2:30 p.m. Saturday

Rice Nine Hosts Baylor

By FRANK ERNAGA
Thresher Sports Staff

Currently leading the conference, coach Dell Morgan's Rice Owls face their second crucial test of the week Saturday as they play host to the Baylor Bears in their last home encounter before a three game conference road trip next week.

The Owls continued their winning ways Tuesday by trimming the Texas Aggies 4-3 Tuesday. Once again the Owls played exciting, crowd pleasing baseball as they had to come from behind to capture their second straight conference game. Paul Timme became the first Rice pitcher to hurl the route as he scattered seven hits and upped his season's record to 2-1. Both his victories have come against conference competition.

Rice scored the winning run in the last of the eighth when, with two men out, Bobby Lively doubled deep to left center field for his second hit of the day. Coach Dell Morgan called on Butch Blume to pinch hit and he came through with a clean single to center to score Lively. Richard Kristnik accounted for the first tally with his leadoff home run in the second inning.

The Aggies, however, made a serious threat to pull the game out of the fire in the ninth inning. But shortstop Kenny Pyle made a diving stab of a sharp line drive and converted it into the game ending double play, for his tenth chance without an error for the afternoon.

Rice seems to come up with a different hero or combination of heroes each game. Last Friday afternoon it was Bill Donaldson and Jim Brock, who combined to throw a brilliant two-hitter at Texas Tech. Donaldson pitched the first five innings without allowing a hit and finished by allowing only one hit in the seven innings that he worked. Brock tossed the final two innings and was touched for only one single.

Rained out in Austin Saturday, the Owls were scheduled to play host to Oklahoma State, last year's NCAA champions, Wednesday and Thursday.