Four Nebraska players earn berths in rugby tournament

The Nebraska men's rugby team will travel to New Orleans, but it will not be doing any partying on Bourbon Street.

Mark Palmer, the Cornhusker's captain, said he and three other individuals will be thinking exclusively about rugby when they compete in the Battle of New Orleans. The battle begins on Friday with a practice round, and competition will be staged on Saturday and Sunday.

Palmer said the event is prestigious because individuals must either be selected for it or earn a berth through playing in a previous qualifying tournament. He said the event is also the second step

players must take in order to be included on the Junior Eagles, which is the equivalent of a college All-America team.

"This is coat and tie," Palmer said. "It's a very serious event."

Nebraska's Dwight Bander and James Hudson, as well as University of Nebraska-Lincoln alumni Mike Ferdig, earned berths in the tournament by turning in stellar performances earlier this season in Dallas. The Husker trio earned a 2-1 record in that competition while representing the Great Plains Un-

Palmer skipped the Dallas meet in favor of traveling with the Lincoln city rugby team to Jamaica,

but was still selected. He said fatigue will not be a problem because he spent his holiday break training in his native homeland of New

Palmer said having four Nebraska players in the competition is a big accomplishment. Last year, one Husker player competed in the competition.

"It shows our progress," he said, "and it shows people are beginning to notice our players.'

The Huskers, who will compete in the Western Union of the collegiate portion of the competition, will open the tournament by facing the Midwest.

Chicago lineman chooses NU over Indiana and Arizona State

drew rave reviews from prep scouts across the country has given an oral commitment to the Nebraska football team.

Joel Gesky, who was named most valuable player of the Chi-cago Catholic League, chose Nebraska over Indiana and Arizona

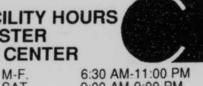
A lineman from Chicago who State. He was listed as the fourthbest prep guard by super scout Max Emfinger.

> Jones of Michigan City, Ind., and linemen Jon Pedersen of Grand

Island, Zach Wiegert of Fremont, Rob Zatechka of Lincoln and Terry Connealy of Hyannis.

In addition to Gesky, the players who have given oral commitments include quarterback Matt of Sutton and running back Sebastian Small of Fayetville, N.C., also have committed.





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WEIGHT TRAINING & CONDITIONING ROOM:	M,W,F 6:45-9:30 AM 9:30 AM-11:20 PM (PE CLASS)	
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	F	1:30 PM-7:00 PM

CLIP & SAVE

*SAT



viewing game from bench

By Jeff Apel

Senior Editor

Two Nebraska starters found themselves in an unusual position during the Cornhuskers' 92-57 win against Chicago State on Tuesday night, and neither one liked it.

Nebraska guard Clifford Scales said he and Husker forward Beau Reid didn't like their new roles on the Bob Devaney Sports Center bench. Scales was held out of the game with the flu, while Reid was sidelined with a knee

Scales said it was difficult for him to watch from the bench because he is used to playing. During his three-year career at Nebraska, Scales has missed only two games -- the Chicago State contest and last year's game at Okla-homa. He missed the 1988-89 road matchup against the Sooners with a

Scales admitted that he didn't like watching the Chicago State game.
"It was tough," Scales said. "I'm

very sick at this point, but I still wanted to play.

Scales said he had extra motivation for the game because two of Chicago State's players are from his hometown of Maywood, Ill. Cougar brothers Rod and Lu Parker attended Proviso High School in Maywood, while Scales went to Westchester St. Joseph.

"I grew up with them," Scales said. "So I wanted to play against them."

Scales said he had every intention of playing until his flu symptoms reoccurred after a pre-game meal.

"He ate some spaghetti," Nebraska coach Danny Nee said, "and threw it

Keith Moody replaced Scales in Nebraska's lineup and responded by scoring 10 points. Nee praised Moody's performance.

'Moody played excellent,'' Nee said. "He played a flawless 20 minutes (in the first half).

Scales said he was not surprised by Moody's performance. In fact, he said he was not surprised by any of the Huskers' performances.

In addition to Moody, the Nebraska players who tallied double-figures in scoring were forwards Ray Richardson, Carl Hayes and Dapreis Owens and center Rich King. Richardson and Hayes scored 15 points each, while Owens had 13. King finished with 14.

Scales said he was impressed with Nebraska's win even though it was expected. Chicago State entered the contest with a 2-13 record and had lost its last two games to Southern Utah State and Wright State.

The Cougars lone wins this season have come against Northeastern Illinois and Grambling State.
"We have a good team," Scales

said. "We know what we're capable of doing.

Nee said he was proud of his team's performance. He said the 7-7 Huskers overcame their short-handedness to rout Chicago State.

It's obvious that we were shorthanded," Nee said, "but I was overall pleased.'

Nebraska jumped on the Cougars early, racing out to a 26-16 lead with 8:34 remaining in the first half. The Huskers then used six points by Hayes and five from Richardson to take a 43-23 lead at half time.

Nebraska continued to pound Chicago State in the second half, using points by Owens -- two of which came on a slam dunk that concluded the contest -- and 11 from forward Richard van Poelgeest to pull away.

Scales said Nebraska's success does not mean he or Reid will be permanent fixtures on the bench. He said he plans to be healthy in time for the Huskers' game at Oklahoma State on Saturday, while Reid is slated to rereturn from an injury to his right knee in two-to-three weeks.

Reid missed the first half of Nebraska's season with his injury but returned in time for the beginning of conference play. He appeared in four games before being placed on the injured-reserve list Monday.

Scales said he never wants to watch another game from the bench.

'Right after this (interview), I'm going home, going to bed and getting well," he said. "I want to be ready for Saturday.'