On order from Judge Roy Hofheinz?
Unknown Astrodome official censors MOB halftime show

by WILEY SANDERS

Continuing its tradition of controversy, the MOB (Marching Owl Band) entered the 1975 season Saturday night with a halftime show that aroused the ire of Astrodome officials who promptly censored the show, apparently at the order of Judge Roy Hofheinz, owner of Astrodomain, himself.

As MOB announcer Mark Brennan (Lovett '79) was finishing comments referring to the Dome as "the smallest enclosed football stadium in the world" and the Houston Astros as "first in war, first in peace, and last in the National League," an unidentified person, claiming he was "from the Judge" entered the announcer's press box booth and asked Brennan if he could see a copy of the script.

Unknowning, Brennan obliged. "We don't appreciate wisecracks about the Astrodome around here," said the official. The man would not allow Brennan to announce anything but the names of the songs to be played, and would not let him announce anything about what was going on in the booth. "You're not going to read any more," the man said.

Actually, no more comments about the Astrodome were to follow. The remainder of the show consisted of remarks on Spiro Agnew's attempt to secure the Coors beer distributorship for Houston (accompanied by the Bud theme) and the Russian wheat deal (with the song of the Volga boatmen).

As it happened, the show concluded with many bewildered MOB members, and an audience unaware of what had gone on.

The script had been taken and in its place substituted by Samuel Jones, who as Dean of the Shepherd School of Music is in charge of the MOB. He received a copy of the script Tuesday; as of Saturday he had made no comments about the show. Moreover, copies of the script had been sent to Astrodome officials before the game; they did not act against the show until it was already in progress. The show as performed (or as it was, not performed), differed from the script sent to Jones and to Astrodome officials only in the wording of a few sections; the substance of the satire was unchanged.

According to Bert Roth, MOB director, the parts the Dome management apparently found objectionable were "nothing that hadn't been said before."

Mike Fowler, Assistant Drum Major and one of the original collaborators who wrote the show, said that the copy from which Brennan was reading differed from the copy sent to Dome officials only in that Brennan's copy contained a few penciled-in changes that the copy sent to Dome personnel did not.

The copy seized by the un-uniformed, un-badged, and as yet un-identified Astrodome official was retrieved by Fowler after the show.

Except for the reference to the "Judge" (presumably Judge Roy Hofheinz), it remains unclear who or what demanded censorship of the show. Astrodome officials were unavailable for comment. According to Roth, all that is known is what Brennan has told about what went on in the press box.

For now, the MOB is waiting to see if it can be determined who ordered the censoring (and why the apparently irrelevant MOB was taken so bitterly) before taking any action. The Astrodome officials were more effective in stifling the MOB than another group was two years ago. In 1973, hoards of angry Aggies held MOBsters inside Rice Stadium for two hours after the Rice-A&M game ended (Rice won).

(continued on page 6)

Rice stuns Cougars with long returns, 24-7

by JOEL SLADE

Quarterback David Husmann's incomplete pass to Robert Lavergne as the gun went off Saturday night, was the final element in a complete role reversal. At that moment, the University of Houston football team viewed the scoreboard as the sixty members of the Rice football team let go of sixty minutes worth of store emotion. Yes, Bill Yeoman, the 10 point Rice underdogs defeated your football team, 24-7.

Al Conover promised an improved Rice offense and delivered. He called on an emotionally charged defense and fired-up special team to work his magic. John Coleman delivered 143 rushing yards to help lead Rice to the promised land.

The Rice offense did not look like the kiddie corps who masqueraded between punts a year ago. They borrowed an option pitch from Tommy Kramer and ran the Houston Veer for 226 yards rushing. The offense scored Rice's second touchdown on a 7 yard gain. Gary returned the punt 70 yards for a touchdown. Rice held a 7-zip lead and the Al Conover football team was sky high. At 6:30 in the first quarter, Bubba McGallion optioned to John Housman going around the left end and fumbled on a first down. Cornerback Ron Vaughn recovered for Rice. Four plays later, James Sykes took an option pitch from Tommy Kramer and ran 3 yards off tackle for a touchdown with 6:37 left in the first quarter. Freshman Alverno Angelica kick made it 14-0.

At the end of the first quarter, the Rice defense forced UH to punt after the Coogs could only muster a one yard gain. Gary returned the punt 70 yards for a touchdown. Rice held a 7-zip lead and the Al Conover football team was sky high. At 6:30 in the first quarter, Bubba McGallion optioned to John Housman going around the left end and fumbled on a first down. Cornerback Ron Vaughn recovered for Rice. Four plays later, James Sykes took an option pitch from Tommy Kramer and ran 3 yards off tackle for a touchdown with 6:37 left in the first quarter. Freshman Alverno Angelica kick made it 14-0.

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The stage is set for a major confrontation at the University of Texas between faculty and students on one hand and the Board of Regents on the other. At the center of the controversy is the Regents’ 5–3 vote Friday to name President Ad Interim Lorene Rogers the permanent President of the Austin campus, an act bypassing a special faculty-student advisory committee set up to screen candidates for the position. Rogers’ name was not on the list of candidates submitted by that committee; her name was added by the Board itself. In fact, the faculty-student advisory committee voted unanimously on four separate occasions to exclude Rogers’ name from the list of approved candidates. The situation is reminiscent of Rice’s own recent presidential appointment crisis, the so-called Masterson affair of 1969. At that time, Rice’s Trustees similarly bypassed a faculty-student committee in naming William II. Masterson, a Rice alumnus and former Dean of Humanities, President of Rice to succeed Kenneth Fitz. Faculty and students organized solidly to express their displeasure with the methods used by the Trustees. Faculty and students were successful in turning back the Masterson appointment; the Trustees were forced to acknowledge the importance of faculty and student opinion and the importance of due process in University decision making. Circumstances at the University of Texas make Rogers’ position even more tenacious that Masterson’s was at Rice. The faculty has not completely recovered from the as-yet-unexplained firing last year of Stephen Spurr as President (which led to Rogers’ appointment as President Ad Interim), an incident which drew widespread criticism and brought threats of intervention from the Governor and the Legislature. Rogers’ record has been damaged just in the past several weeks by charges that she manipulated individual faculty salaries after the various deans had approved them, with the intent of punishing dissident professors. Those charges, together with Rogers’ slim majority, only two votes, indicates that a reversal approved by the now-bypassed faculty-student advisory committee. Student government leaders have already called for the Regents; we look forward to the day when political hacks will exclude Rogers’ name from the list of approved candidates. Something from UT’s problems: that due process must be acknowledged the importance of faculty and student opinion and the importance of due process in University decision making.

New charter loosens reins on local gov’t.

by TED ANDREWS

Third of a series

Back in 1876, when the founders of modern Texas decided to write a constitution, one thought remained foremost in their minds: Texas must have a government, but it must be so limited in its powers that no member of that government would even think of harming the people with power, lust, envy, and/or greed. So, to that end, they scattered the provisions specifying the structure of local government throughout the Constitution. There was only one exception—-the city home rule section, which allowed large cities to set up their own government.

Article IX, Proposition Six, the local government article, is one of the most important changes suggested in the proposed constitution. The new article gathers the multifarious portions of the constitution dealing with local affairs and hammers them into something resembling coherence. Within the new section is a portion reorganizing county government and another relaxing the financial straight jacket imposed on local governments.

Flexible county government is encouraged in the new document; unfortunately, it doesn’t take the mighty leap to full county home rule. The present constitution spells out the structure of county government in such detail that there is almost no room for experimentation, modernization, or anything else. The proposed constitution doesn’t allow voters to write their own county charter but it does give them the power to alter the structure of county government. They cannot abolish the county commissioners (the successor to the county commissioners’ court) but they can change the number of commissioners. Voters of a populated county might decide to increase the number of commissioners to 25, in order to create a county legislature. They can abolish, consolidate, or create new offices as well.

Thus, the county which creates a local legislature can also create the position of County Manager or County Executive. The only restriction is that any person performing the functions of an office specified as “elective” in the Constitution (sherriff, treasurer, district attorney, county clerk, county attorney, and constable) must actually be elected. However, a county may choose to abolish the sheriff’s office; but whoever performs the sheriff’s duties must be an elected official.

County governments have, traditionally, been granted the powers that the legislature specifically allows them. The proposed Article IX allows the voters in a county to bestow upon their county commission a general ordinance-making power. This is, more or less, the same power that home rule cities have. The proposed article carefully provides that in the case of a conflict between a county ordinance and a city or town ordinance, the latter prevails within the municipality’s jurisdiction.

The financial woes of New York City have focused the attention of its city, county, and state government leaders on the plight of the cities and other local governments in making ends meet. Therefore, the proposed article permits counties, cities, and towns to eliminate the cost of debt service from the constitution limit on the ad valorem tax rate. The proposed article also permits the legislature to authorize the creation of special districts with power to levy ad valorem taxes. If a city finds itself unable to provide a necessary service within its tax limit it could create a special district to provide the service. One thing that is absolutely certain is that the legislature might by general law restrict the taxing powers of local governments and put a ceiling on debt.

In coming issues the Thresher will examine the remaining articles of the proposed new state constitution, which will be submitted to voters November 4.

GARY BREWTON
Editor

JANET DOTY
Business Manager

Shaffer, a long-time University of Texas administrator and a former police officer, was instrumental in the creation of the University Police Department.

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New charter loosens reins on local gov’t.
A precedent for women’s rights

Joann Little acquitted of murder in rape defense case

NEW YORK (LNS)—Joann Little was found not guilty of second degree murder and voluntary manslaughter by a Raleigh, North Carolina jury after only 78 minutes of deliberation on August 15. One of the jurors explained afterward that they had all voted for acquittal on the first vote.

Little, a 21-year-old black woman, was charged with the murder of Clarence Alligood, a white man who was being held in jail to rape her in her jail cell.

The decision by the seven-woman, seven-man jury, half of whom were black, sets a precedent for a woman’s right to defend herself against sexual attack.

Juror Paul Lassiter said, “I was always waiting for the state to bring something in kind of like a bombshell to surprise us. I was surprised when the state rested its case.”

A People’s Victory

“I owe my victory to the people and not to the judicial system,” Little said at a press conference following the jury’s decision. “If my sisters are ever faced with the similar situation, and I hope they never do, maybe now there is a law that says a black woman has a right to defend herself.” Little announced at the press conference that she will begin a speaking tour around the country to advocate prison reform.

Prosecution Case Weak

Jurors explained afterwards that the strength of Joann Little’s case was almost an “extra” when the prosecution, who had the burden of proof, presented such a weak case.

The state’s case for the original charge of first degree murder was so flimsy that the judge dismissed it midway in the trial. Little had been indicted with the first degree charge by a grand jury which had not been allowed to hear the medical examiner who initially examined Alligood’s body. The examiner was the first to report that there was semen on Alligood’s thigh and other evidence of sexual activity.

Although prosecution lawyers gave no evidence during the trial that Joann Little lured Alligood into her cell in a premeditated escape attempt, prosecuting attorney Stanley insisted in his summation that it was Ms. Little, not Mr. Alligood, that made sexual advances, on the premise that “A jailer wouldn’t cross the racial barrier with someone in a position to suit him.”

And prosecuting attorney Lester Chalmers, who has represented Ku Klux Klan members, emphasized in his summation that the “sheer number of wounds shows the intent to kill.”

However, even Judge Hobgeson instructed the jury in his final charges to consider the size and strength of the 200-pound jailer, the fact that he had a weapon, his reputation for past sexual advances, and a jailer’s duty to protect the prisoners.

Little Testifies of Self-Defense

The core of Little’s case was that she acted in self-defense. In her testimony which began on August 11, she explained that jailer Clarence Alligood entered her cell on the night of August 27, 1974, held an icepick to her head and forced her to engage in oral sex with him.

“He was gripping the icepick right in my face,” she said. “I didn’t know what he was going to do, whether he was going to kill me or not.”

Then for an instant Alligood loosened his grip on the icepick and both of them scrambled for it.

“I reached for the icepick, he reached for the icepick,” said Little. “I got it first.”

“Hit me with it,” she went on, “he wanted to kill me and each time he came up I hit him.” She ran from her cell in fear for her life. Alligood was still alive when she ran, Little explained, “standing there with that icepick on his face.”

The defense called three former women inmates of the Beaufort County Jail who corroborated Joann Little’s claim that Alligood took advantage of her in her cell as the prosecution had to argue that she had to push him away. When a state cross examiner asked her repeatedly what position she was in during the attack, she finally flared up and replied, “I was packaged by my defense team and never wanted to think about it again.”

A jailer’s duty to protect the prisoners whenever and however he wished.

The third woman, Phyllis Moore, testified that she overheard Alligood asking Joann Little if she “missed her men” whereasupon Little had answered disgustedly that if Alligood kept that up she would report him.

Another defense witness, Herbert MacDonald a noted criminologist, criticized the police examination of the slaying as incompetent, noted signs of tampering with the evidence, and said that he would not pass any of his criminology students if they presented him with such terrible photographs of the jail cell as the prosecution had given to the defense.

Furthermore, he noted that these photos differed in significant details from those entered by the prosecution as evidence to the jury.

Significance of the Case

Reflecting on the significance of Joann Little’s trial several days after the acquittal, defense attorney Gailan Galloway said, “The verdict doesn’t mean that North Carolina’s judicial system is Orientalized. The only justice would have been if Joann Little had never indicted at all . . . the trial only showed the public the issues that we brought out that happen in prisons every day.”

Joann Little is currently free on bond pending appeal on the same charges of breaking and entering that put her in Beaufort County Jail in the first place. Although she wanted to appeal earlier, her previous lawyer neglected to file all the papers for an appeal before the time allowed for appeals had expired.

In addition, Jerry Paul, one of Little’s lawyers, was cited for contempt of court and put in jail immediately following Joann’s acquittal. The charges stem from Paul’s arguments with the judge on his procedures for jury selection. In North Carolina it is possible for an attorney to be disbarred after being cited for contempt. All defense team members are currently appealing his case.

(Thanks to Celeste Wesson of WDBS for much of this information.)
MFA series offers classic as well as contemporary films

So you thought that there was nothing to see at the Museum of Fine Arts but films as reasonable prices. There is a Tuesday series and a Saturday series, with a single showing of each film at 8 pm in the Museum's Brown Auditorium. Single ticket admission charge is $1.25 for non-members, and series members $16 for non-members.

Selections include:
- Paths of Glory (September 16) - In this film (starring Kirk Douglas and Ralph Meeker), director Stanley Kubrick attacks the horror and inherent corruption of war using as his weapon impecably iron. In World War I, an ambitious French general orders a virtually suicidal attack, and when his men fall back he has three of them, chosen at random, brought to trial as cowards.
- Payday (September 20) - Rip Torn stars as Maury Dann, the rancidly unromantic third rate Johnny Cash whose sudden success in country music turns into corruption.
- Forbidden Games (September 23) - Another anti-war masterpiece by Rene Clement. The film tells of two children who become playmates during the German occupation in 1940. In the chaos of war there is no one to tell them what to play and they create their own games - horrible ones that imitate the cruel world that surrounds them.
- Visions of Eight (September 27) - The gigantic spectacle of the Olympics is revealed in a composite fashion in this film by eight directors from eight different countries.
- Camille (September 30) - Just as Hamlet is the measure of a great actor, so has this outstanding film become the ultimate test of a dramatic actress, and Greta Garbo's performance in George Cukor's version is in the finest tradition.
- Key Largo (October 4) - Edward G. Robinson, Humphrey Bogart, and Lauren Bacall are the drawing cards in John Huston's Academy Award-winning production.
- Tunes of Glory (October 7) - In a clash between two rival officers in a peacetime Scottish regiment, the British one becomes the punching bag for the American one.
- The Middle of the World (October 11) - Director Alain Tanner tells of a young widow working in a cafe who is seen, wooed, and briefly won by an engineer who is married, a father, and a candidate for Parliament. But the affair fails, because physical obsessions are powerless against social differences.
- Red River (October 14) - The cattle drive that opened the Chisholm Trail to Kansas, complete with John Wayne, is one of Howard Hawks' better westerns.
- State of the Union (October 18) - Spencer Tracy plays the glib gentleman who would rather be right than a presidential candidate, with Katherine Hepburn as his wife and his conscience.
- Red Desert (October 21) - The emotional poverty of an over-civilized society is the theme of this Antonioni film. His neurotic heroine is ignored and deceived even by her own small son.
- Black Orpheus (October 25) - Albert Camus sets the ancient legend in the modern black section of Rio de Janeiro, with Orpheus becoming a streetcar conductor and Eurydice a country girl fleeing from a man sworn to kill her.
- That'll Be the Day (October 28) - A very special, strange, and fascinating movie starring David Essex as a young dreamer who yearns to be a rock star.
- Le Fantome de la Liberte (November 1) - A bizarre series of surrealistic vignettes by Luis Bunuel, in which the commonplace world is turned upside down.
- I'm All Right, Jack (November 4) - Peter Sellers caricatures a tremendously self-important union leader in a gleful satire of labor and management (and other aspects of British life). The cast includes some of England's most delightful comedians.
- We Child (November 8) - Francois Truffaut plays an eighteenth-century doctor educating a barbarian boy who was abandoned in the woods. The film (also directed by Truffaut) is done in black-and-white with the look of an old photograph. This unusual collection of films is well worth the price of admission. For more information, call 526-1361, ext. 48 - karla painter
CAPSULES

by ELAINE BONILLA

Miller Theater is continuing to bring free performances to Hermann Park as fall takes over the outdoor theater. On September 15, 19, and 20, the Houston Ballet will present its production of Carmen. Seals are available near the stage, and the whole hillside is available for hardy souls equipped with blankets.

"Yessongs": don't waste your money

Yessongs and The Red Planet
At the River Oaks Theater

It had to be one of the wildest film previews Houston had ever seen. ABC Interstate Theaters and KAMU radio brought out fireworks and a hot air balloon to announce the opening of Yessongs and The Red Planet. The result: a great fanfare, but no great fare for the fans.

Red Planet, concocted with laser and optical printing techniques, at least manages to provide a few dynamically premonitive flashes amid the repetitious dross. Though individual moments entertain and even frighten in a mix of texture, color, motion, and speed, the total project is simply a pretentious, resounding bore. This too-long short subject of architecture has kept it to his name.

The feature, Yessongs, presents exploitation at its most blatant. Somebody had to begin a film, just to try to pass off these reels as art, entertainment, or even a time-passer. A scratchy quad system ruins the rock group Yes as the screen flashes images that are manipulated, split, filtered, in fact anything but moving.

This chronicle of a typical rock concert manages without power, color, without power, and without vividness. The imagery is overwhelmed by ordinary stock shots, lending a crenitious air to the sweat-drenched poses and grimacing in an effort to mimic concentration and/or emotion. Very little of the vividness of a live rock show survives through. Much of the audience sings along. The experience is not unique to anyone—everyone is caught in the music.

Good Man, Charlie Brown

Charles Schultz, in the guise of Linus, complete the cast. Jay Shittlestone is directing the musical, assisted by Rose Norton. Lights will be designed by Chris Counts, and Dan Canty is doing the set. Ben Battershell is vocal music director. Choreography will be done by Debbie Waldman. You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown follows in the line of Wiess musicals that produced Man of La Mancha, two years ago. The new commons will necessitate the designing and construction of an entirely new lighting system, and the building's layout will present challenges for the accustomed positioning of the stage. But Wiess Tabletop is up to the challenge. The experience new commons provides.

Wiess plans Peanuts play

Charles Schultz, in the guise of his well-known comic strip characters, will put on an appearance in the Wiess Commons starting October 29 with the Wiess Tabletop regulars and newcomers to the Wiess theater scene. David Franklin will play the central role of Charlie Brown, with Chris Jones at his side as his faithful companion, Snoopy.

Sharp-tongued Lucy will be played by Paula Fenster, and Great Aukonder will appear as the piano-playing Schroeder who prefers Beethoven to the piano-playing Schroeder. Greg Alexander will appear as Charlie Brown, with Chris Heffler as Linus complete the cast.

The Miller Film Festival goes on—Elizabeth Taylor wins the Grand National in National Velvet on Sunday September 21. Monday night, Leslie Caron wins the heart of a crippled puppeteer in a carnival while she is hopelessly infatuated with a charming magician in Lili. Roddy MacDowell is on screen Wednesday night in How Green Was My Valley, the story of life's experiences and adventures by a Welsh mining family.

Attention all poets—World of Poetry, a monthly newsletter for poets is sponsoring a Poetry Competition carrying a $1500 grand prize. Contest director Joseph Mellon says "We are encouraging poetic talent of every kind, and expect our contest to produce exciting discoveries." Poems of all styles and on any subject are welcome for the grand prize or for 49 other awards. Get the rules and official entry forms from: World of Poetry, 501 Portola Dr., Dept. 311, San Francisco CA 94127.

Tired of responding like adults? Drop by the New Texas Theater for their Saturday afternoon children's programs. September 20 features Finnerty Flynn and the Singing City by Clark Geen (author of You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown), presented by the Gas Works, a band of strolling players. The program includes juggling, mime, and magic tricks.

Legends, folktales and songs from all over the world make up the September 27 program, Stories. It's a theatrical experience combining acrobatics, mime, music, and acting. The New Texas Theater is at 1821 Lamar (at Hamilton), and admission is by contribution, no fixed amount. For a second slice of childhood, that's pretty reasonable.

REFECTORY REOPENS TODAY

Serving 11am-1pm Monday-Friday

The Autry House

NOTICIAS DE CUERVO

Recipe #456.78C:

THE TAXCO Fizz:

• 2 oz Jose Cuervo Tequila
• Juice from one lime (or 2 tsp.)
• 1 tsp sugar
• 2 dashes orange bitters
• White of one egg
• A glass is quite helpful, too.

Ask Peter Lawford

"Hairstyling for men may be somewhat new to you. But not to me. Being in the public eye, I've always been very much concerned with my appearance—not just a good looking style, but one which I could care for myself on a daily basis. And Markham for Men's Style Innovator Cut and Style Innovator Products are the best I've ever found.

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the rice thresher, monday, september 15, 1975 — page 5
Rice masters UH with long returns, team effort

(continued from page 1)

quarter, Billy Neal ran a dive and fumbled. Lee Canali-to recovered on the Rice 12 for UH. It appeared that the Cougars were about to cut the Rice lead in half. On the first down, Bubba McGallion tried to hit tight end Don Bass for the touchdown. Unfortunately for the Cougars, All-American hopeful Rodney Norton deflected the pass into the hands of Monster Man Larry Brune who ran 86 yards for a Rice touchdown with 14:44 remaining in the half. Rice 21-Houston 0 and the cynics waited for the Rice choke.

Two drives later, Rice’s fears appeared to come true as the Cougars marched to the Rice 13. John Housman ran off tackle and in for an apparent UH touchdown except somehow he fumbled and Brent Barnes recovered for Rice. As the half ended Arenas scored a 19 yard field goal and Rice led the Cougars 24-0. As the MOB took the field, the Rice Owls left the field to a standing ovation. Rice was doing the impossible; they were beating a heavily-favored UH team against all odds.

UH finally did break Rice’s shutout, but it took 51 yards of penalties to do it. Saturday night’s football game was a Rice dream come true. The big play defense of two years ago returned. The offense showed the best form since the Jess Nealy teams of the “Glory Days” of the late 50’s and early 60’s. The interior line held up when they had to and the special teams kept UH on their side of the field all night long while breaking the game wide open. According to Al Conover, “They are a great bunch of guys. A great team effort. I am very proud!” Bring on Vanderbilt!

MOB...

(continued from page 1)

24-211 following a satirical half-time “Salute to Texas A&M.” That “salute” included MOBsters doing a goose-step imitation of A&M’s military-style band, forming a fire hydrant to play “Where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?” in honor of the canine Aggie mascot, Reveille, and countermarching the “Aggie War T” (reportedly a near sacred Aggie tradition) to the tune, not of the Aggie War Hymn, but of “March of the Wooden Soldier.” Needles to say, the tradition-bound Aggies felt insulted. Jeers, obscenities, ice, and a few fists were hurled at the MOBsters as they marched off the field and the Aggie football team swarmed back on. The big confrontation came after the game, though, as 350 Aggies kept the MOB prisoners in their own stadium. The MOB escaped only after police arrived to carefully guard the MOB’s escape. The MOBsters rode in escorted Food Service trucks back to the colleges; the Aggies left, albeit angrily.

Top to bottom, left to right: Rice’s Gary Cox evades Houston’s Tommy Staudton scoring punt return; in the end zone, alone, Larry Brune triumphantly raises his intercepted ball; jubilant Owls carry Conover from the field; in the locker room, John Coleman discusses his 143-yard rushing game with member of the Houston media.

—photos by wiley senders
Improved attitude key to Owl turnabout in '75 season

by PHILIP PARKER

One football victory (even over arch-rival UH in the season opener) does not make a successful year, and Coach Al Conover knows it. He may have been smiling in the locker room after the game, but he wasn't saying much. Maybe he couldn't believe how his team dominated the Cougars Saturday night, but, more likely, his silence was caused by thoughts about the rest of the season.

Meanwhile, the players clawed for the TV camera that finally found its way to the Rice dressing room. Quarterbacks Tommy Kramer and Claude Reed joked about the much-publicized card cut before the game that saw Kramer’s queen of clubs beat out Reed’s seven of diamonds to decide which of the two would start as quarterback. Defensive tackle Jeff Rose’s chant “We’re the best in the city!” rang throughout the room, while another player soberly remarked “This is a good team, but it needs a lot of work, a lot of work.”

Unlike last year’s team, this group seems willing to do that little extra that is demanded of winners. Nothing seems to be beyond them—even winning the SWC and the Cotton Bowl. To appreciate this confidence, you have only to look at last year. The coaching staff was constantly “down” on the players and they became unsure of themselves. The gap between the players and coaches grew so wide that the team lobbied for the removal of various coaches. They went so far as to suggest that a plane with a sign saying “— must go” should fly over Rice Stadium during the last game. Even the coaches did not get along. Hard words were exchanged between the staff in front of the players arguments raged during games and word battles degenerated into fistfights among the coaches. The dissension ran deep and the team slumped to 2-8-1.

Everything has changed this year. Most of the coaches involved in the troubles last year are gone. The new bunch knows how to teach the players how to play football and still treat them as people. Explained one team member, “The attitude is improved. The players and coaches are getting along great. The coaches don’t even scream at players during practice anymore.”

The change of attitude may well mean a winning season and a bowl trip. Don’t scoff. The Baylor Bears of ’74 are a living example of what a confident outlook can get you. Sure, the team has a long way to go. The offense needs to find consistency and rediscover its passing attack. The defense still lacks a pass rush and needs to learn how to avoid crippling penalties. Yet the outlook is encouraging. The team refused to be fazed by its own mistakes and never gave up. The quality of the team was not affected when the substitutes played. It is too early to be ordering tickets for the Cotton Bowl. Yet a post-season appearance is possible—very possible. For once, an Owl team has a sense of confidence that involves more than a Conover gimmick. As Jeff Rose said, “You got to believe!” And it seems that this team does believe.

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LEARNING TO CONTROL YOUR DREAMS

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the rice thresher, monday, september 15, 1975 — page 7
monday the fifteenth
4pm. BU 234. Biology Seminar
7pm. SH303. Sid Richardson College Lecture Series begins with Alexander Smyth. "Learning to Control Your Dreams."
8:30 pm. Jones Hall. Last chance to catch Lawrence Foster for a while.

wednesday the seventeenth
6pm. Common. "Grooved Bee" au jus
7:30pm. Media Center. Sherlock Jr. (Kaston, 1971) 81
10pm. Entire campus goes on a food run.

thursday the eighteenth
6pm. Fried Fish in the common.

notes and notices
All Wet — The men's swim team will have an organizational meeting to discuss NCAA rules changes. Everyone interested is urged to attend the meeting in Conference Room B of the gym, 7 pm, Wednesday, September 17.

Jones — There will be a dinner for all off-campus members of Jones College on Tuesday, September 16, at Jones House at 5:30 pm. Also, elections will be held for two off-campus representative chairs and for cultural chairs on Thursday, September 18. Petitions must be filed before noon on Wednesday, September 17.

Bozo — Rice Water Polo Club meets Aggie Hoard, Wed., September 17, 6 pm.

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LUNCH AND DINNER

the rice thresher, monday, september 15, 1975 — page 8