

**ASSOCIATION OF RICE ALUMNI
GOLD MEDAL NOMINATION FORM**

Nominee WAYNE GRAHAM Phone _____ Fax _____
Address Rice University Athletics (Baseball)
City/State/Zip _____ Rice Class Year(s) _____
Degrees/Majors/Years/Institutions _____
Occupation/Professional Field Baseball Coach
Current Title/Position Head Baseball Coach, Rice University

The Gold Medal is the highest award bestowed by the Alumni Association, and is designed to recognize Rice alumni, faculty, staff, or friends who have rendered extraordinary service to the university. The following criteria will be considered:

- a) outstanding service in promoting the ideals of the founder of the university
- b) unusually deep dedication to and advancement of the academic excellence of the university
- c) uncommon generosity of time and means in support of the university

Please attach a letter of recommendation describing the merits of the nominee. Consider the following question in support of the above criteria: **Does this candidate foster a true lifelong connection to, or influence upon, the university, showing concern for its ongoing vitality and helping to shape its future direction?**

Please note that incomplete nomination forms cannot be considered.

Nominated by JD Bucky Allshouse Phone 713-951-0002 Fax 713-951-0778
Address (Office) Three Riverway, Suite 1420
City/State/Zip Houston, Texas 77056

Please list two other people (i.e., colleague, classmate) whom you have asked to write a letter of support to further validate your nomination.

Name Joyce Hardy Relationship friend
Address 4067 Merrick, Houston, Texas 77025 Phone _____

Name ~~Susanne Glasscock~~ Malcolm Gillis Relationship friend
Address ~~3507 Inwood Drive, Houston, Texas 77019~~ Phone _____

Please return nomination material to:

Lauren Linn
Assistant Director
Office of Alumni Affairs – MS 520
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston TX 77251-1892

or fax to: 713-348-5210

J. D. BUCKY ALLSHOUSE, P.C.

ATTORNEY AT LAW

THREE RIVERWAY, SUITE 1420

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77056

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jdbucky@swbell.net

September 13, 2011

Ms. Lauren Linn
Office of Alumni Affairs
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892, MS-520
Houston, Texas 77251

VIA FACSIMILE: 713-348-5210

RE: Wayne Graham Gold Medal Nomination

Dear Lauren:

I would like to strongly nominate Wayne Graham to be this year's recipient for the Rice University Alumni Association's Gold Medal award. He is extremely deserving of this honor.

Wayne Graham played professional baseball for the Philadelphia Phillies and New York Mets organizations. He later decided to go into teaching. He started teaching high school at Scarborough High School in Houston, Texas and had an opportunity to go into coaching at that time, which he did. He coached approximately ten years in high school before moving on to coach junior college baseball at San Jacinto College.

He started at San Jacinto in 1981 and turned the San Jac program into the nation's most dominant junior college baseball team. They were a dominate force throughout the country and had numerous seasons with fifty wins. San Jac won three consecutive national titles from 1985 to 1987. While at San Jac, Wayne Graham earned five national Coach of the Year awards and produced numerous professional players, including Roger Clements and Andy Pettitte.

In 1992, Bobby May offered the coaching position at Rice University to Wayne Graham and fortunately for us, he accepted. At the time Wayne Graham took over a program at Rice University that had never qualified for the NCAA Division 1 Baseball Tournament. Under Wayne Graham's leadership, he has made seventeen consecutive tournament appearances and has won 16 consecutive regular season or tournament conference championships. This includes championships in three different conferences, the Southwest Conference, Western Athletic Conference, and Conference USA. He has been to the World Series seven times, and of course, won the National Championship in 2003.

In addition to his love for baseball, he has a passion for reading and one of his favorite novels is Frank Herbert's "Dune." He believes strongly not only in being successful on the field, but believes strongly that the young men that he coaches should be a success academically and in the game of life.

I know of no other baseball coach who inspires his team by reading from a novel, a favorite poem, or even Shakespear. He is an outstanding leader and a true national figure.

Wayne Graham has brought Rice to national prominence on the baseball field, but his character, thoughtfulness, and his love for the players has made him an outstanding example for the coaching profession. I strongly recommend Wayne Graham as this year's Gold Medal recipient.

Sincerely,

J.D. Bucky Allshouse

JDBA:pgt

Joyce Pounds Hardy
November 1, 2011

I wish to nominate Coach Wayne Graham for the Gold Medal presented by the Association of Rice Alumni for extraordinary service to Rice University.

He has been a shining example of how to be a teacher and a coach, a mentor and a friend to a generation of young men who learned to be winners in baseball and life. His players have gone on to play professional baseball, become successful business men and family men, inspiring them to be the best that they can be, because that's what he taught them on the baseball diamond.

He is active in the Rice Community supporting the other teams in their seasons. He has been a great fund raiser for his baseball program, working tirelessly to improve the facilities and environs of his baseball field, grand stands, practice facilities, everything that he has needed to make Reckling Park a first rate ball park. He has earned the respect of his team and his assistant Coaches, as well as his fans and parents.

Bringing Wayne to Rice was the best decision the selection committee could have made. He, in his 20 years as our head coach, has put Rice on the map—little Rice that no one had ever heard of. Recently we celebrated his 900th win as Rice's baseball Head Coach. He came here knowing that he could make Rice a winner, he even promised that we would win the College World Series. It was pie in the sky to us. We hadn't even won our conference.

But he knew what he could do with smart kids, and he found it easy to sell Rice because of its high academic reputation. His record and his name was a drawing card. He had coached at San Jacinto Junior College and won six Junior College World Championships. When the selection committee was interviewing Wayne for the job, the boys from his team at San Jac would stop us in the parking lot to tell us what a great coach he was. Even parents called us and told us we would be getting a fine man and a fine coach.

His record of winning seasons at Rice is legendary, he has now won 17 consecutive regular season or tournament championships in three different conferences. He has taken Rice to the College World Series seven times, winning the promised College World Series Championship in 2003. Rice had not had a winning season in baseball in 74 years and it was the first National Championship a Rice team had ever won.

The players tell great stories on Coach Graham, and one of the most memorable ones was relating the times when Coach would get mad at them and begin his lecture with, "It would behoove you...." We in the stands called that, "a teachable moment." Wayne is a well-read intellectual man with a love of history, and the players tell us that when he talks to them at team meetings, they do not always know what some of his words mean.

Wayne grew up in the shadow of The Rice Institute; he spent his youth watching games at Rice. His father was an umpire, and he grew up wanting to play baseball for Rice. Even when he played college baseball for the University of Texas, he says that Rice was always in his heart. According to him, his being hired by Rice to be Head Baseball Coach was a lifelong dream come true. Other Universities, including Texas, have tried to hire him away from Rice, but Wayne always says, “ No, I’m right where I want to be.”



RICE UNIVERSITY

MALCOLM GILLIS
ZINGLER PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS AND
UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

TO: Lauren Linn

CC: Mr. J.D. Bucky Allshouse

FROM: Malcolm Gillis *Malcolm Gillis*

RE: Letter of Support for the Nomination of Wayne Graham: ARA Gold Medal

DATE: November 9, 2011

This is an extremely enthusiastic letter of support for the nomination of Wayne Graham for the highest honor offered by the Association of Rice Alumni – The Alumni Gold Medal.

I have known Wayne Graham for 18 years. He was already in his second year as head baseball coach by the time I arrived at Rice in 1993. At that time, no Rice team in any sport had won a conference championship for almost 15 years and prior to Wayne's coming, no Rice team in any sport had ever won a national championship.

With Wayne present this state of affairs soon began to change as did attitudes toward winning and losing. Rice won the conference baseball championship in the last year of the existence of the old SWC. This was the first of many baseball championships in three different Conferences: the SWC, the WAC and Conference USA.

Indeed, one is hard pressed to recall any year since 1994 that Rice did not win a baseball Conference Championship. There were also precious few years that Rice failed to advance to the NCAA. Then, of course, there was the magical year of 2003, when Wayne guided the OWLS to our University's only National Championship, rolling over Texas twice and Stanford twice in OMAHA.

Winning is a good thing. But, especially at Rice, it is not the only thing. How one wins is just as important. Wayne made winners out of our young players through stress or fundamentals, conditioning and maturity. Wayne's style of coaching, when combined with Rice's reputation for academics caused talented and bright young prospects to actively seek out Rice Scholarship offers. The players knew that their skills would be honed and sharpened at Rice under Wayne's tutelage. Some extraordinary student-

athletes have come through his program; an extremely high proportion of them have earned Rice degrees, because Wayne never allows them to forget that they are students as well as athletes.

Wayne is much more than a Coach. He has proven to be a mentor, respected by the students who have played baseball at Rice. For proof, one needs to look no further than the fact that years after leaving Rice, his former players continue to seek out his advice and counsel, whether they entered professional baseball or not.

We often speak of "no upper limits" at Rice. Usually when we speak of "no upper limits," we are referring to the pursuit of knowledge and understanding, of nature, of society, of other cultures. Wayne Graham typifies this attitude in Rice sports: he accepted no "no upper limits" when he came to Rice and turned an average, plodding baseball undertaking into one that is admired all over the country.

Wayne has made a great difference at Rice, in ways that extend far beyond the baseball diamond. As a result, one has come to expect the same degree of excellence in our baseball program as we have always expected in our academic enterprises.

I am pleased to add my enthusiastic endorsement for Wayne as an ARA Gold Medalist.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Gillis

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Malcolm Gillis
Zingler Professor of Economics
and University Professor
Rice University
6100 Main Street, MS-22
Houston, TX 77005
Office: 713.348.4969
Fax: 713.348.5278



The Rice women's tennis team earned its first berth in the NCAA Women's Tennis Sweet 16 when the Owls routed 16th-ranked University of Mississippi.

Facing a lineup heavy with nationally ranked opponents, the Owls were decided underdogs in their first appearance in the Sweet 16. They eventually lost to No. 1-ranked UCLA. "This is the first time that Rice has been here, but it's not going to be the last," head coach Elizabeth Schmidt said.

In the individual competition, Rice sophomore Natalie Beazant reached another milestone when she picked up the Owls' first win in NCAA Women's Singles competition in 26 years downing Stacey Tan of Stanford, who was a 2011 women's singles finalist, 7-5, 6-2. Beazant and junior Dominique Harmath joined forces the next day to become the first doubles team in school history to win a match in the NCAA Women's Doubles Championship in Athens, Ga., downing Alabama in first round action. ■



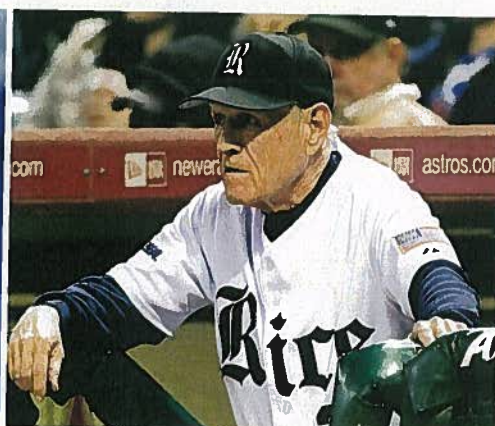
Ron Smarr

Men's Tennis

Legendary head coach Ron Smarr retired at the end of the 2012 season. Smarr is the winningest coach in collegiate men's tennis. In May, he was inducted into the International Tennis Association's Men's College Tennis Hall of Fame. In his 15 seasons at Rice, Smarr has posted a 257-143 record while leading the Owls to 10 NCAA appearances, the last nine in consecutive seasons. He has won a pair of conference titles and produced eight All-Americans. In 2004, he was named the National Coach of the Year after the Owls reached as high as No. 5 in the national polls and reached the Sweet 16 at the NCAA Championships.

Baseball

The Owls won their 17th-consecutive regular season conference championship. Rice's conference championship streak, which includes regular season and tournament titles, spans the Owls' mem-



Wayne Graham

bership in three different conferences. The 2012 C-USA title is the Rice program's seventh straight since joining the conference in 2006.

Head baseball coach Wayne Graham is one of seven 2012 National College Baseball Hall of Fame inductees. The class includes Lou Brock, Ed Cheff, Nomar Garciaparra, Tim Lincecum, Frank Sancet and Brad Wilkerson. Graham will continue to build on his remarkable legacy for the next six years, thanks to a contract extension announced by Rice in early June. Graham, 76, just completed his 21st season as Rice's head baseball coach.

Football

Record-setting quarterback Tommy Kramer '77, who thrilled Rice fans and haunted opposing defensive coordinators with an aerial attack that was far ahead of his time, is among 14 former college greats and three legendary coaches who make up the 2012 National



Becky Wade

Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame class.

Rice Athletics' annual Night of the Owl celebration honored Travis Bradshaw '12 (football) and Becky Wade '12 (track and field), among many other student-athletes. Wade received the Joyce Pounds Hardy Award, presented to the top overall female student-athlete. Bradshaw received the Bob Quin Award for Rice Athletic's most outstanding all-around senior male athlete.

Track and Field

Distance runner Becky Wade '12 competed in the 10,000-meter run at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championship in June. Senior Sharae Robinson also won first and a gold in discus at the same event. Wade, a five-time C-USA gold medalist, set numerous records while at Rice.