NSA President Visits Rice; Senate To Discuss Joining

By BILL LIEBLICH

Ed Garvey, President of the National Student Association, visited the Rice campus on Wednesday, January 31, and Thursday, February 1. Garvey, a student at the University of Wisconsin, discussed with various student leaders, including Reed Martin, Student Association President, the possibility of Rice's joining the N.S.A.

Martin, in an interview this week, explained the nature and purposes of the student group and the advantages it has for its member schools.

THE N.S.A., Martin said, has 395 member schools with a combined population of 1,400,400 students. Most large schools in the United States are members. The group is run solely by student leaders and its policy is determined by a consensus of its member schools.

This policy, Martin stated, always pertains to areas of interest which relate to the student or his school. Resolutions of policy are passed each year at a national convention in which representatives from each school participate.

The N.S.A. wishes to furnish a means for students to make their views known, Martin explained, and to supply a stimulus for open discussion of important topics which will project the college student into the national and local affairs which concern him.

MARTIN CITED several advantages which membership in the group will have for Rice. The principal advantage, he said, involves more and easier communications with other schools and with the N.S.A. itself about various matters of concern to Rice, including national problems and school government problems.

In addition, the N.S.A. greatly facilitates the obtaining of guest speakers. It issues bulletins which give information concerning which speakers will be in a school's area in certain time periods. This service improves a school's chances for obtaining good speakers and helps reduce the school's expenses.

FURTHERMORE, Martin explained, the N.S.A. has a travel bureau which helps plan trips for members and reduces costs through the use of group plans. This bureau has affiliations with student groups in various European countries.

Martin said that he will ask the Student Senate to consider joining the N.S.A. and appropriating dues for membership at the next Senate meeting on Wednesday, February 14.