Traditional orientation program ignores academic reality

"Orientation," we said last year, "traces its sluggish path each year no better and no worse than before . . ."

Although this is probably still true to a degree, there is an illusion shared by many advisors that this year's Freshman Week went better than those in years past. This may be because men's colleges continue to judge their success by the female reactions to their mixers. The girls preferred mixers with things to do while not dancing, like penny arcade or casino games. Beach parties were out, and lawn parties were in this year, but it didn't really seem like an improvement.

Substantial change in the program is mainly the result of less emphasis on highly structured discussions of summer reading material, fewer attempts to induce the freshman to immersize himself immediately in the "intellectual climate" of the university, and less of the "intellectual climate" immediately in the "intellectual climate" of the university, and less of the smn-mer-camp atmosphere. There was an

still, one Hansen freshman commented, "I found there was too much emphasis in respect to our activities in university organization. We got plenty of information from the Young Democrats, but nothing from the JECs." This comment points up one of the most difficult dilemmas for Freshman week planners. As stated by Will Rice College, "Freshman Week is a low-pressure period of enculturation to life at Rice . . . the freshman is given the opportunity to establish an identity within the College and university without having to worry about his academic load."

Few expectations

Yet the impending academic season, and apprehension of its rigor, is a major factor in the attitude which most freshmen will bring to the Freshman Week program. Their expectations about specific activities are rather vague, as revealed by one Hansen freshman: "I had no particular expectations. I wanted mostly to be able to learn where everything was and who I could talk to."

In addition, many freshmen judged the success of the Freshman Week activities by the degree to which it alleviated their insecurities and doubts. When asked about the inadequacies of the program, for example, a Lovett freshman commented that "there should have been some time set aside for sports." It would have offered an outlet for some of our problems and worries." Yew asked about his dominant impression of Freshman Week, this same student replied, "When classes started we were prepared."

Thus the primary problem is to provide an atmosphere in which the incoming student can become aware of some of the peculiar intuitions of Rice life, and through this knowledge, relieve some of his inevitable fears about his ability to "make it." And although several of the Colleges deemphasized the scheduled activities, the basic conception of what Freshman Week activities should be, remained traditional: mixers, lectures, discussions and tours.

The obvious question which arises here is how do mixers, lectures, discussions, and tours relate to what the freshmen will be confronted with during his tenure at Rice. How do they prepare him for the shock of the S-E curriculum, and the intellectual leap which separates the kind of thinking which was expected of him in high school, and the kind of analysis which will be required by college-level courses?"
We have lost irreparably someone whom we admired, respected and loved, a distinguished social scientist dedicated to research and teaching, a citizen devoted to her country and fellow men who gave time and effort generously to civic betterment, and a woman remarkable among human beings for her beauty, charm, and humane qualities.

—Edward Norbeck
Dept. of Auth.
Hedgerow itself, Baker tour; calls for freshman involvement

Hedgerow last week sponsored a trip of 85 freshmen to the Houston Leonards, 30 of whom attended the "Hedgerow Theatre," while the other 55 enjoyed a tour of the University's fallen "Nest," the Rice thresher, and a visit to the campus. The tour is the first in a series of "visiting area dignitaries" that the freshmen will be exposed to later in the term. It was arranged by Mrs. Ernestine Anderson, Mrs. Hattie screen, and Mrs. C. C. Jammer, the student representatives on the campus. Other students will be involved in similar activities as well.

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freshmen traditionally furnish will be held during the year. these and other productions are artistically good while being dull for the University of St. Thomas frequently exhibits the works of Houston theatricals.

king, Lansford Wilson's "The Age of the Machine." This fall symphony orchestra housed in the "Temple of Sound" rather than the "Temple of Music." By CHARLES M. LAVAZZI

for example, the first of which was "The Taming of the Shrew," opened today. Roger S. Glade (Rice's live-able, entertaining, and hopefully, moving. Only rarely, however, does there seem an indication that the musical evening is being carried out to its bitter end this season. barbirolli will conduct an all-berlioz program the following week. The season does have its bright spots, however. on Sun-day, Nov. 30, and Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 1-2, Barbirolli will conduct an all-berlioz program the following week.

this is a world of high culture, yet new music is constantly being added. Houston's "High Culture" level, with its focus on "High Culture" level, is being carried out to its bitter end this season when the symphony's last three concerts are for chamber music. the symphony's season begins with a series of concerts programmed for the coming season. this coming season is grand in conception and execution, yet the sum of its parts is not as impressive as one would expect.

the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season. the youth-oriented culture scene is being carried out to its bitter end this season.
Local legend lingers in Playwright's Showcase

Among the newer things Rice people will find on their inspection of the surrounding country is a constant showcase of work that has never been before in Houston at below-movie prices.

Playwright's Showcase will open their third production tomorrow evening at 9 pm in the Autry House, across Main from Lovett College.

Local author

Included in this offering will be two plays by local Playwright Jim Binnard, a former Theater Editor and literary old-timer who is presently working with the Society for the Performing Arts and will be on stage at the plays. The plays

are titled "Associates" and "Rosemarys and Goldsteins Are Alive And Doin' Two Shows A Day." The Director of the operation, Roger Glade, has just returned from two years in New York where he is one New York Show with a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Theatre from the University of Illinois in New York. Glade directed several "off-off" Broadway productions and spent his summers directing in the parks in places like Washington, D.C.

Major step

The Bernhard plays represent the first local production of a completed work by a local playwright in some time and represent a major step towards fulfilling the Playwright's Showcase goal.

"I want this program to bring out local talent, actors, directors, and playwrights," he said, "and to do this, I have new scripts as well as scripts which were produced in New York but nowhere else."

Styling the Bernhard plays as "light, witty, sardonic comedy" Glade indicated that, while he did not see the program as an essentially Rice program, he wanted and needed the help of the Rice community.

"I need audiances," he quipped. But more importantly he said that he was hoping for participation from Rice students in every phase of his group. "I'm like nothing better than to see some student play—script or actor—or technical crew."

Bomb

Earlier in the summer Playwright's Showcase produced two plays by Israel Horovitz, "Rats" and "It's Called the Sugar Plum," which starred several Rice people, and a play by Henry Terry called "Calm Down Mother."

"This last one was a bomb," Glade commented, "but experimental theatre has to fail if any kind of progress is going to be made."

In dealing with his competition on campus, Glade indicated that he felt no friction would develop between Playwright's Showcase and the Rice Playhouse.

"I'll bend over backwards to not hurt the Players," Glade continued. "After all, it would be like biting my mother. I start- ed there, you know."

The plays will continue Friday and Saturday nights for three weekends. Playwright's Showcase is constantly casting and rehearsing as many Rice people who want to get in on the action can call Glade at 524-0148.

If you want reservations, the number is 524-0455.

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Organic be-in: come one, come all
The first big bang of the social season is coming. "Organic be-in" is a physical, cultural, and social stimulatory experience planned by Bennett Falk, student affairs vice-president. The "Organic be-in" began Monday night with a meeting which featured The Soul Senders, playing blues, soul, and folk music.

"Organic" achieves its cultural high point tonight with a festive array of advance-time films and animations. The seven films scheduled to be shown in the Memorial Center tonight at 7:30 for a mere half-dollar are: "Flocked," "The Hole," "Chernobyl," "Blind Gary Davis," "Ragman's-That's Me," "War Games." Especially worthy of note are "That's Me" which was directed by Alex Arkin and "War Games" which is a highly acclaimed documentary dealing with the atavistics of nuclear war. The unity theme of the film is that they create an awareness which dispels personal and social plebiscites.

Friday at 1 pm, the Haasman Hall good-bye will be the scene of a RE-IN. The RE-IN is totally dependent on individual participation and just about anything goes.

Amplifiers, an electric organ, and drums will all be present, as well as balloons, candy, and all forms of music; everyone is invited to bring his particular fetish, musical or otherwise, and be a monumental musical feature. The film will be featured from 1:30-3:30, after which the electrical equipment is available to everyone. Later the Be-In will move to Haasman Hall and continue until midnight. Many theaters are broken, the frisbee games are on, and people are exalted. In case of rain, the kindred spirits will congregate in the Grand Ballroom.

A further reversion to the pleasure principle will occur Saturday night on the BMC patio from 8-12 pm; the Cajun Party features Cajun food, Cajun music, and pseudo-african atmosphere. Bring your own beer and your special saltshaker, but leave the mattresses at home.

"Organic" offers something for both Heads and Bods. Falk's "Festival of Electric Energy" should be at least mildly titillating.

Friday, Sept. 4, 7:30 pm, KTRU auditions for your listening pleasure. "Our Trip to Africa," and "Valentine's Day," which is a big production by Guy Clark, will be to-doy. Then the same films that were shown last week will be repeated. "Machines," the electric organ, and Amplifiers, an electric organ, a bigger and better production of the '67 cast will be in the Grand Ranks, KLEF. Acoustical music will be featured in the Student Center, $1.50, KLEF, 94.5mc, FM.

Helio Hammer—Wu's famous Table Top Theatre will present a bigger and better production of the smash hit of two years ago, Hello Hammer. George Greenian, back from a year in England, and other members of the '67 cast will be in the show. Curtain time is 8 pm. Sept. 11-15. Admission will be $1.

Flicks—Beginning next week, the Art and History Dept. will sponsor a series of independent films each Thursday evening at 7:30 pm in the Biology Auditorium. Next week's presentations include Peter Kubelka's "One-Man Show," and two films by Bruce Baillie, visiting Rice lecturer, entitled "Our Trip to Africa," and "Valentia of the Sierras."