

# Jaffurs, Cenci Get East-West Bids

## Nittany Courtmen Face Lock Haven In Pre-Season Tilt

In the third tune-up tilt for the Nittany cagers before the start of the regular season against the Muhlenberg Mules December 4, the Lawthermen will meet the Lock Haven State Teachers' five in a return engagement on the Rec Hall floor at 8 p. m. tonight.

The Blue and White court squad beat the Lock Haven quintet, composed entirely of Navy and Marine pre-flight cadets 57-27 on the upstater's floor last Friday for their second pre-season victory. The first came two weeks ago when they outscored the Ensign five 40-27.

### Lawther Comes Through

It's a tough job to produce a winning combination out of a bunch of fellows who played entirely different styles of ball under different coaches less than a year ago.

It's not easy to mold a basketball team that will outscore opponents in the short time allowed for practice sessions under military restrictions.

But John Lawther is doing just that.

The Lock Haven team of pre-flighters was never in the ball game. The Penn State combination, led by Mac McNary at the pivot spot and Monty Moskowitz on the backline, took the lead at the start and maintained it throughout.

McNary, tall Marine trainee who played a good deal of basketball near the Mason-Dixon line at George Washington University last season, racked up 20 points against the Teachers to give him a total of 34 for the two pre-season games. He sank 14 against the Ensign five in the recent encounter.

Monty Moskowitz, who does not measure up to the usual Lawther standards of height but makes up for it in shooting and ball-handling, notched 15 counters against the Cadets at Lock Haven to put him second to McNary in scoring.

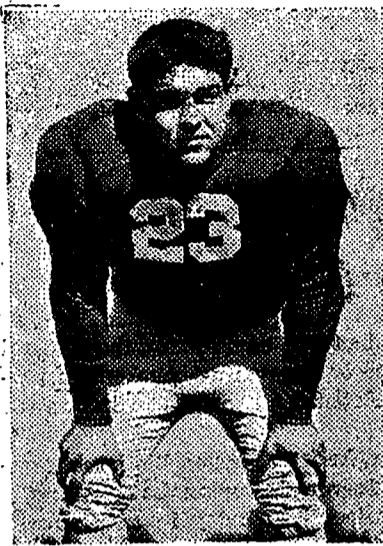
### Line-up Change Unlikely

The starting five for the Muhlenberg game at Allentown may be the same one that started against Lock Haven, according to the Lion mentor. Joe Curran, formerly of Canisius and Moskowitz, a Western Reserve product, were on the backline. McNary held down the starting center spot while Bud Long and Ray Burns, Marine trainee from Ohio University, saw action in the forward slots.

Several reinforcements for the Nittany court squad have showed up at Rec Hall in the last week. Ed Czekaj, Al Richards and Frank Veneroso are all tentatively on the roster, having traded a pigskin for a basketball. Dick Schmadel, half-back for the once-beaten soccer

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## Back on the Sports Page



TWO WEEKS AGO the sports staff put these pictures of Aldo Cenci and Johnny Jaffurs away in the files for life as they had played their last game on New Beaver Field. However, two days ago both

Nittany stars received telegrams from Coach Andy Kerr to appear in the annual East-West classic in San Francisco on New Year's Day. As a post-season recognition, here they are again.

## Coach Houck Fights Again-- Surprises Boxing Candidates

Leo Houck shattered tradition on Tuesday night, and at the same time officially decided that it was time to open the 1943 boxing season, which is sure to be full of surprises by present indications.

First of all, Leo didn't have any assistant managers on the squad yet, and instead of waiting a few days for them to come around he found a broom and went to work cleaning the ring, canvas, put up two heavy bags, a punching bag, unlocked a few dozen mitts, and put his sweat shirt on.

Then it happened. He had five men out this first night, and by simple mathematics saw that another man would be needed to pair off with the sixth candidate. Opening the locker with a gleam in both eyes, Leo pulled on two 16-ounce gloves and began working out in the ring for the first time in 16 years.

His sailor opponent was no less surprised, and before many minutes spectators were jamming the ropes to see Houck in somewhat rusty action, although leaving every indication that when his boisterous friends begin talking a bit rough they had better smile.

The last fight which Houck had was back in 1927, when the Huntingdon American Legion Post decided to put on a boxing show at a smoker. Leo was a perfect man for half the job, since he was then coaching boxing in his first few years at Penn State after having retired from the ring a few years before. As an opponent, Huntingdon Legionnaires picked a big, tough State Policeman by the name of Al Vervecken, and although it was not known then, this was the last time Houck was to put on a pair of boxing gloves until November 23, 1943.

Houck was feeling pretty good about his new ring venture last night but was more concerned over the Lion squad for this year. He has found several hard-hitting, shifty men in the Marine-Navy training group as a result of the All-Service boxing tourney held last summer, but expects some new material to turn up for instruction this month. Practice sessions are ready to begin, and training will be given to all men who report, regardless of their previous ring prowess.

Fighting weights will range from 121 pounds to heavyweight, according to Houck. Although the V-12 unit has sprinkled men through nearly every weight class, the Lion mitt master is anxious to have any civilians who are interested in the squad to report.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

## Represent Lions In Annual New Year's Day Classic

By Seaman Tom Wheatley

### Home Sweet Home

1943 marked the fifth year in a row that Penn State has completed its football schedule at home without a defeat.

The Nittany Lions have defeated 19 out of 20 opponents since 1938. This year, Colgate played the Lions to a scoreless tie.

Over this span Bucknell has bowed five times, West Virginia three times, Syracuse, Pittsburgh, and Lehigh twice each, and Maryland, South Carolina, New York University, Temple, and Colgate once each.

Lafayette, last team to defeat the Lions at home, turned the trick by a 7-0 score on November 5, 1938.

Johnny Jaffurs and Aldo Cenci will represent Penn State in the annual Shriner East-West football game in San Francisco, California New Year's Day.

Featuring the cream of the American gridiron crop, the game, a benefit for crippled children, is one of the few post-season football activities not eradicated by the war.

Jaffurs, a potential All-American guard throughout his three years of varsity service; and Aldo Cenci, 230 pound quarterback and nucleus of State's ground defenses for three seasons, received their bids Wednesday in a wire from Andy Kerr, Colgate head coach who will guide the Eastern gridders in the initial football fracas of 1944.

Since both men are members of the Reserve Officers Training Corps stationed here, the approval of their participation by Col. Edward D. Arbery which came yesterday afternoon was necessary before the gridders were permitted to join the squad. The consent of Dean Marion R. Traub, Education, and Dean Carl P. Schott, Physical Education, heads of the respective schools of Cenci and Jaffurs was also needed.

Details of the journey to the West Coast will be sent to the Nittany representatives as soon as all the men who will make up the Eastern squad are entered on the roster.

The last Lion players to be honored with bids to the East-West game were Len Krouse and Bill Smaltz, outstanding passing combination which performed in New Orleans in 1941.

Cenci's action in the backfield and Jaffurs' talents on the line were the only consistent factors in Coach Bob Higgins 1943 team which was upset by military transfers, academic ineligibility, and loss of players through graduation.

with seven points. Bobby Williams also took honors in sectional touchdown scoring.

## Another Year Over, And What A Year!

In past years, a victory over Pitt alone would mean that Coach Higgins and his squad had done a good season's work, but during this hectic, almost frantic 1943, football authorities believe that the Nittany Lions fought a highly nine-game schedule.

Higgins and his co-staff of mentors were unable to plan offensive or defensive strategy even seven days in advance, and in the opening game of the season, an important bulk of his first string were declared eligible but 50 minutes before the kickoff.

Even with servicemen being transferred to other stations almost weekly, the scoring attack of the war-scaped Lions rolled over the enemy goal lines for 124 points, while the Nittany heavy artillery was constantly holding the opponents at bay, chalking but 53 points in the red column.

Ed Czekaj, towering Marine end, led the Tri-State area in conversions, with eight good boots. Scotty Hamilton from West Virginia followed a close second

## COLLEGIAN SPORTS

### This Marine Gets Around

Tubby Crawford, the Marine trainee, doesn't quite seem able to decide which sport he likes best. When he arrived on active duty here in July, track coach Ray Conger had high hopes, for at Ohio University Tubby was able to pole vault 13 feet without brushing the hair out of his eyes. Then Bill Jeffrey found him down in the goalie cage on the varsity soccer team for half a season.

On the next stop in the short period of weeks, Crawford went to the football team, and ripped the Temple line so hard that the Lions won an easy victory. With a hectic season over, Crawford was expected to retire from sports for at least a few days, but now he is fighting hard for a spot on the Nittany hockey squad.

### Where's The Official?

As Coach Bob Higgins scratched his head and wondered what he was going to do for players prior to the Temple game, college athletic officials were sitting in the press box scratching their's a little harder, for it was time for the starting whistle, and no referee, umpire, or head linesman had arrived.

With little or no commotion, Stan Baumgartner from the Philadelphia Inquirer sports staff, pulled the lid down on his typewriter, and went out on the field with an official's horn.

Late in the first quarter, the three breathless officials arrived. While enroute to the game from Pittsburgh, they overturned their automobile three times near Cresson, and were forced to rent a private car to speed them to their job.

### He Must Love It!

Johnny Jaffurs the star Penn State guard is really in love with football, at least according to his record. For nine years he has played every season, beginning in the Wilkesburg Junior High School, and continuing on up to the Pitt game in his old home town on Saturday.

He gets another chance to start on New Year's Day, since he and teammate Aldo Cenci have received bids to play in the East-West game in San Francisco.

The first ten years of Cenci's life, incidentally, were spent near Rome, Italy, where he was born.

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