Buffs Hard to Figure In Big Seven Tourney

Ranglos, f. 1955 Big Seven Finish-First, 11-1; all

games, 19-6. Previous Tournament Finishes-1946, did not compete; 1947, eighth; 1949, fourth; 1950, eighth; 1951, sixth; 1952, fifth; 1953, seventh; 1954, fifth. Won 8, lost 16. Percentage, .333.

Remaining Pre-tournament Games-December 22, Colorado A. and M. at Fort Collins. First Round Opponent-Oklahoma, 7:30

p. m., December 27.

OLORADO continues to be the enigmatic team of Big Seven pre-season basketball tournament play as it approaches the meet's tenth annual edition which opens Tuesday night in Municipal Auditorium.

Despite those week end shellings by Brigham Young, in which the Cougars manhandled C. U. by an aggregate spread of 48 ponts, this year's Buffaloes will tote a more impressive record into tourney action than either of the last two editions. They number two defending conference champions, Oregon State and Iowa, among their victims and figure to beat Colorado A. and M. Thursday for a 4-2 level.

The Losses Heavy.

four regulars off last year's Big featured. Seven championship five. That team was 3-3 at tournament time and the schedule was no rougher than this season's December slate. And the 1954 conference co-champs lost all five of their pre-meet starts.

Carrying the paradox further. neither Herd edition of the last two seasons could finish in the tournament's first division. They were fifth last year and seventh

the year previous.

Fact is, the Buffs outrank only Nebraska in the meet's alltime composite standings and have landed among the first four only once in eight years. C. U.'s tourney high is a fourth in 1949. It has been last twice.

If Colorado is to continue this strange pattern this year's club should at least equal the school's all-time tourney high. The Buffs are capable of such estate, despite the most murderous graduation losses among conference teams.

These Were Standouts.

Gone are Center Burdette Haldorson, 2-time Big Seven scoring champion; Bob Jeangerard, possibly the loop's allround best through the 1955 season, and those two canny guards, Charles Mock and Tom

Harrold. Only holdovers are Mel Coffman, 6-3 ex-marine, and Jim Ranglos, the high-leaping Greek, who also measures 6-3. They

Record to Date—W 3. L 2; 63 Oregon State 53; 62 Oregon 49; 60 Iowa 57; 53 Opposite Jeangerard last season B. Y. U. 70; 53 B. Y. U. 84.
Returning Lettermen—6; Mei Coffman, f.; as the Mountaineers bagged George Hannah, c.; Mick Mansfield, g.; Dave Mowbray, g.; Bill Peterson, g.; Jim cage title since departing the old Skyline confederacy.

Tournament fans will see a champions of the past two years. But no one need shed tears over Bebe Lee's gang. It carries adequate size, balance, and depth. Quite likely it will present the tourney's best ball-control. Experience is not as absent as it might seem either.

Although Ranglos and Coffman necessarily are the cornerstones, the key man is George Hannah, 6-7, 205-pound center who has earned two letters in

relief for Haldorson.

The big senior is averaging 9.2 through C. U.'s first five games and tipped in the winning goal in the 60-57 conquest of Iowa. Ranglos ranked ninth on pre-tournament scoring tables (through games of last Saturday) at 14.8. Up to the dual disaster at Provo, Coffman had assume Jeangerard's shoes by limiting his personal foes to a meager five points through the first three games. A 1-point Yet this is a squad which lost policing job of Iowa's Carl Cain

One Starter Injured.

Bill Peterson, 6-0 lettered senior, who played well in the N. C. A. A. tournament last year, and Dave Mowbray, 6-1 lettered junior, have taken over for Mock and Harrold in the

Records of Big Seven Basketball Teams.

(Key: H-Home game. V-Away game. N-Neutral court. *Overtime period.) COLORADO. State Brigham Young Brigham Young North Dakota State Texas Tech Indiana Washington (Seattle)69H 56 Southern Methodist81V South Dakota46H Idaho57H Wisconsin Baylor Rice79H Ohio State89V CORNELL. (Guest-Team in Big Seven Tourney.)

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