

SMU Criticizes Rice Athletics

This appeared in a recent issue of
The SMU Campus—Ed.

SMU will not compromise its academic program for the sake of a big-time athletic program.

That was the position taken by SMU President Dr. Willis Tate at a Student Senate meeting Tuesday night.

In response to a question concerning the possibility of SMU duplicating the Rice University athletic program Tate said, "I see no way in which we could put in an athletic academic program like Rice's to justify playing intercollegiate football with noncollegiates."

Athletes at Rice have different entrance requirements and need not take College Board tests. Some enroll in special academic programs in which they receive degrees in physical education or commerce.

Tate called the Rice program "a blotch on their academic luster." He very emphatically killed any chances of his approving such a program.