SWC Athletic Meet Starts Today At Fort Worth

FORT WORTH (A)—Defending champions Butch Seewagen of Rice in tennis and Robert Mc-Kinney of Texas Tech in golf will be in the field that opens the Southwest Conference athletic meet Thursday.

Seewagen, who beat Tod Gorski last year for the singles title, also is defending champion in the doubles champion in the doubles although his partner, Mike Hamilton, is not around this time. Seewagen will pair with John Pickens, who lost in the singles finals in 1966.

In fact Rice has so many top players—it won the team title round-robin with a perfect 36-0 record—that it is entering only its seniors. They will play both singles and doubles.

Tennis starts at 9 a.m. Thursday and will run three days. It will be at Ridgles Country Club.
Golf also opens Thursday but

it runs only two days, with 36 holes each day.

McKinney won the championship last year by a 10-stroke margin when he shot 276 for 72 holes. Chip Stewart of Texas, who was second with 286, and Rik Massengale of Texas, third with 292, also are back.

Texas is defending team champion and will have four players in the tournament scheduled for Glen Garden Country Club, which is 7,243 yards and has a par o

Texas A&M will have three as runnerup. Baylor and Texas Tech will enter two each, and Southern Methodist, Texas Christian, Arkansas and Rice one apiece.

Stewart had the top record in match play when he won six of his seven matches. McKinney only broke even and Massengale was 4-1-2. Bill Wade of Texas A&M, who finished fifth last year, had a 5-1 match play record.

The annual track and field meet, scheduled to be its closest in almost 50 years, will open Friday at Farrington Field. Preliminaries are scheduled in running events and finals in the javelin and discus. All other finals will be Saturday, field events opening at 2:30 p.m. and

running events at 4 p.m.

The track meet is expected to be tight fight among Texas, Rice and Baylor with the former a

very light favorite. This is true since Conley Brown, the Rice crack quarter-miler, may not be able to run because of a thigh

Brown wouldn't be the favorite in the quarter, where Dave Morton of Texas is rated No. 1, but he could get some valuable points in that event plus do some top work on the relay teams.

Track experts were pointing to a trend on the Southwest Conference meet where 34 of the 52

champions have won the mile relay. This has been true in 9 of the last 13.

Texas, which ran 3:05.5 last week, is favored to win the mile relay even though Brown might

be running.

The closest meet ever held was in 1920 when Texas won with 36% points, Baylor was second with 33 14-15 and Rice was next with 33 1-5. Indications are that only a point may separate the three leaders this time.

