

COVERING SPORTS With CHARLES BURTON

Muscleaneous items:

Roswell (Little Hig) Higginbotham, Southern Methodist baseball coach, admitted Wednesday that his Mustangs "looked all right (against the Dallas Texas Leaguers) after they discovered that those pros were just human beings, too." . . . The collegians admitted they were jittery when they walked into the park. . . . Fred (The Red) Harris has been so impressive in SMU's spring grid drills that Jack Sanders, who is out of school this semester, will have to hustle in fall practice to hold his tackle job. . . . Harris has looked better this spring than did Sanders at the fag end of last season. . . . Alabama U's baseball squad lists players from Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, Missis-

Support for Rockquilla in Aintree Event

AINTREE, England, March 22 (AP).—Lord Bicester's strutting chestnut gelding, Rockquilla, jumped up among the first five favorites for the grand national as a large and giddy crowd arrived in Liverpool Wednesday for Friday's running of the world's premier steeplechase race.

Well lined against a local snowstorm and the new European crisis, the crowd came in from Lincoln where they watched a 40-to-1 shot, Squadron Castle, win the Lincolnshire, first important flat race of the season.

Aintree's program will open Thursday with a combination of flat and jumping races. A fight between Ernie Roderick of Liverpool and Jake Kilrain of Glasgow for the latter's British welterweight championship Thursday night will help amuse the crowd until the national starts Friday.

Arthur Sainsbury's Blue Shirt, which started cofavorite last year and finished seventh, also strengthened his position. Two days ago he was quoted at 33 to 1, but 22 to 1 was the best offered on him at Wednesday night's official call over.

Dorothy Paget's Kilstar stood firm at the top of the list at 15 to 2 despite his lack of Aintree experience. Workman hardened to 9 to 1 and Royal Danieli to 21 to 2. Time Willow dropped back to 100 to 7 and Rockquilla displaced Royal Mail as the fifth choice at 100 to 6. Odds on Royal Mail, the 1937 winner, owned by the former American actress, Mrs. Camille Evans, lengthened to 18 to 1.

NTAC Boxer to Face Texas Team Tonight

Special to The News.

ARLINGTON, Texas, March 22.—North Texas Aggie boxing stars will journey to Austin Thursday night to meet the University of Texas team, H. A. D. Dunsworth, athletic director, has announced.

Those who will represent NTAC are Leonard Durrett, welterweight; Leonard Moss, lightweight; Earl Ganus, middleweight; Ray Moss, featherweight, and Harold Tuebnor, heavyweight.

Trinity Golfers Start Team Qualifying Today

Special to The News.

WAXAHACHIE, Texas, March 22.—Athletic Director Leland J. Wilkins announced Wednesday that the qualifying rounds for Trinity University's golf team will be held at the Waxahachie Country Club Thursday and Friday afternoon.

Medal play for the two days will determine positions on the team.

Mississippi, Georgia, Indiana, Tennessee, California, Wisconsin and Alabama. . . . Only eight of the twenty players are home state talent. . . . They've already sold more than 6,000 tickets for next season's Notre Dame-Iowa football game, slated for Iowa City on Nov. 11.

Ed Peel, Baylor's sophomore catcher, is a cousin of Homer Peel, the Texas League vet, now at Shreveport, and Johnny Lyons, soph outfielder with the Waco compusites, is a nephew of Ted Lyons, the White Sox hurler, who started his diamond career as a Bear. . . . Frank Danowski, Purdue soph catcher, is a cousin of Ed Danowski, the New York football Giants' pitching ace. . . . Army and Navy linksmen meet for the first time this spring, the opening match being tabbed for Annapolis on April 27. . . . Washington State College has a boxer named Dallas Clinger. . . . He has a lot of competition for his team post, but he's holding on. . . . Bob Callihan, great Detroit U. center, who was named on two All-American basketball teams the same week, modestly told a radio audience he wasn't surprised, because "We have a pretty good publicity department here at Detroit." . . . Rival team coaches, however, are scouting for more Callihans, not better publicity writers, which is significant.

If you see Mustang, which carried Southern Methodist University's Red and Blue colors to victory in the 1938 national intercollegiate turtle racing derby at Detroit, pass the word gently to him (or her) that Gaelohma, which represented Detroit U. in that thrilling college sports (?) event, has passed away. . . . Gaelohma, a three-legged miss, had cleaned up on all competitors until the intercollegiate, when Mustang trudged across the line far in the lead. . . . Gaelohma, we are informed, died after a two-month illness in her home, the Detroit U. biology laboratories. . . . Begging pardon of Lightweight Lew Jenkins for mentioning him in the same paragraph with turtles (or vice versa), we pass on this dope, furnished by a local fight fan, A. T. Miller, on Pete Lello, whom Jenkins boxes in Chicago Friday night. Deserted Golden Gloves in 1936 and in 1937 beat Nick Peters and drew with Everett Rightmire. . . . Lello last year won six fights, two by knockouts, and lost three on decisions. . . . Jenkins was offered a bout with Lello a month ago, but his right hand had been injured a bit in one of his bouts with Willie Joyce and he wanted to wait until it healed because "I believe I can beat him if I'm in good shape."

Davey O'Brien's contract with the Philadelphia Eagles is a matter between the principals and the ex-TCU star's advisory board, but it is known that Bert Bell, owner of the Eagles, several weeks ago offered the Dallas lad a two-year contract at \$10,000 per year. . . . Asking price of O'Brien's advisers was \$25,000 for one season. . . . The final contract figures probably are a compromise, which will give the gridder a neat nest egg with which to start his business life. . . . Bell will get a sizable bit of his dough back when O'Brien and the Eagles face for the first time Sammy Baugh and the George Preston Marshalls, known to the trade as the Washington Redskins. . . . Then O'Brien's duels with Arnie Herber of the Green Bay Packers and Ed Danowski of the Giants will ring the bell, too. . . . O'Brien's turning pro appears the wise thing for the lad who crossed us up by gaining his college grid fame as a passer after we dubbed him Dashing David because of his helter-skelter touchdown dashes for Woodrow Wilson High's Wildcats, for Mrs. O'Brien's little boy seems too sensible to forget his original objective of learning all there is to oil geology. . . . That pro football contract will enable him to study a lot of rocks.

Davey O'Brien Signs Two-Year Contract to Play With Eagles

FORT WORTH, Texas, March 22 (AP).—It was with considerable ceremony that David O'Brien, Texas Christian University's 1938 all-American quarterback, was transformed into a professional football rookie here Wednesday afternoon. Cameras, movie and stills, ground and clicked as he signed a two-year contract with the Philadelphia Eagles of the National League, the club that selected him in the draft three months ago.

Bert Bell, owner and coach of the Eagles who has been in Texas since Monday seeking the signature of O'Brien and a number of other Southwest stars, was the party of the second part.

The signing took place in the presence of Coach Dutch Meyer of TCU; Boyd Keith, uncle and business manager of O'Brien; I. B. Hale, captain of the national collegiate champions, and a half dozen others closely asso-

ciated with the 150-pounder who was crowned as the nation's foremost college footballer last season.

Financial terms of the contract were not announced, but it is understood to have a clause that will give O'Brien a share of the Eagles' gate receipts, and it was estimated by Bell that it would result in the ace forward passer making more money than any other player has received for a two-year period in the National League.

The announcement Tuesday night by Keith that he had agreed to Bell's terms and that O'Brien would sign the two-year contract came as a complete surprise to even O'Brien's closest associates. Not even Coach Meyer had any advance hint that O'Brien would yield to the flattering offers of the Eagles. He has said all along that he would not play professionally but would take a position in the geology department of an oil company.