

big seven tournament preview
2nd in a series of 3

Any basketball coach still will welcome a 6-9 pivot-
man when he goes after the Big Seven tournament title. But the
little guys are going to have a lot to say about what team captures the
ninth annual meet, which opens a four-day run Monday in Kansas
City's Municipal auditorium.

What is the ever-increasing fleet of little men
in the midlands' circuit is threatening to swing much of the spotlight
away from the towering denizens of the keyhole. Oklahoma's Lester Lane,
a nifty 5-10, 170-pound guard, could have signalled this trend last year
when he won the tournament scoring championship on 64 points. In so doing
he outdistanced Kansas All-American B.H. Born, 6-9; Burdette Hal-
derson, Colorado's 6-7 center who later won the conference scoring point
scepter; Bob Heiter, Missouri's 6-8 hook-shooting artist; Nebraska's Bill
Johnson, 6-7, and Kansas State's brace of Roger Craft, 6-7, and
Jerry Jung, 6-11.

For seven years previously a pivot-man... none of
which stood less than 6-4... had won the individual tournament
scoring crown.

Lane, and his stablemate, the 5-9, 155-pound Jimmy
Peck, typify the backlines that most conference teams now have
in operation. Iowa State will come in with a pair of comparative midgets in
Gary Thompson, 5-10, and Larry Wetter, 5-10. Kansas is mounting
Dallas Dobbs, 5-11, and John Parker, 5-11, in its backline. Colorado
Charles Mock
floors ~~Tom~~, slightly out of the midget class at 6-0, and Tom
Harold, 5-11. Kansas State alternates three; Lent Poore, 5-8½; J.R. Snyder,
5-10½, and Pachin Vicens, 5-9. Nebraska's regulars are Duane Buel, 5-10, and
and Billy Wells, 5-11.

Only Missouri, and California, this year's guest team,