College Courts Enlarged, Reorganized
In Attempt To Correct Insufficiencies

By STEVE DARDEN

Thrusting a well-wetted thumb into the campus political breezes, one might notice that the colleges have become increasingly concerned with the delicate issue of judicial responsibility.

In interviews with college officers, The Thresher found that three colleges have initiated measures designed to correct inadequacies in their judicial branches.

All the colleges now have some sort of court to try cases of infraction of the rules of the colleges and of the university. Now, moreover, it appears there may be an Inter-college Court established under the auspices of the Student Senate to increase the student body's power over their all school organizations.

The new Baker Court has jurisdiction over both resident and non-resident members, and is charged with handling cases arising from infractions of both college and university rules.

DECISIONS are submitted to the Cabinet for approval and enforcement. Decisions are, of course, subject to Administration review.

Baker president Frank Jones noted that the new Cabinet House Committee, with one member in each of nine college areas, has been highly effective in heading off disciplinary problems before they develop.

HANSZEN'S judiciary is complemented by a Cabinet House Committee similar to Baker's. This committee functions, as Chief Justice Marvin Tarrant described it, "as a liaison between the college members and the court.

"College members turn to these committeemen for arbitration of minor problems, and should a serious infraction occur, a formal complaint is submitted to the Chief Justice. Of course, a 'cease and desist' request is usually sufficient, so court action is rarely necessary."

THE WILL RICE Court has been functioning since shortly after the initiation of the College System. "Unlike Hanszen and Baker," remarked Chief Justice Mark Bowden, "we do not employ a House Committee to receive and arbitrate complaints, but rely upon the assumption of

individual responsibility by college members to prevent violations."

THE WIESS Court—acting as prosecution, defense, judge, and jury for college members—is a self-perpetuating body of seniors and graduate students, the final approval of the newly selected justices resting with the college.

As Mel Lack, Wiess President, explained, "In our college system, unique in stressing both individual rights and communal living, the primary responsibility of enforcing the laws of our community rests with the college members themselves. They are reminded of these responsibilities by the college government."

THE COUNTERPART to the judiciaries of the men's colleges is the Residence Committee of Jones College. Chairman Kathy Kindt described the committee as being "responsible to the Cabinet, and charged with handling such disciplinary problems as may arise.

"The committee's jurisdiction and powers have been established by precedent rather than by a formal judicial code," she added.

Completing the judicial picture, the Senate is considering the afore-mentioned Inter-College Court proposed by Senator Tim Mock: "The court, consisting of the Chief Justice from each College, will increase the student body's power over their all-school organizations. If requested by the colleges, the court can handle incidents involving members of several colleges, and will serve as a center for the sharing of ideas between College Courts, and for study of problems related to student self-discipline."