

Pro's Draft Briscoe And Haas

By Rudy Smith

With the signing of Omaha U. quarterback Marlin, the Magician, Briscoe and split-end Bill Haas to professional football contracts they will be the fifth and sixth OU football players to sign a pro contract since 1964.

In 1964, Jack Petersen, a defensive tackle signed with the Green Bay Packers of the NFL.

In 1965, little All-American Gerald Allen signed with the Baltimore Colts as a running

back and end. He is presently the top ball carrier for the Washington Redskins of the NFL.

Big and tough Jimmy Jones, end, was drafted the same year by the New York Jets and after being placed on waivers was signed by the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Last year OU's bruising full-back Bill Dodd signed a pro contract with the Kansas City Chiefs of the AFL for a cash bonus according to Dodd.

Little All-American quarterback, Briscoe, who set 22 OU football records and amassed 6,253 total career yards while on offense, was drafted by the Denver Broncos of the American Football League in the fourteenth round on February 1. Haas and Briscoe led the Indians to a 7-3 grid mark this season and the CIC Championship.

Haas and Briscoe were both

(Continued to Page 5)

Briscoe, Haas Picked

(Continued from Page 1)

All-CIC and All-District 11 selections.

Bill who was honorable mention All-American was drafted in the eleventh round by the Minnesota Vikings in the National Football League.

He has another year of eligibility remaining but is expected to bypass it for a possible pro career.

Haas Nine TD's

As a split-end, Bill caught 55 career passes, for 850 yards and nine touchdowns. He kicked 19 extra points last season to lead the team in scoring with 73 points.

Topping a brilliant senior season Briscoe was selected as the World-Heralds Athlete of the Year. Rocket Roger Sayers, OU's Olympic sprinter was the other OU recipient of the award. Sayers, brother of OU gridder Ron Sayers, received it in 1962.

At the Annual Omaha Sport-casters banquet in January Haas and Briscoe were among ten outstanding Nebraska grid-ders to receive Gold Helmet awards for brilliant gridiron performance.

"If they, Bill and Marlin, are given the opportunity to show their potential I'm sure they'll make it as pros," said head football coach Al Caniglia.

Scouts Want Films

According to Caniglia every AFL and NFL team has requested films on the two draft-ees.

"Haas has the ability," he

said, "but the determining factor will be the competition he will encounter in training camp. By that I mean the number of veterans manning the split-end post."

Caniglia also stated that every scout that has requested films on Briscoe were very much impressed and their only reservations being his height, thus accounting for his selection in the fourteenth round.

Stan Jones of the Denver Broncos feels South High grad Briscoe will help them as a quarterback or a defensive back.

Dave Smith of the New Orleans Saints said of the Magician, "He's got the greatest arm I have ever seen on any quarterback-college or pro. He's the only man I have ever seen who can run to his left and throw the ball righthanded 55 yards through the air with complete accuracy."

If he makes it as a pro quarterback, Marlin will be the first Negro to do it at that position but he feels he can "definitely make it as a quarterback" because of his leadership ability, brain power and perfect mechanical execution of plays.

Ralston High graduate Haas and Briscoe are both cagers and scoring in double figures for the Indians. Haas, an Academic All-American, has been selected to the All-CIC cage team twice.

He is presently the team's second leading scorer and ranks sixth on the all time scoring list.