

TRI-VALLEY ALL-STAR FOOTBALL TEAM

(Selection by Coaches)

Those twin Sunflower basketball powers, Kansas and Kansas State, face the slimmest chance of reaching the Big Seven tournament finals since 1949 when the tenth annual dribble derby unwinds next week in Kansas City's Municipal auditorium.

The absence of one or the other of these clubs in the king row is almost unique in meet history. Only once, ~~has~~ in the event's ~~ix~~ previous nine years, has there been a final not involving one of them. Missouri edged Oklahoma, 44-42, in the 1949 title round. Before and since, the Jayhawkers have moved into the home stretch five times; the Wildcats four. In 1952 they played for the crown with State rolling to a 93-87 victory, the highest winning score and highest combined score ever erected ~~ix~~ in the finals. Between them, the Sunflower tandem has cornered five championships, State in '47, '50 and '52; KU in '51 and '53.

Kansas lost, 46-49, to SMU in the '46 finals; ~~ix~~ Oklahoma and to Oklahoma, 49-52, in 1948, in addition to its 1952 loss to K-State. The Cats toppled, 71-89, to Missouri, last year.

Kansas State faces the stiffest opening test when the classic opens a four-day run Tuesday. It has drawn Iowa State, ranked only behind Missouri in pre-meet forecasting, in the nightcap of a two-game card which sends Oklahoma against Colorado's defending conference champions at 7:30 p.m.

The Cyclones come in with the best won-lost record, 5-1, of any tournament team. Most recent, and significant conquest, was an 87-76 win over unbeaten Vanderbilt Friday night in Ames.

Only a 62-65 defeat at the hands of Denver at Denver, separates the Iowans from a perfect pre-meet slate.