Spring Brings Changes

By JOHN ALEXANDER


Most everyone has given up on the basketball team. Even Tuesday night, when it looked at times like Rice might win, there were murmurs of "They haven't won until the game is over." "They still have ten minutes to blow it." "I hope they don't win, it might break our record." So now, we should resign ourselves to a probable perfect record in basketball.

Last semester was not a very productive one for Rice sports—2-8 in football and bearing down on the longest losing streak in NCAA college basketball. This semester things have to be different. The tennis team begins action soon. The track and baseball teams have been working out steadily since the first couple of weeks of the semester. For the last two years, the tennis and track teams have won the SWC title. The baseball team has seen steady improvement over the last couple of years.

But this semester this column will have to be different. The editor mentioned last week that the athletic situation at Rice needs to be reviewed. Just last Monday, Rice announced the signing of a contract to play Notre Dame in 1973. Certainly, as the Post article indicated, this squashed any rumors that Rice intended to de-emphasize athletics.

In the next few weeks, this column will contain a series of articles written covering as wide a range of feelings as can be sampled. The articles will attempt to analyze how the athlete is viewed by the Rice community and where his position is in the future development of Rice. Also, the articles will try to delve into the influence of scholarship athletics on Rice's academic atmosphere.