

# Sooner, 'Cat Aces Threat To Meet Mark

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Free throw records will be in most peril when Big Seven tournament basketball teams hit the planks of Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium in their ninth annual post-Christmas extravaganza which begins a four-day run Monday.

This is a logical consequence of the new bonus rule which gives the offended player a second free throw chance if he sinks his first charity off a one-shot foul.

Under direct fire will be the single tournament mark of 28 gift flips established by Iowa State's 6-8 center, Delmar Diercks, in 1952; the career record of 47, erected by another pivot, Bill Johnson, of Nebraska over the past three years, and the single game team ceiling of 36 wrought by Kansas against Oklahoma in last year's finals.

Oklahoma's senior sharp-shooter, Lester Lane, is certain to press both individual marks. Thru the Sooners' four pre-meet games he is averaging an even nine charities per start, having flipped thru 36 of 53 tries. He needs only to lift this mean a fraction to overhaul Diercks' tournament mark. And since he already has netted 29 free throws in three previous tournaments, he is one of a handful of players who will take part in their fourth meet—he can average considerably less than 9-per-game and still topple Johnson's career figure.

Simple arithmetic shows that if Lane merely meets his average during tournament play he will close out with 56 charities for his tourney career, or nine more than Johnson canned during his three-year duty.