Nothing At All

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It's hard to say something nice about a team with an 0-10 record, but one can always try. The first thing that can be applauded is that this year's team can score and score fairly big. Many teams in the top twenty are not averaging much better than the Owls' 81.2 points a game. Doug McKendrick has shown that he will score a consistent 25 points a game.

The Owls also play a fairly exciting brand of basketball. They get ahead sometime in the first half, lose the lead early in the second half and fall behind 10 points. With about ten minutes left they start a comeback that will close the gap to 2 or 3 points, but then they falter at the end and lose by 7 or 8.

One final humorous thing about this team is that it has several players who get into foul trouble early in the game. There are always several clowns in the stand keeping a closer count on the fouls than the score and trying to figure which player will foul out first.

We may be in the same position we were in last year. Instead of fighting and complaining about a losing team, we ought to enjoy it. No one minds watching a team lose when they aren't expected to win by anyone—and after losing 20 in a row no one is expecting too much of the Owls.

These first ten games—minus the Texas game—were for practice. The next thirteen count. I don't think the Owls will come anywhere near the conference championship, but this year the SWC is not so strong that the Owls shouldn't finish much better than last. Rice should be able to beat some of their current neighbors in the cellar (non-conference play)—TCU and Baylor. And this is our year to beat Texas, at least once, so add up one more win. In my fogged up crystal ball, it looks like a middle of the conference finish.