

# Trio of midfielders set to lead laxers

By Kurt Bopp  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The men's lacrosse team selected a trio of midfielders to lead the 2010 campaign, but position isn't the only thing the captains have in common.

They've been living together since their sophomore year. "We were next to each other freshman year too," redshirt junior Chris Hogan said. "We're always on the same page."

Hogan was elected with Joe Britt and Brian Shea to lead this year's team.

The three captains bring different styles and strengths to the leadership role.

The team's selections for captain weren't surprising to coach Glenn Thiel.

"Going in, I was wondering who would be captains," Thiel said. "The cream came to the top. They're three really hard workers; each have their potential."

Hogan led the team in goals (29) and was second in points (34) last season after missing all but three games due to a severe ankle injury in 2008.

Though Hogan, who has an extra year of eligibility due to an injury, is honored to be a captain, he hasn't noticed much of a difference in his role.

"Just being a senior, you step into that

"Going in, I was wondering who would be captains. The cream came to the top. ... Each have their potential."

Glenn Thiel  
men's lacrosse coach

## MEN'S LACROSSE



Britt



Shea

role of being a leader for the rest of the team," Hogan said.

"Having the role as being a captain and being voted, definitely wanna do a little more, encourage everyone to work a little harder."

Shea said the role came naturally for all three captains.

"I feel like us three have been leaders since we got to Penn State," Shea said. "No added pressure or ways to make us play much better. It's natural in us that we're competitive and want to win."

Shea notched eight goals and seven assists for the Nittany Lions last season. The midfielder was also second on the team in groundballs (38), behind only former goalie Drew Adams.

Britt started the most games of the trio and posted a faceoff percentage of .504 as he won 67 of 133 opportunities.

But Britt's style and personality may be more valuable to the team as a captain.

"Joe is the most verbose," Thiel said. "He's a jabbermouth and well liked by everybody."

"When he came, he was not a division-level lacrosse player, but he's found his niche. He's the most verbal guy."

Hogan and Shea lead by example, Hogan said, and the rest of the team feeds off their effort and energy.



Daniel Bott/Collegian

Junior midfielder Chris Hogan prepares to pass in Penn State's game against St. Joseph's last season. Hogan and seniors Joe Britt and Brian Shea are captains for this year's team.

"We all have our own unique style," Shea said.

"People can go up to whoever they are more comfortable to talk to."

"It's good to have three different perspectives."

Though the team hasn't set any goals for the season yet, Shea said the captains want everyone to work hard every day and play their best from the opening faceoff to the final buzzer.

After fall practices and scrimmages, Thiel has been happy with what he's seen from his new captains, as well as how his players have responded to their leadership skills.

"The kids picked guys they would listen to and would respond to," Thiel said. "The kids'll rise to whatever [the captains] ask of them on and off the field."

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