

# Rice Nine Splits With TCU, Loses To Farmers, 8-3

The Rice baseball team split a two game series with TCU last weekend and then lost to the Aggies Tuesday. On Friday, Rice won 2-1 with Pitcher Mickey Holder striking out the last two TCU batters with the bases loaded in the top of the ninth.

The winning run was scored when Andy Rooker stole home in the eighth inning. Knowing that Rooker was stealing, the TCU catcher stepped in front of the batter on the pitcher's pitch to the plate. The batter hit him on the back of the head with a full swing. It required several stitches to close the cut.

Saturday was different. Pitchers Bill Palfer and John McDonald allowed 14 hits and five earned runs as Rice lost 5-2.

Rice scored both its runs in the third inning on bases loaded bunts by Ricky Blume and R. J. Nitsche.

Last Tuesday, the Owls lost a make up game to the Aggies 8-3 at College Station. Andy Rooker hit safely in his 12th straight conference game and has also been nominated for all-SWC honors.

The Owls are now 4-8 in conference play with five games remaining.