OpenStax receives funding for research

BY MILES ERUPPA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor Richard Baraniuk founded Connexions in 1999 as a platform for a customizable textbook for his Signals and Systems class at Rice.

What began as a class-specific project is now OpenStax CNX, a Rice University-affiliated open-source textbook and education nonprofit that recently received $5.5 million in funding from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation to further its mission to make higher education textbooks under its OpenStax College division.

OpenStax College currently maintains college textbooks in the subjects of physics, sociology, biology, anatomy and physiology, statistics and economics.

Managing Director David Williamson said the grant will not only allow for an expansion of its current free, open-source college textbook, but will also for even further research into digital learning.

“We’re really creating textbooks that learn with you and adapt to you based on your previous interactions,” Williamson said.

According to Williamson, Connexions transformed three years ago into OpenStax CNX in order to expand its open-source services and reach.

Williamson said the rebranding that resulted in OpenStax CNX only enhanced Baraniuk’s original vision for modular education and textbooks.

“The [rebranding] is what [Bara- niuk] in the very beginning was striving for,” Williamson said. “He wanted these textbooks that were perfect for each student and perfect for each individual faculty member and allowed the faculty the opportunity to go in and customize the textbook rather than just taking a book off the shelf and using just that content.”

Williamson said one of the primary goals of OpenStax College is to ensure higher education becomes affordable to more students.

“The response is, ‘Oh wow, students can actually afford to purchase groceries and afford their textbooks,’” because that sounds like hyperbole, right?” Williamson said. “I got a call from a person at Middlesex Community College and literally what she said to me was, ‘Thank you so much. Because of OpenStax College I feel good about assigning a textbook and knowing that my students don’t have to choose between buying their textbook and buying their groceries.’”

Rice Ecology and Evolutionary Biology lecturer Adrienne Correa has adopted a version of OpenStax College’s Biology textbook for her class ERRO 214, Introduction to Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

According to Correa, the textbook’s affordability convinced her to adopt a modified version including only sections on evolution and ecology that she will use in addition to popular science articles the students in her class must purchase.

“I liked it because I’m asking students to pay for readings that are targeted toward general public, but if they are feeling deficient in some area or they just want another way of reading about something they can just consult this textbook source for free,” Correa said.

If institutions of higher education currently use OpenStax College textbooks.

According to Williamson, OpenStax College has played an important role in the digital education revolution.

“We’re at a very interesting inflection point in education broadly,” Williamson said. “About two years ago, when sx1 and Coursera came online, the academy woke up and said ‘We have a new wave of sophisticated educational technology — is there an opportunity to go in and put together one journal in print and online, all with the end goal of making science more accessible and fostering more scientific discussion’,” Venkatesan, a Baker College senior, said.

For the first publication, the nine participating institutions submitted two articles each, as well as edited one another’s work over the summer. In order to foster uniformity in article-writing style for the publication across the different schools, Rice students also compiled citation and design guides to be used by the ICSJ this year and beyond, according to Venkatesan and Zhao.

Both Venkatesan and Zhao said they foresee ICSJ becoming a defining part of Catalyst.

“[ICCS] is another project that is very attractive for people to be part of,” Venkatesan said. “It is an opportunity for students to be part of something that goes beyond Rice. It’s something that goes beyond Rice, I believe.”
City of Houston Mayor Annise Parker (Jones College, ’78) spoke to Rice University students about her experiences in politics at a Young Democrats-sponsored event on campus Wednesday night.

Parker began by highlighting the international importance of Houston and explaining her own personal journey and current responsibilities as mayor. A Houston native, Parker graduated from Rice with a triple major in anthropology, sociology and psychology.

Parker helped organize the Rice Gay/Lesbian Support Group, the first LGBT campus organization at Rice and the forerunner to today’s Queers and Allies, and was involved in civic activism and the oil industry before starting her 17 year career in Houston politics, which culminated in her election as mayor in 2009.

“My focus was always on local government,” Parker said. “While I voted in national elections and followed politics, my personal involvement in volunteering was at a local level.”

Parker also described her governing philosophy, which she said is to not shy away from confrontation regarding important issues.

“I love kicking over anthills,” Parker said. “Afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted.”

Parker took questions from students on various issues, focusing especially on her efforts to protect LGBT rights in Houston and her views on public education and campaigning.

Parker also addressed the influence Rice had on her career path.

She said she was involved in politics at Rice, but it was the basic skills she learned in her classes that were most important for her future.

“What I got from what I studied and the majors I had was the ability to analyze information and to articulate it well,” Parker said. “You have to be able to speak, you have to be able to write, so that’s the lasting thing.”

Event attendee Mishi Jain said she was impressed by Parker’s candid style, and her journey in politics.

“I found it awesome because it was really informal and casual, and so she really opened up about her background, her story, and how she really got involved in politics, which was really cool — a lot of politicians don’t do that,” Jain, a McMurtry College freshman, said. “I’ve always been really interested in the state and federal level, so it’s nice to hear from a local politician.”

Event attendee Evan Flack said she enjoyed learning about Parker’s experiences, and said she thought the event served as a good introduction to local government in Houston.

“I was really impressed by the mayor – I’m from out of state, and I love every chance I get to hear about Houston and how the city works,” Flack, a Duncan College freshman, said. “It’s really interesting hearing about [Parker’s] experiences as a politician and as a policymaker and her experiences as a person in general.”

Vice President of the Rice Young Democrats Griffin Thomas, said spreading awareness of local politics was one of the primary motivations behind the event.

“Having [a] big first event [of the year] was crucial to getting new students — and the campus in general — civically engaged, especially during such a critical and exciting election year,” Thomas, a Lovett College sophomore, said. “I proposed Mayor Parker as the guest for our first event as a way to help welcome and introduce the new students to Houston and bring more attention to local politics, which is often overlooked on campus.”

According to Young Democrats President Clara Roberts, a Duncan College senior, the organization has planned several other events for the coming months, including a voter registration drive with the College Republicans and Asian Pacific Student Alliance on Sept. 23 and a panel with local Democratic figures on Oct. 15.
After reviewing details over the summer, the Rice University Emergency Medical Services presented a new version of legislation guaranteeing on-campus housing for In-Charges/In-Charge Trainees at the Student Association meeting on Sept. 3. According to Baker College Senator Nittin Agrawal, he and former EMS Captain Patrick McCarthy initially proposed the legislation in April, but the SA tabled it due to concerns that EMS IC/ICTs might not be able to get housing in their own residential college.

“The main difference between the new plan and the original is the removal of the rotation system in which two IC/ICTs stay at their original college, and the other IC/ICTs from that college are assigned to the next available college,” Agrawal said. “The problem was that college student bodies didn’t want their residents to have to live at another college.”

Since the SA tabled the original proposal last semester, two IC/ICTs are currently living off campus.

EMS Captain Mellie Ahn reiterated the need for IC/ICTs to be constantly available on campus in order to continue IC/ICTs’ clinical role; IC/ICTs usually spend around 25 to 27 hours a week maintaining equipment and EMS education classes. If we get a campus, all of the available IC/ICTs may already be involved with another medical emergency, so we need IC/ICTs to be able to pass the job to each other.”

According to Agrawal, the legislation would also serve to provide a more unified housing system for IC/ICTs, as not all of the residential colleges have had a history of housing IC/ICTs.

“In the past, each residential college had their own system in dealing with IC/ICT housing,” Agrawal said. “Some colleges did not have a policy, while the policies of those that did were vast. This legislation creates a unified policy that allows everyone to be on the same page.”

Agrawal said the legislation would not impact or take away others’ ability to obtain on-campus housing.

“Eventually, guaranteed housing works in the same manner by which members of the college cabinet receive guaranteed housing,” Agrawal said. “Rice EMS will notify each respective college early enough so that proper accommodations can be made.”

Agrawal said the SA will make its decision on implementing the legislation on Sept. 17 and that the proposal in its current form will likely receive agreement this time.

“There hasn’t really been any pushback,” Agrawal said. “We will likely have the on-campus housing next school year.”
Celebration calls for cake

Environmental club begins new initiatives

By ANDREW TA

New ServeryApp publishes menus for campus serveries, plans expansion

The new ServeryApp will help keep Rice University students in the know about their most delicious food options at Rice’s six serveries, according to developer and Rice Apps member Ethan Steinberg. The app joins Owlections and Atlas as Rice App’s third product.

“We think the app is pretty useful,” Steinberg, a Will Rice College sophomore, said. “If you’re in a class and you want to see which serveries have the most interesting item, the ServeryApp makes it a lot easier. It’s already gotten 110+ page hits after just three hours.”

Steinberg said the app was originally envisioned as a platform for serveries to display the menus that they offer, but the design shifted once it was clear how long it would take.

“We just got passed dozens of PDFs as they’re published by the serveries,” Steinberg said. “The previous plan was to do it completely through the serveries, where [Rice] would go on and submit what food they were serving.”

Steinberg said that whether the app becomes institutionalized depends on its popularity.

“I’ll wait a couple weeks, and if it gets used a lot, we’ll contact HRD and see if they’re interested in doing anything with the app,” Steinberg said.

Currently, the app displays the menus and hours of every serverie, allows users to upvote or downvote specific menu items, and filters for gluten-free or vegetarian food, according to app developer and Rice Apps member Krishna Thiagarajan. There is also a feature to display the menus for the next meal.

“We’re also thinking about adding re-ratings for ‘favoured’ meals if that’s enough demand for that functionality,” Thiagarajan, a McMurtry College sophomore, said.

According to Steinberg, future functionality will depend greatly on what users want. “We’ll add more features as people show what they want,” Steinberg said. “We want to get to know and see what people would do with it. We’re waiting for people to tell us what they want.”

Steinberg said anybody who wants to contribute should feel free to. Suggestions can be submitted at https://trello.com/b/5jrf8Vk9hk.

All of Rice App’s work is open-source and available at https://github.com/rice- apps. ServeryApp can be found at http:// owellion athletics. Rice University, has the most interesting item, the Rice Student Environmental Committee and Rice Students for Sustainability, which serves as an umbrella organization for various green clubs on campus, such as Rice Student Environmental Education, which promotes learning gains. our goal is to improve students’ retention on effort that they’re putting into their education. Right now, a lot of the for-profits that are doing things like those examples always will have some residual and the venture capital they have accumulated and have show profits super quickly and that’s making some of the potentially not efficacious practices the norm.

OpenStax began as a venture started by a Rice professor and has maintained close ties to Rice University. However, Lin said OpenStax remains loyal to its roots.

“We’re not as focused on building a business around it,” William said. “We’re more focused on making sure in these pilots that we’ve super deliberate about the design and implementation and the research to prove that this type of model is actually improving learning gains. Our goal is to improve students’ retention on effort that they’re putting into their education. Right now, a lot of the for-profits that are doing things like those examples always will have some residual and the venture capital they have accumulated and have show profits super quickly and that’s making some of the potentially not efficacious practices the norm.

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Students should be taught to be virtuous, respectful

As a student at Rice University, I have read messages after messages about sexual assault. It’s one of the most pervasive issues at this time in our lives and deserves every bit of the attention it is receiving. The federal government, Rice’s administration, and the students and colleges have all made efforts to educate and discuss upon preventative measures, consequences and expectations, and make environments more hospitable to reporting and assessing sexual assault incidents. However, almost every discussion (and commentary on this discussion) has been handled with negative connotations regarding the solution to the problem. There is a clear leaning in the literature used and solutions called for which suggests perpetrators of sexual assault are always going to do us and cannot be reasoned with. To combat the perceived onslaught of potential perpetrators, continual attention is given to the repercussions of sexual assault, with little consideration to the plethora of circumstances that lead up to assaulting making their way into discussions on how to handle the problem.

Despite the attention that is being shown toward handling sexual assault, there are people who claim this preventative effort is not enough. They are justified in claiming it’s not enough, because there are still environments in which people feel unsafe. Thus, even with all the efforts being made, a recent article titled called for a further emphasis on the consequences of sexual assault during fall and Week and other sexual assault-free environment (SAFE) type trainings. This call for consequence supervision would serve as a continual reminder that the consequences of sexual assault can have serious effects on the perpetrators, including respecting their boundaries, because aggression is always justified. One can also micro-wander during class. The Rice campus deserves a news source that is not only open to the sky. Along the journeys, I recommend to discover spots Rice wouldn’t tout on its website.

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Rice’s new mobile gallery to tour the country

BY SOPHIE NEWMAN
Arts & Entertainment Editor

If rockstars can have tour buses, so can visual artists. Cargo Space, the brainchild of Christopher Sperandio, an assistant professor in the Rice University Visual and Dramatic Arts Department, and Simon Grenewald, who Sperandio has worked with since 2010, is a Rice inner-loop bus turned mobile art phenomenon.

With teeth, eyes and cartoon designs plastering its exterior, the converted diesel bus looks like any other hippie platform on the outside. But instead of old guitars, smoke and Bob Marley posters, the inside boasts up to five visual artists at any given time.

“Cargo Space itself is a living space, but it’s a lot of other things too,” Sperandio said. “It’s an experiment in alternate living schemes.”

For the past month and a half, Cargo Space has been touring the Midwest, spanning the 90 miles between the cities of Chicago and Milwaukee. In addition to transporting art back and forth between the cities, Cargo Space engages artists at both the Institute of Visual Arts in Milwaukee and the A+D Gallery in Chicago.

“They are distinct cities with distinct histories, yet they don’t interact as much as you think they would,” Sperandio said. “I thought it would be interesting for the artists to play host to each other and develop exhibitions simultaneously.”

Although its exhibitions encompass strictly visual art, Cargo Space is anything but your run-of-the-mill gallery. Sperandio said current projects range from an underground poker tournament, whose champion donates all of his winnings to an artist, to a weekly tea party to a bulletins board that, according to Sperandio, resembles a pushpin collage.

Cargo Space is many experiments, but its largest purpose is to connect artists and provide them with residency, an important key to success in today’s art world, according to Sperandio.

“A big part of being an artist now is involv- ing yourself in these residencies,” Sperandio said. “I wanted to develop my own facility where I could invite artists to come and spend time with me, to connect with artists across the country.”

Sperandio said the trip for such a unique artistic experiment has not been an easy one, but its success over the past year assures its vitality.

“I know that sounds maybe a little ego-mania- cal, but it’s a very good artwork,” Sperandio said.

And it’s [been] a very difficult project - from generating enthusiasm and support, to just the little day to day physical work that has to be done on the bus in order to make it what it is.”

But his work has not gone unnoticed and, in addition to being embraced by formal art institutions across the country, Sperandio said his project is also a “selfie magnet.”

When its Midwest exhibition ends on Sept. 20, Cargo Space will pack its bags and return to Houston to begin another journey.

“Fm going to be on the road for another three weeks or so, and then I’ll be back in Hous- ton with a lot of stories to tell,” Sperandio said.

Cargo Space’s near future is still undecided, but Sperandio said he hopes to send it south.

“We’re next door neighbors to a foreign country,” Sperandio said. “I would love to take the bus to Mexico City. That would be the next great stop for the project.”

THE WEEKLY SCENE

The editors’ picks for this week’s best events. Time to explore the wonderful world of Houston.

PADDLIN’
To state the obvious, it’s hot. Cool off by participating in the Bayou Pres- everation Association’s first Cypress Creek Regatta on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. While technically a race down the 7.5-mile scenic stretch of Cypress Creek, anyone can partici- pate regardless of skill level.

Mercer Arboretum
22306 Aldine Westfield Rd.
CYPRESSCRESCREGATTAC.WORLDCONNNEX.COM

SHOR TS
Get cultured this week at the Aurora Picture Show’s screenings of short films by artist Kevin Jerome Everson. Everson’s work focuses on black Americans and their con- tribution to the development of labor in America. The event starts at 7:30 p.m, and tickets are $10.

Aurora Picture Show
2443 Bartlett St.
AURORAPICTURESHOW.ORG

TEXAS TENORS
You will not want to miss these studs serenade on Thursday, Sept. 11. The Texas Tenors’ rise to stardom began with an appearance on NBC’s “Ameri- ca’s Got Talent,” and since then, they have been unstoppable, performing concerts around the world. They are sure to please your eyes and ears alike.

Wortham Theater Center
501 Texas Ave.
BRILLIANTLECTURES.ORG

BIKE
Show off your athletic prowess while riding 20 miles along the Bayou at this Saturday’s 2014 Park to Port Bike Ride. The event, which benefits the Hermann Park Conservancy, will start at 7 a.m. and include a mid-tide par- ty with music, food and more.

Hermann Park
6001 Fannin St.
HERMANNPARK.ORG

COURTESY DAVID A. BROWN
This Week in Entertainment

**Godzilla**

DVD and BLU-RAY

One of the bigger blockbusters of the summer movie season premieres for home entertainment with a contemporary retelling of the origin story of one of film’s most famous monsters. The film, starring Aaron Taylor-Johnson (Kick Ass) and Bryan Cranston (Breaking Bad), has been praised for honoring the legacy of the franchise and has already prompted production of a trilogy. Bonus features include behind-the-scenes documentaries and the history of the Godzilla films.

**Anomaly – Lecrae**

ALBUM

Houston native Lecrae presents his seventh collection of Christian hip-hop tracks, featuring collaborations with Andy Mineo, Kari Jobe and For King & Country. Supported by a fervent social media campaign and strong promotional singles sales of songs like “Nuthin” and “All I Need Is You,” Lecrae has a significant chance to reach a larger mainstream audience with his newest effort and create a new avenue for a growing community of Christian rap artists.

**No Good Deed**

IN THEATERS

After nearly a year of delays, this horror-crime thriller starring Idris Elba (Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom) finally receives its theatrical release. After a mysterious stranger runs his car off the road near her home, a District Attorney (Taraji P. Henson, Think Like A Man Too) and her two children offer to help, only to learn that, as no good deed goes unpunished, their guest has other, more mischievous plans for the family. PG-13.

**This is All Yours – Alt-J**

DVD and BLU-RAY

The popular English indie rock band releases its second album, the first release from the group without guitarist Gwil Sainsbury, who left the band on amicable terms earlier this year. After writing and premiering its new music at music festivals around the globe, the band has created a collection that includes lead single “Hunger of the Pine” and other tracks.
The cascade of death, sadness and pain I witnessed in quick succession everyday had desensitized me to the point where experiencing real horror lost its shock value.

An argument for forgetting your friend this weekend

BY SOPHIE NEWMAN
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

As an only child of two working parents, it’s safe to say I have spent a fair portion of my life, or at least childhood, alone. Although I often joke about this to friends (which, by the way, I definitely do have), I think learning to be alone has its merits. As an only child of two working parents, I have grown to lament the fact that I am an inherently more dangerous or violent place. In fact, Steven Pinker, a renowned professor at Harvard University, recently made a convincing case in his book The Better Angels of Our Nature the world is actually at its most peaceful point in human history. Rather, I am claiming the media, instead of informing us about the pain and suffering in the world in a comprehensive, humanitarian way, is making us numb to it. The bombardment of disorganized and largely violent imagery overwhelms us until, eventually, we cannot feel it the same way anymore. In a media market where ‘clicks’ and ‘views’ are fought over mercilessly, news services throw up and promote stories based on their ability to capture viewers’ attention, not to promote an accurate and comprehensive narrative of the world. News has become violent, fast and confrontational. Headlines are advertised on the front pages of newspapers, morning news anchors describe cases of small children shooting their instructors and websites flash news of police brutalizing innocent youths. It’s not that these stories aren’t important – they certainly are. However, presented as quick, piecemeal flashes, often absent of explanations or significance (either because it’s not presented or we don’t read beyond the headlines), these clips and images cloud our conception of the world into a muddy, violent mess devoid of intelligent or empathetic reaction. To further explain this phenomena, juxtapose our current media with that of 100 years ago, when print dominated. At that time, news came once per day in the form of a carefully constructed newspaper. An editorial board sorted through the abundant news of the day, chose a “most important” story for the front cover, and had time to write in full, analysis-heavy stories about each event that readers, well, typically read. Today, in the era of the 24-hour news cycle, reporters want to be the first to get the story out, and so information is released in so many incomplete little parcels that viewers hardly know where to start reading. It is often convenient just to click through, only taking in headlines. Further, advertising profits are linked to those stories that get the most clicks – usually those which contain the most violent, disturbing or stupidly exciting titles or descriptions. While traditional print sources used to provide us with a censored, carefully delivered narrative to respond to, today’s news outlets often flood us with trash that we cannot possibly adequately sort out in order to appropriately respond to the events we’re reading about or to construct into a relatable narrative about the world. These features contribute to a collective conception of current events in which actual knowledge, emotion and content is lost, and violence is consumed like porn with similar effect – the more we watch it, the more we numb to the emotional significance of the actual events. A few weeks ago, when I heard about the assassination of John F. Kennedy, it was the first time in a long time I read a tragic story and just stopped to take it in. I sat down, paused my busy life and took the time to think about the pain and fear he and his family must have felt and how terrifying HIS trial truly is. As odd as it sounds, it took this much effort to really feel something, to completely comprehend that this was not a blur about a fantastical event in a faraway place; it is a real, horrific incident in my world, during the time when I’m alive. I do not believe I am alone in this, that is the de-centralized news cycle – we must not let it desensitize us.

The media making us less human?

BY KAYLEN STRENCH
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

As Sept. 11 approaches, I am forced to recall the day when the Twin Towers came down. I was six, walking in line in elementary school back to my classroom when I noticed a group of other children crowded around the silt in the TV studio door. I walked over and followed their collective gaze to the television in the corner, displaying what I recognized as a flaming airplane smashing into a building. When I think back on that moment, knowing the details of the event like I do now, I am filled with tremendous sadness. Yet, at the time, instead of bursting into tears of distress like the adults around me, all I recall feeling was mild indifference. ‘Another bad thing,’ I thought, my face blank. As an only child of two working parents, it’s safe to say I have spent a fair portion of my life, or at least childhood, alone. Although I often joke about this to friends (which, by the way, I definitely do have), I think learning to be alone has its merits. As an only child of two working parents, I have grown to lament the fact that I am an inherently more dangerous or violent place. In fact, Steven Pinker, a renowned professor at Harvard University, recently made a convincing case in his book The Better Angels of Our Nature the world is actually at its most peaceful point in human history. Rather, I am claiming the media, instead of informing us about the pain and suffering in the world in a comprehensive, humanitarian way, is making us numb to it. The bombardment of disorganized and largely violent imagery overwhelms us until, eventually, we cannot feel it the same way anymore. In a media market where ‘clicks’ and ‘views’ are fought over mercilessly, news services throw up and promote stories based on their ability to capture viewers’ attention, not to promote an accurate and comprehensive narrative of the world. News has become violent, fast and confrontational. Headlines are advertised on the front pages of newspapers, morning news anchors describe cases of small children shooting their instructors and websites flash news of police brutalizing innocent youths. It’s not that these stories aren’t important – they certainly are. However, presented as quick, piecemeal flashes, often absent of explanations or significance (either because it’s not presented or we don’t read beyond the headlines), these clips and images cloud our conception of the world into a muddy, violent mess devoid of intelligent or empathetic reaction. To further explain this phenomena, juxtapose our current media with that of 100 years ago, when print dominated. At that time, news came once per day in the form of a carefully constructed newspaper. An editorial board sorted through the abundant news of the day, chose a “most important” story for the front cover, and had time to write in full, analysis-heavy stories about each event that readers, well, typically read. Today, in the era of the 24-hour news cycle, reporters want to be the first to get the story out, and so information is released in so many incomplete little parcels that viewers hardly know where to start reading. It is often convenient just to click through, only taking in headlines. Further, advertising profits are linked to those stories that get the most clicks – usually those which contain the most violent, disturbing or stupidly exciting titles or descriptions. While traditional print sources used to provide us with a censored, carefully delivered narrative to respond to, today’s news outlets often flood us with trash that we cannot possibly adequately sort out in order to appropriately respond to the events we’re reading about or to construct into a relatable narrative about the world. These features contribute to a collective conception of current events in which actual knowledge, emotion and content is lost, and violence is consumed like porn with similar effect – the more we watch it, the more we numb to the emotional significance of the actual events. A few weeks ago, when I heard about the assassination of John F. Kennedy, it was the first time in a long time I read a tragic story and just stopped to take it in. I sat down, paused my busy life and took the time to think about the pain and fear he and his family must have felt and how terrifying HIS trial truly is. As odd as it sounds, it took this much effort to really feel something, to completely comprehend that this was not a blur about a fantastical event in a faraway place; it is a real, horrific incident in my world, during the time when I’m alive. I do not believe I am alone in this, that is the de-centralized news cycle – we must not let it desensitize us.
Freshman forward Jessica Johnston faces off against Vanderbilt freshman defender Claire Rameaje in a 2–1 victory for the Rice Owls on Friday, Sept. 5. The Owls are now 5–3 on the season. Next week, they will face off against the Arkansas Razorbacks in Fayetteville, Ark.

**Owls soccer defeats Vanderbilt**

*by Michael Kidd*

**Rice vs. Vanderbilt 2–1**

The Rice University soccer team returned home to Holloway Field after winning back-to-back games on the road last week. On Friday, Sept. 5, the Owls played their second straight Southeastern Conference opponent, the Vanderbilt University Commodores. Rice shocked Vanderbilt by tying the game in the 90th minute of play and then winning the game in the first minute of overtime with a header off a corner, resulting in a final score of 2–1.

Friday night’s matchup between Rice and Vanderbilt was played to a home crowd of nearly 700 Rice students and staff. Rice held nearly 700 Rice students and staff. Rice held

The Owls opened their season with a 4–1 victory over Lamar University on Saturday, Sept. 6.

**“The grit and character [Rice] shows on a daily basis; this is what it’s all about,” Adams said. “I’m so proud of their effort...and for digging through and getting it done in the end.”**

Adams said she realized how big this victory is for her team. According to Adams, the challenging non-conference schedule will prepare Rice for C-USA competition.

**Rice would not need much time in overtime to win the game against the Commodores. One minute into overtime, junior forward Lo Hughes earned a corner and sent the ball into the crowded penalty area. Freshman forward Nia Stallings connected on the corner and headed the ball into the crowded net for her first career goal. The Owls improved to 3–1–1 on the season with the win.**

Head Coach Nicky Adams said the team proved their resilience with the come-from-behind win over Vanderbilt.

**“The girl and character [Rice] shows on a daily basis; this is what it’s all about,” Adams said.**

**by Ronda Sutor for The Thresher**

**Rice vs. Lamar 4–1**

The Rice University men’s club soccer team, commonly known as the Lads, recently assembled their 2014–15 team. More than forty aspiring Lads tried out for the team last Monday through Wednesday, and returning upperclassmen chose eight to join the team.

The Lads are returning from a 2013–14 campaign, in which they defeated their rival Texas A&M University and qualified for the national tournament. National matches were held in Phoenix, Ariz., which experienced a torrential downpour during the course of the tournament, and the tournament was cancelled. However, before nationals ended prematurely, the Lads beat Pennsylvania State University and tied Virginia Tech University.

**Computational and applied mathematics graduate student Tim Beckers gathers the ball during a 4–1 victory over Lamar University on Saturday, Sept. 6.**

**I am really looking forward to this A&M game. You live to play against these big schools.**

**Rice Lads hold tryouts for new season**

*by Ronda Sutor for The Thresher*

**Rice vs. Lamar 4–1**

The Rice and A&M football teams have faced each other on its occasions since 1914, and A&M holds a series lead of 51–27–3.

In last year’s game, the Owls lost 57–39 after entering the second quarter with a 44–3 lead, which was subsequently ended in the second half by the return of Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel’s replacement, sophomore Ken-

**The stadium fit 104,728 in their home opener against the Lamar Cardinals, the largest attendance ever recorded in the state of Texas.**

Sophomore offensive lineman Nico Carlson also said he is thrilled to play in the newly-renovated stadium.

**“I am really looking forward to this A&M game. You live to play against these big schools.”**

Bailiff said the game against A&M is going to be a difficult challenge, but his players aren’t shying away from it.

**“They’re a little bigger, they’re a little faster,” Bailiff said. “We really have to go out. We’re a very talented group. We’ve got a very talented personnel. We’ve got a lot of depth.”**

Bailiff said the game against A&M is going to be a difficult challenge, but his players aren’t shying away from it.
The Lads garnered a spot in the Sweet Sixteen bracket and were scheduled to play Cincinnati State University when the tournament was cancelled.

The Lads have become a nationally-recognized club soccer program, and qualifying to play for the team has become a challenge in itself. According to Lads Captain Paul Greenfield, tryouts are becoming more selective every year.

“The guys that try out want to play soccer competitively,” Greenfield, a McMurtry College junior, said. “[They] know that it’s a competitive team, and they’re always there to win.”

McMurtry sophomore Nick Mallas, who just made the team last week, said the tryouts were competitive and intense.

“There were a lot of people trying out for hardly any spots,” Mallas said. “You weren’t going to make the team unless you showed something special.”

Because of the Lads’ competitiveness, rivalries have developed in recent years. According to Greenfield, an intense rivalry has developed in recent years between the Lads and Texas A&M University’s club team, especially due to the critical match that sent the Lads to nationals last year.

“We definitely have a good rivalry with A&M after the regionals last year,” Greenfield said. “I think if nationals was not cancelled we would’ve played them at nationals, too. If we would’ve kept winning, I think we would’ve played A&M again, which would’ve been fun. I think A&M is definitely our biggest rivalry.”

According to Lads Vice President Martin Torres, Rice students have reason to come out to the games and watch the Lads soccer team.

“There’s free beer at all of our games, and we play quality soccer,” Torres, a Will Rice College sophomore, said.

Midfielder Daniel Zdeblick also said more students should come to the home games.

“You’re rooting for your friends and classmates from your college and Rice,” Zdeblick, a McMurtry sophomore, said. “We’re a really good team and win a lot of games. It’s also fun to yell at the refs.”

The Lads’ next home game is Oct. 4 against the University of Texas, San Antonio.

Sports editors Maddy Adams and Evan Neustater contributed to this article.

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Rice Owls go international

The Rice Owls football team hosted their annual international football clinic on Sept. 4. The camp is designed to teach international students the game of football and instill a love of the game.

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LADS 2014 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Match</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>vs. Stephen F. Austin State University, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Nacogdoches, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>vs. Texas State University, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>San Marcos, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>vs. Texas A&amp;M, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>College Station, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>vs. University of Texas, San Antonio, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 18</td>
<td>vs. University of Texas, Austin, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Austin, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 25</td>
<td>vs. Texas Tech University, 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Lubbock, Texas</td>
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**LADS**

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Sports editors Maddy Adams and Evan Neustater contributed to this article.

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West U Baptist Church invites you to worship, the study of God’s Word and fellowship. Join us for our contemporary Sunday worship service, Encounter @ 9:30 AM, as well as a college-level Bible study class at 11 AM that is attended by many Rice University students and taught by Dr. Jim Tour. Breakfast and lunch are provided.

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We’re located two miles directly west of campus at 6218 Auden between University and Rice. Free round-trip shuttle service is provided each Sunday morning leaving at 9:15 AM on the loop in front of Rice’s Allen Center. A return bus leaves the church at noon. See www.wubc.org for details, or call 713-668-2319.
**Rice Football Playbook**

**COMMON PASSING ROUTES**

The play above shows some common routes run by Rice wide receivers. The “Go” route is simply put, a straight line race towards the opponent’s end zone. The slant route involves an approximately three-yard run followed by a 45-degree cut across the middle. The Post route is similar to the slant but extended to about 10 or 15 yards. The Out route has a receiver run a few yards and make a hard right angle towards the sideline. The Wheel route has the running back run towards the sideline and turn uphill.

**BASE ZONE DEFENSE**

The zone defense, shown above, involves individual defensive players being responsible for certain “zones” on the field. Unlike man defense, in which a defensive player is responsible for covering one other man, the zone can have receivers covering a number of different players who enter into their area of coverage. The zone defense has a variety of forms, and the most basic form is shown above.

**4-2-5 DEFENSE**

The 4-2-5 defense is the most common defense, or base defense, that the Rice Owls run. It involves four defensive linemen, two linebackers and five defensive backs, which include cornerbacks and safeties. The 4-2-5 involves a nickelback, which is the third cornerback on the field. Typical defenses feature four defensive backs, but Rice’s relatively unconventional nickel base defense is designed to effectively stop an opponent’s running game and the spread offense, which has grown in popularity in recent years.

**SPREAD OFFENSE**

The spread offense, the most common variant of offensive scheme used by Rice, is designed to “spread” the defense across the field to open up more space for receivers and running backs to make plays. The offense almost always features the quarterback in the shotgun formation and relies heavily on the quarterback’s ability to both pass and run the football. The spread usually has three to five wide receivers on the field and forces the defense to spread out, leaving the center of the field more open than usual.

**BLITZ**

A blitz is when a defensive player other than a defensive lineman charges forward in an effort to sack the quarterback or record a tackle for loss. In the diagram, a linebacker is shown blitzing. The blitz is one of the most commonly run defensive plays and has a huge variety of different forms and schemes.

**READ OPTION**

In the read option, the quarterback receives the snap and has the option to either hand the ball off to the running back or keep it himself to gain yards. If the defensive end on the running back’s side stays put (left), the quarterback will hand the ball off. If the defensive end chases the running back (right), the quarterback will keep the ball for himself. The Rice Owls use this play often due to the running ability of quarterback Driphus Jackson.
**CLASSIFIEDS @ rice.edu**

**WANTED**

**TEACH FOR TESTMASTERS!** Dynamic and Energetic Teachers wanted. Pay rate is $20 to $32 per hour. We provide all training. Email your resume to rice-jobs@testmasters.com.

**TUTORS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!** Rice Alumni hiring tutors for Middle & High School Math, Natural & Social Science, Foreign Language, and Humanities. Reliable transportation required. Pay $25-40/hr based on experience. Contact 832-428-8330 or email siyengar777@gmail.com.

**Can you type 45wpm?** Good communications Skills? Dependable and Polite? We are seeking an evening operator. Evenings, Weekends and holidays Must be able to work graveyard shift if needed. We are open 24 hours a day / 7 days a week! $30 per hour. We are open 24 hours a day / 7 days a week. Send resume to turnt@rice.edu.

**WANTED**

**RICE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSORS** seek responsible graduate or undergraduate to pick up your old son from Permian Elementary 3 days a week (M/W/F) at 3:15 pm stay with him until 5:45 pm or being directly to campus. Email for schedule details and compensation. finley@rice.edu

**MIDDLE SCHOOL TUTOR** for girl on 8th grade. Math, English, Spanish. 5 minutes drive from Rice university 2-3 days per week at 5:45 pm. $30 per hour. Call 832-316-7451 or email dinak28@rice.edu

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