

# At Ring Side

with  
**Rudy Smith**



Marlin Briscoe no doubt has been called many things in his lifetime, some good, some bad, and both coming from the tongues of friend and foe.

Marlin the Magician as he is best known is a player (guy) you have to study, like music, to appreciate his finesse and mastery while performing on the gridiron.

He may be called the new blood to last year's 1-9 team, or the old man on this year's team due to his experience, but one thing is certain, and that is the fact that he is the archangel of the team.

What makes Marlin or any quarterback exceptional? Is it his play selection? Is it his passing and scrambling? Or is it the blocking given him by the forward wall?

Blocking, passing and scrambling all help to make a quarterback exceptional but it doesn't start there.

To the amazement of a few people it starts long before the snap of the ball to the field general but — when the quarterback enters the huddle. From that second on he's in command.

## QB... Mr. Know It All

In the huddle he must call the play clearly and concisely and with authority. If a player has doubts about his assignment he consults the quarterback, Mr. Know It All.

When the huddle breaks the team trots up to the line of scrimmage.

At the line of scrimmage timing is important. The Indians quarterback, which is usually Briscoe, gets his team set and then in one smooth motion and in unison suddenly clashes with force.

Timing is important and without it the objective of getting the jump on the defensive team is lost.

Briscoe does all this well, that is with a well disciplined team, such as the OU Indians, and once the play gets underway he seems to demoralize the defense with his passing brilliance or with his scrambling ventures whether it be off the bootleg or the busted play.

None the less, Marlin seems to at least for the present throw a wrench into the misconception that the scrambling quarterback is a marked back.

## "Ides Of March"

People often overlook the fact that to put a mark on him you must first have to catch him and Marlin doesn't have the tendency to stand on his head waiting for a soothsayer to come innocently to tell him all about the "Ides of March".

When you're busy breaking records, going to school, and student teaching you don't have time for soothsayers.

The archangel owns eleven OU football records and is tied for another going into this year's football season and he has tied or broken four since the season opener.

And after all has been said and done what does he do for an encore? All-American honors?

## Let's Not Discriminate

Who said that women aren't sports inclined. The Tomahawk has as its sports editor, a female. Her name is Linda Preisman.

She has had plenty of experience as Gateway editor and sports editor.

Let's not discriminate because of sex at least not now.