Outstanding Field In Rice Tennis Tourney

By MILTON NIRKEN

This weekend Rice University will be the host team for one of the finest tennis tournaments in the Collegiate circuit. The fourth annual Rice Invitational Tennis Tournament will have some of the outstanding amateur tennis players in the collegiate ranks.

HEADING THE LIST of stars will be Chuck McKinley of Trinity University. McKinley is currently ranked the number two amateur in the United States. Although Whitney Reed edged out McKinley for the number one position in last year's rankings, McKinley defeated Reed for the 1962 National Indoor Championship.

Although McKinley is seeded number one in the tourney, he will not be a shoo-in for the title. Stiff competition will be offered by his Trinity teammate Frank Froehling, the number six player in the United States, and by Chris Crawford of Corpus Christi, who is currently the thirteenth ranked amateur in the United States.

ALSO IN THE classy field are Antonio Palafox, the Mexico

Davis Cup Star from the University of Corpus Christi; Don Russell and John Sharpe of Pan American College; Neal Marcus and Fritz Schunck of Rice; Cliff Buchholz and Butch Newman of Trinity.

Rice coach and tournament director, Sammy Giammalva, believes this tourney ranks as the outstanding tourney in the country. "That's because Trinity sends its best players to Wimbledon instead of the NCAA tourney, and Corpus Christi and Pan American are NAIA teams.

Giammalva has scheduled single and doubles play both in varsity and freshman divisions. However the Wilbur Hess-Frank Guernsey Trophy will be awarded on the basis of the varsity results.

RICE AND TRINITY have been the only outright team champions. In 1959 Rice won the Championship and in 1960, Trinity won the title. In last year's tourney, Rice and the University of Corpus Christi tied for first. If everything goes according to predictions, Trinity will

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probably face Corpus Christi in the finals of this year's tourney.

The number one player on the Rice squad will be Fritz Schunck. In the dual match between Trinity and Rice earlier this year, Schunck defeated Frank Froehling for the only Owl victory. Neal Marcus, the Phi Beta Kappa pre-med senior from Tampa, will be the number two man for Rice. Marcus has had his ups and downs in the last four years and has defeated both Chuck McKinley and Barry MacKay during his career.

IN THE FRESHMAN competition, Giammalva has high hopes for Rice freshman Jim Parker. Parker advanced to the national interscholastic finals last year and the semifinals of the national indoor tourney.

All matches will be played on the new Laykold Tennis courts on the Rice campus. There will be no charge for the matches and the temporary stands will hold about 500 spectators.