Baker President Says College More Than Educational Experience

By DOUG HARLAN
Name: James Marvin Rhodes.
Height: 6 feet 1 inch.
Birthplace: Rosenberg, Texas.
Hometown: Baytown, Texas.
Occupation: full time job, president of Baker College.
Description: casual, relaxed, and friendly.

This person should be approached with care—he may appear quiet and inactive, but actually he is not—in fact, he is the prime motivator in most Baker activities.

JIM, a graduate of Baytown’s Robert E. Lee High, is a history major. He plans to attend the University of Texas Law School with a career “devoted to the practice of law” upcoming—however, he does not rule out a political career.

At Rice, Jim has been a member of the freshman baseball team, member of the Forensic Society, participant in intramurals, a member of the Publications Board, president of the Pre-Law Society, and president of the Junior Class. His hobbies include golf and tennis as well as baseball; he also has a “moderate interest” in music, playing the piano and trombone.

DURING THE summer Jim works at camps—including work on the waterfront at Scout Camps. In Scouting Jim achieved the highest attainable rank, Eagle Scout. For relaxation he finds an occasional fishing trip enjoyable.

Although not a Rhodes Scholar, Rhodes is a scholar, usually a persistent member of the Dean’s Team.

JIM COMMENTS that since its inception the colleges have achieved great growth and development. There have been great strides made at Baker—particularly in the recent past. Baker, under Jim, has initiated an extensive and successful language table program of the year.

Presently under way are two new programs of cultural and current interest. This is just part of the varied program designed to give to all Baker students with varying interests. In the recreational area, a new pool table has been obtained and a Baker intramural program held.

ALSO RECENTLY established is the “College goals” committee—partly as a result of recent “unfortunate but invaluable experience”—designed to reevaluate cultural, social, athletic, behavioral, and governmental goals.

Jim comments that the college is more than an educational experience. He points out the need for serious, constructive thinking to develop the great possibilities for improvement.

“It has been quite pleasant to observe college spirit in action,” Jim explained, “and the cooperation of the college members has been superb all year, ever since freshman orientation.”

For Baker this was a year with Jim Rhodes, undoubtedly a good reward from a wanted man.