Cellar - Dwelling Longhorns Drag Owls Down To 63-54

By TED HERMANN

After winning three straight and four of their last six, Coach Don Suman's upsurging Rice Owls fell victim to the cellar dwelling Texas Longhorns Tuesday night in their season finale 63-54.

After trailing only 31-26 at half time the Owls fell behind early in the second half and were never able to head the hustling group of Longhorns. The death note was sounded for the Owls as three Rice starters fouled out in the second half as the Owls were attempting to over take Marshall Hughes' forces in the final ten minutes of the game. The Owls, who have fouled relatively little this season, were charged with 25 personals. And the Longhorns took good advantage of the Rice miscues, hitting 29 of 34 from the foul line. the game with approximately seven minutes remaining, with 14 and E. Jay McIlwain, who also fouled out of the game, with 10.

They'll Return

The Owls return six of this year's squad for next year's varsity. Among these are started David Craig and squadmen Steve Smith, James Davis, Dick Park, Maxey Bedenbaugh, and Jerry Comalander. Along with these, the leading contenders for varsity positions from this year's freshman squad appear to be Mike Maroney, Jim Fox, Olle Shipley, and Buster Sullivan.

As a matter of comparison for those who are looking ahead to next season, here are the number of players lost by graduation from the top eight players on each squad in the conference: Arkansas 2, Baylor 2, Rice 6, SMU 0, Texas A&M 4, TCU 5, Texas Tech 5, and Texas University 1.