Freshman moved into their rooms in the newly-renovated colleges despite work going on to finish last-minute construction.

Hackerman: learning is “refreshing”
by TED ANDREWS

President Hackerman, used his annual Matriculation Address Tuesday night to briefly sketch the university’s operations and to acquaint the incoming freshmen with various statistics and thoughts about themselves and Rice University in general.

Hackerman had praise for the different factors and groups contributing to Rice life. He especially mentioned the Campus Business Office and alumni and friends — “Two areas of life around here which do not receive the praise they should.”

Dr. Hackerman also pointed out the two to one male to female ratio and the three to two Texan to non-Texan ratio.

Work is not a sin and learning is, most definitely, a refreshing process.

Phone problems resurface despite Ma Bell’s promises
by TED ANDREWS

In an apparent replay of last year, relations between on-campus students and Southwestern Bell are rapidly deteriorating. Students have complained about what some feel to be Bell’s excessive inquirers and requirements for installation of service, as well as mixups caused by bureaucratic bungling.

Last year’s student-phone company relationship was a disaster, according to a large number of subscribers. The year began with complaints of misstatements on the part of Bell representatives. Students, offered the special “ campus” model telephone, discovered it to be the most expensive model in the Bell line, the regular trimline.

When another model was requested, students were told that unless they specifically requested a cheaper model, the Trimline would be installed. Students who discovered this apparent misrepresentation after their phones were installed were charged $15 to replace Trimlines with standard desk phones.

Also, as students began to juggle rooms (especially after first semester) the phone company’s office for the Rice campus said that an additional $15 would be charged to change the billing name. This office insisted that changing the billing involved ripping out the old phone and replacing it with another.

However, those students who called the main phone company office were told that the name of the owner could simply be changed, at no charge.

This fall, several Brown College students have reported difficulty in resolving problems left from last semester. In one case Bell didn’t remove a phone from a dorm room, as was requested in May. When the student contacted the Bell Business Office, she was informed by gracious officials that the $25 fee to re-install service would waived. Instead, a $21 “hook-up” fee would be substituted.

In another case, a Brown resident asked the phone company to disconnect her phone a week before last semester ended. Bell obliged, but, one month later she received a regular bill. After informing the company of their error she was told “go ahead and pay the bill and we’ll call it even.” She refused. She’s now waiting for Bell’s next move.

Whether through mere inefficiency, deliberate obstruction, or misunderstanding, Southwestern Bell’s service has regressed on some of the promises it made last year to improve students’ phone services. These included a promise to display all models at the activities fair, and improvement in the phone book. It was pointed out last year’s undistinguished record in dealing with student complaints. There was no Bell exhibit at Tuesday’s activities fair; nor was any other phone exhibit open on campus.

Even though few phones have been installed by the several trucks working the campus, there are many who fear that they will again have to grope with Bell. Bell’s Thresher again invites students who feel they’re not receiving fair treatment to inform us of their grievances.

Renovation work almost complete
by CARLA MCFARLAND

The extensive renovation of the older colleges was incomplete, but it didn’t stop Freshman Week from starting on time last Monday. The work, which began last spring even before most of the宜昌 classrooms had moved out, is scheduled to be finished by August 22 — but that definition of “finished” is somewhat misleading; though the main contractor will have completed his work by Friday, the last-minute details and polishing-up, responsibility for which had been assumed by the University itself, will not be wound up until sometime in the indefinite future.

As of Wednesday, only 16 workmen remained on the project which includes Baker, Hanszen, and Will Rice, according to architect Joe Milton. Work proceeded smoothly through the summer, despite two threatened strikes and a tight budget.

On-campus upperclassmen should be able to move into the colleges on time.

The $1.7 million remodeling job included seven items, in order of priority, for which the contractor was responsible. Those were:

1)removing with modern fire safety codes, which were not being observed previously;
2)remodeling the bathrooms to make them sanitary;
3)improving accessibility and general circulation areas;
4)applying simple room finishes, with the assumption that students could add their own decorating touches;
5)providing community spaces (such as lounges and kitchen facilities); and
6)replacing existing windows with modern air-conditioning capabilities.

(continued on page 2)
Renovation

(continued from page 1)

The last item, the furniture, had to be cut along with several other items due to lack of funds. These other not-to-be items included more bathroom doors, dimmer switches on the halls to hide overhead lighting, and windows to cover the doors and trim, larger close openings, (or new wardrobes), new paint, and new carpet.

The $450,000 Wiess Commons renovation is virtually complete with a bright new area in marked contrast to the old drab structure. Wiess people are in the process of moving in. All storage systems in the building are new, as well as the fire exits. The old Wiess building is now complete with a bright new entrance, complete with drapes, new paint, and new carpet.

Pollution plan draws fire from TexPIRG

The TexPIRG Environmental Research Group (TexPIRG), the highly technical management plan covers a 603 square-mile region that includes Lake Conroe and Lake Houston, source of much of Houston's drinking water, Harris County is wholly within the basin and its related coastal basins.

The plan was prepared jointly by the San Jacinto River Authority and the Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority (GCWDA) in consultation with the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration (EPA), who will either recommend for their forthright editorial in the June 26 issue of the Thresher. They provide a perceptive statement of the character of the university and the quality of leadership required if faculty and students are to operate with an essential sense of commitment and confidence and an assurance of having a role in shaping the direction of the university. Because of its special nature, the university needs a style of leadership whose hallmark is the ability to stimulate, persuade, and unify, to inspire confidence and engender mutual respect, and to utilize the genuine powers of collegial activity. This is no prescription for weakness or mere seeking to appease and please everybody.

Strong leadership of this type recognizes where "the buck stops" and understands that there are routine decisions which must be made with minimal consultation (but full accountability). Such leadership understands authority to be accountable to those upon whom authority is exercised. Regard less of the above, accuracy or fairness of the changes made against the President, they correspond

with a widely held view of the situation. So long as this understanding prevails, rightly or wrongly, so long as the faculty believes that it has not been "given" a meaningful say in its fate, it will not feel that it is "a vital and important part of the university." And such confidence is absolutely essential to the viability and effectiveness of the university.

Many of us hope that in so far as a correct, changes will be made, and in no far as the charges are based on misunderstandings, communication will be improved.

Paul Peiffer

Renoval...

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Paul Peiffer
Players: You don’t have to be talented, just interested

by ELAINE BONILLA

"Everybody's part gypsy. Everybody I knew: Why, even I have dreamed that I could leap on stage and really stop the show!"

—from the musical Applause

That’s about the way it is, at Rice just as anywhere else. The real difference is that here you can get the chance. The Rice Players not only have a place for everyone, they need students to show up to work, with or without any special experience.

Putting on four major productions in a school year requires many people with dedication, and somehow the Players always manage to find them. The loose-knit organization is managed by a board of student coordinators, and runs on the energy of the entire membership, usually twenty or thirty Rice undergrads who can’t resist the lure of the theater and spend a lot of time studying hours at Hamman Hall.

This year’s coordinators include Steve Charles, Barbara Cordray, Nancy Dingus, and Charles Sarnes, which runs the gamut from sophomore to fifth year and from engineering to liberal arts. It also contains actors, designers, technicians, and blends of the above. But that’s how the Players operate — almost everybody ends up knowing how to do a little of almost everything, and anyone is willing to give anything a try, at least once. It’s all extra, but particular, although there is one class in theater offered at Rice. But it’s not a prerequisite for working with the Players, and many active members don’t get around to taking the class for a year or so. Just being involved will keep you everything you need to know.

Tryouts are open to the student body and that means exactly what it says. Anyone is welcome to come and read for any part in the script. The procedure is simple — take the first play they’re doing this fall, Frederich Durrematt’s The Visit. Scripts are usually available in the reserve room at Fondren Library, just go in and ask for it if you’d like to read it before trying out.

That’s not necessary, though. You’re not expected to know the play when you show up at trials. They’re held in Hamman Hall, two evenings during the first week of classes. The first thing you do when you get there is fill out another card. Once everybody is settled, Neil Havens, the Players’ director will get up and tell you about the play. Then everybody will get a chance to read. After the readings are finished (when Sandy, as Havens is known to his friends, has heard everybody to his satisfaction), there’s a brief period for playing theater games like “trust” and “mirror.” They’re so Sandy and the coordinators can see how everybody moves and responds to each other. Relax and enjoy that part — it can be a lot of fun if you really get involved.

And that’s all there is to tryouts. After the last night, Sandy and the coordinators will meet to talk about the show and study the people who read, and the cast list will be posted outside the Campus Store in the RMC the next morning.

Whether or not you get cast (many are called but few are chosen, as the saying goes), come to the rehearsals. They’re open to all interested Players and there are always odd jobs that need to be done. The designers and technicians need crews, and most people get involved at the technical level. Don’t let it bother you if they always seem to bend when you pick up a hammer, they’ll teach you everything from scratch.

Technicians are, in fact, very much in demand this year. The Players are going to completely redesign their lighting system and are planning to put in a new sound system, so electrical and mechanical engineers with an interest in theater haven’t fared too badly either. There’s also a market for costume designers and creative seamstresses, and of course construction hands and eager beavers who aren’t quite sure what their specialty is yet are welcome.

In order to meet the freshmen and to show them what kind of things go on in Hamman Hall, the Players are planning a party this Thursday night. The main event will be the screening of a videotape of last season’s production of The Real Inspector Hound, Tom Stoppard’s black comedy about a Freemason cast who become trapped in the action of a play they are reviewing.

DOONESBURY

MD ROSENDA, MR. BERCEAS, ON THE PHONE. REALLY? PUT HER ON!

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the rice thresher, august 21, 1975 — page 4
19-year-old playwright creates entertaining comedy

by ELAINE BONILLA

Message From Scott
Directed by Bonnie McVeen
Starring Linda Shuler & Brian Pinette
Playing at the Little Theater
at Westbury Square
through Sept. 27

It's unlikely, it's naive, it's unexpected, and it's very funny. What more could you possibly want from a world premiere comedy? (And how much longer will it run?) It is refreshing to sit down for an evening of entertainment and actually be entertained, rather than being bored or having your intelligence insulted.

Message From Scott is a piece of froth about a hotel delivery boy who improbably becomes part of the film acting, including Helen Weston and her leading man, Frank, whom she's out to marry. I don't believe it either—but the laughs are all there, and there are enough of them to keep the audience happy for three full acts. This is the work of Brian Pinette, the nineteen-year-old founder/producer of the Little Theatre at Westbury Square, who has been active in theater for most of his life—writing, acting, and generally learning the ropes. It has certainly paid off.

This was a lovely opening night, but everything comes out all right in the end. The only flaw in the production is the heavy posturing indulged in by both Linda Shuler and Roger Manning as the actress/actor couple. It's too much, and becomes irritating after a very short while, although Manning has a few delightful moments when he drops it. Unfortunately, Shuler keeps it up pretty steadily. Perhaps a larger stage would bring her into proportion, but she's smothering this one with her gestures. Her saving grace is her sense of timing which carries the show along with excellent control. Ray McGee is a welcome sight as Helen's agent. Handling himself with admirable self-control, he tosses off Pinette's lines with a real flair: the stage noticeably brightens when he appears. But Pinette himself is a delightful surprise. All too often, playwrights tend to line themselves up, write what they want to try to make it, and that is one thing Pinette neatly avoids. Although he does get a trifle too carried away in his dramatic scene, as a rule he handles his script well.

The Chorale
Sponsored by the Museum of Fine Arts and its resident chorus. This season, it will be featured in Mahler's Symphony No. 3 in D Minor in late October, in Berlin's "Damnation of Faust" in February, and in the May production of Bach's Passion according to St. Matthew.

Attention members of the Museum of Fine Arts (or even those interested in becoming members): the staff of MFA has scheduled a series of "Behind the Scenes" tours for Museum members. Starting on September 25, the program will consist of a 1pm and a 2pm tour each Tuesday and Thursday through September 25. Although the tours are free, reservations must be made through the Membership Department at 728-1361, ext. 40, in order to keep the number small enough to be manageable.

Members taking the tours will get to see how each department is involved in an exhibition. They will be taken through the workshops and the storage areas, and be able to watch every step in the process that starts with the initial exhibition into the Museum calendar and ends when everything is packed up for shipping to its next destination.

Robert Altman is on the warpath again, following his critically acclaimed Nashville with Buffalo Bill and the Indians, or Sitting Bull's History Lesson. This time, the Altman menace has flown north for a ten-week shoot in Calgary, Canada, and there will be some new faces among the regulars. Paul Newman will star as Bill Cody, with Burt Lancaster as Ned Buntline, Joel Grey as Nate Salbive (the Wild West Show's main producer/writer/director), and Geraldine Chaplin as Annie Oakley. The film, according to Grey, is about "myth and power and celebrity and prejudice."
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'75 Owls in search for miracle

by JOEL SLADE

Two years ago, the Rice football team got off to one of its worst starts ever. After seven games, the Owls had six losses with a sole 21-20 victory over Montana. The offense was feeble, the defense worn out after losses to LSU, Notre Dame, Texas, and Texas Tech. It appeared that Rice was on its way to last place and the fourth new head coach in five years.

Then came the miracle. Somehow, the Owls rose from last place to third by sweeping Arkansas, Texas A&M, TCU and Baylor. The four game shock to the Southwest Conference was achieved in the most improbable ways. It was key pass interceptions, fumbles, broken plays. The Rice defense could gain 150 yards while the opposition would gain 350 yards, but the Owls won. A punter, Mike Landrum, became offensive player of the week. The victories were sweet.

So when the 1974 season opened, Big Al Conover was confident that his team could be giant killers. It was not to be. Instead, the Baylor Bears, the same team Rice shut out the last game of 1973, went to the Cotton Bowl.

We should have known better. After all, Conover said the Owls had a "Kindergarten Offense." The agony of the season seemed to be encapsulated during the first two minutes of the season opener against Houston. Rice recovered a UH fumble and drove to the one yard line. Tommy Kramer then fumbled on a quarterback sneak trying to score. Two plays later, Donnie "Quick Draw" McGraw ran 91 yards for a record and a touchdown. In thirty seconds, Rice, instead of scoring, was down by seven.

Rice lost 21-0. The entire season went that way. LSU tied Rice 10-10 in the last seven seconds. Notre Dame broke a 3-3 tie with two minutes remaining to win 10-3.

The season's coup de grace came on the evening of October 19 in the Cotton Bowl against Southern Methodist. Tailing in the second half, the Owls used an Alan Pringle field goal to pull ahead 14-13 with seconds on the clock. After a "too much enthusiasm" penalty against Rice, Ricky Wesson and SMU found the ways and means to create a 19-14 victory that destroyed the Owls' chances of a Southwest Conference tie.

Rice ended the season 2-8-1 with an upset victory over Texas Tech and an easy 26-14 win over the hopeless horned frogs.

So it's the eighteenth "next year" since Rice's last SWC championship team. Can the Owls create the South Main Miracle? A few thoughts about that next issue.

Ingram's offer two programs

by PHILIP PARKER

Rice intramurals offers two programs this year, one established and well-known one and the other relatively new, but growing in size and popularity.

Men's intramurals (under Mr. J. R. Barrow for over twenty years) include fourteen sports, and draw the participation of 128% of the student body. This anomaly comes from people competing in more than one event. Ms. June McFall begins only her second year as women's director, but last year her participation in the program was double of any year in the past.

Softball was by far the most popular intramural sport last season with 80 teams (47 male, 29 co-ed, 4 female) and a record 1000 plus players. Basketball and football are the favorites of would-be jocks with 50 teams, 445 players and 34 teams, 411 players respectively. Women's volleyball attracted 15 teams and 157 players while over 100 played basketball.

Other men's sports include tennis, soccer, handball, badminton, table tennis and rifle competition in the fall and swimming and track in the spring. Racquetball, badminton, volleyball, squash, swimming and track is the facilities like the dorms, the basketball court and baseball field.

The individual events are open to everyone with a sense of competition and 50 cents. Team sports require you to find the correct number of people with a buck to spare. The nominal fees help pay for equipment and officials (although more money is needed to buy a ref of your very own.)

Talent, poise and coordination help, but are not required. Intramurals is perfect for jocks, pseudo-jocks and weenies taking a break from studying.

First deadline of the year is Sept. 5 at 5pm for men's touch football (open and freshmen required). Another woman will be hired soon to coach tennis. Jimmy Disch will help her with basketball and another woman will be hired soon to coach tennis.

The women's fall and tennis, spring. Racquetball, badminton, volleyball, squash, tennis, soccer, handball, rifle competition in the fall and badminton, table tennis and track in the spring. Racquetball, badminton, table tennis and rifle competition in the fall and swimming and track in the spring. Racquetball, badminton, volleyball, squash, swimming and track is the facilities like the dorms, the basketball court and baseball field.

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Women's athletics adds sports

by PHILIP PARKER

Women's athletics begins its second year of intercollegiate competition this fall. Two new women's coaches and an additional sport, softball, have been added to the roster of activities offered. Softball has a short season that ends almost before it begins. The first game is in three weeks and the last game is at state tournament on October 16-18.

Women's athletic director Doug Osburn emphasizes that a woman must sign up early if she wants to play. The first team is Wednesday August 27 at 3pm in the small gym.

Coaching the team will be newcomer, Charlene Daniels, formerly of Copiah Academy in Galman, Mississippi. In her four years at Copiah her track teams went to state finals four times, winning state once and her basketball squads were 41-19 overall and traveled to two state finals tournaments.

Daniels will also coach basketball while Osburn will help her with basketball and softball. Jimmy Disch will return as volleyball coach and another woman will be hired soon to coach tennis.

This year the department's budget has been increased to $36,000 and Osburn feels it is enough to meet Title IX's requirement of equality of opportunity for both male and female athletes. "We've have coaches, uniforms, com- scheduling. We can pay for the facilities like the basketball court and baseball field equally because they are the same ones the men use," Osburn explained.

The women get no scholar- ships now, but Title IX requires some form of equality within three years said Osburn.

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Friday, August 22

4pm—12m. Preliminary registration in the college.

1pm. Honor Council examinations. It’s your honor or your life.

4pm. Wiess College. All-school picnic.

Saturday, August 23

4—6pm. Wiess College. All-school picnic.

9am—12n. Preliminary registration in the college.

Friday, August 22

(which includes some stuff out of my personal collection of previous years, all culled some of the better ones out any misclassifieds. So we’re ads for Rice people. Buy, sell, Misclass, a collection of publishing the Best of the Thresher send your stuff by the

THE RICE CHORALE
Organizational meeting Thursday, August 28 Basement, Hamman Hall

WILLY’S PUB

RECOVER!
MONDAY AUGUST 25

is 25c BEER NIGHT
(beer for a Quarter Till 9)

Expanded Hours:
New Open Saturday at Noon
Monday Friday 4pm-2am
Sunday Closed
BASEMENT, RMC

Sunday, August 24

8:30pm. Happy birthday.

7:30pm. Greatest Common. All-school movie. Again it’s mystery.

7:30pm. Reed Hall, Room 301. PSI Study Group program on ESP research. Long spanes, the Ultimate Mystery, two films by scott edgar miller.

Monday, August 25

Sur. Classes begin. 10:30am.

Wednesday, August 27


11:30pm. Let’s go to the Pub.

Wobbert — CWAP is still watching.

Quick definition—Interesting: a word not in Ed Stone’s vocabulary.

Rice U. thanks S.V. for his initiative in the fields of bozongahonking and quack-

To E.B. — I wish I could figure you out. You’re strange.

Hey, this is pretty damn important! Why don’t you quit screaming at me on the phone? Mike D., 528 SRC.

“I have seen the flip side of reality. 201901 1/20/73”

In the bathroom, Sunny. How classy!

Steve Jackson is not a hamburger. He’s all hot dog.

The Wiess Crack stinx. And I should know, BH.

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