McDonogh (Owings Mills, Md,) offensive lineman **Jared Cohen** has always dreamed about playing Division I football and it looks like that dream will become a reality now that he's received his first offer and is corresponding with some other institutions.

“Everything's been going pretty good and a lot of schools are showing interest,” said Cohen. “I have one offer from Maryland right now, but I'm also hearing from a lot of Division I schools like Penn State, Virginia, Rutgers, Duke, Temple, North Carolina and UMass.

“Living in Maryland, I'm really excited about my first offer. I've been watching them play football my entire life and it's definitely a school I'll consider when I'm ready to make my decision.”

The 6-foot-4, 295-pound junior has also taken the initiative in his recruitment and is currently in the process of trying to reach out to the Irish and head coach Brian Kelly.

“I talked to my head coach and told him to send my information to Notre Dame because that's one school I definitely want to go through the recruiting process with,” he admitted. “There's so much to know about Notre Dame. The school has an amazing history and tradition. The football

program was number one in the country last year and that speaks for itself. It's a university that not only creates football players, but it also creates character and great people to enter the workforce. I can go on forever about what it would mean to get an education from that school."

The dominant lineman has worked very hard to hone his craft on the field and become the type of recruit that's worthy of Division I consideration.

"I'm definitely a technician as an offensive lineman," explained the junior. "I'm very good at pass blocking and I rarely ever get beaten in my pass blocking. That's not to say that I'm not a good run blocker because I'm a really good zone blocker. At McDonogh, we run a lot of zone blocks where we go down the line we pick up anybody that's come across, so I'm very good at that.

"I really committed myself, after my sophomore season, to being in the weight room regularly. I really felt the results and it was amazing. I felt so much more powerful than the season before and all that strength I gained definitely made my run blocking more devastating."

While he continues to add more and more recruiting interest daily, the McDonogh standout is in the process of deciding exactly what he'll be looking for in a collegiate program.

"I plan on going to some of these schools and checking out the campus to see how comfortable I feel there," he stated. "Distance is somewhat of a factor, but not a huge factor. Wherever I go I want the school to have a nice campus, good football program, great coaches and a place where I get good vibes."

Cohen hopes the Irish add themselves to his potential visit list in the near future.

"If Notre Dame decides to show me some interest, I would definitely set something up," he claimed. "I'd love to go up there and see the campus and meet with some of the coaches. It would be amazing to go up there and see all the history and tradition."

2014 WR Heats Up

Anytime a wide receiver can go over 1,000 yards receiving in a single season it pretty much draws your attention immediately, especially if the athlete were speaking about is only a high school junior. That definitely makes the feat more impressive.

Marble Falls (Marble Falls, Texas) wide receiver **Garrett Gray** had a huge season for the Mustangs by hauling in 81 catches for 1,200 yards and 18 touchdowns. Though he's definitely been under the recruiting radar for quite a while now, his statistical output in 2012 has begun to garner Division I attention. Ironically, it's not in the sport he thought he'd be playing.

“Recruiting's been going pretty good and I just got my first offer from Iowa,” said Gray. “I'm also hearing from Texas A&M and Texas Tech.

“I actually thought this day might come, but I didn't think I would get my offer in football. This is my first year back playing football, because I didn't play my sophomore year, and I was pretty much a basketball player. I think I was ranked in the top hundred in Texas, so I'm glad I went out and played football this season. I'm just going to concentrate on football now.”

The 6-foot-4, 200-pound Texan has pretty much been around college football his entire life and is closely related to a legendary college assistant coach known all over the Lone Star State.

“My grandfather (Jess Stiles) was a coach at Texas Tech for over 30 years and also coach at Texas A&M,” he claimed. “He really hasn't talked to me a lot about recruiting yet, but he has told me just to be patient.”

One school Gray has yet to hear from is Notre Dame, but he hopes that the conversation will be happening in the near future and sort of sees himself in the mold of one of the Irish’s most prolific tight ends.

“I would definitely be interested in Notre Dame,” admitted the 2014 prospect. “I mean they competed for the national championship, so who wouldn't be interested. I don't really know a whole lot about their offense, but I really like #80 (Tyler Eifert) a lot. He kind of reminds me a lot of myself, but I think I might be a little faster.”

The Marble Falls standout is really in no hurry to rush through his recruitment and plans on enjoying the process to the fullest extent.

“I really haven't thought about what I'll be looking for in the school and I guess it will be whoever impresses me the most,” he stated. “When I finally choose a school it will definitely have to be a passing program because I just want to have the ball in my hands and make plays for my team.”