Special election set for Honor Council reforms

by DAVID HUFFMAN

With another small but active audience, the Honor Council held its second open meeting of the semester last Thursday evening. As a result of a late start, the Council moved quickly through various business matters and two proposed By-Law changes to reach the election article amendment, the "punchline" of the evening, as one noted.

The initial version of the rewritten article would have allowed campaigning on the same scale as for S.A. offices. This was defeated quickly (0-9-1) as the Council generally believed that such conditions would result in a "popularity contest" atmosphere. An alternative proposal was substituted and after a change to place candidates under the same restrictions regarding the secrecy of the specifics of hearings and trials as Council members, it was approved (8-1-1). It was then decided to submit the amendment to the student body in a special election, in order that campaigning be possible this year. The change would replace the first sentence of the present article and read:

1. "Campaigning by candidates for Honor Council offices shall be under the same conditions of secrecy as Honor Council meetings and approved (a) by writing a campaign statement for the Thresher; (b) speaking on KTRU programs open to all candidates; (c) making a statement at the S.A. election rally; (d) entering into discussions with other students regarding qualifications for and opinions on the Honor System."

On the ballot, each of the proposed subsections a, b, c, and d will be voted upon separately. Only if all four subsections are not approved will campaigning not be allowed.

Two other By-Law proposals were voted upon during the meeting. Those changes concerned a revision of the Meetings article and an addition to the Orientation article. The latter would result in a reorientation of researchers and replaced a member from each classmen and graduate students. The opinion was that reorientation would include distributing updated Honor System booklets and attempting to publicize changes made during the previous year.

In other business the Council agreed to a change in the trial procedure. The article was made to conform with the present practice of keeping abstracts of hearings and trials in the Reserve Room of the library for the duration of the year in which the hearing or trial occurred and adds the abstracts of acquittals to those kept. Discussed, but not acted upon, was a request to include in the handbook a definition of cheating to parallel that now used for plagiarism. It was felt by several Council members that the wordings offered could possibly restrict future Honor Council actions and provide a loophole for offenders.

Other proposals including the possibilities of adopting an adversarial system were on the agenda but tabled because of the late hour. These topics will come up again at tonight's meeting at 7:30pm in Sewall 462.

by MARTHA GARCIA and STEVE GOLVACH

Thursday, the 23rd of January, 1976, the Board of Governors made an appropriation sufficient to cover the construction and opening costs for the Rice University Pub. With this appropriation, the final step in a long series of efforts in making the Pub a campus reality was taken. The funds for construction will come from one of two possible sources. The Pub Control Board met Friday to determine their preference. The Governors have made available up to $40,000 in loan and grant money. The second source of potential funding, an outright grant for a similar amount, is being offered by a presently undisclosed source. At any rate, since financing is definitively available construction materials will have already begun to arrive.

As some may recall, the present effort for building a pub began in September of 1973 under the auspices of the "ad hoc" pub committee, which included a member from each college. From this group emerged the February 1974 Pub Proposal. This document, which received approval in principle from the Governors, included a proposed mechanism, and a general justification for the concept of an on campus pub. Progress was held up during the remainder of the semester as the "ad hoc" committee awaited answers to some pertinent legal questions. By the time these questions had been satisfactorily resolved, the semester had ended leaving only a limited number of people available to work on the project.

Late in June, the major catastrophe of the year occurred. It consisted of a "glimmer" air conditioning and circulation system was inadequate to the tune of 40 degrees. This problem was confronted head on by a group which traveled to Louisiana to discuss General Pub theory with individuals more experienced in the field. As the researchers had planned, the problem, upon their return, had been reduced to about one quarter of its original magnitude. Two months later, the figure went down to its present bearable total of approximately $3,500.

In the meantime, the summer pub pushers decided to completely reevaluate the design and decor proposal and secured Ross Stephens, Interiors to do a study. The resulting design demonstrated an increase in both attractiveness and cost. The now formalized Pub Board of Control (PBC), consisting largely of the original "ad hoc" committee and a few additions, went to work to cut the price. This process involved many headaches and included five electrical bids. Earlier this semester, the PBC became satisfied that their funding proposals lacked nothing besides the approval of the Governors.

The "Citadel" maximum-security lock lived up to its name in a demonstration Friday in front of the Rice Memorial Center. The new lock, now available in the campus store, could not be cut, broken, or opened in a 20-minute test by two students. The test didn't actually last 20 minutes, though; before the time was up a pair of 42-inch bolt cutters and a hammer were both ruined by the lock, which was unaffected except for its plastic coating. Even liquid nitrogen had no effect in making the case-hardened steel brittle. The lock costs $25.

The letter is signed by Martha Garcia, Jones College, and Steve Golvach.

Having read all of the above, you are now qualified to participate in a little game that we have prepared especially for you. We call it: Name the Pub. The rules are simple: 1) You think of a name; 2) Write it in the handy tear-out form provided in this issue (or any other piece of paper); 3) Include your name; 4) Send it to Martha Garcia (Jones College) by 5:00pm February 14.

The contest is open to Rice students, faculty, and staff and the prize will be disclosed next week (we think you'll like it). The selection procedure will be disclosed at a later date also.

To those of you who expressed an interest in working on construction, "Bill Fulton, the student foreman, should be contacting you soon."

Name the Pub

Suggested name for the pub:

Your name

Address

Phone No.

□ Student □ Faculty □ Staff

Return to Martha Garcia, Jones College, by 5pm, Friday, February 14.
Editorial

After a great deal of pressure from students, the Honor Council has agreed to certain reforms in its election procedure. These reforms, detailed below and in a story on page one, would allow some limited form of campaigning for Honor Council positions. The exact form these campaigns will take (including the whole concept of campaigning) must be decided by students in a special election to be held February 3.

The Honor Council should be congratulated for coming up with these reforms. Most students would agree that the current rules have forced the elections to become exactly what they were not intended to be: namely, personality contests. The Thresher urges students to vote YES on all the proposals.

However, the form in which the Honor Council chose to word the proposals is less than desirable and belies a fundamental mistrust on the Council's part toward students. The revised article would read that “Campaigning by candidates for Honor Council office shall be under the same conditions of security as other Honor Council members AND (emphasis added) limited to (a) writing a campaign statement for the Thresher; (b) speaking on KTRU programs open to all candidates; (c) making a statement at the SA election rally; and (d) entering into discussions with other students regarding qualifications for and opinions on the Honor System.”

The important thing to note here is that students must approve the secrecy clause before they can get any other election reforms. This choice of structure was quite deliberate; its message is clear. The Honor Council doesn’t trust students to approve the secrecy clause on its own merits, so they have made it a necessary condition for any other reforms.

This is a despicable trick on the part of the Council, we believe the other reforms must be approved speedily. The Thresher urges students to vote YES to all proposals in the special Honor Council referendum February 3.

--gary brewnot

To the editor:

In past issues of The Rice Thresher you have carried articles and letters dealing critically with certain aspects of the operation of Rice’s athletic program. Some of the criticism was very valid, and has prompted action by the Athletic Department in cooperation with the Committee of the Masters and the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics: Other criticism has, at times, revealed a lack of awareness of genuine efforts which are being made to rectify errors and to effect overall improvement in our athletic procedures. I would like at this time to mention two specific actions which are among the complaints expressed in The Thresher:

Orientation week

In the September 19 issue of The Rice Thresher, the Hanszen College Orientation Week Advisers voiced dissatisfaction with the low level of participation of freshmen athletes in the events and in the spirit of Orientation Week, implying that Coach Conover, as agreed, did not schedule meetings or practices in conflict with university events. However, many of the activities of the football team did conflict with events scheduled by the individual colleges. Since the crux of the problem seemed to be in the relationship between the Athletic Department and the colleges, the Committee of the Masters, on November 14, 1974, established a subcommittee, chaired by Dr. David Minter, and including Coach Al Conover, Mr. Bucky Althouse, Counselor-Athletics, Mr. Billy Collar, President-Richardson College, and Mr. Rick Schechter, Hanszen College. The committee’s mandate is to develop in cooperation with the SA Council reforms for the period 18-23 August 1975 which will permit and encourage the participation of freshmen athletes in the important activities of Orientation Week.

Academic advising

Another area of critical concern involves the academic advising and counseling of athletes. On September 3, 1974, Mr. Bucky Althouse, Academic Counselor for the Department of Athletics (Rice ‘71, All-SWC defensive back, President of the Honor Roll), met with the Committee of the Masters to discuss this area. With Mr. Althouse’s

Scholarships for “ideal women” suggested

To the editor:

The issue of athletic scholarships has raised a lot of problems recently and nothing has really been resolved. Obviously both jocks and wenches have viewed this “problem” from very different viewpoints since neither side accepts the arguments of the other. We would like to propose a new viewpoint and solution that should bring all parties together: the athletic scholarship program causes discrimination, not between jocks and wenches but between men and women.

Most scholarship athletes are strong, aggressive, courageous and talented. Even a cursory examination of these qualities shows that they constitute the main qualities of the ideal man. In essence, a scholarship gives scholarships to ideal men. Yet in this age of sexual liberation, everyone at Rice seems to have overlooked the fact that only ideal men and not ideal women receive scholarships. Whether this stems from male chauvinism or mere oversight, this one-sided policy surely results in discrimination between the sexes.

To resolve this problem, we propose that the University provide scholarships for ideal women. We do not have a plan, in the middle of the season, to select the “ideal” women. Since the crux of the problem seemed to be in the relationship between the Athletic Department and the colleges, the Committee of the Masters, on November 14, 1974, established a subcommittee, chaired by Dr. David Minter, and including Coach Al Conover, Mr. Bucky Althouse, Counselor-Athletics, Mr. Billy Collar, President-Richardson College, and Mr. Rick Schechter, Hanszen College. The committee’s mandate is to develop in cooperation with the SA Council reforms for the period 18-23 August 1975 which will permit and encourage the participation of freshmen athletes in the important activities of Orientation Week.

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SA Elections

This year’s Student Association elections have been set for February 18. The deadline for filing is two weeks prior to this, on Tuesday, February 4. All student candidates filing must have a petition signed by 25 students together with the candidate’s signed statement to the effect that he has read and understands the Student Association’s Laws and Constitution. We advance this proposal in the true interests of sexual liberation, and we hope that swift action will be taken on it.

—Robert E. McCough ’78
—Thomas A. Sagora ’78

Castaneda cites athletic reforms

the rice thresher, monday, january 27, 1975 — page 2
Arabs to develop unspoiled island into resort

KTRU, 91.7 fm, has instituted a new service designed to benefit Rice students, particularly off-campus students. Newscasts on the radio will include the announcement of upcoming "walks" that is, classes that will not meet at their scheduled hour. This service is designed to inform students ahead of time when they are given a "walk" so that they might budget their time better and avoid needless trips to campus or classroom. Professors are encouraged to call KTRU whenever they plan to not hold class, even if the walk has been previously announced. KTRU may be reached seven days a week at 528-4126 or extension 1264. Professors may call any time, but prefer during broadcast hours, 1pm to 1am Sunday through Friday, 9am until 1am Saturday.

Innovative courses called "garbage"

Caldier M. Pickett, professor of journalism, has referred to the developing innovative courses as turning the University of Kansas into an "academic garbage can." In his article, "The University ...As Garbage Can," published in the Spring 1974 "J.cthulh Journals," Professor Pickett said, "The way things are going on our campuses today will be greatly disturbing people in a few years who have been enrolled in so many trash courses and have had their education will be little more than a knowledge of rock and roll, comic books and a few skin flicks."

Pickett said that the changes began in the late 1960s and early 1970s, when he and other instructors ran scared for four years. He referred to the period as a time "when a screaming mob could invite a lecture course in anthropology and demand the rostrum, when all of us could bravely arise in democratic conviction and vote to cancel term papers and final examinations so that we could listen to rock groups and meditate on the war in Vietnam when administrators from coast to coast could be terrorized by demands of a few noisy students."

Instructors had to tell students that the courses were teaching relevant and as a result, he said, "We began to create courses with 1970ish titles and 1970ish content, and I'm afraid that in the process we taught things in 1971 or 1972 that still would be useless and quite irrelevant two years later."

"There's nothing wrong with discussing sexual mores or movies or the urban crises, but that is what students have bull sessions for and why they read newspapers and magazines. It is not why we have watered down the curriculum, in part to accommodate the demands of graduate students teaching here. We did much of this, too, because of what we call the marketplace. We got the message that it would be desirable to attract students."

by Garry Trudeau
by DEBBIE DAVIES

Gene Roddenberry is a man who does his best to put people immediately at ease. He has an enormous sense of presence, and seems to be aware of the awe in which some people hold him. "In a strange way I think all of us who were involved with the show have become sort of fans of ourselves," he says with a grin.

The show is, of course, Star Trek, that strange phenomenon that sends Rice students scurrying from their dorms at 6:10 each evening to glue themselves to the television screen. (Channel 26 has moved it to 5:30. Roddenberry signed a petition to move it back to 6.) The fans have not been mistaken, although NBC axed it after three seasons, and it has had such immense popularity that it is soon to return as a full-length movie. Negotiations are being concluded for a sequel, and it is expected to begin this fall, so it should be in the theaters this winter.

Whither Star Trek? "I think if the movie is successful one of two things could happen, or they could both happen. The first is other movies, a la Planet of the Apes, which spawned out into three or four other movies after the original; the second is that there is a good chance of it going to television, movies of the week. I think maybe three or four 90- or 120-minute shows each season, and we're really looking forward to it." He says the studio wanted us to react, but the fans wrote them such a barrage of hate mail that they realized they were wrong. It's kind of exciting to be able to do Star Trek in a way that we were never able to do it then, of doing it when we were operating under limited television budgets.

Gene Roddenberry is "basically a writer, not a science fiction writer. I was just too busy. It was like I was able to make Star Trek into the sort of thing that had never been done before. I'd always been a science fiction fan and when I decided to do a science fiction show we just tried out the techniques we used in any other show. That is, to consider science to be the main theme of literature, that motivation and characteristic are important, that you can't just be a mouthpiece for people rather than gadgets. This was the general line we took in Star Trek, and if one innovation was the use to which Star Trek was put.

"There were concepts in philosophy and satire that you can talk about more powerfully in science fiction than in any other way. We used Star Trek much as Jonathan Swift used Gulliver's Travels. He wanted to do satire, political comment, on his day; if he had made that comment straightforward he would have been executed for it. And as a result in the days of Star Trek we talked about things that were somewhat forbidden to other shows."

Although he is greatly pleased with the past and continuing success of Star Trek, a faint hint of bitterness seems to creep into his voice as he talks about television. "I feel that we've underestimated the power of television, and it's sad to see how much of that sort of fans of the medium is being lost. You really can't do that because it suddenly got a 90 rating right after it came on and became so powerful, and in other words began to sell lots of toothpaste, that the producers were able to push television around a little and say, 'We won't stand still for the censorship you give us,' God help the show, that doesn't have a powerful rating."

Yet nevertheless Star Trek opened the television industry up to new subject matter. Laugh-In followed, and The Smothers Brothers, and now All in the Family and its satellite shows. But this liberalization is limited largely to the area of sex. War commentary is still not permitted, even though it is considered too controversial and depressing. But another area in which the effects of Star Trek are notable is that of science fiction itself. "I think we are definitely the opening wedge in bringing science fiction into the mass audience."

"The science fiction paperback book sales are now extremely strong and people are going to science fiction movies who would never have considered it before. Of course at the same time that Star Trek was on the air, in those years we landed the first man on the moon, our scientists finally began to speculate about the possibility of extraterrestrial life, 2001 a Space Odyssey, and so on. People forgot that ten or twelve years ago if you were to bring up the subject of extraterrestrial life people would look at you as if you were crazy. I think Star Trek began to show people that it was not so nutty, that it could be believable, exciting, romantic, and so on and still be science fiction."

Star Trek was indeed innovative. One of the GI's. At first it was the multicrash crew presented in the format. There were many trivial questions of censorship; navels and open-mouth kisses were absolutely forbidden. There were even complaints about the lack of cigarettes on the ship. "Although many of us did smoke we felt that man would not be that foolish in a future century."

There is beauty in science fiction as a vehicle for communication, just like any other form of literature. It is inescapably tied in with psychology, politics, sociology, economics; in short, it is about people rather than things. "It is the task of the writer and poet and the artist of all types to comment of human beings. He smiles, and discusses the history of science fiction from Lucian of Samosatta up through Swift, Orwell, Huxley and on into the present with writers such as Bradbury, Heinlein and Asimov."

"Science fiction has always been a marvelous vehicle for satire and philosophy and I think it is still today. The classics of science fiction are exciting documents, exciting speculation about ourselves. Take for example, before Star Trek it would be hard to write a more powerful document about where we are: One of the first proposals I made was to put these into the movies."

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Roddenberry on the set of "Genesis II", one of his post-Star Trek shows
and Warhol's latest portrayal of vampires are very mortal—crates; the entire film, in fact, is a parody of class conflict. To stave off death—Warhol's vampire bank stars by law from commercial sperm banks, for fear of a "sperm bank pop-star war." They feel that stars like Mick Jagger might sell their sperm to frozen sperm bank operators who would advertise the fact, creating a run on semen by thousands of grifters wishing to become pregnant. The Academy does not care that the next generation of vampires may look nothing like their fathers. This is incest, and would lead to genetic problems in the future.

In small caps — The Spanish Dept. will have a free performance (in Spanish) of Mexican playwright Manuca Villalta's La Ultima Letra on Thursday at 8pm in Bio 131. Jean Mallet Mitchell will perform an All-Sax piano program Sunday February 16 at 3pm in Brown Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts. The concert is free.

Unconscious Incest — After an 18-month study, the British government has recommended to Parliament that rock stars be prohibited by law from selling semen to commercial sperm banks, for fear of a "sperm bank pop-star war." They feel that stars like Mick Jagger might sell their sperm to frozen sperm bank operators who would advertise the fact, creating a run on semen by thousands of grifters wishing to become pregnant. The Academy does not care that the next generation of vampires may look nothing like their fathers. This is incest, and would lead to genetic problems in the future.

The Houston Post offers a discount on pop-star Olivia Newton-John's night at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo on February 23. To purchase the tickets at $1.00 off, applicable to any of the Astro-dome's Arena, Mezzanine, Lower, or Upper seats, one special Post coupon must be presented for each ticket purchased. The Post-Night tickets are available at any Foley's, the Advance Ticket Office at the Astrodome, or at the Houston Post, or in special editions of the Post. Bonus: one complementary lapel button bearing Ms. Newton-John's visage.

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Intramural volleyball scores

by DAVID AU

Last Thursday night Shakers II defeated the Boat 80-67, Shakers II now advance to play the Rasticizers in the semifinals. The semi-finals will be played. Each college will have eleven men on the field. There will be two 35-minute periods. Sid Rich and Lovett drew byes; Lovett will play Baker in the first round and Sid Rich will play Will Rice.

For the first time ever college soccer will be played. Each college will have eleven men on the field. There will be 90-minute periods. Sid Rich and tip-ins. His foul shooting also needs much improvement. The free-throw line, and missing the first shot of 1-and-1 situations far too often. This aspect of their game must improve as their patient offense draws many fouls.

The conference basketball race is but two games old and already there is talk of another exciting finish for the season like that of the football season. Pre-season predictions in college basketball magazines had Texas A&M in first (followed closely by Texas Tech) with Rice in last place.

Well, Rice is still winless, having lost a game they should have won but for bad play against Baylor, and nearly pulling out a close game against A&M. But the Aggies did not look that impressive, or put it another way, the Owls played so well they forced A&M into a very close victory. Texas Tech appeared to be very strong, having beaten the University of Houston, while the Aggies lost by 20 points to the Cougars.

Then Tech came up against the Razorbacks (who came to Austin Court Tuesday night at 7:30pm) and lost, and TCU beat Baylor. Then Saturday night at Dallas fell to Arkansas 73-69. The Owls showed a lot in the A&M game. Tim Moriarty proved that he can get rebounds if he really tries. He only has to continue his efforts. The team also showed that a full-court press will not hurt them too much, especially if there is no forward in the league who can defend against Moriarty when he brings the ball upcourt in a hurry. He has continued to sacrifice his scoring average for the good of the team, and is taking only the good shots with a 50% average from the field.

It may sound a bit optimistic, but by mid-season the Owls will have better adjusted to playing college ball, and the entire team will better understand Coach Bob Polk’s winning style of basketball. We won’t be losing games we should have won (such as against A&M and Baylor). The team does need the same fan support they got against the Aggies, though.
Owls look for first SWC win this Tuesday

by MARC SIEGEL

The Arkansas Razorbacks are heading for Austry Court Tuesday at 7:30 to play the Owl roundballers.

Last week, under the guidance of Eddie Sutton, new head coach, the Hogs beat the team favored to win the SWC, Texas Tech, at Fayetteville.

The Razorbacks are led by Rickey Medlock and West Kentucky transfer Kent Allison. They are a quick, well-coached, patient team, with many good shooters. They play with only seven players, so their weak point is the bench.

Rice will be going into this game looking for its first conference win in three starts. They lost by one point to Baylor, and three points to the Aggies in a game filled with disputed calls.

The Owl Offense is very well-balanced, led by Charles Daniels with a 24.0 conference game average. The rest of the team players are averaging less than ten points per game. James Simmonds is leading the team in assists while Danny Carroll, Tim Moriarty and Dave Louwerse are the top rebounders.

Louwerse has developed into number one shot blocker, having six in the Aggie game alone.

Although turnovers are still a problem, the team has improved since the beginning of the season. The field goal percentage has also improved as the Owls are getting and making good shots. Rebounding still persists as a problem because the team is usually much shorter than the opposition.

The Rice attendance has also improved considerably, as over 5,000 fans came to cheer their team last Tuesday. This home court advantage may also be beneficial against Arkansas and later in the season as the Owls seek the SWC crown.

Owl Cage Notes — Mark Keel and Howard Laidlaw have quit the team while Bart Harrison was declared academically ineligible. Thus for the only freshman starting regularly are Dave Louwerse and our ball control man James Simmonds.
Monday the twenty-seventh
12:30pm, EHR. Lecture, 301 Sewall, 4pm, Biochemistry Seminar, 123 Biology, 7:30pm, ASME meeting, 201 Ryon Lab.
7:30pm, Pre-med lecture series, 309 Sewall.
7:30pm, Econ 201b seminar/film.

Tuesday the twenty-eighth
4pm, Houston practice season.

SEBRING OF HOUSTON
Hair Designs by Alpha
Hermann Prof. Building
Garage Annex (Breezeway)
528-8705

Monday the twenty-seventh
5:30pm, Baptist Student Union, Supper for Sibs, followed by speak.
7:30pm, Richardson Lecture Series, 301 Sewall.
7:30pm, Readings of Wind in the Willows by the Woodsworthian Society.
7:30pm, Rice vs. Arkansas in basketball, Autry Court.
7:30pm, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics meeting, Fred Harp, AIA, will speak on "Space Shuttle," 301 Ryon Lab.

Thursday the thirtieth.
7:30pm, KTRU presents "The Law—It's Your Business!" 201 Sewall.
7:30pm, ICS lecture. "Intro, to Computers and Computer Prog."

Friday the thirtieth. 7:30pm, Rice Christian Scientists meeting, HB 223.
5pm, Rice Christian Scientists meeting, HB 223.
4pm, Bozon practice session.

SPEAKS ON THE HOUSTON 12
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SPEAKS ON THE HOUSTON 12
UOFH
HOUSTON ROOM
12:15 PM
SPONSOR: HOUSTON 12
UNITARIAN CHURCH
5210 FANNIN
7:30 PM
DEFENSE COMM.

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notes and notices

Unfinished one-bedroom apartments near campus, couples preferred, $145 up. Call Mr. Spurger, 528-3931.