Gummen rob student, run off with cash and car keys

BY ELLEN LIU

A Rice student was allegedly robbed at gunpoint by two African American males near Entrance 25, next to the Mar-
tel College parking lot, at 5 a.m. on May 6. The suspects allegedly took the stu-
dent's cash and car keys before running away, and were later arrested, according to Rice University Police De-
partment's Interim Police Captain Omer Hor-
mele.

The student reported the inci-
dent immediately after it happened and said two males in their early 20s ap-
proached him with a gun and asked for his money. Rodriguez said the
student described one of the suspects as 6 feet tall and the other as 5 feet 6 inches tall, according to Rodriguez.

Rodriguez said the student acted calmly and did not appear to be exp-
ipiating with the al-
leged robbers.

“Why always tell people to cooper-
ate,” Rodriguez noted. “Nothing is worth sacrificing your life.”

Rodriguez noted that RUPD does
plan to contact the Rice community how to stay safe and around campus. He said people should avoid walking alone at night and should let others know where they will be if they must go out by themselves.

“Try to be aware of your sur-
rondings,” Rodriguez said. “Don’t get distracted or be on the phone if you’re walking alone at night be-
cause you could become an easy target for predators.”

He added that students should always have RUPD’s number in their phones and be aware of the blue light phones around campus so that any-
thing suspicious can be reported.

“The sooner that people report inci-
dents like this, the more likely it is that we can catch those responsi-
able,” Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez also said students should be aware of RUPD’s night se-
curity service and should not hesitate to use it after dark.
Job internships not necessary for a fruitful summer

Last week, as Rice undergraduates finished their final exams, they could see the hope of a new year on the horizon—of a break from the pressures of academics to the Elsonian fields of summer. We have been going through this ritual every year since kindergarten, and our return to the almost insane phase "school is out for summer" is no less joyous than it was so many years ago.

grafts make the "season of freedom" into just another opportunity to advance your resume. Instead of watching the movies we were getting around to watching, taking around, reconnecting with old friends and reading books for pleasure, we are advancing just one more space in the progression towards "success."

This is not to say that such opportunities are worthless. I enjoyed my internship last year, and I am looking forward to mine this year. They let some explore new cities, try out careers, gain experience and for a lucky few, earn some money. Furthermore, many feel that if they did not do something, their summers would simply be boring.

Being bored, though, is not necessarily a bad thing. Summers should have sections of ennui and sloth, laying around thinking about what to do. I am not looking at planned activities, or vacations. I am proposing an 8-week period of no plans at all. Not only do these times provide important periods of much-needed rest, but they also help us grow our minds. Being occupied all summer means you cannot just sit and sit and read or read a book you otherwise would have time for. It also forces you to actively entertain yourself. Instead of things happening to you, you must make things happen. Instead of following a simple linear path to the best re- sult possible, you have chances to explore and think. It allows us to get out of our comfort zones and discover the unexpected.

Despite what we want our parents and professors to believe, we are not in many ways still chil- dren. We will have plenty of time in the future to have careers, to dedicate years to doing one thing, to see summer as just a sweaty inconvenience to our professional lives.

I implore you to leave some space on your calendar blank. Don't spend all of your time doing activities to put on your resume or put in your graduate school applications. Of course, these things have their perks, and there is nothing wrong with working hard to accomplish your desires, but if you plan your entire sum- mer out, you will know exactly what will happen. Enjoy summer, take joy in the business and take advantage of the boredom. Do so while you still can.

Anthony Lauriello

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I quoted in last issue's "Un-Recipe" art- ticle, in this article, my comments were taken out of context. I wanted to reiterate that Un- convention was an excellent event which was able to get over 80 students, faculty, staff and alumni involved in over 120 events over the course of five days. As I helped organize and run some of the events myself, I heard about how all the students involved with the Unconvention enjoyed it. I applaud all of those involved for their efforts, and I am looking forward to welcoming the Houston community to Rice for many years to come.

Anthony Lauriello

Wexse College Junior

Letters to the Editor reserves the rights to edit letters for con- tent and length and to place letters on our website.

The Rice Thresher, the official student news- paper of Rice University since 1945, is published every Monday during the academic year and Tues- days, by the interns of Rice University.

Letters to the Editor must be received by 5 p.m. the Monday prior to publication. The Thresh- er reserves the rights to edit letters for con- tent and length and to place letters on our website.

Contact information for the Thresher is located on the second floor of the Ley Student Center:

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Last Week's Online Poll Results:

What do you have planned for this summer?

- Traveling around and having fun before the next school year.
- Studying/Taking summer classes.
- Staying at home and catching up on sleep.
- Summer internship/research.

Total number of responses: 86
Summarizing. A Rice experience in one article can hardly do four years at Rice University justice. Where to begin? As a senior, it's a nostalgic and difficult exercise to condense what undergraduate experience has meant. While I was graduating, I realized already or will in the near future, we share a common experience that most communities of large student bodies have changed us and will mark our futures as we leave the hedges.

Christopher Meyer

The past four years have led to growth, hardship, disappointment and level. As a member of the last matriculating class to witness the beak and gold but they point to it's clear there was a shift in the Rice experience. The evolution of our college and a larger student body was before my time and Rice has adjusted well. Despite the loss of a dozen fraternities and a video where "Brown" says it's better than when I was a student. Rice now appears more mature and at parties, difficulties with registration are much nicer facilities on campus. The past four years have also seen Rice become more and more recognized in categories such as "student happiness" and "professor satisfaction," which, as an undergraduate here, mean much more than rising a couple of spots in the rankings. While an ever-increasing size may detract from Rice's ROIs, the student body still seems to be achieving the same successes and still seems to have the unique creative quality of life that make such an incredible place.

While there are innumerable reasons why Rice is amazing, the university's resources and opportunities are truly unparalleled. Changing policies and changes may cause the burdens of student living, but the positive financial impact on campus initiatives is how I met some of my closest friends. Somehow it seems like the pace of Rice is not always conducive to long-term retention, and I've attended some of the best schools in the nation. In such a competitive and intense academic environment abroad through Rice also has the potential to blow the top of your lungs at the other colleges, failing on a campus-wide scale. Building Rice has succeeded, but there should be no upper limit to its future.

I feel like I have been able to shape my own destiny and have de- veloped a passion for my major interacting with students to drive- line up the answer to the question "What was coming in with boxes and my dad screaming and often hard, but by the end, Screaming and anti-cheers at parties. At least I were able to sell my work to people just as interested in my work as I was. As I packed up after finals last week, I was already thinking about what I would do if I had not found this margin at Rice. The girls have always been on the right track, to make my diaries and are sometimes to the detriment of Rice's founding the unique culture that has helped me gain a more advanced education, rather than a narrow and focused learning experience. Rice has helped me learn sometimes, as I'm sure others have and we're the type of people who are unacquainted with the meaning of the word "imagination." Despite all this, Rice seems like the pace of Rice is not always conducive to long-term retention, and I've attended some of the best schools in the nation. In such a competitive and intense academic environment, it would be so easy for everyone to knock each other in their rooms and study all day, every day. But Rice is great about making sure students have places to get involved or at least go out for free food dur- ing study breaks. So, despite the fact that it means I will not be helping Brown out of ever-lasting debt, despite the fact that it means I will not be helping Rice's alumni giving percentage, and despite the fact that I am painfully employed and much more afraid to give this year than in the past, I will once again do what I am told at my college to Rice because it was focused on its fundraising prowess. I didn't go to Rice because of brand new buildings, sticks and stones in the student's project, as long as the dawgs run, I was to be Rice because it was focused on its fundraising prowess. I didn't go to Rice because of brand new buildings, sticks and stones in the student's project, as long as the dawgs run, I was to be Rice because it was focused on its fundraising prowess. I didn't go to Rice because of brand new buildings, sticks and stones in the student's project, as long as the dawgs run, I was to be Rice because it was focused on its fundraising prowess. I didn't go to Rice because of brand new buildings, sticks and stones in the student's project, as long as the dawgs run, I was to be Rice because it was focused on its fundraising prowess. With so many organizations, clubs and trips, I love how there is a place for any type of interest. Getting involved in campus-wide organizations and ac- tivities is how I met some of my closest friends outside of Rice. My roommate hosted vol- unteering with PAM Global Leaders, which involves recruiting high school students, and next semester, she will be one of the program coordinators. In addition, one of my friends, a civil and environmental engineer, is going on an Engineers Without Borders trip to El Salvador this summer. Finally, I got involved with the Founders Legacy Fellowship and went on an Alterna- tive Spring Break to Austin, Texas to work with a local elementary school.

David Axel

I was greeted by an incredibly kind website. Portraits of students and profiles from each of the colleges and a video where "Brown" says it's better than when I was a student. Rice now appears more mature and at parties, difficulties with registration are much nicer facilities on campus. The past four years have also seen Rice become more and more recognized in categories such as "student happiness" and "professor satisfaction," which, as an undergraduate here, mean much more than rising a couple of spots in the rankings. While an ever-increasing size may detract from Rice's ROIs, the student body still seems to be achieving the same successes and still seems to have the unique creative quality of life that make such an incredible place.

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David Axel is a graduate of Brown College, class of 2006.
Phi Beta Kappa: Class of 2012 Inductees

Phi Beta Kappa members are chosen by Rice faculty members once a year and up to 10 percent of the graduating class can be inducted.

Criteria: 90 hours of liberal course work (laboratory, performance, and professional courses are not counted), 10 courses outside the division of the declared major (two beyond the graduation requirement), grade point average, and good academic and Honor Council standing.

ARBUJA BABU KADU
ALAN-MICHAEL SMITH
ALEXANDER KEVIN WU
ALEXANDRIA LI
ALLEN RAE KOBRENE
AMIRI G. KINZEL
AMRTI SUNISHA
ANYI RALPHA
ANYI T. CHONG
ANTHONY TAR-UN CHUNG
APPOXY DHALAGA
ASH NACHUM BERLIN
CARA FULLERTON
CHRISTINA MAHLEN
CHRISTINE SUN
CLAIRE SCHAFER
DANIEL DEBANGSHU PODDER
DAVID LIU
DUO WU
ELAINE J. MARONEY
ELIZABETH RAMIREZ RUTHER
ELLYSIO DAVID SURELL
EMAN BADAMI
EMILY EVEDLYN PYLE
EZHIN ELISH VELA
ERIN NICHOLLE WATSON
FRI TANG
GABRIELA SUSANA CHENNESS
GREGGIA KEKASIA LAGODUAS
HEATHER I. NICH
HARVEY I. HAN
HYUN BIN KANG
JACEY CRISTINE YOUNGBLOOD
JERRY K. LUIJ
JOHN CURRY WAGENBORG
JOHN STRICKTON

JOHN TRAVIS ANTHONY SAN PEDRO
JOSEPH DANIEL SPINELLA
JOSEPH MICHAEL PULLANO
JOYCE LEE
KAREN MARSEEN
KATHERINE DONOVAN
KELSEY AMANDA KAMPA
KENI VENETIA
KEVIN LIN
KEVIN ROBERT BUSH
KRTINA LAKHATI TURGA
KRITIEN LAMAR VIEL
LATHAN HENDERSON
LOUIS CHEN
LOUISE A. GLIGA
MANAS MUKHERJEE MIRTA
MARGARET FLORENCE ANDERSEN
MATTHEW RICHARD CAREY
MEGAN RUTH ERIKSON
MONYANG ZHU
MIRANDA M. NASEAU
MYLES GILBERT BUCKLEY
PEETER SHAB KAROL
RACHEL NICOLE PETERSEN
RACHEL LKHAUS
REBECCA WAD
ROBERT COLEMAN PALM
ROBYN SCOTT GRIFFITH
SAILASH KASHII
SARA Y. RHODES
SAILESH PRABHU
ROBERT COLEMAN PALM

The Turrell Skyspace will be a special opening for the Rice community in a variety of other ways. She was an associate at Marvin College, an advisor for the Black Student Association and the founding advisor of the Melodious Voices of Prance, Rice's gospel choir.

"[Bush] played mother to a lot of the students and touched many over the years," Smith said. "There were times when students couldn't go home for Thanksgiving. She would fix food for them and was always there to help." Smith said people from all around the campus reached out to send their condolences.

"[Bush] didn't care," Brown said. "She was just passionate about gospel music and about showing that to the world."

"Bush's funeral service was held on Saturday, May 5, at the South Union Missionary Baptist Church. Brown added that Bush bonded with the choir members through home meals and fellowship."

"These past few years, the Melodious Voices of Prance has been smaller but [Bush] didn't care," Brown said. "She was just passionate about gospel music and about showing that to the world."

The average salary for health informatics jobs is $65,000. AICHE 2015 Survey Report.
NATIONAL NEWS

What rhymes with gay

Last week Obama said his position had evolved.
People could marry, no matter the genders involved.
It was the same thing Biden said a few days before.
And the issue was something Obama could no longer ignore.
So he went on ABC to announce his new belief.
To some it was a dark day of sin to others a relief.
Many executives have already resigned.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

European nursery rhymes II

I see London (Where the Tories lost many seats in Parliament)
I see France (Where Francois Hollande beat Sarkozy the incumbent)
I see austerity's underpants
Twinkle twinkle Merkel star
Here I wonder how you are
In Europe your economy is so high
But others' debt is making it go awry
Twinkle twinkle Market star
Here I wonder how you are

I see the incumbent (Where Francois Hollande beat Sarkozy)
I see the incumbent (Where the Tories lost many seats in Parliament)
I see austerity measures of controlling debt have suffered electoral losses, including the defeat of French president Nicolas Sarkozy, the defeat of austerity measures by Greek voters, losses by the Tory party in the United Kingdom and losses by Angela Merkel’s Christian Democratic Union in Germany.

JP goes for broke

JP Morgan lost a lot of money.
So much that it was not even funny.
The reason for regret
Was a very poor bet.
JP Morgan Chase posted staggering losses of $2 billion dollars, mainly due to risky moves by their trading division.

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New Rasberry ant species invades campus

By Effie Rasberry

The coming of spring signifies the return of ants, many of which can be found mercilessly par-trolling the sidewalks around campus.

Among them is a newcomer: the Rasberry crazy ant, an invasive species that has recently colonized the campus.

The Rasberry crazy ant was first discovered in Harris County, Texas.

Rasberry identified the ant in 2002.

Since then, it has rapidly spread outward, all the way to Florida, according to ecology and evolutionary biology professor Scott Solomon.

Solomon added that the ants were not necessarily the biggest or the toughest ants around but are able to outcompete other ant species through their sheer numbers.

Rasberry crazy ants are highly invasive and their colonies can number in the millions.

Solomon said, “Crazy ants become problematic for people when they move into close proximity with humans.”

Solomon said, “They seem to have a particular fondness for electronic devices, like computers and cell phones.”

Solomon added that it is unclear whether these ants are actually attracted to electrical fields or whether a computer is simply a good place for them to nest.

They like places that are protected and have a small, defendible opening, like a laptop, he noted.

Rasberry said there is a pressing need to stop the Rasberry crazy ants altogether.

“Many people are allergic to fire ant stings, but (Rasberry crazy ants) are probably less likely to ruin your picnic,” Solomon said.

FRESH GROUND BEEF

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FREE TACO FREE NEW FRESH GROUND BEEF TACO WITH ANY ENTREE PURCHASE

To learn more about the promotion, please visit our website or call our customer service.

The promotion has no cash value. The promotion is valid for one use per customer. The promotion is not valid with any other promotion.

The promotion is not valid for delivery or catering orders.

Not valid with any other promotion.

This offer is good for one (1) visit per person per calendar year.

The promotion is valid at all participating locations.

The promotion is not available to employees of the promotion.

The promotion is a promotional offer and is not available for purchase.
Rice alumnus chosen as new president of University of Tulsa

BY NICHOL DRAKE
THREESHA ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Thresher sat down with incoming president of the University of Tulsa and Rice alumnus Geoffrey Orsak (Will Rice '85, '86, '90) to learn about his past experiences and future plans.

RICE THREESHA: Why did you decide to take on the position of president at the University of Tulsa?

GEOFFREY ORSAK: From the first time I stepped onto the Rice campus, I just fell in love with Universities. Ever since, I have committed my professional life to ensuring that higher education institutions provide a meaningful impact on people’s lives. Having the honor to lead an important national university like TU will give me a really unique opportunity to put my experiences and vision to work.

RT: I understand that before starting your work at SMU as an associate professor of electrical engineering in 1997, you were an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at George Mason University. How does being an administrator in education differ from being a researcher and professor?

GO: As a professor, I was certainly concerned about teaching students learn as well as creating new knowledge, but it was much more self-focused.

Today, I think of myself as a servant leader who is ultimately responsible for the university and [for helping] the individuals who make up the university to achieve their greatest goals.

RT: Did anything in particular influence the shift in focus from research to education administration?

GO: Oh yes, I started feeling like the research I was working on was becoming so specialized that it was in danger of being esoteric or, even worse, irrelevant. So I started asking myself, “What is the biggest problem engineering faces today?”

The answer became clear: How do we energize a new generation of young minds to get engaged with innovation and technology? That moment was the “big shift” of mentality for me.

RT: What goals do you hope to achieve at University of Tulsa?

GO: The University of Tulsa has been on a fast rise in the academic world over the last decade. In fact, it is currently ranked 75th by U.S. News. Maintaining this momentum is vital for increasing the university’s national influence on key issues.

One of the exciting new ventures that I will be focused on is the joint development of a new medical school aimed primarily on community health issues. The Tulsa School of Community Medicine is a new partnership with the University of Oklahoma and will help recruit and educate physicians who will have a passion for working in underserved communities. The impact of just this initiative will be extraordinary.

GO: Universities today are under pressure to control costs, increase their national rankings, win in football, and so on. To achieve these goals, it is going to take everyone pulling together in the same direction. I wouldn’t call this a challenge per se, but something that will occupy my attention from day one.

RT: How has your experience at Rice influenced you and what do you do today?

GO: Rice taught me to believe in powerful ideas no matter where they took me. Otherwise, I wouldn’t be the person I am today. Yes, the ideas have changed over the decades, but the [belief] that ideas matter hasn’t.

RT: Could you describe for me a favorite memory or favorite tradition of Rice that particularly stands out to you?

GO: I remember how moved I was by matriculation. It was the first real event I attended at Rice. We marched by in colleges and cheered and jeered for an hour or so. It had a kind of ancient feeling to it. After being somewhat watered in high school, I felt like I was now belonging to a long tradition of dedicated learners. In a real sense, I was home.

RT: Do you have any advice for current Rice undergraduates interested in research and/or education administration?

GO: Our entire academic culture is built off of the relentless pursuit of truth about our world and ourselves. Love research not because it is a stepping stone required to assume higher positions at a university, love it for the mystery it provides. And if you are destined for other roles on campus, you will find you sooner or later.

RUP POLICE BLOTTER

The following items were reported to the Rice University Police Department for the period April 19-May 4.

REIDENTIAL COLLEGES

Duncan College Apr. 19
Mastel College Apr. 20
Will Rice College Apr. 25
Sid Richardson College May 2
McMurtry College May 3

ACADEMIC BUILDINGS

Herzstein Hall May 3

PARKING LOTS

Abercrombie Lot Apr. 22
Greenbriar Lot Apr. 25
South Colleges Lot Apr. 26
West Lot May 4

OTHER LOCATIONS

Rec Center Apr. 28
The Grove Apr. 29

A bike was stolen.
A vending machine was vandalized.
An audio speaker was stolen.
Involved a dry-ice "bomb."
Alcohol was furnished to a minor.
A fire extinguisher was maliciously discharged.
A truck drove over a parking lot sign.
Part of a motorcycle was stolen.
A projectile from a lawnmower broke a car window.
Evasion of arrest near the Turrell SkySpace.
A cell phone and credit card were stolen.
A con-artist scam occurred.

IMAGINE A RESURGING FOOTBALL TEAM

Imagine too
A brilliant young professor
A beautiful young attorney
Plus
Muder. Kidnapping
And a Texas Ranger
And what do you have?
An exciting "WISE BIRD" story

Available now as Kindle E-Book
By a native Houstonian and sometime Rice student.
Rice Webmail begins shift to Gmail

**BY TINA OIE**
**THRESHER STAFF**

- After more than a year of planning, the switch is happening: Rice student email accounts will be transferred to Gmail by June 15. Gmail is one of the services in the Google Apps for Education package that is now available to Rice undergraduates, according to **Director of Networking, Telecommunications and Data Center Operations William Deigaard**.

- He noted that the Gmail interface is familiar to many students, and Google has many resources on hand to continue improving the interface's capabilities and efficiency. Deigaard also cited the Priority Inbox feature as an innovative and useful tool.

- Deigaard said Gmail will be offered only to undergraduate students and not graduate students, faculty or staff in order to protect the potentially sensitive data of Rice's administration.

- "Primarily, undergraduates are not handing data that Rice has obligations to protect, manage, recover or duplicate," Deigaard said. "The current Rice Google Apps offering does not currently provide sufficient capabilities in these areas for Rice's administration."

- According to Deigaard, unless Google undergoes dramatic changes that negatively affect Rice or someone else offers a substantially better service, it is unlikely that the program with Google will end. Deigaard added that he foresees Rice offering additional educational resources in the future.

- The pilot program, which started in 2008, resulted in encouraging feedback for the transfer to Gmail, according to Ribbeck.

- He said pilot users were satisfied with Google's services, especially the integration functions.

- Ribbeck said that during the pilot period, Rice IT learned how to integrate Google services into the current infrastructure and how to work with different service providers.

- "The experience helped us to understand how to meet today's mobility-and-data everywhere-and-anytime expectations," Ribbeck said. "We learned that the cloud is new and evolving, and it is important to note that the sharing of documents and web sites is restricted to Rice users."

- Ribbeck said he believes Gmail has more benefits than the current Webmail tool, such as functionality and continued expansion of features, which will provide larger email quotas, integrated services, web-based applications and online self-service support, he said.

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News Analysis: Same-sex marriage in Houston

By ANDREW LASCELLES

Five Rice seniors are cleaning up the air on Houston area buses with the product of their senior design project, Joseph Spinella (Brown '12), Jesse Feske (Brown '12), David Michnic (Brown '12), Shad Skabowski (Brown '12) and Grace Ching (Duncan '12) created FluProof, a device that can help rid the air on public transportation of harmful pathogens that could cause tuberculosis to spread and prevent infections.

The team started looking for ways to purify air on METRO buses after their project mentor, Marcha Feke, a researcher for Methodist Hospital, found a correlation between the spread of tuberculosis and Houston METRO buses, Spinella said.

"From an engineering perspective, we had two big problems to solve — finding an effective air sterilization method and finding a way to make this method work on a moving vehicle with a 42-volt battery," Spinella said.

After looking into several methods of air sterilization such as electrostatic filters, high-efficiency particulate arresting filters, photo-catalytic oxidation and ionization, the group ultimately decided to use ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI). The UVGI method is currently in use in surgical rooms and office buildings, Spinella said.

"UVGI works by emitting high-energy, ultraviolet-C band light, which is powerful enough to break the bacteria's DNA in such a way that it can't reproduce, making it impossible for the bacteria to reproduce," Spinella said. "There is no filter that gets clogged and needs to be replaced and the system is completely self-cleaning." The FluProof device does contain some differences from the usual air-purifying technologies. It consists of a lamp installed in each overhead air duct on the bus, through which air passes to be sterilized, rather than a lamp in the evaporator coils in the back of the bus. This increases accessibility and allows for passengers to see the lamps operating through a viewing window, Spinella said.

Additionally, the team put UV-effective aluminium in the air ducts, which Spinella said increases the lamp's light intensity by 10 to 15 percent. "FluProof is operated by a powerful-efficient microcontroller, Spinella said."

"FluProof's design also includes a vibration damper, which protects the system against possible damage due to uneven roads, according to a schematic provided by Chen.

The team conducted tests and compared bacteria found in buses with and without FluProof, Spinella said.

"With FluProof, we found zero colonies, while the bus without FluProof had twice the amount of bacteria compared to outside air," Spinella said.

"FluProof also has great potential for places where public transport is more widely used and more harmful bacteria are prevalent, said Spinella.

"The potential impact this could have in developing countries is what the—what I'm excited about," Chen said.

"We're confident that FluProof is not only effective in killing germs, but also cost effective."

"The parts only cost $300 per bus, which is about equivalent to one tank of gas," Spinella said.

"The team plans to expand FluProof to all Houston METRO buses and some Houston school districts in the near future." "The research is there; the solution is there — all we need is the capital to install [it] on Houston's more than 1,000 METRO buses," Spinella said.

According to Andrew Skabowski, Houston METRO's senior vice president for service delivery, elevated prices forced them to limit the expansion of FluProof on the buses.

"There's nothing we can do to improve the environment and quality on the buses, so FluProof is currently on the market, it is cost-effective and there are available funds, METRO would be interested in putting it on more buses. Anything that's factually reliable and will show traceable benefit, METRO will support it," Skabowski said.

Furthermore, the group benefitted from being able to test their prototype on actual buses. "It has been really exciting that METRO has been so supportive and let us test our project on a real bus environment," Chen said.

Spinella said he enjoyed working with METRO on this project.

"It was amazing to learn what real engineering looks like on the shop floor and to feel so involved in the whole process," Spinella said. "I thought METRO was pretty cool — they offered us a lot of support and let us test our project on their vehicles." Spinella added that he is looking forward to the future of FluProof.

"It was really enjoyable to be part of something that the public is excited about this project, and I hope that this idea can move forward to keep people across the country safe," Spinella said.

"The project is not just about making our campus safer, but it also made us feel like what we're doing is important and that we're making a difference," Spinella said.

"It was amazing to learn what real engineering looks like on the shop floor and to feel so involved in the whole process," Spinella said. "I thought METRO was pretty cool — they offered us a lot of support and let us test our project on their vehicles."
Last Saturday hundreds of Rice seniors passed through the Sallyport completing their journey at Rice University. The Thresher sat down with four of these distinct individuals to learn about where they will go after Rice and hear their reflections about their experience at Rice. While these seniors have divergent interests and plans, they share one thing in common: an appreciation for their new alma mater and a promising future.

Name: Bridget Ugoh
College: Martel College
Major: Bioengineering with a Global Health Technologies Minor

Post-graduation plans: Bridget plans to work at Boston Scientific's branch to Spencer, Ind. The company specializes in creating and producing a wide variety of medical devices.

How Rice prepared you: Bridget cites many skills that Rice developed as important in acquiring and in one day being successful at her job with Boston Scientific: "Rice helped me develop presentation skills, problem solving down to a chart, breaking things down step by step, not stressing when things go wrong and troubleshooting," Ugoh said.

Favorite Moment at Rice: While Bridget felt that Rice was a "wonderful experience," her Senior Design class stands out as special. Her group, Team Breath Alert, developed a working prototype of a sleep apnea monitor that has garnered many awards. This summer Bridget will join her team in traveling to the African nation of Malawi to showcase their new device.

Advice for Freshmen: Bridget's advice for freshmen was directed toward student athletes. "Athletic freshman who want to pursue a hard major such as engineering should stick it out. I thought being both a Bioengineer and a track athlete was impossible, but my Coach, Andrea Blackett, told me to keep going and utilize PAA's and other resources. Bridget's advice for freshmen is directed toward student athletes. "Athletic freshman who want to pursue a hard major such as engineering should stick it out. I thought being both a Bioengineer and a track athlete was impossible, but my Coach, Andrea Blackett, told me to keep going and utilize PAA's and other resources."

Name: Ruchir Shah
College: Brown
Major: Energy Studies

Post-graduation plans: After graduation, Shah plans to attend the prestigious Stanford Business School in a deferred program. This means he will go to Stanford after two years of work experience at Calpine Power Company in Houston, which specializes in natural gas and renewable energy.

How Rice prepared you: Shah feels that Rice's solid academic background was integral to helping him get into Stanford. Furthermore, Shah described Houston as the "best place ever." While he does not know exactly what his assignment will be, he believes that he will probably be serving business skills and entrepreneurship. His assignment will last two years.

Favorite Moment at Rice: While Shah had trouble finding what exactly his favorite moment was, he settled on travel opportunities that Rice provided him in eleven separate countries ranging from France to Thailand.

Advice for freshmen: Shah's advice for the class of 2016 is a challenge not to be passive. "Apply for and look for everything that Rice has to offer. A ridiculous amount of opportunities are available for people who are driven, but sadly, many Rice students are not," Shah said.

Name: Andy Wang
College: Will Rice
Major: Political Science and History

Post-graduation plans: Wang might not know exactly what law school he is going to, but his choices would make most incoming law school applicants salivate with jealousy. "I am not sure what law school I am going to — I am probably going to Harvard, but if Yale accepts me off their waitlist I will have to choose between the two," Wang said. While the Will Rice senior does not know what type of law he wants to one day practice, he hopes to work as a clerk for a federal judge.

Favorite Moment at Rice: In his advice to new freshmen, Wang emphasized how quickly one's time at Rice can pass by. "Enjoy your time — you're only going to experience college once. Don't be afraid to try new things because you only have these four years to enjoy Rice," Wang said.

Name: Devin Glick
College: Brown
Major: Political Science, Economics, Policy Studies and Asian Studies

Post-graduation plans: While many Rice seniors will have a summertime break after graduating, Glick is flying to Paraguay on May 19th to join the Peace Corps. There he will work as a community economic development specialist and intern with the resources of Rice for aiding him in his application, "The Peace Corps Department and their career service did a great job helping me find internships which made a really big difference," Wang said.

Favorite Moment at Rice: Wang's favorite moment at Rice was the 2010 Men's Tennis C-USA Championships. The squad had made it to the finals every year and then lost to rival Tulsa since Rice joined C-USA in 2005. 2010 appeared to be the fifty year in Rice's second place streak when the team came back in a "dramatic and awesome comeback to win the championship title."

Advice for freshmen: Glick's favorite moment about Rice was traveling to Istanbul with his Gateway to Social Science class. He felt that he was not only able to learn about urban politics but also meet many "cool people."

Advice for freshmen: Glick's advice for freshmen is simple: "Put yourself out there, take every opportunity, meet everybody you can and have a really good time."
Thomas J. Watson Fellowship

The Thomas J. Watson fellowship is a $25,000 grant awarded to college graduates for a year's worth of travel to pursue an independent study project of their proposed choice. 40 colleges and universities in the country are eligible to nominate four students from their institution for the award.

Rachael Petersen (McMurtry '12) and Rebecca Wade (Martel '12) were awarded the fellowship for 2012-2013.

"The Watson fellowship is an incredible opportunity to run, build relationships, discover and grow in a global context. I'm going to use the funds to spend 2-3 months each in the U.K., Ethiopia, Japan, New Zealand and Finland, and to totally immerse myself in each culture and running environment."  
- Rebecca Wade

Critical Language Scholarship

The Critical Language Scholarship is offered by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, to undergraduate, master's and doctoral students and gives recipients the opportunity to participate in intensive summer language

RECIPIENTS
Abby Downing-Beaver, Russia
Monica Matsumoto, Morocco
Graham West, Tunisia

Truman Scholarship

The Truman Scholarship was established to recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in various areas of public service. This award provides up to $30,000 of funding for graduate studies in related fields, leadership training and fellowship with like-minded students.

"I'll be seeking a degree in policy, most likely a Masters in Public Policy, hopefully focusing on energy and environmental policy. I'm especially interested in programs that focus on how we can start moving our energy portfolio from the dirtiest fuel sources to increasingly cleaner ones."  
- Benjamin Chou

"The Truman Scholarship represents a clear affirmation of my values, public service record, and desire for stronger linkages between Congress, the public and the scientific enterprise. I hope to bring a unique voice to the Truman community. With the scholarship, I plan to formalize my desire to bridge science, policy, and health by pursuing graduate study in both biomedicine and public policy."  
- Rahul Rekhi

Marshall Scholarship

The Marshall Scholarship aims to enable outstanding American students to study in the United Kingdom, learn about contemporary Britain and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in British universities. The award provides students with two fully funded years of study and a possible third-year extension at any university in the UK and in any field.

Jecca Steinberg (Brown '11) is a recipient of a 2012 Marshall Scholarship and will be using it to study toward a Master of Science at University College London and a Masters in health management, planning and policy at the University of Leeds.

"With the award funding from Marshall, marrying it with an NIH-Oxford/Cambridge Scholarship at the NIH and the Medical Scientist Training Program Fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis to do a combined MD/PhD program between Oxford/NIH/WashU. It is about 8 long and the DPhil will be in biomedical engineering from Oxford and MD will be from WashU. I'll be based in Oxford the first two years, DC at the NIH for the third, and finally St. Louis the last 4 years."  
- Karen Bye

Udall Scholarship

The Udall Scholarship is an award of up to $5,000 that is given to 50 sophomore and junior-level college students who have shown commitment to careers serving either tribal public policy and healthcare, given that the student is Native American or Alaskan Native, or the environment.

"The honor of being recognized as a Udall Scholar this year absolutely centered my decision to change career in the environment field, but also reinvigorated my determination to continue to involve myself in community sustainability initiatives utilizing professional and academic settings. This fellowship will go towards funding my tuition for the fall semester."  
- Christina Hughes

Mitchell Scholarship

The George J. Mitchell Scholarship is given by the U.S.-Ireland Alliance to 12 students between the ages of 18 and 30 who have demonstrated leadership and commitment to public service. This award funds one year of graduate study in Ireland and includes tuition, housing, airfare, a cash stipend and other benefits like additional funds to encourage travel both in and outside of Ireland. This scholarship was awarded to Rachel Carson to study at Trinity College Dublin.

"The Marshall Scholarship aims to enable outstanding American students to study in the United Kingdom, learn about contemporary Britain and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in British universities. The award provides students with two fully funded years of study and a possible third-year extension at any university in the UK and in any field."  
- Rahul Rekhi

ThinkSwiss

The ThinkSwiss Res Scholarship is given to a graduate and undergraduate student to fund up to 3 months of research in any field at a public university or research institute in Switzerland. The recipient of the 2012 ThinkSwiss Res Scholarship was awarded to Rachel Carson to study at Trinity College Dublin.

"With the award funding from Marshall, marrying it with an NIH-Oxford/Cambridge Scholarship at the NIH and the Medical Scientist Training Program Fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis to do a combined MD/PhD program between Oxford/NIH/WashU. It is about 8 long and the DPhil will be in biomedical engineering from Oxford and MD will be from WashU. I'll be based in Oxford the first two years, DC at the NIH for the third, and finally St. Louis the last 4 years."  
- Karen Bye

Rotary Ambassadoorial Scholarship

The Rotary Foundation Ambassadoorial Scholarship awards grants of $25,000 to undergraduate and graduate students and professionals pursuing vocational studies who are planning to study abroad and can serve as goodwill ambassadors and engage in mutual cultural exchange. The aim of the scholarship is to promote international understanding and friendly relations. The recipient of the 2012 Rotary Ambassadoorial Scholarship is Hanssen College junior Miranda Wang, who will be studying in Hong Kong.
Barry M. Goldwater Fellowship

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship was established to honor soldier and statesman Barry M. Goldwater for his service to the country. This scholarship aims to foster the development of future scientists, mathematicians and engineers. It awards $7,500 annually to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields for studies in their junior and/or senior year.

“I’m honored to have been awarded the Goldwater Scholarship. It’s very exciting to be recognized nationally for my research work thus far. The award funding over the next two years will be used towards educational expenses here at Rice.”

- Stephanie Tzouanas

“I’m planning to use the award funding to pay for some of the tuition, fees, and books. I’m honored to have been awarded the scholarship, which is a good reminder of the importance of scientific research in many different areas.”

-Jeannette Wat

Fullbright

The Fullbright Scholarship program, funded by the U.S. state department, is open to graduating seniors, recent graduates and graduate students who are U.S. citizens. The scholarship winners are selected based on academic merit and ambassadorial spirit. Projects may either be independent research abroad or enrollment in the English Teaching Assistantship. Three recent Rice University undergraduate alumni and one Rice graduate student have won the Fulbright for 2011-2012. Francesca Schley (Sid Richardson College ’12), a history major who has studied Brazilian language at Rice, will teach English in Brazil. Rice history graduate student Amanda Moehnke, also in Brazil, will conduct research for her dissertation, which compares the symbolic body in Rio de Janeiro with that in New York City. Tracey Lam (Lovett ‘11), a former Rice volleyball scholar-athlete, will teach English in South Korea. Payton Odom (Baker ‘09), currently a research analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, won the Fullbright Bi-national Scholarship to investigate the international business culture in Mexico.

“The Fulbright will be a special way to round out the incredibly high-quality Asian Studies education I got at Rice. I have a very unique opportunity to experience a country and people the way few will ever be able to, and I am thrilled that I will be able to share volleyball, one of the great loves of my life, with my community in South Korea at the same time.”

- Tracey Lam

NSF GRFP

The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship program recognizes and supports the graduate studies of outstanding students who are pursuing master’s and doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in the U.S. and abroad. This program provides up to 3 years of funding and support.

RECIPIENTS

UNDERGRADUATE

David Younger
Elizabeth Van Itallie
Georgia Lagoudas
Peter Fobel
Michael Eastwood
David Moses

GRADUATE

Anthony Simms
Stacey Prukop
Jana Olson
Erin O’Brien
Lao Paulo Mattos Almeida
Lydia Kisley
Paul Haugen

Evan Everett
Zachary Crannell
Chad Byers
Mario Bencomo
Camille Barnett
Christopher Arevalos
Frederick Campbell

DAAD RISE

The DAAD RISE program awards undergraduate students from the United States, Canada and the UK in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, earth sciences and engineering a summer internship in Germany. These 2-to-3-month internships are with research groups at universities and top research institutions across the country. The interns are mentored by doctoral students and receive stipends and financial aid to cover living and housing expenses.

RECIPIENTS

Andria Remirez
Christopher Chan
Zhiting Cai
Isabella Gonzalez
Li Xiong
Andres Jones

List of Rice University award winners may be found online at ricethresher.org
For the 2012 Rice baseball team, the late-season headline reads the same as it has for much of the Wayne Graham era, a testament to the consistency of the program he has built. Anchored by an outstanding pitching staff, the team enters the final week of the season with conference title aspirations and sights on a lengthy postseason run.

The Owls got off to their best start since 1993, winning their first nine games with home sweeps of Florida International University, New Mexico State, and Dallas Baptist. After going 16-7 to open the season, Rice won two of their next three series, at Monmouth, against Southern Miss and at Tulane before sweeping Marshall in conference play.

The Owls recently completed an 8-3 home-stand that included series wins over Rice Carolina University, Houston and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, as well as the program's 12th straight Silver Glove Series win after taking three of four regular season games against the rival Cougars.

Entering the season ranked as high as fourth in the pre-season polls, the Owls have been carrying this year by their depth of quality arms in the rotation and the bullpen.

Within the rotation, no pitcher has been more pivotal in that success than senior Matthew Reckling, who has emerged as the staff ace and one of the few faces for conference pitcher of the year in a breakout season.

Reckling, currently 4-1 with a 2.45 ERA on the season, has improved his command immensely while becoming one of the toughest pitchers to hit in the country according to a Mid-Season All-American according to Baseball America. Reckling has been joined in the weekend rotation by sophomore Austin Kubitsch, who has overcome some early season struggles and appears well on his way to recapitulating his 2011 form.

Andrew Benak has enjoyed an outstanding season, while John Simons has made multiple weekend starts as well.

Perhaps the team's greatest strength has been the bullpen, led for most of the season by Simon, senior Taylor Wall, and juniors JT Chang and Tyler Drushly.

Each of the four pitchers has made at least 20 appearances in relief, and all boast sub-3.50 ERAs out of the pen for Graham. Chargots, leading the team with eight saves, was named to the Midseason Watch List for the Stopper of the Year Award.

Offensively, junior Christian Stringer has paced the Owls in his first season at the Division 1 level, and currently leads the team with a .365 batting average.

Outfielder Jeremy Ratliff has made a successful return from season-ending knee surgery a year ago, starting every game this season while leading the team in home runs and slugging percentage.

A regular season pitching staff carried the offense for much of non-conference play, and currently leads the team with 38 RBI on the year. Chargois has also performed admirably in the lineup, joining veterans Michael Ratterree, Ryan Lord and Craig Manuel as a solid cornerstone to the everyday lineup.

Freshman Food Stakeholder and sophomore Shane Hoehl have anchored the left side of the infield, contributing to an overall balanced offensive attack.

Currently at 36-12, and 15-6 in the league, Rice enters the final weekend of the season tied for first in the C-USA standings with UCF. For the second straight year, the conference's top two teams will play for the regular season crown in the last series, as the Owls head to Orlando for a three game set beginning on Thursday night.

Rice will then head to Mississippi for the conference tournament, beginning on May 22 and concluding with the championship on May 25.

With a series win this weekend, the Owls will clinch their 17th consecutive conference title under the guidance of the legendary Graham, who will be inducted into the College Baseball Hall of Fame this summer.

Currently ranked 5th in both the Baseball America and Rivals pinnacle poll, Rice appears on the edge of earning one of the top 8 national seeds in the NCAA Tournament, or one of precious few teams still standing in the regular season.

A regular season conference title would solidify the team's case to host a regional, if not a potential super regional, as one of the tour- nament's top overall seeds. With a plethora of proven arms and a veteran offensive attack, Rice appears poised for postseason success as they look to return to Omaha for the first time since the 2008 season.

Women's tennis makes history, clinches first Sweet 16 birth

It has been a thrilling season for the Rice Women's Tennis Team. The Conference USA season began at home Stadium in Razor on Jan. 20, following a number of invitational that placed Rice at 7 in the Interassociate Tennis Association rankings.

The Owls beat Lamar University 7-0, the first of many wins to come this season. Following that, the team went undefeated against Louisiana-Lafayette University, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, McNeese State University, Louisiana State University and Florida International University.

Coming almost a month ago the win against Lamar, the Owls game at the Lady Raider Shoot-out in Lubbock, Texas, in Feb. 12 against Texas Tech University was their first loss, 4-0, of the season. The team then struggled against the University of Alabama, losing 6-1. A few days later, on Feb. 24, in College Station, Texas, the Owls played Texas A&M University and lost 5-2.

Coach Elizabeth Schmidt referred to this as one of the most challenging segments of the season.

"I think one of our greatest challenges came when we lost three matches in a row and we came home to face a highly ranked Oklahoma team," Schmidt said. "It was a big moment in our season and our team responded like champions. This group plays with a lot of heart and passion and I really feel like that is a huge reason for our success this season."

The game against the University of Oklahoma was certainly a standout performance for Rice, which had been ranked 66th in ITA and which won 6-2 against its 26th ranked opponent. Doubles was dominated by Rice's 4th ranked freshmen Kristina Lewan and sophomore Dominique Harmath. Sophomore Katie Gates and Ana Guzman (Wiesen '12) made valiant attempts in both doubles and singles competition, as did sophomore Kimberly Asencio and Stephanie Nguyen.

Despite the occasional loss after this game, the team continued to improve by leaps and bounds. It was not long before the C-USA Champions arrived, and the team swept University of Central Florida 4-0. Next, they played Tulane University, who they won against 4-0. The Owls' final game, against 26th ranked Tulsa University, was an interestingly played match that resulted in a 4-2 loss. At 40th in ITA rankings, the Owls season was given an extension when they qualified on a May 1 bid to continue on to the NCAA rounds.

Of all the games the Owls played this season, when asking Schmidt what the most memorable win was, the answer drew no hesitation.

"This past weekend to the most memorable moment so far of the season," Schmidt said. "It was next to our players fight so hard, show so much mental toughness, and really come to goer to earn these two victories. It was really special and a testament to all of their hard work this year."

Schmidt refers to the wins against Illinois 4-2, and Ole Miss University, 4-2. These closely played games qualified Rice to continue on to the elite Sweet 16 rounds. Incredibly excited about the wins, Schmidt described her feelings.

"I told the team after the match that I've been fortunate to have had some pretty special experiences in my tennis career; however, this past weekend has been, by far, the most memorable of them all," Schmidt said. "I see every day how hard each of them work and all they do to be the best that they can be. It is an awesome feeling to see a group of people that I care so much about be able to earn and celebrate a trip to the Sweet 16."

Leaving town at 7:45 a.m. for Athens, Ga., Rice will compete on Thursday at 9 a.m. against the first ranked University of California, Los Angeles. Schmidt describes how the team feels going into the match.

"Obviously, UCLA has had a great season and have earned their ranking," Schmidt said. "However, being said, we are a very confident team right now and are looking forward to a great match against the Bruins. It is also extra special for me since I played at UCLA and Stella [UC/LA's head coach] has been a great friend and mentor to me the past 15 years."

The young Lady Owls show much promise for
The Season in Review: Looking back at the year's most prominent sports

**Football**

After the Memphis game, Rice still had bowl hopes. With two wins, and the seemingly difficult part of their schedule out of the way, Rice thought bowl eligibility was still within reach.

The next three games, however, were disasters for the Owls, who lost control of their season. After a tough 29-20 loss to Marshall on the road, the Owls returned home to lose 58-20 to Tulane, a blow for a team that needed the games.

The next week, in a nationally televised night game, the Owls held a defensive edge against Houston, but couldn't hold any lead. Rice, which had not beat a BCS Conference team in all season, giving hope to Owls fans everywhere, Texas went to win the game 39-4, a far cry from what was actually seen on the field.

The next week, the Owls welcomed the Big Ten's Purdue Boilermakers to Houston, Texas, which had not beat a BCS Conference team in all season, giving hope to Owls fans every-

Unfortunately, the Owls slowly unraveled in the closing minutes of the third quarter. The first half was perhaps the best the team played all season, giving hope to Rice fans every-

In the final three weeks, the Owls were playing for pride, as seniors hoped to leave a legacy off which next year's team could build. They hosted the Northwestern Wildcats, another Big Ten team, but could not find the Purdue magic, falling 28-6.

The Season in Review:

**Basketball**

The Owls have plenty of question marks heading into the 2012 season. With a looming postseason, the Owls need to prove they are a force to be reckoned with.

The Owls accept a bid to the CollegeInsider.com Tournament, their first postseason action in 7 years. Rice drew a match-

The Owls have plenty of question marks heading into the 2012 season. With a looming postseason, the Owls need to prove they are a force to be reckoned with.

Baylor College of Medicine is testing a treatment for adults 18-60 years of age.

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Wade was joined by junior Shanie Robinson, who won gold in the discus with a comebacks victory.

"Shane was in third place going into the final and she hit her winning throw in the fifth round to take the lead," Head Coach Jim Reven said.

Lilian Wrenn ran eighth in the 60m with a time of 7.02, breaking her fastest time of the outdoor season.

Rice placed fifth overall in the team standings with 66.5 points. UCF won the team title for the third straight season with a total of 100 points, beating out second place East Carolina's score of 92.16. Southern Miss finished a distant fourth with 71 points.

The qualifying members of the team will now train for the NCAA Regionals at the end of May, and those who qualify will then proceed to compete in the NCAA Championships in Des Moines, Iowa, in early June. Wade is also training for the U.S. Olympic trials in late June.

Kirk Kendal (Sid Richardson '12) placed 16th in the long jump with a distance of 5.53 meters.

\[\text{\textbf{Men's track finishes sixth overall at Conference USA Championship}}\]

\textbf{Bhagwat Kumar}  
Thresher Staff

The men's track and field team placed sixth overall at the Conference USA Championship at Tad Gormley Stadium, hosted by Tulane University.

The Owls finished with 77.5 total points, while Houston won its fourth title in a row with 200.5 points. Second, third and fourth place were tightly contested, with UTEP, Tulsa and East Carolina finishing with 152, 127 and 126 points, respectively.

Clayton Cheh offset the Owls' loss with a time of 23.25, narrowly beating out teammate Lee Johnson (Irons '12), who finished with a time of 23.5.

Cheh also finished top-25 in the country.

"Collin Shurbet's race in the 400m hurdles was awesome as he had to find off fellow Rice senior Lee Johnson for the medal spot," Head Coach Jon Warren said.

Gabe Guadagni placed third in the 1500m with a time of 3:49.86, and the 4x400 quar- ter of Will Brumley, Dylan Bradly, Jordan Hmaidan (Wiess '12) and Kyle Denney placed fourth with a time of 3:42.28. Rice's fastest time of the outdoor season.

The 4x400 ran surprisingly well considering it was the first time they ran as a unit. They finished only one spot behind a fine UIW team, just missing the podium," Warren said.

The qualifying members of the team will now prepare for NCAA Regionals in Austin at the end of May. Following Regionals, those who qualify for the NCAA Championship will continue training until the meet in early June.

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Men's Tennis falls to Memphis in semis of conference tournament

Miss NCAA tournament in final year for Head Coach Smarr

The men's semis season was not a smooth drive down Main Street for the Owls. Left and right, they were bumped and bruised, as the team enjoyed some success with a seven game winning streak in late March, but also experienced major heartburn, with the loss to the University of Texas at San Antonio at home in February. In the end, the Owls left too many score on the Owl resume and they failed to make the NCAA tournament for the first time in several years.

In the conference tournament, Rice knew that they had to probably reach the final and possibly beat Tulsa to guarantee themselves a bid to the NCAAs. In recent years, the Owls had breathed through the first round, but this year was more of a challenge.

The Owls played Southern Methodist University, who they beat by the slimmest of margins, 4-3, in Dallas on March 30. Again, Rice needed every point they as they secured another 4-3 victory.

With the win, the Owls played against the University of Memphis in the semifinals, who in the opinion of Assistant CoachElle Umbarger had a better season than Rice.

In their last matchup, the Owls beat the Tigers with a 5-2 victory at Jade Hesk Stadium on March 26. This time, the Owls got coated as the Tigers won 4-1, and just like that, the Owls' hopes of gaining a bid to the NCAA tournament were dashed.

Looking back on the season as a whole, Umbarger stated that the season had its bright moments but that this was a way to end the legendary career of Head Coach Ronnie Smarr's, who is retiring.

"I would not put it necessarily as a complete failure, but to the standards we have set up here, it was a failure," Umbarger said. "It was a disappointing season. Obviously, the last thing we wanted was to end Coach Smarr's last season, not qualifying for the NCAA tournament."

Unlike his coach, Sam Garforth-Bles (Marcell '12) felt that the even without making the NCAA tournament, the season could not be classified as a failure.

"I definitely do not think you could say our season was a failure," Garforth-Bles said. "It obviously, it was not our best season. Given what we went through this year, we won the matches we were supposed to and we had the bad luck against UTA."
From murderous playwrights to misplaced Shakespearean characters, a quarrel between high schoolers to a debate between Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso, Rice University Theater 2011-12 dabbled in everything ordinary and extraordinary. Though the actors on stage captivated audiences with memorable performances, they were the tip of the iceberg that made this year’s Rice theater season successful.

Tabulated from over 400 votes, The Sammys award audience-favorites: thespians and directors, orchestras and set designers. This year, Will Rice College Players’ “Deathtrap” and Wiess College Tabletop’s “Hello, Hamlet!” stole the show, garnering nine and 10 total awards, respectively.

Congratulations to everyone involved in Rice’s theater productions this year. You not only have enlivened campus, but also have been a welcome feature in the Arts and Entertainment section of the Thresher.

BEST PLAY, FULL LENGTH
“Deathtrap” Will Rice College Theater
RUNNERS-UP
“Macbeth” VADA
“Vagina Monologues” The RWRC

BEST PLAY, STUDENT-WRITTEN
“High School Trig” Anna Meriano Martel College Theater

BEST DIRECTOR
Emily Viehman “Hello, Hamlet!” Wiess College Theater
RUNNERS-UP
Mary Nelson “Deathtrap” Will Rice College Theater
Philomena Bradford & Lisa Biletska “Knapp’s Last Tape” Duncan College Theater

BEST ACTRESS
Alicia Jones Myra Bruhl, “Deathtrap”
RUNNERS-UP
Joanne Guidry Gen, “High School Trig”
Susannah Eig Lady Macbeth, “Macbeth”

BEST ACTOR
Geoffrey Holmes Sydney Bruhl, “Deathtrap”
RUNNERS-UP
Carter Spires Macbeth, “Macbeth”
Jake LaViola Third Man, “The Baltimore Waltz”

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS
Rosalie Berg Helga ten Dorp, “Deathtrap”
RUNNERS-UP
Kamille Perry Helga ten Dorp, “Deathtrap”
Aaren Pastor Melody, “High School Trig”

BEST ACTING CONTRIBUTIONS
Rosalie Berg Producer, “Deathtrap”
Liz Castillo & Ian Kretz Co-Producers, “Hello, Hamlet!”
Christian Hauser Vocal Director/Rehearsal Pianist, “Hello, Hamlet!”

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
Rosalie Berg
RUNNERS-UP
Kamille Perry
Aaren Pastor
Lilla Pivnick and Marcel Merwin both won Sammys for their roles as Guildenstern and Hamlet, respectively. Pivnick won Best Supporting Actress and Merwin won Best Actor.

BEST MUSICAL
“Hello, Hamlet!”
Wiess College Theater

BEST ACTOR
Marcel Merwin
Hamlet, “Hello, Hamlet!”

RUNNERS-UP
Rey Amendola
Frank ‘N’ Furter, “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”

Nick Semon
Brad, “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
John Mendell
Polonius, “Hello Hamlet!”

RUNNERS-UP
Zach Bielak
Eddie, “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”

Connor Hoppe
Rocky, “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”

BEST ACTRESS
Marie Chatfield
Ophelia, “Hello, Hamlet!”

RUNNER-UP
Shivani Morrison
Janet, “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS
Lilla Pivnick
Guildenstern, “Hello, Hamlet!”

RUNNERS-UP
Amanda Mills
Columbia, “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”

Daniella Covarrubias
Rosencrantz, “Hello, Hamlet!”

BEST LIGHTING DESIGN (TIE)
“Deathtrap”
Daniel Podder

“Hello, Hamlet!”
Matt Keene

RUNNERS-UP
“The Rocky Horror Picture Show”
Zach Bielak, Katherine Humphreys & Carolyn Shuford

BEST MUSIC/ ORCHESTRA
“Hello, Hamlet!”
Robyn Moscowitz

RUNNER-UP
“The Rocky Horror Picture Show”
Elizabeth Shulman

BEST COSTUME DESIGN
“Hello, Hamlet!”
Emily Viehman & Annie Zeuner

RUNNERS-UP
“Deathtrap”
Gabriela Lopez

“Krapp’s Last Tape”
Philomena Bradford & Lisa Biletska

BEST SET DESIGN
“Hello, Hamlet!”
Zach Beliak, Austin Jarvis, Christian Hauser & Liz Castillo

RUNNERS-UP
“The Rocky Horror Picture Show”
James Morgan & Jeffrey Hokanson

“Picasso at the Lapin Agile”
Joyce Chou

BEST CREW/ TECHNICAL EXECUTION
“Deathtrap”

RUNNERS-UP
“Hello, Hamlet!”

BEST SOUND DESIGN
“Deathtrap”
Daniel Podder

RUNNERS-UP
“The Drunken City”
Jake LaViola

“Vagina Monologues”
Matt Johnson

BEST LIGHTING DESIGN
“Deathtrap”
Daniel Podder

RUNNERS-UP
“The Rocky Horror Picture Show”
Zach Bielak, Katherine Humphreys & Carolyn Shuford

BEST MUSIC/ ORCHESTRA
“Hello, Hamlet!”
Robyn Moscowitz

RUNNER-UP
“The Rocky Horror Picture Show”
Elizabeth Shulman

BEST COSTUME DESIGN
“Hello, Hamlet!”
Emily Viehman & Annie Zeuner

RUNNERS-UP
“The Dead Man’s Cell”
Gabriela Lopez

“Krapp’s Last Tape”
Philomena Bradford & Lisa Biletska

BEST SET DESIGN
“Hello, Hamlet!”
Zach Beliak, Austin Jarvis, Christian Hauser & Liz Castillo

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Brown College alumna helps fight domestic abuse with fashion show

The Speak Against Silence Charity Fashion Show seamlessly combined a love for fashion with a powerful initiative to help victims of domestic abuse. Raising more than $50,000 for Aids to Victims of Domestic Abuse, the fashion show committee consisted of a group of high school students from the Houston area.

"My mother, Sofia Adrogue, has always been passionate about women's issues and has passed this on to me," said chair Lisa Anne Gustafson. "Together we picked the perfect charity for our fashion show cause involving children as well as domestic abuse."

The funds raised through the SAS fashion show went toward AVDA's Children's Resource Project, which specifically focuses on child victims of domestic violence. For over 30 years, the nonprofit organization AVDA has given free legal aid to over 5,000 abuse victims, according to andalav.org.

However, the Houston Chronicle reported that the recession limited AVDA's funding at a time when the rate of domestic violence was skyrocketing.

By dedicating the show to AVDA, the committee was able to not only donate funds to the charity but also to publicize AVDA's efforts in the community.

"The purpose of the SAS Fashion Show was to bring to light the victims of domestic abuse and the importance of giving to those in need," Adrogue-Gustafson said.

As the sun set onto the rooftop of Urban Retreat Salon and Spa, the event began with guests anxiously awaiting the designers' collections. The event featured a group of highly talented high school fashion designers with a wide range of styles.

Parsons School of Design student Leslie Adrogue presented her collection of haute couture, using a black silk dress inspired by Shakespeare's "Hamlet.

While Adrogue also demonstrated his support of the AVDA cause through his collection, Wiederhoof directed one of his models to the hoop skirt at the end of the runway during the show. Stuck in the underpinnings, the hoop skirt used the words, "Speak Against Silence," reflecting the title and message of the show.

"I had the opportunity to learn from my mother and her experiences and those of dedicated professional women who ensured that all that could be donated was," Adrogue-Gustafson said.

Though Adrogue-Gustafson was eyesore to the audience, the fashion show's success was evident to publicist Mary Anderson. "I'm excited that [the designers] are all high school students," Fash-
PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

Undergraduates hold up cut-outs of their favorite graduating seniors' hands in support of their friends.

A graduating Bates senior enjoys a cigar while waiting to receive his diploma. Graduating students were seated in the academic quad and were called up by college to have their names called.

Faculty members named their own graduation robes and observed the ceremony from rows in front of Leverett Hall.

Art Weichert/Thresher

Art Weichert/Thresher

Art Weichert/Thresher
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