Cost Decisive In College Choice; Reputation, Location Other Factors

By GARY HANOVICH

A majority of the freshman class chose Rice because it charges no tuition. This is the conclusion of a Thresher poll taken at the end of Freshman Week among a cross-section of the Class of '66.

THE THRESHER asked simply, “Why did you come to Rice?” The Freshmen answered basically that it has a good reputation, it was close to home and it was cheap (in no particular order). Many of these answers are worthy of repeating.

A Hanszen Science-Engineering major from the deep South who couldn’t afford Stanford and didn’t want to go east came to Rice “because of the football team and no tuition.”

A WILL Rice Academ wound up at Rice because he was rejected by Harvard and “the lack of tuition made Rice more attractive than other schools.

A Science-Engineer in Will Rice explained that “many factors were involved but that the money angle was responsible for my finally choosing Rice.”

ONE HANSZEN freshman from Oklahoma “didn’t get a big enough scholarship at MIT and, compared with other technical schools, Rice is pretty good.”

“My parents forced me to come; it was cheap and they wanted me home,” was the lament of one Jones girl from Houston.

“IT’S the best S-E school in South,” was the reason given by one Houston resident, while another simply said, “cheap and close to home.”

Two Wiess Science-Engineers chose Rice because of the story in Time Magazine with no tuition helping matters.

A Ft. Worth student came to Rice because “it’s tuition-free, and good university, and affiliated with NASA,” while a Baker S-E chose Rice because he was originally from Houston and because “it is one of the least expensive technical schools in the country.”

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“A PRIVATE school with no tuition has many advantages, and I knew a boy who came here,” was the opinion of a Californian now in Will Rice.

A New Jersey Academ summed up the feelings of many on the tuition matter when he exclaimed, “You just can’t beat no tuition!”

“Small, friendly, and better than the University of Texas,” were the sentiments of a Hanszen S-E from West Texas. “It’s in the South where people talk right, and its $2,000 a year cheaper than MIT,” he drawled.

A Dallas Academ in Wiess had an unusual reason for choosing Rice. “I saw the ’59 Campanile,” was all he would say.

The Thresher poll was conducted on a random basis in and around the colleges and the Student Center. Approximately seventy-five students were interviewed.