

Centers Dominate Tourney

Born Favored to Maintain Centers' Scoring String

A 6-9 length of lefthander, Kansas' B. H. Born, will be the prime guardian of the postman's unbroken string of individual Big Seven tournament scoring championships when the eighth annual meet gets out of the starting blocks Saturday night in Kansas City.

This phenomenon of pivot dominance of the tourney point race was originated by Oklahoma's Gerald Tucker in 1946, when the meet was founded in the final year of the old Big Six. The hefty, 6-4 Sooner center rimmed 64 points over the three-game route despite OU's first-round upset at the hands of Kansas State.

This stood as a tournament record for four years before the Jayhawkers Colossus, Clyde Lovellette, figured home 82 markers as a junior in 1950.

Since Tucker's auspicious start, the loop's centers haven't allowed the individual point flag to escape them in seven consecutive meets. Bill Waters, the ponderous hoss who succeeded Tucker as OU's top pivot, also followed him as tournament scoring monarch with 40 points in 1947.

This represents the all-time low for a meet point title but it still was good enough to edge Harold Howey, fiery forward of Kansas State's champions, by two lengths.

Here is the breakdown on the current streak:

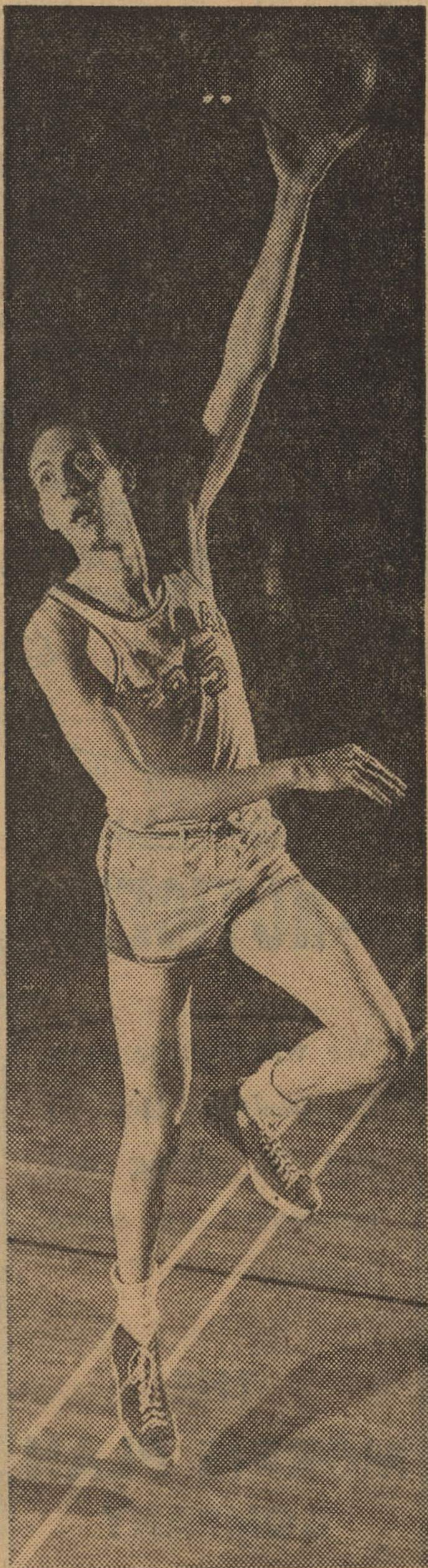
Year	Name, Team	FG	FT	PF	TP
1946	Gerald Tucker, Oklahoma	26	12	5	64
1947	Bill Waters, Oklahoma	16	8	7	40
1948	Gene Petersen, Kansas	20	11	8	51
1949	Clyde Lovellette, Kansas	25	14	10	64
1950	Clyde Lovellette, Kansas	37	8	11	82
1951	Clyde Lovellette, Kansas	31	14	14	76
1952	Dick Anostman, Kansas State	23	25	10	71

Off the basis of the conference's early outings, Born is the heir apparent to this roster. In the Jayhawkers' three games he has nailed 77 points for a 25.6 average to lead all league point-smiths.

If Born falters, three other pivots will be on hand to keep the torch away from the forwards and guards. Missouri's Bob Reiter, a 6-8 junior, is averaging 17.7 points per start to rank next to Born in the league's early scoring tables. Nebraska's Bill Johnson and Bob Waller, Oklahoma's versatile shooter, are carrying 14.7 means.

Thru games of December 19 here's how the Big Seven top ten marksmen line up as they head for the four-dya derby in Kansas City:

Name, Team, Position	G	FG	FT	PF	TP	Av.
B. H. Born, Kansas, c	3	29	19	7	77	25.6
Bob Reiter, Missouri, c	4	27	17	14	71	17.7
Dutch Van Cleave, Iowa State, g	3	20	13	10	53	17.6
Fred Segar, Nebraska, g	4	29	8	11	66	16.5
Gene Stauffer, Kansas State, g	5	27	24	13	78	15.6
Lester Lane, Oklahoma, g	4	24	13	10	61	15.3
Bob Weller, Oklahoma, c	4	22	15	15	59	14.7
Bill Johnson, Nebraska, c	4	18	23	11	59	14.7
Bob Jeangerard, Colorado, f	4	10	28	9	48	12.0
Al Kelley, Kansas, f	3	12	8	12	32	10.6



B. H. BORN

... Top Scoring Threat