WESTERN UNION final nite lead PRESS MESSAGE

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

kansas city, mo., dec. 27... letting out the leash only on occasions, kansas state's defending champions crashed convincingly into the semifinals of the bi sixth annual big seven basketball tournment here thursday night, burying nebraska under a record total of 87 points for a 20-point thumphyinxthuxfirstxyamavafx in the opening game of a final first-round double-bill.

missouri, led by their muscle-plated center, bill stauffer, won the final half of thevx affair with a 49-42 victory over lowa state.

by whaling the outmanned huskers, state moved against kunsask arch-rival kansas in an 8 p.m. friday battle that many are forecasting as the finalsk t the decider. thek phog allen's jayhawkers will put an 8-game winning streak on the line, after punsiting pummeling colorado, 76-56, in wednesday opening session.

missouri tackles oklahoma in the remaining smifinal at 9:45 in another tussle that takes shape as a tight fit. the sooners stunned heavily-favored stanford, 77-71, wednesday to gain the round of four.

played a scoring hand as a near-capacity evandver municipal auditorium throng of 9, 226 watched kansas state control the backboards with their superior heft and height and cut nebraska's defense to tatters with 18 crips off their fast break and drives around the post.