

Buffaloes Blister Huskers

By **GEORGE FRANCO**

Post Executive Sports Editor

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 30.—Colorado's basketball teams have fallen heir to the dubious distinction of "matinee idols" in Big Seven conference tournaments here.

The man behind it all is Bill Strannigan, the ex-Colorado A&M tutor currently in his first season at Iowa State after a successful tenure in the mountain country.

When Strannigan guided Iowa State to its thrilling 82-to-81 triumph over perennially strong Kansas following Colorado's 73-71 overtime loss to Oklahoma one game earlier, the Buffs got the tag. They're the lone current conference member that has not won in the opening round.

They responded well to the designation here Wednesday afternoon in the consolation semifinals by overwhelming inept Nebraska, 89 to 47. That gave them the right to meet California in the consolation title contest Thursday and a chance to seek revenge for two earlier losses to the Bears on their recent west coast swing.

BUFFS CLICK

In direct contrast to its below-par showing in Monday's losing effort to Oklahoma in the tourney opener, Colorado did everything near-perfectly in stomping the Huskers.

The Buffs mixed a blistering score pace by the regulars and a better-than-average rate by the reserve units with a glove-tight defense to end a four-game win drouth.

It was never a contest after the Huskers matched the first basket of the game by Colorado's Bob Jeangerard. The Buffs took the lead on Burdette (Burdy) Haldorson's free throw with only 2:03 played and were off to a record-breaking tourney victory margin of 42 points. This eclipsed the old mark set in 1948, when the Buffs tromped Harvard by 33 points. It was also a school scoring mark.

Jeangerard and Haldorson high-