

# *Bowling for Trojans*

Third Third 2006

*Bowling for Trojans* is the electronic newsletter for the Rice community in Colorado. It is witty, clever, and smirk inducing. It is usually in hard-copy format and titled *Bowling for Furniture*, but that is unimportant for now. This, however, is the special “The Rice Football Owls Are Going to a Bowl Game, Can You Freakin’ Believe It?” issue of *Bowling for Trojans* because Rice Owls Football is going to to a bowl game (and playing the Troy University Trojans). Can you freakin’ believe it?

## **RICE IS GOING TO THE NEW ORLEANS BOWL IN, OF ALL PLACES, NEW ORLEANS, ON DECEMBER 22 TO PLAY THE TROY TROJANS**

Okay, I don’t mean to say that Troy is the natural rival for Rice, but the original name of the school was The Normal College. Can anything be more the antithesis of Rice than The Normal College? (Do you think its band plays the Goo Goo Dolls’ “We Are the Normal” every 45 seconds, the way the MOB plays “Louie Louie”?)

Rice’s last bowl appearance was in the 1961 Bluebonnet Bowl. That is right — the “Bluebonnet Bowl,” NOT the “Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl.” This means Rice’s last bowl appearance pre-dates the U.S. space program.

The last time Rice won a bowl was the 1954 Cotton Bowl, which included one of the most famous plays in college football history. Rice led Alabama 7–6 late in the first half. Rice’s **Dicky Maegle ’55** got the ball at Rice’s five yard line and was 55 yards down the sideline and behind all the Alabama defenders when Alabama’s Tommy Lewis (as if) tackled him from off the bench at about the Alabama 40.

The officials awarded Rice a touchdown, even though the rule book didn’t provide that penalty. The 95-yard touchdown run is still the longest in Cotton Bowl history. [Editor’s note: If you’d read “Strange But True Football Stories” when you were a kid, as I did, I wouldn’t have to tell you this stuff.]

Not to say this was a long time ago, but not only did Rice beat Alabama 28–6 and finish No. 6 in both the AP and UPI polls, but grown men were known as “Dicky.”

All that is over now. A new era is dawning, which Rice will initiate with another bowl victory over an Alabama school. Nice symmetry, eh?

For those of you not joining me and **Ralph “the Wonderdog” Werling ’84** in the Big Easy for the game, **Cindy Lindsay ’73** and **Steve Sheafor ’72** will host a bowl party at their house (1133 Timber Lane, Boulder) to watch the game on their bigger-than-yours-screen TV. It’ll start at 5:30 p.m. and run through Rice’s victory. There’ll be po’ boys, muffalettas, red beans and rice, and Jax beer.

Cindy and Steve need a headcount, so contact Cindy at [cindy.lindsay@alumni.rice.edu](mailto:cindy.lindsay@alumni.rice.edu) or call her at 720-249-4112 to let her know you’ll be attending.

Can you freakin’ believe it? Go Owls!