

Hence, it is no surprise that Missouri has ~~tax~~ moved stoutly thru the early going.

Stalcup has not enjoyed as much chance as he would like to temper his ~~sophomox~~ reserves under pressure. Only eight men played in the wins over Indiana and Iowa. The Wisconsin and Arkansas decisions were under control all the way and the 44-79 loss to Illinois so wide that tension was removed.

~~Mostly important vitaxaxvng~~ The second-line problem is unsteady only at the pivot, however. If <sup>A</sup> Reiter is victimized early, or lost altogether on fouls, the Tigers will drop off sharply at that spot. The 6-5½ Denny ~~xxxxx~~ averaged only 2.6 last year and ~~xxxxx~~ is not close to Reiter in finesse, rebounding or defense. Behind him are two sophs, Arnold Kaestner, 6-6½, and Tom Graham, 6-6.

Filbert and <sup>F</sup>owler can hold the fort capably behind Stewart and Park. With Elmore sidelined, Stalcup must turn to four other rookies, Truman Blackman, Gary Rust, Eddie Ronsick, and Bill Ross, for backline depth.

But Stalcup has the type of team he likes ~~xxxxx~~ ~~xxxxx~~ serving scoring power from the pivot, ~~xxxxx~~ staunch off the backboards, and agile and experienced enough to play the defense well.

MU won its only tournament crown in 1949 when Guard <sup>G</sup>George Lafferty led a pulsating rally in the final minutes to edge Oklahoma, 44-42. The Tigers also reached the finals in 1951, bowing to Kansas, 65-75.

#### Missouri record to date

44	Illinois	77
64	Indiana	61
97	Iowa	94*
67	Wisconsin	56*
77	Arkansas	58*