Feminism campaign promotes gender equality

BY MAHA AZIZ
FOR THE THRESHER

The “Who Needs Feminism?” project was brought to Rice to help eradicate gender inequality and misconceptions about feminism, according to campaign organizer Anastasia Boshakov.

“The project is pretty much a [public relations] campaign at Rice for feminism,” Boshakov, a Duncan College junior, said. “It’s to show the campus that feminism is not this radical, crazy thing but that it’s about equality and human rights—at least to me.”

The project was conceived at Duke University by a group of female students after they learned that many students thought feminism was dead, according to the project’s national website, whoneedsfeminism.com.

Boshakov said students at Rice could always improve their understanding of the feminist movement.

“In our discussions, we talked about the definition of feminism and why Rice needs it,” Boshakov said. “Many people were able to bring up concrete examples of gender inequality on campus.”

Boshakov and fellow campaign organizers Clara Roberts said they worked together along with Duncan senior Rachel Popper and Duncan Master Luis Duno-Gottberg to initiate the project.

“This is not as much of an organization as it is a movement,” Roberts, a Duncan junior, said. “We really want people to get thinking critically about feminism and to bring in people who don’t really think about this.”

According to Popper, the project was given a test run at Duncan before it was brought to the rest of campus.

“You interact with people who are unlike you every day while you are here at Rice,” Popper said. “It’s necessary to learn how to embrace those differences.”

Duno-Gottberg said he has high hopes that change can be achieved at Rice.

“My wish is that Rice students come away with a deeper understanding of the many forms [in which] inequality manifests,” Duno-Gottberg said. “This project illustrates a method of activism around urgent social issues.”

Popper said feminism is a misunderstood and uncomfortable topic in today’s society.

“Women more people will embrace the ‘f-word,’” Popper said. “Feminism has bad stereotypes associated with it that simply aren’t true.”

The project held an event at the Rice University Women’s Resource Center this past week to give students an opportunity to speak their minds by providing whiteboards for students to complete the statement, “I need feminism because...”

“We didn’t provide a definition of feminism [because we wanted] to get people to think about how feminism applies to them personally,” Roberts said.

According to Roberts, the organizers frequently upload the photos of students and staff posing with the project’s national website, whoneedsfeminism.com.

The last day to drop classes is this Friday.
Recently, the Rice University community has experienced a decrease in the quality of on-campus Wi-Fi, specifically with regard to the Rice Owls Wi-Fi network available to students, faculty and staff (see story, p. 5). The Thresher urges Rice Information Technology to make improving the campus Wi-Fi network a priority.

The extra access points that IT has added in areas on campus where Wi-Fi connection is particularly poor are appreciated. However, because the issue is so widespread, it seems necessary to find another solution. Many students are having trouble finding a functional wireless connection all over campus, not just in specific places like their rooms in the colleges.

On a university campus, students, faculty and staff rely on Wi-Fi to do much of their work. A lack of an internet connection should not be an impediment to getting our jobs done. We therefore urge IT to look further into the causes of the problem and potential solutions. The explanation that an increase in wireless devices on campus resulting from students bringing more laptops, smartphones, tablets and gaming consoles to campus is a contributor to this year’s increased connectivity problem does not appear to tell the whole story; the extent to which this year’s student body has more electronic devices than last year’s seems, without supporting data, minimal at best. It should consider whether other factors may be better able to explain the increased issues this year.

Lastly, students need to be patient with IT. It has been accommodating and understanding about the Wi-Fi issues. If people experience issues with their wireless connection, they can and should email helpdesk@rice.edu or call the IT Help Desk at 713-348-4357.

More hot food at the Hoot

The Thresher would like to corroborate the general feeling among students that hot food at the Hoot is running out too quickly. While the Hoot must, of course, have a limited consumer base in order to purchase more food, the general feeling on campus appears to be that there is enough food for everyone who visits and that food does not run out at 1:30 a.m.

On campus would certainly not be in student's best interests — the Hoot should make every effort to have hot food in stock as close its closing time of 1:30 a.m. as possible. There is a happy medium between selling out of hot food too early and letting food — and therefore money — go to waste, and we hope the Hoot gets closer to finding it, thus optimizing its business and more effectively serving the undergraduate student body.

Unsigned editorials represent the majority opinion of the Thresher editorial staff. All other opinion pieces represent solely the opinion of the piece's author.
Thierry Rignol, a nonfiction writer and performance poet around the world, and her first poet, Outspoken Bean, a slam poet in the world, and she now performs slam poetry at TEDx Houston, said "I had always assumed that women had a no-brainer to me that I should support it. It is important that males send a message that reinforces female equality," Imas said.

It's important for young people not to forget that we are opening up the resonance chamber for the event." Kim said. "We're working with everyone involved," Callan said. "We're working with everyone involved, to make NOD safe and fun for all parties here."

Leaders Inc. Cavanaugh Nweze said he is passionate about his topic, which is urban gardening or farming in general, and says the response I get when people find out I am in Houston, where they live right now and where they will continue to live." Kim said.

"What inspires me to talk about urban gardening or farming in general are the resonances I get when people find out I am in Houston, where they live right now and where they will continue to live," Kim said.

Fadul said the venue will not be able to accommodate everyone interested in attending, so alternative viewing methods will be available. According to Fadul, members of the Rice and Houston communities who are not able to obtain tickets to attend the event can still watch the talks at a simulcast location or online.

For more information on TEDxHouston or to watch the talks online, visit the event website at tedxhouston.com/2013/events.php.
The Hoot has changed its hot food ordering process, according to General Manager Mattie Pena. Pena, a Martel College junior, oversees the Hoot North and South restaurant managers in placing hot food orders and said it is hard to predict the amount of hot food the Hoot might sell on any given night.

"The process [of deciding how much hot food to order] is extremely difficult," Pena said. "We know customers get disappointed when we run out of food, but the Hoot is proving itself to be a sustainable business as we continue to adjust our hot food sales and reduce waste."

Hoot South Restaurant Manager Allison Connell said she is responsible for ordering Papa John's pizza for both the North and South locations.

"I decide how much to order based on historical data of hot food sales," Connell, a Sid Richardson College senior, said. "Major factors include what day of the week it is, what other events are occurring on campus and nights before major tests."

According to Connell, the Hoot had previously lost a significant amount of profit due to unsold hot food.

"Before last year, ordering was done with the thought that the Hoot should have hot food available until closing," Connell said. "However, this was not a feasible business model. Food that had not been sold by closing was a straight loss. Our [new] goal is to run out of hot food around 12:45 a.m. each night."

Hoot North Restaurant Manager Carey Skinner said she and Connell make sure to also take data from previous years into consideration when deciding how much hot food to order.

"There are definitely other factors that contribute, like weather and study breaks," Skinner said. "We look at the order history from the past week and [from the current] week of school the past year."

Skinner said losing money from not selling out of hot food is problematic for a business as small as the Hoot.

"There is a break-even point of an amount of each hot food item we must sell every night in order to pay employees and make any profit," Skinner said. "Having leftovers means we are paid for a lot of wasted product, which decreases our profit."

Duncan College junior Jake LaViola said he wishes the Hoot had hot food available later at night.

"We've gone to the Hoot a few times around midnight or 1:30 a.m., and they have frequently been out of hot food," LaViola said. "I would love for them to have more hot food since I do not get out of rehearsals and meetings until 11 p.m."

Lovett College senior Daniel Imas said the Hoot has been sold out of hot food roughly half the times he has visited.

"The Hoot exists to serve as a late-night food option for Rice students who have few options without having to drive off campus," Imas said. "When they run out of food early on a consistent basis because of under-ordering, they aren't serving their purpose or the Rice student body."

Connell said the Hoot offers many other options for purchase so that students will not have to go hungry in the event hot food is sold out.

"We want to have something for customers who come later in the night, so we offer items such as ramen, chips, pop tarts and candy bars," Connell said. "Additionally, this week, we are running a special on hummus and pretzel cups, which we may add permanently to the menu if they do well."

Pena said the Hoot's new hot food ordering process is just one example of the opportunities student-run businesses give students to learn about management.

"Three years ago, Hoot managers were just beginning to experiment with sales and products and were unaware of the trends," Pena said. "Now, the business has grown to the point where we are able to predict market trends and adjust accordingly. I hope Rice leadership can understand how much hard work and learning goes into making the Hoot a successful business."
The following were noted at the meeting of the Student Association on Oct. 7.

■ SA External Vice President Ravi Sheth announced that there will soon be a survey to gather student feedback about upcoming curriculum changes to the system of post-matriculation transfer credit and the add/drop system. The survey will begin after midterm recess and will be sent to individual Rice students via email.

■ SA President Yoonjin Min unveiled new features on the SA website, including a new layout, a petitions system and a Vine account.

■ SA Parliamentary Brian Baran provided updates on the Committee on Constitutional Revisions. Baran said the committee has restructured the constitution and bylaws into a single document and is now working on improving the document on a topic-by-topic basis. The committee will focus this week on the legislative branch. Students are welcome to attend the committee’s weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Rice Memorial Center’s Second Floor Conference Room and should send any suggestions or feedback to bbaran@rice.edu.

■ SA Internal Vice President Nathan Liu said the SA/GSA Research Mixer that took place Monday, Oct. 7 was a success. Students can email feedback to njl3@rice.edu.

The Student Senate considered Senate Resolution No. 3, which sets forth the student body’s opinion on the parking situation at Rice and calls for both short- and long-term remedies. The Senate passed the resolution.

Min introduced a resolution supporting renovations of the area outside Keck Hall. The renovations would not require funding from the SA and would include an outdoor patio that would allow the building to house presentations and conferences with outdoor receptions. The Senate will vote on the resolution in two weeks.

■ New student representatives introduced the 2013-14 Best Practices project topics of Peer-to-Peer Mentoring, Alumni Relations, and Spirit and Branding. Project details and contact information are available at sa.rice.edu/best-practices-projects.

■ McMurry College Senator Gabriel Teo discussed ways to better serve the increasing international student population at Rice. Teo said he plans to work with the International Students Association and the Office of International Students and Scholars to better integrate international students into the colleges, foster more interactions between local and international students, and improve academic and social support for international students. Teo said having one international student liaison at each college during Orientation Week is under consideration. Students can send questions or suggestions to k13@rice.edu.

■ Min announced that there will be a new international and cultural arts festival or suggestions to kt14@rice.edu during Orientation Week is under consideration. Students can email feedback to Min introduced a resolution supporting renovations of the area outside Keck Hall. The renovations would not require funding from the SA and would include an outdoor patio that would allow the building to house presentations and conferences with outdoor receptions. The Senate will vote on the resolution in two weeks.

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The SA will next meet Monday, Oct. 21 at 9 p.m. in Farnsworth Pavilion.

Rice Wi-Fi complaints increase

BY ANITA ALEM
For the Thresher

In recent weeks, Rice University Information Technology has seen an increase in the number of complaints associated with the Rice Ows Wi-Fi network, according to Director of Networking, Telecommunications and Data Center Operations William Deigaard.

Deigaard said IT tracks the number of complaints through a ticketing system, in which patrons who contact the IT Help Desk can open a ticket so that their case is properly managed.

One of the big problems is the sheer number of devices competing for shared space.

William Deigaard
Director of Networking

“We have noticed a general trend toward a larger number of tickets coming in, with people saying that [they] can’t get connected or [that] signal is weak,” Deigaard said. “There are lots of causes that all sort of converge at the same time.”

The reasons for the Wi-Fi difficulties include power failures, interfering devices and old drivers on computers, according to Deigaard. However, Deigaard said the main issue was a large influx of wireless devices.

“Everybody’s showed up with a laptop, an iPhone or an Android device, [or] a tablet of some sort,” Deigaard said. “One of the big problems is the sheer number of devices competing for the shared space. Think of the wireless as a fixed-size freeway. With four cars, everybody gets all the lanes they want. [With] 500 cars on it, they’re still moving, [but] it’s just a lot slower, and your experience is not as good.”

Senior Network Architect Danny Eaton said there are several devices that connect to the same radio frequency as that of networking devices, resulting in its interference.

“Microwave ovens, Xbox controllers, Blue tooth keyboards, wireless speakers — all of that can contribute to interference and very poor performance,” Eaton said. “[With] an 802.11a channel, communication from the controller to the bay station is all in the 2.4 gigahertz. So if you have an access point in your room, you could be causing any using the 2.4 gigahertz on that access point ... to have problems.”

Marti College senior Denis Leahy said he recently had a new access point installed outside his dorm room.

“We’ve been having poor connection, and [the] Internet has been randomly disconnecting pretty frequently,” Leahy said. “I haven’t had any problems since [they] installed the access point.”

Deigaard said IT has made several improvements by adding access points in particularly problematic areas where students reported having connectivity issues. He said IT will be able to make the most effective adjustments if students report their connectivity issues along with where and when they occur. However, Deigaard said there is a limit to the effectiveness of adding access points in easing the connectivity issues.

“We are always looking for ways to advance the wireless network,” Deigaard said. “Just about every enhancement requires money. Every time you add additional access points, you use up some of the radio frequency space, and sometimes there isn’t enough [radio frequency] to make that work. So one thing to do is to add more wireless.”

Deigaard said students also have another option besides wireless: an Ethernet connection.

“A patch cord is more inconvenient, but if you want to have a very, very good connected experience, you’ve got to think about using it,” Deigaard said. “It takes you off the wireless mad and pretty much gives you your own personal HIP network. We’re not saying that’s the fix, but it’s not like wireless is your only choice.”

Users can report issues with connecting to the Internet by emailing helpdesk@rice.edu or calling the IT Help Desk at 713-348-4357.

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7 P.M.
FARNSWORTH PAVILION
IN THE LEO STUDENT CENTER

This event is free and open to the public.
Jones College senior Hayley Jones shines as Becca, a mother who lost her 4-year-old son, in the Rice Players' production of "Rabbit Hole." By Taylor Britt for The Thresher

Tragedy is a familiar theme in the realm of the arts, but few pieces center on the aftermath of tragedy, rather than the act of it. "Rabbit Hole," a 2005 play written by David Lindsay-Abaire that both won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and was produced by Hanszen College Players (see: hipster [adj.]), achieves just this. The Rice Players' "Rabbit Hole," directed by Rice Players alum Rob Kimbro and produced by Hanszen College senior Michael Hollis, opened Thursday, Oct. 3.

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In Rabbit Hole, a young couple mourns the death of their 4-year-old son, Danny. LaViola, anger and grief all intermingle in this heartwrenching conversation with ease and conviction.

The cast is not alone; it is supported of course by a crew and direction that benefit the drama of the play. The lighting and set design lend a certain intimacy to the actors and audience. The set is a highly ambitious, completely student-made replica of a two-story house, complete with carpeting, moulding, hardwood floors, light fixtures and a pantry full of homemade desserts. Its effect is strong; it is elaborate enough to be convincing, but simple enough not to detract from the action onstage. The decision to remove the need for set changes during scene transitions allows the play to progress more quickly and prevents the audience from disengaging with the story.

Some of the props, however, can be distracting. There are a lot of food items that have to be carefully served and consumed, detracting from the dialogue. The idea of the characters carrying out everyday activities is appropriate for a play based on daily life, but in this case, the props may be a bit much. Contrastingly, an intelligent sound design features music that is appropriately cheerful. Kimbro, who has previously directed "Dog Sees God," Macbeth, Possewomo, fonts and Rough Crossing at Rice University, does a solid job of bringing out the drama in this story and creating a smoothly executed production. The Rice Players' "Rabbit Hole," though not always perfect, is nevertheless a stirring portrayal of tragedy in its aftermath.

The final performances of "Rabbit Hole" are Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 10-12, at 8 p.m. in Hamman Hall.
Renowned jazz duo makes U.S. premiere

BY SKYE WANG
THESHER STAFF

German jazz musician Peter Broetzmann and Japanese instrumentalist and singer-songwriter Keiji Haino make their North American debut as a duet in a series of performances this week, culminating in their joint performance on Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 8 p.m. in the Rice University Media Center. The performance will promote Broetzmann’s exhibit, “Peter Broetzmann Graphic: Design Work 1958-2013,” which is on display at the Rice Media Center’s Visual and Dramatic Arts Main Gallery from Oct. 8 to Nov. 14. The Wednesday performance will be the last in the series of performances by both artists this week.

The Turrell Skyspace is an exciting venue for experimental music, and I wanted to explore properties of the space not only through music, but through visual and architectural lenses as well.

Kurt Stallmann
Associate professor of composition and theory

Following a solo performance by Haino Monday night, Broetzmann played a jazz saxophone improvisation at James Turrell’s Twilight Epiphany Skyspace Tuesday, Oct. 8. According to the fall 2013 Shepherd School of Music Newsletter, the improv performance was intended by the artist to reflect the changing colors and shadows of a light sequence in the Skyspace and is only a glimpse of Broetzmann’s artistic abilities and musical interpretations.

As a visual artist and multi-reedist, Broetzmann is an acclaimed leader in the European free jazz movement who, according to a Shepherd School of Music newsletter, possesses an elegant mastery of the saxophone, clarinet and tarogato. His rich timbre and expansive sound work well with Haino’s unpredictable yet voluminous and lyrical range of expression in vocals, guitar and percussion. These two artists cooperated earlier in their careers to produce the album Evolving Flesh or Driving Original Sin.

Rice Electroacoustic Music Labs Director and associate professor of composition and theory Kurt Stallmann said the performance is part of a project funded by a grant from the Rice University Arts Initiatives Fund.

“I envisioned a series that would forge interdisciplinary connections with other schools on campus,” Stallmann said. “The Turrell Skyspace is an exciting venue for experimental music, and I wanted to explore properties of the space not only through music, but through visual and architectural lenses as well.”

According to a Rice News article, Broetzmann and Haino’s performances are the results of a joint effort between the Department of Visual and Dramatic Arts, the Shepherd School of Music, the Chao Center for Asian Studies, Nameless Sound and the Houston Arts Alliance. Specifically, the fall 2013 Shepherd School of Music newsletter states that Grace Christian Vietti Chair of Visual and Dramatic Arts John Sparagana and Nameless Sound founder and musician David Dove joined Stallmann to get the project off the ground.

Broetzmann and Haino’s previous combined efforts have been highly praised by critics.

Alan Cummings, from the music magazine Forced Exposure, wrote, “[Haino and Broetzmann are] a superb exhibition of controlled alchemy.”

Admission to Broetzmann and Haino’s Oct. 9 performance is $10 with a student ID.

Midori plays Mendelssohn

October 18, 19, 20, 2013
Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Conductor
Miles Hoffman, host (ACCESS)
Midori, violin
Gubaidulina: Fairy Tale Poem
Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto
Rachmaninoff: Symphony No. 2

Don’t miss the first concert with Music Director Designate Andrés Orozco-Estrada.

*Note: $15 tickets available starting one week out from the concert and up until show time. Must present valid student ID for student price.

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**This Week in Entertainment**

**PACIFIC RIM**

**DVD**

This love-it-or-hate-it film from director Guillermo del Toro (The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey) showcases a futuristic battle between colossal sea monsters and human-piloted robots, influenced by the works of filmmakers such as Ray Harryhausen (Clash of the Titans, 1981) and Ishiro Honda (Gojira, 1954). The movie may have been more successful in foreign box office receipts than it was domestically, but it has developed a cult following.

**LIGHTNING BOLT**

**PEARL JAM**

The 10th studio album from this 90s rock powerhouse is Pearl Jam’s first new studio release in four years, featuring more of a punk-rock edge than in earlier music. With a darker, more atmospheric sound than Pearl Jam’s previous efforts, the collection includes already-released singles “Mind Your Manners” and the Pink Floyd-inspired “Strikes,” both of which have charted moderately on U.S. rock charts, as well as other original songs.

**CAPTAIN PHILLIPS**

**LIKES||HATES**

Director Paul Greengrass*, known for his films based on real-life events (United 93, direct Acting Academy Award winner, Tom Hanks, Cost Award) in the real story of Captain Richard Phillips, who was taken hostage by Somali pirates during the Makaar Ashaba Hijacking of 2009. The film, based on the book’s 2010 publication, has already earned strong reviews from critics, with many specifically praising Hanks in a comeback role. PG-13, 134 minutes. Also in IMAX.

**THE HEAT**

**DVD**

One of the year’s biggest comedies stars Sandra Bullock (Gravity) and Melissa McCarthy (Identity Thief) in a female buddy comedy. When an FBI special agent and a foul-mouthed Boston cop are made partners, they must learn to work together and overcome their differences in order to take down a notorious mob boss. Bonus features include exclusive behind-the-scenes documentaries, several audio commentaries, and deleted, alternate and extended scenes.

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** Beats & Beer: Rice is ‘bout that life **

**BY TAYLOR BRITT FOR THE THRESHER**

KTRU hosted its first “Beats and Beer” event at Willy’s Pub Thursday night. It was the first rap show I had seen at Willy’s Pub (a young Pat Tray played there a couple of years ago), but it was definitely the wilder.

Thanks mostly to the high energy brought by headliner Rai P, who has been turning up Houston’s clubs since 2006 with songs like “Ain’t Bout That Life,” the atmosphere was chaotic, and the event was definitely a success. DJ and twins brothers Siddq and Jay Smith started things off with some cool tracks, culminating in Futurum’s new menacing single “Sh!t.”

Local rapper Quinn took the stage next and played a few jams before being joined by Rai P for their songs “Booty Springs” (produced by June James) and “Do it like Mahalia,” which is about the famous Houston stripper, Mahalia, who was once Drake’s girlfriend. Rai P played a couple of songs solo before finishing his set with “Swagged Up I Be Killin’” (also produced by James), which he was joined in rapping by a surprisingly talented Rice student. Mamaril College junior Danny Connolly, who came out of the crowd.

Rap shows do not commonly come to Rice, but the event’s crowd seemed to enjoy the experience nonetheless. By the end of the night, the initial divides between the normal Pub crowd, non Rice people who came for the show, and KTRU members experiencing the music on a moebius strip of self-awareness, and Pub became the dungeon of twerking that Rai P demanded.

“Beats and Beer” brought together rappers from the Houston community at Willy’s Pub Thursday, Oct. 3. The evening, hosted by KTRU, featured headliner Rai P and DJs Siddq and Jay Smith.

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*Courtesy of open road films

**FORTRESS**

**ALTER BRIDGE**

IN THEATERS

After transitioning into a complex and dark sound with its last album, hard rock group Alter Bridge returns with a similar effort that has thus far been met with effusive critical acclamations, with some calling it the band’s best work to date. Lead single “Addicted to Pain” serves as evidence that the alternative metal collective has maintained its guitar-driven identity, and the album’s success in Europe, where it has already been released, suggests that state of fans are in for a treat.

**ALTER BRIDGE**

**MACHETE KILLS**

**ALBUM**

This sequel to cult action film Machete (2010) is, like its predecessor, directed, produced, filmed and edited by Robert Rodriguez (Grindhouse) and stars Danny Trejo (Spy Kids), again in the title role. The Followills recruited the U.S. president (Charlie Sheen, Anger Management) to stop a revolutionary arms dealer (Mel Gibson, Sign) from organizing terror plots across the globe. The film also features Lady Gaga’s acting debut. R. 108 minutes.
Volleyball continues to struggle in C-USA play

by Julie Doar

The Owls head into this weekend with an upward climb, as indicated by the near-win against Southern Miss. The team’s next goal is to do it.

During the Charlotte game, the team will be collecting donations and selling T-shirts for its Dig Pink campaign for the Side-Out Foundation to support breast cancer. Riddlesprigger said this is a meaningful event for the team.

“Dig Pink is something really big to our team,” Riddlesprigger said. “We’ve raised a lot of money for it in the past, and I think it’s a great cause, and I’m happy we are continuing to do it.”

The Owls head into this weekend with anticipation for success. Volpe said the team is on an upward climb, as indicated by the near win against Southern Miss. The team’s next goal is to finish a game with a victory under its belt.

“Those certainly were progress made over the weekend,” Volpe said. “But until these turn into wins, we won’t be satisfied.”

Rice outlasts Tulsa for first time since 2006

by Michael Kidd

The Rice University football team traveled to Oklahoma last Saturday to take on the University of Tulsa. The Owls got off to a quick start, and the offense rolled throughout the first half.

With five minutes, five seconds left in the first quarter, Rice had jumped to a 14-3 lead over Tulsa courtesy of senior running back Jeremy Edington and redshirt freshman running back Darrion Pollard, who each scored from four yards out. The Owls took a 24-10 lead into halftime.

In the second half, the Owls’ offense failed to put up any points. With the game on the line, Rice’s defense forced Tulsa to settle for a 36-yard field goal, sending the game into overtime. After Tulsa scored a field goal to start overtime to take a 27-24 lead, redshirt senior quarterback Taylor McHargue connected with redshirt freshman wide receiver Darik Dillard on the second play from scrimmage for a 25-yard touchdown that won the game for the Owls. The 30-27 victory is Rice’s first win against Tulsa since 2006.

Head Coach David Bailiff said he was thrilled with the effort his players gave against Tulsa and that he was pleased with the offense’s execution in the first half of the game.

“IT’s hard to go on the road and win anywhere, especially since Tulsa was the preseason pick to win the conference,” Bailiff said. “[I’m] thrilled that we went on the road and did it, and even more so that we did it the hard way. I thought offensively in the first half … we had great execution. We had great effort.”

Bailiff said this win was big for the Owls, who move forward with an overall record of 9-2 (7-1 in Conference USA play). He said he is proud of the way Rice competed with Tulsa but said the Owls must execute better in the second half in order to beat the University of Texas, San Antonio next week.

“I’m proud of the way we went toe-to-toe with them,” Bailiff said. “We are a good team and just have to work harder at the little things. We’ve got to come out and have a better offensive plan in the third quarter. That’s one of our woes. We [have] got to make sure we execute if we want to win next week.”

Junior defensive lineman Stuart Mouchantaf, coming off of a 13-tackle game against Tulsa, said he is excited to play UTSA and keep the momentum going.

“I think we played well against Tulsa …, and [I’m] happy in the fact that our defense is keeping us in all the games. But with all the work we put in, I’m not surprised. I’m excited for the next game and for the rest of the season to come.”

Dillard said that even after losing their lead, the Owls kept their poise during overtime, and the defense stepped up to keep Rice in the game.

“The offense was struggling, but our defense was able to suppress Tulsa’s comeback and halt them at the end, which shows a lot,” Dillard said. “We came out with a lot of confidence in overtime, and we knew that we were given this chance to win the game, so we had to win the game.”

Looking ahead to next week, the Owls will head to San Antonio to play UTSA on Saturday, Oct. 12. The Roadrunners are 2-4 this season and 1-1 in conference play.

Bailiff said that although Rice won 34-14 over UTSA last year, the team should not be taken lightly.

“UTSA is a formidable opponent,” Bailiff said. “For us to go out on the road to get a win, we have to play how we did against Tulsa for both the first and second half … They’re good; they are a much-improved football team than what we saw a year ago …, but the good news is we [have been] playing hard. They can run and are an extremely fast football team. They play so hard every down.”

Rice University women’s volleyball lost two away games this past weekend in Conference USA play. The University of Tulsa beat the Owls 3-0 on Friday, and the Owls fell 3-2 to the University of Southern Mississippi in a close contest on Sunday, bringing Rice’s conference record to 3-5. The Owls will now look to improve their record with their upcoming home games this weekend. They will play Marshall University this Friday at 7 p.m. then play the University of Charlotte Sunday at 1 p.m. in the annual Dig Pink event to support breast cancer.

Head Coach Genny Volpe said the biggest reason for the loss against Tulsa was the team’s difficulty with finishing strong. Volpe said this has been an issue throughout the season.

“Against Tulsa, we were ahead most of the time and couldn’t finish,” Volpe said. “We had some key errors at key times, and this led to Tulsa gaining confidence and coming back to defeat us. We had a great game plan for Tulsa, and the team was executing it very well. We just didn’t finish when we had the chance.”

Volpe said the team did not take full advantage of certain opportunities against Southern Miss.

“We were given some opportunities that we didn’t take advantage of,” Volpe said. “We have to do this to win these tight matches.”

Senior outside hitter Mariah Riddlesprigger agreed the team needs to build its ability to finish strong.

Riddlesprigger said the team can play with the best.

“I think the biggest thing we need to work on is finishing a game,” Riddlesprigger said. “I feel like this whole season we have all the tools necessary to win, but we just need to be able to go in there and finish. We were up by eight points at one time, and we weren’t able to capitalize on that and finish the game, so I think our biggest weakness right now is the capability to finish a game.”

Volpe said the team will face tough competition as conference play keeps going, but the team is focusing on itself rather than the opponent.

“Marshall is solid and will play hard,” Volpe said. “Charlotte, we have never played, but we are more focused on our side of the net than the other side to start practice this week.”

Riddlesprigger said she is not deterred by recent losses and looks forward to next weekend with confidence. She said the team learned a lot this past weekend and has some advantages in the upcoming games.

Riddlesprigger said that since the Owls have never played Charlotte before, they have no intimidating pre-existing notions of the team. She said she thinks a quest for redemption will invigorate the Owls against Marshall.

“I’m feeling pretty confident,” Riddlesprigger said. “I think we learned a lot from this past weekend on what we need to work on in conference. Charlotte is a new opponent, so we have no clue what they look like. I think with Marshall, we’ll just to them a few times in the past and we’re out to redeem ourselves.”

During the Charlotte game, the team will be collecting donations and selling T-shirts for its Dig Pink campaign for the Side-Out Foundation to support breast cancer. Riddlesprigger said this is a meaningful event for the team.

“Dig Pink is something really big to our team,” Riddlesprigger said. “We’ve raised a lot of money for it in the past, and I think it’s a great cause, and I’m happy we are continuing to do it.”

The Owls head into this weekend with anticipation for success. Volpe said the team is on an upward climb, as indicated by the near win against Southern Miss. The team’s next goal is to finish a game with a victory under its belt.

“These certainly were progress made over the weekend,” Volpe said. “But until these turn into wins, we won’t be satisfied.”
Returning home for the weekend, Rice women’s soccer played the University of North Texas on Friday night, winning 4-0, and lost 1-0 Sunday to the University of Tulsa in a game aired on national television. The team looks to improve its conference record, now at .500, with a win on the road this Saturday, when it faces the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Miss.

In Friday’s contest against UNT, Rice scored only one goal in the first half, but increased its scoring output in the second half, making three more goals. The team relied on contributions from junior midfielder Gabriela Iribarne, who scored two goals, and from sophomore midfielder Jasmine Isokpunwu and junior forward Quinny Truong, who each scored a goal. Junior goalkeeper Amy Czyz also contributed to the defensive shutout with five saves.

Head Coach Nicky Adams said she had nothing but high praise for the win and the team’s consistent play.

“I was really proud of the way the win played,” Adams said. “I thought we came out and played as a collective unit, and the scoreboard showed it.”

On Sunday, the Owls played Tulsa at home, falling to the Golden Hurricane 1-0. Although Rice had 10 shots, with five on target, Tulsa senior goalkeeper Hayley Harryman recorded five saves to preserve the shutout. The first and only goal came in the 38th minute, when Tulsa sophomore midfielder Alexa Sidorakis scored off an assist from freshman forward Annette Sohmer for her first goal of the season. Notable contributions came from Czyz, who recorded four saves, and sophomore forward Lauren Hughes, who recorded three shots on goal.

After both games, senior defender Haley Williams said the defensive effort of both teams was outstanding and felt that even with the loss, the Owls have been making progress.

“I was really proud of our defensive effort,” Williams said. “We started our season kind of tough, but I think we have started to figure it out.”

Adams said the team needs to put this loss behind it and focus on its road matches ahead.

“We need to focus on the now and what we have,” Adams said. “We’re going to come out with the same mentality against a very good Southern Mississippi team.”

“I was really proud of the way we played. I thought we came out and played as a collective unit, and the scoreboard showed it.”

Head Coach Nicky Adams

This Saturday, Rice will play Southern Miss. The Owls are 2-2 in Conference USA to start the season and will look to jumpstart their record against the Golden Eagles. In last year’s matchup, also in Hattiesburg, the Rice Owls put away Southern Miss in a 1-0 shutout. Then-freshman forward Holly Hargreaves scored the game-winning goal to become the first Owl to score the game-winning goal in four straight games.

Adams said if the team wants to repeat the historic night from last season, it needs to be prepared because the teams in C-USA are only getting better.

“We have to be ready,” Adams said. “Everyone in this league is improving, and Southern Mississippi is definitely one of them.”

Sophomore Lauren Hughes fights for the ball during the weekend at Holloway Field. The Owls split the weekend, beating UNT and losing to Tulsa to go to 2-2 in Conference USA play.
Powderpuff Roundup: Will Rice ends Hanszen's winning streak

By Dan Elledge

Baker College powderpuff warms up before playing Sid Richardson College. Baker lost both of its games against Hanszen College and Sid Rich to fall to 2-3 on the season. There will be no games this weekend due to fall break.

Future tennis stars shine in USTA tournament at Jake Hess Stadium

By Dan Elledge

Even though Rice men’s tennis team is on hiatus right now, there is still some high-level tennis action going on at Jake Hess Stadium with the United States Tennis Association Futures event, which started Oct. 5 and ends Oct. 13. The main draw, which starts Wednesday, will feature 12 of the best young players in the world, ranked from 300 to 600 in the Association of Tennis Professionals rankings. The winner of the event will take home $15,000, along with ATP points that will help boost the winner’s international ranking and chances at entering future events.

Rice men’s tennis Assistant Coach Bojan Szumanski said Rice was excited to host it could host another event after a site in Austin dropped out of option earlier this year.

“For some reason, Austin did not want to host anymore, so we jumped on it,” Szumanski said. “USTA said that the facilities looked good, and we wanted to bring good tennis to Houston and get our guys exposed to more international players and get a chance to compete on the court.”

Szumanski said the tournament could be important for improving Rice’s status on both a national and international level. He said he hoped hosting the tournament would increase Rice’s prestige.

“It can help improve the visibility of Rice on a national level, and it’s important to bring some good tennis to the community, too, and maybe help promote Futures tennis,” Szumanski said.

Two Oscos won wild card spots into the main draw, Sophomore Tommy Bennett won a wildcard spot at a qualifying tournament earlier in September, and sophomore Adam Gustafsson won the second spot by winning an inter-team competition. Szumanski said Bennett and Gustafsson have played in major tournaments before and will be a good addition to the highly talented competitors in the tournament.

Baker vs. Hanszen

In a game that had been re-scheduled from week three, Baker College played Hanszen College on Saturday afternoon. In a defensive struggle, Hanszen outlasted the Bakers with a 9-6 win. Hanszen Head Coach Nehe-miah Ankoor said the defense came up with clutch stops when they needed them.

“We made just enough plays on offense to get the lead, and the defense, despite giving up a lot of yardage, never let them cross the goal line,” Ankoor, a senior, said. “We bent but didn’t break and made big stops when it counted.

Hanszen vs. Will Rice

Hanszen came out flat in the second game of its doubleheader weekend, falling to Will Rice College 20-6 in its first loss of the season. Hanszen now has a record of 3-2, and Will Rice is 2-2.

Ankoor said Will Rice dominated Hanszen and that he was upset with the performance.

“Will Rice kicked our ass on both sides of the ball,” Ankoor said. “We were on the cusp of scoring four times and just did not finish.”

Duncan vs. Brown

On Sunday afternoon, Brown College shut out Duncan College 12-0 thanks to a strong defensive effort. Brown is now 3-2 this season, and the Duncanos are winless at 0-3. Brown

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