University, Colleges Provide Two-Level Orientation Week

By KATHY KINDT

The class of 1966 and various upperclassmen hangers-on arrived on the Rice campus early last week to shake the university out of its summer slumber and to participate in Freshman Week activities.

The complex of freshman orientation which recently replaced the time-worn and terri-brable myth review is largely the result of individual college action, although similarities in the programs were widespread. A universally significant component of the Freshman Week experience was the series of lectures given by Professors Vandiver ("The Problem of American Civil War") Rorshach ("What is an Explanation?") Himlinger ("Economic History of Competitive Con- currence") and Graham ("The Ideal University").

THE NEWCOMERS were also addressed by two presidents: President Fitzner gave the matriculation speech on Monday and J. F. K.'s greeting to the class of 1966 more than compensated for the oppressive hot weather on Wednesday.

Each of the five colleges arranged several tours for the freshmen.

THE FRESHMEN became acquainted with the city of Houston by bus or car, attended Theater Inc.'s production of "Bye Bye Birdie," and visited the Museum of Fine Arts.

These activities were basic to the orientation program throughout the university. However, the additions to the common experience by the colleges and the varied attitudes toward the purpose of orientation gave each plan a certain distinction.

Baker College began the week with a wiener roast and get-acquainted session for all new students. Baker also had the last word in the Freshman activities with their picnic with the Jones College freshmen at the R&H Guest ranch.

THE GENERAL emphasis in the College was not only on the immediate activities for the week but also on the continuation of the mentor program and its correlations during the remainder of the year. Several college meetings were called for the purpose of explanation and discussion of student government and freshman participation. Once again Baker boys will wear red shirts on Friday's, and guidance is expected to be strict.

At Hanszen, post-lecture discussions dealt with Jacques Bar- zun's "The House of Intellect," and freshmen wrote essays on their ideas and impressions of the book. Freshman orientation is closely related to the guidance program at Hanszen in that both share twin objectives: the development of the fellowship of youth through common experience and the growth of the freedom of sound learning.

BLUE VESTS will mark Hanszen fresh on Fridays as part of guidance, but the program will also include complete campus orientation, extended from Freshman Week.

Jones College freshmen and their parents attended a buffet at Jones House, Sunday afternoon. Each men's college entertained the Jones girls; Hanszen and Weiss had a theater party, Will Rice gave an unusually successful mixer, and Baker contributed their picnic.

THE MORNING discussion groups at the women's college related the reading list material to the lecture topics; Jones' guest Lowell Collins of the Museum Art (Continued on Page 10)
ORIENTATION--
(Continued from Page 8)

School provoked much controversy Thursday. The freshmen were introduced to the foundations of the college and the responsibilities of residence in floor meetings and also at get-togethers sponsored by the housemothers.

Wiess College presented a preview of freshman courses Tuesday and also heard Dr. Forrest Muir of the History Department at College Night. There were seminars covering two books, "The College Experience" and "Lord of the Flies," in addition to discussions following the line of the lectures. Less weighty activities included a combination boat trip-beer party and a baseball game (Los Angeles 1, Houston 0).

THE WILL RICE attitude toward Orientation Week and guidance as well differs significantly from that of the other colleges. The intent is the integration of the freshmen into the college, rather than setting them apart from the upperclassmen; the policy is one of "laissez faire." Will Rice freshmen are not compelled to wear beanies and name tags and will be indistinguishable from the rest of the campus on Fridays.

A concerted attempt was made during Freshman Week to analyze the college system and the place of the individual within it at various college meetings. The Will Rice newcomer was invited to activities, welcomed to them, but not forced. The response to this approach was called "heartening" by Will Rice leaders.