Traditional Flooding Deplored By Colleges

By ED FUNKHouser

The Typical Rice Student's impulse to escape reality has frequently turned him from his pursuit of learning to engage in various activities basically serving the purpose of outlets.

High on the Riceite's list of outlets is the sportsmanlike and friendly competition of water-fighting.

HOWEVER, IT APPEARS that the new crop of freshmen, enthused over the prospect awaiting them, have stretched both their ingenuity and university regulations to the limit in carrying out this elementary contest.

Thus this once-hallowed endeavor "has degenerated into bestial conflict, raising the possibility of University intervention," according to the president of one of the men's colleges.

The essential positions of the four men's colleges correspond to university regulations in regard to water-fights. Specifically, the colleges support the residential rules pertaining to disorderly conduct, outlined in two passages of the administration pamphlet, "Residence In The Men's Colleges."

THE FIRST observes that "failure to observe the ordinary amenities of civilized life or to respect the rights and persons of others will make a member liable to penalties, as determined by his College."

The second admonition, contained in paragraph 9, says that "willful abuse or destruction of University property constitutes cause for disciplinary action." Violation of the latter regulation provides cause for the attention of the University in the person of the Manager of the Residential Colleges.

OTHER THAN this general support of university regulations the various colleges act and think somewhat differently about water-fights.

Will Rice College, for example, has decided not to engage in water-fights with other colleges, and has restricted this mode of entertainment to an inter-college activity.

Dr. Street Fulton, Master of the College, notes that he is "opposed to gang warfare between colleges" and that the Will Rice College Court handles violators in its own way.

BAKER PRESIDENT John Sylvester, observes that his college has "no formal rules" in dealing with water-fights. In case of a complaint the college tries to remedy the situation by talking to the persons involved in an attempt to resolve any problems.

Wiess College and Hanszen College also do not have any firm rules concerning water-fights. Jan Lodal, President of Wiess College, says that "water-fights are tolerated in Wiess if they are in accord with University rules."

The President of Hanszen, Jerry Hanson, follows suit but notes that water-fights are "strongly discouraged by the College because of the inability of this year's participants to stay out of the buildings."