Owls Absorb First Loss, Aim For Second League Win

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The Rice Owls went down to their first defeat of the young baseball season Tuesday afternoon, hung with a 9-3 loss by the always troublesome Bearkats of Sam Houston State.

Friday the Owls tangle with Tech on the Rice diamond before journeying to Austin Saturday for a conference tilt with the Texas Longhorns.

Profitable Weekend

Dell Morgan’s crew enjoyed a very profitable weekend by chalk- ing up victories over Texas Lutheran and Texas Christian, but suddenly went sour during their visit to Huntsville. The Owls committed seven errors afiel d and could show only six hits for the afternoon.

However, it was a much different story on last Friday and Saturday. The Owls blasted 15 hits off of three TLC pitchers while posting a 12-8 victory. Richard Kristinik led the attack with four hits including a double and Lee Raesener added three singles.

Jim Brock worked the first five innings and allowed nine hits although he fanned seven. Bill Donaldson finished up and struck out six in a four inning stint. Brock received credit for the win, his second in the Owls’ first two games.

TCU Thriller

On Saturday the Owls provided a Frank Merriwell finish to gain a 10-9 victory over TCU in their conference opener. Trailing 9-8 going into the last of the ninth, Kristinik led off with his first home run of the 1960 campaign and Jim Fox followed with a double.

Al Hartman sent Fox home with the winning run as he shot a single into left field. Hartman was the hitting star of this ball game with three singles. Kristinik, Raesener, and captain-elect Bobby Moy all chipped in with two hits.

Lefthander Paul Timme was the winning pitcher although he pitched to only one batter.

Overrated Pitchers?

The Owls’ highly-rated pitching staff has not lived up to its advanced billing thus far. They have allowed 26 runs and 34 hits through the first four games while the bats of the Owls have accounted for 32 runs on 45 hits.

Next week will be a busy one for the team as they have a Tuesday meeting with the Aggies, face Oklahoma State, last year’s NCAA champions, on Wednesday and Thursday, and encounter a tough Baylor team on Saturday. All of these will be home games for the Owls.