

# The Nittany Realm

By Red Roth

Donald Longenecker, Nittany Lion harrier ace, has participated in numerous races in his three years of collegiate running, but probably his greatest race is the one against age which threatens to cut short his competitive running career.

Up until now Longenecker seems to have more than held his own against the Old Man with a scythe. The balding senior, appropriately enough called "Pappy" for short, actually seems, like good whiskey, to improve with age.

Just two weeks ago he climaxed a successful three-year collegiate career by leading the seven-man Lion aggregation across the finish line at the National Collegiate varsity cross-country meet staged at East Lansing, Mich. The fact that Captain Horace Ashen, after was running on a seriously-injured ankle helped considerably, of course.

## DISTANCE RUNNER

At an age when many men limit their physical exercise to fighting through crowds at a stadium to witness a football game, Longenecker is just beginning to come into his own as a distance runner.

"I'm still improving, despite the fact I'll be 33 years old in less than three months," the short-tufted runner declared. "I don't think I've even hit my peak as a distance runner yet."

His life before entering college almost as fabulous as the fact that he is still a top harrier despite his accumulated years, far more than most other collegiate open-field runners.

After graduation from West Newton High School in his hometown, Longenecker began a vocational career that is equalled in the number of positions held only by the diversity of those positions.

In rapid succession he worked as a loader in a coal mine, a construction worker in a steel mill, a farmer and a grocery clerk, among other jobs. Then came 1940 and Don, then 24, enlisted in the Army Air Forces. He was stationed at Hickam field on December 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

For the next four years Longenecker was busily engaged playing.

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# Heavyweights Thrill Big IM Fight Crowd

Heavy-weights have the punch!

Another overflowing crowd around the varsity ring in Recreation hall whetted its appetite on 11 exploding "preliminary" bouts last night, then erupted with roaring violence as John Smidansky, Sigma Nu, battled furiously to another win in the unlimited class, this time over stocky, determined Bill Dale, Sigma Phi Epsilon.

# Ski Coach Fogg Needs Jumper For Lion Team

By Joe Coppa

Ski Coach Sherman Fogg has a real problem on his hands!

Up until now he has only eight men out for the varsity team, which has been working out for the past three weeks. They are: Sterling Banker, Huston Brosius, Francis Curry, Robert Drew, William Graf, Howard James, George Keenan and Otto Pfefferkorn. Brosius, Graf and James are seniors; Banker, Curry, Drew and Pfefferkorn are juniors, and Keenan is a sophomore.

Of these men, only Graf has a berth clinched, while Brosius is rated highly by Coach Fogg. The other candidates are inexperienced but are working hard in an effort to make the team. Clifford Carts, last year's captain, is ineligible for competition this semester but may be able to perform in the Spring.

## JUMPER

"Our real problem is to find another jumper besides Graf and Brosius, since three jumpers are necessary to obtain a team score although others may compete individually. Penn State ski teams have always been weak in downhill slalom, but I'm hoping some of the men who are trying out

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# Tamburo On INS 'All' Team

Sam Tamburo, brilliant Lion end, was chosen for the offensive team on the International News Service Double Platoon All-America.

The tall senior, a pass-catching wizard from New Kensington, Pa., although playing on the offense as well as on the defense, was selected for his superior performances while on the attack. A four-year college football veteran, Tamburo was highly regarded as a smart, clean football player.

Charles Bednarik, Penn center, and Joe Henry, Army guard from Clearfield, Pa., were the other Eastern selections for the offensive unit on the two-platoon team.

# Between The Lions



By Tom Morgan  
SPORTS EDITOR

## The Unexpected Balm . . .

Lion Lacrosse Skipper Nick Thiel called a halt to winter practice last week in anticipation of customary State College snow flurries which aren't conducive to lacrosse. Now he's sorry he did, 'cause of this balmy pre-Christmas weather (balmy for December, that is.)

Thiel will attend the 66th annual meeting of the Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association in New York this weekend.

## Ex-Reporter

An old hand at sports reporting is Wrestling Coach Charlie Speidel, who used to write up some of his own wrestling bouts. Consequently, he knows what an approaching sports scrivener wants and recently bowled us over by producing pencil and paper and jotting down these significant words for us and for the fodder of the fans:

"We're on the mend after a difficult post-war adjustment period, and will be a real threat in our sectional wrestling competition this year."

Charlie put it another way by declaring: "I can't avoid telling people our prospects are excellent. Otherwise, if we do come up with a good team this year, they'll say I was too pessimistic."

## ON Vandeweghe

One of the best basketball teams Penn State meets this season will undoubtedly be Colgate, headed by Center Ernie Vandeweghe. Holder of virtually every individual Colgate scoring record and possessor of 1007 points in three seasons of play, Vandeweghe is an integral cog in the Red Raider floor attack.

Much to the discomfort of opposing teams, however, Vandeweghe is not the whole Colgate show. "No ball hog," he passes off to teammates as often as he shoots himself (at the basket, that is.) What's disturbing about it all is that his cohorts can make baskets too. Look out, Penn State!

## From the Morgue

Line Coach Joe Bedenk and Fearless Fullback Franny Rogel spoke Monday night at the high school football banquet of Ridgeway. . . . As movies of the Cotton Bowl game were shown, Rogel modestly gave a running account (he amassed 95 yards in that game to lead both teams in total offense) . . .

Wrestling Coach Charlie Speidel and his assistant, Charlie Ridenour, conducted a high school wrestling clinic at Lewistown over the weekend. . . .

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