Longhorns Win Battle, Lowly Seven Win War
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The Longhorns of Texas won the 1959 SWC title battle, but Rice and the other six conference schools won the sportsmanship war New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. We refer, of course, to the 7-1 vote reinstating the presently defunct SWC Sportsmanship Trophy.

After casting the only opposing vote to what they appear to consider an empty and insignificant award at the winter meeting of the SWC Sportsmanship Committee, the Texans then proved to some 75,000 Cotton Bowlers and several million TV viewers, with some second period fisticuffs, that the real emptiness at Austin is the complete lack of any sportsmanship whatsoever.

Rebels Number One
By allowing their tempers to get the best of them, the Longhorns lost practically all the glory that would have been theirs for an outstanding effort against the highly rated supermen form the East. Meanwhile, down in New Orleans, Ole Miss and LSU were staging one of the hardest hitting defensive shows ever witnessed in college football.

With their 21-0 victory over the Tigers, the Rebs justly laid claim to the 1959 national title over the Orangemen of Syracuse, whose chief backers are the same group of Yankee sportswriters that earlier in the season voted "mighty" Yale into the top ten.

Rogs, Meredith Shine
Only a light, mobile Arkansas eleven and Don Meredith were able to give the SWC victories in the post season classics. The Panthers, handled Bobby Dodd's first bowl defeat in nine trips, gave the conference its first bowl victory in the last seven starts, while Meredith passed the West to an exciting 21-14 victory over the East in San Francisco.

Two Rice stars, Bill Bueck and Gordon Speer, continued to win further glory for themselves over the holidays, Bueck by booting three PAT's and playing some excellent defensive ball in the East-West Shrine Game, and Speer by kicking five of six extra points and scoring on a pass interception in the All-Star game at Tucson.

Owls Finish Last
But in Houston, the 1959-60 Rice basketball squad was finding the going pretty rough, as the Owls lost three straight to finish eighth in the SWC Tourney. Falling before Texas, TCU, and Texas Tech, the Owls never came closer to victory than eleven points and thrice showed their complete inability to play defense without fouling.

Adding more gloom to the picture is the fact that the Frogs and the Red Raiders were picked, along with the Owls, to finish at the bottom of this year's title race.