

Frosh Gridders Star in Practice

Swinging into the third week of practice, the football squad has dinned its pads and started contact drills. So far, the scrimmages have been limited to running off plays from one spot and not utilizing the entire length of the field. However, before long there may be regular intra-squad games.

Resuming his coaching duties after returning from his yearly vacation, Joe Bedenk has intensified the training of the linemen. The former all-American daily teaches tricks of the trade, which he gained through playing and coaching to the gridders.

Almost half the squad is composed of freshmen, many here on scholarships. These first-year men will figure prominently in the plans for the coming season. Coach Bob Higgins said the Nittany freshmen candidates are Murray Cohen, Charles Drazenovich, Jim Emanuel, John Finley, Ralph Flaminio, Eucrett Fretz, Al Guba, WWilliam Hanley, Jack Harford, Ross Herron.

Earl Hower, Frank Hoyt, Don Kanter, Grant Karsner, Bob Kritzer, Lou Langley, Lou Lehm, Merle Long, Bob Lindy, Charles Murray.

Ab Pennebacker, David Platt, William Rogers, Bob Russel, Russel Sadker, John Schilling, Al Spinner, Sam Tamburo, William Tripplett, William Turner, Martin Veater.

Ex-State Athlete To Continue Career After War's End

"I still have one more season to go and when I'm out of the Army, I intend to return and finish," said Lt. John J. Jaffurs, '44.

Lieutenant Jaffurs visited the College during the week and made a literally blazing entrance as his car caught on fire when he arrived. Now on his honeymoon, the former Nittany football great was married on July 7 to Mary Elizabeth McCurdy, '44.

Arriving overseas in November, 1944, Lieutenant Jaffurs joined General Terry Allen's Timberwolf division during the siege of Archen. This division specialized in night fighting, and, as Johnny said, "I don't think that I was ever in a daylight operation."

The Rhur River front proved to be his nemesis as he was twice wounded there. After being hit the second time, Lieutenant Jaffurs was sent via Paris to a base hospital in England. He remained there until sent back to the States, arriving in New York on June 22.

Not to be outdone by his former trainer Jack Hulme who witnessed the V-E Day celebration in Paris, the Wilkensburg griddier viewed a similar demonstration in London.

"The British seemed to have gone berserk at the news. The crowds milling through the streets and those congregated at Buckingham Palace were overwhelming. The King and Queen made five appearances to the frenzied delight of the mobs. England fought a long and tough war, and it was sure doing a good job in celebrating its end, at least in Europe," Jaffurs said.

At the end of his present sick leave, Lieutenant Jaffurs reports back to the Woodrow Wilson General Hospital, Staunton, Va., and then expects to be reassigned for further duty in the Pacific.

During his days as a student at the College, "Jeep" Jaffurs played four seasons of football from 1940 to 1944, was on the '43 wrestling team, was a member of Parmi Nous and Acacia fraternity. He was a member of the East team that played in the annual East-West bowl game in 1944.

Six sports discontinued at Penn State as a wartime economy will be resumed immediately after the war.

Jack Harper
MAILER HINERBACHER TOLON

Venezuelan Discusses Foreign Sports

"As football is to the Americans, so soccer is to the Germans and Latin Americans," says Herb Mendt. Herb, who is soccer coach along with John Hamilton in Bill Jeffrey's absence, can say this from experience.

Born in Venezuela, he went to Germany with his family in 1932, just before Hitler came into power.

While in Germany, his athletic ability first manifested itself. He became quite active in soccer-playing. Running in various track meets and competitions, he received awards for winning and placing in numerous races. He also was a member of a field hockey club which received the title of second best throughout the Reich.

"Field hockey," he said, "is the second most popular sport in Germany. It occupies the position, in that country, that baseball holds over here."

After graduating from high school, Mendt returned to Venezuela in 1939, and in 1940 he journeyed to the United States. Being unable to speak English, he attended Franklin and Marshall Academy in Lancaster in order to prepare himself for college.

Besides learning to speak, read and write English, he was quite active on the soccer, track, and tennis teams.

After leaving prep school, he came to Penn State, where he undertook a phenomenal task. He is studying architecture and architectural engineering at the same time, and hopes to get degrees in both courses upon the completion of his ninth semester.

Because of his difficult schedule, Herb can only find time for his favorite sport—soccer. Not only does he enjoy playing the game, but he has proved himself quite expert at it.

Emphasizing the fact that soccer is the national sport of South America, the Venezuelan pointed to the number of Latin Americans who are on the first team. He also mentioned that in Germany even men up to the age of sixty play soccer regularly.

Soccer is a game requiring much skill and ability, resulting only

Returned Vet Visits Matmen, then Mom

They're telling this story on Lieut. Glen Alexander, an ex-wrestler, who returned to his State College home after 28 months in Africa and Italy.

When Glen arrived in town, he spotted a placard advertising the Penn State - Lehigh wrestling meet, and he went directly to Recreation Hall to see the bouts.

But before he settled in his seat, he went to the telephone and called his home. His mother was breathless, wondered how soon he would be home. He told her where he was.

"It has been a good three years since I saw a wrestling meet," he told his mother.

4 Teams Enter League

Four teams have entered the independent softball tournament, announced Jack Dickstein, organizer. They are Grahams, Penn Haven, Penn State Christian Association, and Beaver House.

from long practice. Using this hard-earned skill to best advantage, Herb plays an expert wing position.

Despite the team's many defeats last year, co-coach Mendt still places Penn State among his list of the five top soccer outfits, the others being Army, Navy, Cornell and Temple. Because of returning lettermen and an expected large number of green, but well-drilled booters, he envisions excellent results for the team this fall.

'45 Season Looms Bright for Booters

Prospects for a successful soccer season loom bright as practice moves into its second week, according to acting coaches Herb Mendt and John Hamilton.

Among the 27 candidates, there are some who never booted a ball before, veterans from last year's team, and one discharged serviceman who played on the 1942 varsity. Don Rider, recently discharged from the Army on points, has resumed his playing which was interrupted when he entered the service.

As there are enough men reporting, daily scrimmages are being held on the practice field beside the golf course. Besides this, the squad concentrated on short passes and goal kicking.

Mendt and Hamilton received a letter from Coach Bill Jeffries stating that he is presently on the outskirts of Rome teaching soccer to the troops. These men are awaiting shipment and his job is part of the Army athletic program to keep them occupied while waiting transportation.

Practice is held daily, except Sunday, from 3:30 p. m. to 5 p. m.

'Basketball Popular Overseas,' Lawther

John Lawther, veteran Lion basketball coach, expects a new crop of collegians to spring from cage competition overseas.

"Post-war teams, he believes, will be dotted with thousands of boys who have developed an interest in the sport on make-shift courts all over the world.

"The game," Lawther says, "has acquired these recruits mainly because it doesn't require much equipment, and our boys have been able to play it indoors and outdoors, on small areas.

"I've had first-hand accounts," he adds, "of games played aboard battleships, and on small assault ships, all over the Atlantic and Pacific."

Lawther, who is looking forward to his tenth season as Nittany Lion cage coach, looks for a new appreciation of the sport to develop from its present popularity in far-off places.

"In England alone," he explains, "more than 25,000 boys have played the game, and will want to play it again after the war."

Football Coach Bob Higgins of Penn State is an avid golfer, plays 18 holes daily.



RALPH VENTRESCO

Higgins To Build Squad Around Pre-War Star

Among the swelling ranks of ex-servicemen who have returned to complete their education at the College is Ralph Ventresco. He is outstanding because it is around him that Coach Bob Higgins intends to build his 1945 grid squad.

Ventresco, who last played in 1941, was understudy to Fullback Bill Smalt when he left in 1942. He served for three years in the Army, seeing action in Africa, Sicily, Anzio, Southern France, and Germany, with the famed 45th Infantry Division. He was then discharged under the point system and returned to Penn State.

Having two years remaining before he receives his degree, Ventresco will greatly bolster the eleven and brighten the Lions football hopes for 1945 and 1946.

Ventresco, a hard-hitting back and one of the many ex-servicemen who are members of the squad, hails from Pitcairn.

ASTP Begins Intramurals

The ASTP softball tournament began play this week. The tournament is divided into two leagues; Company A and Company B. Company A is composed of Barracks 4, 5, 8, and 30. Company B consists of Barracks 7, 12, 17, and 28.

In the initial games, Barracks 7 downed Barracks 28, 17-10; and Barracks 17 topped Barracks 12, 8-7.

Navy Units Open Softball Tourney

The V-12 unit softball tournament has gotten well under way in the first half. The seven-inning games are played on the golf course Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday afternoons. The winner of the first half of the tournament will play the victor in the second half in a two-out-of-three championship series.

League competition is scheduled to end August 21, weather permitting.

In the opening games, Barracks 26 edged out Barracks 13, 5-4; Barracks 9 defeated 36, 9-2; Barracks 37 won over Barracks 13, 9-0; Barracks 26 downed Barracks 36, 5-2; Barracks 26 beat Barracks 37, 9-2; and Barracks 13 topped Barracks 9, 5-4.

In this week's games, Barracks 37 downed Barracks 9, 15-5; Barracks 36 edged out Barracks 13, 3-2, in an extra inning contest; and Barracks 37 blanked Barracks 36, 14-0.

The standings follow:

Team	Won	Lost
Barracks 26	3	0
Barracks 37	3	1
Barracks 9	1	2
Barracks 36	1	3
Barracks 13	1	3

6 Coaches' Sons Serve In Army, Navy, Air Corps

Four members of the athletic coaching staff at Penn State have sons in the armed services. Dean of the group is Boxing Coach Leo Houck, with sons in the Army, Navy, and Air Corps.

Houck's 19-year-old son, Tommy, is finishing off his first year in the Navy as a seaman, first class, aboard a fighting ship in the Pacific. His brothers, Leo Jr. and Eddie, served for nearly a year in the European theatre.

Leo Jr., a second lieutenant in the Air Corps, won the Air Medal for his part in the Normandy invasion. As a glider pilot he participated in every major action. Eddie, a private first class, in infantry, was returned to this country prior to V-E Day because of burns sustained on the Western front.

Technician 4th class Jim Lawther, son of John, the Lion basketball coach, is still in Germany with the American Army as a radio technician. Ensign Art Jeffrey, son of Bill, the soccer coach, is in the South Pacific. He participated in the Luzon invasion. Seaman first class Ken Rutherford, son of Bob, the golf coach, is also aboard a fighting ship in the South Pacific.

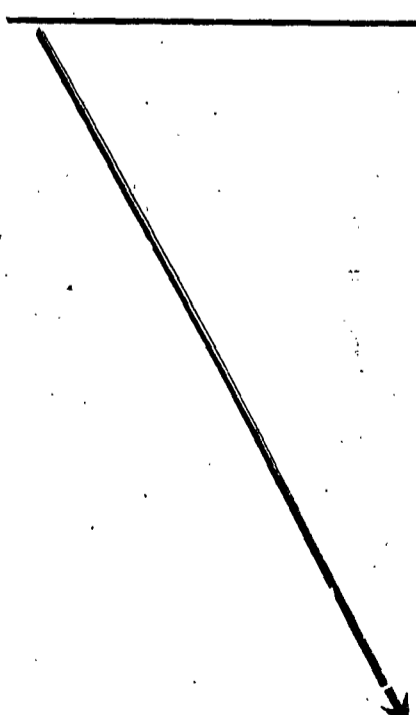


IT'S SURE TO RAIN

Don't be a bedraggled beauty — stay dry in one of our raincoats and to protect your curls add a rain hat

Smart Shop

ALWAYS . . .



The Corner unusual