

Weather: Partly cloudy today with highs in the upper 70s. Mild weather will continue this weekend.

Grab some rocks to wash your jeans

Arts & Entertainment, Page 12

Nebraska players ready for first night game

Sports, Page 15

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All players eligible for Saturday's game

By Bob Asmussen
Night News Editor

The National Collegiate Athletic Association Thursday granted the Nebraska football team a stay of its ruling on the eligibility of 60 Cornhusker players.

The stay will allow all Nebraska players to be eligible for Saturday night's nationally televised game with Florida State. A hearing will be held Tuesday on Nebraska's appeal of the NCAA penalty.

On Wednesday, Nebraska coach Tom Osborne was informed by the NCAA that 60 players were ineligible for Saturday's game. The NCAA ruled that the players have violated rules regarding the use of complimentary tickets.

Nebraska requested a stay of the ruling Thursday so that it could appeal the penalty.

"We will play Saturday with a full roster of players," UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale said at a Thursday press conference in the South Stadium lounge. Massengale said he was happy with the NCAA decision. He said the NCAA was cooperative in its discussions with the university Thursday.

"I think we've had a very good relationship today with the NCAA," Massengale said. "We now look forward to our game Saturday against Florida State as scheduled."

The NCAA ruling helped eliminate the possibility of a Nebraska forfeit. Osborne discussed forfeiting the game Wednesday, despite the fact that the game is scheduled to be televised by ABC.

"I think we were pleased with the stay in that

it gives us an opportunity to draw a breath," Osborne said Thursday. "Obviously, if you were going to have to hold players out, you would have to practice accordingly."

Massengale said the timing of the NCAA ruling was a major factor in its decision to allow the stay. He said the NCAA worked rapidly Thursday to resolve the situation.

"Obviously we thought the initial penalty was on the strong side, or we would not have appealed it," Massengale said.

James O'Hanlon, Nebraska's faculty representative to the NCAA, said the main concern was the right of the player to have a chance to appeal the decision before his eligibility was affected.

"The individual right of the player was the number one item," O'Hanlon said.

Osborne said his main concern now is getting the team ready to play Saturday's game. Florida State is ranked No. 11 in the country.

"Now we just got to go out and play well," Osborne said. "We're a little bit amazed by the whole process."

Osborne told the players about the stay in a meeting Thursday. He said the investigation and announcement by the NCAA has been a distraction to the team's preparation.

"They're all a little bit emotional about the thing now," Osborne said. "Naturally, we're disappointed we have to go through all this."

Osborne said the players will be off limits to the media until after Saturday's game.

"I did ask the players not to say much," Osborne said. "I feel at this point I've already said plenty, probably too much."

"I'm kind of tired of talking about it."



Richard Wright/Daily Nebraskan

UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale announced Thursday the NCAA's decision to postpone ineligibility sanctions against the Cornhusker football team. The Florida State-Nebraska game will be played as scheduled Saturday night at 7:05 p.m.

Boosalis, Orr stress better education

Candidates debate at State Fair Park



Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Boosalis

By Todd von Kampen
Senior Editor

Nebraska's two gubernatorial candidates opened their first face-to-face debate Thursday by stressing their desire to improve Nebraska's colleges and universities.

But tax and spending issues took center stage during the rest of the debate, witnessed by about 2,000 people at State Fair Park's open-air auditorium. Both Republican Kay

Orr and Democrat Helen Boosalis opposed tax increases and called for property tax relief, but Orr called for lower spending rather than higher sales taxes as the best way to lower property tax bills.

Judy Basler, president of the Nebraska League of Women Voters, served as moderator for the debate. The candidates answered questions from Keith Blackledge, editor of the North Platte Telegraph; Loretta Carroll of Omaha TV station KMTV;

Kent Warneke, farm editor of the Omaha World-Herald; and Paul Wice of radio station KGFM in Kearney.

Neither candidate discussed how they would handle NU's budget, which has been cut in mid-year several times during the 1980s. But Orr said the best way to improve higher education would be to help Nebraska's economy recover. More jobs for Nebraskans means more tax revenue to support colleges and universities, she said.



Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Orr

"Government doesn't create the jobs, but government does provide the climate and the opportunity," she said. "And none of our educational institutions are going to fare well unless we address that."

Boosalis offered a list of 10 ways she would help higher education if elected. Although a governor doesn't run the colleges and universities, she said, she can use her power to make things better.

See DEBATE on 8

Students: NCAA too harsh

By Lisa Rood
Staff Reporter

UNL students' reactions varied Thursday on the NCAA's decision to punish 60 players for ticket violations.

The NCAA imposed the sanctions after an investigation of the Cornhusker football team revealed that 60 players had been improperly distributing their complimentary football tickets. Players, according to NCAA rules, are only supposed to give the tickets to family members or other UNL students.

Eligibility of the players will be decided Tuesday when UNL officials meet with the NCAA subcommittee of eligibility appeals.

Senior Rob Haase, a mechanical engineering major, said he feels the Wednesday decision was too picky, "considering they've changed the rule five times in the last four years. It's a wonder the players themselves know the rule," he said.

Some students said the Nebraska team is being picked on.

"It happens at every university, it's not like they were scalping," said senior finance major Diane Sharp. Sharp was standing in line Thursday for football tickets at the South Stadium ticket office.

Coach Tom Osborne said in a Thursday news conference, that he would most likely choose to remove 10 players for six games, if the appeal is denied

See REACTIONS on 9