

last winter.

strannigan has come up with two bona-fide individual
aces, chuck duncan, veteran, 6-5 205-pound center, and gary thompson,
blond, crew-cut ~~xxx~~ guard, who ~~has~~ established himself as one of the
league's top sophomores ~~xxxxxxx~~ off his tournament showing.

duncan took lester lane's ~~xxxxxxx~~ scoring champ-
ionship away from him ~~x~~ on the final night by nailing 75 points for
the three-game route. the ~~sooner~~ guard, falling to nine, in the third
place playoff, finished at 67, three more than he used to carry off
the bauble last year. duncan, the loop's ninth-ranking scorer in the 1954
race, is a much smoother shooter, and far better feeder and rebounder
thompson finished tenth in this derby at 46,

but that represented only part of his overall value
than he was last winter.

thompson finished tenth in the meet point derby
fourth
at 46, but that represents only a ~~xxxx~~ of his value. he is an excellent
play-maker, ~~xxxx~~ defender and dribbler. ~~xxxxxxx~~ he combined with
the veteran larry wetter, and gerald sandbulte, former nebraskan, to
weave an 18-point covering job on lane and his backline pal, jimmy
peck, in thursday's victory. this trio switched frequently so that
one of them was policing lane or peck at all times.

as spraky stalcup, who guided his missouri club to
the championship with an 89-71 pasting of kansas state in the finals,
remarked.... "strannigan has done a helluva job already."

this ~~xxxx~~ statement was justified not only by
state's third-place finish, but also by the obvious and marked improvement
of veterans like den dekoester, stan frahm, and wetter, who were
merely names in the box score last year.