

Besides being a constant scoring threat, he is a superb feeder, an excellent defensive player, and a rugged rebounder. Additionally, it has been his inspired leadership as captain of this season's inexperienced California quintet that has led the Bears to their impressive 5-1 early season record.

An indication of the esteem in which McKeen is held by his teammates is typified by Larry Friend, a sophomore forward at California and a bright young scoring prospect in his own right. After California's 64-52 victory over Oregon early this season in a game where McKeen scored only seven points but set up teammates with easy baskets and controlled both backboards, Friend rushed up to him in the locker room and shouted, "Mac, you're the greatest!"

Friend sums up the current Bear five's feeling for their captain in the following manner: "Mac wouldn't have to score a point to be the most valuable player we've got."

But McKeen does score lots of points, and most of them come in the clutch. As a matter of fact, going into the seventh game of the current season McKeen was one point away from becoming the greatest scorer in California history. Over 89 games in a little over three seasons, he had tallied 1273 points for an excellent 14.3 points per game average. The record of 1274 points is held by Billy Hagler, another Bear center who graduated in 1951.

McKeen owns every other Bear scoring standard. They are as follows:

1. Most points single game--40 vs. Utah, Jan. 30, 1954.
2. Most points, single season--457 in 26 games, 1953 (tie with Andy Wolfe, who scored 457 points in 34 games in 1946.)
3. Most points, single Southern Division season--234 points in 12 games, 1953.
4. Highest average, single season--17.6 per game in 26 games, 1953.
5. Most field goals, single Southern Division season--91 in 1953.
6. Highest average, varsity career--14.3, 1273 points in 89 games.
7. Most points, Southern Division play--543, on 135 points in 1952, 234 points in 1953, and 174 points in 1954.

Those 234 points in 12 league games in 1953 are also the most points ever scored by a sophomore in the history of the Southern Division and the third highest in the league's annals. Also, McKeen needs only 70 points in 12 Southern Division games this

(more)