

Rice Registers 62-47 Victory Over Sooners

By **VOLNEY MEECE**

(Daily Oklahoman Sports Writer)

HOUSTON, Dec. 8—Rice Institute's fancy-stepping Owls dragged Oklahoma's Sooners down out of the cage clouds here Thursday night, breaking open a tight tussle late in the first half and coasting in, 62-47, to snap the visitor's one-game "winning streak."

At least partially shattered as Rice traipsed to its fourth victory without defeat this season were hopes that coach Doyle Parrack might work a miracle in his first year with the thin OU squad. The Sooners surprised Baylor last weekend but this time went down firing despite a 23-point salvo by hard-working center LeRoy Bacher.

Bacher was the night's most prolific scorer although many of his soft shots from in close refused to drop before intermission. Pocket-sized guard Jimmy Peck had hoop trouble, too, and settled for six points after missing several drives at the hoop.

Inability to hit free throws doomed OU to defeat, the Sooners downing only one of seven in the second half to miss a chance for a dozen more points under the one-and-one rule.

Free Throws Decisive

The Parracks threw a tight picket line around Rice's touted 6-10 sophomore pivotman, Temple Tucker, and limited him to 10 points. But they couldn't tame the rest of the free-shooting owls, who won going away as Joe Durenburger posted 20 points, Fred Woods 16 and Tucker and Dale Hall 10 each.

The Owls put up 70 shots, hitting only 21 for 30 percent while the Sooners had a 33 percent shooting night on 19 of 57. But Rice drilled in 20 of 25 charity tosses while OU got down only nine of 18.

The Sooners led only once, at 10-9 after seven minutes of play. But they stayed close until 2:10 before halftime when ball netted the first of four points that lifted Rice into a 34-28 lead at intermission.