Grade inflation at Rice sparks a continuing debate

by TED ANDREWS

The fever of grade inflation, which has affected many prestigious universities (to the point that at Stanford professors no longer give failing grades) is also affecting Rice, reports English professor Stewart A. Baker.

"Grade inflation" is the term applied to steady increase in average grades in many classes, not necessarily as a result of students getting smarter. It means, for example, that a 1 in chemistry isn't worth as much today as it was a few years ago.

The effects of grade inflation at Rice are evident in the charts prepared by the Self-Study Committee two years ago (Academic Affairs report, pp. 86-90). The overall grade point average of the University has increased one full point over the past ten years. Grades in 100-level courses showed the biggest gain, from 2.75 to 2.35. 200-level courses have dropped from 2.25 to 1.9.

Baker says that there are many things influencing the rise: liberalized curriculum, which doesn't require people to take languages and math courses; easy distribution requirements; and self-paced courses. Physics and Chemistry 100-level courses have nearly 40% of their students making ones. The self-paced courses also have had a strong effect. Generally speaking, however, we now have 2's becoming ones, and 3's becoming twos.

But the phenomenon is nation wide. Beno Fricker of the University of Michigan's office of evaluation and examinations has reported that for freshmen in 1973-74 the fall and winter grade point averages were 2.82 and 2.83 on a 4.0 scale. Those were the highest ever earned by Michigan freshmen. Fricker also reported that the freshman class "is the weakest in more than two decades" in terms of its performance on standardized tests.

The Wall Street Journal and conservative columnist George F. Will have viewed the inflation with alarm, believing it to be "the weakest in more than two decades" in terms of its performance on standardized tests.

Some have suggested that today's students are more concerned with earning high grades in order to increase their chances for high paying jobs rather than committing themselves to non-scholarly pursuits like shopping and eating out, and thus are more successful as students than their counterparts of the '70's. Baker also emphasizes the "trend towards professionalism among many students."

However, some departments at Rice are holding the line. Baker says, including biology, biochemistry, and English. Because of the stiff grading in these departments, as well as the generally stiff grading of all the Rice faculty when (continued on page 4)

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Harsh revision of drug policy rejected

by GARY BREWTON

The University's policy on alcohol and illegal drugs is undergoing minor changes, at least in part, as a reminder to students that Rice is not a haven for illegal activities.

Three campus groups (the Committee of the Masters, the Committee on Student Affairs, and the Student Association) are being consulted before President Hackerman makes any official changes. The current policy states that "every student is expected to abide by state and federal laws and is urged students to "recognize that, contrary to persistent misconceptions, the University campus is not a legal sanctuary...[Law officers] are free to enter the campus and, with proper warrants, to search any University building or portion thereof, including student possessors, and to make arrests."

A strongly-worded proposal, written by Wiess Master Stewart A. Baker and revised by Dean of Undergraduate Affairs Katherine Brown and Proctor Samuel Carrington, was turned down by the Committee of the Masters this summer in favor of the existing policy. Baker's proposal, written after a campus workshop on drug-related problems this summer, would have required University officials to report the sale or public use of illegal drugs to the Proctor for possible disciplinary action.

Baker's proposal read: "The University considers the abuse of alcohol and illegal drugs to be detrimental to the educational process and dangerous to the health and well-being of students. The University is equally concerned for students who may be affected because of the illegal actions of others."

"Any violation of state or federal laws, including those governing illegal drugs, if such a violation occurs on campus or as a part of a University activity, is also a violation of University rules and may be subject to disciplinary action under the University's Judicial Code."

"Responsible University officials are required, by University policy, to report the (continued on page 6)

Senate tackles trivia

Monday's business-like SA Senate meeting, dealing with several topics of minor consequence, drew one priceless comment from the Internal Affairs Vice-President, who insisted that his name not be used: "I've never had to deal with so much worthless trivia in all my life."

And, indeed, trivial matters did dominate the meeting, which ended in practically record time. The Permanent Rules Committee has solicited opinions from many different groups on the questions:

"Should a student who graduates in August or December be allowed to have the calendar date put on his ring instead of the diploma date? (Current policy is that the student must have the diploma date on the ring.) The Senate voted to concur with the recommendation of the Committee on Examinations and Standings, to wit: the student may choose, at his (continued on page 6)

Free examinations offered

In recent years scientists have discovered a link between cancer in women and diethylstilbestrol (DES), a synthetic hormone developed about 40 years ago and used to overcome complications in many "problem" pregnancies.

A very rare form of cancer has been found in the women whose mothers had taken DES during pregnancy. To study the problem, four clinics across the country have been set up to identify and examine women exposed to DES in utero; one of those clinics is at Baylor College of Medicine, here in Houston.

Another anomaly found in DES-exposed women is the presence of an abnormally placed tissue, called adenosis, located on the cervix or vagina. The tissue is not cancerous, but its presence is analogous to having the tissue which lines the mouth growing out on the face. This unusual tissue has been found in 50 to 70% of the women exposed to DES during pregnancy. Part of the objective of the Baylor research is to see whether this unusual tissue is related to the presence of the rare cancer.

Women at Rice will soon be receiving letters from Baylor describing the problem in full. Those who were exposed to DES before birth will be examined by physicians from Baylor free of charge. The examination is not painful. The cancer has been found in about 100 women. It has no symptoms, except occasionally, a vaginal discharge. The risk of cancer does not appear to depend on the amount of DES taken during pregnancy; nor does frequency of sexual intercourse in exposed women appear to have any effects on the tissue change.

Women who have further questions or who wish to make an appointment should call the DES clinic at 521-2636.

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MEMORANDUM

To: Andy Kopra, RPC

About three weeks ago Jones elected to vote down an RPC request for money for the Homecoming dance. Regardless of the fact that the absence of our $100 probably made little difference in the outcome of the weekend, I thought you might be interested in knowing the more important sources of our discontent with the RPC. We all agree that it is as easy to sit back and criticize as it is to apathetically agree to every proposal set forth; therefore, I hope that our criticism will be understood not only as pointing out our mistakes, but as an offer to support the RPC in its ineffectuality. Perhaps our present dissatisfaction arises from our ignorance of what is really occurring; if so, we encourage you to correct our mistakes.

Other colleges may or may not agree with us; we also welcome their opinions. A great number of Jones members have expressed a desire at numerous meetings that have resulted from the blanket tax increases voted in past years. Admittedly, more activities have been organized this year, but on a sporadic and generally unsuccessful basis, at least as most Jones members view it. The trauma of the situation is that it could have been avoided; poor planning, placing the bar so close to the only exit at the Homecoming dance, failing to notify us about the Wheatfield concert despite our inquiries) has spoiled what could have been successful events, and has damaged the RPC reputation. At Jones such failures to plan ahead have caused repeated disappointment. They reflect to us both a disorganization within the RPC ranks and a lack of coordination with college governments. It is our suggestion that the RPC better attempt to work with the real sources of strength at Rice, the colleges.

The repeated successes of the colleges in encouraging participation perhaps suggests a basis from which the RPC could begin. The RPC should do more to encourage the attendance of college representatives at its meetings and to arrange for each representative to report back to his cabinet. RPC committee chairs should keep records of each activity so that they learn from their mistakes and avoid the errors in planning that occur year after year. The RPC should encourage such meetings as have recently begun between all the social coordinators and the RPC chairman. And finally, the RPC should provide quarterly budget statements to the colleges so that the colleges can see clear evidence of RPC need (if, in fact it exists) for their financial support.

We realize that the RPC task is not an easy one, but neither is one that can be handled alone. The RPC must learn to communicate its ideas to the colleges and to listen to the suggestions and responses it receives from them.

The Jones Cabinet
cc: Thresher

JONES CABINET CRITICIZES RPC, PROPOSES REFORMS

To the editor:

Last April, the RPC changed its bylaws to include a voting representative from each college whose purpose was to report back to the college cabinets. Since then, despite many pleas at SA meetings, only a few of the colleges have sent their representatives to meetings and of those even less receive a cabinet report in turn. What manner of coercion does it take to get the colleges to take action in an area they loudly proclaim to be important? Any "ignorance of what is really occurring" is not the fault of the RPC, whose repeated attempts at communication have been met with inaction. And indeed, "mistakes" have resulted. The extensive student services this year (coupon booklets on par with UT or UH, inexpensive refrigerator and typewriter rentals, discount movie theatre tickets, the fine arts ticket program) have hardly been "mediocre" or the reflection of a "lack of changes." The 506 movies and free parties are taken for granted, yet neither exist at schools whose programs are far better funded than ours.

The RPC's blanket tax is equivalent to one-fourth of the college dues, yet it must serve eight times the number of students engaged in intracollege activities than received by intracollege activities. The colleges may be the "real source of strength at Rice," but they also serve as effective blocks against inter-university cooperation in the pursuit of their self-interests.

We hope that in the future the colleges will make the forum for discussions of the RPC, not letters to the Thresher filled with misinformation and platitudes not even adhered to by their authors.

Andy Kopra
RPC President
Bicentennial theme cited in request to cut fees

To the editor:

This letter is written on behalf of the Rice Chinese Student Association concerning the one dollar blanket tax proposal.

Let us start by asking why the minority organizations should be funded by the one dollar blanket tax. Another way of looking at this is asking who the ultimate beneficiaries of the funding are. The minority organizations? No. The ultimate beneficiaries should be all of us, the Rice students. We have a reputation of intelligence and high academic performance; we believe that generally we do more work than students at most other schools. I think almost every Rice agrees that we also deserve the best education we can get at Rice. However, let us ask ourselves this question. Does "best education" merely mean book knowledge? If we stop and think about it, does an average Rice student really know about how culture affects beliefs, feelings and behaviour of students from a different racial background? As a foreign student from a foreign country, I have been particularly aware of the importance of exposure to experience through direct contact, acquiring a real feeling of culture as a living force that moulds a person or a group of persons in the way they talk, study, relax, look at things, think and behave—an exciting and fascinating feeling that I wish everyone can share.

Naturally, not many Rice students can go to a foreign country or live and grow up among Blacks and Mexican-Americans. That is why every Rice student should avail himself or herself of every opportunity, at Rice, to gain a personal experience of what these other cultures are all like. Some of us may feel that one dollar is so financially insignificant as to be not worth giving much thought to or voting on. However, we should keep in mind that the great educational significance behind the dollar. We are holding in our hands the decision of what we choose to acquire at Rice as part of our education.

Chinese endorse blanket tax

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To the editor:

When a new student comes to Rice, they have no voice in the present Student Association. Moreover, they are not held until the end of the year. A new student is not asked whether they want to join the S.A. nor are they asked if they would like to have the present S.A. represent them in university matters. The Rice University General Announcement on page 79 says, “All undergraduates are members of the Rice Student Association.” So, it appears that all students are required to join this club whether they wish to or not.

In memory of the 200th birthday of the U.S.A., it might be remembered that one of the main reasons for the American Revolution was, “No taxation without representation.” Although we do not acknowledge the S.A. as a government with any legitimate authority to tax the students under its current setting, they do so to all students. Freshmen and new transfer students are being taxed without representation. It is my contention that the SA should tax only those persons that have signed up as members of the present SA organization. This would be the Young Democrats (just to name a group) taxing all of the students to promote its interests. Here are some examples of how these taxes are unfair subsidies. I have no intention of ever going to any athletic events, but I am being charged $4 for tickets. I participate in none of the activities of the college to which I was assigned, (although, I have donated over $500 in free tickets to local sporting events to this college) but I am being charged $25 to subsidize the college. I will not use the services of the Health Service, (I go to the free clinics of the State of Texas and the County of Harris to which I pay sales and personal property taxes and I have insurance coverage for other medical matters) but I am being charged $37 for these unrequested services. My business, family I have a 36-year-old son, and civic activities make it almost impossible for me to make use of any of the student activities for which I am being charged $20.55. I have offered through this newspaper to all students special programs in which anyone can participate at no cost. Anyone that is interested in the operations of a commercial radio station (KULF, KYND, KKK); the operation of a small business; the American Civil Liberties Union; the operations of the Board of Trustees of the Pasaden Public Library; La Maze Childbirth or the social, cultural and economic activities of the Cherokee Indian Nation can contact me and I will be happy to provide them with everything they want to know or I will find someone who can. But all of this is FREE!

The tuition is very expensive and it is going to increase $200 next year. These taxes are an extra burden upon many people’s current financial problems. No programs or taxes are currently based on the ability to pay. I cannot afford these taxes. I speak only for myself, but I am sure others are in similar circumstances.

In the next week or so, a petition to change most of the fees from mandatory to optional will be posted in all of the colleges. If you have any questions, please contact me.

I am sure there are those that will say that if I am attending Rice, I should go along with its practices and policies. This reminds me of the bumper stickers that say, “America—Love It or Leave It.” My bumper sticker says, “America—Love It and Improve It!”

Phil Konstantin
P.O. Box 453
Pasadena, Texas
472-7437

DOONESBURY

by G.B. Trudeau

the rice thresher, thursday, november 6, 1975 — page 3
Grades...

(continued from page 1) compared to national norms, Rice pre-professional graduates may be somewhat handicapped. To study its effect the Committee on Undergraduate Teaching held a conference last spring at which the problem of pre-meds going to Baylor and pre-laws going to the UH law school was discussed. This spring the committee will hold another conference, where the results of research by Rice psychology professors Diana Rathjen and Sarah Burnett will be presented. They are investigating the effect of grades on student motivations.

Observers should note, Baker added, that upperclassmen picking from the higher level courses in their fields are generally able to pick classes in which they'll either do well because the course is a bore or because some competence they have in that area. "Thus, failure has obviously also helped grade point averages. But the faculty has also gotten compassion and generosity. They feel that they're grading fairly. The Rice average is still lower than other Texas schools, though."

"We've also got to remember that there is pressure from the consumers here, the students. Rice must appeal to them, but I wouldn't say that we're trying to be competitive in that sense."

shootin' blind

KTRU spends $400 on b.s.; violence feared at A&M game

by GARY BREWTON

This column, called "shootin' blind," is a forum for the editor to shoot his mouth off from time to time. It includes items around campus which are bothersome but unworthy of a full, formal editorial. (Fie on those who say that I do all the time of the blanket tax.) So, let the time on page two.) So, let me say: damn the torpedoes, damn the torpedoes, the time on page two.) So, let me say: damn the torpedoes, the time on page two.) So, let me say: damn the torpedoes, damn the torpedoes, damn the torpedoes, damn the torpedoes.

KTRU (The Radio, as they like to call themselves) has recently spent $400 to have 2000 bumper stickers printed. The cost of these bumper stickers (to mention nothing of their obnoxious appearance) forces me to ask: why? Only one year ago these mentees of typewriters.

2500 bumper stickers printed. forces me to ask: why? Only one year ago these mentees of typewriters.

Music... although the quality of the programs is good, the variety is limited. KTRU should have a greater diversity of music.

A large number of students have complained that they are unsatisfied with KTRU's programming. They feel the programs are not as varied as they would like. This is potentially a major problem for KTRU's future.

The Rice CSA is making efforts to bring in more students to be acquainted with Chinese. This year, several A&M administrators have called their counterparts at Rice to warn them that they cannot control several Aggie groups (among them the alumni, no doubt) and that they will not be responsible for any injury or harm which comes to Rice people because of the actions of individuals. The Rice cause has not been helped by rumors to the effect that the MOB would conduct a mock funeral in memory of the Aggie mascot, Reveille, who died this summer and was kept in a deep freeze awaiting a proper burial. The student body returned to campus in the fall.

Another widespread rumor at A&M is that the MOB plans to provoke violence so that A&M will be prevented from playing in the SWC again. Provost Frank Vandiver in a very enjoyable experience. That's the purest form of contempt.

Chinese... (continued from page 3) pleasant entertainments at lower admission prices.

(3) Language. The Rice CSA thinks that any Rice student who so desires should have the opportunity to at least have acquaintance with Chinese and be able to use it with certain degree of proficiency. That is why the Rice CSA is looking into initiating some kind of course or tutorial here on Chinese.

(4) Radio program. How many Rice students are able to recognize Chinese music, comment on it intelligently, or simply appreciate it? It can be a very enjoyable experience. The Rice CSA is making arrangements on working with KTRU to bring to Rice students Chinese music and other events.

(5) Exhibitions. Rice CSA will be sponsoring exhibitions throughout the year as materials become available. They will be presented in an interesting and educational a manner as possible.

These events are planned not only for their own value as cultural events per se; equally important, they are planned so as to be funneled into intellectual rather than physical pursuits. In any case, I can't imagine anyone would think a puerile intercollege rivalry is worth getting killed over. If you really feel you have to express your animosity for the Aggies, try ignoring them. That's the purest form of contempt.
Establish credit while you make your first million.

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There are two simple criteria.
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That's it. If you meet them you can get an AddCash checking account. Then when you need a loan, you just write a check and if it's for more than your balance we automatically add the money to your account, up to your approved credit limit.

You've got the loan you need while you're in school. You've got established credit when you get out. Plus the additional benefit of overdraft protection.

The bank that was first to offer you no service charge for life, now brings you AddCash, the simple way for you to establish bank credit.

Apply at our University Banking Center any weekday, 9 to 4. Parking is free.
Rice voters turn out overwhelmingly for Hofheinz

by TED ANDREWS

Rice University voters generally followed the citywide trend for "predominantly youth" voters. The so-called youth vote gave incumbent mayor Fred Hofheinz 47% of their vote, with law student Frank Briscoe receiving 27.4%, and talk show host Dick Gottlieb receiving only 14.2%.

However, at Rice the Hofheinz vote was even more pronounced. The mayor affectionately known to his supporters as "Young Fred," received 435 out of 519 ballots cast in Precinct 361, which is contiguous with the Rice campus. Briscoe got 31 and 30 votes, respectively. KK candidate Scott Nelson got just 1 vote and Socialist Pedro Vasquez received only 2 votes.

The "election of city councilmen by district" referendum, which is non-binding, was supported by 62% of the predominantly youth precincts in the city, according to early analyses of the returns. The councilman races didn't receive as many votes as the other races at Rice, basically because an overwhelming majority of students didn't know a thing about them. One could even make the same claim for the rest of the city.

The proposed new state constitution was utterly destroyed in the statewide races, however. The councilman races didn't receive as many votes as the other races at Rice, basically because an overwhelming majority of students didn't know a thing about them. One could even make the same claim for the rest of the city.

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Tequila Sauza
Eliot cycle continues

Wasteland, Four Quartets featured at Autry House

by ELAINE BONILLA

"An Eliot Cycle" continues at Main Street Theater at Autry House this weekend with a concert reading of T.S. Eliot's Four Quartets, plus a revival of an earlier production of The Wasteland.

Orchestrated for six voices by the Rev. John Worrell, Four Quartets is directed by Main Street Theater's producer, Rebecca Greene. These works are considered to be Eliot's major poetic achievement, taking as their model the string quartet. Greene's production will have no real staging, focusing instead on the six-voice arrangement just as Eliot himself directs more with his ideas blending and illuminating each other in counterpoint than with any sort of narrative line. The readers will be Ellen Horr, Rebecca Greene, Susan Madigan, Bryan Pedeaux, Charles Tanner, and the Rev. John Worrell.

The Wasteland's revival will feature three members of the original four-voice arrangement: Greene, Tanner, and Worrell. Madigan will complete the cast of readers. Also included in the program will be some shorter, lighter poems, such as "Pedeaux giving his now classic reading of "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock." Performances will be on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at 8pm in Autry House. Admission is $1.

***

Main Street Theater's first roadshow is coming in the following week: Doug Milburn's Austin production of Hello, Hamlet, written by Rice graduate George Granius. Only in Houston for two performances on November 14 and 15, this new approach to the musical satire of Shakespearean favorites uses an eight-man cast.

Conceived in the style of a cabaret entertainment, Milburn's show keeps the actors on their toes, constantly switching roles. Four former Rice people involved in the previous Wies production of Hello, Hamlet! will be returning to Houston with the play. Becky Bonar will be featured as Gertrude, with Bill Blanton who played the Ghost long ago, and Milburn who originally played Hamlet himself. Debbie Waldman choreographed this new version.

Producer Greene expects sellout houses for the two-night run, so reservations should be made in advance by calling 524-9106. It should be a real treat for Rice audiences to have the opportunity to see this authentic Rice creation.

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St. John Bosco knew this well. What good are dreams is agricultural training or technical training for a trade you have no real staging, focusing instead on the six-voice arrangement just as Eliot himself directs more with his ideas blending and illuminating each other in counterpoint than with any sort of narrative line. The readers will be Ellen Horr, Rebecca Greene, Susan Madigan, Bryan Pedeaux, Charles Tanner, and the Rev. John Worrell.

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Chet Atkins to appear with HSO

Saturday night the Houston Symphony will present guitarist Chet Atkins in a cabaret-style concert sponsored by KIKK. Albert Coleman, conductor of the Atlanta Pops Orchestra, will lead the event.

Coleman will conduct the Houston Symphony in light selections by Mancini, Sousa, and Gould for the first half of the program. The second half will be Atkins' performance of a variety of pop melodies, both solo and with orchestral accompaniment.

"Mr. Guitar" previously appeared with the Symphony in April, 1974, and has performed with orchestras in Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Minneapolis, and New Orleans, as well as with the Boston Pops.

His style ranges from classical to pop and country-western, and his mastery of these has earned him a Grammy Award and numerous jazz and country music prizes.

The performance will be at the Albert Thomas Convention Center at 8pm November 8, with patrons seated at more than 300 reserved tables. Prices start at $5 per seat, with ringside tables $7.50 per seat.

Refreshments will be available during the performance, and the Bill Black Ensemble will provide dance music afterward.

---susan bechtel

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Everybody Loves Opal — Martha Raye as the lovable wife who wins a collection of small-time hoods at the Windmill Dinner Theater, 484-7965.

Fiddler on the Roof — The much loved musical of Jewish life in Czarist Russia. At Dunphy's Dinner Theater, 771-1311.

Indians — "Director Beth Sanford has taken a powwow for an endearing play and crippled it beyond comprehension" (EMB). At the Alley Theater, 824-0402.

Four Quartets — See this week's preview for details. At Main Street Theater at Atrus House, 524-3168.

The Legend of Red Patrick — Comedy of an Irishman and his strong-minded daughters. At the Dean Goss Dinner Theater, 666-4146.

FILMS

Charlotte — "The new aspirant to nihilism screams when the morning light reveals the pointlessness of the film, the poverty of the overhearing, and the fact that this is all garbage" (RK). At the Shamrock VI.

Fantasia — The Disney musical extravaganza back again. At the Galleria.

Hearts of the West — Dime novelist Jeff Bridges suddenly finds himself an actor in silent westerns. At area theaters.

Jaws — "In the Shark vs. Amity battle, the shark loses in the last round despite a lead of five wins, no losses, and four ties" (RS). At the Galleria.

Let's Do It Again — Bill Cosby and Sidney Poitier are at it again, this time in New Orleans. At area theaters.

Pepper — A post-Depression pre-World War II detective film featuring Michael Caine. At area theaters.

Rooster Cogburn — John Wayne plus Katherine Hepburn in attempt to capitalize on the success of True Grit. At area theaters.

Royal Flush — "It starts with a parody of Patton and then takes everything that's incredible in the history of adventure flicks and makes it into two hours of ludicrous film" (F1). At the Village.

Three Days of the Condor — Robert Redford has the CIA after him. At area theaters.

Whiffs — Comedy about poison gas featuring Elliot Gould and Jennifer O'Neill. At area theaters.

Midnight Movies — Popcorn showing at the River Oaks; Sleuth at the Tower. Both at midnight Saturday.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Chet Atkins — Cabaret concert with the Houston Symphony conducted by Albert Coleman. At Albert Thomas Convention Center on Saturday at 5pm.

Billy Cobham and George Duke — Jazz-rock musicians at La Belle. At 7:30pm.

Guarnieri String Quartet — At Hamman Hall on Thursday at 8:30pm.

Houston Ballet — Edward Villella featured in return performance of Balanchine's "The Prodigal Son". The program also includes the premiere of James Clouser's "Charlie Parker: A Cowboy Dreams of Heaven". Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at Jones Hall, 8pm.

Houston Harpsichord Society — Recorder player Carl Dolmetsch and harpsichordist Joseph Saxby perform works by Handel, Purcell, Scarlatti, and others. At the University of St. Thomas' Jones Hall, 8:15pm Friday.

John Prine — Country performer in concert at midnight Friday at the River Oaks Theater.

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At MFA

Woodwinds concert scheduled

As part of its series of Chamber Music concerts, the Museum of Fine Arts will host the Woodwinds of Houston this Saturday afternoon. Works by Hindemith, Danzi, and Carl Nielsen will be featured on the program.

The Woodwinds group includes Byron Hester on flute, Raymond Weaver on oboe, Jeffrey Lerner on clarinet, Paul Tucci on bassoon, and James Tankerley on French horn. With the exception of Lerner, the group's members are all Houston Symphony principals.

The next concert will be on Saturday, January 24, featuring the Lyric Art Ensemble, whose members include violinsts Fredell Lack and Albert Muenzer, violist Steven Ansell, and cellist Warren Lash, plus pianist Albert Hirsh. They will perform Haydn's Quartet, Opus 76, No. 1, Bartok's Quartet, Opus 7, No. 2, and Ernst von Dohnanyi's Quartet in C minor, Opus 1, No. 1, for piano and strings.

The premiere of John Sebastian Bach will be the April 3 program, using the Lyric Art Ensemble plus Robert Lynn on harpsichord, Byron Hester on flute, and soprano Melanie Dement.

Selections from Art of the Fuge will be performed as arranged by Roy Harris for string quartet, and the program includes Sonata No. 1 in B minor for violin and piano, Sonata No. 1 in G Major for cello, Sonata No. 1 in G Major for viola da gamba and continuo, and Wedding Cantata BWV 202.

May 8 brings back the Lyric Art Ensemble for Beethoven's Quartet in B-flat Major, Opus 130, Ravel's Sonate pour violon et violoncelle, and Ernst Bloch's Quintet for piano and strings.

These concerts will all be held in Brown Auditorium at the Museum of Fine Arts at 5pm on Saturday afternoons.

An event that has been made possible by a matching grant from the Trust Fund of the Musician's Union.

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Athletic evaluation ‘twisted’ into rumors of cutback

by PHILIP PARKER

Houston Post sports writer

Jack Agness’ recent interview with President Eckwood concerning the re-evaluation of intercollegiate athletics has set off tremors that have rung through the Southwestern Conference.

In a story on the front page of the sports section published the Friday before the Texas game, Agness described the committee and procedures set up by Eckwood to examine the athletic program. It detailed the by-now familiar issues and figures, such as how Rice collects $1 million a year, mainly from football, but ends up losing from $100,000 to $200,000. The interview ended with an evasive question about the fate of head football coach Al Conover which elicited an equally evasive answer from Eckwood. The “exclusive” article concluded that Rice would merely re-examine its program and “direction it will take in the next ten years” with special consideration of Title IX, which requires greater emphasis on women’s athletics.

However, the article was misinterpreted to say that Rice was dropping intercollegiate football. Even the SWC main office was calling the department for further clarifications. According to Eckwood, this reaction came from Al Conover, who felt that the original decision of not renewing his contract was not up for renewal yet, and he was writing a multi-year pact after he beat Arkansas in ’72. Although Conover’s contract is not up for renewal yet, Eckwood chose to abide by his original decision and set up a committee of five governors (also alumni), two faculty members, and two undergraduates to examine the program. He felt that the time was “double appropriate now that the Title IX lines have been finally approved.”

Eckwood noted that the committee mechanism is the same used to make other University decisions. He considers it fairly representative of the present and past Rice community although it is “weighted strongly (5 to 4) in favor of the alumni.”

He pointed out that the committee was not commissioned merely to advise and make a report. “If they suggest I do ‘x’ and I do one over ‘x’, they have reason to complain,” he explained. “But like when the university buys advice from lawyers or accountants, that’s all it is, advice. Consent cannot be automatic.”

The committee is expected to make a final report in either April or May. However, they can request an extension if they deem it necessary. “This decision is not so vital that it cannot be extended to next year,” he said.

Reaction at gym

Meanwhile at the gym, there is a feeling of confusion and uneasiness about the future and a feeling that they have been unfairly singled out when other programs face similar difficulties.

Last week Eckwood even called up the Post sports editor to complain: “I can figure out only two reasons why Agness did this. Either (a) he’s trying to harm the program at Rice or (b) he’s an idiot.”

After a team meeting last week, the football players decided not to talk with Agness any more. The Post has yet to put another reporter into the program at Rice.

Al Conover

on the Rice beat, covered the Dallas Tech contest consisted of wire stories and interviews with Tech players and coaches.

The affair has had a strange effect on the team. On Monday, Conover decided to give the team the day off after the notorious meeting with the Red Raiders. But he forgot to tell them, so they showed up at the gym with no equipment in their baskets and no coaches. This led to a monetary penalty and moribund speculations that they’d be on probation.

Copies of the Eckwood article denoting that Rice is dropping athletics litter the athletic offices, while coaches ponder the forces over which they have no control. The team is still boycotting Agness. Eckwood concedes that he may have been misinterpreted, but he insists he has “not been misrepresented.”

At a Wednesday meeting, the committee meets for the first time.

Hogs try to silence Owl antics

by PHILIP PARKER

“Break out the bananas and the folding chairs, Arkansas is coming to town this Saturday. The Owl-Hog match-up has taken on a zany aspect in the past four years with Rice holding the Hogs off at the end and then beating them with a weak pass. In ’71 the Hogs had beaten the Owls 24-21, they churned out those 24 yards in a record 91 downs in the worst performance for a Conover-coached Rice team. James Sykes (23-111) and John Coleman (21-100) went over the century mark for the first time this season, a feat no other Owl backfield has ever done before.

Normally the mainstay of the squad, the defense has been struggling lately. Plagued with a weak pass rush, the secondary has been the ‘class of ’74’ or the long TD pass. Already they have given up six scoring passes compared to three all last year. The return of Al Sanders should bolster the rush, Conover feels. “We’re two defensive linemen away from contentment,” he said.

But when you are no longer in contention, your favorite pastime is ‘upset.’ The victim of the week is obvious. Rice 21, Arkansas 20. The Hogs join the also-rans.
Six inducted into Hall of Fame

Six stars of earlier years will be inducted into the Rice Athletic Hall of Fame this year, including Rice's first and "winningest" coach, Philip H. Arbuckle. The inductions will be at a reception in the R Room at Rice Stadium, beginning at 7:30 pm Nov. 11, 1975. The event is open to all Rice people. Admission is $7.50 a person. Tickets may be reserved in advance or obtained at the door Tuesday evening. Reservations may be made by calling R Association secretary Fred J. Stancliff at 524-1200 next Monday or Tuesday.

James Greenwood, Jr. (‘26) will be introduced as the recipient of the Distinguished R Man of 1975 by John R. Coffee (‘34), who received that honor in 1972.

Famed Houston Chronicle writer and long time president of the Rice Downtown Quarterback Club, the late Morris Frank, will be named an Honorary R Man. Accepting the award will be the widow of the humorist. Arbuckle will be inducted by H. Malcolm Lovett, Class of 1921, whose father, Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett, Rice's first president, brought Mr. Arbuckle to Rice before the school opened in 1912. That year, Coach Arbuckle had a squad of 12, all freshmen, to begin Rice's athletic history. He won 57.5 percent of Rice's football games in the 10 years he coached until 1923, besides directing Rice leadership in basketball and to winning results in track and baseball.

Others to be inducted include A.M. "Tommie" Tomforde (‘17), a captain of the basketball team from 1913 to 1917 and football letterman; Louis H. "Smoky" Brothers (‘36), championship 440 runner and qualifier for the 1936 U.S. Olympic team trials; and Hamilton J. Nichols, Jr. (‘41), first All-American lineman for Rice and member of the 1946 Owl SWC co-championship and Orange Bowl teams.

Also honored will be J.W. Magee, Jr. (‘48), one of Rice's greatest guards and teammate of Nichols on one of Jess Neely's championship squads; and Don K. Lance (‘54), member of the all-time Rice basketball team and a key member of the 1954 team that tied for the SWC title and went to the NCAA playoffs.

If you're eloquent talented creative Witty opinionated intelligent or even if you're not, the Thresher could use you as a writer, photographer, reviewer, ad salesperson, ad layout artist, or production genius. And yes, some of these jobs even pay. For more information call the Thresher office, second floor RMC, ext 221 (old) or 4801, 2332 (new).

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Our Aramco Services Company representative will be on campus for interviews on Monday, November 10, 1975.

Jock Notes

Error: in the last Thresher, the score of the Prebe available in Monday's on Wednesday. More data will be available in Monday's paper. ***

Apparenly recoved from a nagging calf injury, Jeff Wells returns in time to defend his SWC cross country title in the conference meet Monday. UH hosts the meet which will be run at the Glenbrook CC golf course.

***

Next year's grid schedule was shuffled recently. Rice will play LSU in Baton Rouge on Sept. 25 so UH can play their SWC opener against the Aggies in Rice Stadium. A SWC rule change allows UH and another SWC team to play at Rice instead of the Astrodome. The change makes sense—and dollars; Rice has 20,000 more seats than the Dome.

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the rice thresher, thursday, november 6, 1975 — page 12

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Mrs. Joyce Cornell will be on campus November 10, 1975 to speak with students from all disciplines who are interested in a graduate management education. There are ten concentrations offered in the Business School, plus joint degree programs with the schools of Law, Journalism, Engineering, Public Affairs, International Affairs, Social Work, and Teachers College. For further details, please contact the Placement Office.