Freeman denied admission after committee gives its okay

By TERRY O'ROURKE

"For academic reasons alone, I overturned the faculty committee's recommendation to re-admit Charlie Freeman," Dr. Frank Vandiver, acting president of Rice, told the Thresher in a telephone interview last night.

Vandiver in Columbus, Miss., where he is to give an address at Mississippi State College, said he was not overruled in the courts and that other reasons given for the expulsion are still pending in court.

Earlier, in a memo to Dean of Undergraduate Affairs M. V. McEnany, Vandiver said that he had reviewed the case and did not feel the committee's decision justified.

McEnany, chairman of the Committee on Examinations and Standing, said that he did not feel Freeman's case would face an abrupt reversal of the committee's decision. He said, however, that some decisions in the past had been "debated" by the administration and committee.

McEnany said that there was a question of "the technical legality of the veto, since a policy action of a faculty committee is binding on the president, who acts on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees.

Freeman said that he had contacted his attorney and felt that there was a great possibility that Freeman's civil rights had been violated. He recommended consideration by faculty and students of a petition requesting that black students admitted for next fall to re-consider their decisions to attend Rice.

Third acceptance

The decision Tuesday was the committee's third acceptance of Freeman's petition to re-enter Rice. Their previous decisions had been returned Examination and Standing.

Committee meeting

Dr. Frank Fisher, who in the past has been Freeman's staunchest advocates on the Ex & S committee, called Vandiver's stated reasons for vetoing the decision "deplorable." He said that the committee, which is meeting today in a proper collective statement, would request an immediate audience with the student body to discuss the situation.

The deadline for filling petitions for Chairman of the Inter-Campus Racing, a meeting Monday, April 16. Petitions should be turned in by the member of the SA election committee. Bob Pickard, Chuck Blaylock, Bob Fisher, Andrew Prindahl, Brown, Rick Lawvere, Hannel, Jason Frank, Brevoort, Lovett, Jim Caldwell, Wino, Dan King, Bill Rice or to Benno Falk.

The election for the office will be Monday, April 16. The election for Thrasher Editor, Campus Magazine, and Manager and Honor Council representatives will be next Monday, April 14.

The deadline for filing petitions for Chairman of the Inter-Campus Racing Committee is Monday, April 16. Petitions should be turned in by the member of the SA election committee. Bob Pickard, Chuck Blaylock, Bob Fisher, Andrew Prindahl, Brown, Rick Lawvere, Hannel, Jason Frank, Brevoort, Lovett, Jim Caldwell, Wino, Dan King, Bill Rice or to Benno Falk.

Rice has to maintain the

Players present Dylan Thomas' last play 'Under Milk Wood' April 17-19

Tickets will go on sale next Monday for The Rice Players' production of Dylan Thomas' play 'Under Milk Wood.' Neil Havens is directing the reading, which will be presented April 17 through 19 at 8 p.m. in Hamling Theatre.

In 'Under Milk Wood,' which Thomas completed just before his death in 1963, he gave the fullest expression to his sense of the tragic and thealleness of life. A moving and hilarious account of a spring day in a small Welsh coast village, the play begins with dreams and ghosts before dawn, moves through the brilliant, noisy day of the townsmen and closes as the "rain of dusk begins to fall on the Assembly.

The Players' box office in the RMC will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Thursday and Friday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday. Prices are $1.00 for adults and $1 for students.

The committee must continue to do what it has been doing this year, though a detailed analysis will take somewhat longer.
To the Editor:
In the interest of developing a sense of community, a group of faculty members has been meeting regularly since the end of February to discuss problems of mutual concern. In our conversations we determined that reform of the curriculum is an urgent and important task confronting our University.

No doubt the creation last September of the Committee on the Undergraduate Experience represented a hopeful step toward change, but since the conception of that committee to the present, public discussion of that new direction has practically ceased. We therefore offer a few proposals which we hope not only have intrinsic merit but may initiate that dialogue which the University so badly needs.

The root failure of the present curriculum is that it has been shaped by a misguided passion for specialization. The model student, in our conception of the model student, the University has sought to be a broad, well-rounded institution—students acquainted with a variety of disciplines and specialize competently in one.

To mold students according to this idea, the University has established a system of divisional and departmental requirements. Each department has done its own educational peculiarities and, of course, makes the University into an obedient body of students.

The near unanimous communion of the freshmen year at Rice is in this sense that forcing students to take courses for their own good is pedagogically absurd. The time has come to make a radical departure from the existing system, a departure based on a different conception of our students.

From the moment a student begins his college career he should be regarded as an adult. He should, in short, be endowed with the responsibility to determine the course of his own education, and the exercise of this freedom should be an integral part of his total educational experience. There are even more compelling reasons, however, to demand due process—very highly. The Examinations and Standing Committee, in our conception, the University has sought to be a broad, well-rounded institution—students acquainted with a variety of disciplines and specialize competently in one.

The real, working relationship to be between students and faculty and their committees on the one hand, and the administration on the other, is that of equals. The Examinations and Standing Committee, we must assume, will be allowed to decide its business relatively independently—unless a case is too important, or has too many political overtones, or would make the Board of Trustees too uneasy to be handled by faculty members. In his action, Vandiver has set a style of administration which, to paraphrase an administration official, "does not auger well for the University."

Three weeks ago we said, "If the Examinations and Standing Committee is to be anything more than a voidly body for the irregular, academic decisions arrived at elsewhere, it should be left free to decide the case without the manipulations and pressures to which it is now subject. Such a decision resulted in Freedman's admission; it should again.

Because the committee was never "left free," it was a demonstration of courage and adherence to principle for it once again to okay Freedman. We have seen how much their decision was respected.

How deep is the University's commitment to increased minority admission? It is evident that many faculty and most students are seriously committed to accepting Rice's responsibility to the disadvantaged. It is a bit more evident that the administration is not, despite the flood of platitudes to the contrary.

When one segment of the University community is working very hard to increase minority admission and to ensure them equal chances for success here, a black applicant is refused by administrative fiat. Vandiver is fooling himself if he feels his action will not adversely affect the work the Group Committee and others have done. The situation is tragically over-simpl if view from outside the hedge: Rice says it wants more black students. Charlie Freeman is black. Rice doesn't want Charlie Freeman. Rice must be lying.

Thresher: December, public discussion of this idea, the University has established a system of divisional and departmental requirements. Each department has done its own educational peculiarities and, of course, makes the University into an obedient body of students.

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There are good reasons for reservations about readmitting Vandiver, for the irregular, autocratic decisions arrived at under the headings "due process" and "the humanities."

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To the Editor:

I am sure others share my profound dismay at the resignation of Dean Pfeiffer. The only radical difference between his years as Dean and those of his predecessor are his statement that he was aware of Dean Pfeiffer's deep concern for the welfare of students, his liberal and flexible approach to student affairs, and his emphasis on the close and constantly growing friendship with his students.

In his letter of resignation he spoke not of "students" but of "student friends," and there is a difference in the attitudes involved. From establishing and maintaining sensitive relationships with students through grandstand plays, not through dramatic rhetoric, not through token visits to Sammy's, but by seeking out our opinions, re-interpreting willow trees, and consistently informing your words with action.

I do not mean to imply by my use of the past tense that Dean Pfeiffer is no longer in relationship with the students in this sense. When such a man finds it necessary to step outside the office of Dean of Students in order to function as a Dean of Students, the implications are obvious and deeply disturbing. Although my speculations about the reasons for his resignation are my own and do not come from Dean Pfeiffer, I find it difficult to believe that his decision does not in some way reflect a sense that the administration is slackened.

Six weeks ago the faculty, with the strong support of the student body, supposedly realized the results of trying to put a "firm hand on the tiller." The Board's apparent recuption to that revolution has been to decide that if the University will not tolerate this kind of steering, then the ship itself should be mortised until the sea is calm again. The sea do not hold any promise of calm, and the journey through them simply must be made if the University is not, as Dr. Clark R. Kerr has stated, to forever poise on the threshold of greatness.

The final result of a Board of directors that displays no guarantorship of Rice University's course, if the megatropic plan will bear further extension, personal dryden will understand the Board's fear of student unrest; but it exists and has its sources, and among them are the students, faculty, and administration are forced to make decisions regarding the University not on the grounds of what is right or good for the University—but on the grounds of what the Board will permit.

Carlton Porter, Editor

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in the rice threshers, April 10, 1969—page 3
The Alley Theatre has gone all out for its new production, "War and Peace," adapted from the novel by Leo Tolstoy, with the English adaptation by the director, Robert David MacDonald. The production makes full use of the extensive stage machinery of the new Alley, where it runs through May 4.

MacDonald hastens to point out that the Alley production is not a "Reader's Digest" condensation of Tolstoy's novel, but an attempt to make his own play based on the characters and situations of the novel. How new it is seems debatable, but the director has gone to some considerable trouble to make it painlessly relevant to 1969, U.S.A.

Fate

The professor major concern of the play, how fate affects men, requires a special elevated stage on which to portray the workings of fate. This concern, however, is largely overshadowed by the complex personalities of the characters. Yet the overshadowing, far from being a fault, is probably what saves the play from becoming an animated lecture on deterministic philosophy, and keeps it within the realm of art. Certainly fate is there, and is depicted, but it is in the complex personalities of such characters as Pierre and their reactions to fate which make the production a play.

Acting, direction good

The surprising thing about such an adaptation of "War and Peace" is not that it can be done, or that it has been done, but that it is any good.

Part of the credit for the success of the production must go to the original adapter for not becoming completely bogged down in the novel, although the precise attention paid to historical detail seems to interrupt the flow of the action more than necessary. Part of the credit must go to MacDonald for his perception of the relevance of the emotional, psychological, and human realities, to our time.

The rest of the credit must go to the actors. Ted D'Arms, as Pierre, provides the focus for much of the drama. His ability to slip into the action as a character unadorned, and with equal skill slip back out again, is invaluable to the continuity of the play.

D'Arms, as Pierre, provides the action for D'Arms to slip in and out of. Pierre, the piousy aristocrat-philosopher, provides the focus for much of the drama. D'Arms brings off the bumbling intellectual reformer with the proper mixture of humor and drama, one of the more memorable and saving factors of the production. He is clearly the outstanding performer of the play.

Difficult role

Nevertheless it drives home its point of the absurdity and inhumanity of war, which, in the largest city in the state receiving the second largest annul income from the Defense Department, cannot be called irrelevant. It is a matter weighing heavily on the conscience of humanity, and it is the duty of the arts to examine its point of view.

I.M. Hobson plays a cranky, eccentric Prince Bolkonski and bowls out with a dignified coruscation in Act II Scene IV. Cheryl Scott, as Lisa, enjoys as short but dramatic appearance as Andrei's first wife who is soon overshadowed by his second love, Nancy Evans Leonard, as Natasha.

The Alley production is something more than a condensation of the novel or a moral didactic. Good acting in the major parts and some dramatic stage effects have turned it into theatre.

Nevertheless it drives home its point of the absurdity and inhumanity of war, which, in the largest city in the state receiving the second largest annual income from the Defense Department, cannot be called irrelevant. It is a matter weighing heavily on the conscience of humanity, and it is the duty of the arts to examine its point of view.
Attend to ‘real needs,’ Bush urges

By HOWARD SIMMS
Rep. George Bush (R.-Tex.), speaking in the Fondren Lecture Lounge last night, emphasized that the unwary politician could easily fall into the “pitfalls of demagoguery,” for example by denouncing the busying of students for integration purposes without wondering whether the cities of the South are integrating at a reasonable pace.

Bush, however, said he does denounce such HEW memos as one which uses interracial dating as a criterion of compliance with civil rights legislation.

He has refused to condemn the Mexican-American Youth Organization in Val Verde County, and said he has stopped calling himself a “conservative” (although he expressed pride in his stand against centralized government and for fiscal responsibility to encourage self-sufficiency in individuals) because of the term’s racist connotations.

True needs
He spoke of an image of identity with the people and true sympathetic reaction to the needs of the underprivileged, while warning against the formation of white coalitions, even if Republicans know they will be the victims of Mexican-American and Negro bloc voting.

Bush defended Nixon’s apparent inaction in the first 90 days of his administration as actually a concerted attempt to show the public that he has “a firm hand on the tiller” in foreign affairs. Bush denounced “intellectual dishonesty” rampant among today’s youth, exemplified by the unfounded cynicism he found among Yale students about Nixon and Agnew.

The Nixon administration is actually serving the interests of decentralization by offering so few programs to the legislature, Bush said.

He said he opposed the five year extensions asked for by Democrats for present education and poverty programs, since he does not believe this administration should be shackled to the mistakes of the past. Bush said he feels instead that the absence of a program is temporarily preferable to one that ignores the true needs of the poverty stricken areas.

He said he would like the Republican party to be “the one with the answers,” engineering for example a poverty program that provides incentives for self-help, such as those he sponsored in a bill for AFDC (Aid For Dependent Children). His bill includes mild penalties for mothers who refused jobs offered to them through AFDC.

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the rice thresher, april 10, 1969—page 5
Injury situation to decide track title

By DAVID NORMAN

This Owl track squad, usually exempt from those sweeping generalizations drawn about Rice athletes, has suddenly fallen prey to one of the most insidious agents employed in that fatalistic scheme to subordiantize our sports endeavors—the injury bug.

Whether coach Emmett Brunson has enough depth at his disposal to survive the crisis will be seen next week in Austin at the Texas Relays. Events Friday and Saturday should provide some clue as to Rice prospects for resurrecting the Southwest Conference championship we have collected three years out of the last five.

The Texas Relays will also turn some of that depth and potential into experience beneficial to our conference hopes. An elite field includes conference competitors Texas and Texas A&M; midwestern invaders Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Kansas, Kansas State, and Missouri; and upstart Athenean Christian. Rice should also be included in this cream of the crop, ranking as a definite threat in all of the relay events and outside contender for the team title with several individual possibilities.

Color Brown, captain of the team and of All-American status for the past two years, is the casualty most disabling to the team as a whole. The injury that it takes to replace him is headed by Chip Grandjany and Alan Lee. These sprinters combine with Dale Bernsen, Doug Belzang, Bill Askay, and Steve Straub to make up the relay contingent that is Rice's strongest attribute. In the mile relay especially the Owls rank among the conference leaders. But the hurdlers field will be strong, and Rice is dependent on other individual running performances. These could come in the 440 yard hurdles from Roy Carywood or in the mile from Bruce Martin and Jim Metzger. Both of these milers have dipped under the Rice school record with respective times of 4:12.7 and 4:11.5.

A third main injury is found in the field events where the top Owl javelin man, Terry Erwin, is sidelined. Depth is found in Louis Cardenas for this event, but both of these men performed well in last year's SWC meet, and Cardenas can be expected to continue the tradition. Other field stalwarts include impressive tandems of Dickie Phillips (15-6) and Larry Curtis (15-9) in the pole vault, Larry Anderson (185-10) and Ken Pearson (186-7) in the discus, and Jerry Martin (24-2) and Jerry Carter (23-2) in the broad jump. Despite the presence of some good individual performers, overall field strength is probably the weakest aspect of the Rice team.

Rice will also compete in two events that they haven't run in several years—the sprint and distance medley relays. The sprint medley (against favorite Kansas with its Olympian Jim Ryun) has a tremendous lineup of Belzang, Askay, and Straub in the opening 220 legs, Askay in the 440, and Straub in the 880 anchor. The distance medley should find Tossey Maupin running the 880, Mike Case in the 440, Metzger going 1200, and Bruce Martin covering the 1600. In these relays are run very seldom, Rice chances are hard to determine, but they should be excellent.

If the meet should come down to the wire, the final mile relay would be quite a show. Along with Rice, Texas, and A&M battling it out in the final forms of Bernsen, Dave Morton, and Curtis Mills. Regardless of that eventual outcome, however, the strength of the field will be good for our Owls running the two and one-half miles and Erwin get back in the saddle, it could take them to the top in the conference meet.

Religious studies offers Japanese visiting lecturer

Manahiko Doi, a leading Japanese Christian theologian, will be a visiting lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies in the fall of 1969, Dr. Niels C. Nielsen, Jr., department chairman, announced recently.

Doi, an ordained Congregational minister, is a professor of systematic theology and history of Christian thought in the School of Theology at Dohi-sha, Japan, University.

Among his works are ""What Does it Mean to Love?"" (1965). Doi is constantly sought as a representative of Oriental Christianity at international ecumenical conferences. He attended the Fourth World Council on Faith and Order at St. Andrews in 1954. Earlier he was an observer at the Second Vatican Council II representing the World Council of Churches; he attended the Third Session of Vatican Council II as a guest of the Catholic Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity.

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By JOHN ZEH
BOSTON (CPB) — The ruling late last week by a Federal District Court that the Selective Service Act “unconstitutionally discriminates” against non-religious conscientious objectors sets the stage for a federal court review of the draft law by the U.S. Supreme Court.

If the high court upholds the decision by U.S. District Judge Charles Wyzanski Jr., atheists, agnostics and other—religions or none—will be exempted from the draft if they oppose war for profound moral reasons.

Now, objection to war must be based on one’s “training and belief.” The Supreme Court in 1940 offered a broad definition of that term, but Congress in 1947 altered the law to exclude non-religious CO’s.

Sisson decision

So the issue now returns to the high court, if the Justice Department decides to appeal the Wyzanski decision. The proponent for the case said he would recommend an appeal, but Justice Section of St. Louis, Missouri.

David R. Drake, Rice architect and the annual William Ward

Wolf granted Danforth Fellowship; Drake garners W. W. Watkin prize

Brynn J. Wolf, a senior, has been awarded a Danforth Graduates Fellowship for advanced study.

Danforth Fellowships provide tuition and living expenses for four years, and cover the year in preparation for a career in college teaching. More than 160000 dollars are awarded through the United States competed for the 112 fellowships awarded this year by the Danforth Foundation of St. Louis, Missouri.

David R. Drake, Rice architecture student, has been awarded the annual William Ward Watkin Traveling Fellowship.

Open to seniors

The fellowship, given in honor of the first chairman of the Rice Architecture Department, provides funds for travel and study in Europe for a period of three to six months. The prize is given by the School of Architecture, and the winner is selected through a juried competition on the basis of academic achievement.

The competition is open to fourth-year architecture students at Rice, and the grant is used between the winner’s fourth and fifth years.

Wolf, an English major, spent his junior year abroad at Heidelberg University, where he is now studying Heidegger, philosophy, history, and literature. He plans to use his fellowship to work first for a graduate theology degree and then a doctorate in American studies.

Selection of Danforth Fellows is made annually by a national panel of educators, primarily on the basis of the evidence of intellectual power of the candidate, and his commitment to human values and their place in higher education.

Over 1,000 Danforth Fellowships have been awarded since the program was established in 1952.

Drake has spent the past year in Cambridge, Mass., as part of the School of Architecture’s pre-professional program, which follows a small number of highly qualified students to spend a year with various architecture firms around the country before finishing their degree work at Rice.

Drake is a student at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, where he is majoring in philosophy and history. He plans to attend graduate school in philosophy and then to become a professor of philosophy.

The decision essentially said that in the absence of a direct threat to national survival, an individual’s conscience can take precedence over the authority of the state. An individual’s conscience is recognized as being on a par with traditional concepts of religion.

Law and morality

The ruling said the 1967 draft act violated the provision of the first amendment prohibiting laws “respecting an establishment of religion.” It called the Sisson case “a clash between law and morality,” and warned that “when the state, through its laws, seeks to override reasonable moral objections, it makes a dangerously uncharacteristic choice. The law grows from the deposits of morality.”

“When the law treats a reasonable, conscientious act as a crime, it subverts its own power.”

The decision continued.

“Greater than need

Other highlights from the Sisson decision are:

• The assumption that Congress has the right to concept the term ‘time of peace’ is not fully supported” by the Constitution, Wyzanski wrote. A selective CO, might be more discriminating and be better able to understand than one who opposes war in any form.

• This court holds that the free exercise of religion clause of the First Amendment and the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment prohibit the application of the 1967 Selective Service Act to Sisson to require his in the armed services. The Wyzanski decision may make draft reappraisal necessary for all CO’s. The Supreme Court to decide?

If the Sisson case is appealed, the Supreme Court may decide whether non-religious person can unconscionably oppose war and be exempted from the draft because of their convictions.

If the Supreme Court declares the C.O. provision of the Selective Service Act unconstitutional, the issue will presumably be thrown back into the lap of Congress. It will have to enact an acceptable provision for non-religious conscientious objection, if none at all, a spokesperson for the American Civil Liberties Union says.
essentially the same as in the past. These forms must be re-
turned to the Registrar’s Office by 1 pm Monday, April 14, at
the latest, to avoid a serv-
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wINTER Roast Afterwards. For de-
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FASHION—The Student Center
Board will present a Spring and
Summer Fashion Show tonight at
8 pm in the Grand Hall of the
RMC. Some 30 Rice girls have
been chosen to model the
clothes, which will be furnished
by Neiman-Marcus.

Rice Flight—There will be an
informal meeting of all students
planning to take the Rice Sum-
MER Flight to Europe, in the
Wass Commons tonight at 7
pm. French, German, and Eng-
lish students will be there to
give advice and answer ques-
tions.

Rings—University policy re-
quires that students who have
received their 1969 Rice rings
but have not qualified for a de-
gREE this year must return the
ring to the Dean of Students’
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with the exception of the non-
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