Rice Hosts N.F.L. High School Debate Tournament In June

By LYN MARTIN

On June 24-27, the Rice campus will be the scene of the annual national high school speech tournament sponsored by the National Forensic League.

The N.F.L. is a national high school speech fraternity which sponsors the tournament for winners of N.F.L. district and state contests. This year the South Texas-Louisiana District will be hosting the tournament.

“THE EXECUTIVE council of the N.F.L. wanted to have the tournament in Houston because of the space center and because of Houston’s good reputation in speech activities. Also, Houston’s schools hold large invitational tournaments, so size and local support would be no problem in handling the national tournament,” explains Jerry Callahan, tournament chairman.

Over 300 contestants and almost 200 coaches and other adults will attend. Contestants will participate in debate, extemporaneous speaking, oratory, and dramatic interpretation contests, and also in a Student Congress. They will live on the Rice campus during the tournament.

PLANS FOR THE tournament include a welcoming address by Dr. Croneis at the first assembly and a banquet on Monday, June 24 in the RMC. The final debate and the awards presentation will be held in Hamman Hall Thursday, June 27.

Rice students who have participated in former national tournaments include Eugene Keilin, Ray Needham, Eddie Price, and Ronnie Williams.

Mr. Callahan asked that any Rice student interested in judging call Mrs. Jean Boles, debate coach at Sam Houston High School. The public is invited to hear the contests.