BB Tourney Sees Aggies Favorite
By TED HERMANN
Led by All-Tournament selections Tom Robitaille and Dale Ball, Coach Don Suman's Rice Owls captured third place in the SWC Basketball Tournament held here in Houston over the holidays.

Rice Over Texas 62-43
Before an opening night capacity crowd the Owls defeated the University of Texas Longhorns 62-43, as Rice was led in scoring by Dale Ball with 14 points. Also in the first round, A&M defeated Texas Tech 66-58, SMU downed Arkansas 65-64, and TCU came from behind to finally nip Baylor 62-55.

Semi-Finals
In semi-final action the Rice Owls played the finest basketball played by a Rice team in many a year before finally bowing to the Texas Aggies 60-59: Led by Tom Robitaille with 27 points, the Owls outscored the Cadets from the field but connected with only 9 out of 19 free throws while A&M was hitting 12 of 19. In other semi-final action TCU defeated SMU 75-64, Arkansas nosed out Baylor 60-57, and Tech squeaked by Texas 59-57.

In the final round Baylor downed Texas for seventh place by a score of 75-54, while Tech grabbed fifth place by defeating Arkansas 76-62. That evening Rice hit 56.3 percent from the field playing the second half to come from behind and defeat SMU 81-79 for third place in the tournament.

The Owls were again led in scoring by Robitaille with 27 points. A&M then won its first tournament championship by completely dominating a fine TCU team in a 65-50 victory.