POOPED OWLS BOUNCE BACK—Coach Jess Neely and his tri-captains Ray Alborn, Johnny Burrel, and Roland Jackson will lead the Owls into their 50th football season September 23 against the LSU Tigers. The Owls are rated as high as fourth in the nation in pre-season polls and are sure to encounter strong opposition from other conference teams in the race for the championship.
Offense is Nice, Too

By STUART GLASS, Thresher Sports Editor

According to Naismith’s first law of basketball, even if a team has nobody who can shoot the ball, it still probably won’t get shut out. So there’s no reason to be shocked that Rice scored 60 points against A&M last night in the first round of the Bluebonnet Classic basketball games.

The first corollary of this is that if a team can’t score, it had better concentrate on defense. And that is what Rice did, working a “diamond-and-one” designed to stop John Beasley, the 6’9” junior gunner for the Aggies. And Marty Ivey, chosen to shadow Beasley all over the court, managed to hold him to only two field goals in the first half, and one of those was on a rebound.

The farmers only got 69 points. Nevertheless, this total is consistently nine points more than 60, so there is no conclusion to be drawn other than that A&M won the game. However, the Owls did manage to prove that they are not quite as bad as they have every right to be. Which doesn’t do much to explain away an 0-4 record.

Nevertheless, if Rice can find a scoring punch to go along with the defense, they might come out on the long end of the score sometime this year. Candidates for scoring punch are these: Doug McKendrick, who is the leading scorer for the Owls, mainly by virtue of a bunch of layups that a 6’4” center has no business getting. Also Don Siegmund, who shot 50% against the Aggies, but doesn’t shoot enough. There’s plenty of room in the Rice offense for Siegmund to shoot, so if he asserts himself as a shooter he could be the best all-around player on the squad.

Then there are Bill Doty, who has been known to hit everything in practice, but hold back in games, and Ivey, a hot-and-cold shooter who is quite cold right now.

Defense is nice, but a little offense never hurt anyone.