Team Gears Up for Record-Breaking Year

By Jason King

The record breakers are back! The St. Andrews baseball team has started their fall season with aspiration of yet another season of successful play, under head coach, Gary Swanson. The Knights finished last season ranked eleventh in the nation and just missed a bid for the NAIA College World Series.

Many of the players explained that coach Swanson's intense desire to win is the key factor in their past and future success's. Senior outfielder, Todd Rodiguez said regarding Coach Swanson's philosophy, "Coach wants us, as a team, to have a winning and positive attitude; and to use are full potential...so ten years from now we can look back on our college careers with no regrets."

Rodriguez, (fourth in the nation last season in batting...at .489 with 25 sb's) is one of the many valuable returning players that will help St. Andrews toward a winning season.

All conference pitcher Ronnie Roy is set to do his fourth year on the mound for St. Andrews. Roy was ERA striking out 80 batters in 77 and 2/3 innings. Mike Bell, the Ricky Henderson of the NAIA, will be returning to burn up the base paths. Last season, Bell stole 53 of 58 attempted bases to earn him a spot in the NAIA record books for most stolen bases in a season.

The offensive attack will be lead by all conference third baseman Bret Katz; all district second base man Chip Hodges; outfielder Desi Williams and major contributors Lee Gogol, Brian Hinson, Mike Poole, Will Gardner and Ty Corning.

The "depth-

filled"pitching staff will be highlighted by returners Tim Whitson, Joe Agee and Lee Gogol. Newcomers Bob Lemay, a transfer from Chicage. And Bob Weinmann, a transfer from Dyer, Ind., are expected to be a valuable addition to the pitching staff.

Coach Swanson smiles with confidence when talking about all of his newly recruited players, (players to watch for are Alexander Mcdougal, OF; Todd Reische, C; Trint Hinshaw, P; and short stop Jeff DeRossa) When the game is on the line or a starting pitcher has tired, Swanson will probably

call on the "Crafty"lefthander Jim Buchanan or the "Fire-balling Giant" Danny Chlebus to diffuse the opponents.

After one full week of practice, Coach Swanson is praising the teams attitude and says, "This is the best first week of practice I've had at St. Andrews." He expects this attitude to continue for all players to do their jobs as far as academics, citizenship and baseball are concerned.

The Knights open their fall season on Saturday, September 22 against Methodist College in Fayetteville.

Trinidad Soccer Players - Four members of St. Andrew's Soccer Team are from Trinidad. Pictured before game time is assistand soccer coach and former player Colin McDavid, Sean Haynes, Damian Hillaire, and Ian Pena. (Photo by Jane Karnenske)

Players Hail From Trinidad

By Lewis Wemmett

The island of Trinidad is a long way from Laurinburg and St. Andrews College. Despite the proximity, the tiny island is a hotbed for skilled soccer players, and no one knows this more than St. Andrews' head soccer coach, Lorenzo Canalis. Canalis, now in his sixth year, currently has three Trinidanians playing for the Knights and another as his assistant coach. The 1990 St. Andrews graduate, Colin McDavid, who hails from Tacariga, Trinidad, has joined the staff after a successful three-year playing career. Joining him are other members of the "Trinidad Connection,"incoming freshmen Ian Pena from St. Joseph and Damian Hillaire from Gasparillo, and junior Sean Haynes also from Tacariga.

You may recall that Trinidad was the focus of national attention in midJuly. One week before the Saddam Hussein show took over the airwaves, a radical Moslem group stormed the Parliament Building and seized control. The coup was eventually thwarted when the group surrendered. "There was alot of looting and stores broken into, but our families were all safe,' McDavid said. Trinidad has a government modeled after Great Britian. At the present all is well.

Soccer is the most popular sport in Trinidad, and many players are recruited from there to play in the United States. There is only one university in Trinidad and the entrance requirements are very stiff. All the better for St. Andrews, which is rapidly expanding its international student body.

McDavid was playing for a club team at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Fla., when Canalis discovered him. Pena came to the States because in his words, "the U.S. offers more opportunities."

Last winter term the S.A. soccer team went to Trinidad and competed. "It offered a good cultural experience for the guys on the team," McDavid explained. McDavid's coach in Trinidad is also the coach of Trinidad's national team, which lost to the United States in the last match deciding the World Cup qualifiers. "A lot of my friends play on the national team and it was really fun watching," said McDavid, "Alvin Corneal is a great man."

Interestingly, this tropical country has a multi-cultural society in which racism is rarely an issue. Surely the U.S. could learn a thing or two from the tiny country.

In addition to McDavid, Haynes, Pena, and Hillaire, Rommel Voisin is a junior who hails from Tacariga, Trinidad.