Freshmen Collide With Oiler Fans, Seek Refuge In College Programs

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Five hundred ten freshmen, the largest class in Rice history, arrived Sunday to begin Orientation Week.

This annual confusion of newcomers and their families, trying to distinguish the Campanile from Hanszen College, was different this year because sixty thousand Oiler fans, the largest opening day crowd in AFL history, also flooded the campus.

However this crowd came to see hero Don Trull pass and THE $400,000 Jet quarterback warm the bench for sixty minutes.

When all the traffic untangled each men's college found itself about ninety strong-
er, while the women's colleges gained 75 each. Brown College, the new experiment in high rise living, discovered that it had more people than previously expected.

Further investigation proved that the extra people were mothers who just didn't want to leave their damsels in distress, and certain Rice football players who came to inspect the new building and the new occupants.

The hand of welcome was out everywhere, not just at Brown. Seniors in every college attempted to make the day more bearable for everyone. It was this network of people with respectable titles such as Mentor, Fellow, and Senior Advisor, who saved the day.

These seniors met each newcomer, pinned him with a name tag, and found him a room. They also assured each mother, in tones of experienced disappointment, that Rice is not as notorious as parents generally presume.

When the parents left Rice the Orientation Week really began. The stranded new collegians read the action packed schedule of the week. They discovered that this week was so big it lasted eight nights and had more than thirty great events.

Here again the seniors helped, explaining that not all these events should be taken seriously and not all the speeches would be gospel truth, i.e., the fellow from Lovett Hall who rambles through the traditional terror speech revealing how many will flunk out, and the ROTC general who describes the conditions one faces as a buck private in Vietnam if one happens to flunk out.

The words of wisdom continued through Sunday evening as the famous Rice education began. The newcomers learned terms such as RMC, Aca, Archi, SA, gnome, MWF, TTS, and Kay's.

They attentively listened as the experienced advisors told how T.R.G.'s really are and what are the best tactics for dating. The night drew on as did the first bull sessions of the year.