by Cory McGann '98
Asst. Sports Editor

Head Coach Pete Gillen has worked out for him this year as he attempts to lead Providence College to the top of the BIG EAST Conference. The men in black have lost three starters, two of them to the NBA—center Troy Brown to the Atlanta Hawks and power forward Eric Williams to the Boston Celtics.

After losing graduated guard Tommy Davis (stress fracture), Nadine Malcolm (torn ACL), Jen Ayanna Walden (knee injury) all spent considerable time sidelined but are back ready to challenge the rest of the Lady Friars' starters.

Ayanna Walden (knee injury) all spent considerable time sidelined but are back ready to challenge the rest of the Lady Friars' starters.

Coach Foley returns every player save one, Heida Moyano, who was going to return for her fifth year of eligibility but elected not to. This is a team with strong nucleus of both young players and battle-hardened veterans who have experience against the UCs and the Seton Halls.

Leading the charge is freshman front court wonder Kerri Chaten.最もも珍しい FEATURE

with class. After them Eric (Williams) handled it with class. Now I want to handle it with class." Gillen has high hopes for his lone senior. "He is the heart and soul of our team and I'm counting on him to be a leader for the team. For us, he is our anchor."

Chrisrote, a 6'9" power forward, spent the summer with USA Basketball playing with and against some great basketball talent. He was also a teammate of Georgetown's Othella Harrington and Allen Iverson, so he must be in great physical shape. After showing flashes of ability during his sophomore year, the Los Angeles native truly came into his own during the stretch run of the season and during tournament time. Gillen is counting on Chrisrote to be a "very big part" of his squad this year. Fellow captain Brown is looking for Austin "to show the ropes" to the big guys during the tough BIG EAST season.

The remaining starting spots are completely up in the air at this point. Freshman God Shammgod will most likely take over at the point. Gillen would like to hand the ball over to a super quick ball handler for the next four years, and never have to worry about the all important position again. Shammgod could be considered the quickest player in the BIG EAST with only Iverson coming close. Baseline to baseline, no one in basketball is faster than Iverson. The first step, however, will belong to Shammgod. Be warned, though: "People have to remember that he's a freshman," cautioned Gillen.

continued on page 3

Lady Friars Look To Rebound

by Pieter J. Ketelaar '97
Asst. Sports Editor

Sarah Miller '96 sees the BIG EAST, and the ball, within her grasp.

After a disappointing 10-21 campaign that saw them finish ninth in the Big East Conference at 5-13, the Providence College women's basketball team under the steady tutelage of Coach Bob Foley is looking to rebound.

"It was a season from Hell," said Foley, "The injuries just kept on coming and our younger, less experienced players were thrust into the lineup. The lack of experience on the court hurt us last year but we have benefited tremendously from it and will have terrific depth this season." It was a year that began with great expectations but soon turned into a forgotten season due to key injuries to four of the Lady Friars' starters.

"I see a lot of good things this year," said Foley. "We have a lot of depth and I'm glad to have them back," he said. "They bring a lot of experience and they will be a great help to this young team."

Sarah Miller '96 sees the BIG EAST, and the ball, within her grasp.

"I see a lot of good things this year," said Foley. "We have a lot of depth and I'm glad to have them back," he said. "They bring a lot of experience and they will be a great help to this young team."

The coaches: (C to R) Louis Ory, Bob Gonzalez, Pete Gillen, Tom Herrion (not pictured: Mike Malone).

continued on page 3

Head Coach Bob Foley is pointing his team to the top of the league.
continued from page 1

Saunders after bowing out for the year just one game into the season with a torn ACL against Rutgers. She averaged 15.5 points and 4.4 rebounds her freshman year and should live up to the potential she showed then.

"Mandy is not a question mark. She is back from her injury 100%. She's the hardest worker I've ever coached. She went through plenty of rehab so we are not worried about her. She's back playing without a brace and will be a key for us." Three point bomber Julie Wheeler will make her second trip through the Big East. Last year she led the conference in threes as she stepped up in the wake of injuries. She knocked down 82 treys and dished out a team-high 104 assists in her own unselfish way.

Junior Jen Davis finds herself in the same position as Saunders coming off an injury. She also had a stand-out freshman year like Saunders in which she averaged 12 ppg and 3 rpg while hitting 80 bombs from three-point land. The scoring of Saunders and Davis will give PC respectability in the Big East.

"Jen Davis had a great summer. She's been working out and is in the best shape of her life. She's shooting well and will give us the experience and quickness we so desperately missed. She's increased her defense tremendously and that will, in turn, increase her role."

Sophomore Shannon Bresnahan started many games late in the season because of what else, injuries. She will add depth at the point with her ball handling skills. She can be a threat from the arc and her development as player is important to this team as she will come in off the bench.

Seniors Jen Malone lend even more depth to a team that had its bench decimated last year. Malone, who joins Petrod and Miller as a tri-captain, gives one gritty performance after another. As far as new blood goes Coach Foley feels he has good talent in Tavia Horton, guard, from Milwaukee, WI, Kari Sullivan, guard, from Wapole, MA, and Dana Simonelli, center/forward, from Toms River, NJ.

"Hopefully we won't be in the same situation as last year and have to use our new players as often as we did. We're going to get their feet wet first and gradually ease them into the system. There is no doubt they will help the program, especially on a team with four seniors. Last year players who were not ready became go-to people and that was a tough adjustment for them. We would not like a repeat of that. The lack of experience cost us in the short run but not in the long run," said Foley.

"This team is totally ready to contend for the top spot. I would be extremely disappointed if we did not. We feel that this team can beat anyone and we will make some noise. We have to get the job done as a team. The attitude of this particular team is tremendous. They're hungry, excited and ready to go. We have a challenging schedule ahead of us especially with the opener against Stanford. We need all the students and fans to come out and support us.

The Lady Friars kick off their season at home against Stanford on Sunday, November 26th. With the addition of three more teams to the Big East this year (Notre Dame, West Virginia, and Rutgers) the Lady Friars will have the work cut out for themselves. The Lady Friars hope fan support as they embark on what could be a great season.

1995-96 PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER
18 Saturday ISRAELI NATIONAL TEAM 1:00 pm
26 Sunday STANFORD 2:00 pm
29 Wednesday RHODE ISLAND 7:00 pm

DECEMBER
3 Sunday at Ohio State 2:00 pm
6 Wednesday at Harvard 7:00 pm
9 Saturday at Pittsburgh 2:00 pm
20 Wednesday HOFSTRA 7:00 pm
28 Thursday ST. MARY'S (CA) 7:00 pm
30 Saturday ARIZONA 2:00 pm

JANUARY
2 Tuesday at Rutgers 7:00 pm
4 Thursday MIAMI 7:00 pm
6 Saturday ST. JOHN'S 2:00 pm
9 Tuesday at Seton Hall 7:30 pm
12 Friday at Connecticut 7:30 pm
14 Sunday NOTRE DAME 2:00 pm
17 Wednesday SYRACUSE 7:00 pm
20 Saturday CONNECTICUT 2:00 pm
27 Saturday BOSTON COLLEGE 2:00 pm
29 Monday at Holy Cross 7:00 pm
31 Wednesday at Miami 7:00 pm

FEBRUARY
3 Saturday VILLANOVA 7:00 pm
8 Thursday at Georgetown 7:00 pm
10 Saturday at West Virginia 2:00 pm
15 Thursday SETON HALL 7:00 pm
17 Saturday at Boston College 1:00 pm
21 Wednesday PITTSBURGH 7:00 pm
24 Saturday at Syracuse 7:00 pm

MARCH
2-5 Sat-Wed BIG EAST TOURNAMENT
(At Connecticut) TBA

MIDNIGHT MADNESS STAFF

Sports Editor.............. Keith Christensen '96
Editor-In-Chief............ Theresa Edzo '96
Managing Editor.......... Erin Jameson '96
Asst. to the Editor-In-Chief Kristina Jensen '96
Asst. Sports Editor........ Pieter J. Ketaa '97
Asst. Sports Editor........ Cory McCarr '98
Sports Staff.............. Rebecca Joyce '96
Copy Editor.............. Juli-Ann Drozdowski '97

Shea River, MD 20749
Editorial Director........... Keith Christensen '96
continued from page 1

Brown. "He is going to make mistakes."

Center will be a battle between both Barone and Brown. Freshman
Ruben Garces. Szybiski, a fan favorite, was said to be out of the game. Szybiski's style of play.

Thomas steps in to start at the swingman position. Gillen says that "7.30" will be a surprise to the followers of Providence basket-

al. Thomas has a great body (6'6', 200 pounds), can handle the ball, and can take it to the rim. Murdock will probably spell Brown at the shooting guard spot.

The bench for Gillen looks pretty stacked, which will cause major competition for starting jobs. Sophomore point guard Brian Larragan will step up Shammond, and will do a very able job. Many times during his freshman year Larragan came off the bench to settle the Friars into a groove. Gillen also hastens to remind ev-


everyone that Bo is capable of playing off-guard, and at times will be on the floor with Shammond.

At forward, Gillen has many options, including Junior College Slam Dunk champ Derrick Brown. "Flighty" Brown as "a warrior," Flight is not afraid to take it to the hole. Freshman Llewelyn Cole is a slippery 6'6" who will need a year to bulk up and get used to the hard hitting

BIG EAST style. The positives for Cole is his 37 inch vertical leap and the fact that he has put on weight for this season.

Overall, both Head Coach Gillen and Co-captain Brown ex-

uded positive vibes for the season. The favorite adjective of Gillen is "excited" while Brown sums it up quite simply: "I want to win an-

other BIG EAST championship."

Gillen knows that he is picked near the bottom of the league by pre-

season prognosticators. In order to prove these doubters wrong, PC must control the pace of the games. In other words, run, run. Most of the teams in the league are physical. The Friars must use their speed and quickness to decimate their opponents. The goal seems to be to win the league champion-

ship and, after that, who knows?

"There is nothing like winning a BIG EAST championship," ex-

plains Brown. "Once you do it, you want to do it again."

Here's to doing it one more time.

by Mike Friess '97

Sports Writer

The 1995-96 Lady Friar Bas-
ketball Team is looking to rebound from last year's injury-ridden sea-

son when the Friars finished with a disappointing 10-21 record and

ninth place finish in the Big East. With four starters returning from

injury, they hope to contend with the defending NCAA Champions, the University of Connecticut, for the Big East title. Important in the Friars' run at the championship will be the play of the seniors, Freshmen Kerri Sullivan, Tavia Horton, and Dana Simonieli.

Kerri Sullivan spent her high school years playing for powerhouse Walpole High in Massachusetts. Walpole won the state cham-

pionship in both her junior and senior years, finishing with a 26-3 record in 1995. Kerri's list of personal accomplishments is even more remarkable. She scored 1,297 points for Walpole. She av-

eraged 14 points and 9 rebounds her senior year after scoring 18 points with 11 rebounds the year before. She was named to the Boston Globe and Boston Herald All-Scholastic Teams and was the first player in the history of Walpole High, male or female, to earn 12 varsity letters. She lettered in Volleyball and Softball, in ad-

dition to basketball.

Sullivan commented on why she chose Providence. "It was close to home and had good ac-

ademics. As far as basketball goes, it was a Division I school with a good coaching staff that I've worked with before. I came to a Post-season camp during my jun-

ior year and I learned a lot in just one day." Kerri hopes to bring strong post play and rebounding to

the Lady Friars playing in the cen-

ter position at a height of 6'2'.

Tavia Horton hails from Mil-

waukee, Wisconsin where she played for Milwaukee. Horton scored 1,045 points in high school as a point guard, averaging 13.2 points a game for her senior year. Three-time all city, and one-time
dependable, she also led her team to back-to-back state championships as well as four consecutive confer-

ence championships. She also lettered in track and cross-country.

"Hopefully, I can use my speed at the point. We play a very up-
tempo, fast-paced style of ball and my speed will be useful in the years to come," Tavia hopes to be starting soon at the point guard position at a height of 5'6'.

Finally, there is Dana Simonieli. Dana is a 6'1" rebounding machine from Toms River, New Jersey. She led 106 rebounds in her college career, averaging 11 per game along with 14.8 points. She once collected 25 boards in a single game. She was named to the All-County team and named MVP at a 1995 Christmas Tour-

nament.

"I hope to bring some strong re-

bounding to the team in the pivot. I really like the school a lot and the people here really are nice. The coaching staff, especially Coach Foley, are really nice and easy to talk to." Hopefully, Dana can come up with some clutch re-

bounds for the Friars in the seas-

ons to come.

Collectively, the Lady Friars have a strong group of young play-

ers to augment their already skilled veteran squad. With this right mix-
ture of veteran leadership and young enthusiasm, should be in for a productive and exciting season this year, and down the road.

THE MADNESS CONTINUES

by Mike Friess '97

Sports Writer

The 1995-96 Lady Friar Bas-
ketball Team is looking to rebound from last year's injury-ridden sea-

son when the Friars finished with a disappointing 10-21 record and

ninth place finish in the Big East. With four starters returning from

injury, they hope to contend with the defending NCAA Champions, the University of Connecticut, for the Big East title. Important in the Friars' run at the championship will be the play of the seniors, Freshmen Kerri Sullivan, Tavia Horton, and Dana Simonieli.

Kerri Sullivan spent her high school years playing for powerhouse Walpole High in Massachusetts. Walpole won the state cham-

pionship in both her junior and senior years, finishing with a 26-3 record in 1995. Kerri's list of personal accomplishments is even more remarkable. She scored 1,297 points for Walpole. She av-

eraged 14 points and 9 rebounds her senior year after scoring 18 points with 11 rebounds the year before. She was named to the Boston Globe and Boston Herald All-Scholastic Teams and was the first player in the history of Walpole High, male or female, to earn 12 varsity letters. She lettered in Volleyball and Softball, in ad-

dition to basketball.

Sullivan commented on why she chose Providence. "It was close to home and had good ac-

ademics. As far as basketball goes, it was a Division I school with a good coaching staff that I've worked with before. I came to a Post-season camp during my jun-

ior year and I learned a lot in just one day." Kerri hopes to bring strong post play and rebounding to

the Lady Friars playing in the cen-

ter position at a height of 6'2'.

Tavia Horton hails from Mil-

waukee, Wisconsin where she played for Milwaukee. Horton scored 1,045 points in high school as a point guard, averaging 13.2 points a game for her senior year. Three-time all city, and one-time
dependable, she also led her team to back-to-back state championships as well as four consecutive confer-

ence championships. She also lettered in track and cross-country.

"Hopefully, I can use my speed at the point. We play a very up-
tempo, fast-paced style of ball and my speed will be useful in the years to come," Tavia hopes to be starting soon at the point guard position at a height of 5'6'.

Finally, there is Dana Simonieli. Dana is a 6'1" rebounding machine from Toms River, New Jersey. She led 106 rebounds in her college career, averaging 11 per game along with 14.8 points. She once collected 25 boards in a single game. She was named to the All-County team and named MVP at a 1995 Christmas Tour-

nament.

"I hope to bring some strong re-

bounding to the team in the pivot. I really like the school a lot and the people here really are nice. The coaching staff, especially Coach Foley, are really nice and easy to talk to." Hopefully, Dana can come up with some clutch re-

bounds for the Friars in the seas-

sons to come.

Collectively, the Lady Friars have a strong group of young play-

ers to augment their already skilled veteran squad. With this right mix-
ture of veteran leadership and young enthusiasm, should be in for a productive and exciting season this year, and down the road.

1995-96 PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

October 29

Mal Brown

Brown College (Alumni Hall)

2:00 p.m.

November

4 Saturday

WASHINGTON AAU

7:30 p.m.

14 Tuesday

CROATIAN NATIONAL TEAM

7:30 p.m.

25 Saturday

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

7:30 p.m.

Brown University

7:30 p.m.

December

3 Sunday

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

2:30 p.m.

6 Wednesday

at Seton Hall University

7:30 p.m.

at University of Rhode Island

8:00 p.m.

9 Saturday

at University of Wisconsin

8:00 p.m.

11 Monday

at University of Texas

8:30 p.m.

22 Tuesday

at Boston University

7:30 p.m.

26 Saturday

at Colgate University

7:30 p.m.

January

2 Tuesday

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

7:30 p.m.

6 Saturday

at St. John's University

8:00 p.m.

8 Monday

CANSIS COLLEGE

7:30 p.m.

10 Wednesday

at Syracuse University

8:00 p.m.

13 Saturday

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

8:00 p.m.

20 Saturday

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

7:30 p.m.

24 Wednesday

at Villanova University

7:30 p.m.

26 Saturday

at University of Pittsburgh

1:00 p.m.

February

1 Thursday

at Boston College

7:30 p.m.

3 Saturday

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

2:00 p.m.

6 Tuesday

at University of Connecticut

7:00 p.m.

10 Saturday

at University of Pennsylvania

4:00 p.m.

14 Wednesday

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

9:00 p.m.

17 Saturday

BOSTON COLLEGE

7:30 p.m.

21 Wednesday

at University of Notre Dame

7:30 p.m.

27 Tuesday

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

7:00 p.m.

March

2 Saturday

at University of Miami

7:30 p.m.

6 Wednesday

at BIG EAST TOURNAMENT - Madison Square Garden

at BIG EAST TOURNAMENT - Madison Square Garden

7:30 p.m.

7 Thursday

8 Friday

at BIG EAST TOURNAMENT - Madison Square Garden

at BIG EAST TOURNAMENT - Madison Square Garden

7:30 p.m.

9 Saturday

at BIG EAST TOURNAMENT - Madison Square Garden

7:30 p.m.
MEET THE '95-'96 FRIARS

Co-captain Michael Brown '96
Co-captain Austin Croshere '97
Mark Adams '98

Derrick Brown '97
Llewellyn Cole '99
Ruben Garces '97

Borja Larragan '98
Jason Murdock '97
God Shammgod '99

Piotr Szybilski '98
Jamel Thomas '99
Corey Wright '99
MEET THE '95-'96 LADY FRIARS

Tri-captain Jennifer Malone '96
Tri-captain Sarah Miller '96
Tri-captain Lori Penrod '96

Shannon Bresnahan '98
Kerri Chatten '98
Jennifer Davis '97

Nadine Malcolm '97
Mandy Saunders '97
Ayanna Walden '96

Julie Wheeler '98
Tavia Horton '99
Dana Simonelli '99
Kerri Sullivan '99
Spring Forward, Fall Back: 
Full Speed Ahead

by Rebecca Joyce ’96
Sports Writer

A torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in Mandy Saunders’ left knee couldn’t keep her from the court for long. After a summer spent dedicated to rehabilitation, she’s ready for point guard action again. Sophomore roommate Kerri Chatten also spent the summer strengthening her game as a forward; she participated in the Olympic festival in Colorado, as well as the Big East All-Star squad that toured throughout Australia. They are both anticipating a good year, and there is reason to be excited to see them playing together again.

Chatten began to find a love for basketball in her preteen years at the city park. This strength carried her through a standout career at Hopkington High School to PC. She wasn’t expected to contribute on the floor as a freshman, but a rash of injuries created an opportunity. Chatten seized it. Her breakthrough game was against Seton Hall, at which she scored 37 points. Hopes for her kept rising after the February game against St. John’s where she was adept at grabbing rebounds, and snagged 20 boards (one of the seven Big East rookie records broken by Chatten). Hopes were fulfilled as Chatten became the Lady Friars’ leading scorer or rebounder in all but one conference game last year.

It is no wonder that after such a strong season, Chatten joined captain Sarah Miller in travelling to Australia as members of the Big East All-Star league with Big East Coach of the Year Bob Foley. Although she loved being in Australia, Chatten picked up more game improvement techniques in the beginning of August at the Olympic festival. This was only the first level, but it will prove to be a worthwhile and once-in-a-lifetime experience for Chatten.

Meanwhile, Saunders has been working to back up the polished Chatten. Like Chatten, Saunders had a basketball revelation in her freshman year. Saunders started in 24 games, and she averaged over 15 points per game. In the first of 94-95 season game she played like a manic, dropping 19 points in just 33 minutes. Saunders’ powerhouse game playing came to a stall after the first 8 minutes in the second game of the year against Rutgers, which put her on the bench for the remainder of the season. After nursing her knee “back to full capacity” this summer, she’s back.

Chatten is excited to be in the same game again. “Saunders is a really strong player, and she’s very unselfish.” Backing a strong forward line, Saunders is once again working her way to a starting position. Since she doesn’t hog the ball, the junior forsees interplay with Chatten in positive; Saunders shoots out. “Chatten, she’s got the desire to score. She wants the ball in her hands, which just makes my passing easier for me.”

With eyes wide and alive at five years old, Saunders held her first basketball, and began to learn of the game with her father’s encouragement. Three years ago, she was able to expand the southern horizons of Meadowbrook High School, Saunders traveled from Richmond, Virginia to become one of PC’s best shooters and the Big East Rookie of the Year. She will soon be playing with last year’s Big East Rookie, Chatten. Saunders looks forward to playing together, saying, “We’re roommates, so when we play together, it’s natural.” Saunders’ keeps her eyes open for passing outlet, and after a summer of practicing her shooting techniques, the roommate combination should be something to talk about.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AT PC HOME GAMES? The Athletic Department is looking for people who are interested in singing the National Anthem at men’s and women’s basketball as well as men’s hockey games. If you are interested send a tape to: Gregg Burke – Athletic Department

*** DEADLINE is Wednesday, October 18th
Learning the Life of a Friar

by John Carcichfe '98
Sports Writer

So you're a freshman, roughly four to five feet tall, and updating your life of college life. You have a bounce in your step, can finally pronounce Meagher, don't have to travel in packs, doing your own laundry and adjusting to life away from home. Then you're actually tranquilled, without warning, underly by the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

One thing to keep in mind as you feel yourself off the pavement is that these basketball players are just as concerned with adjusting to a new school as you are.

Two big men making the adjustment from very different surroundings are junior college transfers Ruben Garces and Derrick "Flight" Brown. A Brooklyn native, Brown graduated last spring from Los Angeles City College, while Garces, who hails from Colon, Panama, is a recent graduate of Navarro JC in Texas.

Despite the new surroundings, the pair seem comfortable a month and a half into the school year.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.

"It's been a different life here, for me, coming from New York City," explained Brown, a six-foot-six forward who won the junior college Slam Dunk Contest. "I went out to California, which is different, but still fast. Here things are slower, a lot slower." 

"But I think it's nice," added Flight. "I'm getting along with everybody up here, and they're excited about having the largest man you have ever seen. It's your first encounter with a player.
by Pieter J. Ketelaar '97
Axt. Sports Editor
by Todd McGann '97
Sports Writer

The Women's side of Big East Conference looks to get even stronger this year. Adding West Virginia, Notre Dame, and Rutgers to already impressive lineup of teams including last year's undefeated national champion, Connecticut (13-5), who won the most Division I games by a school even in men's or women's basketball history.

Connecticut will be lethal once again even though they lose consensus national player of the year Latoya Thomas. Coe, McGuire, and Renfro return with a fine squad and return all but three players (Lobo, Pam Weathersby, and Jill Gelfenbein) and has a solid recruiting class to once again challenge for Big East bragging rights.

Boston College looks to improve off of a 6-21 (13-5) season. Coach Cathy Inglese returns ten players while losing only three, Holly Porter averaged 16.3 points and 8 boards and will lead this team. Anne McGuire, who missed last year with a torn ACL, is back at full strength. Teresa McCormick and Cecile Campbell will do the dirtywork inside as BC hopes to come on strong this season.

Georgetown returns seven while losing five players including three-point phenom Collene McGuire. Coach John Thompson II must continue the rebuilding process after a sub-par 11-17 (6-12) campaign. Tricia Pendroseh and Kathy Willard return with the attack as Ebiwoh Akhokhai will come off the bench for some added punch. Kim Gal- lon will be key from the perimeter and Tessa Nixon will be in the mix.

Miami looks to regain their form of 1993 when they went 24-7 as opposed to the present when they went 11-16 (8-10). They return twelve while losing five. Coach Fran Belardi hopes to get the team well again as they were bitten by the injury bug early and often last season. Atlanta Blue Jay Big East All-Rookie selection leads a young team as their top scorer and rebounder. Jennifer Jordan and Christie Ogbuonwere also considerable time for UM. The rest of the position will be hinted for Miami looks to find their former greatness in '95-'96.

Notre Dame enter the Big East after a 21-10 (13-5) season in which they were 15-1 in the MCC. Coach Pat Gearhart returns four starters on a team that has had six twenty win seasons in their last eight years. Junior center Katyna Gatlin returns after leading the team with 19 ppg. Junior Beth Mor- gin also returns while losing five. Coach Notre Dame player to reach 1,000 points in two seasons. Pittsburgh loses just three players fol- lowing a 13-10 (8-10) season. Junior center James Trace has a wealth of talent in Jolo Guzman, Jaime Warren, and Kelli Nelson. Stephanie Petho is their top returning scorer and Jun-

The Cats are the defending Big East champions and are looking to defend their title. Coach John Thompson II has his hopes for the team to get back to their winning ways after losing their top two scorers. Last year, the Cats were able to come back from a 6-12 record to win the Big East. This year, the Cats hope to once again be a force to be reckoned with in the Big East.

West Virginia is the team to beat this year. The Mountaineers return four starters, including their starting backcourt of Selden Jefferson and Cyrus Jones. From a team that went 13-13 last year. The big-gest adjustment for the Mountaineers will be the physical brand of basketball that is played in the Big East. West Virginia will only be as good as its senior class.

Providence will finish seventh in the conference this year. Expect Gillen's club to be a lot better at the end of the season than they will be early on, and they could surprise in the Big East Tournament.

If they can stay healthy, Notre Dame could be decent. That is a big "if," however, if they replace Petripas and Cunningham. Jeremy and Ryan Hoover is a solid duo. Coach John McCluggage will need them both back for a shot at the Big East title. Concern lies in the physical strength of the ball club. The Fighting Irish, new to the Big East, will be in for a tough battle of the Tus- sons day in and day out. This increases the injury factor.

Still, the Cats are a pleasant surprise last year. No longer the cream puff of the conference, they finished with a 9-9 conference record and 19-9 overall. They upended St. John's. Unfortunately, they lost 74-74 center Tony Vincent to a foot injury last season. This year lies in their deep backcourt, led by Steven Edwards, who also sees time at the small forward position.

With Danny Hartry back and playing decent ball again, Seton Hall should be somewhat respectable. Senior Adrian Griffin is one of the most underplayed players in the league and is expected to step up his game. If sophomore Dampier can continue to improve from his standout rookie year, the Pirates could play the spoiler.

Iowa State could once again surprise some teams. Still, it is diffi- cult to imagine the Panthers breaking out of the bottom of the conference this year. The league is simply too deep.

1994 sure most seem like a long time ago on Chestnut Hill. That was the year Boston College's Steve Alford left for UCLA, after averaging 14.4 ppg last season, and Underclassmen Zondom Hamilton, who averaged 11.4 ppg last season, Tariq Turner and Maurice Brown. James Scott and him return with a pair to replace Marshall and Kevin Ollie, they will be back to solid lineups, including star Rosen. Allen will be back with guard Joe Mullaney at center and Kirk King at forward. In order to challenge for a conference crown, though, Jim Calhoun is going to have to find some- one to replace Marshall's fifteen points a game.

Look for St. John's to "make a big run at the top this year. Rumors abound that sen- sation Chris Webber's return, Chris Lopez will be able to the NBA next year, but look for the Dom- inican dynamo to power the Red Storm to a strong finish this year. If Lopez, who was underclassmen Zondom Hamilton, who averaged 11.4 ppg last season, Tariq Turner and Maurice Brown. James Scott and him return with a pair to replace Marshall and Kevin Ollie, they will be back to solid lineups, including star Rosen. Allen will be back with guard Joe Mullaney at center and Kirk King at forward. In order to challenge for a conference crown, though, Jim Calhoun is going to have to find some- one to replace Marshall's fifteen points a game.

If they can stay healthy, Notre Dame could be decent. That is a big "if," however, if they replace Petripas and Cunningham. Jeremy and Ryan Hoover is a solid duo. Coach John McCluggage will need them both back for a shot at the Big East title. Concern lies in the physical strength of the ball club. The Fighting Irish, new to the Big East, will be in for a tough battle of the Tus- sons day in and day out. This increases the injury factor.

Still, the Cats are a pleasant surprise last year. No longer the cream puff of the conference, they finished with a 9-9 conference record and 19-9 overall. They upended St. John's. Unfortunately, they lost 74-74 center Tony Vincent to a foot injury last season. This year lies in their deep backcourt, led by Steven Edwards, who also sees time at the small forward position.

With Danny Hartry back and playing decent ball again, Seton Hall should be somewhat respectable. Senior Adrian Griffin is one of the most underplayed players in the league and is expected to step up his game. If sophomore Dampier can continue to improve from his standout rookie year, the Pirates could play the spoiler.

Iowa State could once again surprise some teams. Still, it is diffi- cult to imagine the Panthers breaking out of the bottom of the conference this year. The league is simply too deep.