Faculty approves idea of coherent minor

by Scott Snyder

Faculty members approved a motion supporting the concept of a coherent minor at a May 1 faculty meeting. Provost Neal Lane will chair a committee of members representing different university groups which will present a complete plan by next spring.

The motion to support the concept of a coherent minor was made as a result of a second memorandum on the coherent minor proposal released to the faculty by the academic deans April 24. The five-page memorandum dealt in question and answer format with objections that had been raised by the deans' first memorandum. The composition of that committee has not yet been determined, and most of the work on the coherent minor will not begin until next year, according to Provost Lane. The committee will assign several subcommittees to examine specific aspects of the possible proposals, he said.

The motion made by Professor of Biology Ronald Sass and approved by the faculty states, "I move that the faculty express support for the concept of a coherent minor by requesting that the President appoint a committee, chaired by the Provost and consisting of representatives from the various university constituencies, to design and present to the faculty a more fully developed coherent minor to be considered for adoption at a meeting of the faculty next spring."

After much discussion, the motion received a clear majority in a voice vote by the faculty. The vote in favor of this motion does not bind the faculty to final approval of any specific coherent minor plan, but it does support further study of the proposal by a committee.

The composition of that committee has not yet been determined, and most of the work on the coherent minor will not begin until next year, according to Provost Lane. The committee will assign several subcommittees to examine specific aspects of the possible proposals, he said.

The latest proposal by the deans helped focus faculty debate on the issue at the meeting. The proposal suggests that, in general, students make responsible individual choices regarding distribution courses, but that "however excellent the choice of individual courses for distribution, these courses ordinarily contribute to that curricular fragmentation so damaging, in our view, to undergraduate education."

"One way to promote coherence is to limit random choice by requiring some courses to be taken in planned sequence," the deans concluded.

Their memorandum contained a modified suggestion for a coherent minor, a five-course sequence beginning with a two-semester, interdisciplinary foundation course, followed by a set of three related courses proposed by the faculty or by students.

The proposal also suggested the possibility of a compromise system in which the coherent minor may be adopted as part of an overall, revised set of distribution requirements, emphasized the importance of foundational courses in the liberal arts and in science and engineering, as well as in the humanities and social sciences.

"Everybody agrees that foundational courses are very important," said Lane. "Departments might actually put together better courses as a result of this. If discussion results in better courses, then that's what we're really after. One of the toughest pieces to put together in this whole puzzle is the foundation of courses."

A faculty committee in the sciences and engineering has already started working on tentative outlines for a two-semester course designed for students minoring in science.

Creation of a foundation course for the humanities and social sciences may be more difficult than for the sciences and engineering, says the proposal. "No similar committee to the science engineering committee has been formed yet" to examine the possibilities for a foundational course. see Faculty, page 7

Rain doesn't stop graduation; 958 march

by Erin Blair

Rain cut short Rice University's seventy-third commencement ceremonies, where 610 undergraduates, 261 masters candidates, and 87 PhD candidates received their diplomas Saturday, May 10. Following the last baccalaureate diploma presentation, President Rupp called for the recessional, bypassing the special awards and its first commencement address because of the downpour.

The ceremony, which began at 9:30 a.m., broke from tradition as it was held inside the academic quadrangle rather than on the drive before Lovett Hall. A procession of advanced degree candidates joined two strands of undergraduates ordered by age college and led by Baker and Jones colleges. Wreaths were laid on the statue of William Marsh Rice by representatives of the faculty, alumni, graduate students, and undergraduates before the students reached the Lovett Hall grounds. A procession of faculty and administrative officers in full academic regalia followed the degree candidates and mounted a platform facing Fondren Library.

After an invocation by the Reverend John D. Worrell, John Margrave, Vice President for Advanced Studies and Research, conferred the graduate and professional degrees. Vice President for Undergraduate Affairs Ronald Stebbings conferred the baccalaureate degrees in the sciences and engineering, and then by colleges beginning with Baker.

President Rupp gave a Bachelor of Architecture diploma to the parents of Cindy Renee Rounsaville, the fifth-year Will Rice architecture student who was murdered in late April. The Rounsavilles received a standing ovation.

The inclement weather threatened most of the ceremony. Rain fell heavily on Brown, Lovett, and Richardson graduates as they received their diplomas, prompting the hasty end to the commencement. President Rupp's unread commencement speech was not available for release.

INSIDE:
• Doonesbury, all you could ask for, p. 34
• Rupp in retrospect, pp. 8-9
• Summer things to do in Houston, pp. 34
• Summer movies to watch, p. 11
• Summer born leaders, who have it thrust upon them.
Faculty should get student opinion on student matters

Said Dr. Franz Brotzen at the May 1 faculty meeting on the coherent minor: "Why don't we go so far as to tell the students absolutely evil. Maybe Dr. Brotzen is right — maybe the reduction of choice is not, in the particular case of the proposed coherent minor, absolutely evil.

What is worrisome is the attitude expressed: that the faculty and administrators are basically qualified to make decisions about students' curricula than are students. Granted, the faculty does know more about the subjects they teach than we do — that's why they're faculty and we're not. But it's safe to assume that we know more about ourselves — our preferences, our goals, our ways of life, our reasons to take the classes we do — than our professors do; and thus, we are better qualified to make our own decisions.

Admittedly, the coherent minor proposal is more than a trick to take away student freedom; the kinds of new courses professors do; and thus, we are better qualified to make our own decisions.

The House Budget Committee began drafting its version of the budget last week.

UH needs comp profs — soon

An acute faculty shortage in University of Houston-University Park's computer science department is causing problems for students and could prevent the department from winning accreditation. Prof. Van Horn stated that the university has tried to make the salaries of its computer science faculty competitive with other institutions. King estimated the average salary for a UH computer science professor to be $40,000, and pointed out that a doctorate in the discipline can earn considerably more in industry.

Lenee Lovejoy, president of the 100-member student professional group Association for Computing Machinery, is currently circulating a petition to encourage accreditation in the department in its current state, hoping to force improvements.

"Companies like to hire UH computer graduates because they've had good practical training," she told the Cougar. "But if we're turned down for accreditation, the school will receive a lot of bad publicity and be viewed as second-rate."

Duke to get a college

A 220-member residential college is scheduled to open at Duke University in fall 1987, reports the Duke Chronicle. "The one thing that can stop it now is a lack of student interest," said zoology professor Donald Fluke, the choice of a university task force to direct the proposed college.

"Next fall will be the critical time. When we run the flag up the pole. If it doesn't work, well, just say, 'Well, it was an idea whose time has not yet come.'"  

In April, Fluke began a question-and-answer meeting with sophomores and juniors by saying he did not consider the title of master quite appropriate. "I won't be cracking a whip and making things go. A better term might be "moderator,"" he said. "The college has to emerge from what the students want to do."

Vonnegut does Q&A at UNC

Kurt Vonnegut, author of Slaughterhouse Five and The Sirens of Titan, offered his view of current events and national trends to a nearly-capacity crowd of University of North Carolina — Chapel Hill students in mid-April, reports the Duke Chronicle.

Vonnegut discussed the apparent national approval of President Reagan's decision to bomb Libya. "Dan Rather said the bombing was a good thing. Tom Brokaw said the bombing was a good thing. Peter Jennings said it was a good thing. And I'm sure that Time and Newsweek will. . . . Whenever all those 'organs of the truth' agree, it had to be true."

The writer also attacked a resurgence in American censorship. "I wrote to the Soviet Union that. . . bookburning was a good thing," Katherine Mansfield said. "It's a bad thing, and I'm sure that Time and Newsweek will. . . . Whenever all those 'organs of the truth' agree, it had to be true."

"The writer also attacked a resurgence in American censorship. "I wrote to the Soviet Union that. . . bookburning was a good thing," Katherine Mansfield said. "It's a bad thing, and I'm sure that Time and Newsweek will. . . . Whenever all those 'organs of the truth' agree, it had to be true."

The writer also attacked a resurgence in American censorship. "I wrote to the Soviet Union that. . . bookburning was a good thing," Katherine Mansfield said. "It's a bad thing, and I'm sure that Time and Newsweek will. . . . Whenever all those 'organs of the truth' agree, it had to be true."
Surviving the summer in Houston: How to have fun

by Eric Salituro

Okay, how many of you out there are stuck in Houston for the summer? Raise your hands. Now how about those of you here for the first time? Well, at least two. This probably will be my last chance to enlighten people with my prosaic musings, so I think I'll quiz the nasty rumors that Houston is a hot, humid, mosquito-infested—whops, wrong rumor—that Houston is a hot, boring place with nothing to do during the summer. Well, you Yankee wannabes who can't take a little heat are wrong and I'm here to give you a few ideas for making this summer a little more bearable.

For those rare days when something good isn't showing at River Oaks or the Greenway, here is a partial list of the other things to do (cheaply) in Houston. Note that when the school year rolls back around, a lot of these things do not go away. Remember for they make great dates, escapes, or study breaks.

•Tramuco Tower/Fountain Null said.
•Houston Intercontinental/Hobby Airports Hey, some people like to go to the airport. The best views of the city are from the top of the parking garage. For a cheap thrill, ride the little peoplemover under the airport. It was one of the first in the country (after the one at Disneyland).
•Festivals Besides the millions and millions of sesquicentennial events scheduled for this summer, there are usually numerous other festivals held during the summer months; Cinco de Mayo, Asian-American Festival, Juneteenth in mid-June, and the U.S. Olympic Festival in July, just to name a few.
•Spaceweek Each year, Clear Lake City celebrates the first moon landing (and a pleasantly diversified economy) with a two-week long party. Visit the Johnson Space Center and find out how they are spending your money, or just go to the wine-tastings, boat shows and other events held around the Clear Lake Area.
•Hermann Park/Zoological Gardens Only a picnic basket's throw from Sid Richardson, this nice moderately-sized park has swings and ducks and a few extras. The Museum of Natural Science, though no longer free, does have the Burke Planetarium and a new Gallery of Earth Science. Visit the too-especially the aquarium and the recently-installed natural habitats) while it's still free. See the section on Miller Outdoor Theater for things to do at the big metal-covered amphitheater across from the Museum.
•Other Parks We can't forget the other natural areas around the town: Memorial Park, Sam Houston Park, Bell Park, Tranquility Park, UH-University Park, Armand Bayou, Cullen Sculpture Garden, Houston Arboretum . . . the list goes on and on.
•Museums Shoot, I can't even name all of the galleries and museums we get here. Start with the Museum of Fine Arts (cheap) and the Contemporary Arts Museum (free). Try to find the children's museum, the baseball museum, and the Museum of American West. I dare ya.
•Orange Show Go see this, Jeff McKisack's fantastic tribute to the orange, and maybe catch an unusual show in the process.
•Bayou Trails Ride or jog or even (gasp!) walk along the Buffalo and Braes Bayou, but do it in the evening (it's more romantic).
•Miller Outdoor Theater Throughout the summer, this outdoor structure features music, theater, and dance mostly for free. The opera, Theater Under the Stars (TUTS),

See Surviving, page 4
The Rice Thresher, May 16, 1986, page 4

Surviving Summer in Houston

continued from page 3

and the ballet all stage pop productions to showcase their talent. The Houston Symphony has a two-week long festival that culminates in a Fireworks show. The yearly Houston Jazz Festival is held here as well as the Juneteenth Blues Festival. Finally, there is the Shakespeare festival put on by the Alley Theater and the University of Houston. Come early in the morning for free tickets to the covered seating, or bring a picnic basket and roll down the hill.

•San Jacinto Monument/Battleship Texas: Come see the tallest masonry structure in the world (with the star). That's right, the tallest.

•Downtown: By walking through the extensive tunnel system, one never need experience the heat of downtown. Explore the Park in Houston Center, the downtown shopping center, or visit the Sky Lobby of the Texas Commerce Tower for an eye-popper.

•Astrodome: Go catch the Astros for a tour of the Astrodome. Waterworld is the most fun one can have without going to the beach (or did someone already say that). Southern Star Amphitheater has some reasonable concerts (if you can fight the teenie-boppers) and the ticket price includes a full day at Astroworld. All this can cost you though, so beware.

•Margaret's: Try Cafe Adobe first. They allegedly have the best in the city, and sell them cheap on Monday happy hours. Bring a real I.D. — these guys card, and showing the birthdate on your Rice I.D. may not be enough. And remember, come September, you'll have to prove you're 21 — enjoy while you can.

•Metro: Believe it or not, we have a pretty good bus system for a city this size. Get virtually anywhere for sixty cents. Call 635-4000 for more details.

•Thunderstorms: All that humidity and heat make for some impressive afternoon electrical storms (remember matriculation 1985?) that cool things off for about ten minutes. Get somewhere dry and watch — as Bob Barker would say, the price is right.

There are still lots more things to do during the summer and I haven't any more space to tell you about them, so don't come running to me griping about all the stuff I missed. Obviously, there really are more places to eat, drink, dance, and listen to music than will fill this rag. There are also lots of things to do that can't be mentioned in a family newspaper, so keep your eyes out and the A/C on — it's going to be a long, hot one.

Lisa Grey, Spencer Greene
Editors

Crystal Davis
Business Manager
Does Rice short the humanities?

To the editor:

How encouraging to hear Dr. Rupp's remarks in the inaugural address, reminding one and all that the inscription upon Lovett Hall's arch includes arts and letters, as well as sciences. Yet, passing through the Abercrombie Engineering Lab, en route to the Mechanical Lab's arcades, I was surprised to find workmen busily in the process of revamping a sculpture dedicated to the "Engineers of Tomorrow."

Isn't it sufficient already that folks from the Physics Lab have parking places at their doorsteps, using prime campus space? Isn't it adequate testimony already, looking at the tiered, superior classrooms of Herring Hall, that the sciences and business interests aboard campus command top dollar and prestige? Watching the workmen give life to the small abstract sculpture which itself lies in the shadow of obviously science-oriented "shaka" is disheartening when one considers the supposed new mandate given our university by the appointment of a non-engineer as president.

Why aren't there personalized parking places for the dedicated faculty in Rayzor Hall? Perhaps the campus artists are telling us something; perhaps they are saying that if you major in liberal arts, you are going to have to walk to work. But major in physics, and you'll always have parking, it seems. This kind of symbolism is effective in the outside world; however, in an environment where all undergraduates are supposedly equal in the eyes of God, so too should be these inscriptions.

Classroom conditions follow this trend. A structure like Herring Hall should really have been appropriated to the "letters" side of Rice's reputed and broadly advertised (at least in terms of inscriptions) tripartite interests. Instead, Rayzor Hall, described by one graffiti as the "world's largest restroom," stands as the single unified symbol on our campus grounds of "letters" — a pathetic and inexcusable shortfall when compared to the extraordinary facilities allotted other disciplines.

Needless to say, attending class in the crowded-up, noisy chairs typical of a Rayzor Hall classroom, versus the swanky, casino/hotel accommodations available at, say, Herring Hall, does little to implement the esteem one is going to have to walk to the appointment of a non-engineer as president.

BEYOND THE HEDGES

continued from page 2

civilization — and that the same communities that were burning books were burning human beings," he said.

Vonnegut teased the handful of conservatives present. "I've told that conservatism is very popular on the campuses now," he said. "Well, let me tell you that that mean-spirited social Darwinism, that pig-headed breed of lack of compassion [that is] Saran Wrap and you can easily take it of any time you feel like it."

He warned that the "compulsive warpreparers" of the federal government dangerously resemble alcoholics. "Suppose we had an alcoholic president, and if he took just one more drink, the whole planet would blow up. So have you all the liquor thrown out of the White House, including his Aqua Velva shaving lotion."

He opens the White House refrigerator looking for a Tab or a Diet Pepsi and there, half-hidden by a package-size jar of French's Mustard, is an unopened can of Coors' beer. What do you think he'll do?"

The Rice Thresher, May 16, 1986, page 5
by Lisa Gray

John Kennedy Barefield was arrested May 8 in his 7298 Kingsgate Circle apartment for the murder of Rice student Cindy Rounsaville. Barefield, 22, has been charged with capital murder and is being held without bail.

Police found the body of Rounsaville, a fifth-year architecture student from the Rice Architecture Studio, in the field a few miles away the night before.

Rounsaville is thought to have been abducted between her off-campus apartment and the Rice architecture studio.

According to Sergeant Johnny Moore of the Houston Police Department homicide division, police believe robbery to be the motive for Rounsaville's murder. Moore is one of a six police officers investigating the case.

Asked whether police thought Rounsaville's abduction had been premeditated, Moore replied, "We assume it was based on a random choice."

Moore said the criminal's method of operation led the HPD to suspect Barefield, but since Houston police are currently searching for one or more accomplices, he declined to comment on specifics. HPD had earlier announced that it had two black male suspects, both between the ages of 17 and 25. The two blacks had been seen in the area from which Rounsaville is believed to have been abducted.

Memorial services were held for Rounsaville the morning of April 25 in Rice Chapel. Since she had completed the requirements for her bachelor's degree, her diploma was awarded to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rounsaville during Rice graduation ceremonies May 10. She had planned to marry former Rice student John Mutz in July of this year.

**Join the Adventure of a Lifetime!**

For complete application package and brochure please contact:

**Operation Raleigh**

109 E. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
(919) 733-9366

INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS

for 17-24 year olds. Travel in the wake of the great explorers opportunities in diving, archaeology, scientific research, community service and exploration.

JOIN THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME!

For additional information see our monthly newsletter, the CALENDAR.

Providing Lutheran Campus Ministry at Rice
Faculty debates pros, cons of coherent minor proposal

continued from page 1

course in the humanities, said Dean of Humanities Alan Grob.

"Universities like Chicago or Columbia which do have strong foundations in the humanities, teach those courses in small sections. If we do this, it will involve a significant commitment of faculty," said Professor of English Alan Grob. The coherent minor is also likely to cause unnecessary specialization at the expense of unity in education, according to Grob.

The deans admitted in their proposal that existing science courses are not easily adaptable for the three-course sequence necessary to complete a science minor.

"The most serious problem is designing courses in the sciences for humanities students in the three-course sequence and committing the number of faculty you have to commit in order to teach them," said Grob.

Under the deans' proposal, students in the music and architecture schools may be given a choice about which minor they would fulfill, and "students with majors on both sides of the campus would have the spirit of the minor and be exempted from the requirement." Also, students who enter as science or engineering specialists for academic credit.

Faculty members debated the concept of the coherent minor at the May 1 faculty meeting before deciding to approve development of a full-scale minor plan.

Following are excerpts from that debate:

Neal Lane, Provost:
"I think what is interesting is the coherence part, which means not just more than a connection, a logical and natural connection, so that the student can actually move up a couple of layers in the understanding of an area."

Alan Grob, English:
"I don't really see the benefit of taking a foundational course and then having the student go off and take a three course sequence in geology; I don't really understand why that's preferable to having students take a course in biology, a course in computer science, and then a course in physics. I think that's really what's at issue: that student choice."

Franz Brotzen, Materials Science:
"What's really at issue is that the students when the class starts, what would you like to hear about that semester? We don't do that for the simple reason that we think we do know more about the particular subject than they do. There is a reduction of choice, and I do not think that the reduction of choice is a bad one in this case. I do not think that we can necessarily equate greater choice with a better education."
George Rupp: His first year at Rice in retrospect

Football for the alumni, parking for the faculty, and "fluff" courses and majors left over from decades past. Texas and other states were under pressure from Congress to adopt a nationwide drinking age of 21. Protesters, many of them college students, wielded placards reading "Divestment Now," calling for universities to make a political statement by selling off investments in companies with ties to racist-governed South Africa. And all of them college students, wielded placards reading "Divestment Now," calling for universities to make a political statement by selling off investments in companies with ties to racist-governed South Africa.

In this climate, the Governors sought a leader to replace the retiring Norman Hackerman, Professor of Chemistry and president of Rice so long (15 years) that most current faculty members never knew his predecessor. They found General George Rupp, an academic theologian with degrees from Princeton (A.B. 1964), Yale (B.D. 1967), and Harvard (Ph. D. 1971), top administrator at the Harvard School of Continuing Education. Rupp, the selection raised eyebrows, since all previous presidents' degrees had been in the sciences; Rice "changed its image," according to C. S. Burrus of Electrical Engineering, with Rupp's appointment.

This year Rupp has dealt with the problems the university faced when he took his helm. The concept of his comprehensive plan, aimed to insure a liberal education to all graduates, has been accepted by the faculty. He adopted an admission policy which both gives Rice a strong legal position and places more trust and responsibility in students. And he backed the Governors' decision not to divest, citing the Sullivan Principles (anti-racism rules which many American and European companies in South Africa voluntarily adhere to) — a decision eventually supported by a Student Association resolution.

The new president has also had to deal with the unforeseen during his first year. He brought Jerry Berndt, the football coach who turned a last-place Ivy League team into conference champions, to Rice to take the place vacated by Watson Brown. Rupp also brought Michael Hammond, a respected musician and administrator, to lead Rice's Shepherd School of Music into the next decade. In the face of economic pressures imposed by falling oil prices, Rupp made it clear to Hammond that a building for the music school is on the horizon.

By the time of his inauguration, Rupp had already settled on his basic plans for the university's future; those plans have changed little since October, he told the Thresher last week. They include continued emphasis on liberal education, need-blind admissions, and financial aid to the needy, as well as an ambitious program to move Rice into the spotlight in a "handful" of research areas through additions of faculty members and facilities.

These plans "build on a foundation laid by three presidents," said President Hackerman. Under president Hackerman, art and art history programs continued work toward improvements "in both the undergraduate education and the administrative structure" of the university. His efforts brought the university's financial basis and the administrative structure of the arts closer to the standards of major research universities. He called Rupp "very articulate." She praised the president for "trying to move very quickly and positively, with good, clear, strong ideas," according to C. S. Burrus of Electrical Engineering, with Rupp's appointment.

This year Rupp has dealt with the problems the university faced when he took his helm. The concept of his comprehensive plan, aimed to insure a liberal education to all graduates, has been accepted by the faculty. He adopted an admission policy which both gives Rice a strong legal position and places more trust and responsibility in students. And he backed the Governors' decision not to divest, citing the Sullivan Principles (anti-racism rules which many American and European companies in South Africa voluntarily adhere to) — a decision eventually supported by a Student Association resolution.

The new president has also had to deal with the unforeseen during his first year. He brought Jerry Berndt, the football coach who turned a last-place Ivy League team into conference champions, to Rice to take the place vacated by Watson Brown. Rupp also brought Michael Hammond, a respected musician and administrator, to lead Rice's Shepherd School of Music into the next decade. In the face of economic pressures imposed by falling oil prices, Rupp made it clear to Hammond that a building for the music school is on the horizon.

By the time of his inauguration, Rupp had already settled on his basic plans for the university's future; those plans have changed little since October, he told the Thresher last week. They include continued emphasis on low-cost undergraduate education, need-blind admissions, and financial aid to the needy, as well as an ambitious program to move Rice into the spotlight in a "handful" of research areas through additions of faculty members and facilities.

These plans "build on a foundation laid by three presidents," said President Hackerman. Under president Hackerman, art and art history programs continued work toward improvements "in both the undergraduate education and the administrative structure" of the university. His efforts brought the university's financial basis and the administrative structure of the arts closer to the standards of major research universities. He called Rupp "very articulate." She praised the president for "trying to move very quickly and positively, with good, clear, strong ideas," according to C. S. Burrus of Electrical Engineering, with Rupp's appointment.

The way to have firm undergraduate education is to...
the same time and in ways that mutually reinforce each other, recognizing that the two really are inseparable for the kind of institution this one has been in the past, and will continue to be in the year 2000. Rice is going to be very much the way it is now. The relatively small scale will be preserved, that is, roughly 4000 students, there will be more faculty members, and there will be somewhat more facilities, but not large numbers of new facilities for housing individuals so much as for providing the context for research and scholarship: greater research facilities, more library resources, further offices, but not a lot more space for students, because there won't be more students.

Photos by: M. Hulbert  H. Turner  S. Buchanan
Main Street updates Company from suburbanites to Yuppies

Company
Main Street Theater
through May 25

Rumor has it that Stephen Sondheim and George Furth’s musical Company, written during the height of the “me” decade (the 1970s) is painfully dated. One of the characters is a dumpy stewardess, one of the scenes takes place in a disco, and so on. The whole thing seems to revolve around the dreary upper middle class lives of a group of trendy New Yorkers.

Happily, nothing could be further from the truth. By translating these trendy suburbanites into modern-day Yuppies, Main Street Theater’s splashy new production has succeeded in updating what could easily have turned into a yucky musical episode of “Love American Style.” Although the score occasionally still smacks of TV cigarette jingles (remember those?), Sondheim’s music has a certain “classic” Broadway sound to it, including the ever-popular “Side by Side by Side.”

Orphans
Alley Theatre
through June 8

Two brothers live alone in a North Philadelphia row house. Treat steals for a living while Phillip stays at home, hiding and eating tuna fish sandwiches. Into these orphans’ lives comes Harold, an ideal kidnap victim. However Phillip has some trouble keeping Harold bound and gagged. Finally, Harold convinces both brothers that they will be better off working for him.

The second act, which occurs only two weeks later, shows how Harold has affected the boys’ lives. This is the focus of Lyle Kessler’s Orphans, an extremely well-written drama now on the Alley’s Arena stage. This “psychological thriller” is intense, yet enjoyable.

Briefly, the plot centers on the efforts of five married couples to convince a mutual friend of theirs, Bobby, that it’s time to get married. By using their own marriages as examples of wedded bliss, they hope to win him over. In the end, they succeed in revealing themselves more than persuading him to settle down.

Director Jay Julian has put together a talented ensemble of actors that works well together. As Bobby, Tony Falcone (Main Street’s development director) was a charismatic lead. Probably the most fun to watch, however, were his married friends, especially Elly Escobar and Kellie Waymore, as judo-demonstrating dinner hosts, and Deborah Boily, as a nervous wreck of a bride about to be married to her live-in lover of several years.

Orphans lives up to high standard of Alley’s excellent season

Orphans
Alley Theatre
through June 8

Briefly, the plot centers on the efforts of five married couples to convince a mutual friend of theirs, Bobby, that it’s time to get married. By using their own marriages as examples of wedded bliss, they hope to win him over. In the end, they succeed in revealing themselves more than persuading him to settle down.

Director Jay Julian has put together a talented ensemble of actors that works well together. As Bobby, Tony Falcone (Main Street’s development director) was a charismatic lead. Probably the most fun to watch, however, were his married friends, especially Elly Escobar and Kellie Waymore, as judo-demonstrating dinner hosts, and Deborah Boily, as a nervous wreck of a bride about to be married to her live-in lover of several years.

Providing the show with more than enough laughs were the wry comments made by the world-wear, four-times-married Joanne, played with a lot of verve and spirit by Dorothy Edwards. As two of Bobby’s current love interests, Shannon Collins as April (a space-cadetty stewardess) and Melissa O’Conell as Marta (a free-spirited original or, as one of his friends puts it, “peculiar”) were impressive and delightful.

The set design, which incidentally was by Falcone himself, lent itself well to Main Street’s cramped little performing area. By making maximum use of its possibilities for various performing areas, the audience quickly forget that it was watching a play on a stage smaller than some living rooms. The lighting, designed by Rice alumnus Joe Ponessa, was really helpful in this respect, too.

Performances of Company continue Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through May 25th. All showtimes are at 8 p.m. except for Sundays when the curtain rises at 4 p.m. Ticket prices are $10 for Fridays and Saturdays, $8 for Thursdays, and $6 for Sundays. Reservations can be made by calling Main Street’s box office at 524-6706.—John Thomas
Big summer movies: only one owner, get 'em while they're hot!

Summer Movies Preview

With the summer months come the — you guessed it — BIG SUMMER MOVIES. Sounds kind of like an ad for a local car dealership, doesn't it? You know, most of the films set for summer release could be publicized more easily if they were featured in the car sales section of the newspaper. Think about it: no flashy special effects, no low voiced announcers, and it would be a lot cheaper for the studios. It's all wishful thinking, but just once this summer I'd like to open the newspapers and read:

New Summer Movies (see automobile sales section).

And then:

Automobile sales

Brand New Prince and his little red Corvette in Under the Cherry Moon. See Prince act, sing, and

Sylvester Stallone as Cobra, a killer, direct. He's in France and he's in love. Special showings at 8:05.

Not a Lemon: Old classic in good condition. Richard Pryor is in a comedy. See the inmates take over an asylum in Critical Condition. Prince as Christopher, a pianist.

A Cat Above the rest. Wes Craven directs a new screammer, Deadly Friend. Plush red carpet and film arm rests optional. 1972 Volkswagen bug. 4 wheels, paint, and too many miles to count. $12.00 or call Butch at 527-8101.

Ha Ha He He See Joe Piscipo and Danny DeVito in Wise Guys, as two of the worst motorists ever.

Cannon Group Loses Reputation of Bad-film Maker with Murphy

Murphy's Law directed by J. Lee Thompson

The Cannon Group, also known as Golan-Globus Productions, has brought us many cinematic triumphs in the past, raising the art of bad movies to incredible heights. It is with deep regret that I announce that Cannon, due to mediocrity, has brought us many cinematic failures. 

Murphy's Law features Charles Bronson as Jack Murphy, a cop whose striptease-artist wife has just divorced him. A psychopathic through a pizza parlor's window. Snodgrass) a street thief who

Thus Jack is being chased by everyone involved with the trial to

His assistant Murphy is helped (hindered?) by Arabella McGhee (Carrie Snodgrass) a street thief who

She is Golan's normal standard. For example, when the psychopathic lady killer (the killer is a female, not a psychopath who kills ladies) shoots a private detective in the head, the audience sees the blood splattering on her face rather than a more challenging shot of the head being blown off the body.

There were a few moments of humor, Cannon style. At the end of the film, when the psychopath and Murphy are duping it out, she tells him, "Go to Hell!" Murphy responds, "Ladies first," and throws her off a tenth floor balcony to help her on her way.

This film had great potential to rival previous Cannon hits such as Ninja III: The Domination, where a valley girl becomes possessed by an evil ninja or Delta Force, where terrorists are killed very explicitly by good guys. Messrs Golan and Globus made use of violence very gratuitously, having close to fifteen protracted, gory, explicit murders. However, very few were original, and hardly any were done in spectacular ways.

What is really missing is the feeling one got from the old Cannon films that both the producers and the audience knew it was a bad film, and neither took it seriously. With this attitude, it is acceptable to have multiple murders gruesomely displayed. No one takes the film as depicting anything close to reality.

With Murphy's Law, this attitude is missing. The viewer gets the impression that the producers are taking the film seriously, trying to depict realistic people in realistic situations.

I have no complaints with films that attempt this. On the contrary, it is often what makes for a great film. The problem with Murphy's Law is that murder is taken seriously but human life is depicted as having no value whatsoever.

Murphy's Law is appropriately named. The traditional Murphy's law states that whenever something can go wrong, it will go wrong. After such a long string of thoroughly enjoyable films, the Cannon group has gone wrong. It changed its formula, like Coke did, and the result is total mediocrity.

If you like bad films, you won't like this one; if you like good films, you won't like this one, but if you like mediocre films you might like this film.

— Trevor Schelbous

Good laugh mileage. Come to Club Paradise with Robin Williams and Peter O'Toole. A Caribbean resort w: SCTV co-stars. The Best sound filming this film. Heartburn comes w: Jack Nicholson, Meryl Streep; powered by a Mike Nichols engine. This romantic comedy should become a collector's item.

We're not kidding: you keep watching our films, we'll keep making them. Friday the 13th Part VI continues Jason's saga. Nothing guaranteed but unmitigated gore.

What do you get when you put a Honda motor in a Mercedes? Something like Sylvester Stallone's new flick Cobra, manufactured by Golan & Globus. Everyone will want a test drive but a few wheels might fall off in the process.

Okay, so movie listings like these might not work — but they'd sure be more fun. Until next year, try to see a few good films and have a great summer.

— David Nathan

Summer Fall Spring WASHINGTON OR LONDON INTERNSHIPS OXFORD SUMMER 1986

Full Academic Years In
• Oxford University
• L.S.E.
• St. Andrews, Scotland

U.S. credits will be transferred through Hampden-Sydney College, founded in Virginia by James Madison in 1776. Graduate work is an option. The Director of Studies for the Center for Quality Education Abroad (in Britain) is the Rt. Hon. The Lord Beloff, D.Litt. (Oxon.), Fellow of the British Academy, Professor Emeritus of Government and Fellow of All Souls, Oxford.

Graduate work is an option. The Director of Studies for the Center for Quality Education Abroad (in Britain) is the Rt. Hon. The Lord Beloff, D.Litt. (Oxon.), Fellow of the British Academy, Professor Emeritus of Government and Fellow of All Souls, Oxford.

INQUIRIES TO:
JANET KOLKER, J.D., British Council UK (London/Europe) / WISC, Rm 53, 158 W. 81 St., NY, NY 10024,
(212-724-0804/724-0136).

We Know a Great Place for Pizza. Your Place.

All it takes is a phone call and Pizza Inn delivers it all, free, right to your door with a minimum order. Everything on the menu*, ready to enjoy.

Free Four soft drinks in reusable plastic tumblers with the purchase of a large pizza or three soft drinks in the reusable plastic tumblers with the purchase of a medium pizza. Offer valid with delivery only. Not valid with any other offer. Please mention coupon when ordering.

Expires 6/9/86

Pizza Inn DELIVERIES IT ALL.

Handicapped accessible. Special orders may take longer.

2314 W. Holcombe 660-9557

The Rice Thresher, May 16, 1986, page 11
**EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAM**

It takes many different talents, many different specializations, many different backgrounds to make up a complete retailing team. It's not all razzle dazzle. It's not all au courant colors and the latest look from across the water. Merchandising is an art, yes—but it's also big business.

**Fitzgerald, Freud, Aristotle, Malthus, Einstein, Darwin, van der Rohe, Barrymore, and the Brontes**

Would have made it at *macys*

*New York*

An equal opportunity employer.

The Rice Thresher, May 16, 1986, page 12
Music
Shepherd School of Music: The Campanile Orchestra will perform on Friday, May 30 in Hamman Hall. The concert is a celebration of the Texas sesquicentennial, and features Aaron Copeland’s "Outdoor Overture, Dances from Ballet Estancia" by Alberto Ginastera, and Dvorak’s Symphony No. 9 in E minor, From the New World. The performance begins at 8:00 p.m.

Houston Symphony: Sergiu Luca is the featured violinist in this evening’s performance. Included on the program are Mozart’s Jupiter Symphony, Chausson’s Poème, Tzigane by Ravel and Eberno’s Roumanian Rhapsody No. 1. Sergiu Commissions conducts. The performance begins at 8:00 p.m. in Jones Hall. Tickets: 227-ARTS.

Rice Dance Theatre: Anyone in Washington, D.C., on May 25th will be able to see the Rice Dance Theatre perform its award winning dance at the Grand Gala of the National Festival of the American College Dance Festival. The dance, "Evening Dialogue" choreographed and set by Linda Phenix, will be performed by Rice students Karen Gastreich and James Martin. This was one of only two dances nominated from the South Central Division of A.C.D.F., the largest and strongest of the ten divisions. The honor is all the more significant when one realizes that Rice is the only major university at the festival which does not offer a degree in dance.

Theatre
Alley Theatre. Lyle Kessler’s play Orphans is currently playing on the Arena stage, and will continue through May 25. The drama concerns the relationship between two orphaned brothers, the older of which provides for them both through petty thievery. Their world is thrown into disarray with the arrival of a mysterious, well-spoken Chicago mobster, who also happens to be an orphan. The play has had successful runs in N.Y. and London, and is set to be produced as a feature film. Performances are Tuesday through Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturdays at 4:00 and 9:00 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: 228-8421.

Dance
Houston Ballet: The final performance of the 1985-86 season will run from May 29 through June 1 at Jones Hall. The company then departs on a tour of the Far East. Included on the program are Jack Carter’s Witch Boy, a ballet freely based on The Ballad of Barbara Allen to a commissioned score by Leonard Salzedo; Western Symphony, a Balanchine classic to music which is based on Western songs; and Suite Texas, a work by company member Kristine Richmond. Performances are at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, with matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Tickets: 227-ARTS.

Music
Rice Symphony Orchestra. On May 16 in Jones Hall, the orchestra presents a concert entitled The Judy Garland Years. Featured are Donna Theodore as Garland and Ned Bariata narrating an overview of the singer’s film music. The concert begins at 8:30 p.m. Tickets: 227-ARTS.

Exhibits
Museum of Fine Arts: On May 17, the museum will present the first large scale survey of Texas landscapes in 20th century art. The Texas Landscape, 1900-1986, includes 153 paintings, sculpture, works on paper and photographs by 82 artists. Part of the sesquicentennial celebration, the exhibit contains some unexpected and eccentric notions of the Texas landscape. The exhibit will be on view through September 7. Information: 526-1361.

Dance
Houston Ballet: The Judy Garland Years. Featuring are Donna Theodore as Garland and Ned Bariata narrating an overview of the singer’s film music. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Tickets: 227-ARTS.

Industrial and Cultural Seminar Tours
JAPAN, HONG KONG, & CHINA 14 DAYS
Japan’s Industrial and Technological Advancements
Cultural and Historical Seminars
Industrial and Economic Seminars
The Japan Experience
In Addition...Visit to Hong Kong and China (Guangzhou)

Departure Dates
Los Angeles San Francisco
June 25 June 18
July 23 July 16

Tour Price From Los Angeles/San Francisco $2,048.00

Brochure and Information
Japan Travel of Houston
920 First City Tower, Houston, Texas 77002
(713) 658-1933
Netters almost sweep SWC tourney

Providing at least one terrific finish to the 1985-1986 academic year, the Rice men's and women's tennis teams pulled off stunning performances in the Southwest Conference Tournament last month.

Although each team performed separately, the combined results proved to be an impressive tally for Rice in SWC sports.

In men's tennis, sophomore Scott McViel fought his way to the finals in the number one singles before losing to Kimm Alkin of Texas A&M (3-6, 6-4, 6-3). That in itself was no small feat.

In the number one doubles, however, Rice went all the way. Men's singles player Andrew Taylor teamed with Scott Kruger of Southern Methodist (6-4, 4-6, 7-6). The victory for Rice was a crowning achievement to the team, which, under coach Larry Turville, has made a complete reversal from the dismal 1984 season. The men's squad finished the year with an overall 17-8 record.

In women's tennis, Rice claimed victory in both the number one singles and number one doubles matches. Senior All-American Wendy Wood downed Rene Simpson of Texas Christian University in the singles and then combined with sophomore Lori Cronk to beat Kathy Foxworth/ Stina Ailgren (7-3, 3-6, 6-2) of Houston to capture the number one doubles title.

In capturing both the number one singles and doubles titles in the conference championships, Wood became the decade's first female tennis player in history to win both crowning achievements in the same year.

Wood already has claimed the number one singles title last year and has teamed with Susan Rudd to win the number one doubles title at the 1984 league tournament. With her dual victory this year's tournament, Wood also became the first Rice tennis player in more than 25 years to capture both men and women's singles and doubles titles.

Wood's career at Rice has been a remarkable one. In 1984, she became the first female tennis player in history to win both the singles and doubles titles in the conference championships. That year, she also became the first female tennis player in history to win both the singles and doubles titles at the NCAA tournament.

In addition to her collegiate success, Wood has earned national and international recognition, as well. She reached the round of 16 in the 1984 United States Olympic Trials. Last summer, she was chosen for the U.S. Tennis Association Junior Federation Cup team and represented the United States at the World University Games in Kobe, Japan.

Wood, who graduated last week from Rice University, has combined with Lori Cronk to win the number one doubles title. The Owl duo has a 15-7 spring record and a number 25 national ranking and is hoping to qualify for the NCAA tournament.

In this age of the tennis brat, the over-paid under-achiever, and drug-marred performances, it is Wood's personality that so many find refreshing. Although she has an no-nonsense approach to tennis, she is not akin to the tantrum-like theatrics of many of tennis' top performers.

"Wendy is a class act and off the court. She has been a great ambassador for Rice University," said Owls' coach Paul Blankenheim.

"She draws people to her because of her pleasant demeanor and excellent court etiquette. The class she displays on the court is very much present in her personal life as well."

Wood takes a more practical approach to her court behavior. "It doesn't help me to get mad. I try to stay focused on what I'm doing. To do that, I must stick with my game, maintain my confidence and keep doing the things I do best rather than worrying about the little things I work for, " she said.

"But I can understand why some tennis players occasionally lose their cool. The top players have been on top for a while and they expect to be beat. It makes it difficult for them to accept losing to a lower-ranked player," she explained.

Blankenheim has nothing but praise for his star player who has been the SWC Player-of-the-Year the last two seasons and an all-league pick the last three years.

"Wendy has had the greatest impact of any player on the Rice women's tennis program," her coach said. "She has elevated the program to a new level, made the program more visible to the public and has made us competitive on a national level. Coaching her has been like a dream come true. A lot of coaches have had players of Wendy's caliber, but a lot of players at that level aren't coachable. I was lucky to find someone like Wendy who has a great amount of talent and is very coachable.

"Wendy's the best player I've ever coached and certainly the most acclaimed Rice women's player ever," he noted. "Not only has she received great acclaim for herself, but in so doing has gained a great deal of acclaim for the Rice tennis program and the university."
Uncle Jim, is it better to stay in school or to graduate?

Well wasn’t graduation wonderful! All of our senior buddies left us for high salaries and fast-paced lives. They are now alumni and will be contributing heavily to this school’s endowment, so treat them nicely. And us undergrads are still plugging away. We feel like a team, and girls with tans are all we have to look forward to. Not a job in Cleveland, or field work in Arizona, or even lab research in a building with no windows. If you want brevity, I’ll give it to you in a minute. Now I’m sure we’ve all heard a lot of bitching by everybody about how badly they would like to be out of here. Well screw that! College is a vacation, and we owe it to ourselves to stay as long as possible.

But will be strong in SWC

continued from page 14

bitten the bullet teamwise because of all the injuries, but we will benefit from that next year and for years to come. As it stands now Gawan Guy will run the 1500 or 5000 meter races or both. Patrick Gordon will probably run the open 400 meter dash and both the 400 and 1600 meter relays. Elliston Stinson is showing signs of getting back to last year’s form. Jerry Capps jumped 7’0” earlier in the year and will place if he jumps 7’0” or higher at the conference meet. Both relays may not be competitive in this conference, where four or five other teams are tops in the world. But we do have a chance to do well at the national meet.”

Although the women’s team is smaller than most of the other teams in the conference, Head Coach Victor Lopez is optimistic about the team’s chances at the conference meet, based on their performances at the Mount Sac Relays and the University of Houston Invitational.

At the Mount Sac Relays, sophomore All-American Pam Klassen ran a 9:20 in the 3000 meters, her best outdoor effort this year. Catherine Spradley ran a personal best of 34:02.4 in the 10,000 meter event. Senior All-American Katrice Harris finished second in the 100 meter dash open division with a time of 11.77. Freshman Maureen Stewart finished third in the 800 meter dash with a time of 2:10. The mile relay also ran well without All-Americans Monique Millar and Tanya McIntosh. Tammy Welch, Katrice Harris, Maureen Stewart and Viki Carruthers combined to run a 3:40.9. NCAA indoor champion Regina Cavaunagh placed third with a heave of 57” in the shot put.

At the UH meet, freshman Mary Wallace placed third in the discus with a personal best of 146.8. Catherine Spradley ran second in the 3000 meters. Pam Klassen ran the 800 in 2:14. Maureen Stewart finished second in the 800 in 2:09.3, a personal best. Michelle Barz ran the 800 in 2:12.1, another personal best.

Commenting on the SWC meet, Lopez said, “We’re pretty slim in the sprint area. We will have a 400 meter relay but it won’t be our best. The rest of our people are looking well. Once again, we’ll be fighting for third teamwise with the University of Kansas. We don’t have depth but we do have some quality.”

Men’s coach Straub added, “We are looking forward to hosting the meet. It will be an extra incentive for our people to do well. There’s a possibility of having between five and seven thousand people out there.” Commenting on the other teams, Straub said, “On the one hand, with the competition it should be a great meet. Arkansas is not a shoe-in to win the team title. They will have a lot of competition from Texas A&M, UT and SMU.”

Just to think about the real world is scary, with all of its pressures and responsibilities. If you make a lot of money, you’re expected to dress nicely. So mix that favorite tee-shirt of yours, and don’t even tell anyone that you own tie-died clothing. And for the guys, here’s the end of getting drafted on dates. No more of this “Hey, I’m a poor college student” stuff. Life insurance, money. Ask, escrow, dividends, TAXES — all terms associated with the college society. No more sleeping through lunch, getting blasted at four on Friday afternoons, or passing out on a strange couch (or quad) on the weekends. You won’t be able to casually date anyone, with the word “palimony” hovering over anyone’s head who resides in the upper income bracket. But worst of all, you won’t have the same opportunity to act like an idiot. You can’t cover yourself with melted butter and run through a party looking for popcorn, pass off a balcony and the people below you, or tell a girl that you love her, so drunk that you almost believe it yourself.

No, right here is the place to be. Instead of worrying about graduating, people should be more concerned with extracurriculars. Getting good at intramurals is one thing that’s high on the list. No one should graduate without going to the BBQ for Intramural Champs. Holding some kind of bogus elected position is another scam — just look at what Barry gets to put on his resume. Nowhere else on earth can you go to parties and get smashed for a buck or even nothing. Nowhere else will a freshman look up to you and say, “Gee, you’re wonderful.” And never again will you be able to lock your thumbs together, wave your fingers, and yell “Hooohooooo,” cr without looking like a complete dumbhead.

In conclusion, my message to the graduates, who really couldn’t care less what I said, is — Good Luck. Please contribute heavily to the endowment. And to everyone coming back next year — remember, the skanking begins on day

Apple puts the fun back into student demonstrations.

All you have to do is march yourself down to your campus microcomputer center before May 15th and spend five fun-packed minutes letting us demonstrate how a Macintosh computer can make life much more pleasant for you.

In return, we’ll enter your name into a drawing where one very lucky person on campus will win the grand prize of five hundred dollars. That’s $500  Cash. American.

To spend on your education, or something really worthwhile.

And, for those of you with the average amount of luck, there are free Apple® painter’s caps for everyone who comes in and learns how a Macintosh can help you work better, faster, and smarter.

It’s one demonstration that could change your life.
Going to SMU for the education is scene r...