

However, Missouri faces no easy path. In addition to the new Cyclones ~~menace~~ menace, the Tigers are bracketed with Kansas, a team it never has beaten in four tournament matches. This would be a semifinal match if the Tigers dispose of Nebraska and KU clears Cornell, this year's guest team. Furthermore, no defending champion ever has repeated in this event.

The latter engagement is surrounded by upset possibilities as is the ~~Wykanna~~ Oklahoma-Colorado face-off. Cornell is ~~next~~ 3-2, ~~next~~ a half-game behind Kansas. But it will field a front line of 6-4, 6-5, 6-4 and floor the ~~me~~ meet's No. 3 pre-tourney ~~score~~ scorer in Chuck Rolles, 5-6 ~~guard~~ guard. The Jayhawkers have huffed and puffed to write their 4-2 level owning only a 1.1 ~~victory~~ ~~spread~~ per game victory spread despite their .600 reading.

Oklahoma upended Colorado in last year's opening round and is far closer in personnel to the Buffaloes this time. CU hasn't been the same since it absorbed a ~~40-px~~ two-night 48-point shelling from BYU two weeks ago in Provo. It lost its pre-meet finale, 58-60, to Colorado A & M Friday. All this after a 60-57 win over Iowa 's defending Big Ten kings, tenth-ranked in the latest AP poll.

For the second time in three years, ~~score~~ pivotemen, long the dominant scoring figures in this meet, may be shutout of the individual point championship. All three 20-point pre-tournament scorers are guards. Missouri's big captain, Norm Stewart, tops the list at 26.2 with Garp Thompson, clever Iowa State junior, second at 23.2. Rolles is only two-tenth behind.

Thompson ~~already~~ exceeded two tournament records against Vanderbilt in collecting 40 points. This is one more than Sherman Norton 's single-game meet standard ~~er~~ erected against Stanford in '51. Thompson 's 18 free throws ~~also~~ is four beyond the tournament ceiling of now held jointly by Kansas State's Dick Knostman and Bill Brainard of Kansas.