Nader visits Houston to boost voter registration

by Jama Sanchez

Consumer advocate Ralph Nader spoke to a gathering of Harris County political activists, which included students from area colleges, at the Tidewater II Motor Inn on Tuesday, August 21. The visit was part of Nader's current tour to publicize his book Working on the System: A Manual for Citizen's Access to Federal Agencies, Action for a Change, Taming the Giant Corporation, The Menace of Atomic Energy, and The Consumer and Corporate Accountability.

Nader has a long history of outspokenness in politics and has been a pioneer in public interest law, particularly consumer advocacy. He first came to public attention when he published his book, Unsafe at Any Speed, which exposed defects in General Motors cars. This book, along with others, contributed to the passage of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1968.

Nader attributes the current problems of the pub to the administration's wish to deemphasize drinking at the university. The pub had become rowdy in the past, college nights at the pub had become rowdy and destructive.

The university wishes to eliminate an activity that it exists simply as a service to the business to encourage social life of the student body. Neither banning nor encouraging alcohol, the pub is the best place for Rice people to drink. He said, "We are not in the business of alcohol. We are in the business of making it available, to let students make their own choices."

Over the past month, the campus has seen an increase in problems related to alcohol abuse. Many of the college section students' opinions of their professors have been negatively affected by the drinking attitude of the student body.

Nader believes that the drinking attitude is so deeply ingrained in students' minds that cutting a few promotional activities would not change the present situation. In addition, a number of students gathered at Willy's last Tuesday night expressed fear that the adminstration's move will eliminate an activity that significantly reinforces the models among college members.

Peter Laun, an on-campus beer distributor also questioned the logic behind the administration's decision. "I think the administration's attempt to reduce alcohol abuse through curtailment of promotional activities will not be effective. There are much better ways to attempt this, such as banning hard liquor at parties."

Holt cancels promotional activities for campus pub

by Cheryl Smith

Due to administration concerns about possible alcohol abuse at Rice University, promotional activities for next year will be curtailed indefinitely.

Over the last few months, the subject of alcohol abuse has been prominent in the minds of many Texans. Groups concerned about the health and welfare of society, such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving, have made their political presence strongly felt. As a result, Texas legislature has considered raising the state's minimum drinking age to 21.

Rice's own Willy's Pub has not escaped from this controversy unscathed. Recently, the Rice administration decided to forbid all pub promotional activities.

According to Diane Glabert manager of Willy's, this decision means that there will no longer be college nights at the pub, happy hour prices or new product giveaways. She attributes the suspension of these activities to the administration's wish to deemphasize drinking at the university. Glabert also stated that in the past, college nights at the pub had become rowdy and destructive.

Rice University Proctor E.C. Holt stated that the university is worried about the pub's liability under state public intoxication laws. In recent years, he explained, the courts have become increasingly inclined to find bars and bartenders negligent for letting obviously intoxicated persons drive.

However, the university wishes to avoid the type of heavy alcohol consumption which could lead to potential problems, he stated.

Not needing to say, many students viewed the problem, or lack of one, in a slightly different fashion. To Lovett senior David Shadrack, for instance, the new regulations were indicative of things to come. "What's next?" he asked. "How can you cut out only one thing and allow T.G.s, Casino Party and Sid Rice's country and western party to continue since more people drink during those parties?

This move sets a precedent which puts all social events in question." Baker College's Philip Chase remarked, "The pub is the best place for Rice people to drink. I can drink to oblivion here because I know that I don't have to drive home.

A Sid Richardson freshman argued that the drinking attitude is so deeply ingrained in students' minds that cutting a few promotions would not change the present situation. In addition, a number of students gathered at Willy's last Tuesday night expressed fear that the administration's move will eliminate an activity that significantly reinforces the models among college members.

Profs rank at head of class

Data compiled by psychology department graduate students Rene Pontbriand and Laurel Allender from student evaluations of Rice University professors during the 1983-84 academic year show an overall increase in Rice students' opinions of their instructors.

The results were compiled from students' professor evaluations, which students complete at the end of each semester. Scores are based upon a five-point system covering thirteen categories of teacher effectiveness. A value is applied to each response, with a "one" being the highest rating and a "five" being the lowest.

Pontbriand and Allender collected the evaluations and fed the information into a computer, which tabulated the results. According to the report, 373 of the 1,232 courses taught at Rice during the 1983-84 academic year received a perfect rating in at least one category. The combined totals for all courses ranged from a 1.35 average for "preparation" to 2.06 for "presentation" and "stimulation." Overall mean scores for individual schools ranged from a high of 1.71 for the School of Humanities to a low of 2.20 for the Jones School of Administration.

Scores were as follows: architecture, 1.82; engineering, 2.00; natural sciences, 1.51; business (Jones School), 1.93; and social sciences, 1.93. The mean score of all courses at Rice during the spring semester was a 1.91 which was down approximately two points from the 1.95 mean score of the previous fall.

The Rice University Office of Student Affairs page 4
Don't let Willy's Pub die

I feel like I'm beating a dead horse. Of course, Hal Jr. here isn't dead, but the fact that I'm beating at a data entry terminal trying to fill space has nothing to do with it. A few weeks ago, I wrote an editorial for the summer issue in which I argued, however lamely, that undergraduate affairs and the president will no longer permit the barricades to save the pub. But the administration acted too fast.

It seems the proctor (and, by extension, the vice president of undergraduate affairs and the president) will no longer permit the pub to promote the sale of alcoholic beverages. This means no happy hours and no college nights at the pub. The proclaimed reason for this is to reduce the university's liability should someone be injured after having too much to drink at a Rice University facility. It may work after a fashion, but at what I consider an unacceptable cost.

Eliminating promotions is an obvious first step to closing down the pub. If protecting the welfare of students and limiting the liability of the university were the administration's only concerns, then Proctor Holt would promote policies designed to limit excessive alcohol consumption. He, with the rest of the administration, would encourage drinking at Willy's as an alternative to driving out to Houston bars and drinking, then having to drive back. Holt would speak in favor of the "off-campus roommate" arrangement already existing in some of the colleges, so that no off-campus student would feel compelled to drive home before sleeping off his drunkenness.

Instead, our guardians in loco parentis are trying to decrease gross alcohol sales in a rather blunt way. This trend, if continued, will certainly bring an end to Willy's Pub and will put a significant damper on campus-wide social activity.

— Paul Havlak

It's not quite dead, not yet

Just under four years ago, The Thresher editor Richard Dees stated, "liberalism is dead." In white letters upon a black background of mourning, his editorial suggested that "it could be a long, cold wait" before the oppressed peoples of America would again find a compassionate government.

But if liberalism is perhaps not dead, this fall's election could mark either its recovery or its death throes. If liberalism does die, America will be a much less humane place to live.

Support the liberal cause. Don't let Willy's Pub die.

— Paul Havlak
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act notice

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 grants all students attending post-secondary educational institutions these rights:

1. the right to examine their own records under certain conditions,
2. the right to a hearing for the purpose of correcting information in their records, and
3. the right of privacy to all personally identifiable information contained in their records.

Students interested in knowing the exact wording of the provisions should consult the actual text of the Act which is available for reading in the Office of the Vice President for Undergraduate Affairs, 101 Lovett Hall.

1. The Admissions Office: information, documents, and correspondence relating to the academic standing or status of admission folder, and other student disciplinary action.
2. The Office of the Vice President of Advanced Studies and Research: information, documents, and correspondence relating to the academic standing, the research of graduate students and grants of financial assistance made to them.
3. The Financial Aid Office: information, documents, and correspondence relating to applications for financial aid from undergraduate students and grants of undergraduate financial aid.
4. The Placement Office: information, documents, and correspondence relating to student applications for employment.
5. The Office of Student Advising and Student Activities.
6. The Athletic Office.
7. The Cashier's Office: information, records, and correspondence relating to the student's financial account with the University.
8. The Student Association Office, 101 Lovett Hall: information, records, and correspondence relating to the University Police: students' permanent record of leave of absence, on voluntary withdrawal, or suspension. This includes material relating to actions of the Committee on Examinations and Standing and the award of any honors.
9. The Office of the Proctor: documents and correspondence relating to Honor Council cases and other student disciplinary action.
11. The Office of the Vice President for Undergraduate Affairs: information, documents, and correspondence relating to the academic standing or status of currently enrolled students on leave of absence, on voluntary withdrawal, or suspension. This includes material relating to actions of the Committee on Examinations and Standing and the award of any honors.
12. Department Offices.
13. The Registrars Office: information, documents, and correspondence relating to the academic standing or status of a student's file in any office will be made, on written request by the student, by that office at a nominal charge for each photocopy. The only exception to this rule is that each student is given two official transcripts of his or her permanent records free of charge. Additional transcripts will cost $1 each.

Copies of the material in a student's file in any office will be made, on written request by the student, by that office at a nominal charge for each photocopy. The only exception to this rule is that each student is given two official transcripts of his or her permanent records free of charge. Additional transcripts will cost $1 each.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the University reserves the right to publish directory information. As defined in the Act, students who do not wish such information to be released should submit notification in writing to the Student Association Office, Rice Memorial Center, no later than the last day of the second week of classes. Directories include such information as the student's name, address, telephone number, and affiliated residential college.

We will be choosing our new president from the university, his or her advice is to stay away from the Rice Police. We will be choosing our new president from the university, his or her advice is to stay away from the Rice Police.

SOFTEN BLIND/By Alan Eynon

The Rice Thresher, August 31, 1984, page 3
Nader attacks corporate America's political sway

Nader attacks corporate America's political sway, Nader said. He further commented, "The present level of enormous sums of money to campaigns, which will require enormous sums of money to finance. Since the Republican party has more money available for advertising, the Democrats stand to get heavily outspent in this area. Nader said. He further commented, "The present level of incompetence in the Democratic party can not be tolerated when the stakes are this high."

Nader also warned about the dangers of relying on an eloquent, charismatic leader. He said, "Charisma is not even a very dangerous and fragile. I believe in educating the voters and then letting the American voters be charismatic." Nader stated that one unfortunate result of President Reagan's charismatic personality is that "Reagan has succeeded in escaping the record of his administration."

Nader also addressed what he considered to be the main issues in this election year. The real political dividing line lies not between people's homes and makes their children sick, there are no conservatives or liberals, only victims.

Nader stated that we are all victims of the present administration because Reagan is protecting big business. Nader said that the Reagan administration considers freedom to be the ability of business to make money off of the federal government free of charge. Nader also noted a dramatic increase in the prices of other essential commodities published by the federal government. He remarked that one seven-page pamphlet has tripled in price and now costs two dollars and twenty-five cents. Nader accused the Reagan administration of being a "shut-out government," one that deliberately attempts to keep the public united need public policy issues, saying that "the present administration preaches liberty and freedom, but what it gives the American people is a repression of civil liberties and civil rights; they have clipped the Freedom of Information Act."

Nader said that the three values which Reagan is known for are "family, work, and patriotism." Nader tried to refute the notion that Reagan is an exemplar of traditional familial values, pointing out that the President has not even seen nor spoken to his own son in seven years. He also said that he considered Reagan to be one of the "laziest" presidents which the nation has ever had. Nader quipped. He works three-and-one-half hours per day, he spends the rest of the day writing long, personal letters, taking long naps and going for long, leisurely walks in his "garden." He added, "It seems that many of you are probably glad he only works this few hours per day—to think what would happen if he worked more!"

Taking a jab at Reagan's patriotism, Nader then said, "Sure Reagan loves America—so he lets it be ripped-off and monopolized."

Turning his attention to students in the audience, Nader alluded to the bill recently signed into law which would deny federal highway funds to states who did not have a minimum drinking age of 21 as one example of the increasing restrictions placed on Americans by this administration. He said, "Young adults can get votes, pay taxes, just like other American citizens, but they cannot get married or go to war."

If he cannot get the candidates to come to Rice, Phillips plans to hold information days with staff from the different candidates' offices. These public events would probably be staged in the arcade in front of Fondren Library. He said, "I was very upset to see that TexPIRG became defunct. That organization is now an ineffective consumer advocacy group."

RSIO resurrects public service

by Paul Havlak

The dismemberment of TexPIRG, the Texas Public Interest Research Group chapter on the Rice campus, ended most conservative outcry about "liberal bias" in student organizations. But in a classic case of overcompensation, the valid activities of TexPIRG were cancelled, at least temporarily, along with the controversy. Now David Phillips, once interim chairman of the TexPIRG and now head of its successor the Student Interest Organization, seeks to revitalize the organization and to have a tremendous impact.

Finally, speaking about the now-extinct Rice TexPIRG organization which Nader started, he said, "I was very upset to see that TexPIRG became defunct. That organization is now an ineffective consumer advocacy group."
Trudeau brings Doonesbury shortage to a close

by Scheleen Johnson

Faulty equipment silences KTRU

by Scheleen Johnson

The comic strip Doonesbury resumed its publication on January 2, 1983, the Wisconsin State Assembly issued a declaration placing the strip "public calm in the face of this grave crisis." Millions of faithful readers were left wondering what would happen in the Doonesbury cosmos.

John P. McMeel, President of Universal Press Syndicate, recently announced that Garry Trudeau's Pulitzer Prize winning comic strip will return to newspapers on September 30, 1984.

"Since Garry Trudeau began his leave of absence in January 1983, we've been inundated with questions about his return," McMeel wrote. "Garry felt his characters needed some time to make the journey from 'drift beer and mixers to cocaine and herpes.' On September 30, when the Doonesbury saga resumes, readers will see just how well they have fared," he added.

In announcing his leave of absence from the first and only comic strip to win the Pulitzer Prize for cartooning, Trudeau said, "My characters are understandable confused and out of sorts. It's time to graduate them and move them out into the larger world of grown-up concerns."

It was the development of the Doonesbury characters that enabled the strip to become a tightly interwoven story of the '70s and early '80s. The results were that Doonesbury was written — and read — much like a novel. The characters moved through time and events, and readers quickly adopted their favorites, eagerly anticipating the strip's next episode. Doonesbury even became a national guide to this country's political future: historical events (such as the end of the energy crisis or Gerald Ford's winning the Republican nomination over Ronald Reagan in 1976) were actually forecast by the strip before they occurred in real life.

"There are only three major vehicles to keep us informed as to what's going on in Washington: the electronic media, the print media, and Doonesbury — not necessarily in that order," said former U.S. President Gerald Ford.

The Thresher carried Trudeau's Pulitzer Prize-winning strip for a number of years until its author's vacation, when it picked up Berke Breathed's Bloom County. Although the replacement strip has developed a loyal following, according to Paul Havelak, the editor, "We began running Doonesbury because of its social and political comment. Bloom has always been just a temporary replacement while we waited for Trudeau's strip to return."

Faulty equipment silences KTRU

by Scheleen Johnson

KTRU, Houston's campus radio station, with a "poof," not a bang. On Friday August 17, at 4:00 p.m., Meg Green, DJ at the time, noticed that the Rice radio station was no longer transmitting. He repaired it as well as he could, and KTRU was back on the air by noon on Saturday, August 18.

Around 4 p.m. the following Monday the exiter stereo generator, which is the device that keeps KTRU from drifting off its frequency of 91.7 MHz, malfunctioned. Mike Gladu, the station's engineering director, called Continental Electronics of Dallas. They built a modulator exiter card for KTRU's stereo generator, tested it and flew it to Houston via Southwest Airlines so that Gladu could install it have KTRU back on the air by 5:40, Tuesday, August 21.

Problems continued, however. Last Tuesday evening the station's transmitter overheated, forcing KTRU off the air for several hours.

"Basically we are financially strapped," said Gladu. "The equipment is in a constant state of deterioration around here and we need to get it repaired. We could use up our entire budget on equipment and repairs. We usually just stay one step ahead of going off the air."

As to running over the deadline, Ryan said, "we were given until the 27th of August to complete the project. This mill, which is the only one which carries what we need, went on summer vacation and there was nothing we could do," he said. "We received our order on the 30th of August and then it was just a matter of getting it up. This will not disrupt the classes at all. The men will just come in during the evenings and put it up," said Ryan

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School of Humanities regains Medieval perspective

by Karin Murphy

Due to a grant made by the Mellon Foundation to the Rice University School of Humanities, Rice students will have the opportunity to participate in a new interdisciplinary medieval studies program during the next two years. Using the theme "The Intellectual and Cultural Heritage of the Middle Ages," this program will consist of courses given by three postdoctoral fellows and a series of interdisciplinary seminars.

According to Rice University Professor of English Jane Chance, several incidents led to the founding of a medieval studies program. In 1981, Chance started Rice's Medieval Club as a forum for students and faculty to discuss medieval issues in several fields. Each year the audiences for the lecture grew. Yet at the same time, the number of medievalists

Dr. Katherine Drew — S. Buchanan

The Culture of Capitalism.

concerned about the lack of faculty. Chance approached Rice University Professor of History Katherine Drew during the summer of 1983 about the possibility for a medieval studies program.

Drew submitted a proposal to establish a new medieval studies program to the Mellon Foundation, which awards grants to the university in two year segments for scholarship in various areas of the humanities. In 1982-84, for instance, the topic was "The Culture of Capitalism."

When Drew's proposal was selected last spring, Rice conducted a national search to bring three Mellon postdoctoral fellows to the university. Drew chaired the selection committee which also included Chance, and faculty members Deborah Nelson (French), Mark Kulstad (philosophy), and Albert Van Helden (history of science). "We accepted applications from any field that has a medieval component," stated Drew, "the classics, any of the vernacular literatures, history of art, philosophy, and history. There were about 125 applicants."

The three fellows chosen include W. Roy Laird and Sharon Farmer, of the Department of History, and David Hucce, of the Department of English. Each will teach one course per semester and will deliver a paper to the interdisciplinary seminar to be held in the spring. All three have worked with the departmental chairmen to develop the courses that they will teach.

"These are courses that they prepared to teach and want to teach," said Drew. "They are right in their area of interest. We hope the undergraduates will become familiar with their availability."

According to Rice University Professor of French Deborah Nelson, the three Mellon fellows may team-teach an interdisciplinary medieval studies course next year. In fact, Rice questioned all of the candidates it interviewed regarding this possibility.

"Chance, Drew, and Nelson all commented on how the field of medieval studies lends itself to interdisciplinary work. "In the Middle Ages, knowledge was a unity," said Drew. "One was a learned man, and the divisions of today did not exist."

The Culture of Capitalism.

continued from page 1

Information Services also analyzed the results, preparing a list of "summa cum laude" professors. The list includes instructors and courses with a majority of ratings between 1.00 and 1.25 who were evaluated by at least ten students and two-thirds of the students enrolled in their courses. A total of 25 professors teaching 31 courses scored well

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Excellent acting, directing make *Volcano* best film of the year

**Under the Volcano**  
**Directed by John Huston**

John Huston's *Under the Volcano* is nothing short of a cinematic masterpiece; the only fault, if one becomes very picky, is that the film is too short to convey fully the in-depth character study which Malcolm Lowry achieved originally in his novel of the same title.

Albert Finney, in what must surely be the finest acting of his career, plays Geoffrey Firmin, an alcoholic former British consul living in Mexico. Since his wife left him over a year ago, he has resigned from his job and now spends all of his time drinking. His alcoholism has reached such an advanced state that he is never sober.

This state of drunkenness is not, however, treated in the normal "humorous" manner. Rather, it is seen as the central device in the study of the diplomat. There are several stages of inebriation between which Finney delicately and expertly maneuvers his character who, at various times, changes from rapacious wit to sudden panic to lucid thought to too careful syntax to unconsciousness.

One particular scene which demonstrates this perfectly is where his wife, Yvonne (Jacqueline Bisset), suddenly appears one morning in the local cantina to find her husband still in his evening clothes, still drinking. As he catches a glance of her, he looks, then pauses, and then returns to his conversation with the barman. He looks at her again, as if trying to determine whether or not this is an hallucination. Several minutes later, after the image has permeated the many layers of his inebriated consciousness, it is as if he has just woken up. This scene could not have been performed better.

All of the action takes place over a 24-hour period, the Day of the Dead, November 1, 1938. It is the day that Geoffrey's wife returns. The only other major character is Geoffrey's young half-brother, Hugh (Anthony Andrews), Yvonne's former lover. Hugh has been hired to assist the pragmatic young Hemmingway.

The photography is excellent, from the opening montage of skeletons to the closing shots of Geoffrey and Yvonne. Each is powerful, none excessive. The soundtrack likewise detracts nothing and adds immensely to the mood and atmosphere. Another important factor is that Huston used native Mexican villagers as his extras; a decision which added immensely to the authenticity of the film.

But it is Finney in particular who makes this film exceptional. His acting is flawless, the performance of a lifetime. Bisset and Andrews also play their roles to perfection. Even the minor roles, such as that of the British expatriate who finds Firmin lying in the middle of the road, are played with a depth and understanding that very few actors are able to achieve.

The only criticism which can be leveled at this film is that it is perhaps an incomplete treatment of the original work. The film is, to put it simply, too short for the full development and exploration of the characters. It would take a film of nearly twice the length to do this.

Even with this fault, the film could hardly be made any better. Almost every emotion is experienced by the viewer during the course of the film, and all of them are genuine. Not once does the viewer feel that the film is becoming trite, boring, too serious, or not serious enough; for this film seems to have captured the emotions of everyday life and recreated them in this exceptional story of the Firmins.

It is refreshing to see such stars as Finney and Bisset in a serious film rather than in the shallow, unoriginal, and clichéd rubbish which Hollywood regularly cranks out. There is a sense of satisfaction inherent in the film, as though it turned out exactly as the director and actors wanted.

This is one of the best films that I have ever seen, American or otherwise, and it is a prime example of the quality that Hollywood could produce if it wanted to. You would be doing yourself a great injustice if you did not see it.

—Jan Neath

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**Les Comperes entertaining but comedy slightly undermined**

*Les Comperes*  
**Directed by Francois Veber**

It is somewhat difficult to find much to say about this film. *Les Comperes* is, quite plainly, a light French comedy. Neither is the film brilliantly funny, nor is it unbecomingly flat. There is a good premise on which to build a solid story, however, and so the film need not be that humorous in order to hold its own.

The elements of the story are rather clever for their simplicity. A sixteen-year-old boy, Tristan, runs away from home and joins a gang. He then and his mother, after a futile attempt to track him down herself, calls upon two former boyfriends, whom she knew some sixteen years and nine months ago, to find him. She tells each that he is the father and thus enlists the co-operation of both.

The story built around this refreshingly original premise is just as unique, and just as clever for its elaborateness. The two men, Lucas and Pignon, both go to Nice to demand of Raffart, the father of the boy's girlfriend Michelle, the whereabouts of Tristan. There they meet and set out together to hunt for "both sons."

The film, of course, rests solely upon this odd confrontation of two sudden fathers searching for two boys who are one and the same: and despite the strength of this foundation, it must be treated well to prevent its being worn down and weakened. Francois Veber handles the basis carefully enough; specifically, he does not postpone too long the inevitable discovery of the identity of each man's son by the other, and instead proceeds to exploit the conflict of two men each insisting that he is the father.

The story becomes progressively more complex. Lucas is a newspaper reporter on the trail of an underworld figure and a corrupt politician. Both he and Pignon, and eventually Tristan as well, become entangled with two henchmen of the same underground criminal. This second plot adds some rather serious action to the film, as an interesting balance to the light-hearted comedy. Lucas and Pignon also find it difficult to extract the boy from the gang, not because of the gang themselves, but because Tristan refuses to leave them. This means not only more effort on the part of Pignon and Lucas, but more danger as the henchmen are able to close in on them.

The incidental humor is rather low-key. Even though the comedy can be less than stellar and still be made up for by the story, it should have been a little more sharp. *Les Comperes* is at least appropriately humorous, however, and so the point is not that consequential.

The acting also left a little to be desired. Pignon was too affected at times as a suicidal depressive; his being emotionally sensitive was overemphasized. The character of Lucas was acceptable, but the opposition of his machismo with the "diplomacy" of Pignon was also occasionally overdone.

Yet on the whole, *Les Comperes* is enjoyable. It is, actually, imperative rather than one see it or not that one avoid it.

—John Knapd

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**The Rice Thresher, August 31, 1984, page 8**
Cameroon Art gives symbolic meaning to nomadic lifestyle

Art of the Cameroon Museum of Fine Arts Through September 9

I was a little dismayed when I first walked into this exhibit. I found the objects in the first room to be primitive and rather ugly— all the figures seemed to be bow-legged and bug-eyed — and I had no idea as to how anyone could call them "works of art." Then I started reading the accompanying cards and found myself intrigued by the objects, which were now symbolized by them.

This is not a primitive art; after seeing this exhibit, I doubt that there is such a thing as primitive art, although there might be primitive methods of creating artworks. Most of the pieces are wood, with beads and shells as accents, and most date from the nineteenth century. All of the pieces are symbols of a highly structured and ritualistic social hierarchy, in which kings and their governments guard the well-being of the people. The society's values of royal authority and social authority are expressed through a system of iconography. Every little mark carved in the wood, every gesture of the figure, the choice of materials for each creation, all of these are carefully selected as symbolic in some way.

The pieces are highly textured; I was sad that they were behind glass, as they invite one to touch them. In fact, few of the pieces were originally intended for decorative use. The figures were used to ward off witchcraft or to protect fertility.

The royal stools looked rather uncomfortable, due to the carvings of leopards, elephants, and spiders, but those carvings had to be there: they were royal symbols. The king had to remember their symbolic values; every time he sat down, he had to remember why he was king.

As I began to understand the importance of the icons, I also began to realize the beauty of the objects and to appreciate the stability of this society. The society which had produced these works was nomadic in nature, but had preserved its values through its art. I also felt that I was beginning to understand this society's concept of beauty (I could tell male from female without peering) and to recognize the pertinence of certain symbols without reading the cards.

Having reached this point, I walked through the mask room.

Priestess of the Earth Cult (far left), a Royal Memorial Ancestor Figure (left), and a mask of a human face (right) from the Art of the Cameroon exhibit.
The Museum of Fine Arts exhibit, *Eighteenth Century Italian Drawings* from the Robert Lehman Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, will close on September 2. These drawings by Canaletto, the Gaudris, the Tiepolos and their followers depict the social, artistic and political history of the period. This is the last chance you will have to see some of these masterpieces. For more information call the MFA at 526-1361.

**Music**

The Houston Symphony Orchestra kicks off its 84/85 subscription series this weekend. On Friday, September 8, and on Monday, September 11, Music Director Sergiu Comissiona will lead the orchestra in performances of Beethoven's *Furiant* and *Paque on a Theme of Purcell*, Tchaikovsky's *Francesca da Rimini*, and Dvorak's *Symphony No. 8*. The narrator in the Britten work will be Werner Klemperer of "Colonel Klink" fame. In an additional performance on Sunday, September 10, Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 and Rossini's *William Tell Overture* will be played instead of the *Dvorak* and the Tchaikovsky. Performance times are 8:00 p.m. on Friday and Monday, and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Ticket prices range from $5 to $15. For more information, or to reserve tickets, call 227-ARTS.

Isaac Stern, famed violin virtuoso, will be the first artist in the Society For the Performing Arts 84/85 season on Sunday, September 16 in Jones Hall. Stern will perform Beethoven's *Sonata in A minor*, Op. 23; *Bach's Partita No. 1 in B minor* for solo violin; FAure's *Sonata in A Major*, Op. 13; Szymonowicz's *La Fontaine d'Arzechue*, and Ravel's *Perpetuum mobile*. Tickets range in price from $5 to $22, and will probably go quickly. For more information or to reserve tickets, call 227-ARTS.

Film

The Museum of Fine Arts will begin its series of Jacques Tati films this weekend with two showings of "Jour de Fete" ("The Big Day"). In this, the first of Tati's more famous films, the famed French comic actor/director plays a postman who, influenced by an advertising film at a visiting fair, decides that he can emulate the streamlined New York Postal Service for his sleepy town. Performance times will be Friday at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Ticket prices are $2 for students and Museum members and $3 for the general public.

A scene from Tati's *Jour de Fete*

IIlustrated by Bugs Bunny, several cartoons selected include "Rabbit of Seville", "What's Opera, Doc," and the Academy Award winning segment, "One Froggy Evening." Other films playing this week include a double-header bill of *Lawrence of Arabia* and *The Wind and the Lion* on September 3, and Pat Ferrero's *Hymn Songs of the Fourth World* on September 5. For more information, call the River Oaks at 524-2175.

**The Rice Media Center** begins its series of Fall films with several early classics. On Thursday, September 6 at 7:30 p.m., D.W. Griffith's masterpiece *Birth of a Nation* will be shown. In addition to being perhaps the most important work ever to come out of early Hollywood, this film is a must see for any "true Sutherlan." James Whale's 1931 production of *Frankenstein*, starring Boris Karloff, will be shown at 8:50 p.m. on Wednesday, September 5. Sunrise, F.W. Murnau's 1927 classic about a rural American couple whose life is disrupted by the arrival of a city temptress, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 2.

**Theatre**

*Behind the Mask*, a film designed to accompany the current exhibition of Cameroon art will be shown on September 5. For more information, call the River Oaks at 524-2175.

*The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* will be performed on four additional dates, September 8, 15, 22, and 29, at the Chocolate Bayou Theater. Tickets are $4.00. For information and reservations call 759-4940. This is a play based on the children's classic of the same name by C.S. Lewis.

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**The Hot One**

The Rice Thrasher, August 31, 1984, page 10
Aggies, Longhorns to feel talons as Owls devour SWC

by Warren Clyborne

Last year, the crack Thresher sports staff predicted another tight race between the big three of the SWC; Rice, Texas, and SMU; with the Owls taking the title. Given the eerie accuracy of the Thresher prognostications in past years, Rice fans began making plans for spending New Year's Day in Dallas.

The race last year between SMU and Texas was close, but, inexplicably, the Owls were not in it. The Rice football team, plagued by what could only be termed as some tremendous bad luck, somehow managed to end up with eight spots below their predicted first place finish. But this year, barring injuries, the Owls should live up to their enormous potential and take the SWC football championship for the first time since 1957.

Last year, even overwhelming talent was not enough to lift the Owls to the title as they went wanting. Much of that talent has moved on to the big money of the NFL and the Spring Branch physical education department, but this year's return of the squad will still be the class of the league.

Rice's biggest asset this season will be the new coach. Watson Brown offers a sorely needed fresh start for the team and should give the entire program a boost. Watson Brown is purported to be an offensive mastermind, and will stick by his genius that the team that was last in the conference last year in both offense and defense is now the odds-on-favorite for the title.

Texas A&M

The best thing coming out of College Station this year will be the Aggie football team. Were it not for the fighting' Owls, the Aggies could have been favored for the championship. After two mediocre seasons under the SWC's first million-dollar boy, Jackie Sherrill, the Aggies are returning talent to the SWC's upper crust and a gain a bowl bid.

A&M's offense will rely heavily on sophomore quarterback, Kevin Murray. The SWC Newcomer of the Year, Murray finished his freshman season as the leader in total offense, with 1,646 yards a game. Murray will probably be throwing frequently to all-SWC player Rich Siler, who caught 48 passes a year ago.

The offensive line will be rich in experience with 10 starters returning four starters. The rest of the skill positions are all solid, though not spectacular.

The defensive line returns intact and strong. It features Ray Children, an All-American end and Outland Trophy candidate, who has received more off-season press than the Owls team, excluding Watson Brown.

Texas

Texas posted an 11-1 record and came within an eyelash of the national championship last year, mainly on the strength of the nation's best defense. Only four starters return for the Longhorns. Texas will need much leadership from All-American safety Jerry Gray, but possibly the Longhorns' best defense comes in the form of punter John Teltschik, the SWC's best punter one year ago.

On offense, Texas will need a healthy Edwin Simmons for a successful season. Simmons is perhaps the most gifted back in the conference, but he underwent surgery on both knees in February, and it remains to be seen whether he can stand up to the rigors of a full season in the SWC.

SMU

SMU boasts more talent than any team other than Rice and could easily capture the number two position. After three consecutive ten-win seasons and two SWC championships, it appears as though nothing can keep the Mustangs out of a major bowl this year, unless it's the returning rumors that coach Bobby Collins and five unnamed players were repeatedly seen in the company of John Determan and several professional masseuses at SMU frat parties. Nonetheless, the Mustangs have the revenge factor on their side this year. Their superlative 10-1 season netted them only a Sun Bowl bid.

Houston

Houston's other team, the Cougars, playing in the obscurity of Rice's shadow, fumbled their way to a 4-7 finish last year. The Cougars would effortlessly run the ball all over the field, and then they would drop it. Houston set a school record by losing 32 fumbles.

But with six starters returning on offense and seven on defense, Houston may reverse its fortunes this fall. The Houston passing game looks strong on both ends, with sophomore Gerald Landry doing the throwing and juniors Larry Shepard and Earl Hilton receiving.

The defensive line will return four starters, save about 60 pounds due to a rigorous off-season running program.

Baylor

Baylor lost a greater percentage of their team to the NFL than any other SWC team. In a sense, they lost their whole offense with the graduation of Alfred Anderson, Allen Rice, Bruce Davis, and Gerald McNeil. In their place will be Tom Mueche, Cod Carson, Ron Francis, and Bobby Joe Conrad; household names, none of them.

To their credit, the Bears do have a talented and experienced defense. The line averages over 250 pounds, and the Bears have seven linebackers who could start, highlighted by senior captain Kevin Hancock. The defensive backfield may be the Bears' deepest position with six players fighting for starting spots.

On offense, the Bears have outstanding quarterbacks in Cody Carson and Tom Mueche, the passer ranked number one and two in the SWC last year. The line is young but talented, and if they and the rest of the offense mature quickly enough, the Bears may yet fulfill Grant Teaff's expectations.

Arkansas

Arkansas is the great mystery of the SWC this year. The Hogs have a new coach, Ken Hatfield, and a new offense, the wishbone, and a lot of question marks. After brief popularity in the early '70s, most teams abandoned the wishbone, but Hatfield had a 10-2 season in '83 at Air force and expects to do the same at Fayetteville.

The Razorback defense is average. Arkansas has been picked anywhere from third to seventh, but they will finish on the lower end of that scale.

TCU and Texas Tech

Unfortunately, I know little about this year's bottom two. Fortunatly, TCU care outside of Lubbock and Fort Worth. Heck, TCU shouldn't even be in this conference. Let the scrappy bookworms play Trinity and Texas-Arlington instead of knocking heads with the big boys.

This year's Oct. 13th match-up between Rice and TCU looks to be the worst massacre since Kent State. The Horned Frogs' best hope seems to be divine intervention.

Otherwise, TCU will rely on quarterbacks, Anthony Sciulla and Anthony Galley. They combined for 2,150 yards total offense last year and have a potential All-American, James Maness, to throw to this year.

Texas Tech will be looking to duplicate Rice's rise from the cellar, but the Hogs will fall about three years and 22 players short. Look for them in '88.

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The Rice Thresher, August 31, 1984, page 11
Uncertainties in lineup dim hopes for Minnesota opener

by Scott Snyder

If Watson Brown didn't know what he was getting himself into last fall when he took the Rice Head Football Coach's job, he's one step closer to understanding his situation after seeing this year's Owl football team in its first scrimmage last Sunday night.

This scrimmage was an important one, if for no other reason than that it is helpful to determine who will be starting in the Owl opener. Still, although Brown and his staff have been working extremely hard to determine where, when and to what each member of the 75-person squad, some starting positions have yet to be determined. Here's an inside peek at starting possibilities for each position.

Quarterback: In order for Watson Brown's offense to work, the quarterback has to deliver. Though he isn't overly nervous, Kerry Overton (11) turned in a very good performance Saturday. After 21 times and completing 15 for 256 yards and scoring three touchdowns. He will start at Minnesota. Freshman Mark Comalander (16) also had a good scrimmage, and Eddie Burgoyne (7) didn't play. Other quarterback possibilities during the season include Sean Sterle (17), a sophomore, and freshman Eric Shaw (4).

Wide Receiver: Next to quarterback, this is the most crucial position that Brown needs to fill. The Rice offense is centered around the "X" position in his lineup. Derrick Wells (20) emerged clear-cut leader of the Rice receiving corps. After having caught three passes for 89 yards and one 55-yard touchdown pass last Saturday, he received rave reviews from several Rice coaches. Wells is both consistent and dependable.

Receiver D. Wells — S. Buchanon

in Saturday's scrimmage.

Freshman Tyrone Maurin (24) is behind Wells at that wide receiver spot. At the other wide receiver, the "Z" position, James Givens (21) is listed as a starter, though Wayland Mason (42), who had a dominant scrimmage, could take that starting spot.

Running Backs: At fullback, "Marc Scott (26) was clearly the best," says Brown. Helping Scott will be Senior Charles Hester (45) and Freshman Todd Jones (25). Larry Collins (34), who had five rushes for 41 yards and three receptions for 52 yards, will start fullback, which is the team's deepest offensive position.

Antonio Brinkley (37), Ted Davis (27) are all vying for second team.

Tight End: At this position, tight end is probably the most uncertain position on the offensive team depthwise, but with Melvin Robinson (23) back after having had knee surgery, that position looks much better. Robinson, who was third on the team in receptions last year though he only played in five games, caught three passes for 26 yards in last Saturday's scrimmage and will start at tight end.

"If we can, we're trying to find an extra guard, an extra tackle, and an extra center. We're thin in those positions. The only place we look like we have fairly deep is the backfield," says Brown.

On defense, the story is similar: a lack of depth is likely to hurt the team, especially if many injuries occur. Last year, Rice was outscored 333-105. This year the defensive starters will try to trim that margin down.

Guards: Russell Moses (54) will probably fill the left guard position, while Brute Loyd (63), a senior who played tackle early last year, and Steve Lister (71) continue to fight for the right guard position. Lister has the edge there.

Tackle: Senior Scott McLaughlin (69), a team captain and one of the strongest players on the team, will be at left tackle. At the other tackle, Junior Kent Brown (72) and Senior Paul Wheeler (75) are battling for the starting position.

Center: Jim Simpson (55), a freshman from San Antonio, and Bobby Nunez (50) are going head-to-head to see who will snap to Overton.

Defensive Tackles: "Darin Turner (74) and Rollin Loyd (92) played very well. They're going to be our stalwarts up front," says Brown. "If we have any depth on defense, it's in our defensive line." Behind Turner and Loyd are Joe Schwab (60), Eric Sampson (90), and Freshman Joel Giddens (70).

Ends: Senior Terry Lowe (64) will be at one end, while Mike Ruesman (65) will be at the other. Second team end spots are still up for grabs between three or four people.

Linebackers: Gary Butler (11) has been playing linebacker instead of tight end all week. Butler's performance serving as inspiration for the defense.

"Our kicking game is probably the best thing we've got going," says Brown. "We're very, very thin at the linebacker spots," says Brown.

Safeties: With Gary Butler now at linebacker, the strong safety position is the deepest problem. Brown has moved Rayford Abraham (24) to strong safety and LD is letting Thomas have one of the team captains, and Steve Kidd, who also punts for the team, fight it out for free safety.

Cornerbacks: Senior Donnell Jones (36) and Dwayne Holmes (29) will start at cornerbacks and Eddie Johnson (5) and Buddy Gregory (15) are backing them up. Cornerback may be the most stable position besides tackle on the defensive side of the ball.

Five-foot-ten-inch Kori Ebenbach is the other newcomer, a junior transfer from Butte College in California. She adds needed height to the front line and will "make a sizeable contribution." The depth and quality are so outstanding, in fact, that Coach Sokol goes so far as to say that the Lady Owls "should be able to finish in one of the top two spots in the conference." Perennial SWC champ Texas will be Rice's strongest competition.

Strenuous and extensive training has played a vital role in the "new look." During the past off-season, for example, the team participated and had great success in a league sponsored by the United States Volleyball Association. The Lady Owls beat perennial volleyball powers such as Texas, Texas A&M, and arch-rival University of Houston. Over the summer, the team continued training, utilizing weights and a running schedule. Since August 9, they have stepped up the workouts, conditioning in the mornings, and drilling in the afternoons. Nevertheless, the players actually look forward to and enjoy workouts which exemplify the new team spirit.

With the off-season performance serving as inspiration, the team's morale is at its peak and Brown hopes that it will be sustained. The Lady Owls are virtually complete. According to Abraham, everyone has come back and that"what Coach Sokol has them believing they are winners. "Texas better be ready to step down a notch this season," says Abraham.

As the season opens (the first game is here, tonight — BE THERE), the Owls realize that keeping up the image of the team is as important as winning the game or answering the question "who we are..." For four or five years, the players' parents have attended the games, recalls Abraham. The team's home schedule opens with games against the University of Illinois-Chicago (August 31), West Texas State (September 2), Lamar University (September 12), and the University of Georgia (September 12), and the players are looking for a lot of home crowd support. In return, Christie Rees and Alecia Abraham promise a good show and the Owls "are going to be awesome. Just watch."
Discrimination in synch swimming muddies Olympic waters

As any schoolboy knows, controversy is as much a part of sports as playing, travel, attendance, gambling, and bigger beer. In fact, the two words are usually mentioned in the same breath. Occasionally, sometimes the same prepositional phrase. Let's face it, without controversy, sports would be dull and topnotch sports journalists would be stuck writing art reviews and real news.

The Olympics are, of course, the zenith of sports controversy, and the XXIII Olympiad, held recently in Los Angeles had its share of disputes over officiating, contradictory statements, and international protests. From the Soviet bloc boycott to the Zola Buddinski—Mary Decker love tumbler, the Summer Games were just brimming with controversy.

Nevertheless, it is only in the past two weeks that the biggest Olympic controversy has surfaced. Of course, I'm speaking of the synchronized swimming issue.

Synchronized swimming, long popular in rural Zimbabwe and made popular by the Yugoslavs, is just coming into its own in this country. The sport combines the rigor of table tennis with all the out dangers of tap dancing, adds the excitement of checkers, includes a pinch of daredevil horseshoeing and throws the whole mess into a swimming pool. Nothing can match the thrills of a perfectly executed toe dip or the agony of a head bang. Truly a sport for the '80s.

Many of us sat in awe for hours watching the tremendous athletes who swim and bobbed with such grace. Others raced to their local pools and YMCA to sign up for SS classes. Still even more of us simply watched.

One could only cry along with Tracie "The round mounds of synchronicity" Ruiz as she received her gold medal, and the star spangled banner did wave to show the Russians we can not only bomb the hell out of them, but we can swim with them, too.

"And what a beautiful story too," Jim Lambrecht. It seems Tracie lost a large section of her brain in a hunting accident just three short years ago. But she began swimming the comeback trail almost immediately after coming out of the coma, first in a waterproof wheelchair and then later on crutches. Let's meet her up close.

Thanks but no thanks, Donna. For ironically, amidst the seemingly placid grace and beauty of this great sport, there is a controversy that muddles the waters of synchronized swimming—sexual discrimination. In the past twenty years, men have made great strides towards equality with their female counterparts in this great country of ours. Finally, it's OK for Dad to cook, sew, change diapers, even mop the kitchen floor. So, it's almost unthinkable (and shudder we must) that men haven't broken the synch-swim barrier. The tragedy of all is perhaps best described by male synch sensation Albert K. Winklebutter, III.

"I think from the time I was a kid I knew I wasn't like other guys," states Winklebutter. "While they were out doing the backstroke or the crawl, I'd be doing the head-bob and the arm-flutter. At that time I didn't know there was a term for it, but I guess I've always wanted to be a synch swimmer."

A tragic story, that of Winklebutter, an adolescence filled with self-doubt and confusion. And then there was the Navy incident that changed his life. Forever.

"It was a survival test. You, know to see if you could last if your ship sank or whatever. And I guess, well I got carried away and did a leg flap and a knee wave."

expounds Wink the synch man, "a damned good leg flap at that."

Albert found himself in civilian clothes before you could say "What's the dang fool doing out there?" A brilliant naval career destroyed due solely to his accidental admission of being a synchronized swimmer. Winklebutter's wife subsequently divorced him, and his parents, Albert and Flo Winklebutter II disowned him.

For a long time synchronized swimming wasn't something one discussed in public. It was done in backyard pools, and then only at night, although in some larger cities, SS clubs were formed.

But times have changed and this writer thinks it time the International Olympic Committee join the rest of us in the twentieth century. Synchronized swimming is a sport for all peoples be they black, white, man, woman, from New Jersey, what have you.

Even with the power of the Press and other brave newspapers behind them, those who support male synchronized swimming face a long upstream battle.

Bobby Ainsworth, spearheading the Organization of Guys With Two Names Against Synchronization, claims "It's downright unnatural, that's what it is. Them guys is knock of ya asks me. I suppose they'll be wearin' them cockamamie hats, too."

"I can't think of anything more disgusting than some wet, hairy leg sticking out of the water," protests 10C official Abe Blumenthal.

"ACH, who cares? Vot I got hairy legs, see," offers German official Helga Lotschabut. "Und pats too."

So, the debate continues, but in the meantime, men like Winklebutter must go on with little hope, for there are no immediate plans for adding this event in Seoul.

"First the boycott, then the back of their hand in LA, now nothing. I don't know if I can keep up my training. My dick has gone to all hell," sobs the once-proud Winklebutter.

And meanwhile little boys in swimming pools around the world must be told there is no Santa Claus and that men don't synchronize swim.
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