

**T****SPORTS OUTLOOK****T****BY ALTON S. QUEEN****The Battalion Sports Editor Peers At The Southwest Conference Situation**

Football critics who were so anxious to predict the outcome of the Southwest Conference football race before the season began are now watching their chance to change their decisions as Rice Institute placed a big stumbling block in the way Saturday afternoon when they whipped the S M U Ponies 9 to 0 in the first conference tilt of the season for each team. Sports scribes in Southwest Conference schools had the championship flag floating beautifully over the S M U Stadium long before the season began. The seasoned material of Ray Morrison, dean of passing coaches, and Matty Bell, one of the best defensive coaches in the conference, could not be mastered on paper, but the Rice Owls engineered the problem in grand style when they drubbed the favorites at Rice Stadium Saturday and completely stopped the shifty Bob Wilson on running plays.

As the dope went, S M U was rated first on the ladder with Arkansas and T C U slated to fight it out for the other top berths. Since the season started, however, the Texas University Steers have loomed up as a strong contender even though they have not played a conference game. Texas beat the strong Notre Dame team 7 to 6 and in turn the Irish trounced the Purdue Boilermakers, who had suffered a 14 to 0 defeat by Rice, 18 to 7.

Arkansas is still a hard team to beat, as they have defeated both T C U and Baylor in conference tilts. One disadvantage to the Razorbacks is that they play Texas, A and M, and S M U away from home. The Porkers have a well balanced team, but they lack blocking which will hurt when they run into the strong Rice and Texas lines. The Rice line held the S M U running attack, and the only way the Ponies could hope to gain was by the aerial route. Arkansas showed plenty of power at T C U in the opening game of the conference driving hard on running plays and mixing some timely passing along. When they met the Baylor crew in Little Rock last Saturday, it was all the Razorbacks could do to eke out a 6 to 0 victory over them.

Rice has a trio of good backs in John McCauley, Bill Wallace, and Doc Metzler. The Owls can count on them for speed and plenty of power. Bill Wallace is capable of punting to the disaster of any team in the Southwest Conference. Wallace booted the ball for an average of 34 yards per punt in the Rice-S M U tussle

and showed a lot of power on line drives. The only decisive weakness that could be seen from the game with the Mustangs was that they could not pass. The Owls stopped tossing passes the first half when they failed to gain on every try of the afternoon.

T C U and the Aggies hold the center of the football stage in the Southwest Conference this week as the Cadets entertain the Horned Toads at College Station. T C U went to Tulsa and defeated the University of Tulsa 14 to 12 in a heated battle there. It was the second time the Tulsa team had been defeated in two years. The Frogs come to A and M heavy favorites to win, but the Aggies are equal to anything the Frogs can offer. At Beaumont Saturday the game looked as if nothing short of a scoreless tie was in store for either team until the Centenary back grabbed a pass thrown by Couser to give them their first counter. An Aggie victory would mean that the Aggies would be one of the strong contenders. Too, the Aggies will be bearing down with all they have to give their coaches, Homer Norton and Cal Hubbard, a good start in the Southwest conference as they make their debuts in the conference Saturday at Kyle field.

Last year the Cadets went to Fort Worth after a thrilling 13 to 0 victory over the Green Wave as heavy favorites to win the game and also the Southwest Conference championship. The Frogs won the game and put the Aggies out of the race. This year when most of the critics think the Aggies will be an also ran, the victory thirsty Cadets have an even chance to make the 13 to 0 loss inspire them to a victory over the same team that defeated them last year. The Frogs showed a mixture of power plays and passing in both the last two games, but in neither game did they show an outstanding defense. The Aggie backs are likely to show more aggressiveness than has been shown this season against the Frog defense. Nash Thompson, who has been kicking with considerable accuracy, showed up well in Beaumont and drove through for some neat broken field running.

In the games for this week Rice goes to Omaha, Nebraska for a game with Creighton. It will be a night game. Arkansas plays Louisiana State at Shreveport. The University of Texas Longhorns play Centenary at Austin. S M U will entertain the Oklahoma Aggies in Dallas, and Baylor will go over to Abilene for a game with Hardin-Simmons.