

big seven tournament advance  
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The Big Seven's new crop of centers will be measured in head-to-head warring for the first time next week when they face off in the conference's tenth annual pre-season tournament in Kansas City's Municipal auditorium.

The five new regulars.... Lew Johnson of Kansas and Oklahoma's LeRoy Bacher are the only holdover starters from 1954-55.... will carry as much interest, both from spectator and coach as did their shiny gang of predecessors who dominated most of the first nine meets. But for a different reason. The question now isn't whether B.H. Born can defend Burdette Halderson or Clyde Lovellette outscore Marcus Freiburger. It's a mere matter of whether any of the fresh pivotmen can approach any of the old guard and whether any one of them is good enough to swing the scales of tournament victory, and subsequently the league race.

Only three of the newly-spotlighted post-men are sophomores. They include Don Medsker, 6-8, Iowa State; Jim Thom, 6-9, Nebraska, and Jack Parr, 6-9, Kansas State. The others, Chuck Denney of Missouri, and George Hannah of Colorado, are seniors. But they are seeing their first season as regulars or of extensive use at all, for that matter.

Parr and Medsker have been equalling advance notice. The latter tops the entire complement of league centers at this writing with a 15.3 average in four games. Medsker is only two points back at 15.3.

Thom must be considered a disappointment to date. Perhaps too much was expected of him. At any rate he has scored only eight points in four games. Fact is, he isn't even a starter for the Cornhuskers when Rex Ekwall, 6-5 converted forward is available.