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LAWRENCE, Kan., Feb. .--The sudden spurt which sent Howard Engleman's scoring average soaring from 5.95 last year to 19.4 this year is nothing new in the Arkansas City boy's basketball career.

Engleman is the only man in the University of Kansas starting lineup who failed to make his high school first squad as a sophomore. Yet as a high school junior Howard bounded to the top of the list of scorers in the state's fastest league.

His first year in high school, Engleman failed to get into a single first team game, all of his action being with Arkansas City's sophomore team.

On the other hand, the four other regulars on this year's Jayhawk quintet all played first team basketball as high school sophomores. Only T. P. Hunter was a regular that first year, but the others all saw action in first team games from time to time.

Hunter was a sophomore first stringer at Margaret, Texas. His last two years of high school competition were taken at Central high in Oklahoma City. Bob Allen, Kansas center, played at Lawrence high school, while the Jayhawk guards, John Kline and Marvin Sollenberger prepped at Hutchinson high.

After that slow start for his high school career, Engleman burst into the limelight the following year with a vengeance. Averaging better than 12 points a game, Howard was the leading scorer in the state's fastest high school loop. As a senior Engleman improved somewhat on this average, but was nosed out by Leason McCloud, now co-captain of the University of Colorado Team.

Engleman's first two years on the Kansas varsity squad were marked by a lack of consistency. When the blond forward was hot he was almost unguardable, but every once in a while he would fail to register even a single point.

As a college sophomore, Howard set a new K U. individual scoring record of 27 points in the game with Oklahoma, yet his average for the season was only 6.4 points a game.

Last winter Engleman's average for the year was 5.95, despite the fact that he scored 21 points in the game with Rice in the quarter-finals of the N. C. A. A. tournament.

Now, that inconsistency is gone. Only once this season has the blond forward scored less than 15 points and in that game he counted 11.