Rice Prof's Novel, 'Leaving Cheyenne' is Second Effort

By CHUCK KING

Larry McMurtry, Instructor of English at Rice, published his second novel, "Leaving Cheyenne," last week. McMurtry has received acclaim as the author of "Horsemanship Pass By," his first novel, and the subject matter for a widely admired movie.

"Leaving Cheyenne" deals with a long relationship between two men and a woman in a western setting. The book was published by Harper and Row and will soon be available in the Campus Store. "Leaving Cheyenne" has received favorable local reviews.

McMurtry IS teaching at Rice on a one year appointment and will probably return to full-time creative writing at the end of this academic year. He is currently an instructor in English 100 and 240.

Expressing satisfaction over the treatment of "Hud" as a motion picture, McMurtry termed it, "well handled and perhaps even better than the book."

McMurtry attended Rice as a freshman and sophomore in 1954-1955, and as a graduate student in English from 1958 to 1960. Commenting on the alleged inferiority of the liberal arts program at Rice, he said, "The humanities were never particularly slighted at Rice. In fact, I have noticed no general change in Rice at all since 1954."

His NOVELS reflect his West Texas background. McMurtry grew up in Archer City, a small town 20 miles south of Wichita Falls, Texas. His writing captures the empty panorama of twentieth century existence in the West.

McMurtry was a frequent contributor to "Janus," the Rice literary magazine, before coming to Rice as a faculty member. His critique on Miss Vassar Miller, a Houston poetess, appeared in the last published issue.