SMU DROPS RICE TO 3RD SWC SPOT

By Ted Hermann

Behind eight infield errors, two wild pitches, and two hit basemen, coach Del Morgan’s Rice Owls went down to defeat in an eleven-inning marathon at the hands of SMU last Friday, 7-6. For the third straight game, the once-potent bats of the Rice infield were silent as the Owls collected nine hits, all of them singles. But although the Rice infield did poorly at the plate, they did even worse in the field as each infielder had at least one error.

Pitching Fine

The only bright spot in the loss was the continued fine performance of the Owl pitching staff. Jim Brock worked the first seven innings, gave up only four hits and struck out seven. Weldon McFarland came on in relief to finish up the game for the Owls, pitched 3 2/3 innings, gave up two hits and struck out two. A great credit to the Rice pitchers is the fact that all seven of the Mustang’s runs were unearned.

The second game of the scheduled two game series was called off Saturday due to rain. The game will be played at the end of the season only if it has some bearing on the outcome of the conference race.

To Meet Aggies

The Owls, who were dropped to third place in the conference race by the loss, get a chance to regain the number two spot as they encounter the second place Texas Aggies in two game s this weekend. The first game will be here in Houston Friday afternoon while the second game will be played at College Station Saturday.

Tuesday, the Owls lost their third straight game by one run as they went down to defeat before Sam Houston 3-2. The Owls looked much sharper afield this game, committing only three errors and executing two double plays. The Owls, who out hit the Bearkats 11-9, were led at the plate by shortstop Lynwood Stallings with 3 for 4, including a double and a triple.