The Rice Trash
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ON GOING INVESTIGATION • HONOR COUNCIL

Honor Council defends spending

by Yasna Haghdoost
News Editor

The Student Association Blanket Tax Contingency Committee met with Honor Council on Oct. 27 to discuss the organization’s projected budget for the coming year.

Honor Council’s projected 2014-15 budget, which was submitted two days after the Contingency Committee’s Oct. 20 deadline, allocated $6,072.00 for unspecified expenditures out of the $2,520 revenue from its current $2,520 blanket tax. This leaves an annual surplus of 20 percent without the current proposed budget does not account for.

Missing Documents

Honor Council has not yet submitted expense reports for the past four years, which were requested by the Contingency Committee two weeks ago. The deadline for these submissions was Oct. 20.

According to University Court Chair Brian Baran, if Honor Council does not comply with the Contingency Committee’s requests, it can be referred to UCourt and held in violation of the SA Constitution.

“The organization that fails to comply with the oversight procedures for student money is not a good steward of student money,” Baran, a Duncan College senior, said.

Bifurcation

An issue Honor Council raised in the meeting was the Faculty Senate’s proposal to bifurcate Honor Council into separate undergraduate and graduate branches.

In a letter to the Contingency Committee, Honor Council Chair Hurst Williams said bifurcation would lower the total blanket tax among the organization’s revenues and will make any blanket tax amount lower than $250 insufficient for the needs of Honor Council if it goes into effect.

“If students no longer contribute to Honor Council’s blanket tax income, any blanket tax less than the current $250 puts the Honor Council at risk of being unable to fulfill its mission,” Williams, a Hammons College senior, wrote.

The possibility of Honor Council’s bifurcation assumes that, with 4,000 undergraduates, the $2,520 blanket tax would result in $0.63 per student for the organization. This still leaves approximately $350 of surplus unaccounted for in the proposed budget.

Replacement Costs

The proposed budget allocates $2,900 for replacement cost over five years and $6,988 for technology replacement every three years.

The three-year replacements include a $2,099 computer, a $595 printer and $5.50 for tablets priced at $350 each.

During the meeting, the committee questioned whether it was necessary for computers and tablets to be replaced every three years.

However, Honor Council advisor Lisa Zolnier the organization has consulted with sources, and concluded that people cannot make sense to ask in the fall and to collect information that we really need and that will be useful,” Cornwell said. “Questions to the survey scheduled earlier in the semester, we’ll have results out before the deadline, so if there are issues we need to act upon we’ll be able to act on it a lot faster.”

In the long term, the survey will be conducted two years a year, and the data will be used to identify trends to improve student life and maintain standards, according to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. The spring semester survey will include more questions about student satisfaction with the variety of services and resources on campus.

“The last time students had experienced more and developed more, more questions were included,” Cornwell said. “The time boundary means that people cannot make sense to ask in the fall and vice versa.”

SA to release mandatory survey
by Hannah Chee
For The Thresher

A new, mandatory survey for all Rice University undergraduate and graduate students will be released through email by the end of this week. A hold will be placed on registration until it is completed, according to John Cornwell, the associate vice president of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

Cornwell said the purpose of the new survey is to collect much-needed information for the university as a more convenient and streamlined way. The survey will average 15 minutes or less to complete and is expected to be highly specific.

“We don’t want to bother stu- dents with questions that are not relevant to them,” Cornwell said. “Questions in the survey will be divided into sections specific to various student subpopulations — first-year freshmen, transfers, international students, international students, athletes, etc.

The survey is actually going to be a lot bigger in terms of data collected, but what the students get should be tailored to what we need to know from them. If a question doesn’t apply to you, you won’t see it,” Cornwell said. According to Cornwell, the survey is a collaboration among various administrative groups on campus and the Student Association. It will include questions on academic interests and major declaration, drop-add strategies, the add-drop deadline, new student transition, internship and research experiences, and extracurricular interests.

The approach was to keep the survey fairly short — because we know that’s important — and to collect information that we really need and that will be useful,” Cornwell said. “We want to make sure that people can’t make sense to ask in the fall and to collect information that we really need and that will be useful,” Cornwell said. “Questions to the survey scheduled earlier in the semester, we’ll have results out before the deadline, so if there are issues we need to act upon we’ll be able to act on it a lot faster.”

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See SURVEY, page 3
ed that this replacement schedule is appropriate.

“Nothing set in stone, but we work closely with IT to ensure that important files and transactions aren’t lost due to old computers crashing,” Baran said.

According to Zollner, it is important that Honor Council replaces its computers and tablets every three years, despite the fact that the technology is becoming obsolete.

“IT is a lively discussion in the office. It is about our notion that replacing a computer any time beyond this mindset is about the importance of being active in their communities and local politics,” Roberts said.

According to Roberts, involvement in community politics is important because it empowers people who are not as informed about local issues.

“Even when people are not as knowledgeable about local issues, they should not express strong political views for fear of offending others, which can make it difficult for them to engage in a constructive dialogue,” Roberts said.

Roberts also encourages students to be active in their communities and local politics.

“I think sometimes that can translate into a lack of caring about an issue at all or a lack of understanding about others, which she says could explain why direct volunteering is more common at Rice than issue activism,” Baran said.

“There’s a lot of stigma against being partisan and being really good at an issue,” Baran said.

According to Roberts, many Rice students feel they should not express strong political views for fear of offending others, which makes it difficult for them to engage in a constructive dialogue.

“I do know that if I’ve earned the title yet,” Roberts said.

Roberts said she became involved in political issues at a young age. Her mother ran for school board when she was a freshman in high school.

According to Roberts, involvement in community politics is important because it empowers people who are not as informed about local issues.

“I think it’s important for others who have the time and knowledge base to help distribute the resources,” Roberts said.

Roberts said the main barriers keeping more students from being involved in political and social issues are a lack of information about opportunities for activism and a lack of extra time to commit to a cause.

“We want to make sure that we are not opening up any cases to student’s names, even though we never use student’s names, heaven forbid, slip of the tongue,” Williamson said.

“We want to make sure nobody from Rice is potentially embarrassing up any cases [and] getting a private room.”

The committee asked Honor Council to look into other options of private places on campus and lowering the overall cost of the dinner from its current price of $50 per person to $25 per person, which is comparable to the amount other blanket tax organizations spend on their end-of-year dinners.

Last year, Campanile and Thresher spent $779 on a joint dinner catered at Farnsworth Pavilion, which cost $19.48 per person. Honor Council spent $18.90 per person for a 17-person dinner that totalled $325.

Surplus

In the meeting, Zollner said while the surplus in the projected annual budget has not been allocated for specific purposes, it might be used in the future to fund educational conferences for members of Honor Council.

“I do know that at some point the Honor Council leadership attended conferences and received training,” Zollner said.

“Something that we’d like to leave a little space for in the budget.”

While Williamson’s letter said Honor Council members have attended conferences in previous years, there is no record in previously submitted budgets and expenses of the organization’s surplus being used to fund the expenses for these conferences in the past.

Williamson also wrote in his letter that Honor Council would be willing to return $16,000 of its current rollover budget to the SA if its current blanket tax funding remained at $5,000.

Bolshakov said this proposal does not address the issue of how student blanket tax money is being handled.

“It’s a vanilla proposition, but what is the SA going to do with that money?” Bolshakov said.

“It’s the blanket tax of students that no longer go here.”
Fondren begins enforcing food and drink policy

Fondren Library administration implemented a new, more restrictive food and drink policy this month, according to Rice University Librarian Sara Lowman.

“It was only three years ago that we actually started allowing students to bring food or drink in the library, and we never had an official policy,” Diane Butler, Fondren’s director of Information Technology and Access Services said.

Butler said the unregulated flow of food into the library has created various problems for the administration.

“First of all, the furniture is expensive,” Butler said. “But we’re also trying to preserve the collection. We have computer equipment and rare archives. So the motivation for this policy certainly wasn’t just one incident; it was a culmination of everything. We finally felt we needed an official policy.”

With Lowman’s approval, Butler oversaw policy development, coordinated staff and revised proposals with an executive board. Fondren did not solicit student input to craft the new food and drink policy.

“A rough draft of the policy was drafted among access services, which monitors the doors and building,” Butler said. “They researched the food/drink policies at other universities. Then [the executive] tweaked the policy according to what we thought would be best.”

However, the library’s lack of concern for student opinion has generated negative feedback, according to some students.

“Student input should be considered when forming policies that would affect studying habits in Fondren,” Jackie Olive, a Duncan College sophomore said. “We have computer equipment and rare archives. So the motivation for this policy certainly wasn’t just one incident; it was a culmination of everything. We finally felt we needed an official policy.”

SA Blanket Tax Committee convenes

The members of the Student Association Blanket Tax Standing Committee have been finalized and will review organizations receiving blanket-tax funding.

As of Oct. 8, appointed members include Lovett College freshman Andy Yuwen, McMurry College sophomore Giray Ozeker and Jones College sophomore Aksem Ogunkeye.

The blanket tax organization officers are Lovett College senior and University Court Chair Brian Baran and Martel College junior and Rice Program Council Treasurer Ronald Foo.

SA Treasurer Joan Liu said the Committee is currently working on submissions and meetings with organizations.

“Our next steps are to meet with each organization’s president, treasurer and sponsor to discuss the submitted documents and any questions the committee has for the organization,” Liu, a Jones College sophomore, said. Liu said the Committee is responsible for conducting the annual review of all organizations receiving blanket tax funding. The Committee is also responsible for accessing proposals to increase or decrease existing blanket tax allocations.

“We are also responsible for providing the Student Association with an understanding and evaluation of how subsidiary organizations’ operations and use of student funding align with their purposes as well as with the interests of the student body and the Rice University community,” Liu said.

In light of the ongoing Honor Council contingency process, Liu said she does not anticipate any major changes.

“We, as a committee, will review all organizations to the best of our ability in accordance with the Student Association Constitution, and I am confident the blanket tax organizations will do their best to follow the process constitutionally,” Liu said.

Baran expressed a similar opinion.

“While the Committee will be aware of the outcome of the contingency process for Honor Council, its review will be conducted in the same manner as the review for any other subsidiary organization,” Baran said.

SURVEY

We should be creating a culture here where students want to give feedback because they’re intrinsically motivated to help the university become a better place,” Cornwell said. “There’s a reverse obligation from the university to do something with that information. The bottom line is that with this new survey, we’re trying to be convenient, we’re trying to honor the students and we want students to expect something out of it.”

Brian Baran, a Duncan College senior, said he hoped questions would be asked in a way so that legitimate conclusions could be drawn from the data produced.

“The last big survey I remember was the add/drop survey, which I found quite problematic,” Baran said. “Many of the questions were biased, the data did not support the conclusions drawn by the Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum, and most of the results were never made public. If the all-student survey can avoid these issues, I think it can be a positive development for the community.”

Surveys attempted by the SA in the past have been limited by the lack of student response, according to SA Treasurer Joan Liu.

“I think the mandatory nature of the survey is a good effort towards collecting information more representative of the entire student body,” Liu, a Jones College sophomore said. “I’m confident that however the survey is executed will be in the best interest of the institution.”

SA Blanket Tax Committee convenes

JULIANNE WYK

FOR THE THRISHER

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Center for Civic Leadership

SUNMER GROUP SERVICE TRIPS

The Center for Civic Leadership has three group service trips traveling during summer 2015 to Alaska, Bulgaria, and Guatemala.

TO LEARN MORE, ATTEND AN INFORMATION SESSION
Monda,y, NOvemb, 3
4:00 PM, HUH
Tu, esd, NOvemb, 4
12:30 PM, LOVETT PDR
Thu, rsd, NOvemb, 6
9:00 PM, DONCAN PDR
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE CENTER FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP WEBSITE AT HTTP://CIC.RICE.EDU/GIS

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, 11/02/14.
Change your clocks and your passwords.

Social media accounts are easy to hack, so don’t use your Rice passwords for any non-Rice accounts!

Mistake? Don’t Make Another One.
not selected in the lottery drawings,” Hudson said. “Several of my friends have offered to give me tickets, and I hope to keep reminding them that they have to do it through the RSC, and that it goes to the next person on the waitlist.”

Jeeva said that since Esperanza was not being held at an accessible, on-campus location, demand was difficult to predict. She said the novel coronavirus pandemic may have contributed to the high demand.

“When we definitely expected to sell out, we did not expect to have the opportunity to attend. According to Jeeva, the current size of a Rice student is around 5,800, which is expected to increase in spring 2024, and the increasing size of the venue would result in increased costs not only from registering for the event, but also from the venue itself,” Jeeva said. “If the increased prices cannot be something new, we would be burdened. We could absolutely see larger venues with additional blanket tax going towards the event, in which every person would have to go to RSC frequently to pursue tickets for feedback, and we could have radio ads regarding this before making a decision.”

Jeeva said RSC is currently evaluating possible changes to the ticket selling method for fondleit in the spring.

“Maybe it’s a random drawing system again?” Jeeva said. “Probably not. Did we think it was the best decision at the time, a way to provide a fair shot for everyone to get tickets and a quick response to people’s frustration without having to risk a personal third chance? Absolutely. [For Rondelit], we will do our best to find an online first come, first serve way to distribute tickets.”

“I think we have a second chance,” Jeeva said. “I don’t see all of the opportunities that are available to them in STEM fields. We want to engage them at young ages and help them become the science and engineering leaders of the future.”

SA exams teacher evaluation system

SArena examines new members

Amber Tong
Thresher Staff

SA Executive Vice President Trent Navran introduced new members of the Rice Education of the Future task force at the Oct. 15 Student Association Senate meeting. The new at-large (non-Senate) members are Jones College junior Mariah Lawton, Jones freshman Bailey Tulloch and McMurry College sophomores Sawyer Kutz and Alyssa Ernst.

Over the past two weeks, the task force has engaged students, faculty, staff and administrators in discussion groups as well as a photo campaign.

“We’ve seen incredible headway in raising awareness, gaining student input and having critical small group discussions,” Navran said.

Lawton said outreach efforts give all stakeholders a platform to express their opinions.

“I think the best thing about this initiative is that we are providing an outlet for the entire Rice community to voice their thoughts about what an advanced, on-campus learning experience,” Lawton said.

Eich said the process has been promising.

“We have seen interactions — that are now taking the form of things that will be necessary in making Rice truly a national institution that we pride ourselves upon,” Knight said.

Looking ahead, Tulloch said she hopes that the initiative will garner campus-wide support and the possibility of improving Rice’s education in the future.

“Our mission is something I think everyone can relate to. The overwhelming support we’ve received is hopefully indicative of how much we will achieve this year,” Tulloch said.
Every time someone asks me how senior year is going, I just laugh and say, “It’s going.” Because it is going. And it keeps going, adding to the total amount of time and money I’ve spent in college. I’ve figured out what I’m doing with my life after graduation, or at least I feel that way being at Rice. People at this school are so good at having their lives together.

In September, I took the test I had been dreading for three years: the LSAT, the entrance exam for law school. I completely messed up the timing on one section, and that’s all it took. I cancelled the test while I was there, because I knew even if I got every other question right, my score wouldn’t be good enough to get me into law school. Three hours of my life managed to screw up the entire game plan I had for the past three years and the specific timeline I’d had entering my senior year of college.

So what now? Option One: Retake the test in December and turn in applications at the end of the month. Later, doctors have started to read them, since admissions are rolling for law school, but I don’t have the time to seriously prepare for the test. Option Two: Look for jobs.

I’ve been a leader for the past three years. I realize that everyone at Rice is busy, but at least a lot of them, the ones that aren’t directly preparing for grad school, have used the knowledge they’ve acquired to gain practical, transferable skills that will get them a real job once they graduate from college. In anticipation of applying to law school, I spent my time doing legal research and intern for attorneys. It was alright, and I did learn a lot, but I didn’t learn how to code or solve a problem to do those tasks for me: To put it frankly, my college years have left me with very few ‘marketable’ skills. I had moderate success at the Career Expo, but most of the jobs would have to be tweaked to fit my background. Very few recruiters were looking for an English major who edited newspapers in the free time she didn’t have when she wasn’t running around with a youth-sized body. I confess that organizing and consolidating the 50 states’ statutes on cybersecurity.

Rice excels at churning out graduates with very specific career paths: medical school students, law school students (my case might hurt their stats), consultants, oil and gas engineers, offshore workers, more consultants, investment bankers. And we seem to limit ourselves to these pre-set career options. Everyone I know is applying to med or law school, or was just hired at one of the consulting firms post-real graduation season, or already received a full-time offer to work in oil and gas from their summer internship. There’s nothing wrong with that, but I can’t shake the feeling that we’re passing over so many other opportunities because we don’t think to consider them or even really know we could consider them.

I was quickly reaching panic mode at the bottom of the “What the hell do I do with my life” pit when my good friend Jach, who is currently serving in the Peace Corps in Morrocco, said: “Rice is so obsessed with knowing what you’re going to do after graduation ASAP and it’s dumb. You have time. And there are so many possibilities. You just have to get creative and think beyond the typical firm jobs. Think about things like publishing companies or non-profits you care about. Take a gap year, teach English abroad, work at Rice! There’s so much out there that’ll help you grow and gain skills, even the jobs that don’t necessarily seem like they will give you those ‘practical skills.’”

Even if I didn’t learn accounting or thermo-dynamics at Rice, I learned that our university is full of crazy-talented people. I know engineering majors who are incredible artists and pre-meds who write poems I enjoy reading more than any of John Donnie’s work (sorry Dr. Snow), and people of all majors and minors with huge hearts and a capacity to help the people around them, whether they’re peers or the less fortunate. We have so much potential beyond the typical A, B, C and D. And hope, as a university, we don’t lose that potential wanted because we feel expected to find strictly practical and profitable work.

I hope the seniors who are in the same boat as me stop panicking and realize we’re not actually sitting but instead enjoy the journey, one pace at a time. Truthfully, I can’t say I have yet, but it’s a work in progress, just like the rest of our lives.

Christine Jeong is a Lovett College senior and a Thresher copy editor.
DTM BAR 415 Bonaire St. Tel: 713.868.1111
V1L BAR & RESTAURANT 416 76 S main St. Tel: 713.386.1111
TROY’S WINE BAR 3000 TROY’S Place Houston, Texas 77027 Tel: 713.968.1111

ART CRAWL

Take it back a few decades this Hallowe'en to the pop art and high fashion of the era at the Low Lustre Art Hall Hallowe'en Bash. Treat yourself to trick-or-treating followed by an art crawl featuring over 70 works, drink specials and live DJs. The event is 9 p.m. - 2 a.m., Friday, Oct. 31 and is free with RSVP!

PHOENIX AKT BAR 3001 Austin Street phoenuxakt.com

WINE & DINOS

What better way to celebrate the season’s scariest holiday than with some boos and skeletons? Spend your Friday, Oct. 31 drinking with dinos at the Natural Science Museum’s Hallowe’en mixer with DJ and fantastic food tracks. Party 8 p.m. to midnight.

HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE 5555 Hermann Park Drive HMSN.org

HAUNTED HOUSE

What could be scarier than the National Museum of Funeral History during Hallowe’en? If you dare, enjoy the annual haunted house Oct. 27 - Nov. 3 during regular museum hours, with extended hours on Fri. (including Hallowe’en night).

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF FUNERAL HISTORY 415 Barren Springs Drive NMFH.org

LOS MUERTOS

For a less scary and more celebratory Hallowe’en time, check out the Dia de Los Muertos block party on Saturday, Nov. 1, 12 -9 p.m., presented by East End Colaborative. The festivities include music, face painting, zumba sessions and live DJs. Food trucks. Party 8 p.m. to midnight. Check out the Dia de Los Muertos schedule.

MKT BAR & RESTAURANT 416 76 S main St. Tel: 713.386.1111

Dear White People sheds light on racism on college campuses

By Sophie Newman

Dear White People. With so much meaning behind these three tiny words, Dear White People has the potential to move in many directions. Director Justin Simien, a Houston native, must have agreed, working an impressive array of characters into his film. Although the character development is not extensive and the plot not entirely smooth in execution, Dear White People is undoubtedly an important film.

In an era in which films that bring up the issue of racism tend to be dark, depressing and difficult to watch, Dear White People attacks the issue from a completely new angle — humor. But the film is much more than a satirical attack on racist white college kids — it is an exploration of identity, activism and acceptance.

The film follows the lives of four students at Winchester University, an Ivy-League-type school on the East Coast, with few black students. First, there is Samantha (Tessa Thompson) — formula- ble, funny and invariably well-dressed. Samantha is the host of her own witty radio show called “Dear White People.” Her first broadcast reads, “Dear White People, the minimum requirement of black friends needed to not seem racist has just been raised to two.” Immediately, Sam comes off as bold and unafraid to speak her mind, a trait that is both her weapon and enemy at various points in the film.

Troy (Brandon Bell), the son of the dean of undergraduates at Winchester, is the popular college student who aims to please his demanding father. Coco (Teyonah Parris) wants to be famous above all else and refuses to be defined by her race, going out of her way to isolate herself from her black peers. Finally, there’s Nah Parris) wants to be famous above all else and refuses to be defined by her race, going out of her way to isolate herself from her black peers. Finally, there’s

What could be scarier than the Na...
Willy’s Pub debuts varied beer menu

**by Walden Pemantle**

Thresher Staff

 Oktoberfest may be winding down at bars across Houston, but Willy’s Pub is just getting started. Unveiling a new menu, Operations Manager Gavin Cross described Pub’s goal of offering beers suited to the student body’s diverse taste.

“We try to have a range of different beers in different styles to satisfy all the types of Pub customers,” Cross said. “There’s a set of ales, some of them are unfiltered, some of them are lighter. We have IPAs, fruit beers, dark beers like stouts, lagers, which are easier to drink, wheat beers and malt beverages like Mickey’s.”

The new menu design places all of Pub’s bottled selections on a spectrum, from light and accessible to heavy, hoppy and high-alcohol beers. The light end of the spectrum offers many recognizable lagers like Heineken, Corona, Shiner, Pabst Blue Ribbon and Dos Equis. The heavy end, labeled “tastes like twigs” on the menu, offers heavily hopped IPAs like Dogfish Head’s infamous 60-minute IPA and smooth, dark beers like the Left Hand Milk Stout.

Pub’s General Manager Chynna Foucek spoke of Pub’s commitment to offering beers diverse in both taste and price.

“We try to hit all the demographics,” Foucek said. “We have undergraduates, but we also have MBA students that come. MBAs have more of a refined taste, whereas undergrads have a budget.”

With Bud Light and Shiner Bock as cheap as $1.50 on draft, it’s easy to see Pub’s appeal to the student on a budget. At $3 a bottle, Mickey’s malt liquor is an attractive option for students looking to expand their knowledge of beer this fall.

“We really want the undergraduates to be able to try different types of beer, so something we’ve been pushing is Keep the Glass events,” Foucek said. “Distributors will have glasses with us for their breweries or logos on the glass. So you come in, you pay $5, and you get to keep the glass. We did that with the Leprechaun cider, we’re doing that with the Bridgeport, we’re going to be doing one with Saint Arnold’s and Eastchop will be doing one as well.”

Pub’s new menu is in effect now and will add an additional Buffalo Bayou brew homecoming weekend.

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**BEST OF WILLY’S PUB**

**ALE**

Dogfish Head 60 Minute IPA

$3 (6.00%)

**FRUIT BEER**

Blueberry Purple Haze

$3 (4.20%)

**DARK BEER**

Guinness Draught

$4 (5.00%)

**LAGER**

Brooklyn Lager

$3 (5.20%)

**WHEAT BEER**

Pyramid Hefeweizen

$3 (5.20%)
This Week in Entertainment

**INTERSTELLAR**
*IN THEATERS*

Christopher Nolan (The Dark Knight trilogy) presents his first project since 2010’s Inception, and the secrets behind a film shrouded in mystery will finally be revealed. Featuring a star-studded cast, including Matthew McConaughey (Dallas Buyers Club) and Anne Hathaway (Les Miserables), the movie follows a group of space travelers after they get caught in a wormhole. PG-13, 169 minutes. Also in IMAX and 3-D.

**SONIC HIGHWAYS – FOO FIGHTERS**
*ALBUM*

The eighth studio album from the award-winning rock group is especially unique, as each of the eight tracks in the collection was recorded in a different city in the U.S., including lead single “Something from Nothing,” produced in Chicago. HBO documented the recording of the album for their new series of the same name, which includes features from Joan Jett, Gary Clark, Jr. and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

**UNDER PRESSURE – LOGIC**
*ALBUM*

After amassing a large Internet following and releasing a series of critically-acclaimed mixtapes, the former XXL Freshmen List rapper puts forth his debut studio album, which was executively produced by hip-hop legend No I.D. and includes features from Childish Gambino and Big Sean in its deluxe edition. The album contains 12 new songs, including previously-released singles “Buried Alive” and “Under Pressure.”

**MALEFICENT**
*DVD AND BLU-RAY*

Disney’s thrilling and dark look at the classic Sleeping Beauty tale from the perspective of its namesake lead villain (Angelina Jolie, Salt) was released this past summer and became one of the sleeper hits of the season despite mixed reviews. Now available for home viewing, the release includes bonus features such as deleted scenes and behind-the-scenes documentaries.

**VARSITY TUTORS**

Varsity Tutors has many students seeking smart tutors for math, science, languages, all other subjects and test prep.

Competitive pay and make your own schedule. Only online applications will be considered.

Please apply at: http://www.varsitytutors.com/houston-tutoring-jobs

**ASTHMA STUDY**

Baylor College of Medicine is currently recruiting volunteers for a National Institute of Health (NIH) funded asthma study.

The effects of a new study drug in patients with mild asthma will be investigated. If you are between 18-60 years of age, with mild asthma and are not currently taking any other asthma medications except rescue medication (albuterol), you may be eligible to participate in this study.

You will be compensated for your time and travel.

For more information:
Contact us at 713-873-6772 or asthama@bcm.edu

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**A&E**

This Week in Entertainment by Louis Lesser

**DISNEY**

Christopher Nolan (The Dark Knight trilogy) presents his first project since 2010’s Inception, and the secrets behind a film shrouded in mystery will finally be revealed. Featuring a star-studded cast, including Matthew McConaughey (Dallas Buyers Club) and Anne Hathaway (Les Miserables), the movie follows a group of space travelers after they get caught in a wormhole. PG-13, 169 minutes. Also in IMAX and 3-D.

**SONIC HIGHWAYS – FOO FIGHTERS**

The eighth studio album from the award-winning rock group is especially unique, as each of the eight tracks in the collection was recorded in a different city in the U.S., including lead single “Something from Nothing,” produced in Chicago. HBO documented the recording of the album for their new series of the same name, which includes features from Joan Jett, Gary Clark, Jr. and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band.

**UNDER PRESSURE – LOGIC**

After amassing a large Internet following and releasing a series of critically-acclaimed mixtapes, the former XXL Freshmen List rapper puts forth his debut studio album, which was executively produced by hip-hop legend No I.D. and includes features from Childish Gambino and Big Sean in its deluxe edition. The album contains 12 new songs, including previously-released singles “Buried Alive” and “Under Pressure.”

**MALEFICENT**

Disney’s thrilling and dark look at the classic Sleeping Beauty tale from the perspective of its namesake lead villain (Angelina Jolie, Salt) was released this past summer and became one of the sleeper hits of the season despite mixed reviews. Now available for home viewing, the release includes bonus features such as deleted scenes and behind-the-scenes documentaries.

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**ASTHMA STUDY**

Baylor College of Medicine is currently recruiting volunteers for a National Institute of Health (NIH) funded asthma study.

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Soccer cements undefeated home record with wins

by Michael Kidd

This past weekend, the Rice University soccer team won both home games, clinching an undefeated home record for the first time in program history.

Friday night’s Senior Day saw the team’s four seniors honored for their careers at Rice. Goalkeeper Amy Czyz, midfielders Gabriela Ibarane and Quinnie Troang, and defender Ashton Giessendorf led Rice to a 5-0 victory over Old Dominion University. On Sunday, the Owls defeated the University of North Carolina Charlotte 4-1.

On Friday night, junior Lauren Hughes got the Owls on the board first in the 19th minute of the game with a close range strike to beat the keeper. In the 33rd minute of the game, junior Hollie Harpways scored on a chip shot that found the back of the net with the assist coming from Truong. Hughes went on to score two more goals later in the match in the 69th and 74th minute to give her a hat trick and her 10th goal of the season. The defense held strong, only allowing four shots all game.

Czyz said Senior Day allowed her to reflect on her Rice career and the improvements she has seen in the soccer program. "For us, this is a very special day, and I’m so happy [the seniors] have made it this far and been so successful," Czyz said. “Getting the big win and the shutout was the perfect way to cap [Senior Day] off, and we just hope we are leaving the program in better hands than when we got here.”

Coach Nick Adams said the seniors have served as great examples for the rest of the team and have helped lead the team to its success this season. “Our seniors bring so much leadership, and they truly love Rice,” Adams said. “Every day they come out and give us everything they have. It’s just contagious when you have great
Powderpuff teams seek playoff bids in week seven

by Jessica Kelly
FOR THE THRESHER

With the seventh week of preliminary powderpuff games still underway, Sid Richardson College currently sits at the top of its division and the overall conference with a 7-0 point differential and six wins and no losses. Last year, the team ended their season with a 6-2 point differential and six wins and one loss. According to Sid Richardson junior Christianna Shields, the secret to the team's success is an improvement on the offensive side of the ball. “Our defense has been really strong for the past few years, but this year we really diversified our offense as well,” Shields said. “Our defense is still rock solid, but now everyone on offense is scoring, and I think that’s the reason we’ve seen such a good point differential.”

Martel College trails behind Sid Richardson and GSA as third overall, with a current record of four wins, one loss and an 18-point differential. Last year, Martel ended their season with three wins and four losses, finishing with an 11-point differential. This year, Martel and GSA are tied for the best record in the North division, although GSA has the better point differential with 28 points.

Head Coach and Martel senior Taylor Neal said he is enthusiastic about his team’s improvement. “Our team has improved on both sides of the ball, and it has been exciting to get a few wins to start the season,” Neal said. “We are not satisfied with a few early wins, and we’re still trying new things as we attempt to improve.”

Martel junior Cassie Peretore said Martel’s newfound success can be explained by the team’s effort and chemistry. “Our coaches and players this year have really stepped it up with dedication and hard work,” Peretore said. “I’m really excited to see where our season ends up. Honestly, we’re just going out there, having fun and enjoying ourselves.”

Will Rice College opened with a loss by one point to Martel. However, they were quick to stabilize their point differential with three consecutive victories against Brown College, Baker College and Hsannan College. The team recently lost to Sid Richardson by seven points.

Coach Will Byers said he is proud of the determination and work ethic of the team, giving special credit to senior Ellen Wenden and junior Michelle Huang. “We’ve had two tough losses that really came down to the wire,” Byers said. “I’ve been extremely impressed with our girls’ resilience and focus. Captains Ellen Wenden and Michelle Huang have done a great job of getting people out to practice and motivating everyone to excel. I think future seasons are looking bright for Will Rice.”

Coming off of its 2013 season, which finished with a loss in the championship game, the McMurtry College team has seen less success this season with two wins, three losses and a two-point differential. According to Head Coach Ross Michie-Derrick, a McMurtry senior, the team has had to rebuild itself after losing many key players to graduation. “Veterans like Jessica Kelly, Andrea ‘AK’ 47, Kopczynski, Joanna Hall and Allison Yu have played well from the start,” Michie-Derrick said. “The freshmen have found their lane in the past few games, and quarterback Avery Landrum has amazing spatial awareness, which has facilitated her rapid rise.”

Despite the initial setbacks, Michie-Derrick said the team will end up winning the championship. “We started the season in a rebuild, but we will finish it with the championship plaque,” Michie-Derrick said.

Volleyball wins two, looks to improve for postseason

by Juan Saldana
FOR THE THRESHER

Rice vs. MTSU 3-1
Rice vs. UAB 3-0

The Rice University volleyball team completed an undefeated weekend by winning two matches against conference opponents. On Friday, the Owls faced Middle Tennessee State University, winning 3-1. The team ended the weekend with a 3-0 victory over the University of Alabama, Birmingham. The Owls have now won seven of their last eight matches.

Freshman setter Katie Steel and junior outside hitter Andi Bawcum were named Conference USA Setter of the Week and Offensive Player of the Week, respectively. Steel, in her first career start, tallied 95 assists for the weekend in replacement of the injured Sara Illasier as the setter. Bawcum, who recorded a season-high total of 32 kills on Friday night, also earned her first career C-USA Player of the Week award.

Senior defensive specialist Daniela Arenas also recorded 38 digs recorded over the two weekend games. According to Volpe, Arenas has been an important senior on the team who has led the younger players, despite not receiving as much recognition statistically as other players. “Arenas has been awesome not just this weekend, but all season,” Volpe said. “She has been a steady leader for us and has been a big reason for our success. The things she does [do not] always show up on a stat sheet, but she does so much for our team.”

As the team comes close to wrapping up the season and preparing for the conference tournament, Volpe said she is still looking for improvement in areas other than passing and defense. “We always are looking [to] improve,” Volpe said. “We are definitely a strong passing and defensive team, which is helping our offense, but we need to continue to improve in certain areas defensively to help us win the C-USA tournament.”

According to Volpe, the team is focusing on improving its serving heading into postseason play. “I’d also like us to continue to serve more aggressively,” Volpe said. “That can be a very strong part of our team that I don’t think we have quite perfected yet.”

The Owls now have an 18-6 record overall and an 8-2 record in C-USA. They sit in third place in the C-USA standings behind University of Texas, San Antonio at number one and Western Kentucky at number two.

The Owls will now finish their road schedule as they head to South Florida next weekend for a Friday matchup against Florida International University on Oct. 31 at 5 p.m. and a Sunday morning matchup against Florida Atlantic University on Nov. 2 at 11 a.m.
Luke Turner is the reigning Conference USA Championship Most Valuable Player and is currently in his third year of eligibility for Rice University football. Despite being listed as a running back, Turner does not exclusively play one position. Although Turner played quarterback in high school, he has played numerous positions at Rice, filling in on both sides of the ball. He has scored touchdowns as a quarterback, receiver and running back in his time on the team. Turner also currently plays quarterback in the “Wild Owl” formation, an offensive formation in which a running back lines up in the quarterback slot. Turner first earned his opportunity to run the formation last season after senior running back Turner Petersen sustained a knee injury against Tulane University last November.

Turner said being the featured quarterback in the “Wild Owl” is due to his high school football experience as quarterback. “I played quarterback in high school, and Turner [Petersen] got a little banged up at the beginning of fall.” Turner said. “[The coaches] said, ‘Hey this kid played quarterback, let’s see what he can do.’ They just kind of gave it to me after that and I’ve been doing it ever since.”

Turner has been nicknamed ‘Bob’ by his teammates and coaches, which he attributes to the confusion that came from having two other players named Luke Wilson and Turner Peterson on the team. Turner said Wilson, who is currently a tight end for the Seattle Seahawks, was tired of the confusion and told everybody to start calling him Bob instead. “We had Luke [Wilson] and Turner [Petersen] on the team. Turner said Wilson, who is currently a tight end for the Seattle Seahawks, was tired of the confusion and told everybody to start calling him Bob instead. "[We] had Luke [Wilson] and Turner [Petersen],” Turner said. “My name is Luke Turner, so [there was] a little confusion out at practice every day. It went until about three weeks into fall camp my freshman year … One day, Luke Wilson just stopped practicing and said ‘Everybody, he’s Bob from now on.’ It was just supposed to be a joke, initially, but it stuck.”

“Bob’ makes a name for himself on field

by Kevin Mohanram

Luke Turner is the reigning Conference USA Championship Most Valuable Player and is currently in his third year of eligibility for Rice University football. Despite being listed as a running back, Turner does not exclusively play one position. Although Turner played quarterback in high school, he has played numerous positions at Rice, filling in on both sides of the ball. He has scored touchdowns as a quarterback, receiver and running back in his time on the team. Turner has also taken a few punts and returned kicks.

According to Turner, it is difficult to perform in a number of different roles, but he welcomes the challenge with open arms. “[The coaches] asked me to do a lot, which doesn’t bother me at all,” Turner, a Will Rice College junior, said. “I do a lot of special teams, I’ve done kickoff returns. Now in my third year of college, they’ve asked me to play tight end, which I had never really played. I had never even played running back before. I [got] to college. They asked me to do a lot of different stuff.”

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Alright, I’ll come out and say it: I like RPC. I like the work they do and the way they do it. But recently, I have been hearing quite a bit of criticism (not even constructive, might I add) thrown in their direction. But I stand resolute that the Rice Program Council is one of the best performance-comedy troupes on campus.

Some people will say it’s Kinda Sketchy, SpoCo, East Servery, the Rice Mockingjay, but nope, I say it’s RPC. Each year, they consistently churn out laughs with large-scale performance pieces. I mean, who could forget classics like Three 6 Mafia or the Night of the Missing Rondelet, or the Night of the Missing Rondelet 2: A Joke 3 Years in the Making? Talk about committing to a single joke.

And they do so much with so little. They have to constantly battle against the fact that Rice provides them with little to no funding, tenuous support from a cynical student body and articles like this one. But they keep working hard for the enjoyment of others.

What’s more, they always have to protect the originality from competing groups like the Baker Socials. Their Fall 2013 Speakeasy Party was originally believed to be an RPC Event. Only later was it discovered that the party was in fact run by this rogue Baker College group — a performance I’m not soon to forget.

This year, they’ve really stepped up their performance game. They had all of Rice waiting on the edge of their seats by the end of the three-week debacle which included multiple IT Problems and no contingency plan. But the real tour-de-force comedic performance came when they convinced nearly 100 students to camp outside for tickets to one of their events.

This flash mob, which was coordinated using social media application Yik Yak, gained large audience even amid fears of seeing reported clowns.

It’s hard to believe that Rice students, with full course loads and presumably a range of other activities, are still able to put together comedy events at all, let alone more than four events a year.

While I have heard some convincing arguments for others, the sheer scale of the Rice University Program Council’s comedy cannot be ignored. Their work with Esperanza 2014 cements themselves as the premiere comedy troupe of Rice University and maybe, just maybe, the greater Houston area.

— Al Weiwei

Critic at Large

P.S. Yo Audrey. I know we aren’t supposed to text you, so I’ll write you here. Can you hook the Backpage up with some tix? The ‘vent looks tight and only Andrew got any.

The Backpage is satire and written by Reid Thornburg, and this week Dennis Budde and Andrew Strott collaborated. For comments or questions, please email turntprice.edu.