

Big Seven Tournament
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Only one veteran, Missouri's gliding guard, Norman Stewart, is within easy range of the charmed circle of Big Seven tournament elite as conference teams head down the stretch toward their tenth annual conclave in Kansas City's Municipal auditorium.

As a two-year regular, the 6-4, 199-pound blond has scored 98 tournament points. He collected only 35 as a sophomore, but fired 63 last December, a total exceeded only by Iowa State's brawny center, Chuck Duncan, and Oklahoma Guard Lester Lane.

All this means he is only 22 points away from the lower rung of the meet's Top Ten career scorers. One of last year's Stewart teammates, Med Park, now holds that position on 120 points. The way Stewart has been shooting he will surpass that ceiling in the opening game against Nebraska which rings up the curtain on the second set of first-round games Wednesday night. For his average through the Tigers' first six games is 26.2.

His 157-point total has been garnished by salvos of 36, 31 and 30, the former figure a new Bengal single-game mark. If the nifty senior can maintain his mean through the three tournament games he not only will rocket all the way to second place on the all-time lists of 177 points, but will endanger Clyde Lovellette's one-tournament record of 82, which the old Kansas Leviathan established in 1950.

Simple arithmetic shows Stewart could score 78.6 points in tourney play by matching his current average. An increase of 1.2 points per game on his present mean would allow him to displace Lovellette's five-year-old ceiling. With 98 points in two previous meets, Stewart to unseat Lane as the all-time runner-up by three points if he can match his pre-tournament firing figure. And Lane, like Burdette