R. G.'s SHINE . . .

**CEEB’s Show Frosh Strength, Weakness**

By DENIS ASHTON

If one may give the statistics just released by the Office of Admission their obvious interpretations, this year's Freshmen are the most honored, the most intellectually gifted, and the most pre-tested of any class in Rice's history.

**THE CLASS of 1964**, for example, includes 68 valedictorians—four more than last year—30 salutatorians—two more than last year—22 National Merit Scholars, three General Motors Scholars, and several winners of Armco and National Bank of Commerce scholarships. 63 per cent of the Freshmen were in the upper five per cent of their high school graduating class, an increase of three per cent over last year.

However, some of the trends are not so easily defined. Although the class's average college board score (655) is five points higher than last year, the average score of the men is down one point, from 657 to 656, and the increase is due entirely to a 22 point advancement in the women's scores, from 632 to 654.

**AND, IN FACT**, the women are apparently the men's intellectually equals or superiors in every field this year. The women academic students are only two points behind the men, an improvement of 21 points, from 629 to 650. The women average eight points more than the men on their college boards, and the women architects, although declining from last year's score of 642, still scored 18 points higher than the men.

In the breakdown of scores according to major, the most significant advance is that of the academic students: the gap between science-engineering and academic majors closed 15 points from last year's 27 point disparity.

In addition, a larger percentage of the academic majors are men this year.

**NEVERTHELESS**, the class as a whole made its highest scores in math and physics, its lowest score in English aptitude, and numerically the class is heavily weighted with science-engineering majors.