

Iowans from a perfect slate.

Third Is Previous High.

They thus qualify as the highest barrier to a Missouri repeat. This is rare stature for a team which never has finished higher than third in nine previous meets (1948 and 1954); nas languished in last place twice and seventh three times.

Happily the Cyclones and Tigers are in opposite brackets. The former will run into immediate trouble since it drew Kansas State in the opening round in the nightcap of tomorrow's opening card. This should be the tightest battle of the first-round 4-game set. Kansas State, 3-3, has played a tougher preliminary slate, losing only 79-86 to well-regarded Houston Thursday in Houston in its final pre-meet test.

Here's the way the first round bracket lines up:

TOMORROW.

7:30 p. m.—Colorado vs. Oklahoma.

9:30 p. m.—Iowa State vs. Kansas State.

WEDNESDAY.

7:30 p. m.—Missouri vs. Nebraska.

9:30 p. m.—Kansas vs. Cornell.

Iowa State is the meet's youngest team with only one senior figuring prominently and as many as three sophomores frequently starting. It will throw its sophomore center, 6-foot, 8-inch Don Medesker against K-State's 6-9 rookie, Jack Parr, in a duel which could pivot the outcome.

Comparison Is Close.

Some idea of how close this one will be can be found in scores against one common foe, Texas Tech. The Cyclones whaled the Red Raiders twenty points (72-52) at Ames. The Wildcats beat them nineteen (89-70) at Manhattan.

If the Cardinal and Gold can get by K-State, it will own a better than even chance to reach the finals. For it figures to handle either Colorado or Oklahoma in the semifinals.

Missouri remains a light favorite. The Tigers will bring in a 4-2 level, but only seven points are between them and an unblemished record. Purdue beat them, 62-58, at Lafayette and Indiana clipped them, 81-78, in Columbia. The Hoosiers are ranked eighteenth on the latest

Gary Thompson, clever Iowa State junior, second at 23.2. Rolles is only two-tenths behind.

High for Thompson.

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

Rolles scored thirty-seven points against Brown while Stewart has games of thirty, thirty-one and thirty-six on his ledger. All three pose threats to Clyde Lovelette's single-tournament mark of eighty-two which the old Kansas mastadon established in 1950.

Here are the top fifteen pre-tournament scoring leaders.

	G.	FG.	FT.	FTA.	TP.	Avg.
Norm Stewart, M. U.	6	59	39	52	157	26.2
Gary Thompson, I. S.	6	43	53	73	189	23.2
Chuck Rolles, Cornell	5	46	23	31	115	23.0
Leroy Bacher, O. U.	7	42	37	56	121	17.3
Jack Parr, K. S.	6	40	17	35	97	16.3
Jim Ranglos, C. U....	6	33	30	43	96	16.0
Chuck Smith, N. U...	7	35	41	60	111	15.9
Jimmy Peck, O. U...	7	38	28	33	104	14.9
Dallas Dobbs, K. U...	6	33	23	32	89	14.9
Maurice King, K. U...	6	30	27	39	87	14.5
Pachin Vicens, K. U.	6	24	33	46	81	13.5
Don Medsker, I. S....	6	32	12	17	76	12.7
Chuck Vogt, I. S. ..	6	25	21	35	71	11.9
Joe King, O. U.	7	24	33	45	81	11.6
*Rex Ekwall, N. U...	5	18	22	31	58	11.6

*Missed two games because of illness.

Previous Tournament Champions.

	Champion	Runner-up
1946	S. M. U. 46	Kansas 49
1947	Kansas State 50, Oklahoma A. & M.	43
1948	Oklahoma 52	Kansas 49
1949	Missouri 44	Oklahoma 42
1950	Kansas State 70	Minnesota 62
1951	Kansas 75	Missouri 65
1952	Kansas State 93	Kansas 87
1953	Kansas 82	Oklahoma 73
1954	Missouri 89	Kansas State 71