

THE OWLOOK

By CLARENCE TEMPLE

Welcome Freshmen. Welcome Green-Derbyed Sheep. Welcome to the darndest football campus in the nation. You have been selected by the Committee on Admissions to support the Owls of the Rice Institute, widely known to perform the miraculous at the time when it is least expected.

For example, take the 1955 season. The Owls of the Rice Institute were selected by a great majority of sportswriters and other "experts" to walk away with the Conference title, to place at least two men on the All-American teams, and to wind up around fourth in the nation. We were a powerhouse, a bomb, and a "formidable foe." We were simply great. And we lost every conference game. Simply.

Tables May Turn

Last year we were picked to finish fourth in the conference and we won the crown with one of the fightingest teams in SWC history. So rejoice that we are not picked first, and prepare to back the '58 edition of the Rice Owls all the way.

And we are in good position to pull our usual surprises. A brief

glance at the members of the team back up this conclusion. Such performers as Ray Chilton, Buddy Dial, Pat Bailey, and Gene Jones can be expected to come through with steadily outstanding games.

More Surprises

And the surprises will come from such players as Charley Pollard, J. D. Smith, Wade Rodgers, and others who have apparently been overlooked in figuring our chances for the year.

Men like Larry Roberts, Bobby Wright, and Thurman Terry can make a good team great by coming through when the chips are down. And incidentally, here is a vote for Larry Dueitt. Too many tears have been shed over the departed duo of Hill and Ryan, the best quarterback team in the nation last year. Don't be surprised if we come up with the best in the conference again. And we have the original Miracle Men in the Owl coaching staff.

So welcome, Freshmen. Welcome to the group who suffers and rejoices and curses and praises the Owls. And be ready for anything.