Students show support for sexual assault survivors last Wednesday in the event “Carry that Weight.” The demonstration was inspired by a Columbia University student who carries her mattress to symbolize the burden of her assault.

Mari Eiseenstat

SA solicits proposals for $40,000

There were too few attendees to make a final decision at Senate.

The Rice Chreisher

VOLUME 16, ISSUE NO. 10
STUDENT-RUN
SINCE 1916
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2014

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Rice Students, Need More Space?

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Gathering for Good
National Philanthropy Week
November 10–14, 2014

Join the Rice Annual Fund as we gather to celebrate National Philanthropy Week (NPW) and honor the amazing donors who support every aspect of the Rice experience. Thank a donor, learn more about philanthropy at Rice, and pick up a free NPW t-shirt to proudly sport around campus.

Monday, Nov. 10
Willy’s Celebration
Academic Quad, 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Kick off NPW by honoring the donors who support your experience at Rice. Write a thank you note to a donor and pick up a free NPW t-shirt to wear on Friday!

Tuesday, Nov. 11
Thank A-Donor: North Colleges
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Students, join us in your college commons to write a thank you note to a donor who supports your experience at Rice and pick up a free NPW t-shirt to wear on Friday!

Wednesday, Nov. 12
Thank A-Donor: South Colleges
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Students, join us in your college commons to write a thank you note to a donor who supports your experience at Rice and pick up a free NPW t-shirt to wear on Friday!

Thank A-Donor: Valhalla
4–6 p.m.
Graduate students, join us at Valhalla to recognize donors who support graduate studies by writing a thank you note to a donor. Celebrate your collective impact on the Rice community by enjoying a drink courtesy of the Rice Annual Fund and picking up a free NPW t-shirt to wear on Friday.

Thursday, Nov. 13
Thank A-Donor: Brochstein Pavilion
11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Faculty and staff, join us at Brochstein Pavilion to celebrate all that you do for Rice. Write a thank you note to a donor who supports the efforts of our academic community and pick up a free NPW t-shirt to wear on Friday.

Friday, Nov. 14
Wear Your NPW T-Shirt!
Rice Coffeehouse, 7:30 a.m.–9 p.m.
Everyone wearing his or her 2014 NPW t-shirt will receive a coupon for one FREE drink at Rice Coffeehouse today, courtesy of the Rice Annual Fund.
RUPD purchases new Chevrolet Tahoes to replace aging patrol vehicle fleet

According to Whitehead, RUPD had several vehicles with high mileage — between 80,000 and 100,000 miles. “The maintenance costs were [also] very high,” Whitehead said.

Whitehead said each new Tahoe cost around $18,000. However, the police equipment that had to be added to the vehicles, including emergency lights, sirens and in-car camera systems, cost an additional $30,000 per vehicle, making the total cost of each Tahoe $50,000.

According to Whitehead, the choice of Chevrolet Tahoes was partly based on Michigan state’s police department, which annually conducts precision driving tests on police vehicles, including the Tahoe. When testing, they look at braking distances, fuel economy, ergonomicism, dynamics and comfort level for the officer.

“[The] inherent beauty of this proposal [is] any student with an idea for an environmental project will be able to gain the funding required.

Archit Chaba RES Member

“The purposes of the online form are to gauge numbers and ask for specific proposals, which all the senators will be able to see and judge critically,” Andrus said. “What students want is a priority in determining what we will do.”

Andrus said the most popular idea thus far is using some of the money for RUPD events, although other ideas have come up.

“There have been ideas of starting up an initiative fund — investing the money for the long term to be used in physical improvements or in event programming,” Andrus said. “However, spending money towards RES’s original purpose is still currently one of the front-runners.”

According to Andrus, when the senators sit down next week to review the proposals, they will look for ideas that are creative and sustainable.

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“The Tahoe consistently rates well in the Michigan state police testing,” Whitehead said. “We checked with other police departments and those that have that Tahoe are very pleased with it. [Also,] the cost is lower than a lot of other options out there.”

Whitehead said RUPD has been happy with the new Tahoes and the replacement of some of their patrol fleet. The update of the patrol vehicles was a priority for the police department this year, according to Whitehead.

“We [also] like the Tahoe because it’s high [off the ground] and we got a lot of flooding on campus, so we are able to continue to patrol and respond to emergencies at those times,” Whitehead said. “We are in pretty good shape. All of our patrol vehicles have been the priority. All of the patrol vehicles are now up to date.”

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A new Chevrolet Tahoe sits outside of RUPD’s headquarters. These cars were chosen based on precision driving tests and will replace the old fleet.

Rice University is launching a three-year volunteer and fundraising effort called the Oval Edge Initiative for Students that will aim to enhance Rice’s student experiences, according to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. The initiative is designed to be coming-loc and will seek to provide an educational edge for students through the funding of three specific goals.

The first goal involves raising student scholarship aid through new endowments, according to President David Leebron.

“We have an amazing diverse student body, which is resulting in greater demand for scholarships,” Leebron said. “The cost of funding these scholarships is becoming more challenging.”

Leebron said another goal of the initiative is strengthening the Rice educational experience.

“Part of what we are trying to do is to provide more and more opportunities for students, whether it’s research, travel, internships or mentoring programs,” Leebron said. “We will also be enhancing the Center for Teaching Excellence and creating an entrepreneurial track within the business minor.”

According to Leebron, the third aspect is related to helping students achieve impact both while they are here and beyond.

“The third aspect involves providing more professional development opportunities for students and developing entrepreneurship programs,” Leebron said.

Leebron said the initiative reflects a time in Rice’s history during which there is clearly a continuation of volunteer and fundraising efforts but also the introduction of new campaigns.

“For me, there are two big pillars of this campaign,” Leebron said. “How do we make sure that, having admitted the most remarkable class of students that we can find, they are going to be possible for them and how do we make sure the education is as good as it can be, in terms of full need and full merit?”

According to Darven Zeidenstein, the vice president for Development and Alumni Relations, the initiative will involve parents, alumni and friends to support the mission to educate and prepare students for leadership for the future. An explicit goal of the effort will also be to ask for contributions of all kinds.

“We believe this will model the positive, last direction — to make our education more impactful,” Leebron said.

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A new Chevrolet Tahoe sits outside of RUPD’s headquarters. These cars were chosen based on precision driving tests and will replace the old fleet.
The day plates fell from the sky

A few Baker 13 runners reportedly met with some unexpected obstacles this year beyond the typical furniture defenses. Individuals dressed in all black were seen spraying condiments and throwing corn tortillas. Runners reportedly had their photos taken throughout the run, including by some who did not appear to be Rice students. Baker 13 runners also broke a window at Will Rice college.

“While on my way to Duncan, I had ketchup and mustard thrown at me. It was pretty surprising, and I had to stop to wipe off my face so I didn’t get any in my eyes. I did almost get hit with a plate at Brown. I couldn’t tell if it was intentional or not. I was standing very close to a building so I suppose someone could have accidentally dropped it, but I don’t think that’s likely. Luckily, it was in an area where there weren’t too many people so no one got hurt.”

MICA SILVA
LOVETT SOPHOMORE

“Baker 13 was a great time! Defense consisted of much more than just water balloons, with apples being thrown off the sundeck at Martel, and a plate being thrown off a higher floor at Brown. The objects used in defense should be limited to water balloons, hoses, and other non-injuring means of defense, and barricades should be made to block, not injure. An upside down chair does not block any better than a right-side up chair but can cause many more injuries. In addition, first-time runners should be reminded of the dangers of climbing barricades while wet and naked. Personally I found the throwing of food and condiments a fun and creative alternative to standard defenses. As long as hot sauce and other dangerous items are avoided, and harder foods such as pumpkins and apples are not thrown, then adding a food-fight portion of Baker 13 is all in good fun!”

DYLAN DICKENS
MARTEL FRESHMAN

A window of Will Rice College’s private dining room was broken by Baker 13 runners.

Information Technology hires new CIO, VP to consolidate different IT units

BY JIEYA WEN
THRESHERS STAFF

Incoming Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer Klara Jelinkova will officially come to position in the first week of January. The Rice University Task Force on Information Technology suggested the creation of the new position.

“Rice would benefit from having a person vested with sufficient responsibility and authority to influence the entire IT ecosystem and help set policies and priorities at the senior management level.” The report on IT Principles, Governance & Operation said. “The university should formally create the position of Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the university, reporting to either the President or Provost.”

According to Kevin Kirby, vice president for administration and chief financial officer, and CIO Carlos Rendon, the CIO will bring together the technology and administrative units.

Kirby said the CIO will also implement the governance and organizational changes according to the recommendation of Task Force on IT.

“Rice’s IT organizational structure is a patchwork of projects and processes that have been built over time and is not aligned with Rice’s vision for the future. By creating this new position, we can consolidate the university’s academic and administrative IT units. The CIO will help us to achieve the desired results,” Kirby said.

The CIO will report to the senior vice president for administration and chief financial officer, and will serve as part of the university’s senior leadership team.

Jelinkova said the CIO will focus on creating a strategic plan for IT and ensuring that all departments are adequately supported.

“I am delighted to be joining Rice University, where technology is playing an increasingly important role in all aspects of university life and has the potential to catalyze new ideas in both education and research,” Jelinkova said. “I look forward to working with the faculty, students and staff at Rice to articulate an innovative technology vision for Rice and make that vision a reality.”

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The Rice Thresher is a member of the ACP, TIPA and CNBA. © Copyright 2020.
Fat Tony lights up

**Matchbox**

Rice-favorite rapper Fat Tony made an appearance on campus Oct. 30 for a free show hosted by KTRU Radio and Matchbox Gallery. The event, also featuring artists Abdu Ali, Schwarz and Kilbourne, is part of a larger #MOTIVATIONALTOUR.

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**Public art creates community space**

Kayven Strench

**A&E Editor**

It seems like public art has taken over Rice University these past few weeks. In early October, Charette winner “Soundbeam” was installed near Fondren Library. And this past week, local artist Daniel Angulo began work on an edgy, multicolored mural by the fire pits at Baker College.

And these factors contribute to the notion that enjoying art is more accessible to middle-class neighborhoods and are littered with public art. These spaces that lack aesthetic elements run the risk of being seen intrusive. They cannot be avoided; they draw our attention. Public art solves this problem by placing art out in the open, giving everyone an opportunity to appreciate it.

Public art brings communities together. It transforms a place of utility into something that invites public discussion and interaction. Public spaces that lack aesthetic elements run the risk of losing their appeal and being seen as utilitarian spaces. However, public art can transform these spaces into vibrant community centers.

Public art is not meant to be concealed behind a gold-plated gate: It is classless, universal.

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**THE WEEKLY SCENE**

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

**AL-T-J**

Attention all indie-rock fans — your week’s about to get a whole lot better. Critically acclaimed punk rock band Alt-J is coming to Houston Nov. 4. The group should be in top form following the recent release of their second studio album. The concert starts at 8 p.m., and tickets are a steal at $55.

**HERMANN RUN**

There are no excuses not to take a walk or run, especially in gorgeous Hermann Park, site of the 2014, Run in the Park. The 5k is Saturday, Nov. 8, and starts at 8 a.m. Runners will circle the green space and celebrate afterward at a post-race party with music, food and drinks.

**MIXED MEDIA**

Forget getting sloppy in your room again; join the Museum of Fine Arts for a late-night, class discussion on painting, Thursday, Nov. 7, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Dance, drink (for those of age) and get an exclusive ticket to wander amongst Monet’s paintings.

**DAVID SEDARIS**

Author of classics like Me Talk Pretty One Day and Naked, Sedaris’ sharp cultural insights, quick wit and sarcastic charm makes him one of America’s finest contemporary humorists. Hear him live, Saturday, Nov. 8, at 8 p.m.

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**COURTESY BIG MACHINE**

Taylor Swift has been on the pop scene for nearly a decade, making her a staple of radio music since elementary and middle school for me and many of my peers. Her new album, 1989, is named after her birth year. That makes Swift nearly seven years older than the average Rice University freshman. And I still think of her as the seemingly perennial teenager that burst on the scene in 2006 with songs about the overwhelming emotions associated with high school romance. And her country-tinged, guitar-rock ballads are at least partially responsible for the introduction of country into mainstream pop radio, although her detractors will call these tunes “country pop” or just “pop.”

To put it bluntly, 2014 Taylor Swift sounds nothing like 2001 Taylor Swift in some of the worst ways possible. Rather than expand on her sound, her current collection of synth and percussion-heavy, voice-modified pop tracks strip away any remaining uniqueness formally present in the singer. Instead, she is relegated to the role of an anonymous female pop star singing meaningless songs while her producers try in vain to craft the next “Paradise.”

Opening track “Welcome to New York” is an unoriginal, trance pop song that sounds like it could have been written for anyone. Swift’s once-distinctive voice is synthesized into a generic pop track: She no longer attempts to mimic the human voice. The lyrics on 1989 sound half remembered and half cliché, such as “I spent the furniture to dance / like we stood a chance / two paper airplanes flying!” from second single “Out Of The Woods,” a song that tries so hard to sound anthemic that it ultimately collapses.

Swift was a beloved pop singer for being relatable. Rather than the cheerleader that wore “shirts,” she wore “t-shirts” and resided “on the bleachers.” When her high school years were behind her, she managed to connect to fans of her own age with 2012’s “21” and party alongside her college-aged friends with the dubstep influenced “Tongue.” 1989 finds Swift

**See p. 98, page 8**
Surprise your bored S.O. with Houston’s hottest date ideas

1. **Cookin’ Up Some Romance**
   **Cooking Classes at Central Market**
   You’ve seen it a million times in romantic comedies. He leans over her, helping her stir. She wipes a bit of flour off of her lips. Classy cooking is all romance. Not only is taking a cooking class with your sweetheart a fun and romantic experience, but you will also learn some useful skills for when you inevitably become a real adult. Without a meal plan. Central Market, a high-end grocery store in River Oaks, regularly hosts a variety of reasonably-priced cooking classes. You can register online at their website: [centralmarket.com/cooking-school.aspx](http://www.centralmarket.com/cooking-school.aspx). You should look for classes that fill up fast.

2. **I’d [Hike] the Distance for You**
   **Hiking through Houston Arboretum and Nature Center**
   If you’re the outdoorsy type, lace up some hiking boots and take your date on a fall hike through the beautiful Houston Arboretum and Nature Center in Memorial Park. The 155-acre nature sanctuary is quiet, peaceful and home to a variety of plants and animals. Go bird watching, have a picnic or tackle the five miles of trails free of charge. Find more info about the Arboretum at their website: [http://houstonarboretum.org/about](http://www.houstonarboretum.org/about).

3. **You Make Me Feel Like Dancing**
   **Live Music at the Continental Club**
   The Continental Club is one of Houston’s worst-kept secrets. The upclass Midtown dive bar touts a sultry atmosphere, an impressive drink list and, best of all, great live music. The cover charge is typically $10 on weekend nights, but the club doesn’t charge a separate admission fee to see the bands. Music varies in genre from jazz to country to rock and more, and from Grammy-nominated artists to local bands. No matter what’s playing, you’ll have more than enough excuses to pull your date in for a dance. This is sure to be the classiest night you’ll ever have in Midtown. Find the band schedule and more info at their website: [http://www.continentalclub.com/Houston.html](http://www.continentalclub.com/Houston.html).

4. **Pier into My Eyes**
   **Romantic Evening on the Kemah Boardwalk**
   It’s everything you always thought your first date would be: You hold hands as you zip through a carnival ride, your stomach jumping into your chest. He shoots a bottle down, winning you a giant teddy bear that you cart around the rest of the night with pride. You walk down the pier, eating cotton candy, and share a moonlit kiss to the natural melody of the waves. All is possible at the Kemah Boardwalk, arguably one of the most romantic spots in the city. This 60-acre complex, only 30 miles south-east of downtown Houston, is home to beautiful carnival lights, amusement park rides, shopping, arcade games, restaurants, boat rides and much more. There is no admission fee, and entertainment is cheap and abundant. This is a perfect date for the nostalgic romantic. Find more details at the website: [http://www.kemahboardwalk.com](http://www.kemahboardwalk.com).

5. **SPLURGE: Baby, You Take Me to New Heights**
   **Air Balloon Rides over Houston**
   Okay, warning: This one’s a bit pricey. This is the date for the guy/girl who wants to propose, screwed up big time or has been saving since age three. However, when the time is right, take your sweetheart on an air balloon ride at sunset around the beautiful Katy/West Houston area. Rides are about an hour long – the perfect amount of time to charm your S.O. in a cozy setting. Again, at Echo a passenger, this experience costs a pretty penny, but you’re sure to make a memory that will stay with you forever. Rides are booked through Air Texas Balloon Adventures. Find more information at their website: [http://www.airtexasballoon.com](http://www.airtexasballoon.com).

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**Kaylen Strench**

**A&E Editor**

It’s fall, and love is in the air. There’s no better time than now to ask that special someone in your life on a romantic date. Whether you’ve been together since high school or have just exchanged glances in class. Let’s be real, though: Planning good dates is hard. You definitely could take your crush out to Thai Village, but you’re fancier than that. But you’re also a broke college student, so it’s not like you can whisk them away to one of Houston’s finest restaurants. Never fear, my friend – the Thresher has your back. We have researched some of the best dates in Houston. Let’s just put it this way: The only thing that will be better than your day/ evening will be your night.

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**ILLUSTRATIONS BY Carrie (Jang) and Claire (Eldinah)**

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emulating the new wave of pop stars, losing all of her originality and, subsequently, credibility and resonance. “Without Desire” sounds like a cheap LSD impression, with Swift echoing herself over spacey beats that have become a hallmark of “minimalist pop,” while “I Wish You Would” includes the los shotgun drum and funky guitar flange that sister-band and 2015 breakout group Haim have repopularized. In fact, if the song didn’t descend into the void of over-produced pop grandeur on the coda, it could actually pass for a Haim B-side.

So how does only hold up on the catchiness front? If you look no further than lead single “Shake It Off,” the answer is: Viscariously. I’ve heard the song making the rounds at Rice parties and pre-games since it was released, firmly ensuring the seal of approval from what I would guess is Swift’s target demographic — 95-year-old females. But for a pop album, the rest of the record is disappointingly stale. The dance tracks are repetitive and don’t find the grooves that old females. But for a pop album, the rest of the

In fact, if the song didn’t descend into the void of over-produced pop grandeur on the coda, it could actually pass for a Haim B-side.

this summer sleeper hit comedy stars New Girl actors Jake Johnson and Damon Wayans Jr. as a pair of unemployed friends who decide to take the law into their own hands after dressing up as policemen for a costume party. But when their joke goes too far, they learn just how hard it is to be a cop.

Ultimately, 1989 will be regarded as Swift’s ‘true pop’ album on which she delved further than ever before into synth- and computer-based production. The impersonality of the songwriting and vocals are huge detractors, bringing the singer a solid step backward after eight years of incremental improvement. However, Swift’s eye for detailed lyrics still shines from time to time — the “long hair, clicked back, white shirt” the “hands in my hair, clothes in my room,” the spoken word intro on “Shake It Off” — these moments still manage to evoke the old Swift we know and love. But, unfortunately, they don’t work to put together cohesive feelings from each song, with each chorus and song title sounding like it was pumped out by some sentimental phrase generator. The end result is one song (“Shake It Off”) that will be a staple of parties and impromptu dance sessions for years and another dour, utterly forgettable piece of 2010-era generi-pop.

This second studio album from the critically-acclaimed rapper from Mississippi is another inspired collection of soulful southern hip-hop. The album features appearances from Wiz Khalifa, Rico Love and Rice University guest lecturer Bernard “Bun B” Freeman, and it includes current single “Soul Food” featuring Raphael Saadiq.

Disney presents its first collaboration between its animation division and Marvel Comics since acquiring the company in 2009. When a boy and his self-built robot uncover a villainous plot, they decide to take matters into their own hands and assemble a crime-fighting team to defeat the masked super-villain. PG. 58 minutes. Also in 3-D.

Rice University is situated in the heart of Houston, Texas, which provides the perfect setting for Rice MGA students to engage with world leaders and international organizations.

Applications due Jan. 5, 2015 | http://mga.rice.edu

This Week in Entertainment

**This Week in Entertainment**

**CALVIN HARRIS**

**ALBUM**

Motion – Calvin Harris

Amid his rise to becoming one of the world’s most well-known DJs, Harris released his fourth studio album of electronic dance music. The collection includes the top-ten hit “Summer,” and single “Blame.” The album also features appearances from Gwen Stefani, Big Sean, Ellie Goulding and Haim among other artists.

**Big Hero 6**

In Theaters

**COURTESY WALT DISNEY**

Disney presents its first collaboration between its animation division and Marvel Comics since acquiring the company in 2009. When a boy and his self-built robot uncover a villainous plot, they decide to take matters into their own hands and assemble a crime-fighting team to defeat the masked super-villain. PG. 58 minutes. Also in 3-D.

**Cadillacia – Big K.R.I.T.**

**ALBUM**

**COURTESY BIG K.R.I.T.**

The second studio album from the critically-acclaimed rapper from Mississippi is another inspired collection of soulful southern hip-hop. The album features appearances from Wiz Khalifa, Rico Love and Rice University guest lecturer Bernard “Bun B” Freeman, and it includes current single “Soul Food” featuring Raphael Saadiq.

**Let’s Be Cops**

DVD and Blu-ray

**COURTESY 20TH CENTURY FOX**

This summer sleeper hit comedy stars New Girl actors Jake Johnson and Damon Wayans Jr. as a pair of unemployed friends who decide to take the law into their own hands after dressing up as policemen for a costume party. But when their joke goes too far, they learn just how hard it is to be a cop.

**1989**

**FROM PAGE 6**

**This Week in Entertainment**

**BY LOUIS LESSER**
**Sports**

*Sports is on Twitter. Get the scoop at twitter.com/ThresherSports*

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**Football continues winning streak**

**KEVIN MOHANAM**
**THESHER STAFF**

**Rice vs. FIU**

31-17

The Rice University football team defeated Florida International University 31-17 on Saturday, Nov. 5, extending their winning streak to five games and bringing the team to 5-3 overall and 3-1 in Conference USA. After the Owls defense recovered an early fumble from FIU, sophomore running back Jowan Davis ran 99 yards for a touchdown 33 seconds into the first quarter. Rice increased the lead to 17 after a caesared long 60-yard field goal from junior James Farrimond and a 63-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Drehbies Jackson to senior wide receiver Jordan Taylor. FIU then scored 14 unanswered points through the end of the first quarter and into the second quarter. Jackson nailed a 49-yard touchdown pass to true freshman James Maydon, and FIU answered with a field goal, closing out the half at 24-17. FIU was held scoreless in the second half, and junior Luke Turner scored the last touchdown of the game in the closing out the half at 24-17. FIU was held scoreless in the second half, and junior Luke Turner scored the last touchdown of the game in the second half of the game,” Nordstrom said. “That’s balancing out our ground attack. It’s going to be a good thing for us because it’s the first time I’ve done this,” Patt said. “That’s just really a testament to the (defensive line), our staff, the coaches and the unit as a core, rushing together, playing as a team and just having fun.”

According to Bailey’s, the seniors played well and led the team effectively. Bailey also said it is important to acknowledge senior defensive back Bryce Callahan for his ability to lock down opposing receivers.

“I thought our coaches at halftime really made some nice judgments, but also I more importantly thought our seniors just came out with more of a passion [and] played with a chip on their shoulders,” Bailey said. “Bryce Callahan, our cornerback, is very talented. You’re not seeing his name a whole lot because he’s not getting a lot of activity. He had a stalwart game.”

Junior defensive end Byron Nordstrom said he was happy with the team’s defensive performance but acknowledged the need for improvement.

“I’m really happy with how the defense played in the second half of the game,” Nordstrom said. “But at the same time, we’re not satisfied. We still have the goals of winning conference and getting to a bowl game that we need to accomplish.”

Jackson said he liked how the offense played to start the game but said they could have performed better in the second half.

“As far as off offense, I feel we played well in the first half,” Jackson said. “I feel like we have to play better in the second half … I feel like we are making great strides. We are throwing the ball a lot better, even though the completion percentage is not where I would like it to be. We are actually putting points on the board in the air. That’s balancing out our ground attack. It’s going to put better going forward.”

Jackson also said playing high-ranked schools at the beginning of the year helped prepare the team to face off against conference competition.

“I think a lot of pressure off, to be honest,” Jackson said. “Those big games [against Notre Dame and Army] end up preparing you for the pressure of conference … We want to be undefeated, but [our] goal is to be conference champions. Even though we dropped first conference game to Old Dominion, I feel like we played well in that game. We just came up short … We can match up with the best and biggest.”

Junior all-defense conference tackling Christian Covington will be out for around two weeks with a lower leg injury from Saturday’s game. Coach Baili said the team will miss Covington’s presence but that they have enough depth to recover quickly.

“During Klaye is playing exceptionally,” Baili said. “Ross Winship has stepped up. … We’ve got good depth there in the middle of the defensive line. They’re making plays. Will we miss him? Absolutely, he’s a great player. Coach [Jim] Wacker, when I played for him, used to tell us ‘you don’t win a championship with a healthy club.’ People have to step up and I expect those guys behind him to go.”

Rice is looking to extend their win streak to six games as they host the University of Texas, San Antonio (2-6, 0-3 C-USA) on Saturday, Nov. 8. Baili said the return of their senior starting quarterback Tucker Carter will make the game more challenging.

“They have their quarterback back; you know they’re going to come in here excited,” Baili said. “They still have a chance to go to a bowl game … We’ll have a great week of practice [and we] look forward to his homecoming game.”

The game against UTSA is Rice’s homecoming game and will kick off at 11 a.m. at Rice Stadium.

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**Volleyball sweeps series in Florida**

**JUAN SALDANA**
**THESHER STAFF**

The Rice University volleyball team (20-6, 10-2 C-USA) earned two victories in Florida this weekend against conference opponents Florida International University (6-20, 3-10 C-USA) and Florida Atlantic University (17-17, 8-8 C-USA).

The first victory came on a Friday match up in Miami, Florida against FIU. The Owls faced an FIU team riding a seven-game losing streak. The Owls broke a 15-15 tie in the first set and a 22-22 tie in the second to narrowly pull away with the first two sets, 25-18 and 26-22. Despite FIU taking the third set and avoiding the sweep, the Owls prevailed in a 3-2 victory and, with the win, clinched a spot in the Conference USA tournament.

On Sunday, the team traveled north to Boca Raton, Florida to take on the FAU Owls. With consistent and balanced play on offense and a defense that held FAU to a .387 hitting percentage, the Rice Owls completed their 13th 3-0 sweep of the season. The win also secured their place among the top five Rice volleyball teams in recent history by becoming the 13th team to reach 20 wins in a season.
Sports Calendar
Games this Week

5 Soccer
vs. Western Kentucky University,
Charlotte, NC, 11 a.m.
The Owls (9-3-3) open as the No. 2 seed in the Conference USA Tournament this week, with their first game against No. 7 WKU.

6 Volleyball
vs. University of Texas, San Antonio
6 p.m.
The Rice volleyball team (20-6) looks to improve its winning streak to five games against in-state conference rival North Texas.

7 Soccer
Men’s Basketball
vs. University of Texas, San Antonio
11 a.m.
The Owls play in the first exhibition game of the season against LeTourneau University. This will be the first game under new head coach Mike Rhoades.

8 Football
vs. University of Texas, San Antonio
3 p.m.
On homecoming Saturday, the Rice football team looks to earn its sixth-consecutive victory and become bowl eligible for the third season in a row. The Owls are currently in second place in the C-USA West Division and look to improve their standing in the league.

8 Men’s Basketball
vs. LeTourneau University, 3 p.m.
The Owls play in the first exhibition game of the season against LeTourneau University. This will be the first game under new head coach Mike Rhoades.

8 Volleyball
vs. University of North Texas, 6 p.m.
The third-place Rice volleyball team will play conference foe Louisiana Tech Sunday at 3 p.m. and will look to take a win from last-place Louisiana Tech.

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Senior Casey Clark competes in the butterfly event in a dual meet on Saturday, Nov. 4. Clark won three individual events, coming first in the 100- and 200-yard freestyle with times of 52.42 and 1:52.19, respectively. Clark also won the butterfly event with a time of 56.16, the best in the C-USA this season. Rice fell to the University of North Texas in the meet 151-140.

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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.

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“We started out a little bit rocky at Florida International but managed to pull out a win with pretty average play,” Volpe said. “Against Florida Atlantic, we knew we had to step up our game because they are a stronger team and we did.”

Right side hitter Chealey Harris recorded double-digit kills in both games with 16 against FIU and a team-high 13 against FAU. Volpe said Harris played a valuable role in the perfect weekend.

“Chealey Harris did an awesome job for us over the weekend,” Volpe said. “She was extremely dependable checking for us on the right side.”

In addition to Harris, Volpe said she was impressed with the job freshman Katie Steel has done as setter, stepping in for injured sophomore Sara Blasier.

“Katie has really come through being put in a very important position positioning the team while Sara has been out with injury,” Volpe said. “I have been so impressed with her ability to focus and work through some tough match situations. Katie’s assist numbers have been stellar, and I think the team and she deserves a lot of credit for pulling together and gelling like they have those last two weeks.

The Owls now sit at third place in the Conference USA standings with a 10-2 conference record with the two losses coming from the current leaders in the conference — the University of Texas, San Antonio and Western Kentucky University. With four matches left in the season, the Owls are trying to climb in the Conference USA standings as they prepare for the conference tournament on Nov. 21. Volpe said the team is looking to finish the season strong and carry the winning streak into the CUSA tournament in order to receive a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

“We want to obviously [win] out the rest of our matches in conference play and then continue to maintain momentum into winning the conference tournament,” Volpe said.

“We have that ability and we know what we need to do. The team is committed. We honestly have the best offense in the league and need to capitalize on that to keep winning out.”

The Owls now have four conference home games in the next two weeks. This weekend features a 6 p.m. Friday matchup against the University of North Texas, followed by a 1 p.m. Sunday game against Louisiana Tech University.

Volpe said the importance of these final regular-season home games is critical for the team’s confidence and momentum going into postseason play.

“We need the support of the Owl fans,” Volpe said. “We would absolutely love to see the members of the Rice community come out and support this awesome team. We hope that the student body comes out in full force and gives us the home-court advantage. We have been on the road a lot this season, and so I know the team is looking forward to playing in front of their fans.”

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The Rice University men’s and women’s cross-country team competed in the Conference USA Cross Country Championship at the University of North Texas this weekend. The women’s team placed second overall in the meet with 62 points, trailing only Middle Tennessee State University with 55 points. The men’s team placed fourth in the meet, led by redshirt junior Will Firth, who finished sixth overall and had the best finish in the conference tournament in Rice history with a time of 24:29 in the 8K race.

Sophomore Callie Roper led the women’s team with a first place individual finish with a time of 16:43, a full seven seconds faster than Middle Tennessee sophomore Hannah Maina’s second place finish. Roper’s time was the fourth-fastest mark in C-USA championship history for a 5K race. Roper was also the only Owl in Rice’s history to finish first at a C-USA title race and the second Owl to claim an individual cross-country title.

Along with Roper, sophomore Katie Jensen and freshman Madi McLellan received First Team All-Conference Honors. Jensen finished fifth with a time of 16:59, and McLellan finished sixth with a time of 17:08.

Along with Firth, who earned first team All-Conference Honors, sophomore Adam Davidson earned a spot on the second team All-Conference team by finishing in 11th place in 24:47. Freshmen Steve Booker and Brad Dohner earned third team All-Conference honors after finishing with times of 25:09 and 25:10, respectively.

Both the men’s and women’s cross-country teams will next compete in the NCAA South Central Regional in Fayetteville, Arkansas on Nov. 14.
RUSH RICE

After an intense rush week, culminating in Baker 13, every single Jones freshman found himself rejected from his dream fraternity at Jones College. Of the seven that made it through “the knuckle” during Baker 13, three were never seen again, two refused to go back to Jones, and one “wouldn’t even do a keg stand.” Jones Representative Hersh Agrawal issued a statement saying, “Obviously this behavior is pretty un-fucking Mu-Gamma-JIBA.” The remaining student was close to making it into the Frat, especially after being the first human to successfully complete the Fijian Bear-Naked-Bubble-Wrap-Banana-Bonanza-Blast-All-Male-Moon-Landing, but he did not pass the jiggle test. Moreover, he passed the traditional Jones Sandboarding Test, the Galveston Sandy Hot Dog and the Ice Bucket Challenge. Still, reports indicate he did receive a bid from his second choice, Martel College, where he wrote a successful romantic comedy screenplay and treated his female counterparts with courtesy and genuine human interest; no wonder Jones kicked him to the curb.

Still, these fraternities are all unofficial, as the only fraternity to attain a national charter at Rice is Rice University Club Rugby Team / Finance Club. Despite being the only fraternity on campus, their entrance requirements are rather open: All that is needed is proof of bottle service at Red Door and a deep and rational hatred of exit signs.

Some of the reported Jones rejects have sought out a different route through the Rice’s time-old tradition of eating clubs. Particularly popular this year was Rice’s oldest and most prestigious eating club, Baker, where young a capella singers and good-old boys sit around, smoke cigars and shoot the sexism. “Boo to the low-keys,” said one of the blue-blazer-clad trust-fund children in perfect harmony. The fellows then went on to “Bless the rain, down in Africa.”

Still others joined the McMurtry Secret Society, known only through the code name “Duncan College.” The freshmen were originally shocked at the secrecy of the group but have come to accept their rituals involving churros, hot chocolate and solar deities.

Luckily, Lovett College has graciously accepted the remaining “homeless” freshmen — they asked only that they fail the jiggle test.

The Backpage is satire and written by Reed Thornburg, and this week Dennis Budde and Andrew Stout collaborated. For comments or questions, please email narm@rice.edu.