

# Battered baseballers play series with Kansas

by WARREN OBR  
Associate Sports Editor

Nebraska's battered baseball team, which has had seven starters injured at one time or another through the first six conference games, invades Kansas this weekend for a three game series.

The Huskers, who saw their conference record dip to 2-4 after taking only one game from Kansas State last weekend, will go with Ryan Kurosaki, Glen Gilmore and John Husman on the mound against the Jayhawks.

Two of last year's starters, Gene Stohs and Paul Marek, are still benched with sore arms although Marek will make the trip. Despite the injuries, the Huskers have the conference's third best pitching team with a 3.33 team ERA.

The injuries are no surprise to head coach Tony Sharpe, but their numbers are. "You expect some sore arms and things early in the season," said Sharpe. "But this year we've had more than our share. They all came in bunches and this is unusual for us."

Bob Munson, who has a sore back, and Tim Harris, who injured his heel, will start at right field and shortstop respectively, with Pat Elgert at first base. Elgert was scheduled to pitch for the Huskers this weekend until he hurt his

shoulder in a Kansas State game.

Peter Bethell, who has played both shortstop and first base this season, will start at third base against Kansas. "I think Peter has found a home at third," said Sharpe referring to the 6-8 Bethell. "He's fielding well there and we hope his arm is all right. He's also hitting the ball pretty fair." Other starters include catcher Randy Spiehs, the Huskers leading hitter at .353, Steve Achelpohl at second base, and left fielder Nick Dean, who has

been "improving a lot" according to Sharpe.

Kansas this year has not been as strong as Sharpe thought they would be.

"Kansas got off to a bad start and lost some tough ball games," said Sharpe, "but they've been improving lately. Having (pitcher Dave) Robisch not come out and Keith Lieppman (All Big-8 third baseman) ineligible because of grades has hurt them, but they still have (Paul) Womble at shortstop and he's one of the finest players in the conference."

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