

And for good reason. They knocked down Indiana, 63-60, two nights after the clubbing at Urbana. They followed with a 97-94 win over Iowa's Big Ten favorites at Columbia. This was garnished with a 67-56 win over another Western conference foe, Wisconsin, and a 77-58 victory over Arkansas, thus mounting a 4-1 level through the early going.

Stalcup's club is built on solid veterans. Two of these, Bob Reiter, 6-9 center, and Med Park, 6-2, 201 - pound forward, are playing their fourth season. The other regulars are Norm Stewart, strapping 6-4 junior forward who ranked with Kansas' Dallas Dobbs as the loop's finest sophomore last season; Red Reichert, lettered junior, and Lionel Smith, talented 6-1½ sophomore, who man the backline.

Cal Is Guest Team

Colorado and guest team California both are regarded as better than the two Kansas schools at this writing. How good both might be likely will be reflected from analysis of their weekend series at Berkeley.

Missouri and Colorado are clustered in the tourney's upper bracket which means, of course, that only one of them could reach the finals.

First round games in the upper bracket pit Colorado against Oklahoma and Nebraska against Missouri Monday, December 27. The next night, Kansas plays Iowa State and K-State meets California in lower bracket play.