Hackerman to retire at end of 1984-85 academic year

by Christopher Ekren

Rice University President Norman Hackerman formally advised the Rice Board of Governors at its March 22 meeting that he intends to retire after the 1984-85 academic year. According to Hackerman, he first mentioned his desire to retire to Board member Charles Duncan last fall. The Board of Governors was then asked to appoint a presidential search committee to advise them on the selection of a new president, but noted that if the final decision on a new president will be made by the Board of Governors, there will be a formal announcement of Hackerman's retirement status. "The members of the search committee have not been named, nor has its membership been determined, but it will include representatives from the faculty, student body, alumni Board," Ralph O'Connor has been selected to serve as committee chairman.

Hackerman, who discussed his decision to retire with the Thresher shortly after informing his deans, said that students would have an opportunity to voice their desires through the search committee. Hackerman hopes that the committee will recommend a functionally active academic for the position.

Commenting on his retirement, Hackerman stated, "The basic reaction (of the Board of Governors and the deans) has been that the position will be vacant until I can reasonably satisfy all the Board. I am considerably over the normal administrative retirement age. I don't give the Board a chance to talk to me out of it." He noted that one of the reasons he decided to announce his retirement now was the ongoing Self-Study program, which he feels will benefit from a change.

Hackerman sees Rice's size as one of the issues his successor will have to deal with. The Board of Governors is 10 too big for seventeen members. If Rice grows a new system of management may be needed. At present, Rice certainly does not have the need and possibly does not have the capacity to grow.

Regarding the recent Self-Study proposals for the future, Hackerman stated, "I actually haven't seen any Self-Study stuff since the report on computer sciences." Hackerman plans to be very active in his final year as president. Using his recent establishment of the department of computer sciences as an example, Hackerman affirmed to the Thresher his desire to address important issues at Rice. Said Hackerman, "I plan to look at the various cost centers at Rice, to look at how money is distributed.

The problem of keeping exceptional faculty members and finding new ones is particularly important, also." The fact that he is now a lame duck does affect Hackerman's evaluation of his future impact, reflected Hackerman. "Some people might feel that if they can't get their way with me they can just wait until I am gone. On the other hand, now that there is certainty about the future, some problems will be easier to deal with." Overall, Hackerman does not foresee any challenges to his ability to administrate, commenting, "I am pretty careful with what I propose. I don't think there will be any problems."
Election Statements

The Rice Thresher, March 30, 1984, page 2

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Edward inhaled deeply and spoke—

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Steve Bene acts like my ass chews gum, except my ass has a better German accent.
—overheard in the Lovett elevator

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Where’s the pork? —hal

“Where’s the missclass”
There are actually no people at all. Life is really just a self-perpetuating illusion.

“I like the collars to match the cuffs.”
—James Bond, Diamonds Are Forever.

“Stop, you’re killing him!”, I cried as the insane cheerleader grabbed Harold, “the manatee sonar tag”, and threw him into the aquaduct.

This piece of history submitted by the Royal Academy of the Study of Mermaid Tailprints.

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Friday, March thirtieth
Women’s Track, Bayou Classic, Track Stadium.
10 am. Women’s Tennis vs. Arkansas, Jake Hess Tennis Stadium.
1 pm. Men’s Tennis vs. VCU, Jake Hess Tennis Stadium.


Rice Oktos, Livnos (5:15 & 9:15) and A Woman Like Eve (7:30).

Saturday, March thirty-first
Men’s Track vs. Harvard, Track Stadium.
Women’s Track, Bayou Classic, Track Stadium.
1 pm. Men’s Tennis vs. Texas, Jake Hess Tennis Stadium.
3 pm. KTRU, Classics on the Radio (featuring a lack of opera).
7:30. Media Center. The Wild Bunch. Sam Pockich, the director, will be present. $3.

1 am. KTRU. No one expects! Human! Rice Oktos, Cat People (11:00, 5:15 & 9:30) and The Hunger (1:00 & 7:30).

Sunday, April first
12:30 pm. KTRU, Jazz.
1 pm. Baseball vs. Texas Tech.
1 am. Media Center. The Ballad Of Cable Hogue. Sam Pockich, the director, will be present. $5

River Oktos, Rose People (5:30, 7:30 & 9:30). Plays through Tuesday.

Monday, April second
4 pm. Women’s Music. One hour of music of, by, and for women. 10 pm. KTRU, Feature Album. As usual, this is TBA. The most interesting new release of the week.

Tuesday, April third
9:30 pm. KTRU, Treasures of the 60’s. Obscure and forgotten music until 10 pm.
9 pm. Baseball vs. Lamar, Beaumont.

Wednesday, April fourth
noon. Women’s Tennis vs. Texas, Double Header, BTA.
7:00. KTRU, Chicken Skin Music.
7 midnight. KTRU, The Hard Core Show.

Thursday, April fifth
9:30 pm. KTRU, Treasures of the 60’s.

10 pm. KTRU, Feature Album.
7:30. Media Center. TEXPo 84.

Friday, April sixth

Rice Theatre
See Measure For Measure, presented by Baker Shakespeare. This show will run from March 30 to March 31 at 8 pm. Tickets are $3 for students and $4 for all others. For reservations, call 630-8021.

The Rice Thresher, March 30, 1984, page 4