Feud with Senate may force cheerleaders out of SA

by TED ANDREWS and GARY BREWTON

The Rice Sportmanship Club, set up last spring as the parent group for the cheerleaders, is expected this week to ignore demands by the Student Association Senate that the group hold new elections for cheerleaders.

At a meeting Thursday, the Senate instructed the cheerleaders’ group to “hold or make preparations for elections within the next week, or face revocation of their SA approved charter,“ because of charges that last year’s elections were held improperly.

The latest conflict brings to the surface again this year questions concerning the selection and proper role for cheerleaders. Last fall, Athletic Director A.M. “Red” Bale would not allow cheerleader Steve “Ava Gina” Allen to appear on the football field in a woman’s costume. Allen resigned, but only after the Senate adopted a resolution supporting his right to dress and act however he chose.

Last spring defeated cheerleader candidates Elaine Weiner and Imelda Mabrie attempted to protest the elections, charging numerous violations of the election code an inaccuracies in the ballot. (Mabrie’s name was spelled wrong). The Election Committee, composed of the election chairman from all the colleges and set up to assure University-wide elections, heard their complaints although neither of the two candidates formally protested the election. (To formally contest an election, a student must present a petition containing 50 signatures within 72 hours after the polls close.) However, the Election Committee refused to order new elections, it recommended that the Senate approve the cheerleaders election. The old (1974-75) Senate did not accept the Election Committee report; it took no action whatsoever to approve or disapprove the cheerleader elections. The new (i.e., current) Senate took office while the complaints remained unresolved. Several members of the new group felt that Weiner and Mabrie’s complaints had not been given a fair hearing.

Consequently, the Senate asked the University Court to consider the problem and make a recommendation. In accordance with their wishes, University Court Chairman Michael Collier quickly held a hearing; that hearing has also become a point of debate. SA President Steve Collier, while acknowledging Collier’s newness to the post, felt that the hearing was held haphazardly only one witness, Elaine Weiner, was heard. The University Court suggested that the Senate throw out the cheerleader elections this was in April.

Meanwhile, with the legality of their election still in doubt, the new cheerleaders proceeded to prepare for the next football season. They began to spend their budget, make plans for their summer camp, purchase their uniforms, and have their pictures taken.

By the time of the next-to-last SA Senate meeting, during Dead Week, no one could tell where the situation stood. That meeting degenerated into chaos as facts were quashed over what to do with the cheerleaders. Before a vote could be taken on the question of elections, the Senate lost its quorum and was forced to adjourn. But at a meeting the next day, the Senate reached a compromise, eliminating the cheerleaders from the SA Constitution (in effect, eliminating them as a student group) and setting them up as the Rice Sportmanship Club.

Registration due Friday

Registration forms are due in the Registrar’s office this Friday, September 5, at 5pm. Anyone who fails to turn in completed forms by then will have to pay a $25 “reinstatement” fee.

The Registrar’s office strongly advises students to make sure their forms are filled out with the proper data processing and student numbers. (If you don’t know your number, it’s printed on your orange ID card—simply delete the first digit, used only by the library. Only the last nine digits are applicable.)

Rice Hotel deed to be contested in sale

The downtown Rice Hotel will be opened to the public this week after the Texas Supreme Court denied a request by the Houston Endowment Inc. to close the historic property. The University, which had been the owner of the hotel until its closing March 31, would like to reopen it as an executive conference center.

The court order requires the Houston Endowment Inc. to open the hotel by September 5, the date the court ruled. The court also ordered the university to pay the hotel’s operating costs until the property is reopened.

The university had been operating the hotel as an executive conference center since 1963. The hotel had been closed in 1972 due to financial problems.

The court order also requires the university to pay the hotel’s operating costs until the property is reopened.

Eagle wins in grocery price survey

by CLINT CARLSON

TexPIRG’s just-completed survey of six local supermarkets indicates that Eagle Discount (3201 Kirby) has the lowest current prices, with Safeway (3743 Westheimer) running a close second.

The survey was conducted by TexPIRG’s Food and Dairy Committee, which found that Eagle Discount had the lowest prices in all categories.

The survey took place during the week of September 1-7, 1975.

The following categories were included in the survey:

- Bacon
- Chicken
- Ground Beef
- Tuna
- Milk
- Flour
- Peas
- Margarine
- Eggs
- Peanut Butter
- Margarine
- Eggs
- Peanut Butter
- Other sample items include:

- Kellogg’s cereals, Charmin bathroom tissue, and Coca-Cola. Also, on the whole, generic brands were less expensive than store brands—but not always. (At Lewis and Coker, the generic brand for sliced cheese was 20% more than Kraft.)

The lowest total bill was $19.58 at Rice Food Mark’s. The highest was $21.11 at Lewis and Coker, which was the most expensive for meats ($20.08 vs. $19.98 at Eagle). The difference between the high and low totals, $1.73, should make it worthwhile for students (especially those on a limited budget) to seek out the lowest price store.

Totals for the other stores were: Safeway, $19.80; Kroger, $19.59; Lewis and Coker, $20.49; and Weingarten’s, $20.83.

Students shopping at local grocery stores often find it difficult to make comparisons in price and quality. As a service to students, TexPIRG has just completed a survey of six local stores. Study at right: 

**—wiley sanders**
New state charter to be submitted to voters November 7

by TED ANDREWS

At 11:59 p.m., July 30, 1974 the Texas Constitutional Convention failed to secure passage of a new Texas constitution. The convention had met for six months to consider the document proposed by the Constitutional Committee appointed by Gov. Dolph Briscoe. Those six months of work, at a cost of millions of dollars, seemed lost.

Last spring, however, the Legislature acted on its own to approve and send to voters a new constitution to replace the present document of almost 63,000 words. Removed from last year's document is the "right to work" provision, which was strongly opposed by the rice thresher, Thursday, September 20, 1974. The old document, written in 1876 after Texas had undergone the trauma of the Civil War, had been presented to the voters, a special favorite being a raise for the legislators and their salaries being fixed by the constitution.

Cheerleader problems resurface...

(continued from page 1)

The latest controversy centers largely around an implied understanding that the RSC would hold new elections. That understanding is nowhere explicit, and even a number of Senators argue that such an understanding was not such a bad idea after all. They proceeded to add amendment after amendment. In the last decade a average of six amendments per year have been presented to the voters, a special favorite being a raise for the legislators and their salaries being fixed by the constitution.

The reformers had to cut the new document, 17,000 words long (compared to the near-ideal 3,000 word constitutions of New Hampshire and Vermont) contains major reforms in the executive, legislative, and local governing process.

Not all waste was cut out, though. Unfortunately, according to constitutional expert George Braden of the Revision Commission, the proposed document also contains an Article X which is merely a grab bag prohibiting "political, branch banking, and the granting of a preference to a school of medicine." It also includes a wordy section on public servant pensions.

The road to reformation was extremely rough and filled with ambushes set by entrenched special interest groups. In 1971 a group of reform-minded legislators, intent upon reforming the old constitution and its 218 amendments, presented a resolution to revise the state charter. The old document, written in 1876 after Texas had undergone the trauma of Carpetbagger rule, was specifically a strong reaction against an all-powerful executive and generally a reaction against the idea of government. As time went by Texans found that allowing the legislature—no matter how its predilection for atavism—to dictate policy was anathema. To screw the whole thing up. The lousy bastards screwed around all spring.

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Students brave insects, wisecracks to trim campus trees

by NANCY TAUBENSLAG

Prompted by surprise at the female crew members and the attention given LeSueur by the Houston Chronicle, the workers resorted to whistles, catcalls, and removal of some of the road blocks put up by the trimmers to protect pedestrians and cars. Typical construction worker comments included "The squirrels are getting bigger" and "Who do you think you are, climbing trees...?"

Then, too, there was administrative red tape. Because of a rule that inexperienced crews could not trim trees, Rice's supervisory staff tried to get LeSueur to wear her harness. She refused to comply, citing her three years of tree trimming experience with no injuries. The inexperienced crew members all complied with the safety regulations. Only one accident occurred: Lorel Dowden sprained an ankle coming out of a tree the wrong way.

Using ropes, harnesses, bowsaws, and clippers, each member of the crew worked up to forty hours a week from the end of May until Freshman Week. Mary LeSueur headed the team's effort, working from 6:30am until noon, and from 1:00pm until the last afternoon rains began. The strenuous job entailed taking out large portions of the interior "sucker" growth and "little junk" from the live oaks and thinning out the canopy. Sites for the tree trimming effort were chosen by Dr. Johnson in accord with last year's bird population studies.

The program may be continued this year or next, with the approval of Johnson and the administration. Though crew spirit was high all summer, staff changes may be made. When asked if she would work at Rice again next summer, Mary replied, "Probably not unless they pay me professional wages." This summer, she was paid $3.10 an hour and her crew $3.00; professionals earn $5.50 to $6.00 an hour.

No, if you see people sitting in the trees this year, don't call the shrink service. It may just be the Rice tree-trimming team.

Mary LeSueur spent this summer trimming trees on campus in an effort to control the birds this winter.
by ELAINE BONILLA

Check out the Alley Cinemafest's last week for some real classics. Tonight at 8pm and tomorrow night at 7:30 and 9:30pm you can see Cecil B. DeMille spectacular, The Sign of the Cross. Made before the introduction of the Hays Code, this 1932 film brings Nero's Rome alive on the screen in all its bizarre depravity. Featured sights include scantily clad servants, orgies, Claudette Colbert taking a bath in asses' milk and Charles Laughton as the perversive Emperor chewing up the scenery.

Completing the week (and the series) will be Shanghai Express on Saturday at 7:30 and 9:30pm, and the same time Sunday at 6:00 and 8:00pm. Marlene Dietrich is featured as the notorious "White Flower of China" in this, the finest of eight films that Joseph von Sternberg directed for his protégé. Don't miss Warner Oland as the Chinese warlord with his famous "Leave the white woman with me!"

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For those with more erotic tastes, KPF'T-FM 89.3 is presenting the much acclaimed medley of shorts, "The Best of the New York Erotic Film Festival," on September 20, 26, and 27. Judged by such well-known figures as Gore Vidal, Andy Warhol, Terry Southern, Milos Forman, and Xaviera Hollander as the best of their genre, these artistic film shorts include comedy, animation, drama, and even a famous twenties' erotic film. So step right up and get your tickets at either the Academy of Art Theatre or the KPF'T stations (419 Lovett) for the 105 minute program in living color. It starts on the stroke of midnight at the Academy of Art Theatre, 4816 Main Street.

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Got the munchies for those long winter nights piled up already? Well, even the greats in the business world have their own special snack treat to help them survive in the real world. Give Dan Rather a good fight and a place to fish, and he feels "twenty or thirty years younger." Mike Nichols weeps over Ozu's "There was a time I had arguments with Woody Allen on the subject of Ozu. I claim they are an early experiment on the part of the Earl of Sandwich, and he not speaking now as a result."

Less serious is Neil Simon's love of popcorn. For him it's five foods in one. First there's hot buttered popcorn, then cold buttered popcorn (when the butter is all gone), next the little unpopped kernels, and finally the bits and pieces that "stick in the spaces of our teeth, which, with careful brushing, can last us for weeks."

And finally there's Carrie Nye with her love of cotton candy: "Most endearingly, it's probably the most unorganic foodstuff ever conceived by the mind of man."

To each his own...

Tired Old New York City has perked up recently to greet the opening of a new film. The recipient of such rapturous attention is the Walt Disney's latest: One of Our Dinosaurs is Missing. Actually, the real attraction was Helen Hayes, come to New York for the premiere of her latest movie. Her presence at the theatre drew the cult crowd, the theatre people, and the city's soul weary like flies to the Festival Theater to watch her enjoy her film.

New constitution...

(continued from page 2) Proposition pass, that section will be incorporated into the existing document. In this way, the reformers prevented the vote from being an "all or nothing" decision; they were willing to accept partial reform.

Here are the results of their efforts:

Proposition One—A Legislative body is to be made up of member districts, with boundaries redrawn after every census. Salaries are no longer specified; instead, a special commission sets them.

Only three-fifths will be needed to override a veto.

The governor will be able to remove any appointee for stated reasons and with the majority consent of the Senate. He will also be required to submit reorganization plans every other year to the legislature. Executive agencies will have to prove their worth to the legislature once every ten years or they will be eliminated.

Proposition 2 unifies the judiciary, including the combining of the Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals. The new court will now hear both civil and criminal cases. Local judiciary is also to be reformed.

Proposition 3 simply provides that any citizen over age 18 would be able to vote, provided he isn't a convicted felon still paying his "debt to society." Proposition 4 intends to reform the educative system of society.

Proposition 5 reforms the property tax system as well as stating that receipts from the Highway Fund go through the legislature. It also eliminates much of the complexities surrounding local government. It allows local governments to reorganize themselves without having to go through the legislature. It also eliminates the "local laws" which allow the state to interfere in day to day local affairs.

Proposition 7 is the infamous "grab bag." The grab bag is full of shit.

Proposition 8 amends clauses for amendment of the constitution and provision for the calling of a new convention. The constitution would also be submitted every thirty years to the voters.

The passage of any two propositions revises the constitution substantially. This is achieved through a transition schedule that cleverly allows the Secretary of State to promulgate certain provisions in some circumstances and others in other situations.

The Thresher will run a series of articles in the coming weeks on the new constitution. These will give a more in-depth analysis of each proposition.
Players slate tragicomic “Visit”

The Rice Players’ latest show, The Visit, is unusual in more ways than one. Not only is it a German tragi-comedy that embodies, among other things, a Greek chorus, but its locale is being transplanted to America as a southwestern town in Texas. And, of special interest, it marks the first time in Rice Playhouse history that more than two men have had their names on the tryout sheet.

It is the story of a town that has become terribly poor, allowing its citizens’ needs and basic human weaknesses to surface. Their last hope for prosperity lies in Mrs. Claire Zachanassian, a very wealthy woman (originally a local girl). If she would only give them enough money to get them started, they could regain their foothold on the rapidly developing world. And she is willing, provided that they fulfill one simple condition. In exchange for her money, she asks the life of one among them who has wronged her, Alfred Schill.

Neil Havens explains that while the show is “comic in some respects, it is serious ultimately in its statement of things. It deals with the transformation of a community, but also with the transformation of Alfred Schill as he grows in facing himself, in recognizing his fellow citizens, and in coming to grips with human weaknesses.”

Cast in the demanding role of Mrs. Zachanassian is Donna Yeager, and opposite her as her lover, Alfred Schill, will be John Merkling. This pair should be remembered as Sir Thomas More and Lady Alice from the Players’ production of A Man For All Seasons from 1974.

Collins Van Nort, Richard Hunt, and Mike Smith will play members of Mrs. Zachanassian’s entourage, and Mark Martino is featured as several of her husbands. Patty Cronkright, Ken Hinde, and Stephanie Shine complete Schill’s family.

Matt Cooper will appear as the Mayor, Steve Charless as the Pastor, Claire Rimlinger as the Teacher, Tim Bishop as the Doctor, Mark Brennan as the Sheriff, and Vicki Bell as the Painter. Other townspeople include Mary Fritz, Randy Guzzardo, Marty Hood, Sue Hubert, Lani Lapis, Steve Ortego, Owen Richards, Jay Rudin, Susan Taylor, and John Tepper.

Sets will be designed by David Safford, and Charles Barnes is doing the lights. Sarajane Milligan will assist Havens as Stage Manager.

Bicentennial events and programs are coming thick and fast at this time, and (not to be left behind in the scramble for patriotism) the Houston Symphony has its 62nd season laid out to favor Americans.

In honor of the celebration, the Symphony has chosen American composers (including MacDowell, Gershwin, Barber, and Copland), and will feature American artists at least two-thirds of the twenty subscription programs. Music Director Lawrence Foster is conducting the gala opening this Monday and Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm in Jones Hall. Beginning the program will be Ives’ Schumann: Variations on “America,” but the featured work of these concerts will be the unison, the rhythmic ostinato, and the triad.

As the first of a collection of official bicentennial tributes planned by the Symphony, Congresswoman Jordan will narrate Aaron Copeland’s “Lincoln Portrait.” A native Houstonian, she has represented the 18th Congressional District of Texas since January 1975. And concluding the program is Schubert’s Ninth Symphony, “The Great.”

Season tickets are still available at the Symphony office at 410 Louisiana, and tickets for the gala opening program alone range in price from $3.50 to $12 (for box seats). For more information, call 224-4240.
Conover plays waiting game with quarterback question

by PHILIP PARKER

Only nine days remain until the UH game, yet Rice continues to defy the axiom that a team should have only one number one quarterback. Coach Al Conover remains indecisive and the names of both Tommy Kramer and Claude Reed are penciled in the starters slot.

"They're both equal as far as I'm concerned and I won't have a decision until Thursday's scrimmage. I promised them five scrimmages and to be fair, I will wait," explained Conover.

In the scrimmage Saturday, Kramer and Reed were graded the same and both made the same mistakes, so the dilemma remains. "You have to choose sometime. Only one can play at once," commented Conover.

Meanwhile a newcomer, frosh Frank Cerbello, made it to third string QB ahead of the rest of the other signal callers. Described as "a fine athlete", Cerbello has quick feet and a penchant to scramble. During the Aug. 23 scrimmage, he led a host of rushers in a merry chase around a surprised bunch of coaches standing on the field.

Cerbello also has a fine arm as does soph Mike Bruno, so the picture becomes even more crowded. Possibly Rice can find a starting quarterback.

Another quest may reach its end as James Sykes asserts himself as the only good Rice running back since Stew Vincent. In the last few scrimmages, Sykes has run well, even inside, and has been less prone to fumble.

Although there is no glory in beating the freshmen and scrubs 63-0 (last Saturday) the whole offense looks improved. Besides, if you can't score on the fourth team, who can you score against? (Anyway, last year's squad could only muster 27 points against the fourth stringers.)

As usual, the defense is indecisive and the names of both Tommy Kramer and Claude Reed are penciled in the starters slot.

I'm concerned and I won't have a decision until Thursday's scrimmage. I promised them five scrimmages and to be fair, I will wait," explained Conover.

HELP WANTED: Picture-framing assistant, must be able to do heavy work. Hours and salary flexible. 681-7744

Tennis problems near end

Part of last year's conflict over the women's tennis team was resolved Tuesday with the signing of Helen Johnson as women's tennis coach.

Last spring the women's team was under the nominal direction of John Parker, the men's coach. Parker spent most of his time with the men's squad and did little actual coaching with the women's team.

This year, the situation is expected to be improved.

Ms. Johnson's hiring, however, should meet with our women's request for more coaching and for a sponsor to take the team to out-of-town matches.

"We're happy to have her," replied Doug Osburn, Women's Athletics Director. A graduate of Rice, Johnson has taught tennis at area clubs and has remained active in tournament competition. She plans to continue as a "teaching pro" when she takes over the Rice position.

She and Osburn have set up an organizational meeting for the team this Monday, Sept. 8 at 4pm in the Lecture Room in the Gym. "This is intercollegiate, not intramural tennis," explained Osburn, "but everyone is welcomed to try out."

Preparation has begun in the other intercollegiate women's sports. Jimmy Diech's volleyballers practice each evening after supper and on the weekends. The new softball coach Charlotte Daniels began workouts Tuesday afternoon.

Softball and volleyball seasons begin within the next two weeks, but as of now no firm schedules have been arranged or announced.

JOCK NOTES

Tickets for the UH-Rice game in the Astrodome September 13 went on sale yesterday at the Ticket Office in the Gym. Regular tickets are $7 and $8, but special student ducats are available for $3.50 apiece.

All games at the Rice Stadium are free with a Rice I.D. Out-of-town games require a ticket ($3.50 for all but the Shreveport game with LSU where regular tickets are $8 and student $4.)

Registration for men's touch football and women's intramural volleyball closes tomorrow (Friday) at 4pm. Rosters and the one buck apiece fee is due at the HPE Office before that time.

The deadline for signing up for men's tennis singles, doubles and mixed doubles is next Friday, while women's raquetball (singles and doubles) and badminton (singles and doubles) registration also closes on that date. The fee for all these is $5.00 per participant.
The calculations you face require no less.

Today, even so-called "non-technical" courses (psych, soc, bus ad, to name 3) require a variety of technical calculations—complicated calculations that become a whole lot easier when you have a powerful pocket calculator.

Not surprisingly, there are quite a few such calculators around, but ours stand apart, and ahead. We "started it all when we introduced the world's first scientific pocket calculator back in 1972, and we've shown the way ever since.

The calculators you see here are our newest, the first of our second generation. Both offer you technology you probably won't find in competitive calculators for some time to come, if ever.

Our HP-21 performs all arithmetic, log and trig calculations, including rectangular/polar conversions and common antilog evaluations. It's display is fully formatted, so you can choose between fixed decimal and scientific notation.

Our HP-25 does all that—and much, much more. It's programmable, which means it can solve automatically the countless repetitive problems every science and engineering student faces.

Both the HP-21 and HP-25 are almost certainly on display at your bookstore. If not, call us, toll-free, at 800-538-7922 (in Calif. 800-662-9862) for the name of an HP dealer near you.
**Thursday the fourth**

6pm. Commons. Food Service drops the bomb on "Hapagian Social" (sic) (sic) to make an emergency appearance.

7:30pm. IRC Chapel. Chapel Service conducted by D. John Marquette, Oxford University.

7:30pm. 201 Rmc. First meeting of the Rice chapter of the A.C.S.

8pm. Alley Theater. Cecil B. DeMille's Sign of the Cross.

10:30pm. Pub crew needs capacity Friday.

**Sunday the seventh**

8pm. Alley. Shanghai.

10pm. HH. RPC shows The Conversation, starring Gene Hackman.

**Tuesday the ninth**

5:30pm. Baptist Student Union. 6530Pasco.