Event Information

On November 18th, 2017 the 2nd annual GameBreakers took place at the Brian Patterson Sports Performance Center at Rice University. A diversified group of 55 motivated, excited high school students from across the Houston area joined us, free of charge, to attend this event. RSBS hosted distinguished speakers with professional background both on and off the field and across different spheres of the sport industry. The GameBreakers participants were kept on their toes with sports trivia and prize giveaways, interactive activities, and a tour of the newly erected Brian Patterson Sports Performance Center. Additionally, breakfast and lunch were provided and each student left with a goody bag and GameBreakers t-shirt. The attendees not only received the opportunity to listen to sport industry professionals, but even got the chance to introduce themselves to them, which they learned was the first step to being successful in the sport industry.
Organizers

Rice Sport Business Society (RSBS) is a student-run organization focused on fostering professional and community relations for its members and its university within the sports industry through event organization, fundraising, and outreach.

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Rice is not the first event of its kind nationwide. The initiative was launched by Professor Joe Branch and his nonprofit foundation UWANTGAME, and has included events in Brooklyn and New Orleans as well as Houston. We at Rice Sport Business Society are honored to continue the legacy begun by Professor Branch and seek to continue inspiring young sport-minded students nationwide to pursue and achieve their goals far into the future.
THANK YOU to all of our incredible partners, GameBreakers Rice 2017 would not have been possible without you!
Off the Field

Behind the Scenes

Quater 1

Owl We Do Is Win

Past and Present Student Athletes

Quater 2

Hittin' the Books

Beyond the Game

Quater 3

On the Field

Under the Lights

Quater 4
The 1st Quarter discussion focused on the importance of finding your passion and always working to develop your skills. There was a big emphasis on finding inspiration through external factors like mentors, books, and exemplary peers.
Chloe Barnes from Elle Grace Consulting came to speak with the students about their personal branding image and conducted a short workshop. Elle Grace Consulting helps high school student athletes develop a brand for themselves and navigate the collegiate recruiting process. Through engaging activities students got a taste of how to curate their own personal brand and practiced expressing their passions confidently.
The 2nd Quarter discussion focused on the hard work and dedication it takes to navigate and succeed as a Division I student-athlete and Rice University student. A common theme was the importance of diversifying activities. They stressed the importance of balancing and prioritizing between sports, academics, friends, and family.

“Life can take you to great places if you take advantages of the tools you have”

– William Roberts
The 3rd Quarter focused in on the importance of education when it comes to fulfilling life goals, both for athletes and non-athletes. Each panelist highlighted the importance of discovering mentors, exploring difficult subjects, and sharing our passions with others.

“Academics is a way to have tools to navigate life.” - Andrew Green

Laurel D’Antoni
Head of Rockets
Women’s Organization

Tom Stallings
Professor in the Practice,
Rice University

Andrew Green
Co-Founder of the non-profit organization Sportin’ The Grades
ON THE FIELD
Under the Lights
QUARTER 4

The 4th Quarter explored the relentless careers of four professional athletes, detailing the highs and lows of pursuing a life in professional sports. Students were advised to remain humble, minimize stress, and stick to the basics.

Lennie Waite
Current: Rice assistant coach and Sport Psychologist
Former: Olympian for team Great Britain

Paul Janish
Current: Rice Baseball Coach
Former: Played professionally for the Reds, Braves, and Orioles

Tony Rocha
Midfielder for the Orlando City SC

Jon Duplantier
3rd Round pick by the Arizona Diamondbacks
“Never be afraid to go up and shake someone’s hand.” - Brendan Fournie

“Find someone to mentor you.” - Chef Rey

“Share your passions with the people who are close to you, and they’ll help you achieve your dreams.” - Tom Stallings

“Learn how to fail beautifully” - Lennie Waite

“Take the time to diversify and distinguish yourself from your peers” - Brian Nordstrom
Attending Groups

LAKE HOUSTON BASKETBALL

THE SALVATION ARMY

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF METROPOLITAN HOUSTON

yes prep
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

KIPP HOUSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LEGACY THE SCHOOL OF SPORT SCIENCES
ESTABLISHED 2011
Student Sentiments

“GameBreakers was awesome because of the real pro athletes I was able to learn from. I hope one of them can mentor me.” -Charles, YES Prep

“My favorite part? Meeting Jon (Duplantier).” -Nina, Jersey Village

“After experiencing GameBreakers, I want to learn more about how to combine sports and engineering.” -Matti, Kingwood

“I loved the interactive activities!” -Charte, Northside

“I loved Dr. Green’s Sportin’ The Grades game. I want to learn more about STEM and interesting jobs related to it.” -Etienne, Cy Ridge
Program Results

- 56.8% Female Students
- 68.2% Opted-in to RSBS Mentorship Program
- 95.3% Became more aware of sport industry opportunities
- 95.5% Would come back in 2018
Thank Yous and Takeaways

Rice Sport Business Society would like to thank the following parties for their invaluable contributions to GameBreakers Rice 207:

Professor Joe Branch, Speakers/Panelists, Community Partners, Attending Groups/Organizations, The Brian Patterson Sport Performance Center, Rice University Department of Sport Management

We firmly believe GameBreakers Rice 2017 impacted the lives of all attending students by providing valuable exposure to older students, professionals, and professors in the sports industry and introducing the intricacies and values of staying involved in sports far past their playing careers.
See you next year!