counter Italian-American bistro, Paulie’s serves uncompromisingly delicious and surprisingly sophisticated dishes, all with a friendliness and hospitality that would make your grandmother blush.

Brick walls and snug tables are filled daily with a myriad of eaters: from youthful students to graying couples, people from all walks of life break bread together in the space that Chef Paul Petronella built. What attracts this consistently noisy crew is nothing but the uncompromising and undeniable quality of Chef Paul’s eats.

The restaurant’s modest yet ample menu is capable of satisfying nearly every craving of Paulie’s customers. A great place to fill your eyes with our menu without breaking the bank.

In my most recent visit I ordered the roasted salmon, which was presented with lemon and pepper, perfectly seasoned and moist while flaky to the fork. The fish hinting at a fondness for tarragon, which was presented on our plates. A great place to polish a more than welcome plate.

Started on the appetizer and finished in the oven, the salmon was cooked to perfection. From front to back, I relaxed to let the fish rest until nothing remained but the sides of parmesan potato and fresh broccoli, which were delectable in their own right and would continue to amuse my palate while our tablechattered on.

The restaurant’s walls entertain a rotation of different local artists. This time, it was a local photographer who found she had a beautiful eye for gravestones. Her works were a more than welcome pairing as we polished off our plates. A great place to fill your eyes and bellies, Paulie’s is also not content to let its drinks play second fiddle.

Paulie’s offers delicious complimentary beverages in the form of home-brewed ginger ale, cucumber water or black currant lemonade, cucumber water or black currant lemonade, or any of our home-brewed iced teas. I finished my night with a cappuccino and espresso latte. The coffee bean, called Scrimshaw, was 60 percent Guatemalan Bella Carmona and 40 percent Brazilian Dutera. As a shot of espresso, it tasted like peanut butter, raisin and Baked Alaska, and in the cappuccino it tasted like coffee crumb cake.

What more can I say about Paulie’s? I could not endorse this place with greater enthusiasm. It has consistently great food and drink on the cheap. It is well worth a five-minute drive on the Houston roads.

Paulie’s prides itself on casual, quality food like the Roasted Salmon entrée.

Rice Engineering Alumni and the George R. Brown School of Engineering END-OF-YEAR PICNIC!

Saturday, April 14
4:30-7pm
Engineering Quadrangle, Rice University

Join the Rice Engineering Alumni and the George R. Brown School of Engineering to celebrate another fantastic year for Engineering at Rice. Over $100,000 in scholarships and prizes will be awarded and barbeque and Centennial Ale will be served. Engineering students, faculty, staff, and alumni are all encouraged to attend!

RICE UNIVERSITY

ASHLEY PARK
APARTMENTS

STUDENT DISCOUNT
5% DISCOUNT ON RENT

$99 MOVE-IN SPECIAL

1 BEDROOM
$615 - $690

2 BEDROOM
$744 - $859

NEAR RICE UNIVERSITY
In the loop near Reliant Stadium and the Medical Center

CALL (713) 661-7261
The designer drug known as 2,5i has made at least one appearance on campus since its recent creation.

On April 3, a student was transported to the hospital after ingesting 2,5i which he acquired from another student on campus, according to RUPD.

After learning about a law in Arizona that bars public schools from teaching Chicano studies, a group of Houstonians is on a mission to bring the banned books back to the region.

Known as "librotraficans," or book traffickers, a group led by Houston Community College professor and author Tony Diaz has traveled thousands of miles to bring the banned books to students in Arizona. Along the way, they have acquired more than 1,000 books and traveled over $20,000 needed to cover the cost of 1,000 books, traveling from New York City, to Houston, Mexican-American Studies program director position. Though the group had earlier vowed to keep the books from being seen, they have realized that not all Chicano students are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really understand what that means," Dominguez said. "They told us we can't teach from the Mexican-American perspective, but our teachers are Mexican-American so I don't really under
By Reed Thomas
Thresher Editorial Staff

While almost everyone has been to Rice’s Recreation and Wellness Center, few of us call it home. Unnoticed by most, a small group of dedicated Rice students commit to a highly rigorous training and physical fitness schedule without the motivation of an NCAA Division I scholarship. While these “student-athletes” do not report to Tudor Fieldhouse, they return to the Rec Center almost daily with a similarly passionate dedication.

One such student exists in Hanowell College freshman Brian Behring. He finds motivation in his overall desire to continually improve a triathlete. He keeps a strict workout schedule and breaks his training down into two seasonal off-season preparation and season-long competition.

(Currently), I am doing more sport-specific training,” said Behring. “Each run circuit training in the weight room, and cardio five to six days a week, like running the outer loop. I am trying to improve endurance and speed and get lean to improve race performance.”

Like many other students committed to physical fitness, Brian’s dedication extends outside of the gym and into the serveries. In our interviews, he stressed the importance of eating well and following basic nutritional guidelines.

“I follow the plate method recommended by many dietitians,” explained Behring. “This includes a quarter plate of protein, a quarter plate of complex carbohydrates like sweet potatoes and whole grains pasta, and finally a half plate of fruits and vegetables.”

Wiesen College senior Ellie Matzner also has built quite a reputation for her countless hours spent training in the Rec Center. Matzner works as a Power Fitness instructor in the Rec Center, a position she uses to inspire her love of fitness in others.

“Girls are scared to get bulky” said Matzner. “I am trying to look at me.”

Similar to Behring, Matzner also highlights the importance of nutrition for maintaining a healthy, active lifestyle. While she opposes supplements, Matzner is quick to endorse what is known as a “Paleolithic Diet.” While the general premise involves avoiding carbohydrates and processed foods, Matzner is always happy to talk about the specifics in person. However, for quick tips, she directed us to the Rice Power Fitness website; where the staff highlights some basic elements of their nutritional philosophy.

“Eat enough to sustain physical activity,” the website reads. “For those of you doing CrossFit workouts several times a week, this is going to mean you are going to have to eat a massive amount of food. Eat when you’re hungry and eat until you feel full.”

Nutrition serves to highlight just how deep this commitment to physical fitness runs in these athletes. Although it starts in the gym, it quickly turns into a powerful lifestyle choice. As both Behring and Matzner demonstrate, with the proper motivations it is indeed possible to remain on a rigid workout schedule throughout the year.

What stands out most in these gym frequenter’s is their continued work ethic throughout the year. Some students make New Year’s resolutions, and keep their promises until the end of January, but these select few make their commitments and remain dedicated throughout the year. These Rec Center regulars make the casual “Nod-Rod” crowd cringe in fear. They return to their workouts long after the month of October, and they remain steadfast in their commitment to staying healthy. Be sure to take a look around the gym next time you visit; chances are good that you will see these faces.

Andrew Clark and Seth Davis contributed to this article.

To Create Your Own Gym Rats Cards:
1. Cut along the dotted line.
2. Fold the two halves along the central solid line.
3. Tape the edges together.

To suggest a Gym Rat or comment on the article, please email Thresher features@rice.edu.

The Recreation Center’s Most Frequent Visitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brian Behring</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gym Rats</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Stats</strong></td>
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<td>Dead Lift-135 lbs</td>
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<td>Squat Max-185 lbs</td>
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1. The Rice Dance Team performs at their spring show. From left to right: Raven Wrencher, Shakiera Mosby, Jenna Desmaris and Andria Denmon.

2. Keenan Cook looks to outrun a Texas State baseman at Reckling Park on April 10. The Owls won, 6-5, and Cook came in for one run.

3. Ford Stainback slides into second base against Texas State. Stainback had three hits and two RBIs in the game.

4. The Chowd Bhangra Rice Dance Team performs at the South Asian Society’s Rangeela 2012 event on April 7.
Envisioning the invisible

Today you can find out, at last, what has been under construction at the Rice Theatre for the past few weeks. Coinciding with the grand opening of the Asia Society Texas Center’s new Houston headquarters is the opening of Japanese artist Yasuaki Onishi’s installation, “reverse of volume RG,” today from 5-7 p.m. in the Rice Gallery, featuring a talk by the artist at 6 p.m. The exhibit will run from April 13 to June 24.

Will the real Anne Hathaway please stand up?

No, not the one from “The Princess Diaries,” but the one who beckons from the mists of history as William Shakespeare’s wife. Today, the Rice Theatre Program, in collaboration with the Houston Shakespeare Festival, presents the one-woman show, “Shakespeare’s Will.” Watch Rice’s own Theatre Program Director Christine Keefe take to the stage as Anne Hathaway, the woman widowed by Shakespeare and left to grapple with her hopes and dreams for a life with and without her husband. The show will run April 13-24, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. in Hamman Hall. There is no charge, but donations are accepted. Seating is limited, so be sure to call ahead and reserve a spot at 713.925-PLAY.

The RMC is the new AMC

Wanting to expand your knowledge of global themes in cinema or just see some really fantastic films this weekend? Then, thanks to Rice’s Asian Film Festival, you’re in luck — and you don’t have to tink all the way out to the AMC. The festival begins today at the Rice Media Center with the screening of Desmond Nakanoko’s 2003 film American Pastime at 7 p.m. Saturday will feature two films, Hostel’s Moving Castle at 2 p.m. and Mao’s Last Dancer at 9 p.m., while Sunday will feature the final film, Empire of Silver, at 5 p.m. Admission is free.

SATURDAY 14

The end of days

It’s that time of year again, the time to prepare for the end of the world. Apocalypse 2012, popularly known as “spring finals week,” will feature the final film, Jiro Dreams of Sushi, followed by an interactive video Q&A with the film producer. The evening will conclude with a candle light vigil.

MAZE: NAVIGATE THROUGH OWL DAYS

Are you a prospective student eagerly snapping up an edition of what could be your future school’s newspaper? Or are you a current student kindly showing a copy of The Thresher to your darling, owlet progeny? Either way, this maze of your can be your own (and of navigating your ways through the halls of an unfamiliar school) as you attempt to select a college or just make it through the next year! You are in the home stretch! And this here maze will give you the space to meditate on all of your earthly stresses.

This maze was created by http://www.discoveryeducation.com/free-puzzlemaker. The solution will be posted on Twitter at twitter.com/threshercal.

FRIDAY 13

Living for 32 Screening

React to Film will be screening the documentary Living for 32 in remembrance of the 32 individuals who lost their lives in the 2007 Virginia Tech shootings. The film will be shown outdoors in the Baker pits at 8 p.m. The screening will be followed by an interactive video Q&A with the film producer. The evening will conclude with a candle light vigil.

MONDAY 16

Catharsis caravan

Finals are just around the corner and endless hours spent among the stacks at Fondren may leave you low on gas. The end of days is nigh, yet you have dreams for a life with and without your husband. The show will run April 13-24, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. in Hamman Hall. There is no charge, but donations are accepted. Seating is limited, so be sure to call ahead and reserve a spot at 713.925-PLAY.

THURSDAY 19

What VADA hath wrought

Tonight, avail yourself of the opportunity to experience what the visual and dramatic art majors have been hard at work crafting all year (or so they claim ... come by Rice University’s 29th Annual Student Exhibition in the VADA Gallery at the Rice Media Center from 6-10 p.m. The exhibition will include an awards ceremony, a student film showcase, an exhibition of both undergraduate and senior work, an opening reception and a back-to-back of awesome. Visit www.arts.rice.edu for a complete schedule of events.

We hope you be JAMmin’ out too

Fun fact: The Smithsonian has decreed April to be Jazz Appreciation Month. And tonight is the penultimate opportunity for you to take part in Houston’s JAMming events. Dive into the juicy jams of both Jose Miguel Yamal and Friends and Mark Towns and his quintet on the Discovery Green at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, so get your jazz on and head over before getting consommed by finals.

A feast for the eyes for movable students

If you are anything like me, you have been drooling over the gorgeous sushi (and cinematography) in the trailer for the documentary Jiro Dreams of Sushi since it popped up on Apple Trailers a few months ago. Well, Rice students will only have to travel one METROrail stop to watch the best sushi in the world (sorry, folks, tasting said sushi will take just a bit more than a METRORail ride). This documentary about Ono Jiro, the world’s premier sushi chef, will be screened in the Brown Auditorium of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston tonight at 8 p.m. Admission is $7; if you’ve a yen to travel to Japan to do more than dream of Jiro’s sushi, it might set you back a few dollars more (unless you know the original man with the faithful dollars).

SUDOKU

This sudoku was created by sudokupuzzler.com. It is rated as “evil” difficulty. The solution will be posted on Twitter at twitter.com/threshercal.

HOW TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

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

Submission methods

Fax: 713.524.3234
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Thresher, MS-524

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CHAPTER SIXTY NINE: FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS

THE RUINS OF BACCHANALIA

As discussed in Chapter 24, written sources about Ancient Rice are notoriously scant. While we do have information from the literary elite, such as the scholar Ares' opinion on menstruation (see page 164), the average Rice student scarcely wrote about his or her experiences and way of life. However, a great tragedy at the Festival of Bacchanalia has provided a wealth of archeological evidence about the Owls' religion and daily life. The festival was one of many parades publicized by the Rice people celebrated according to a sacred calendar. All the parties publicized centered around a theme and were performed in a specific temple. The most lavish of these, called NOI, centered around a celebration of fertility, and, according to accounts from Laura Michel in her "Collected Texts," involved "lots of people gettin' freaky with each other in one room."

The Festival of Bacchanalia occurred in the Temple to Brown when formed at the northernmost point of Rice campus. It was the last of the parties publicized and celebrated the annual rice wine harvest.

In 2012 A.D. a great volcano exploded, covering the entire temple in toxic ash, which killed all inside. When discussing the tragedy of the "Collected Texts" Michel wrote "OMG, thank God I had work. Endy dead with more smoke than 4/20." While the cryptic meaning of a "4/20" remains mysterious, the scope of the disaster, made even more vicious by Michel's eloquent prose, becomes even more harrowing. Luckily, the ash covered the Temple, which preserved everything inside. Since the eruption happened so quickly, many of the bodies celebrating the festival were carbonized.

The erosion also preserved entire rooms and hallways. The Seventh Floor Corridor gives an excellent picture of typical Rice rites. One such rite was the ancient Rice dancing was very different from dancing today.

Many accounts of this ritual said that much giggling was present. The men would then look for desirable women in the circles known as shawties. When a man found a shawty he approved of, he would approach from behind and grind on dat ass by rotating his scrotum upon her posterior. The shawty could either accept by continuing to dance, know as getting hot and heavy, or by walking away while chanting the sacred phrase "I need to go to the bathroom."

This orgy was set to the beat of the temple songs, which were atonal in nature and, from what sources we gathered, contained nonsensical words grouped together for almost no reason (see Voices from History for an existing fragment of such a song). A specific priest would be in charge of picking which order the five or so temple songs would be danced to. This special priest was known as the DJ and was believed to be able to communicate to the gods through the music. This led to him massaging his ears in a form of prayer. When the only would reach its height the DJ would begin the Dubstep Songs so called for

Vomiting after the purifying right of Bag O was considered sacrilegious.

Ancient Rice dancing was very different from dancing today.

The Backpage is satire and is written by Alex Weicheltmer, Anthony Laurito and Zach Cassias. Email comments and questions to avaj@rice.edu.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Voices from History

Heaven Chan Classics Manager 713-348-3773 heaven.chan@rice.edu

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