In aftermath of fire
RMC Grand Hall to become Hanszen's commons

by EMILY COFFMAN

Since fire destroyed Hanszen Commons last month, the University has been searching for a solution to offer Hanszen members as a suitable temporary replacement. This past week, the administration announced that the Grand Hall would be designated "Hanszen College North" for the upcoming academic year, or until a new commons can be built.

Hanszen President Dave Fleischer feels that, while the RMC is not the "optimal solution for Hanszen," it is "more than adequate." And, he adds, though a temporary building would have been more satisfactory from the college’s point of view, its higher cost made it less acceptable for the University. Both he and (Master) Stephen Baker feel that the RMC is the only acceptable alternative to a temporary building, since other solutions would have meant dispersing the college and loss of college spirit.

The Grand Hall will be used for the same purposes as other college commons, and Fleischer envisions a "restructuring and decentralization of the room to..." (continued on page 10)

Rape counseling service open

by EMILY COFFMAN

The rape problem at Rice seems rather inconsequential, considering the insularity from Houston most on-campus students feel. However, the FBI reports that rape is the most rapidly increasing crime of personal violence in the country. And, though state laws are changing, rape is still for the most part a crime that sets up the victim for more scandal that the attacker receives.

The trauma of rape is often compounded by the response from those around the victim long after the actual attack. Not only are the hospitals and police stations unfriendly and uncooling the victim’s associates are often unsure of how to react.

To help reduce the feeling of aloneness, a group of women and men in the Houston area have volunteered their time to form the Houston Rape Crisis Coalition. These people offer counseling to rape victims, no matter how long ago the attack occurred. They will also talk to family and friends of rape victims, or anyone else who wants information about rape.

But they offer another service to victims as well. For those who cannot face the medical examination or the police alone, advocates of the RCC will accompany them through as many of the procedures as necessary. Even if the victim does not want to press charges, the advocate will accompany her to the police station so she may file an informational report about the attack. The advocates, who undergo extensive training before becoming counselors, are always available by calling Crisis Hotline, 228-1508.

The Coalition also offers discussion groups, self-defense courses, and other information about rape and how to handle it. The group was started a few years ago when the Houston chapter of NOW sponsored a Task Force on Rape. The members of the then-unnamed group interviewed hospital employees, police, and others who deal with rape victims, to get their reactions to the crime; then they set up the non-profit organization. They receive no federal or local funds, but survive only on contributions and the money they receive from training programs, seminars, and the sale of pamphlets about preventing rape and handling it when it does occur. Members of the group are also interested in new legislation about rape. The latest aid for victims is a state law requiring reimbursement for examinations relating to crimes of personal violence. Now, when a rape victim is examined at Ben Taub or Hermann Hospital (the only hospitals in Houston treating such cases), the bill is sent directly to the victim. (The bill ap-plies only to the exam; treatment of wounds is still charged to the victim.)

Information is given free of charge and in complete confidence. Currently, they receive about five calls a week from victims, and an additional 10 to 15 from individuals requesting information about the crime. They hope that when more people become aware of the service, more will seek help from them.

Hacker man surveys NSF arctic projects

President Norman Hackerman left last Saturday (July 26) to visit the arctic, his second polar trip this year. He is spending several days in the area with head quarters at Point Barrow, Alaska.

In his capacity as Chairman of the National Science Board, the governing body of the National Science Foundation (NSF), Hackerman will review the progress of NSF projects in the area. There are almost 100 experiments currently under way, including projects in glaciology, meteorology, prospection, environmental science, and upper atmosphere physics.

Last January Hackerman visited the South Pole to dedicate the new NSF-sponsored Amundsen Scott Research Station there.

He is expected to return to Houston August 3.
Kopra: Program Council needs Grand Hall, too

To the editor:

On July 23 I met with President Hackerman to discuss the relocation of Hanszen Commons in the Grand Hall of the RMC. At this time we worked out that I would write a brief letter outlining the RPC's plans for the coming year, and the effects the relocation would have on them. [President Hackerman had not been made aware of these effects when the decision to assign the Grand Hall to Hanszen was made—Ed.] Here is the text of that letter.

Andy Kopra
RPC President
July 25, 1975

Dr. Hackerman,

I would like to briefly outline what the program council is planning on for the coming year and how this relates to the Grand Hall matter we discussed yesterday.

The functions of the program council are broken down into nine standing committees. These are: Academic, Arts, Forum (speakers), Fine Arts, Pub Entertainment, Student Service and Graphics committees. The Communications and Graphics committees are responsible for the collection and organization of information concerning RPC and university events and the physical aspects of publicity, respectively. The Student Services committee is currently working on discounts at local businesses and movie theaters and exploring other service possibilities. The Pub Entertainment committee, as its name suggests, will work closely with the pub manager to provide live music in the pub, primarily on weekends. The film series will be in Hamman Hall, as usual. The film committee has worked with the colleges to coordinate all the films on campus. The Fine Arts committee will sponsor small events, some in cooperation with the Contemporary Arts Museum here. This is possible because of the possible exception of the Fine Arts committee (in the case of a larger recital or performance), the committees I have just mentioned will not be affected by the loss of access to the Grand Hall. The remaining three, Social, Concert, and Forum are seriously affected.

Forc. Most large party dances are held in the Grand Hall. These include all the traditional RPC sponsored parties (one at the beginning and end of each semester and generally one in between) and some of the college-sponsored parties. Locating the parties outside is an alternative, but restricted by weather, and they seem to be less successful. I would like to see the Grand Hall used for a back-to-school, midterm, and end-of-season party each semester. These will be held on a weekend night, so set-up and clean-up in the required time will be feasible.

Concerts: Rather than try to have one large concert a year (which, as you may remember, proved extremely difficult), the program council was aiming toward many smaller and more feasible concerts in the Grand Hall. These have been very successful in the past. We could focus our efforts on music in the pub; many musical groups have expressed an interest in playing there. Access to outdoor areas for small-scale concerts (in front of Hamman Hall, the track stadium) in the warmer months would alleviate the loss of the Grand Hall.

Fom: This is the only area in which no substitute seems possible. I would like to propose that the Hanszen members eat dinner at the other colleges two or three times a month. This would allow the program council to continue with its plans for a speaker series and to accomplish best, it seems to me, if the administration and the program council were both aware of the other's activities and opinions. I look forward to the possibility of discussions in the future.

I plan to write an article for the fall issue of the Thresher, outlining how the program council will deal with the Grand Hall situation. If you would like me to include any of your thoughts on the subject, I would be pleased to do so.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Eichblatt: editorial courage "refreshing"

Letter from the Guv: For Friends only

by JOHN ANDERSON

I received this letter the other day from T 11 Executive Building, Montgomery, Alabama. (I give him address for those of you who might want to obtain a copy.)

"Dear Fellow American. I suppose you are wondering why Governor Wallace is writing to you.

As a matter of fact, aba, yes, I was wondering about that.

Well, I want to discuss two things with you today. " Negroes and communists, yessah. The first subject, the good governor assured me was "a personal matter." Would I fill out a "National Issues Poll" form and send it in? The poll, printed on white paper with red and blue bunting and decorated with stars asked who issues concerned me most, I could choose from a list of ten including "Budget deficits caused by excessive government spending," "Immigration policies which deny entry for those who but don't want to work," and "Welfare cheating abuse."

I tell you friends, the great governor of the great state of Alabama has certainly broadened his appeal. He's not standing out there on those steps blocking the way of some black guy; hell no.

now he's out chasing those welfare cheaters (course they do all happen to be black). The Governor set my fears to rest. I could relax; America was in the process of being saved: "I do intend to seek the Democratic Presidential nomination next year." The Guv was gonna give those liberal politicians the message. "The people say no, but the people who can do something about it who can do something about it..."

The people say no force as to have school books that have curse words in them and school books that are anti-God, but the politicians ignore us. "The people say no sex on TV, but the politicians ignore us."

After listening to the Guv, I decided that the average liberal pinko Eastern politician spends most of his time in organized ignoring. Amazingly enough, I had received another earlier letter from the Guv back in April of this year. It was much homier, more down to earth, more distinctly Southern. It was titled "Dear Friend." That's Capital "F" Friend, you'll notice. You'll be awfully proud when I read to this great American, my friend, that he would "do all that I humanly can. And you quite frankly, it's not easy for me these days. I need all the help I can get from my friends." I was reminded of the time when my then State Representative in Beautiful Baptast East (continued on page 4)

GARY BREWTON
Editor
JANET DOTY
Business Manager

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Money problems pose threat to Library

by JOHN ANDERSON

The objects, intents, and purposes of this Institution are declared to be the establishment and maintenance, in the City of Houston, Texas, of a Public Library and the maintenance of an Institution for the Advancement of Literature, Science, Art, Philosophy, and Letters... Article II

The Charter of the William Marsh Rice Institute for the Advancement of Literature, Science, and Art.

The Founder, William Marsh Rice, carefully provided for both an institution of higher learning and the library that such an institution must necessarily have. Founder Rice might be surprised to learn that today his Public Library for the inhabitants of Houston is beset by serious financial troubles.

Today the outlook for the Fondren Library at Rice is gloomy. Provost Frank E. Vander, a leading research scholar, states flatly that, "The Library is going to hell in a handbasket. And you can quote me on that."

His viewpoint is shared by Sociology Professor F. Chandler Davidson, in his Sallyport article, "Balancing the Books at Fondren," Davidson says, "The hard truth is that the only solution to this problem and answer: "The Library is going to hell in a handbasket."

In a Sallyport article (Jan/Feb. 1975), "Balancing the Books at Fondren," Davidson concludes that money is both problem and answer. "The hard truth is that the only solution to Fondren's woes is more money."

Davidson has noted that while today's materials expenses are at double their costs in 1963/64, those same expenditures when expressed in constant dollars are at less than 60 per cent of 1967 funding. Richard O'Keefe, Librarian, shies away from quoting statistics; but some facts ought to be considered. According to statistics provided by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Rice ranks 80th in terms of volumes in the library, 75th in volumes added last year, and 80th in the number of periodicals. Of the 82 member libraries of the ARL, Rice ranks near the bottom in all but one of the ten categories of comparison.

What implications does the library's plight have on educational quality? Vander argues that if it is to survive, Rice must "assert the virtues of being elite." The maintenance of excellence, he suggests, is inextricably tied up with the continued good welfare of the library.

The 1974 Report of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Self Study lends credence to Vander's words by characterizing Fondren as "probably the most important service agency of the university." The report also warned that if Rice expects to maintain its present stature among creditable universities, it cannot allow significant cutbacks in library acquisitions without cutbacks in the number of programs or degrees it offers.

Practically everyone, faculty, staff, students, recognizes the importance and the worth of the Fondren Library. But Rice, like most universities today, is pressed by financial woes; and President Hackerman is committed to balancing the budget. Vander, as the university's chief academic officer, has been forced for four consecutive years to ask departments to cut their serial subscriptions.

What then can or should be done to maintain and upgrade the quality of Fondren?

Increased use of microforms presents one possible and often heard answer; but Rice is already a leader in the microforming of materials. In any case, microforming carries with it other problems; quite often the costs of microforming are as high as those of binding and storing.

Then, too, microforms are often unavailable for as long as one year after the publication of the periodical in cover. Most research scholars feel that they cannot wait that long. After all, the basic purpose of periodical literature is to keep scholars informed of the most recent developments in their fields.

(continued on page 15)
**Houston from inside the hedges...**

(continued from page 1)  
(With several notable, and scandalous, exceptions in the past).  
Except for broad guidelines from the Trustees, the President of the University sets Rice's policies.  

Bring an umbrella  

Houston is HOT, and it rains a lot.  Cyclones prefer to divide the year into only two seasons: wet and wetter.  Even worse, the rain doesn't come down gently, but rather in torrents.  Sometimes rainy weather will move in for a solid week, with never a break.  The nicest times of the year are early spring and late fall, when cold fronts sweep the skies free of the oppressive humidity.  On those few precious days, clear and free of pollution, Houston isn't bad.  

"During the campus' brief flirtation with student activism, the Board of Governors threw out the administration's approval of students' invitation to Abbie Hoffman to speak on campus in 1970 just after the Chicago Seven trial.  The Board's rationale for its actions (which also included closing the campus to all outsiders) was that it feared violence.  The fact that they thought they could keep the outside world out reflects the widely-held view of the campus' insularity from the "real" world.

The most common blast against ETS is that its tests carry a measure of the great impact the test score embargo follows the state's refusal to use the information to determine a teacher's pay category, even as the test will be as constructive socially and educationally as it's possible to make them," said Dr. W. Turnbull, president of ETS.  The trouble is finding out what is most constructive socially and educationally.  

The Guv speaks...  

(continued from page 2)  
Texas was in a tough bid for re-election.  His opponent was a Bible-thumping populist with a pretty smiling little lady for a wife.  Old Rayford was losing, he knew it, and he had to do something.  So, he had this television commercial where his brother started out with the aid of a cane, sat down at a piano and played "God Bless America," while the announcer intoned, "Grady Price...a real American...blind since birth.  A man who has overcome his handicaps."  After he had finished playing, Grady stood up and said, "I know that my brother Rayford can lead you and Texas.  He's led me every since I was just a little boy.  Well, that ought to give you some sense of the joy of South- ern politicking.  I thought to myself my trip to the Guv.  Rayford Price was up and moved to reply.  Yes I was.  

It's a nasty trick to use a catch-word in big letters to get your attention, but this is important.  Face it.  Whether you know it now or not, Rice is not going to be as bad as you've been led to think.  And you're going to have lots of time on your hands, try to do whatever you can.  George, the Alaba ma Bantam Rooster, was right up there with Rayford Price.  He knew how to write a campaign letter, and I was moved to reply.  Yes I was.  

"And I'm presently distraught, though about one thing: In the Good Guv's first letter he assured me that Rice's 711 Executive Building was in Zip 36103; now, apparently, it is in 36104.  I guess it's true: damn bureaucrats have been at it again, shuffling zip codes just to do papers.  Or maybe the Guv just lost somewhere out there in Middle Deep South USA."

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Plenty of civic pride  

Houston has no lack of civic boosters, perhaps justifiably.  The effects of the recession are unseen, quite simply because there is no recession in Houston.  At a recent conference of U.S. Mayors, Houston's Fred Hofheinz drew much sharp (and probably jealous) language from others when he boasted of the city's budget surplus and overall prosperity.  The thirfty Hofheinz may in fact symbolize the progressive (at least economically) attitudes and peculiar sense of destiny felt by many residents of "Space City."  Son of Judge Roy (the builder of the Astrodomo), Mayor Fred is Phi Beta Kappa (UT Austin) and has a Ph.D. in economics.  With his relatively liberal political views and personal charm, Hofheinz has an almost Kennedyan style and style (the latter nobody doubt cultivated).  He, like the city, definitely gives the impression he is going places.  

The plans got left behind  

Planning-wise, the city is a paradox.  Despite the fact that there is no zoning (except by deed restrictions) downtown area is thriving (albeit as a single-purpose, daytime-only district).  It thrives even though its methods are different than a decade ago; in 1970, it had only candidate for mayor.  The lunatic fringe was responsible for bombing KPFT, the listener-sponsored and educational radio station, twice; it hasn't happened in several years, though.  Things are quieter these days.  

The press is asleep  

during the great impact the test score embargo follows the state's refusal to use the information to determine a teacher's pay category, even as the test will be as constructive socially and educationally as it's possible to make them," said Dr. W. Turnbull, president of ETS.  The trouble is finding out what is most constructive socially and educationally.  

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**ETS influence extends beyond SAT's**

by JIMASKER  

"What were your SAT scores?"

Before long, hundreds of neo-phile weenies will be roaming a labyrinth of unfamiliar buildings on the campus on South Main, and that question will roll off their lips as naturally as "Where are you from?"

That freshmen, having already made it to "the Harvard of the South," will still be concerned with college entrance exams is not so much an indication of their insecurity as a measure of the great impact the Educational Testing Service (ETS) makes on academic life.  Many of those arrivingFreshman Week will again, about three years later, pay homage or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb—to this Princeton, or succumb-to...
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Altman's "Nashville" is microcosm of America

Nashville
Directed by Robert Altman
At the Alabama

by ELAINE BONILLA

Did you know that only once in the last fifty years has Tennessee failed to vote for the winning presidential candidate? Nashville is Tennessee, and Tennessee is America: Robert Altman has undertaken to create a broad panoply view of the American character within the microcosm of the Tennessee city. There's not much of a plot in Nashville—it's more the story of the people that make up the city: how their lives intermingle.

The catalyst is Hal Phillip Walker, the Replacement Party's candidate for the presidency, who's out to win the Tennessee primary. He's in favor of rewriting the National Anthem (so that everybody can sing it), abolishing the Electoral College, and getting rid of lawyers in government, especially those in Congress. But in spite of his momentum, he needs Tennessee, the grass roots voters: the people who elect the President. Tennessee, however, doesn't need Hal Phillip Walker. He insists that everyone is involved in politics whether they like it or not, but the city that ignores his ever-present message denies any kind of involvement. Haven Hamilton is the major singer in Nashville, and he never "takes sides politically."

From the moment Haven is first seen recording his newest hit, "We Must Be Doing Something Right to Last 200 Years," to his final appearance when Walker's big rally is interrupted by an assassination, his philosophy never wavers. His parting comment at the assassination is "This isn't Dallas—this is Nashville: you show them what we're made of. Come on, somebody sing!" And somebody does. In a few moments the crowd is clapping and nodding to the song, "It Don't Worry Me."

Altman has come up with a brilliant comment on the apathy of America, particularly those in Congress. All the film's reception was unanticipated: it has taken Altman over a decade to actualize this project.

Some of the Altman regulars from his previous films are there, such as Michael Murphy who is trying to arrange Walker's rally, but there are quite a few well-known performers who are far from type-cast. Lily Tomlin is excellent in a serious role as a gospel singer with two deaf children who's out to win the Tennessee city. There's a particularly timely nod just when everyone is professing interest in the coming bicentennial. That timeliness, however, is as accidental as the film's reception was unanticipated: it has taken Altman over a decade to actualize this project.

"Rollerball": revamped Western plot

Rollerball
Produced and Directed by Norman Jewison
Starring James Caan and John Houseman
At the Windsor Theatre

by DAVID COURTWRIGHT

Start with a grandiose but confused director—Norman Jewison. Add a pretentious premise (in the not too distant future, wars will no longer exist). But there will be Rollerball!" Top it off with Kubrick's Little Alex all grown up and whizzing from mayhem to mayhem on ball bearings—James Caan as Jonathan E. Then you have some idea of Rollerball. Before dissecting the film's utter moral and intellectual chaos, a word about the central character, Jonathan E. Frightfully underplayed by Caan (member Steve McQueen in Le Mans?), Big Jon is the last of a vanishing species, hard-assed existential. He has survived for ten years in a vicious sport designed to display on multi-vision for the pampered millionaires "the futility of individual action": in so doing he has come to be regarded as a threat by the Corporate Directors, even vigilantes who keep the individual citizen at bay. But Big Jon will have none of it, intimating that there is something more to early retirement at issue here, and his peculiar crucifixion takes the form of rule changes designed to make the game progressively more deadly.

All of this, to Jewison's credit, is executed most vividly. Rollerballers blur across 70mm frames, the slag of leather across flesh mingles with strains of Bach (conducted by none less than Andre Previn), and the game itself is developed with appalling ingenuity. The wide screen and future music to a pulp, and the life of the rollerballer is compared to that of a World War fighter pilot. But Jewison also wants to condemn the society which derives such vicious satisfaction from watching rollerballers pound one another to scrap. Now get this, Pete! Rozelle: Jewison "resolves" this tension by having the protagonist Jonathan E. defy one evil by evoking another, rather like the director of an anti-war film casting Mean Joe Green as a Luftwaffe ace who expresses his displeasure with the German High Command by shooting down more Allied airplanes.

Lily Tomlin, as the white lead in a black gospel group, lets out all the musical stops in a recording session in "Nashville"
too bad a job.

As far as drama is concerned, there is the Alley Theater which performs five plays on its main stage during the academic year, and several others on its smaller arena stage. Students can attend on special student rush tickets, subscribing to the five main shows for only $12.50. The various universities in the city are also pretty active in drama: the University of Houston and St. Thomas University both have drama departments that produce plays regularly, and Rice itself has several extra-curricular groups producing shows (the Rice Players) and about three college groups.

Community theaters and dinner theaters are very popular and can be found scattered throughout the city. There are also non-professional groups eager for participation, such as Main Street Theater at Autry House, right across Main Street from the Rice Campus, organized by Rice graduate Becky Greene. Then there's Theater Under the Stars (TUITS), with free musicals in the summer in Hermann Park, and indoor productions in the winter. The outside world comes to visit Houston sometimes, too, in the form of various touring productions. The Society for the Performing Arts (SPA) is responsible for bringing many excellent events here, the most recent being Nureyev's Raymonda.

Which brings us to the subject of music—yes, it can also be found in the city, though not in quite so many or such varied forms. The Houston Symphony, conducted by Lawrence Foster, plays a season at Jones Hall. You can subscribe, or just take them as they come. Students can save as much as 40% of the regular price of subscriptions to any of the three series offered, and one of them is on Sunday afternoons (no conflicts with classes, and no transportation problems since city buses run during the day).

There's also a full season at the Ballet and one at Houston Grand Opera, both performed in Jones Hall. Subscriptions to the Ballet are probably the least expensive of the three musical possibilities, but this year the Opera is making a special Scholarship Fund for college students. Benefactors can donate $12 or more to the Opera, and one student on a scholarship to any University in the city can attend the whole season. If you can get someone to donate that, and to specify your name, you can get in remarkably cheaply.

Modern music has a piece of the action, too. Groups stop through Houston to play at the Houston Music Theater or at Hofheinz Pavilion by the U of H campus, and KPFT radio sponsors free concerts at Miller Outdoor Theater in Hermann Park occasionally. There's something for everyone, just not too much of it.

Museums are also represented in town—right near the Rice campus, in fact. About three blocks down Main Street is the Museum of Fine Arts. The Bijou Theatre specializes in old favorite movies, including classics such as Casablanca. Then you can find various film festivals. Our own Media Center, for instance, shows unusual films, American and foreign, all year.

Houston is working rapidly to catch up with the world around it, and as far as the arts are concerned it’s doing pretty well. Everything offered is not as professional as the viewer might wish, but things are available, and there's a sufficient selection to provide quite a pleasant rest from classes through the school year.

Houston Symphony Conductor Lawrence Foster

Across the street from the Museum of Fine Arts is the Contemporary Arts Museum, focusing, as its name implies, more on modern work. And in Hermann Park, across Main Street from Rice, is the Museum of Natural Science. Neither of these have very broad collections, but they are available, and sometimes offer worthwhile exhibits.

There are films shown throughout the city, ranging from first-run features like Nashville to art films at the Museum of Fine Arts. The Bijou Theatre specializes in old favorite movies, including classics such as Casablanca. Then you can find various film festivals. Our own Media Center, for instance, shows unusual films, American and foreign, all year.

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Houston Symphony Conductor Lawrence Foster

Across the street from the Museum of Fine Arts is the Contemporary Arts Museum, focusing, as its name implies, more on modern work. And in Hermann Park, across Main Street from Rice, is the Museum of Natural Science. Neither of these have very broad collections, but they are available, and sometimes offer worthwhile exhibits.

There are films shown throughout the city, ranging from first-run features like Nashville to art films at the Museum of Fine Arts. The Bijou Theatre specializes in old favorite movies, including classics such as Casablanca. Then you can find various film festivals. Our own Media Center, for instance, shows unusual films, American and foreign, all year.

Houston is working rapidly to catch up with the world around it, and as far as the arts are concerned it’s doing pretty well. Everything offered is not as professional as the viewer might wish, but things are available, and there's a sufficient selection to provide quite a pleasant rest from classes through the school year.
International stars come to town through SPA

by JOHN FREEMAN

This past year, the people of Houston were treated to performances featuring Rudolph Nureyev, the Bolshoi Ballet, the Alvin Alley City Center Dance Theater, Marcel Marceau, Vladimir Horowitz, Andre Segovia, the Peking Opera Company, and 27 others, all brought to town by a dynamic young group, the Society for the Performing Arts. Since its formation in 1966, the SPA has continued to bring the best of international talent to Houston, year after year. An example of their fantastic skill is that within a two week period this June, the SPA hosted both the Bolshoi Ballet’s first performance in Texas and the American premiere of Rudolph Nureyev’s production (with the American Ballet Theater) of Raymond. According to SPA General Manager Jim Bernhard (Rice ’59 and former Editor of the Thresher), the 1975-76 season will be just as spectacular. The program begins September 25 with the Chinese Acrobat of Taiwan. Later performances will include guitarist Julian Bream, Michael Lorimer, Angel Romero, The Pennsylvania Ballet, Garrick Ohlsson, Mazowsze’s Polish Song and Dance Company, Don Corsacks Soviet Dancers of Rostov, Ted Josselson, the Cleveland Orchestra, and the City Center Joffrey Ballet. Seventeen of the usual 20 to 25 performances have already been scheduled.

Surprisingly, considering the plight of most fine arts and performing companies, the SPA is doing rather well financially. Although in its fledgling days the spa was supported by donations from wealthy members on its board, today it earns 75 to 95 per cent of its income. This includes ticket sales, program advertising, and National Endowment Grants. The remaining five to 25 per cent comes from contributions. Its current budget is close to $700,000.

The actual booking of performers is something like ordering out of a Sears-Roebuck catalogue. An executive committee of the SPA board of directors reviews the available performers and touring companies listed in the catalogues and brochures of various management companies. Meeting about twice a year, this executive committee shapes the coming season and chooses the Society’s direction for the coming year. “Probably, about ninety per cent of what we get is managed by one of several New York management companies,” explains Bernhard. These include Hurok Concerts, Columbia Artists Management, and Shaw Concerts. Selections of artists are made on the basis of “what artists are available, what artists we have had recently, what artists we want to have, and sometimes what artists are being pushed by a particular management company.”

Even after the season is set there are always changes in fees and schedules which result in cancellations and postponements. A unique example was the scheduled Kirov Ballet tour of last summer. The Kirov performances in Houston were to be sponsored by the SPA, but public opinion against the Soviet Jewish emigration laws which restrained the Panov, former principal dancer with the company, in Russia resulted in enough political pressure to cause cancellation of the entire tour. Ironically, the very day the Panovs were allowed to leave the Soviet Union, was the day the Kirov had been scheduled to open in Houston.

Another booking problem SPA faces is the unavailability of Jones Hall. Sharing the building with the symphony, opera, and ballet means that SPA must schedule performances to the convenience of both the touring artists and local performers. This is the reason so many of SPA’s performances come at the end of the other organizations’ seasons. Some thought has been given to building a new hall for performing arts smaller than Jones Hall, but such an undertaking would cost in the neighborhood of $15 million.

Contributions still come from generous directors and other benevolent individuals, but a new and important source of income in the Houston business community. The Combined Corporate Arts Fund collects donations from about five hundred of Houston’s largest corporations and distributes it to SPA, other performing arts groups and local museums. Other reliable sources of income are private foundations and the Texas Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

SPA is also responsible for spreading the performing arts throughout the city, particularly by offering students a chance to see many performers. Student tickets are generally available at half price and ticket-scholarships have been established for students of local secondary schools. Master Classes which give students a chance to meet and talk to performers are also organized at the Houston High School for the Performing Arts, the University of Houston, and Rice.

Expanding even more into the community this year, the society has organized the SPA Associates, a group responsible for expanding educational programs and bringing free performances to Hermann Park. A concert of John Philip Sousa’s works was held in Miller Theater this summer. The concert was conducted by Ned Sata, who tried to conduct the works as Sousa had by studying the original handwritten scores and markings.

The Houston Society for the Performing Arts offers Rice students a unique chance to see some of the best artists in America. Half-price tickets, available in the Campus Store and the local Warm’s, are $3. The information, write: SPA, 615 Louisiana, Houston 77002.

The Chinese Acrobats of Taiwan open the SPA’s 1975-76 season on September 25.
**Capriles**

*by ELAINE BONILLA*

Bicentennial events planned for next year are many and varied, but one of the more unusual has got to be a sculpture competition in Austin. No, the subject is not American history, and the birthday being celebrated is not necessarily our country's. PAPA (Fine Arts for Austin) is seeking to commission a Texas sculptor of any age to capture the personality and character of A.A. Milne's little donkey, Eeyore. The occasion is Eeyore's birthday party next April, and complete designs can be submitted by September 15 to PAPA, 606 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas 78701. Eeyore's birthday party is a University of Texas tradition founded by English professor James B. Ayres, who will be one of the judges of the designs.

* * *

If you can manage a three-week vacation from studies this October, the Museum of Fine Arts is hosting a trip to Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia. The tour starts in Frankfurt, Germany, then moves leisurely on to a four-night stay in Munich. In Austria, a stop will be Salzburg, and the featured event is a five-day stopover in Vienna. Then on to Czechoslovakia and Prague, moving toward Dresden and West Berlin. The final stop will be East Berlin before returning to Houston on October 28. It costs $2,300 for Museum members and $2,225 for non-members. For further information and reservations, call Sarah Knezy, the Museum Activities Coordinator, at 526-1361. It's not too soon to decide how you're going to spend your fall semester break.

* * *

"Three Centuries of French Posters" opened at the Rice Museum on July 10 and will be on display through August 15. The exhibition, organized by the Musee des Arts Decoratifs in Paris, consists of more than 200 examples of French poster art, and traces the stages in the evolution of this art form from the eighteenth century to the present. Artists featured include Daumier, Manet, Toulouse-Lautrec, Picasso, and Braque. The exhibition is accompanied by a program of 240 slides showing the poster in its natural environment: various streets and structures. "Three Centuries of French Posters" is being circulated through the United States by the French Cultural Services.

* * *

As if there weren't enough film theaters and shopping centers in Houston, yet another has just come into being. This month heralds the opening of Theatre Deauville, the latest addition to the new Deauville Square shopping center on Interstate 45 North at Exit 59A. The theater's owner, Nineteen-Sixty, consists of ten young professional businessmen who chose the Deauville Square site after observing the rapid population growth in Northern Harris County.

The metal, porcelain, and glass entry is a "vapor graphie" in bright orange, yellow and red sweeping curves and circular forms that can be seen from the freeway, and the lobby carries out the theme with glossy surfaces of porcelain, glass and mirror reflecting the reduced ceiling. The goal is to create a feeling of unlimited space. Pretty ambitious for twin 273-seat movie theaters.

* * *

Remember the Smothers Brothers of CBS fame? Well, they're back on the performance circuit and will be here on August 1 and 2 at the Houston Music Theater. It seems as though their humor has mellowed over the last few years, and their new satire is a little easier to digest, although they still claim to keep political and social consciousness in their routines. They'll be mixing in a few serious musical efforts this time, as well as including the old interrupted folk songs and the brothery bickering. The more things change...

* * *

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "The Taming of the Shrew" will open on August 8 and 9, respectively, at Miller Outdoor Theater in Hermann Park. The free plays are presented by the University of Houston Drama Department and Miller Theater, and will represent the first production of the Houston Shakespeare Festival. Tickets can be picked up on the day of each performance at Miller Theater and at the University Center ticket office on the UH campus.

Of interest to the Rice community is the appearance of Becky Bonar at Rice in "The Taming of the Shrew." Bonar is a Rice graduate who was featured during her student career in many Players productions.
Exuberant musical "Promenade" opens at Autry

by ELAINE BONILLA

Rebecca Greene, producer of Main Street Theater at Autry House, promised to present plays that were rarely done, and her latest production confirms her intent. Promenade, the first musical to be performed at Main Street Theater, will premiere in Houston on August 1, and it is certainly a welcome change from the usual local theater fare.

"It's a musical," Greene explains, "but it's not your everyday run-of-the-mill musical. The music is really exciting." Charles Tanner, featured as the Mayor in the play and one of Main Street Theater's regulars, describes the music as "eclectic. There's every kind of song, from Rogers and Hammerstein to arias from other shows. There's every kind of song, from Rogers and Hammerstein to arias from other shows."

"Promenade is almost an opera, actually. There are snatches of dialogue here and there, but they serve largely as connecting passages between the thirty-odd musical numbers that make up the show." The story, such as it is, concerns two naively trusting convicts who dig their way out of prison into the outside world. "It's a story of discovery on the part of the two convicts and the maid."

"Tanner is more interested in the two main themes that he sees running through the play than he is in the plot itself: "There's the social commentary, which is very obvious, then there's the theme of time running throughout the play, the idea of making the decisions that shape your life. This second theme is much more interesting to play around with than the first—it allows greater flexibility."

"Main Street Theater is certainly producing Promenade with considerable creativity. The set, designed by Rick Cordray, is a giant Monopoly board. The furniture consists of six large boxes, two disco, and the stacks of Community Chest and Chance cards. Jack Blaylock is doing the lights, and Greene is designing the costumes with Martha Zimmerman."

"Everyone will be in black and white," Zimmerman explains. "The convicts have to be in black and white stripes, so we created to put everybody around them in black and white, too. The aristocrats will be in tuxedos and in black flowing evening dresses."

"Choreographer Debbie Waldman comments "It's a lot of fun. The show is so entertaining—it's campy. There are all these old-fashioned types of dances, but there's so much room to be creative in deciding how to do them."

"Everyone seems to agree that Promenade is great fun to do. The cast of fifteen has come together from all over Houston to be in the show. Sampling Greene to say that it was drawn from the widest segment of the population that she had the opportunity to use. There are some from Houston Grand Opera, figures on the Houston theatrical scene, and a few familiar faces from Main Street Theater itself.

Howard Phillips and Sam Cannon are featured as convicts 105 and 106, and Susan Nussbaum (understudied by Debbie Waldman) plays the maid. Cash Tilton appears as the Jailer, searching through the play for his lost prize—Yvonne Verble is the Mother, seeking her lost babies; and Tanner is the Mayor (called Jennifer) who puts everybody under arrest for keeping him too busy."

"Miss Cake is played by Lucilah Kilgore, who appears in a white satin slip, popcorn costume and L.J. Jay Aaron is featured as a waiter (among other things) with Joe Watts as his sidekick, the dishwasher. The party guests are Rob Babbitt, Ted Gillis, Jennifer Hartfield, Christopher Mountain, Fran Pearson, and Dallas Purdy. Dr. Larry Lake is the musical director, assisted by Geoff Greene at the piano."

Preview performances of Promenade are being presented at Main Street Theater, coming hard on the heels of the critically acclaimed production of Beyond the Fringe, delightfully performed by Ira J. Black and Brian Curry. Opening on September 19 will be Part V of "An Elitist Cycle," The Family Reunion. Greene is hoping to draw a wide collection of actors for the fifteen roles in the show, and wants interested people to get in touch with her at 524-3168.

Due to construction in Autry House, Promenade will be postponed to the summer season at Main Street Theater, coming on hard on the heels of the critically acclaimed production of Beyond the Fringe, delightfully performed by Ira J. Black and Brian Curry. Opening on September 19 will be Part V of "An Elitist Cycle," The Family Reunion. Greene is hoping to draw a wide collection of actors for the fifteen roles in the show, and wants interested people to get in touch with her at 524-3168.

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Promenade promises to be one of the most enjoyable productions to be found this summer. Main Street Theater at Autry House is definitely keeping with unique and appealing theater.

Alley features "Animal Crackers"

Cinemafest, the Alley's summer film festival, continues this month with an outstanding collection of classic movies. Week six (August 6-11) focuses on love and the cinema, opening with Les Violons du Bal, the Houston premiere of Michael Drach's romantic memoir of his beautiful and gracious wife and on Sunday at 6:00 and 9:00pm. And last but not least, if we have Astaire and Rogers in Roberta, the Waits from the Gilda, the 1946 film that epitomized Rita Hayworth's screen personality with her sham black satin slip tease.

Singers are the featured attraction in week seven (August 12-17). The first are Clark Gable and Jean Crawford in Dancing Lady (which also features, believe it or not, the Three Stooges). Next is the Marx Brothers in Animal Crackers, a tour de force for the four brothers as they attend a party given by Margaret Dumont, at which she hopes to reapt the social honors of the season. And last but not least we have Astaire and Rogers in Roberta, the Waits from the Gilda, the 1946 film that epitomized Rita Hayworth's screen personality with her sham black satin slip tease.

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by DEBBIE OSTERMAN

The controversial Title IX regulations which have seen discriminating in schools receiving federal funds went into effect July 1, 1975, as Rice athletic directors A.M. "Red" Bale and Doug Osburn, the recent starters of a Rice athletic program, welcome the regulations with little current impact on their programs. That impact came last year. Now, as Women's Athletic Director Osburn explains, "We have a head start on them."

Bale: "I think everybody really wants to comply just give this thing time."

Up until last year, women's athletics was run almost on a club sport basis, with competition paying their own way much of the time. According to Athletic Business Manager Augie Erfurth, what funds that were coming from the Health-Physical Education budget.

Along with the implementation of Title IX, last year Rice officials named Osburn director of women's athletics and gave him his own budget, $3600. A resident of Houston for 14 years, Osburn had divided his time between coaching the baseball team at Rice and general coaching for the Houston ISD's John's prep school.

Beginning last year, the women's athletics' hotel and travel expenses were paid by the University; the women were also included in the awarding of athletic letter of the applicants, and coach tennis year-round. Osburn being hired: one for softball and one for volleyball. He promises that they will continue to sign the coaches in the years that it lasted, lightweight football was highly popular with the Rice community.

A major concern for Bale is raising money for his department. Athletics receives only four dollars from each student and only 23 thousand alumni. Rice can't count on the same amount of support that a school like the University of Texas can. According to Bale, the football program "a little more than breaks even." But then he is left with seven other NCAA sports to support (cross country, basketball, track and field, baseball, tennis, swimming and golf). Track receives some help from the NCAA for each participant at a meet.

Fund raising

Some of the fund raising programs are quite unique, and rather elitist. The Rice Executive Council's Tourney netted $20,000 last year. Corporations pay to enter four representatives who, after competing, are treated to a dinner party in River Oaks. A Tennis Day achieved moderate success last year. For fifty dollars, an alumnus can spend the day playing with a member of the tennis team against another ex and his varsity partner. The day is capped off by a cocktail party and the presentation of little trophies. Similar Golf Days have raised a good deal of money.

Women's sports will affect the men's athletics drastically.

Erfurth estimates that football will bring in $1,300,000 of which $374 thousand will go as the opponents' shares. Nevertheless, Rice football brings in enough revenue to support both the men's and women's athletic programs.

Desire to comply

As Bale notes, "I (wish this, I sincerely think this, if the government and those interested in women's rights will just give this thing time. I think everybody really wants to comply with Title IX...just give this thing time."

The football staff was left with some juggling to do when defensive coordinator Charlie Bailey resigned to go to the University of California. Jack Westbrook, who last year coached the Owls' defensive secondary, was promoted to defensive coordinator but will continue to coach the secondary. Westbrook, who played as a wide receiver coach, will take over Bailey's duties as linebacker coach. To coach the receivers, head coach "Big Al" Conover has added to his staff Charlie Frazier, Frazier, a native of Angleton, attended Texas Southern here in Houston...
Hard core Houston sports fans loyal despite losers

by DEBBIE OSTERMAN

In some ways, Houston sports fans are like children, What they lack in sophistication and knowledge (and even here they rank far above New Orleans and Philadelphia), they more than make up for in enthusiasm - and the players appreciate it. Unlike the Philadelphia supporters who boo their own players, the Houston fans remain loyal even to a loser as long as the team hustles. During the losing spell from 1967 to 1974, the pro teams hit rock bottom and found that they could still attract the hard-core sports fan. And now that three of the four franchises are winning, the fans have been responding with renewed support.

Like in most of Texas, the big game is football. Rice football was once the "only show in town." As head football coach, Jess Neely brought four Southwest Conference championships to Rice Institute, and the Houston sports writers devoted whole pages to the incoming freshmen. Back in the halcyon days of Rice football, right after their second SWC title in 1949, Rice Stadium was constructed in the space of nine months, ready for the Owls to open their 1950 season with a 27-7 victory over Santa Clara, the defending Orange Bowl champs. Aside from Houston's minor league baseball team, the Buffs, Rice football provided Houstonians with their only big-time sports for years.

It didn't last long. Nevertheless, Houston was growing up, and businessmen made efforts in the late fifties to bring an NFL franchise to the city. The NFL, however, wanted to play in Rice Stadium, and Rice, which still had strong football tradition, wanted to prop up its own position in the Houston sports scene. Without Rice Stadium to play in, the NFL could not be lured to the city. So, when the AFL formed in 1960, oilmen Lamar Hunt of Dallas and Bud Adams of Houston brought Houston the AFL and its first major league professional franchise.

The Houston Oilers, playing in Jeppeson Stadium, with kicker George Blanda, won the AFL championship for the first two years of the league's existence. Then, in 1962, in the playoff game against the Dallas Texans (now the KC Chiefs), Blanda missed a field goal in the fourth quarter and the game went into sudden-death overtime. Texan Alber Haynes was so rattled that he chose to kick off the wind, but another Dallas player, Tommy Brookner, ended up kicking a field goal to win 20-17.

Oilers Slip

Since then, the Oilers teams have gotten much worse. Bud Adams has been unable to keep his hand out of the running of the club. Except for a brief comeback in 1967, most recent years have been dismal for the Oilers. They finished the 1973 and 1974 seasons with identical records, 1-13. Yet last season, under coach Sid Gilman, the Oilers amazingly finished 7-7 and people began going to see them play again.

The Oilers play their first exhibition game August 9th against the New Orleans Saints to open the Superdome. The following week they play the Washington Redskins in the Astrodome in the Houston Post Charity Game. In 1962, two years after the Oilers came to Houston, the city acquired an expansion baseball club from the National League. The Colt .45s, who chose to go with young players, came in eighth of the ten teams that year, and continued to do poorly, even after their name change and new home (the Dome) in 1965. In the years since 1969, the Astros have come in anywhere from third to fifth place in the division.

Now, though, the Astros are in last place in the league although they still hold a chance to pull out of the cellar. The team has evidenced an amazing ability to lose ball games at the last minute, having chalked up 27 one-run losses thus far. The club is no longer controlled by Judge Roy Hofheinz (who built the Dome). The Judge is in debt to the tune of $30 million to a triumvirate headed by Houston Mortgage Company, and they have taken over much of the operation of the club. General Manager Bobby Brown has been fired; Preston Gomez will apparently remain as manager.

Gloomy atmosphere

On paper, the Astros have a good ball club but they have never been able to put it all together. To top that off, the club seems to be surrounded by an atmosphere of gloom. They have been hit by a string of tragedies: pitcher Jim Umbricht died of cancer; first baseman Walt Bond of leukemia; pitcher Don Wilson of carbon monoxide poisoning; Cesar Cedeno shot a girl to death in a motel room; Larry Dierker ran over a man during spring training; Jimmy Wynn was stabbed by his wife; and Hector Torres swallowed his tongue when he ran into Jesus Alou in the outfield.

The third pro sport to arrive in Houston was the original franchise in the ABA. The Houston Mavericks, playing in the Coliseum, were a bad club but the attendance was even worse. They stayed only one year until they moved on in the mid-sixties to become the Carolina Cougars and finally the Spirits of St. Louis.

Rockets come close

Despite the ABA's lack of success in Houston, the NBA moved the Rockets here from San Diego in 1971. (It's amazing what Houston money can do.) Last season was the Rockets' first year to ever end a season with a 500 record. They beat the New York Knicks 2-1 in the quarter-finals, losing 4-1 to the Celtics in the semi-finals. During their last ten games in U of H's Hofheinz Pavilion, they drew over 8,000 per game and had four complete sellouts. Pro basketball's smallest player, 5'10" Calvin Murphy, rushed second in scoring with 20.7 field goals per game. The financial problems of Houston financier Irvin Kaplan leave the Rockets with a new chairman of the board, Wayne Duddleston. The only NBA team to sign all three of its top draft choices, the Rockets will open their 1975 season the first week of November in Houston's new sports arena, the Summit, in Greenway Plaza.
(continued from page 3)

Also, microforming may sometimes prove to be a real inconvenience for patrons. And that reader resistance, Librarian O’Keefe states, is “not based on ignorance.” Readers simply recognize the lack of standardization in the industry. Currently, there are half a dozen or more different kinds of microforms. Since frequent users of microform feel a pressing need to make the three-minute walking trip, microfilm readers are sometimes proved to be a real problem to read.

To make adjustment to the RMC easier, Hanszen plans to install a volleyball net just behind the Grand Hall, to entice people to make the three-minute walk and use the center.

Construction on the new commons has encountered some snags. The firemen have tripled and the insurance company have reached an “amicable” agreement. So far, all is progressing normally.

Some relics of the fire will be saved for use in the new Commons. The water, now chilled and frozen, will be reused, as will the tiles on the outside of the building. Gone will be the broken glass and the smoke in front of the windows, to the delight of many college members.

Others, except for the kitchen equipment, will be replaced. The Rice Construction company has called them a total loss, and Frank Petru, manager of the (continued from page 13)

Loyal sports fans...

Hanszen gets RMC Grand Hall...

(continued from page 1)

make it resemble the “struct- 
ured space” of other commons areas. College activities will be held there, beginning with a Casino party to be held Fresh- 
mans' games, film festivals and several parties. Even though at first the col- 
lege staff was to reserve the building for scheduling hours, the administration has authorized the college to keep it for use during the week. Currently, there are half a dozen or more different kinds of microform readers. And as most microform readers are sometimes proved to be a real problem to read.

The main question now is whether Hanszen members will use the RMC as they have used their own commons in keeping the college alive. O’Keefe feels “very positive about Hanszen College as a 24-hour center that will be able to make use of the resources available” to maintain spirits.

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Hockey — in Houston? Space City’s newest and most successful professional team, the Aeros of the World Hockey Association, is back in town for the summer. The Aeros played good hockey, finishing second in the race for the playoffs, but failed to reach the finals. The team was not as strong as the Whalers of New York, but they were still a strong contender. The Aeros are a team to be reckoned with, and they have a bright future ahead of them.

(continued from page 14)

JOCK NOTES

(continued from page 14)

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Friday the first of August
All day. Pub closed until August 15th.

Monday the fourth.
Who Knows When? Surprise, Thresher
8am. Center. An American in Paris. At today's prices?

Monday the fourteenth.
Two early, underclassmen move into Colleges.
4pm. Media Center. Film: An American in Paris, starring Greta

Tuesday the sixteenth.
You early. Jocks move in.
8:30pm. Calendar Editor lifts rock.
9:52pm. God creates rock so big he can't lift it.

Wednesday the seventeenth.
Too early. New students move into colleges.
6pm. Food Service begins. (See it, Joyce.)

Thursday the twelfth.

notes and notices
Actions — In recent actions by the Proctor, two students have been suspended from the campus. A meeting January, 1977 and fined $400.00 each for acts of vandalism, illegal entry, and possession of a master key. After this action it was learned that one of the students was involved in theft of valuable University property, and the suspension was changed to expulsion. In an unrelated matter a student was warned and fined $20.00 for disturbing the peace while intoxicated.

Wednesday the sixteenth.
Last day to send in Newcomer! pic-

Friday the eighteenth.
New students move into colleges.
6pm. Freshman week Thresher comes out. Yea.

notes and notices
Books — Planned Parenthood Center of Houston is collecting books for its annual used book sale in October. For information call 522-3976.

Friday the twenty-second
9am-12n. Preliminary registration in the colleges.
1pm. Honor Council exam.
5pm. Only the Shadow knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men.
4pm. Wire College. All school pic-

Thursday the twenty-first.
9:30am. Hamman Hall, Financial Aid

Saturday the twenty-third
11-30am. CFR invites last drunks from EMC so haven't can eat.
12n. The Great Exchange of off-

Monday the twelfth.
9:30pm. Aufray House. Dominion, the Rice Jazz Ensemble, goes into action. This is a class outing.
9:30pm. Library tours on the hour.
6pm. ROTC, and Inter-Sorority/Inter-Fraternity.

Tuesday the nineteenth.
8am-12n. Gymnasium. Gym orienta-

Thursday the twenty-
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