

## Rugby Club bruises through two wins

By Dave McBride

On Tuesday and Thursday nights, a small group of men spend a couple of hours on the lighted field south of the Harper-Schramm-Smith dormitory complex.

They kick and throw a rubber ball shaped somewhat like a football, and though they wear no pads, part of the strategy of the game they play is to tackle the man with the ball. The action is rugged.

After practice, there is no trainer or lockerroom to return to, so they scatter for home with assorted bumps and bruises.

On weekends, the UNL Rugby Club players don uniforms they have bought out of their own pockets and take on an ambitious schedule of opposition from a three-state area. If the game happens to be out of town, the travel expenses also come out of the players' pockets.

The Rugby Club is an informal group whose membership varies somewhat from practice to practice. Many of the players have never played organized rugby before.

But the team is winning already, although it's only in its second year at UNL.

"Our biggest problem right now is that we've got a lot of new players," team member Tim Divis said. "We have about five or six guys back from last year who have some experience, but basically we're still in a learning process trying to get our new players to learn the rules and gain some experience."

The team was organized last year by Chuck Snell, a former college rugby player, and Don McNulty, who had played with a team in the United States.

They were almost the only team members with any rugby experience last year, Divis said. The club played only one game last spring against Creighton and lost.

This year, the team expects "20 or 25 guys who have shown up at one time or another for practice," according to Divis.

"We've got some really good athletes this year and some guys that hit real hard," he said. "We've also got a couple of players this year who have played college rugby before. Once we get some financial backing, we're hoping to get some more organization."

The club gets no money from the University, except for the two rugby balls the intramural department bought, Divis said. The team is looking for a private sponsor.

They belong to the Heart of America Rugby Football League, comprised mostly of midwestern teams. Their fall and spring schedules include teams from Omaha and Creighton University, as well as Kansas City, Kansas University, Kansas State, Iowa, Iowa State, Des Moines and Colorado.

This year's slate already shows wins over Creighton and Kansas City.



Imaginative jerseys are just one of the highlights of intramural flag football as the playoffs continue through this week.

## 8 remain in football playoffs

By Bob Hill

Single elimination intramural flag football playoffs began this week.

Each league's two top teams entered the tournament comprised of four flights: Fraternity Class A, Dormitory-Fraternity Classes B and C, Independent Class A and Dormitory Class A.

Among the week's top games was the Independent Class A clash between Hawks and Pro Students, both undefeated. Intramural coordinator Phil Sienna said it was "the best contest I've witnessed in three years."

After Pro Students took a quick 14-point lead, Hawks came back to take the lead late in the final quarter, 34-33. With four plays remaining, Pro Students then moved the ball within the Hawks' five yard line only to be denied a score on all four attempts.

Hawks, by virtue of their victory over Pro Students, are in the finals for the Independent championship. Abel VIII and Abel X square off to determine the Dormitory Class A champion. Sigma Phi Epsilon B meets Abel VII B for the Dormitory-Fraternity Classes B and C championship, while the Sigma Phi Epsilon A team challenges Beta Sigma Psi for the Fraternity Class A championship.

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