

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, November 16, 2007

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A solo Morrissey entertained a full crowd at the Tabernacle last week. Page 17



TECH TAKES 41-24 WIN OVER DUKE



By Blake Israel/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Ben Lipford/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Ben Lipford/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Blake Israel/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Ben Lipford/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The defenders stop Duke receiver Eron Riley. The defense dominated the offense, limiting them to under 200 total offensive yards and getting across the line for eight total sacks. Top, from left to right: Demaryius Thomas goes up for a pass; Jonathan Dwyer powers forward; Philip Wheeler gets another sack; Troy Garside gets a tackle.

By Hahnming Lee
Sports Editor

Last week, Tech defeated Duke in front of a nearly empty stadium in Durham, 41-24. It was Tech's fourth straight victory over Duke, the only ACC team yet to win a conference game.

Senior Tashard Choice returned to the lineup after missing the game against Virginia Tech and gained 170 yards on 23 carries. He added two touchdowns, bringing his season total to nine.

"It was big [to have Choice back]. He's a big part of our team, our personality of everything. He's just

a presence on the field," said junior quarterback Taylor Bennett.

While Choice ended up with an impressive output, he started the game off struggling to return to form. He had several short runs for little to no gain and fumbled a ball in Tech territory. It was collected by Duke cornerback Leon Hall for a 24-yard touchdown.

"If I was a little bit healthier, I probably would have ran the ball more, but I had a mistake. I [fumbled] the ball, but other than that we did OK," Choice said.

Choice also gave Tech fans a scare during the second half when it looked as though he may have injured his

hamstring again. During an easy run into the endzone, he stepped out of bounds and immediately began walking over to the sideline.

"I didn't know what [the injury was]. I went over and talked to him and he said 'Hey, it's just tight on me. Let me get it wrapped and let's see what we can do.' Obviously, he could play [after that]," said Head Coach Chan Gailey.

After he came back, the team began rushing the ball with Choice to run off time from the game clock. One of the team's favorite plays to run during the game was the direct snap to the running back, often sending Bennett to the sideline.

"[The direct snap play] had been on the shelf for about three weeks now. If you did it every week, a bunch of snaps, I think people would get it. I think by...doing it some, not doing it some, I think it keeps them off balance," Gailey said.

Bennett came out with a better performance than his game against Virginia Tech, finishing 11-for-23 with 218 yards, one touchdown and one interception.

Bennett and his receivers struggled to connect on passes with each other, with several drops committed by the receivers. This was most notably evident with freshman Demaryius Thomas, who missed

some passes that could have led to big gains and first downs.

"As a whole, I thought the receivers did well. We let some get away from us this game, but they'll bounce back and everything will be good. I'm not blaming them for anything. It happens, it's a part of the game," Bennett said.

The junior could have easily had two touchdown passes if it was not for a bizarre play on the opening drive. After throwing a 53-yard pass to James Johnson to start off the game, he completed a pass to D.J. Donley that looked like a

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Basketball loses home opener to UNCG

By Akshay Amaraneni
Staff Writer



By Jon Haeffele/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Maurice Miller drives to the basket. He finished with 10 points and two assists. He shared time with Matt Causey at the point guard position.

The Jackets' basketball season did not start off on a positive note last Friday when they lost to UNC-Greensboro at the Thrillerdome, 83-74. It was the Jackets' first home opener loss since the 1980-81 season when Tech lost to Western Carolina. The Jackets played well in the first half, taking a four point lead into the second half. Still, they were never in control of the second half.

Fully healed from last season's back injury, Anthony Morrow led the team with 23 points on eight-of-18 shooting and three-of-six behind the arc. Morrow also chipped in six rebounds. Jeremis Smith added nine points and 10 rebounds.

For the Spartans, Kyle Hines carried the team for the first half before his teammates made it a game in the second half. Hines totaled 25 points and nine rebounds. Mikko Koivisto

added 16 points and three assists while Dwayne Johnson scored 11 points, all on free throws, and added five assists and five rebounds.

During the first half, Johnson got the first three of his points on three free throws when Matt Causey fouled him behind the arc. The free throws put the Spartans up by one. Tech and Greensboro went basket-for-basket until Landon Clement was fouled on a shot and hit one of his two free throws. Prior to the foul, Tech head coach Paul Hewitt was called for a technical foul. The Spartans missed the technical free throws. After freshman Maurice Miller, in his first start, tied the game with two of his own free throws, Hines led a fastbreak score that ended with a layup and a Mouhammad Faye foul. Hines made the free throw and Ben Stywall hit a three for the Spartans

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by the numbers

1980

The last time the men's basketball team lost a season home opener. During that year, they lost to Western Carolina and went 4-23. This eventually led to the Bobby Cremins era at the Flats.

11

The number of consecutive years Tech has been bowl eligible. The win against Duke guarantees at least a shot at a bowl game for Tech. They are projected by most to go to a lower-tier bowl like the Music City Bowl or the Emerald Bowl.

Duke from page 28

touchdown. Unfortunately, Donley was tackled and the ball popped into the endzone, where Thomas jumped on it and recovered it for an unlikely touchdown.

"When [that fumble] came out I just thought, 'Oh gosh, I hope he gets on it,' not 'oh gosh, no touchdown,'" Bennett said.

The fumble highlighted a day of unusual mistakes for Tech. Besides that and Choice's fumble, the team also gave up a rare blocked punt for the first time since Nov. 29, 2003. It was senior punter Durant Brook's first punt block ever. It led to a Duke touchdown that pulled the team within 10 points during the third quarter, 34-24. Earlier in the game, Bennett threw an interception that was returned to the Tech 18 and eventually led to a field goal. This gave Duke a 10-7 lead in the first half. In all, Duke scored 17 of their 24 points off of Tech's miscues.

Still, Tech's defense was able to prevent too much damage. The

Jackets limited the Blue Devils to nine first downs and 146 yards of total offense. They forced a fumble that led to a touchdown and had eight sacks. They created pressure the whole game, dominating at the

"If I was a little bit healthier, I probably would have run the ball more, but I had a mistake. I [fumbled] the ball."

Tashard Choice
Senior Running Back

line of scrimmage.

The defense allowed only one long touchdown, accounting for nearly half of Duke's total yards. On a first-and-10, Duke quarterback Thaddeus Lewis threw a 64-yard bomb to Eron Riley to score a touchdown and bring Duke within seven points, 24-17.

The special teams also gave the Jackets great field position throughout the day, pinning Duke inside their own 20 five times. Senior placekicker Travis Bell also hit two field goals.

While Duke was able to give Tech a small scare early in the game and late in the third quarter, they had little to no support from the fan base. The nearly empty stadium had no discernable student section and fans who seemed to cheer louder for the UNC loss to N.C. State than for their own team.

"We really talked about [the lack of atmosphere there] all week, and I addressed it last Sunday night because I've been around long enough to know it myself, it's not just something somebody is telling me. I am able to talk to the players about that and I thought they handled that part about it very well," Gailey said.

Tech hosts the last two games of the season at home, with UNC coming up tomorrow at 12:00 p.m. The Jackets won the game against the Tar Heels last year, 7-0, and Chan Gailey is 4-1 against them overall.

Swim and Dive team prepare for ACC meet



By Ben Lipford/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Mauricio Sousa helps his team finish first in the Men's 4x50 Medley relay. The team competes against several ACC teams this weekend.

By Randy Darnowsky
Staff Writer

The GT Swim and Dive team will host four ACC schools and one non-conference school this weekend in the annual Georgia Tech Invitational. The three-day long meet will feature intense competition among the schools.

"We're trying to get to the NCAA [competition], so the times we are trying to accomplish are not just for winning against [teams] but to also get closer to the NCAA competition," said Mickey Malul, co-captain and breaststroker.

Tech has been preparing most on their mentality. The main focal points for Tech at the meets were to have the correct mind sight, a positive attitude and concentrating on winning. Thus far, the team has shown that they will not let

the competition intimidate them. Agatha Kwasnik broke a new school record in freestyle, and freshman Christine Chuang made fantastic timings to put her on pace for the national tournament.

"To make an NCAA [tournament], you need a certain time, and even though I'm a little off that, I'm going faster than I ever have," Chuang said.

This season, Tech has several opportunities to perform well at meets against daunting competition. If Tech can make great leaps over their opponents, they have an excellent chance to win at the ACC and NCAA tournaments.

"We don't let our opponents get in the way of us. We know what we need to do in the pool and we go out there, every single time we race, we do it and we just race our best..." Kwasnik said.

Final Four banner stolen at AMC

By Craig Tabita
News Editor

The basketball teams opened their seasons at the Coliseum Nov. 9 in front of thousands of fans, but one thing was missing: a banner hanging from the ceiling marking the 2004 Final Four appearance of the men's team.

The banner, which reads "NCAA Final Four—National Finalist 2004," was reported stolen on the morning of Nov. 4 by Doc Hill, a facility manager at the Coliseum. According to the police report, Hill noted that the banner had been present on Friday night, and no signs of forced entry were found.

The banner is one of many hanging from the ceiling at the arena, and

they are all only physically accessible from a ceiling catwalk. But the only banner targeted by the apparent thief was the one commemorating

"We've had other problems there through the years."

Wayne Hogan
Director of Public Relations

the 2004 season, in which Tech's men's basketball team went 28-10 en route to its first and only national championship appearance before losing to Connecticut.

"We're going to do everything we can to continue to stress security [at the Coliseum]," said Wayne Hogan, director of public relations for the Athletic Association.

"We've had other problems there through the years, [due to] the fact that there are so many doors, so many entry points, and so many keys," Hogan said.

The police report assessed the value of the banner at \$550. Hogan said that the AA is not going to immediately purchase a replacement.

"We have not discussed a replacement of the banner yet. I think we need to let the investigation run its course and see if by some miracle the banner turns up somewhere before we spend money to replace it," Hogan said.

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but now that you aren't, you don't?!

Girl with Pink Mustang... I like how you express yourself
The false evacuation message was NOT funny - I missed a test
Hey! my CA sucks too!
technique slivers, when even match.com fails
It's Illidan football!
it's getting cold... can i get a cuddle buddy?
Delta D- We are building a fake-ternity... we are building it bigger
cuddle buddy
cuddle buddy, anyone? I'm a girl!
2 bits
freakin' zamboni the SAC fields. I'm tired of looking like the Jolly
Green Giant every time I go out there to play soccer
hey nick, 2 inches or 2 feet? or johnny depp?
Why do I need to take biology to become a chemical engineer?
Whyyyyyy?! This class has become the bane of my existence...
I truly cannot wait for the Notre Dame v. Duke matchup...in football.
It'll be one for the ages
Hmm... If research doesn't work, I could try to run for Governor or
the U.S. House of Representatives...
I wish I was better at giving out compliments.
Earth to AUX and OSA: Don't send Tech back to the pre-Spriggle
times, or I'll have to come back and play moderator!!!
What ever happened to Finding Common Ground?
We should have failed that.
To the gal who was talking about Obi-Wan: I live in NAE room 804
if you want to hang out.
IT TOOK jESUS 3 DAYS TO RESPAWN. TALK ABOUT LAG!!
LAWL
what is wrong with gears?
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stop throwing water balloons out of north ave south!



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NORTH CAROLINA (3-7, 2-4) vs. GEORGIA TECH (6-4, 3-4)

By Robert Hazelwood



By Blake Israel/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Blake Israel/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Jon Drews/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Jon Drews/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Passing Defense vs. Taylor Bennett

Pass defense is UNC's strongest suite. Led by senior lineman Hilee Taylor with nine sacks, they are ranked No. 26 against the pass, giving up 201 yards per game and compiling 11 interceptions. Last week, the Tarheels returned two passes for touchdowns and recorded four sacks in a 31-27 loss to N.C. State.

Last week, junior quarterback Taylor Bennett bounced back from a disappointing performance against Virginia Tech, throwing for 218 yards and one TD at Duke. The performance was a bright spot in an otherwise spotty passing game. Should Tech fail to establish a running game, Bennett will need to have another strong showing.

Rushing Defense vs. Tashard Choice

UNC's defense had trouble with N.C. State's rushing attack last week, allowing 167 yards and three TDs. They have been mediocre throughout, allowing 139 yards per game on the ground, and are ranked No. 50 against the run. The Tarheels will need to play at a higher level Saturday if they hope to slow down Tech's talented runners.

Senior tailback Tashard Choice appeared healthy last week, running over Duke for 170 yards and two touchdowns in his first game back since undergoing knee surgery in October. Choice, who leads the ACC in rushing with 1,034 yards, is the star of a talented Jacket backfield that ranks No. 17 in the nation in rushing yards.

T.J. Yates vs. Defense

Redshirt freshman T.J. Yates has passed for nearly 2,300 yards and 12 TDs for the Tarheels this season. However, he has also thrown 16 interceptions. Since UNC rushes for only 94 yards per game, Yates can be expected to throw a lot, giving Tech defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta plenty of chances to send his trademark blitzes.

While Tech's 6th-ranked defense has had another great season statistically, the blitz-heavy style has at times proven vulnerable when unable to pressure the passer. Tech's defensive success at UNC will hinge upon whether or not Vance Walker, Darrel Robertson, Phillip Wheeler and company can rush T.J. Yates into making mistakes.

Spread: Tech by 10



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MEETS

Volleyball beats four ACC teams

By Randy Darnowsky
Staff Writer

The volleyball team is on track to qualify for the NCAA tournament after defeating No. 14 Duke and Wake Forest this week. This, combined with victories over Virginia and Virginia Tech last weekend, has improved Tech's resume. Last week's games moves the Jackets to third place in the competitive ACC.

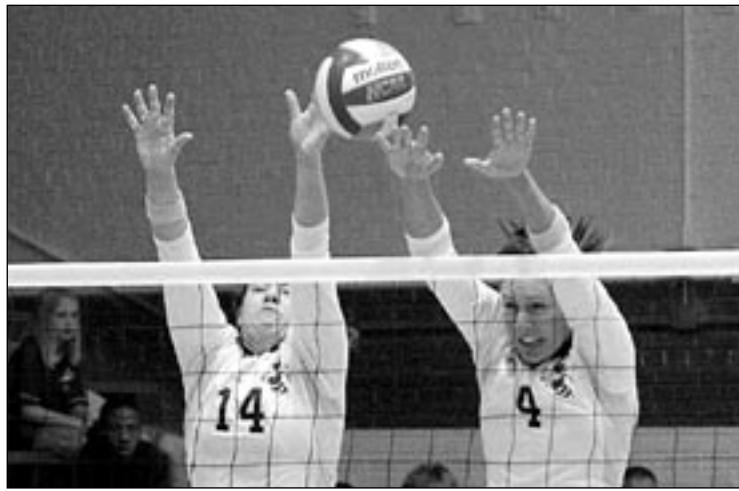
"Right now, we're concentrating and we're just right behind the [highest ranked teams]. We keep proving a point in every game that we [can] play [and] that we deserve to play in the NCAA [tournament] with all of the ranked teams..." said Callie Miller, starting libero and defensive specialist.

The Jackets played well during their three-game sweep against the Demon Deacons. After tying the school-record in digs on Thursday night, Michelle Kandell surpassed it by notching 16 more on Friday.

Chrissy DeMichelis led the offense against Wake Forest by posting 17 kills and also adding three blocks to her totals. In fact, DeMichelis earned the ultimate game-winner in the second game of the match by spiking the ball well.

"I was very excited that we just beat Duke, who is nationally ranked, and this is such a huge opportunity to make it to the NCAA's this year... We beat [Wake Forest] in three, and we're really just trying to prove a point here," Miller said.

The Jackets beat the Blue Devils in



By Colin Ake/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Callie Miller and Allie Niekamp go up for the ball. They helped lead Tech to a win against ranked Duke, their only ranked win of the year.

one of the most exciting matches of the season. Miller had a career night and junior captain Talisa Kellogg helped bring the Jackets' playing to a whole new level by getting 20 kills for the fourth consecutive game.

Furthermore, Niekamp provided tremendous help to the team by assisting out in at least 67 game situations on Thursday night.

The Jackets beat the two ACC teams from the state of Virginia during the previous weekend. Tech players from all side of the court showed out against the Cavaliers in a tense five-game match. Kandell stopped the opposing team from scoring and set a personal record for digs in a single game.

Furthermore, team players Kellogg and DeMichelis combined for

a grand total of 43 kills for the night. Middle hitters were led by Nikki Kaminskas and made significant contributions to the Jackets' offense.

Last week, the Jackets defeated Virginia Tech on the road and were led by DeMichelis, who had one of the best nights of her career by notching career highs in kills and blocks in a single match.

"Our coaches are making a bigger impact on [our improvements]. Each practice, we try to make the cut better at practice," Miller said.

This weekend, the Jackets will square off in their final home matches of the season against Florida State and Miami before ending their season on the road against Boston College and Maryland.

UNCG

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to follow up. With the Spartans up by 6, Morrow hit a jumper followed by Miller scoring two points on free throws. The teams traded baskets until Gani Lawal stole the ball for an easy dunk and was fouled on the play. Lawal made the free throw to put Tech up by six.

Greensboro made it look easy when they tied the game again, but with Tech up by one, Smith put the ball in the basket and was fouled on the way up. He hit the free throw to give the Jackets the four point lead into half time.

When Tech came out during the second half, they looked like a completely different team. The Spartans came ready to play and the Jackets looked defensive for much of the half.

Greensboro flipped the score with seven straight points to take a six point lead and never looked back. Tech got within one point when Lawal scored on a fast break dunk following a Miller three pointer. That was as close as the Jackets would get, as Greensboro continued to pour on the points. The Spartans led by as many as 14 points in the second half. Morrow ended the game with a three pointer at the buzzer to decrease the lead to nine points.

Tech had a quick turn around before their first road game of the

season at Tennessee State, defeating the Tigers 99-85. Unfortunately, Tech's inability to score points also plagued them during much of the first half in Nashville.

Morrow scored a career-high 31 points and a career-high 10 rebounds to go along with four assists. The game did not start out well for Tech though, as they hit just one of eight three point shots in the first half.

Tennessee State played the Jackets tough the entire first half and led going into halftime by four. Tech found their shooting stroke in the second

half. The Jackets hit 22-32 shots and 6-12 behind the arc. Clinch started the scoring with a three point basket just 11 seconds into the second half. State followed that with their own three when Gerald Robin-

son hit one from downtown.

State maintained their lead for about three minutes into the second half when Clinch hit his second three to give Tech the lead for good. Tech managed to push the lead to 20 with seven minutes left and were able to maintain it until they won the game. Despite the Jackets scoring streak in the second half, they still gave up 85 points.

The Jackets had a size advantage inside and that showed with a 40-30 advantage in rebounds. The size advantage showed on the box score as well where Tech outscored State 48-18 in the paint.

"Unfortunately, Tech's inability to score points also plagued them during much of the first half in Nashville."

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