

New voice of Husker football prepares for opening game

By Stu Pospisil
Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer

The new voice of the Nebraska football Network says he expects a smooth transition after taking over the microphone from the legendary Lyell Bremser.

Kent Pavelka, color man for 10 years on Omaha radio station KFAB and the Nebraska football Network, was selected by Bremser in February to replace the 45-year veteran of Husker football broadcasts.

"I think it would be more difficult for someone to come in and take over," Pavelka said. He also has done play-by-play of Nebraska basketball broadcasts since 1974.

KFAB is the originating station for the 37-station contract with the Husker athletic department in 1983.

Pavelka said he felt some pressure in replacing Bremser. "It just doesn't make sense for the

job to be as important as the attention people give it.

"It draws a lot of attention because of what Lyell was."

Pavelka said that since the basketball season ended, he has prepared for broadcasting Nebraska's opening game against Wyoming Sept. 8.

"I've watched quite a bit of film and gone over the rules," Pavelka said. "As I do in basketball, I memorize the players' numbers and learn all about them."

"It's hard to prepare for play-by-play announcing without doing an actual game. You can't just do it off of TV."

He said he practiced doing play-by-play during Husker scrimmages this spring. "It helped, but the game atmosphere was not there. You can only do so much without it."

Lincoln broadcaster Larry Moelinbrink will assume Pavelka's duties as color man, and Jack Payne will continue as an

analyst.

Pavelka said no other changes will be made in the network's format. Tom Johnson will continue to host a 90-minute pre-game show. Gary Sadlemyer will provide sideline reports.

He graduated from UNL in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in broadcasting, and worked for a Fremont radio station before moving to KFAB in 1974.

During the week, Pavelka is the station's operations manager.

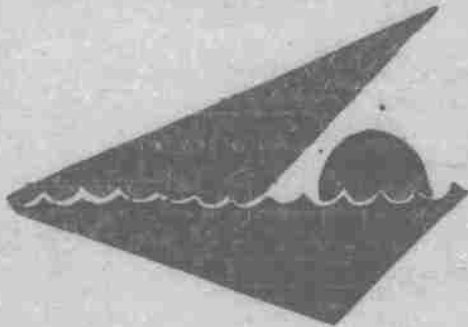
Bremser, 66, is KFAB's vice president and general manager. The station is the leader in market share for the largest 100 markets in the country, according to the Arbitron rating service.

Pavelka said he did not plan to match Bremser's tenure behind the microphone.

"If I last 45 years, I'll be 80 years old," Pavelka said. "I think Lyell's set a record that won't be broken."

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