

in Columbia. Sparky Stalcup's band raised eyebrows in both its first two outings, absorbing a 49-77 thumping at the hands of Illinois last Saturday in Urbana, then rebounding with a 63-60 victory over Indiana on the Hoosiers' home court.

#### Couldn't Locate Hoop.

Indiana is rated sixth in the latest A. P. poll; Illinois fourteenth. The defeat at Urbana wasn't a surprise, but the enormity of it was. The word is that the Tigers played good enough all-round basketball but simply couldn't get the ball through the twine. They didn't register a field goal until nine minutes deep in the first period and shot only 18 per cent for the night.

Off that performance M. U. scarcely was accorded a victory chance at Bloomington, although regarded good enough to make it tight. Nobody thought the Bengals' inherent all-round excellence would allow another debacle. But they weren't prepared for a victory on the Hoosiers' home floor, one of the toughest spots in the land for visiting fives. But M. U. broke through 11 ties and six lead exchanges for the conquest. If it can blow down Iowa it certainly must be accorded high-ranking in the national polls. The Hawkeyes currently are traveling in fourth place. They'll come into Columbia unbeaten in three games. Nebraska was the latest victim, 61-84, Monday, Iowa previously ran over Washington of St. Louis, 80-61, and Loyola of Chicago, 80-79. Furthermore, it is the Big Ten's ranking pre-season favorite.

#### Some Other Surprises.

Illinois's wide triumph over the Tigers was no less surprising than U. C. L. A.'s fearful 86-57 whacking of Kansas State Saturday and Kansas's unexpectedly easy 83-58 lashing of L. S. U. Monday in Lawrence.

U. C. L. A. is the P. P. C.'s second-ranked favorite behind

U. S. C., and, although favored over the Wildcats, was not expected to hand the Kansans such a drubbing. State hung close to the Bruins only through the first six minutes.

L. S. U., although bereft of

Bob Pettit, its all-America center, was rated even with Kansas, which started four sophomores. Moreover the Bayou Bengals were beaten by second-ranked Kentucky only sixteen points Saturday. K. U.'s edge was