When college football experts talk about the best college football coaches in America, the conversation should begin with Navy head coach Paul Johnson. What he has accomplished at the Naval Academy in three short seasons has been of historic proportions.

Johnson took over a program that had posted a 1-20 record the previous two years combined before his arrival in 2002. After a 2-10 mark in his first year, the Navy football program has achieved what many thought was no longer possible at an Academy.

Navy posted a 10-2 record in 2004, tying the school record for wins set in 1905. The Mids' 18 wins over the last two years (8-5 in 2003, 10-2 in 2004) also equals the most victories at Navy over a two-year span in almost a century.

Johnson has led Navy to back-to-back bowl games (Houston Bowl in 2003 and the Emerald Bowl in 2004), something that has happened just one other time in the 124-year history of the program. The Mids defeated New Mexico, 34-19, in the Emerald Bowl, giving Navy just its fifth bowl win in school history.

The Midshipmen won the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy in 2004 for the second-consecutive season, marking only the second time in school history that Navy has won the trophy in back-to-back years.

Johnson was recognized for his coaching exploits when he was named the 2004 Bobby Dodd National Coach of the Year.

Johnson brought the Navy football program back to national prominence with a relentless ground attack and an improved defense.

Navy finished third in the country in rushing in 2004, averaging 289.5 yards per contest. The Mids have also improved by leaps and bounds on defense over the last two years. In 2004, the Mids finished 44th in total defense and 26th in scoring defense.

Navy has also been a disciplined football team, committing the second-fewest penalties in the country in 2004.

In 2003, Johnson led Navy to an 8-5 record and brought the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy back to Annapolis for the first time since 1981, propelling Navy to a bowl game (EV1.net Houston Bowl) for the first time since 1996.

The eight wins equaled Navy's win total for the previous four years combined and the six-game improvement was the second-best turnaround in the country. The Mids also became just the sixth team in NCAA history to go from a winless season to a bowl game in two years or less.

The resurgence took place thanks to a dominating offense and a defense that showed remarkable improvement in just one year.

Johnson's potent triple option offense led the nation in rushing, averaging a school-record 323.2 yards per contest. The Mids also set school records for rushing yards (4,202), yards per rush (5.5), rushing touchdowns (44), total offense (5,506), total offense per game (431.4) and yards per play (6.0).

Not to be overlooked is the defense, which made a dramatic improvement thanks to improved speed and the switch to a 3-4 defense. The Mids' most significant improvement came against the pass, as Navy ranked 14th in the country (180.23 yards per game) after ranking 61st in 2002. The defense also made major improvements in pass efficiency defense (from 116th to 42nd), total defense (100th to 42nd) and scoring defense (108th to 34th).

“PAUL JOHNSON IS PLAYING CHESS, WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS PLAYING CHECKERS.”
– Eric Collins, ESPN Play-By-Play Announcer during the Emerald Bowl
Johnson was recognized nationally for his coaching performance, as he was a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award, the Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Award and the Associated Press Coach of the Year Award.

The seeds for 2003 were actually sewn at the end of the 2002 season as the Midshipmen showed great improvement throughout Johnson's initial campaign, which was capped off by a 58-12 rout of Army in the season finale.

The 58 points scored against the Black Knights were the most ever in the annual Army-Navy game and the 46-point margin of victory was the second-biggest blowout in series history. Quarterback Craig Candeto rushed for an Army-Navy game and school-record six touchdowns in helping Johnson become the first coach from either school to win his first Army-Navy game as a head coach since 1982.

The Navy offense finished third in the nation in rushing, averaging 270.8 yards per game. The Mids scored 30 or more points on four occasions and nearly pulled off one of the biggest upsets in school history, losing to 10th-ranked Notre Dame in the final seconds, 30-23.

Johnson took over a program that was coming off the worst two-year span in its 123-year history (1-20) and had recorded just two winning seasons over the last-20 years.

"The program didn't get the way it is overnight, and it's not going to change overnight," said Johnson. "But I am confident that you can win here. If I didn't believe that, I would have never accepted the job."

Director of Athletics Chet Gladchuk tabbed Johnson as Navy's 36th head football coach on Dec. 9, 2001. It was an announcement that was met with great fanfare from Naval Academy football fans around the world.

Johnson came to Navy from Georgia Southern, where he posted a 62-10 (.861) record, won two-straight I-AA National Championships (1999 and 2000), five-straight Southern Conference Championships and was named the Division I-AA National Coach of the Year four-consecutive times (1997-2000).

After Johnson took over as head coach at Georgia Southern in 1997, he returned the Eagles to national prominence statistically and in the worst ledger. In addition to Georgia Southern's 62-10 mark, the Eagles scored 2,855 points (39.7 points per game) and picked up 25,941 rushing yards (468.8 yards per game). GSU scored 380 touchdowns in the Johnson Era, an average of 5.3 per game.

Johnson picked up a milestone victory in the 2000 I-AA National Championship Game against Montana. Not only did the 27-25 victory give Georgia Southern its second-straight national title, but it was Johnson's 50th-career win in four seasons. Only three other coaches in the history of Division I football have won 50 or more games in four seasons, as Johnson joined Walter Camp (1888-1891, 54-2 at Yale), George Woodruff (1892-1895, 53-4 at Penn) and Bob Pruett (1996-99, 50-4 at Marshall) on the exclusive list.

Johnson took over a Georgia Southern program in 1997 that was 4-7 the previous year and orchestrated a turnaround which ranks among the NCAA's best, directing the Eagles to a 10-3 record, equaling the school's best mark since 1989. His peers and media members justly rewarded his rebuilding efforts as he earned Southern Conference Coach-of-the-Year honors while also picking up national tributes from the American Football Coaches Association and American Football Quarterly.

In 1998, Johnson guided the Eagles to a perfect 11-0 regular-season record and the school's sixth NCAA Division I-AA National Championship Game appearance before finishing with a 14-1 mark. He directed a high-powered offensive unit which tied or broke 100 records during the campaign, and again earned the league's top coaching honor and received national praise as the recipient of The Sports Network's Eddie Robinson Award -- symbolic of the division's national coach-of-the-year selection.

In 1999, Johnson brought Georgia Southern back to the national championship game and this time won it, as the Eagles finished 13-2, broke 197 records and won the school's fifth national title. For his efforts, Johnson was honored as the 1999 American Football Coaches Association and Chevrolet I-AA National Coach of the Year.

The Eagles came back in 2000 and won their second-straight national championship, posting a 13-2 record. Johnson again was named the American Football Coaches Association I-AA Coach of the Year.

In four-plus seasons, Johnson's squad broke or tied 389 individual and team school, conference, playoff or stadium records, ranked in the top 10 in 21 statistical categories and produced 31 All-Americans. The Eagles won an NCAA I-AA record 39-consecutive

**YEAR BY YEAR WITH COACH JOHNSON**

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2004 Bobby Dodd National Coach of the Year.

1997, 1998 Southern Conference Coach of the Year

2000 American Football Coaches Association NCAA I-AA National Coach of the Year


1997, 1998 Southern Conference Coach of the Year (media)

1997, 1998 Southern Conference Coach of the Year (coaches)

COACHING STAFF

A CLOSER LOOK AT PAUL JOHNSON

COACHING BACKGROUND

ASSISTANT COACH

1979-80—Avery County (N.C.) High School

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR

1981-82—Lee's-McRae Junior College

1983-86—Georgia Southern

1987-94—Georgia Southern (62-10)

1995-96—Navy

1997-01—Georgia Southern (62-10)

HEAD COACH (82-27)

1997-Present—Navy (20-17)

BIRTHDATE

August 20, 1957

EDUCATION

Western Carolina, B.S., '79

Appalachian State, M.S., '82

JOHNSON'S AWARDS & HONORS

* 2004 Bobby Dodd National Coach of the Year.

* 2003 finalist for the NCAA I-A Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award, the Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Award and the Associated Press Coach of the Year Award.

* 2000 American Football Coaches Association NCAA I-AA National Coach of the Year

* 1999 American Football Coaches Association and Chevrolet I-AA National Coach of the Year

* 1998 Sports Network I-AA National Coach of the Year (Eddie Robinson Award Winner)

* 1997 Schutt Sports/American Football Quarterly I-AA National Coach of the Year


* 1997, 1998 Southern Conference Coach of the Year (media)

* 1997, 1998 Southern Conference Coach of the Year (coaches)

Aloha Bowl. It was Navy's first bowl appearance since 1981 and just their second in 53 of its last-59 games and picked up 400-plus yards of total offense in 45 of the last-58 contests. Fullback Adrian Peterson rushed for 6,736 yards in his career, the most in the history of Division I football.

Although lost at times in the glitz and glamour of Johnson's explosive offensive unit, Georgia Southern also had an excellent defense. The 2001 Georgia Southern defense ranked as one of the best at the school as it ranked in the top 10 nationally in scoring defense (fourth), total defense (sixth) and pass defense (second). The defense allowed a school-record 12 points per game.

Johnson was Navy's offensive coordinator in 1995 and 1996 and his spread offense made an immediate impact, breaking five school records during the Mids' five-win season in 1995, equaling the most wins by a Navy team since 1990. Navy came back in year two under Johnson and exploded, posting a 9-3 record, including a 42-38 victory over California in the Aloha Bowl. It was Navy's first winning season since 1982 and one of only two winning seasons the Mids have had in the last-19 years (the other being in 1997 when Navy went 7-4 running the spread offense under the direction of Johnson protégé Ken Niumatalolo). Navy's appearance in the Aloha Bowl was the Mids' first bowl appearance since 1981 and just their ninth bowl appearance in school history. Navy finished the '96 season ranked fifth nationally in rushing offense (283.6 yards per game), 31st in total offense (407.7 yards per game) and 22nd in scoring offense (31.8 points per game). Quarterback Chris McCoy rushed for 1,228 yards and a school-record 16 rushing touchdowns, while fullback Omar Nelson rushed for 857 yards.

Though Johnson left for Georgia Southern after the 1996 season, his offense remained in tact for two more years, as McCoy became just the 10th quarterback in NCAA history to rush and pass for 1,000 yards in a season in 1997. McCoy had 20 rushing touchdowns in '97, an NCAA record for quarterbacks.

Prior to joining the Navy staff, Johnson spent eight seasons as the offensive coordinator at the University of Hawai'i (1987-94). He helped guide the Rainbows to their first Western Athletic Conference title and their first bowl appearance, while coordinating an explosive offense that broke or equaled over 160 school records.

While at Hawai'i, Johnson developed a successful offensive unit which earned top-20 I-A statistical rankings in scoring offense, total offense, rushing offense and rushing defense over six of his eight seasons. He earned Top Offensive Coach honors in the WAC and was named one of the top 10 assistant coaches in the country by The Sporting News.

Arriving at Georgia Southern in 1983 as defensive line coach, Johnson was promoted to offensive coordinator in 1985. Under his tutelage, record-setting quarterback Tracy Ham and the Eagle offense rewrote the school record book 75 times while averaging 435 total yards and 36 points per contest. Georgia Southern rolled to a combined 26-4 (.867) record while capturing a pair of I-AA titles in 1985-86.

Johnson's coaching career began when he was offensive coordinator and line coach at his alma mater Avery County (N.C.) High School in 1979-80. He accepted the offensive coordinator's position at Lees McRae Junior College in 1981, leading his offensive unit to a sixth-place national standing among NJCAA total offense leaders.

Johnson, a native of Newland, N.C., earned his Bachelor of Science degree in physical education from Western Carolina in 1979 and a Master's of Science degree in health and physical education from Appalachian State in 1982.

He and wife, Susan, are the parents of a daughter, Kaitlyn (12)
PAUL JOHNSON

BOBBY DODD

NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR

2004
Ken Niumatalolo is entering his fourth season as assistant head coach and offensive line coach, with his main focus on developing the centers and guards.

In 2004, Niumatalolo's efforts helped an offensive line that was hampered by injuries all year to perform well enough for the Midshipmen to finish third in the country in rushing (289.5), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

Navy's offensive line was key in the NCAA-record 26-play, 94-yard, 14:26 epic drive in the Emerald Bowl. Offensive guard August Roitsch was named to the Sports Illustrated All-Bowl Team, while the starting offensive line was selected to the College Football News All-Bowl Team.

In 2003, despite a lack of experience up front, the Mids led the nation in rushing (323.2 yards per contest) and set school records for rushing yards per game, total rushing yards (4,202), rushing yards per attempt (5.5), rushing touchdowns (44), total offense (5,506), total offense per game (423.5) and yards per play (6.0) as Navy went 8-5, won the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy and earned a berth in the Houston Bowl.

In 2002, the Navy offensive line helped the Mids to the third-best rushing average in the country (270.75). This is Niumatalolo’s second stint at the Naval Academy, as he was an assistant at Navy from 1995-98, serving as the offensive coordinator in 1997 and 1998.

Niumatalolo came to Navy from UNLV where he coached for three seasons as the tight ends coach and worked with the kickoff return unit. Coordinating the option game for UNLV, he called the offensive plays for the Rebels.


A 1989 graduate of Hawai’i, Niumatalolo lettered three years as a quarterback and led the Rainbows to their first postseason bowl appearance in 1989. He was hired as a full-time assistant by his alma mater in 1992 and spent three seasons coaching on the offensive side.

In 1995, Niumatalolo came to Annapolis with Paul Johnson as the running backs coach and was promoted to offensive coordinator in 1997 after Johnson took the head coaching job at Georgia Southern.

Leading the Midshipmen offense, Niumatalolo tutored Chris McCoy, who holds the NCAA record for most rushing touchdowns by a quarterback in a season with 20 in 1997.

Under Niumatalolo, McCoy became just the 10th player in NCAA history to rush for more than 1,000 yards and pass for more than 1,000 yards in the same season. In addition, Navy finished among the nation’s top five in rushing his last-two years and broke 38 school offensive records during his tenure.

A native of Laie’, Hawai’i, Niumatalolo is a graduate of Radford High School in Honolulu where he earned All-OIA West honors his last-two seasons. During his two years as a starter, Radford went 22-1, including a triumph in the 1981 Oahu Prep Bowl Championship.

Niumatalolo and his wife, Barbara, have three children, Alexcia (15), Va’a (11) and Ali’i (6). Alexcia was a starter in basketball and lacrosse at Broadneck High School as a sophomore last year.
Buddy Green is entering his fourth season as the defensive coordinator and secondary coach.

In 2004, Green’s efforts helped Navy finish 26th in the country in scoring defense (19.83), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

Two of Green’s pupils received postseason accolades as Josh Smith was named All-East and cornerback Vaughn Kelley was named to the Sports Illustrated All-Bowl Team.

Green was a nominee for the Frank Broyles Award, which is given to the national assistant coach of the year.

In 2003, Green’s defense finished 14th in the nation in pass defense (61st the year before), 42nd in pass efficiency defense (116th the year before), 34th in total defense (100th the year before) and 34th in scoring defense (108th the year before) as he helped lead Navy to eight wins, the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy and a berth in the Houston Bowl.

Green, who had coached high school football in North Carolina from 1976-78, earned his first collegiate coaching job in 1979 as a graduate assistant at N.C. State, a year the Wolfpack won the ACC Championship.

The following year, Green moved on to coaching post at LSU for one season. In 1981, he earned his first coordinator job, serving as the defensive coordinator and secondary coach at Southern University from 1981-82. He took his first head coaching job at Northern Nash High School in North Carolina for one season where he was also the Director of Athletics.

Green returned to college ranks at VMI as the secondary coach in 1983 and moved on to Auburn where he helped lead the Tigers to the 1985 Cotton Bowl.

He returned to his alma mater in 1986 where he was the secondary coach for eight years and was the defensive coordinator for four of those seasons (1990-93). While at N.C. State, he helped lead the Pack to six bowl games. N.C. State finished 10th nationally in total defense in 1990 and 17th in 1991, while it was 12th in the nation in scoring defense in 1992.

Green left N.C. State in 1994 to become the head coach at Tennessee-Chattanooga where he coached for six seasons and was also the Director of Athletics for two years. In 1997, Green led his Chattanooga squad to a I-AA national ranking and its first winning record in six years. He also helped develop one of the top wide receivers in the NFL, Terrell Owens of the Philadelphia Eagles.

Green returned to Raleigh in 2000 and served as the defensive coordinator under Chuck Amato before going to Navy.

In just two short seasons at N.C. State, Green’s defense made impressive strides. N.C. State’s defense ranked second in the ACC and 25th in the country in scoring defense during the 2001 season.

In Green’s two stints at N.C. State, he coached three All-America defensive backs and saw nine of his players go on to play in the NFL.

Green and his wife, Sharon, have two children, Todd (26) and Courtney (23).
Brian Bohannon is entering his fourth season as wide receivers coach at the Naval Academy following a five-year stint with Paul Johnson at Georgia Southern.

Bohannon has done an excellent job of developing Navy’s wide receiver corps in his first three seasons, both as blockers and receivers.

In 2004, the wide receiver corps helped the Midshipmen to finish 45th in the country in total offense (388.8 yards per game), third in rushing offense (289.5), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

In 2003 he helped the Mids lead the nation in rushing (323.2 yards per contest) and set school records for rushing yards per game, total rushing yards (4,202), rushing yards per attempt (5.5), rushing touchdowns (44), total offense (5,506), total offense per game (423.5) and yards per play (6.0).

In 2002, Navy had the third-best rushing average in the country (270.75) and scored 30 or more points on four occasions.

Bohannon, 34, coached the wide receivers for three seasons at Georgia Southern before taking over the defensive backs his last-two seasons.

During his initial season as defensive backs coach, the secondary played a key role in Georgia Southern’s efforts, ranking 18th nationally in pass defense (156.1 yards per game) and 28th in interceptions (16). The Eagles’ secondary took another leap forward in 2001, finishing second nationally in pass defense (125.6 yards per game), fourth in scoring defense (12.0 points per game) and sixth in total defense (261.4 yards per game).

A four-year letterwinner and standout as a wide receiver at Georgia, Bohannon started his coaching career at West Georgia in 1993 and a master’s in business education from West Georgia in 1996. He is married to the former Melanie Cobb and they have two sons, Blake Patrick (2) and Braden Thomas (1).
Ivin Jasper is entering his fourth year at the Naval Academy as the quarterbacks coach. Jasper has been instrumental over the last two years in the development of quarterbacks Aaron Polanco and Craig Candeto.

In 2004, Jasper's efforts helped Polanco perform well enough for the Midshipmen to finish third in the country in rushing (289.5), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

Polanco was named Honorable Mentional All-East as he led the country in rushing touchdowns by a quarterback with 16. Polanco's 16 rushing touchdowns were also the second most in school history and his 24-career rushing touchdowns rank fourth on Navy's all-time list. Polanco was also a threat through the air, setting school records for passing yards per completion (18.5 yards per completion) and passing yards per attempt (9.9 yards per attempt) for a single-season and passing yards per attempt (8.2) for a career.

In 2003, despite a lack of experience up front, the Mids led the nation in rushing (323.2 yards per contest) and set school records for rushing yards per game, total rushing yards (4,202), rushing yards per attempt (5.5), rushing touchdowns (44), total offense (5,506), total offense per game (423.5) and yards per play (6.0) as Navy went 8-5, won the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy and earned a berth in the Houston Bowl.

In 2002, Navy had the third-best rushing average in the country (270.75) and scored 30 or more points on four occasions. Jasper came to Navy from Georgia Southern where he served as the quarterbacks and fullbacks coach for three years and helped lead the Eagles to a 38-6 record and back-to-back NCAA Division I-AA National Championships in 1999 and 2000.

Prior to his appointment at Georgia Southern in January 1999, Jasper served as offensive coordinator at Indiana State during the 1998 season. As quarterbacks and fullbacks coach, he helped ISU turn in a 5-6 overall record, an improvement from a three-win season in 1997. He also coordinated an offense which averaged nearly 15 points and 100 yards more per game than the previous season.

Before assuming the offensive coordinator’s position at the Naval Academy Prep School in Newport, R.I., in 1997, Jasper spent two seasons as an assistant coach at Navy in 1995 and '96, handling the quarterbacks, fullbacks and slot backs.

Jasper, 33, is a 1994 graduate of the University of Hawai‘i where he earned his bachelor’s degree in sociology/criminology. He was a three-year letterman for the Rainbow Warriors (1991-93) at quarterback and slot back, where he helped lead Hawai‘i to a Western Athletic Conference title.

A native of Los Angeles, Jasper and his wife, Donna, are the parents of a daughter, Dallas (9), and sons, Jaylen (6) and Jarren (2).

A CLOSER LOOK AT IVIN JASPER

COACHING BACKGROUND

GRADUATE ASSISTANT
'95(Spring)—Hawai‘i

ASSISTANT COACH
'95-96—Navy

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR
'97—Naval Academy Prep School
'98—Indiana State

ASSISTANT COACH
'99-01—Georgia Southern

NFL MINORITY SUMMER INTERN
'00—Detroit Lions

ASSISTANT COACH
'02-Present—Navy

BIRTHDATE
May 14, 1970

EDUCATION
Hawai‘i, B.S., ‘94
Keith Jones is entering his fourth season as the outside linebackers coach at the Naval Academy and his third as the outside linebackers coach.

In 2004, Jones’ efforts helped Navy finish 26th in the country in scoring defense (19.83), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

One of Jones’ pupils, David Mahoney, led the Mids in tackles for a loss (12) and sacks (5).

In 2003, Jones helped the defense finish 14th in the nation in pass defense (61st the year before), 42nd in pass efficiency defense (116th the year before), 34th in total defense (100th the year before) and 34th in scoring defense (108th the year before) as Navy won eight games, the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy and a berth in the Houston Bowl. In Jones’ first season at Navy, when he coached the corners, the Mids were devastated by injuries at nearly every position, but played their best at the end of the year and held Army to just 12 points in the season finale.

Jones, a 1975 graduate of The Citadel, returned to his alma mater in 1997 and served as secondary coach for five years and defensive coordinator (2000) for one before coming to Navy. In 2001, The Citadel ranked eighth in the nation in pass efficiency defense (92.93 yards per game) and 14th (153.4 yards per game) in pass defense.

A member of The Citadel’s 1973 football team, Jones played defensive back and special teams. He began his coaching career at Charleston’s Bishop England High School (1975-78) and went on to work with the legendary Willie Jeffries at South Carolina State where he coached the defensive secondary. He spent two seasons at North Carolina A&T (1980 and 1997) as the secondary coach and at Murray State in the same capacity from 1982-86, including a stint as the defensive coordinator his final season.

In 1987, Jones joined Frank Beamer’s staff at Virginia Tech and was the secondary coach for the Hokies until 1993 when he left to become the head coach at Potomac High School in Dumfries, Va. for two seasons. Jones returned to college coaching in 1996 as the defensive coordinator and secondary coach at North Carolina A&T.

During his career, Jones has coached 10 players who have gone on to play professionally, including Dexter Clinckscale (Dallas Cowboys) and William Judson (Miami Dolphins).

Jones, 51, earned his undergraduate degree in physical education from The Citadel in 1975 and a master’s degree in counselor education from South Carolina State. He has two daughters, Kristin (23) and Kourtney (19).
Kevin Kelly is entering his fourth season as the linebackers coach and special teams coordinator.

In 2004, Kelly's efforts helped Navy finish 26th in the country in scoring defense (19.83), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

Kelly was instrumental in the development of linebackers Lane Jackson and Bobby McClarin as they emerged as two of Navy's top defensive players. In 2003, Kelly helped the defense finish 14th in the nation in pass defense, 42nd in pass efficiency defense (116th the year before), 34th in total defense and 34th in scoring defense (108th the year before) as Navy won eight games, the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy and a berth in the Houston Bowl.

In Kelly's first season at Navy, the Mids were devastated by injuries at nearly every position, but stayed together and played their best at the end of the year holding Army to just 12 points in the season finale.

Kelly, 43, came to Navy from Marshall where he coordinated the Thundering Herd defense from 1996-98 before taking an assistant's job at Syracuse.

Kevin Kelly
SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR/INSIDE LINEBACKERS
FOURTH SEASON AT NAVY

His most successful season was in 1998 when Marshall's defense ranked 23rd nationally, including 16th in scoring defense, 14th against the pass and 25th against the run.

In 1996, Marshall led the Southern Conference in total defense and scoring defense. In the I-AA quarterfinals, Kelly's defense held Furman to minus 9 yards rushing.

A native of Rochester, N.Y., Kelly is a 1978 graduate of Brockport High School. He earned his B.S. degree in physical education from Springfield College in 1982 and received his master's degree in physical education from Southern Connecticut State in 1986.

Kelly played football for three years at Springfield College before an injury ended his playing career. During his senior year at Springfield, Kelly joined the coaching staff at Longmeadow High School as the defensive coordinator. After a year at Longmeadow, he was named the head coach at The Fieldston School in the Bronx, N.Y., from 1982-83.

Kelly joined the collegiate ranks in 1984 as the outside linebackers coach at Southern Connecticut State for two seasons before moving on to Syracuse as a graduate assistant (1986-87). After two years at Syracuse, he earned his first job as a defensive coordinator at Bowdoin College (1988) and moved on to Northeastern as the defensive backs coach for two seasons (1989-90). He spent two years as running backs ('91) and linebacker ('95) coach at Dartmouth and had a three-year stint as the linebackers coach at Tulane (1992-94) before going to Marshall.

He is married to the former Kathy McDonald of North Andover, Mass. They are the parents of three children, Alexandra (17), Patrick (14) and Ryan (13).
Jeff Monken enters his fourth season as the slot backs coach after spending five years at Georgia Southern with Paul Johnson.

In 2004, Monken's efforts helped the slot backs perform well enough for the Midshipmen to finish 45th in the country in total offense (388.8 yards per game), third in rushing offense (289.5), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

One of Monken's pupils, Eric Roberts, became the first player in Navy history and just the 35th player in NCAA history to have over 1,000 career rushing and receiving yards.

In 2003, Navy's slot backs were explosive averaging 9.8 yards per carry and 21.8 yards per catch as the Mids led the nation in rushing (323.2 yards per contest) and set school records for rushing yards per game, total rushing yards (4,202), rushing yards per attempt (5.5), rushing touchdowns (44), total offense (5,506), total offense per game (423.5) and yards per play (6.0).

In 2002, Navy had the third-best rushing average in the country (270.75) and scored 30 or more points on four occasions.

In 2001, Georgia Southern was the top-ranked rushing team in the country in 1999 (419 yards per game) and 2001 (323.6 yards per game).

Monken also headed up Georgia Southern's kickoff and punt return teams, as well as the punt team. Georgia Southern's punt team was fourth in the nation in 2001, averaging a net of 38.71 yards.

Monken, 36, has experienced a wide variety of duties throughout his career — beginning in 1989 as a graduate assistant at Hawai'i. After a one-year stint as a graduate assistant at Arizona State in 1991, he moved on to Buffalo, where he served as the wide receivers and tight ends coach and was the recruiting coordinator. Prior to his arrival in Statesboro, he also served on the staffs at Morton (Ill.) High School (Head Coach) and Concordia (Ill.) University (Offensive Line).

Monken comes from a long line of coaches, as 12 members of his family have been or currently are high school or college football coaches. Monken's father, Mike, and his four brothers were all head high school coaches at the same time in Illinois and were featured in Sports Illustrated.

The Joliet, Ill., native earned a bachelor's degree from Millikin in 1989 where he played wide receiver for four years and was a two-time letterwinner in track. In 1991, Monken earned his master's degree from the University of Hawai'i. Monken and his wife, Beth, who is the Navy cheerleading coach, have a daughter, Isabelle (2).
Dale Pehrson is entering his 10th season at the Naval Academy and his seventh year coaching the defensive line. He also serves as the coordinator of the Navy football camp and is the recruiting coordinator.

In 2004, Pehrson's efforts helped Navy finish 26th in the country in scoring defense (19.83), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

In 2003, Pehrson was part of a defensive staff that saw great improvement on the defensive side of the football as the Mids finished 14th in the nation in pass defense (61st the year before), 42nd in pass efficiency defense (116th the year before), 34th in total defense (100th the year before) and 34th in scoring defense (108th the year before).

In 2001, Pehrson tutored defensive tackle Josh Brindel to All-Independent recognition by College Football News. On the strength of his season in 2001, Brindel was selected for the prestigious East-West Shrine All-Star game in the fall of 2002.

In 1999, Pehrson helped develop a defensive line into a big-play unit, recording 17 sacks and recovering six fumbles. Defensive end Gino Marchetti recovered a nation's-best five fumbles.

Pehrson coached the safeties during his first-three seasons at the Academy and groomed Jamie Doffermyre into an All-East performer in 1998.

In 1997, Pehrson’s troops contributed to the Mids ranking sixth in the country in turnover margin, as the safeties came up with 11 of Navy’s 14 interceptions. Free safety Gervy Alota was named All-East, while strong safety Rashad Smith played in the Blue/Gray All-Star Game.

Pehrson came to the Naval Academy from Southern Utah, where he was an assistant head coach and defensive coordinator for five years.

Prior to his tenure at Southern Utah, Pehrson was on the staff at Missouri Western State College, where he served in various capacities, including assistant head coach, defensive coordinator, offensive coordinator and special teams coordinator. He was head football coach and an assistant coach in wrestling and track at Murray High School, his alma mater, in Salt Lake City.

Pehrson is a native of Salt Lake City and earned all-state honors at Murray (Utah) High School. He attended Utah where he was a two-year letterman as a defensive back. Pehrson earned his bachelor’s degree in English from Utah in 1976 and received a master's degree from Brigham Young in 1985.

He and his wife, the former Marty Grant, have two children, Preston and Jaci. Preston is a junior catcher on the Jacksonville University baseball team.

COACHING BACKGROUND
ASSISTANT COACH '79-84 — Murray (Utah) H.S.
HEAD COACH '84-87 — Murray (Utah) H.S.
ASSISTANT HEAD COACH/DEFENSIVE & OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR '87-90 — Missouri Western St.
ASSISTANT HEAD COACH/DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR '91-95 — Southern Utah
ASSISTANT COACH/RECRUITING COORDINATOR '96-Present—Navy

BIRTHDATE
May 11, 1953

EDUCATION
Utah, B.A., ’76
Brigham Young, M.A., ’85
Todd Spencer is entering his ninth season at the Naval Academy as offensive line coach.

In 2004, Spencer’s efforts helped an offensive line that was hampered by injuries all year to perform well enough for the Midshipmen to finish third in the country in rushing (289.5), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

Navy’s offensive line was key in the NCAA record 26-play, 94-yard, 14:26 epic drive in the Emerald Bowl. Offensive guard August Roitsch was named to the Sports Illustrated All-Bowl Team, while the starting offensive line was selected to the College Football News All-Bowl Team.

In 2003, despite a lack of experience up front, the Mids led the nation in rushing (323.2 yards per contest) and set school records for rushing yards per game, total rushing yards (4,202), rushing yards per attempt (5.5), rushing touchdowns (44), total offense (5,506), total offense per game (423.5) and yards per play (6.0) as Navy went 8-5, won the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy and earned a berth in the Houston Bowl.

In 2002, Spencer developed Derek Jaskowiak into a College Football News All-Independent selection and an Honorable Mention All-East performer. Jaskowiak was also selected to participate in the Hula Bowl All-Star Game.

In 2000, Spencer pupil Hoot Stahl was an all-star performer, as Stahl was selected to play in the Blue/Gray All-Star Game.

Spencer brought a vast knowledge of the option attack to Annapolis after spending six seasons as the offensive line coach at option oriented Oregon State.

Known for his intensity on the field, Spencer has a strong coaching background, as he has also been the offensive line coach at Northern Illinois (1990) and Texas-El Paso (1989), and was the offensive coordinator at Southern Utah (1988) and Trinity Valley Community College (1986-88).

Spencer got into the major college ranks as a graduate assistant (defensive backs) for Rich Brooks at Oregon (1984-85) and was a graduate assistant (offensive line) for Fred Akers at Texas (1985-86).

A native of Beaverton, Ore., Spencer attended Whitworth College in Spokane, Wash., from 1974-76, and was a defensive back under Hugh Campbell, a former head coach of the Houston Oilers. He then transferred to Pacific Lutheran (1977-79), where he played safety for two years. Spencer earned his bachelor’s degree in physical education from Pacific Lutheran (1979) and his M.A. from Linfield College in physical education in 1981.

He is the father of two daughters, Whitney (17) and Ashley (16).
Chris Culton enters his third year at the Naval Academy as fullbacks coach.

In 2004, Culton’s efforts helped the Midshipmen to finish third in the country in rushing (289.5), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

One of his pupils, Kyle Eckel, will go down as one of the greatest running backs in Academy history. Eckel finished his career with 2,906-career rushing yards and 25 touchdowns, both of which rank as the fourth-best totals in school history. Eckel earned several postseason honors including Honorable Mention All-America and All-East. He was invited to three postseason all-star games and was named one of the top fullbacks in the country by NFL scouts. Eckel signed a free agent contract with the New England Patriots.

In 2003, Culton was part of a staff that helped the Mids lead the nation in rushing (323.2 yards per contest) and set school records for rushing yards per game, total rushing yards (4,202), rushing touchdowns (44), total offense (5,506) and total offense per game (423.5) as Navy went 8-5, won the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy and earned a berth in the Houston Bowl.

Culton came to the Naval Academy from Rhode Island where he coached the offensive line for one year.

Culton is a 2001 graduate of Georgia Southern (B.S. in natural and cultural resource management) where he was a student-assistant coach for four years after suffering a severe neck injury during spring practice of his freshman year that ended his football career.

Culton is married to the former Amanda Pendergrass, who is an athletic trainer at Navy.

Lt. j.g. Tony Grantham enters his third year at the Naval Academy and his second as assistant outside linebackers coach.

In 2004, Grantham’s efforts helped Navy finish 26th in the country in scoring defense (19.83), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

One of Grantham’s pupils, David Mahoney, led the Mids in tackles for a loss (12) and sacks (5).

In 2003, Grantham was part of a defensive staff that saw great improvement on the defensive side of the football as the Mids finished 14th in the nation in pass defense, 42nd in pass efficiency defense, 34th in total defense and 34th in scoring defense.

Grantham came to the Naval Academy from LSU where he was a graduate assistant for two seasons with the Tigers. While in Baton Rouge, Grantham spent one year working with the offensive side of the ball and one year with the defense.

In 2001, the Tigers went 10-3 and won the SEC Championship. LSU blew out Illinois in the Sugar Bowl and ended up ranked seventh in the nation. In 2003, the Tigers were Co-SEC Western Division Champions and participated in the Cotton Bowl. LSU, which finished 8-5, was ranked fifth nationally in total defense.

Before going to LSU, Grantham was a part-time coach at Eastern Illinois, where he was part of a staff that led the Panthers to an 8-4 record and an appearance in the I-AA playoffs. Grantham coached outside linebackers and assisted with the special teams.

Grantham has also coached at the prep level, serving as an assistant coach at Christianburg High School in Virginia (1995-96 and 1998-99).

His brother, Todd, is the defensive coordinator with the Cleveland Browns.

Grantham is a 2000 graduate of Radford where he received his degree in physical education. He is married to the former Mollie Dexter of Byron, Ill.
Lt. j.g. DANNY O’ROURKE, USN  
SECONDARY  
FOURTH SEASON AT NAVY

Lt. j.g. Danny O’Rourke, USN, is entering his fourth year as an assistant coach at the Naval Academy.

In 2004, O’Rourke’s efforts helped Navy finish 26th in the country in scoring defense (19.83), win a school-record tying 10 games (the most wins since 1905), go to back-to-back bowl games for the second time in school history, win the Emerald Bowl (just the fifth bowl win in school history) and win the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy in back-to-back years for only the second time in school history.

One of O’Rourke’s pupils, Josh Smith, was named First-Team All-East and played in the Gridiron Classic All-Star game.

In 2003, O’Rourke was part of a defensive staff that saw great improvement on the defensive side of the football as the Mids finished 14th in the nation in pass defense (61st the year before), 42nd in pass efficiency defense (116th the year before), 34th in total defense (100th the year before) and 34th in scoring defense (108th the year before).

O’Rourke came to Navy from Valdosta State where he was the secondary coach for one year. Prior to his coaching stint at Valdosta State, he coached the safeties at Georgia Southern in 2000 and helped the Eagles to a I-AA National Championship.

A native of Lawrenceville, Ga., O’Rourke was a three-year letterwinner at West Georgia and helped lead the team to back-to-back league titles his junior and senior years. He was also an academic all-conference selection throughout his collegiate career.

O’Rourke received his master’s degree in education administration from Temple in 2002.

O’Rourke and his wife, Michelle, live in Annapolis.

MIKE BRASS  
ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FOR SPORTS PERFORMANCE

Mike Brass is in his fifth year as Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Performance after serving as the head Strength and Conditioning Coach/Assistant Athletic Director for Athletic Performance for five years at Georgia Southern.

The Mids have shown remarkable progress in both strength and speed in just two years under Brass, as he has been an integral part of turning around the fortunes of the Navy football program.

Last fall, Navy won the Commander-In-Chief’s Trophy for the first time since 1981 and went to a bowl game for the first time since 1996.

At Georgia Southern, Brass was named the 1998 and 1999 National Strength and Conditioning Association’s (NSCA) Professional of the Year for the Southern Conference.

Prior to his appointment at Georgia Southern, Brass served as head strength and conditioning coach at Tulane from 1992-96. He also spent two seasons heading the strength and conditioning efforts at Dartmouth (1990-92) after earning his first position at Wisconsin-Whitewater as strength coach in 1985.

Brass earned his bachelor’s degree in education from Doane (Neb.) College in 1985 before acquiring a master’s in fitness management from the United States Sports Academy a year later.

Brass holds membership in the National Strength and Conditioning Association and is nationally certified as a Strength and Conditioning Specialist.

Brass and wife, Cindi, are the parents of three children, Samantha (21), Danielle (16) and Broderick (13).
JOHN McGUIRE
VIDEO COORDINATOR

John McGuire enters his 10th year as Navy's Director of Video Operations. Since coming to the Naval Academy in 1996, he has overseen the growth of the Ricketts Hall video department to its present standing as one of the best in collegiate athletics.

In 2004, McGuire helped oversee the renovation of the football offices and meeting rooms to ensure their compatibility with the latest state-of-the-art digital and computer technology. Coaches and players can gain instant access to the information most important in preparing for the opponent each week. The capabilities of the system networked throughout the building allow meeting and film study time to be used in an extremely efficient manner with minimal waste during an always busy day. The addition and continual upgrade of this system assures Navy football of being technologically compatible well into the new century.

While keeping in step with the latest advances, the video department is also working to preserve Navy’s rich athletic past. Football films from as far back as the 1926 Army-Navy game in Chicago have recently been transferred to a video format and are part of the Captain Asbury “Red” Coward Video Archives Library located on the second deck of Ricketts Hall. This library provides a window to Navy's athletic heroes from many sports.

A native of Philadelphia, McGuire is a 1978 graduate of Villanova, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing. He came to the Naval Academy from Rutgers, where he served as Director of Video Operations for four years. While at Rutgers, McGuire was instrumental in the development of the state-of-the-art integrated video system installed in Rutgers' new stadium, constructed in 1994.

Prior to Rutgers, McGuire worked for Tucker Sport Films of Philadelphia for 15 years. During this period, he became the Film Coordinator for the Philadelphia/Baltimore Stars of the United States Football League, working with a staff that included future NFL head coaches Jim Mora, Vince Tobin and Dom Capers. He also served as the Stars' Director of Marketing and Media Relations for two years.

GREG MORGENTHALER
ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FOR EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS

Greg Morgenthaler is entering his third season as Director of Football Equipment. Morgenthaler came to the Naval Academy from Sacred Heart, where he served as Equipment Coordinator for three years.

A 1998 graduate of Kansas with a Bachelor of Science in education, Morgenthaler was a student manager with the Jayhawk football team that won the 1995 Aloha Bowl.

Morgenthaler began his career as an equipment manager intern at Virginia. He then served as a graduate assistant equipment manager at Oklahoma, while working on his Master's degree in athletic administration. Upon leaving Oklahoma, Morgenthaler had a brief stint as head equipment manager in the defunct Spring Professional Football League for the San Antonio Matadors.

Morgenthaler is a certified member of the Athletic Equipment Managers Association (AEMA). He is also a member of the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA).

A native of Oaklyn, N.J., Morgenthaler is single and resides in Annapolis.

CAPT. TOM VANDERHORST, USMC
MILITARY LIAISON
SECOND YEAR AT NAVY

Capt. Tom Vanderhorst, USMC, is in his second season as the military liaison for the Navy football staff.

Vanderhorst is a 1999 graduate of the Naval Academy, where he was a three-year starter on the football team. Vanderhorst was a key member of the 1996 squad that produced a 9-3 record and won the Aloha Bowl, as he kicked game-winning field goals in the final seconds to beat SMU (19-17) and Air Force (20-17). Vanderhorst was also a leader in Bancroft Hall, serving as the 1st Regimental Commander during the second semester of his senior year.

After graduation, the Newnan, Ga., native was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps and reported to Quantico, Va.

Following The Basic School, Vanderhorst was assigned to 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 1st Marine Division in February, 2000. During this tour, Vanderhorst served as a platoon commander and as the Company Executive Officer for Company A. As a platoon commander from 2000-2002, he participated in various exercises and a unit deployment to the Western Pacific.

As the Company Executive Officer from 2002-03, he served in Operation Iraqi Freedom in support of Task Force 3/4. Among his duties he served as the Combat Trains Executive Officer coordinating timely, secure logistical support for sustained combat operations.

Vanderhorst has earned the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with valor device and the Combat Action Ribbon.
SUPPORT STAFF

Jim Berry
Assistant Athletic Trainer

Barry Boyd
Assistant Equipment Manager

Cliff Dooman
Assistant Strength Coach

Joyce Galloway
Equipment Staff

Lt. Cmdr. Scott Pyne
Team Physician

Rhett Warren
Assistant Strength Coach

Dr. John Wilckens
Team Orthopaedic Consultant

Kirk Woolfolk
Director of Strength & Conditioning/Operations

Barry Boyd
Assistant Strength Coach

Dr. John Wilckens
Team Orthopaedic Consultant

Kirk Woolfolk
Director of Strength & Conditioning/Operations

Barry Boyd
Assistant Strength Coach

Joyce Galloway
Equipment Staff

Lois Gareis
Football Administrative Assistant

Barry Boyd
Assistant Strength Coach

Joyce Galloway
Equipment Staff

Lois Gareis
Football Administrative Assistant