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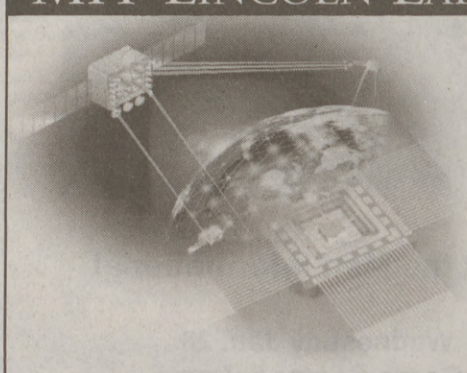

If you would like to learn more about MIT Lincoln Laboratory, please attend our informational session. To be considered for an on-campus interview, you must apply to:

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INFORMATIONAL SESSION:
Monday, February 16, 2004
7:00 PM, 504 Rudder
REFRESHMENTS

CAMPUS INTERVIEWS:
Tuesday, February 17, 2004

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Tuesday, January 27, 2004
Association of Former Students
8:00pm

One-On-One Meetings
Wednesday January 28, 2004
10:00am-8:00pm
Thursday, January 29, 2004
10:00am-4:00pm
MSC 139-140

Philanthropy Night
Thursday, January 29, 2004
8:00pm
College Station Conference Center

Preference Night (By Invitation)
Friday, January 30, 2004

Questions?
Please call Gamma Phi Beta at 979.680.5740 or email at tamugammaphi@aol.com.

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Backups fill Patriots' Super Bowl rost

By Dave Goldberg
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — No-names are in, and egos are out on Bill Belichick's team.

That's a major reason why the New England Patriots have won 14 straight and will attempt to claim their second Super Bowl in three seasons Sunday against Carolina. Despite a rash of injuries, they have been able to plug in obscure substitutes and keep on winning.

"A guy who comes in and wants his name on a scoreboard that says, 'Joe Blow, No. 28,' is probably not going to be a New England Patriot," Belichick said. "A guy who wants to play for a team and not worry about being a star is likely to be one."

The run of no-name backups actually began two years ago when Tom Brady stepped in at quarterback for the injured Drew Bledsoe and led New England to the Super Bowl in a thrilling 20-17 upset of St. Louis. Two years later, he is, as owner team owner Robert Kraft put it Tuesday, "the poster boy for our team."

Unlike Brady, most of this year's injury replacements will never be poster boys for anything. But in a league where almost every team suffers when starters get hurt, the Patriots have thrived; 43 different players have started in 18 games and almost all have done well.

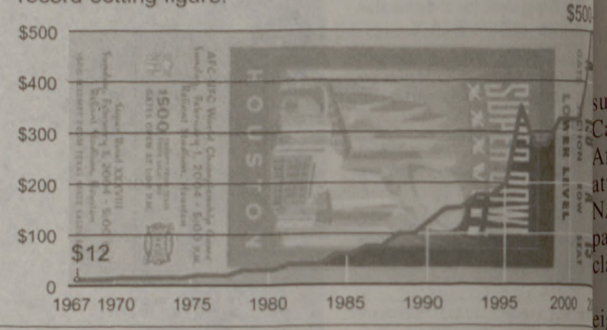
In Sunday's Super Bowl, New England will be missing three offensive linemen who were starters when training camp began: center Mike Compton, left guard Damien Woody and right tackle Adrian Klemm. Replacing them will be center Dan Koppen, a rookie; guard Russ Hochstein, who started the season on the practice squad; and tackle Tom Ashworth, who was inactive for 15 games last season and a tight end in the one game he did play.

No one seems concerned, even though the Carolina defensive line is arguably the best in the NFL.

Belichick's no-star approach wasn't lost on Carolina, which landed in the championship game a mere two years after finishing 1-15.

Super ticket prices for Super Bowl

The cost of a Super Bowl ticket has risen dramatically since first game in 1967. This year's price is the same as last year record-setting figure.



SOURCE: Associated Press

"We've noted what the Patriots are doing, and our approach is pretty much the same," Panthers general manager Marty Hurney said. "It's a team concept rather than a star concept, and it works."

It certainly has for New England, for whom short-term stars have popped in from nowhere.

For example:

— Mike Cloud, a career backup, replaced the injured Antowain Smith at running back in his first game back from a four-week substance abuse suspension and carried seven times for 73 yards and two touchdowns in a 38-30 win over Tennessee. He rushed for only 45 yards the rest of the year.

— Linebacker Matt Chatham, strictly a special teamer previously, got his first four starts in a four-season career. Against the Titans, he had eight tackles and the following week returned a fumble 38 yards for a touchdown in a 17-6 win against the Giants.

— Little-used defensive end Jarvis Green, who had just 4 1/2 sacks in two NFL seasons, got three on Peyton Manning in New England's 24-14 win over Indianapolis in the AFC title game.

One aspect of the Patriots' success is age — 21 of the 53 players on their roster are over 30.

Many are major contributors like Smith; linebackers Willie McGinest and Tedy Bruschi; wide receiver Troy Brown; defensive end Bobby Hamilton; and safety Rodney Harrison. Others, like linebackers Ted Johnson and Roman Ph backups who also serve time tutors for the y players; six rookies major roles in the team cess this season.

Perhaps the typical is Mike Vrabel — middl at 28.

He became a fu starter at outside line when Rosevelt Colvin w with a broken hip in the game of the season. Col supposed to be the final dient to an upper e defense — a top pass who would wreak hav opposing quarterbacks fr wing of Belichick's com 4 defense.

So in stepped Vrabel had started just 25 of NFL games he had pla six seasons in Pittsburg New England. He was all season.

"I never considered a celebrity, and I don't w be. I'm certainly not a Vrabel said.

One reason backups re so well for the Patriots everyone is considered a during practice. That's the NFL — on most starters practice a reserves, who simulat offenses and defenses o week's opponent.

"We have 53 men in said right guard Joe And one of the two rem starters on the offensive "When called upon, y your best."

For most teams, that m be enough.

For the Patriots it is.

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