

Tulsa Faces Stiff Tests

By JAY SIMON

TULSA university's co-leadership in the Missouri Valley basketball race undergoes a rigid testing this week as the Golden Hurricane meets two conference foes on the road—Houston Monday and Oklahoma A&M Saturday.

Currently tied with St. Louis for the loop lead at 2-0, Tulsa would move into a commanding spot if it were to win twice this week. Following these games the Hurricane faces only Detroit and St. Louis away from home, while the Billikens still must visit every port in the circuit.

However, Tulsa's chances of sweeping the next two games appear rather slim. Houston is unbeaten at home this season and the Oklahoma Aggies looked potent while lacing Wichita in their

last conference outing nearly two weeks ago.

A&M follows Tulsa into Houston for a Wednesday night game, and two victories this week for the defending champion Cowpunchers would move them into the position of logical challenger to St. Louis.

Those three games involving Oklahoma's members of the Valley account for all the conference activity this week. However, members of the far-flung circuit will engage in five non-league games while seeking to improve on their gaudy 46-16 record against outsiders.

Wichita, all but knocked out of the title picture in Saturday night's 73-71 loss at St. Louis, meets Drake at Des Moines Monday night and takes on Wyoming at Hutchinson, Kan., Saturday.

PICKED to win the crown in a pre-season poll of coaches, the Shockers now have dropped three of their four Valley starts.

Other non-conference business Saturday finds Houston hosting Texas, Detroit meeting cross-town rival Wayne and St. Louis entertaining St. John's of Brooklyn in the Billikens' homecoming scrap.

St. Louis again proved the old adage that there is so little difference between winning and losing when the Bills nipped Wichita on Jim McLaughlin's jump shot in the final second. St. Louis' other conference victory came by one point over Houston on Dick Boushka's basket with 12 seconds remaining in an overtime period.

Wichita, on the other hand, has lost two of its three games in the dying seconds. In addition to the narrow setback at St. Louis the Wheatshockers were beaten by Tulsa, 67-65, on Bob Patterson's goal with seven seconds remaining.

Action in the Big Seven comes to a virtual halt this

week as schools wind up mid-year examinations. Only game slated in that loop matches leading Colorado against Iowa State at Boulder Monday night. The Buffs took over first place last week when Missouri dropped a home contest to Kansas State, 78-67.

Big Seven teams are meeting more success on the road this year than they have in ages. Of the 15 league games played to date visiting quintets have won seven while losing eight.

Colorado, Missouri and Kansas State each has won twice on the road already with the conference race barely a third completed.

In the Valley visiting clubs have won three of the nine games and barely lost three others when home forces snatched victory in the waning moments.

Big Seven

Team—	CONFERENCE					SEASON	
	W	L	Pct.	Pts.	Op	W	L
Colorado	3	0	1.000	217	191	8	5
Missouri	3	1	.750	306	285	10	3
Nebraska	3	1	.750	268	253	6	7
Kansas State	4	2	.667	467	456	9	5
Kansas	1	3	.250	254	279	6	5
Iowa State	1	4	.200	384	380	7	6
Oklahoma	0	4	.000	295	347	1	10

GAMES THIS WEEK

MONDAY—Iowa State at Colorado.

Scoring Leaders

Player and School	F	FG	FT	TP	Ave.
Halderson, Colorado	3	29	21	79	26.3
Lane, Oklahoma	4	28	43	99	24.8
Duncan, Iowa State	5	40	38	118	23.6
Reiter, Missouri	4	29	36	94	23.5
Dobbs, Kansas	3	22	6	50	16.7
Stewart, Missouri	4	27	10	64	16.0
Craft, Kansas State	6	34	26	94	15.7
Thompson, Iowa State	5	24	29	77	15.4
Park, Missouri	4	21	15	57	14.2
Ekwall, Nebraska	4	19	17	55	13.8
Jeangerard, Colorado	3	18	5	41	13.7
Wetter, Iowa State	5	25	17	67	13.4
Vicens, Kansas State	5	22	19	63	12.6
Elston, Kansas	4	18	14	50	12.5
Poore, Kansas State	6	25	19	69	11.5
Johnson, Kansas	4	18	10	46	11.5
Muller, Oklahoma	4	9	27	45	11.2
Smith, Nebraska	4	16	12	44	11.0
Fagler, Nebraska	4	14	16	44	11.0
Hart, Oklahoma	4	12	19	43	10.8
Adams, Kansas State	6	20	24	64	10.7
Matzke, Nebraska	4	19	2	40	10.0
Buel, Nebraska	4	9	21	39	9.8
Harrold, Colorado	3	7	14	28	9.3
Peck, Oklahoma	4	11	11	33	8.2
Thompson, Oklahoma	4	8	16	32	8.0
Coffman, Colorado	3	10	4	24	8.0

Missouri Valley

Team—	CONFERENCE					SEASON	
	W	L	Pct.	Pts.	Op	W	L
Tulsa	2	0	1.000	132	127	11	4
St. Louis	2	0	1.000	158	155	9	5
Detroit	2	2	.500	276	281	12	2
Okl. A&M	1	1	.500	128	115	6	7
Wichita	1	3	.250	267	276	10	4
Houston	1	3	.250	308	315	9	5

GAMES THIS WEEK

MONDAY—Tulsa at Houston; Wichita at Drake.

WEDNESDAY—Oklahoma A&M at Houston.

SATURDAY—Tulsa at Oklahoma A&M; St. John's at St. Louis; Texas at Houston; Wayne at Detroit; Wichita vs. Wyoming at Hutchinson, Kan.

Scoring Leaders

Player and School	F	FG	FT	TP	Ave.
Patterson, Tulsa	2	25	14	64	32.0
Bouldebuck, Houston	4	39	32	110	27.5
Boushka, St. Louis	2	16	16	48	24.0
Sparrow, Detroit	4	28	19	75	18.8
Hodgson, Wichita	4	25	17	67	16.8
McLaughlin, St. Louis	2	12	9	33	16.5
Carter, Okla. A&M	2	5	21	31	15.5
Littleton, Wichita	4	17	23	57	14.2
Smith, St. Louis	2	12	4	28	14.0
Foster, Houston	4	19	16	54	13.5
Golstein, Detroit	4	15	24	54	13.5
Courter, Tulsa	2	10	7	27	13.5
Laketa, Wichita	4	16	20	52	13.0
Wright, Okla. A&M	2	8	10	26	13.0
Maloney, Okla. A&M	2	5	11	21	10.5
Hatton, Houston	4	12	17	41	10.3
Decker, Detroit	4	11	15	37	9.3
Ebben, Detroit	4	11	13	35	8.8
Bell, Houston	4	14	6	34	8.5
Felles, Detroit	4	6	20	32	8.0
Babb, Okla. A&M	2	6	4	16	8.0
Todd, St. Louis	2	7	2	16	8.0
Koch, St. Louis	2	6	4	16	8.0