Rice, LSU Renew Rivalry; Tigers Ahead In Series

By MILTON NIRKEN

The experts forsee this Rice-LSU season opener as one of the best intersectional games of the 1961 football season. The Rice-LSU rivalry is one of the nation's oldest and best.

Last year was one of the few times Rice and LSU haven't played each other since 1932. The first of the Owl-Tiger games was played in 1915 and there have been 30 games since then. LSU won the last encounter in the 1959 season opener and increased their commanding 18-9-3 edge in the series; however, under current coaches Jess Neely and Paul Dietzel, the series is even up at 2-2-1.

AFTER TWO great seasons in 1958 and 1959, during which time the Tigers suffered only one regular season loss, the 1960 squad had a 5-4-1 record. How-

(Continued on Page 10)
however, LSU lost three games in a row by a field goal margin and ended up the '60 campaign as the leading defensive team in the country.

Two of the reasons why the Tigers are picked to be a top contender this year are the 25 returning lettermen and the fact that the '60 squad finished the season with four straight victories.

The main weakness of the Tiger team is a lack of experienced ends and centers. In this respect, The Owls and Tigers are even. However, LSU lacks the overall defensive potential of the Owl squad.

MANY OBSERVERS think that the winner of this opener (and perhaps the loser, too) will be a strong bet to be in a top bowl game after the regular campaign. Nevertheless, this Saturday night the expected 70,000 fans can look forward to one of the hardest fought games of the season.