

# Scout team covets Heileman trophy

By Scott Ahlstrand

Nebraska I-back Mike Rozier won the Heisman trophy this year. But, he didn't win the Heileman trophy. That award went to Rob Schnitzler.

The brain child of

Larry Valasek, sales representative for the Lincoln beer distributing company, the Heileman honors the offensive player of the year for Nebraska's scout team. Valasek, a former starting safety for the Hus-

kers, said that he felt that the scout team hasn't received the recognition they deserve.

"The scout team is very important to the university's football program. They work hard at creating a picture of the oppo-

sition's offense and defense," Valasek said. "I don't think they get enough attention. I did it (played on the scout team) myself when I was there, so I know what they have to go through." The Monday following

every Nebraska football game this season, Valasek selected the defensive scout player of the week and named him "Mean Green Shirt of the Week" in a Daily Nebraskan ad.

The logo for Miceys

(a Heileman beer) is 'mean green', and since the defensive scout team has been traditionally called the green shirts, I thought the ad would work," Valasek said. "I was a defensive player, so we've emphasized the defensive team, but the Heileman will go to an offensive player."

Schnitzler, like Mean Green Shirt winners before him, was chosen by Valasek and some coaches for his effort and attitude in practice, Valasek said.

"We tried to pick out players who have been doing their best, and who have been putting out the most in practice. We also picked a different player each week," Valasek said.

The response to the ad has been tremendous, according to Valasek.

"I think it's been really effective," he said. "We've had a lot of phone calls here at the office about it. We've even had players' girlfriends call requesting that their boyfriend be selected for next week."

Although it is not a prestigious honor, Valasek he hopes the ad helps scout team moral.

"We just want to let the team know that we think they're doing a great job."

Despite the ad's success, Valasek said there is a draw back.

"Unfortunately, we can't name everyone," Valasek said. "They're all doing a good job, and I wish there were enough weeks in the football season to get the whole scout team honored."

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