Hogs Can "Cinch" Crown; Four-Way Tie Possible

By CHUCK YINGLING

As the SWC race enters the November stretch drive, the Arkansas Razorbacks face the prospect of having a share of the loop crown all but sewed up. A defeat of Rice would leave the Razorbacks with only one conference defeat and a cinch for a share of the title, provided they beat Texas Tech and SMU, which they would be highly favored to do.

Likewise, a defeat by Arkansas would make the Owls' chances of a trip to the Cotton Bowl very slim indeed. If Rice won all of the rest of its games, Arkansas would still be the host team for the Jan. 2 classic since the Porks haven't been since 1955 and Rice's last trip was in 1958.

IN OTHER words, this week's outing is a must for the Owls if they are to have more than an outside chance at the Cotton Bowl. Even if they win this week, and if Texas also beats Baylor, the possibility would still remain for TCU to win the title outright, or for even a four-way tie between Rice, Baylor, Arkansas, and Texas.

This would happen if Rice lost to A & M and Baylor beat TCU, and the other three schools went undefeated the rest of the season. This could happen since none of them will play each other after this week.

IN THIS CASE, all four schools would wind up with 5-2 records, and Baylor would go to the Cotton Bowl since they have never been. (TCU, with one loss and one tie so far, would have to win the title outright, as they couldn't possibly tie).

All of this just goes to show that the wild and woolly Southwest Conference has been made even wilder and woollier by the expansion to an eight-team title race. Great Zot, a four-way tie!...

After consuming half a bottle of aspirin, I shall attempt to finish this column... right now, one vote for Jess Neely for "Coach of the Year" in the SWC. Four of the top ten scorers in the conference are Owls: Billy Cox, Butch Blume, Max Webb, and Jerry Candler. Neely-coached Owl teams have won 7 of 11 Arkansas games played in the...