

# Lion Cagers-Penn Clash Tonight

## 18-4 Record Put on Line By Quakers

By DICK McDOWELL

Ordinarily Penn State's final basketball game before entrance into the tournament field of the National Collegiate championships would be nothing more than a routine warm-up contest.

But when the opponent is Penn, and particularly when at the moment the Quakers stand as a possible entry to the NCAA, and even more particularly when they bring an 18-4 record to Rec Hall—then that basketball game takes on a highly significant color.

That will be the situation tonight when the Lions and Quakers square away in Rec Hall at 8 p.m. in the final regularly scheduled contest for the Nittanies this season.

### Lost to Columbia

Carrying a 17-7 record into the annual dual, the Lions will probably unload every bit of ammunition they can muster at the Ivy League leaders, who lost their fourth game last week to Columbia.

Coach Ray Stanley, in his first year at the Quaker Helm, has what many consider the finest Penn team in the last decade and a win against the Lions tonight would be a sweet one for the Quakers who lost to their mid-state neighbors last year at the Penn Palestra.

Four Lion seniors will make their final collegiate appearance at Rec Hall tonight. Co-captain center Jesse Arnelle, who almost owns the place by now, will play his final game there along with his captain partner Ron Weidenhammer, forward Jim Blocker, and guard Dave Edwards. All four players are playing their fourth regular season.

### Third Time at Rec Hall

Tonight's contest marks only the third game in the 33-game history of the rivalry to be played in Rec Hall. The Quakers agreed to transfer the contest from its usual spot at the Palestra to add to the University's Centennial sports schedule. The Lions are 2-1 in the home end of the series, but have won only nine games while losing 24 at Philadelphia.

Stanley's main hopes tonight lie in high scoring veteran Bart Leach and Joe Sturgis. Leach has tallied 321 points this season and Sturgis 301. Forward John Lavin, and guards Fran Mulroy and Earl Hoagland, will round out the Penn lineup. Sturgis is a forward and Leach will be at center.

Penn's only losses came from Pitt, Dartmouth, and Columbia.

### No Changes Seen

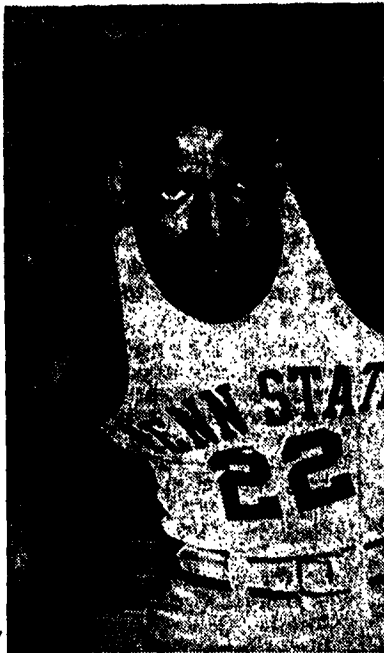
Lion coach John Egli indicated yesterday that he will probably start his usual lineup, but added that he might make one change although he said it was very improbable. Arnelle, Weidenhammer, Blocker, Earl Fields, and Bob Hoffman, will probably get the starting berths, with steady Dave Edwards standing by for heavy reserve duty.

A win tonight for the Lions would put them on par with last year's team which won 18 games, including four in post-season tournament play.

The Lions, of course, have at least one more game remaining ahead of them. They meet Memphis State in the first round of the NCAA eastern regionals Tuesday at Lexington, Ky.

### Steelers Get 'Little Mo'

PITTSBURGH, March 1 (AP)—The Pittsburgh Steelers today traded halfback Art DeCarlo and fullback Leo Elter to the Washington Redskins for tackle Dick (Little Mo) Modzewleski and a draft choice. No cash was involved.



Jesse Arnelle



Ron Weidenhammer



Dave Edwards



Jim Blocker

Lion Seniors in Final Home Game

## Pitt Hosts Wrestlers Saturday in Finale

### Spring Training Opens in Majors

The Associated Press

Major league baseball clubs waited tensely for Commissioner Ford Frick's iron fist to fall again Tuesday on practice jumpers, but it didn't, and so from Arizona to Florida the big baseball training push opened in routine fashion.

Frick fined the Milwaukee baseball club \$500 and 14 of its players a total of \$625 Monday for beating the gun on the March 1 workout date. He hinted others were coming. Brooklyn and Detroit, in particular, squirmed.

### Honorable Mention Given Arnelle on UP Team

Jesse Arnelle has been named to the honorable mention on the 1955 United Press all-American basketball team.

The UP board of coaches named Tom Gola, LaSalle; Dick Ricketts, St. Green, Duquesne; Bill Russell, San Francisco; and Dick Garmaker, Minnesota, to the first team.

Other district players to gain recognition were Maurice Stokes, St. Francis, third team, and Hot Rod Hundley, West Virginia, honorable mention.

### Seton Hall Selected

NEW YORK, March 1 (AP)—Coach Honey Russell's Seton Hall basketball team tonight was named as the 11th entry in the post season National Invitation Tournament at Madison Square Garden March 12-19.

## Gymnasts Need Win To Cop EIGA Title

The big question hovering over Gene Wettstone and his Penn State gymnasts—whether they will repeat as Eastern champs for the third straight year—will be answered Saturday when the Lions travel to Syracuse's Archbold gymnasium to take on the Orange acrobats.

Should the Lions defeat the Orange in their last outing of the season, they will finish with a perfect 5-0 log in Eastern competition.

The EIGA kingpin is decided on a won-lost basis, so a perfect slate would bring the Eastern title to the Vale for the third year running.

Coach Paul Romeo's Orangemen show a losing 1-2 record in Eastern competition, having registered their lone win over Temple, while having lost to Army and Navy.

### Would Be Eliminated

Both the service academies, Temple, and first-year EIGA contender, Pitt, have all suffered at least one league setback, eliminating them from title-contention if the Nittanies finish with a perfect slate.

The Lions have met the Orange eight times in a series that began in 1947, and own a 5-3 edge in the won-lost column.

Last year Syracuse was the sec-

ond victim of the Nittanies in their all-winning campaign, coming in on the short end of a 63-33 count.

Romeo has several veteran holdovers back from last year's squad, headed by Co-captains Jim (Corky) Sebbo, and Milan Trnka. Don Traficante, Andy Felice, Chuck Luttinger, Paul Barkal, Bill Hogeboom, George Gore, and Nick Monocchio round out the Orange roster, which figures to provide the Nittanies with one of their closest battles of the season.

### Lacked Depth

Earlier in the season, the New York gymnasts had several performers who could be counted on for first places, but lacked the all-important depth which provides valuable second and third place points.

But several sophomores have improved considerably, and now form a unit which shows plenty of skill and experience.

The Nittanies will go against the Orange sporting a 6-1 over-all record, with their lone loss coming against the Big Ten's Illinois by a slim 66-62 margin.

West Virginia, the other Lion non-league foe, fell by the wayside on a 75-53 score, the best showing the Nittanies have recorded to date.

The five Penn State EIGA wins came on scores of: Navy, 53-43; Army, 50-46; Pitt, 54-42; and Temple, 52-43.

## DeWitt, Solomon Set; Panthers Have 8-2 Slate

Pitt, defending Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association champs, will host the Nittany wrestlers Saturday night when both teams wind-up their regular dual meet season.

Although the Panthers were newcomers to the EIWA last year, they made themselves well respected by trotting off with the Eastern team title.

Pitt opened its 1954-55 campaign with only three holdovers from its title-winning team, but has managed to corner an 8-2 card. Lehigh and Michigan were the only opponents to tame the Panther grapplers.

### Lehigh Beat Pitt

Lehigh edged highly-favored Pitt by copping decisions at the 137, 147, and 157-pound weights and a fall in the heavyweight slot when Werner Seel pinned Dan Wisniewski in the third period. Michigan walloped the Panthers, 17-9, when Coach Rex Peery saw only his 130-pounder, 167-pounder, and heavyweight wrestlers win.

The Panthers have defeated Illinois, 18-8; Lock Haven, 22-6; Purdue, 31-2; Syracuse, 23-9; Cornell, 23-3; West Virginia, 26-5; Michigan State, 24-5, and Toledo.

When the season opened Coach Rex Peery had only Joe Solomon, NCAA 167-pound champion, and Ed DeWitt, second in the 157-pound class at the Easterns last year, listed under the "lettermen" column.

### Hurt by Graduation

Peery's titlist squad was hacked apart by graduation, but the work of three sophomores plus the experience of Solomon and DeWitt have turned out a powerful Panther squad.

Peery's son—Ed—has gone undefeated in seven matches. Ed is the brother of Hugh, Eastern and National champ last year, and the youngest member of the wrestling-minded family. Peery has worked the 130-pound slot six times and the 123-pound division once.

Most of the work at 123, however, has gone to Bill Hulings who has carded a 6-2 record. Hulings lost at 130 pounds when he and Peery switched weights in the Michigan State victory.

The third member of Pitt's sophomore trio is heavyweight Wisniewski. The Panther heavy has notched a 6-2-1 record. In addition to his loss against Seel, Wisniewski was dumped by Tom Brady, Cornell, 4-2, George Finck, Syracuse, and Wisniewski drew, 1-1.

## Weidenhammer is Lions' 'Go-Go' Man

Ron Weidenhammer won't break any scoring records this season but the diminutive Lion guard has soundly demonstrated that he has been a key man in Penn State's basketball success.

The Nittany co-captain, who makes his last Rec Hall appearance against Penn tonight, has been the "go-go" man of the Lions through four winning seasons.

### Averaging 11.3

Never a spectacular scorer, he has nevertheless averaged a steady ten points a game during the past three campaigns, and is hitting the hoops at an 11.3 pace this season, second in the Penn State ranks to scoring ace Jesse Arnelle.

More important, the six foot speedster has made his mark as one of the finest floormen and dribblers ever to grace the Rec Hall boards.

Coach John Egli, who inherited the talented senior this

season, rates him with the best he's seen. He's been a great player in every respect," Egli said. "He is a terrific dribbler and passer, an accurate shot, and he has been murder to opponents on defense. He may be the toughest replacement I'll have to make next season."

### Front Line Defense

Weidenhammer's defensive abilities have come to the front this season. He, Earl Fields, and Bob Hoffman have been explosive as a front line to the Nittanies' zone defense and hardly a game has passed this season when the bespectacled Weidenhammer hasn't come up with at least one "steal".

As the middle-man on the front line he's charged with the ball handling on the fast break and on offense he handles the ball in the back court.

When Hoffman stepped into the cage picture at the outset of the current season after illness sidelined him last year, he and the veteran Weidenhammer became a whirlwind

pair. Weidenhammer has scored 272 points, putting his four-year total at 765, and Hoffman trails closely with 267.

However, even if he were reaching for the 2000 mark with Jesse Arnelle, it is probable that fans would rather associate him with his spectacular dribbling tactics. His famous "hesitation" dribble has become a trademark—and a very effective one.

### 'Off Balance' Weapon

Using it to throw closely defending opponents off their balance, the Lion guard has often sent them sprawling on the floor with his quick change of pace. The fans love it.

When the Lions enter the National Collegiate basketball championships March 8, Weidenhammer, along with Arnelle, will be participating for the third time since he put on a Penn State uniform as a freshman in 1951, an indication of the strong influence his presence on the playing floor has been to Penn State basketball.