

# Rice Downs Horns, Takes Over Tennis

The Rice Owls defeated the Texas Longhorns Tuesday in Austin to put them at the top of the Southwest Conference tennis standings in their efforts to repeat as SWC champs.

The 6-0 win gave Rice an 11-1 record and decisive wins over their top contenders, Texas and Texas Tech. The Houstonians dumped Tech 5-1 last Friday.

Tech has regrouped to bomb A&M 6-0 and TCU 5-1 in Tuesday's match and is now in good shape for a second place finish or still an outside shot at the championship. The Red Raiders who don't see anymore conference action until next Tuesday when they host SMU in Lubbock have a 12-6 record.

Texas which was tied by sur-

prising SMU Saturday now has a 3-9 record.

A&M will meet SMU today in Dallas in the only conference match scheduled for Wednesday.

The Aggies will travel to Oklahoma City Thursday to play in the Oklahoma City Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament over the weekend. They will play the host team, Oklahoma City University.

# Mets Win 1st Season Opener

By Dick Couch  
Associated Press Sports Writer

Frank Lucchesi is off and running; Sparky Anderson is off and winging and the New York Mets are finally off on the right foot.

It took one Short cut to get Lucchesi in high gear, two arms to get Anderson off the ground . . . and eight years and 11 innings to get the Mets safely out of the starting gate.

Left-hander Chris Short, sidelined virtually all last year by a back injury, gave Lucchesi a rousing sendoff as Philadelphia's new manager Tuesday by pitching the Phillies to a 2-0 victory over the Chicago Cubs.

Right-hander Gary Nolan kept Anderson, Cincinnati's new skipper, in orbit by following southpaw Jim Merritt's three-hit opening day triumph over Mon-

treal with a two-hit 4-0 conquest of Los Angeles.

The world champion Mets, winless in all eight of their previous season openers, tripped Pittsburgh 5-3 on Donn Clendenon's two-run pinch single in the 11th inning.

Short, who pitched just 10 innings last April before undergoing surgery for the removal of a herniated disc, launched his

comeback with a five-hit performance against the powerful Phils. It was his first victory since 1929, 1968, and his third opening day shutout in 11 years with Phils.

Nolan, 21, checked the Dodgers on two singles—both by Tom Crawford—and permitted four other runners to reach base on walks and the other an error.

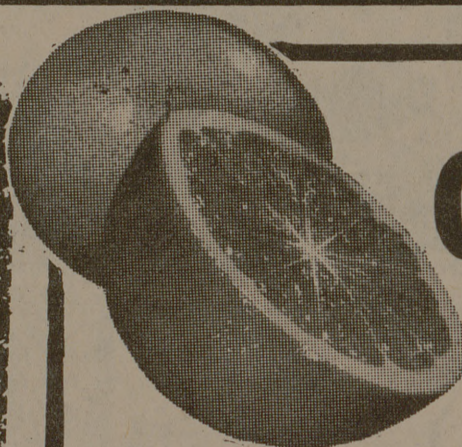


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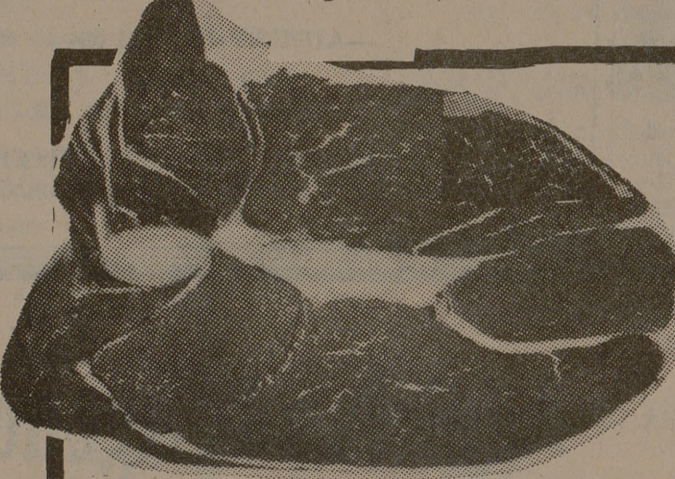
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