Duke Becomes King
With 24 - 7 Rice Gift

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After three weeks of waiting, watching, and listening, the Rice student body gets their first chance to look at their 1959 football team Saturday night as the Owls play host to Florida in their first home game of the season.

The Owls dropped their second decision of the year last Saturday to a big and powerful Duke eleven by a 24 - 7 score.

Capitalizing on two Rice fumbles and a pass interception, the Blue Devils scored three easy touchdowns with marches of only 15, 29, and 34 yards. The final Duke score, a 20 yard field goal, coming after a 62 yard march, was the only Blue Devil score of the day which could be considered "earned."

With improved defensive end and corner linebacking play, the Owls were pretty effective in preventing the Blue Devils from going wide. However, at the same time the Owls left their interior line vulnerable as Duke ground out a total of 236 yards on the ground behind the fine running of Joel Arrington.

Improvement At Least

The improved defensive play at end and linebacker only served only 5 out of 14, the Owls finished to highlight the main Rice weakness Saturday. With one first down and 22 yards of offensive in the first half, the Owls, for the second game in a row, proved themselves to be about as offensive as a mild case of under-arm-0. Showing no particular grace either on the ground, where their deepest penetration (other than the touchdown drive) was the Rice 41 in the first half and the Duke 28 in the second half, or in the air, where they completed the afternoon with only 140 yards of offense, due mainly to Jon Schnable's 49 yard scamper, which set up the Owl TD.

For the second game in a row the Owls showed occasional brilliance at almost all positions, on both offense and defense. However the only consistency which has characterized the Owls in their encounters with LSU and Duke has been—consistently defeated.

Long, Long Way

With only one game and six practice sessions remaining before the opening SWC tussle with SMU on Oct. 16, the Owls have a long way to go if they are going to live up to the pre-season predictions and finish as high as fourth in the SWC race this year, and even further to go if they are going to live up to their own predictions that they were underrated in the pre-season polls.