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Merola's View:

Weston to Be All American

By JOHN DOSER

Cardinal Mooney football coach Tony Merola says Notre Dame sophomore Greg Weston, who played under Merola at Mooney for four years, is All-American material next year.

"It seems the coaching he's receiving at Notre Dame plus his own natural talent is blending together to make the complete ballplayer that he is and is going to be.

"He's All-America material in another year," Merola says.

Merola, who produced an All-Ivy performer when he coached at Mt. Morris years ago (Cornell split end Ron Gervasi), says Weston is the type of young man who takes his coach at his word.

"If you told Jeff to read that offensive guard, and follow him left if he pulls left, or right if he pulls right, Jeff would listen and go out and do exactly what he was instructed, with an eye toward always improving.

"I see he says he's playing with a little more reckless abandon and I think maybe this means he's

gotten away from the awe of Notre Dame and the fact that he was out there playing," Merola says.

Weston admits he's starting to play like he knows he can. He says he's gotten rid of the butterflies of being a regular and now he goes out and plays football aggressively.

Two weeks ago against Navy he enjoyed a ballgame that many linemen never achieve in a career.

He was in on, or made 22 tackles, recovered a fumble, and intercepted a pass and returned it 53 yards for a touchdown against the Middies.

He was named Associated Press Lineman of the Week for his performance, an unusual honor for a sophomore.

Weston says he didn't hear the punt, so he turned around and caught the pass which dropped right into his hands. He picked up a few key blocks and he was off to the races.

Weston isn't slow despite his 248 pounds — he runs the 40 yard dash in 4.9 seconds.

The TD was only the second time in his career he put six points on the board — the last time was in his freshman year at Mooney.

But this one came at a good time — it gave the Irish a 14 point lead over Navy which eventually resulted in a 31-10 ND win over the Middies.

Weston says he's made a recent discovery. He explains that he tries to get the jump on the blocker and beat him to the spot he wants to get to. His new system is working well, he adds.

A sidekick of his is All-American senior tackle Steve Niehaus, whose own shining star must flicker a little in the light of Weston's recent successes.

Weston, for example, has 76 tackles on the season with three games remaining at this writing, while Niehaus has 90. Weston says he couldn't believe he hit 23 tackles against Navy; he says he usually only gets five or six a game.

Notre Dame head coach Dan Devine says Weston has an excellent attitude and is a real team player. "He's a guy who is going to be around here for two more years and make a lot of improvements," Devine adds.

Devine moved Weston from offensive to defensive tackle because he wanted to have a strong defense; but he points out that the 6-3, 248-pounder could easily have made the offensive team too.

Weston was pleased with his game against Navy; he says, in fact, that it was by far the best game he's ever played.

"They were running my way and all I could do was tackle."

Merola's first prospective All-American sure makes big time college football sound awfully easy, doesn't he.

MUSIC FESTIVAL:

East Rochester — More than 450 junior high school musicians will assemble here Friday to rehearse together for a concert Saturday night. They were chosen to represent 42 schools in the annual Area All-State Festival sponsored by the New York State School Music Association. After two days of rehearsals, the orchestra, band and chorus will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, in the auditorium of Lewis C. Obourm High School. Daniel Lempert and Dorothy O'Donnell are co-chairmen.



By MIMI ZELTER
Our Lady of Mercy



God... It is one of the most important words in millions of lives. To many, these three letters carry little importance; to some, none at all.

Various sects view God in multiple ways. To ancient man, God was the sun and the system contained within. Greeks and Romans portrayed God as values significant in their lives, such as love and honor.

Jews place Yahweh as the center of their religion. Catholics and Protestants look to the Trinity as their God. But what is God, and where is He?

How does God help us to evaluate our lives? What relevant feature does He add to our lives?

For many, just calling themselves Christians or Jews is enough to fulfill their lives. The true meaning of the word holds no bearing in their way of thinking or their actions or treatment towards others. The name is their security blanket for the future, Heaven or Hell.

It also seems, those who don't accept any kind of God lead a more "Christian" type of life, than that of a "confirmed Christian." These people don't commit themselves to a situation where one can't both adhere to the rules and follow his conscience.

To be faithful to God, one must first be faithful to himself. If you betray God, what value does your life hold? God doesn't force people to accept Him, or a specific way of life. He gave that choice to man. To decide for a certain road to follow in life, and then to turn off it, is a contradiction of your own life. To look upon something as an idol, or through fear, diminishes all purpose in the belief of a divine being.

Don't condemn someone for his lack of faith, while your own falters. Examine your own values before you question someone else's.

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CYO BASKETBALL

On Saturday, Nov. 15, the CYO will conduct its pre-season basketball clinic at Cardinal Mooney High School, beginning at 9 a.m. All basketball coaches are required to attend this program. The first session of the clinic will be conducted by Cardinal Mooney's basketball coach, Edward Nietopski, with the assistance of his players. Emphasis will be strictly on the teaching of fundamentals. The second session will be conducted by the CYO Youth Development staff.



Photo by Ben Susso

Shirley Piraino, Marianne Evans and Judy Marcello take a break from studying the Roman arches of Memorial Bridge. They did their design surveying from Driving Park Bridge.

The Rome Connection

When Nazareth Academy sophomore Gina Agness noted that our Driving Park Bridge was Roman in style, she sparked some other discovering in her European Cultures Class.

Students began noticing relationships between Rome and Rochester and soon the class was busy preparing a display, directed by Social Studies teacher, Sister Joan McDowell.

A display of coins (Diane Murphy), words (Judy Hunt), houses (Shirley Piraino, Marianne Evans, Judy Marcello), clothing (Sonia Gonzalez) has

brought the roots of our civilization closer to the students.

Marian Wergin illustrated Stoicism and Epicureanism with a contemporary collage. Hair styles were portrayed by Joanne Ricotta. Mary Lester researched an aqueduct through the Landmark Society. Frances Bonsignore has illustrated the words of Ovid, Horace and Virgil in contemporary posters.

The project concluded with a tour of Driving Park and Memorial Bridges, so students could discuss engineering questions and admire the round arch of Roman origin.

No Cold Legs At Notre Dame

Elmira — With the coming of the cold weather comes a change in the dress code at Notre Dame High School.

The girls are now allowed to wear slacks made from the same material as the uniform skirts. The change is allowed only during the colder months of the school year.

Toastmistress Meeting Set

The public is invited to attend the Kapers Toastmistress Club's demonstration meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Greece Town Library on Mitchell Road.

The theme of the evening will be "A Challenge to Women" which will outline how Toastmistress can help you improve your organizational talents, conversation techniques.

Kapers Toastmistress Club is a member of the International Toastmistress Clubs of America and as such offers a program which develops and enlarges a person's self-awareness, confidence, scope of knowledge and communicative abilities.

As an open club Kapers draws membership from all community areas. So, no matter what field of endeavor you are in (homemaking, education, business, industry) Toastmistress has much to offer you.

For further information please contact Joanne Weber, 621-1311 or Joan M. Smith, 225-7833.



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