

not end merely with a coterie of veterans. Coach Bebe Lee owns the indispensable big man in 6-7, 207-pound Burdette Haldorson, defending league scoring king. His stable of forwards possibly is the loop's best all-around to a depth of four men. His backline tandem of Charlie Mock and Tom Harrold is without peer in the conference as a ball-handling unit.

### A Strong Finish.

This is the Cinderella gang that leaped all the way from a last place finish in 1953 to a co-title in '54, the school's first since joining the old Big Six in 1948. This was a double bootstrap act since C. U. also dropped its first seven games last season, a sorry beginning for a team that was to vault into the N. C. A. A. regionals at Stillwater at the season's end.

The Herd has designs on something even better this winter. Haldorson, Harrold and Forward Bob Jeangerard are playing their fourth seasons. There are four other seniors on this squad. It must shoot the works, for its losses will be terrific at the season's end. The tournament would be a good

A. in Los Angeles, is more significant than any of the opening three triumphs over B. Y. U. and Colorado A. and M. The Uclans walloped Kansas State, another title contender, 86-57, earlier in the year, and split a 2-game series with San Francisco, newly-crowned All-College tournament monarchs. The U. S. F. loss is the lone blemish on the Bruin record at this writing. And C. U.'s showing in the Bruins' home den followed a pair of 13-point defeats at the hands of California, the tournament guest team.

### Mental Boost for Buffs.

Aside from the talent and experience, Colorado will carry a psychological weapon all season. The Buffs would like to give the lie to the label of "a 1-shot champion playing over its head."

If they reach the semifinals against Missouri . . . and both are heavy first-round favorites . . . there is going to be considerable vibration. For the Herd started its surprise title march last year by nipping M. U. 66-62, in the conference opener at Columbia, then repeated with an 80-69 pasting in Boulder.

Past Big Seven tournament champions:

Champion and Runnerup.		Teams Champion	
		Pts.	Op. Pts.
1946—S. M. U., 49; Kansas, 46	.....	151	135
1947—Kansas State, 50; Oklahoma A. and M., 43	.....	161	133
1948—Oklahoma, 52; Kansas, 49	.....	163	139
1949—Missouri, 44; Oklahoma, 42	.....	153	139
1950—Kansas State, 70; Minnesota, 62	.....	197	168
1951—Kansas, 75; Missouri, 65	.....	241	209
1952—Kansas State, 93; Kansas, 87	.....	265	217
1953—Kansas, 82; Oklahoma, 73	.....	230	202