Enduring trials and trouncing qualifying meets are two actions which Owls perform swimmingly. Kaitlyn Swinney ’18 and Alicia Caldwell ’18 were the Owls’ top swimmers at the annual Quad Meet at the University of Houston. Swinney finished in fourth place out of 17 swimmers in the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:23.51. Caldwell placed fourth out of 22 swimmers in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 51.92. Caldwell and Swinney also finished in sixth and seventh place in the 200-yard backstroke with times of 2:02.19 and 2:03.57, respectively. Marie-Claire Schillinger ’19 finished in fifth place in the 100-yard breaststroke with a 1:04.11. Kaitlin Benjamin ’18 and Kiley Beall ’18 placed sixth and seventh, respectively, in the 200-yard butterfly.

The Owls continued to show their strength at the Conference USA Championships. Jaecey Parham ’18 won the individual title in the 200-yard individual medley, with a personal best time of 2:00.25, which is also the third-fastest time in school history. The 200 IM was a big scoring event for the team, as Kaitlyn Swinney, Marie-Claire Schillinger, and Shelby Ragosta ’17 all placed in the top eight. Marie-Claire Schillinger ’17 also took home two individual Conference USA titles in the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events. She broke the school record during the 200-yard breaststroke preliminaries with a time of 2:11.84. The 200-yard backstroke also proved to be a big event for the team, as the sophomore foursome of Alicia Caldwell, Kiley Beall, Kaitlyn Swinney, and Julie Litter all swam in the finals for the event. The Rice Owls ended the C-USA championships by finishing second in the team standings with a total of 636 points. Three Owls, Kaitlyn Swinney, Marie-Claire Schillinger and Kiley Beall, will continue swimming strong this summer at the 2016 Olympic Trials, after qualifying for the 400 IM, 100 breaststroke, and 100 backstroke, respectively. Story and Design by Julia Wang