

Burns leads list of football end-of-season awards

By Joseph Jeong
And the envelope please...

The time for the ubiquitous End of the Year Awards is here again. Let us look back at the Jackets' successful football season. If anyone thought Tech was to go 9-2 during the pre-season, that person's either clinically insane or blatantly lying. Therefore, I bestow it upon myself to hand out some quaint awards to some of the deserving members of the football team.

Let's start by giving one of my favorite players on the team an award.

The Duct Tape Award on Offense goes to Running Back Joe Burns. Sure, Quarterback George Godsey might have been the most productive and consistent offensive player on the team, but Joe Burns did everything a player on offense can do.

Not only did he lead the Yellow Jackets in rushing, he also made some key receptions and blocks. Burns' block in the FSU is heralded as being the play of the game. The play could possibly be play of the year if not for Kerry Watkins.

In retrospect, the Yellow Jackets could appear in a BCS bowl if Joe

Burns was healthy for Joe Hamilton's final season, however, Shawn Gregory did turn in a very impressive performance last year. He is definitely our Mr Everything on offense.

The Duct Tape Award on Defense has to go to senior Safety/Cornerback Chris Young. His move from Safety to Cornerback might have been the key change to led to Tech's season ending seven game winning streak, turning in his best performance against Clemson.

One of our sports columnists.

George Godsey Counting the Victories



By David Dittmar / Special to the 'Nique
George Godsey is captured mocking the fans as the clock winds down. Godsey passed for 209 yards in the victory, capping a 9-2 season under his watch, and leading Tech to its first Peach Bowl since 1978.



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Freshman forward Robert Brooks (Saginaw, Mich.) looks to contribute strongly as a reserve, bringing toughness and athletic ability to the table.

Men

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Davidson suffered the same fate as Charleston Southern as Tech dominated the game with a flurry of threes on offense and a full court press on defense. In one series, Tech forced turnovers in three consecutive possessions and converted them into easy baskets, bringing the crowd in the Thrillerdome to their feet.

Alvin Jones continued to impress as he turned in 15 points along with 14 rebounds and 5 blocks in

just 27 minutes of action. However, the star of the game was freshman Marvin Lewis who led all scorers with 22 points.

He did it in a very impressive fashion by shooting an amazing 6 for 7 from behind the three point line. Tech also took care of the ball better against Davidson, committing only 10 turnovers while forcing 16 from Davidson.

Marvin Lewis' strong performance in these two games did not go unnoticed as he was named ACC Rookie of the Week.

Friedgen leaves for head coaching job at Maryland

By Jody Shaw
Managing Editor

Ralph Freidgen, offensive coordinator for the Yellow Jacket football team for the past three seasons, accepted a head coaching position at his alma mater, University of Maryland earlier this week. Maryland athletic director Deborah Yow introduced the man popularly known as “the Fridge” as the newest Terps coach at a Wednesday press conference.

Considered by many to be the top assistant in football, the decision by Friedgen to leave Tech concludes his second tour of duty with the Jackets. He engineered Tech’s offense from 1987-91 when Tech won its most recent national championship in 1990.

After claiming a share of the national title, Friedgen left along with Coach Bobby Ross to coach the NFL’s San Diego Chargers. Friedgen served as running game coordinator for two seasons before being promoted to offensive coordinator in 1994. That season the Friedgen-designed offense advanced the Chargers to their first-ever Super Bowl appearance.

Freidgen returned to Tech in 1997 to lead the Jacket offense to the top of the national rankings under Quarterback Joe Hamilton. The 1999 squad finished ranked No. 1 nationally in total

offence with 509 yards per game and ranked No. 2 in scoring with over 40 points per game. Friedgen crowned that year by winning the Frank Broyles Award for the nation’s top assistant.

Friedgen’s exit abruptly ends his association with the Jackets, who will play in the Peach Bowl on December 29 without “the Fridge.”

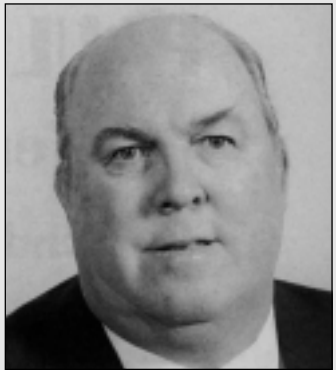


Photo courtesy GT Sports Information
Ralph Friedgen is leaving Tech to coach Maryland’s Terrapins.

“I am taking over today and not looking back. I am going to full speed ahead but I have some regrets about [leaving Tech] because it is hard to leave a team that played so well last year and overachieved as a team. It is a team that has a chance to win 10 football games, but this is my opportunity and I feel bad for those

young men, but they will understand,” said Friedgen.

Friedgen takes over a Maryland team that went 5-6 during its 2000 campaign, but came close to qualifying for the postseason. Were it not for consecutive losses to UNC and Tech to close out the season, the Terrapins would be bowl bound—a fact that seems to encourage Friedgen.

“I want our football team to be good in all areas. Not only offense, defense, and special teams, but I also want them to be good in the classroom. I want them to excel in everything they do in the interest of life. I can promise you we will be exciting. We will have an exciting offense, an attacking and very aggressive defense and we will play good special teams,” said Friedgen.

The six-year contract Friedgen signed pays him \$175,000 a year, a significant decrease from the \$200,000 he was paid by Tech, where he was earned the highest assistant coaching salary in the Atlantic Coast Conference. It appears, however, that timing was more important than the salary.

“I think timing is everything...now is the right time. I feel the momentum around here and I feel good about the University as well, and I am the guy and the right time and am very excited,” said Friedgen.

Tennessee, South Carolina among the likely opponents for December 29 Peach Bowl

By Gary Bridges
Assistant Sports Editor

Oregon and Boston College will be flying thousands of miles to get to Hawaii’s Aloha Bowl. Air Force and Arkansas will go west to Sin City to play in the Las Vegas Bowl.

And the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets will be traveling all of 1.8 miles downtown to the Georgia Dome to play in the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl. Perhaps the team could take a brisk warm-up jog from Tech campus instead of their usual tour bus ride to away games.

Anyway, the Peach Bowl takes place on December 29 at 5 p.m. ET and will be broadcast on ESPN.

Tech’s opponent is unknown at this time. The Jackets victim will be decided by the SEC Championship game being played this Saturday. Either Tennessee or South Carolina will face off against Tech in its own backyard.

The 9-2 Jacket’s are ranked 18th in the Coaches Poll and should be able to easily disassemble either one of these two teams. Tennessee is ranked 8-3 and ranked 21st in the nation. They fell to Georgia 21-10, the very same UGa that Tech demolished 27-15 last weekend.

The Jackets should have no trou-

ble spanking the 7-3 Gamecocks. While South Carolina certainly deserves credit for ending their 21-game losing streak with such a good season, they are unranked and will be destroyed on the Dirty Birds’ home field.

Tech has had a phenomenal season, especially for one that was thought by most to be a rebuilding year. George Godsey has stepped up and done an amazing job filling the Joe Hamilton’s shoes. He has the third highest pass efficiency in the nation- a very impressive stat for a first year starter.

One cannot help but think back on the season and ask “what if?” Without the loss to NC State, GT would be a major BCS player.

But one thing this humble assistant sports editor would like to see was a rescheduled game against Virginia Tech.

May lightning strike me if I’m wrong, but Tech would definitely give the Hokies a run for their money this late in the season, a feat which they probably could not have managed for a season opener.

No matter who the Jackets face in the Peach Bowl this December, they will be bring one thing rare to the Georgia Dome- a win for the home team.

Volleyball dominates bulldogs, looks ahead to NCAA Tournament



By Dale Russell / STUDENT PUBLICATION
Hitter Eida Mabry serves up one of two aces to close the second game against Georgia.

By *Genay Jones*
Blah Blah Blah Milli

Could anything be better than a win against the poultry science, scientific illustration, printmaking, crop science, and dance education institution some 70 miles to the north? On Friday night prior to the football’s team encounter with the Bulldawg Nation, Yellow Jacket volleyball dismantled the Spike Dawgs in three straight sets. Tech’s second straight victory in the rivalry came via a 15-8, 15-9, 15-9 scoreline.

After the match head coach Shelton Collier mused, “I think this match accomplished our goal of carrying some momentum into the NCAA Tournament next week and also our goal of winning the rivalry over Georgia.” The Jackets got strong performances from Maja Pachale, who had 17 kills, and Eida Mabry, who had 13 kills. Senior Teryl Townsend had 10 kills in her final regular season match. The Jackets were coming off a 3-2 loss to Duke University in the semifinals of the ACC Tournament.

Going into the match Coach Collier declared the season ending game to be extremely significant. “This is a very important match for a

number of reasons; one is the Georgia-Georgia Tech rivalry and what a match like that means for that reason alone. Secondly, our team needs to take some momentum into the NCAA Tournament after a disappointing performance in the ACC Tournament.” Coach Collier emphasized the importance of Yellow Jacket Volleyball contributing to the athletic rivalry with the University. “Georgia Tech volleyball wants to be one of the sports that beats Georgia.”

Games one and two began with the Lady Jackets silencing the home crowd with leads of 3-0 and 6-0. In the first game, errors led to points for both teams with Tech eventually grinding out a 12-6 lead. The game was won on a stuff block from Townsend and Pachale. The up and down nature of the game allowed the Lady Jackets to display an enormous amount of energy and spirit. Tech won game two with yet another stuff block from Kyleen Bell and Kele Eveland which caused the several hundred Tech fans, mostly from the Swarm, to erupt into expressions of glee and a chorus of the Budweiser song.

In the final game, the Spike Dawgs ran out to a 3-0 lead

via some strong serving and Tech mistakes. The Jackets regrouped to wrestle a 9-6 lead from the Spike Dawgs. Two service aces from Mabry gave the Jackets their second win over the puppies in as many games.

On Sunday night, as the entire Institute basked in a third win over the football Dawgs (Thanks, George!), Yellow Jacket Volleyball was selected to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1996. The team returns to Fort Collins, Colorado to face the Colorado Buffaloes. Coach Collier says, “I think the Georgia Tech-Colorado match will be one of the most competitive of all the first round matches in the tournament.” The Jackets almost won the Coors Light Classic in the same gym back in September.

Tech will be looking to make its first foray past the second round of the NCAA tournament having posted a 3-3 record since the tourney’s inception. Should the Jackets win, their second round opponent would most likely be the Colorado State, who faces Radford in the first round. The Jackets lost the Classic to the Rams, and would surely look forward to a rematch.



By Dale Russell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
Hitter Maja Pachale flexed her All-ACC muscles, registering 17 kills on the bulldogs.

Women take two victories at home in Marriot Northwest Championship

By David Williams
I'll miss him

The Georgia Tech Women's Basketball Team set the year off right winning two games in a row en route to taking home the Marriot Northwest Championship. The annual classic is hosted by Tech every Thanksgiving as they invite three other teams to challenge for the title.

Fortunately, Tech was hitting on all cylinders downing Cornell 74-68 in the first round and taking out Mt. Saint Mary's of Maryland 102-90 in the Championship.

Things did not start out well for GT as Cornell (1-2) shot ablistering 60 percent from the field in the first half. That 60 percent included going 6-10 from three point land. Tech trailed by as much as 12 points, but they did not panic closing the gap to 40-37 by halftime on the strength

of five offensive rebounds in the last 2:14 of action.

A Milli Martinez jumper and Fallon Stokes free throw finally gave the Yellow Jackets the lead with 7:02 remaining in the second half. Tech then went on a 12-3 run to make the score 65-54, and they never looked back in making it to the Championship game.

Milli Martinez shot a very nice 5-8 for 11 points while Butler finished 7-20 for 20 points. Senior Jaimie Kruppa almost had a double double grabbing nine rebounds and scoring 15 points on 5-12 shooting.

Memphis native Tamika Boatner had a career game grabbing 15 rebounds and scoring 14 points in 32 minutes of action. It could have been more had she not gone 3-9 from the line but that is sure to improve as she is starting to show signs of the game that made her a

finalist for the National High School Player of the Year.

Poor foul shooting plagued the whole Tech team as they shot a dismal 15-31 for the game. The good point for Tech was they made the free throws when they counted going 6-10 in the final minute as Cornell cut the lead to five. Also in favor of Tech was the fact they used their size to grab 50 rebounds as opposed to Cornell's 29. Katie Romen had 15 points for the opposing Big Red in the loss.

Tech thus entered the Championship game with the first game of the year jitters out of the way and focused on the title. The scoring attack was again balanced with six players scoring in double figures led by the "Swedish Sensation" Nina Barlin who set a career high with 22 points. Said Barlin, "I got lucky. A lot of shots fell for me." You don't go 7-11 from the field and 7-9 from the line on "luck" but if that is what it takes then Tech needs more.

Continuing her hot play was Martinez who posted a double double with 18 points and a game high 10 rebounds which is exceptional for any player and her being a guard makes it all the better. Boatner added 16 while sophomore Alex Stewart skeeted her way to 14 points. Butler added 12 on 5-12 shooting.

The game was close throughout with Tech only holding a two point advantage at half time. St. Mary's senior Kia Williams was a huge problem for the Yellow Jackets as she scored a total of 31 points the most important of them cutting Tech's lead to three with 7:15 remaining in the game. Fortunately, Tech prevailed never letting Williams and company get any closer en route to the victory. Boatner garnered MVP honors for the tourney while Martinez and Butler made the All-Tournament Team. Tech also improved its free throw shooting going 27-36 from the charity stripe, a 75% clip. In the consolation game, Cornell beat Winthrop 59-44. Katie Romen had 19 for the Big Red.

Thus, Tech had some issues to address before heading into their matchup with crosstown rival Georgia State Wednesday. Unfortunately, results were not in before press time but hopefully some of the problems will be resolved. Some of the things Tech must shore up on their



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATION

Sophomore guard Nina Barlin, a native of Sweden, had a breakout game against Cornell, shooting 7-11 from the floor and 7-9 from the line.

way to the NCAA Tournament is their depth. Tech had an abundance at the beginning of the year but have lost three players definitely for reasons undisclosed to the public. A fourth player, senior forward Regina Tate, who is good for 14 points, 10 rebounds, and a ton of leadership is out indefinitely with an injury to her right foot.

To cap it all off, Beranato has not really gotten a chance to use center Sonja Mallory who will be

needed against bigger teams like Georgia, Duke, and Mississippi State. But, the team is 2-0 and has the ability to rally together even stronger in the face of adversity as this writer still feels they will win the ACC. One thing this team does have is outstanding guard play and that can take a team a long way. Check out the Lady Yellow Jackets as they make their way towards national prominence. Admission is free with a student ID.



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATION

Guard Milli Martinez posted big numbers in the Marriot Northwest Championship final, notching 18 points and a game high 10 rebounds.

SPORTS

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Friedgen departs

Offensive coordinator departs for Maryland head coaching job.
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Volleyball Update

The team matches football with a UGA victory and post-season date.
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Dawgs pounded in Athens, series streak at three

After setting the stage with a first half 27-3 pounding, the defense dug in to deal Georgia their third defeat in as many years

By Rob Kischuk
Departing Sports Editor

This year's Tech team was supposed to be fighting for bowl-eligibility, while Georgia was expected to be a top-ten team with a star quarterback. Saturday, the role-reversal was brought to completion.

Tech showed both a face of dominance and one of complacency. Fortunately, the latter came on on the heels of a 27-3 halftime lead, which the team rode to a 27-15 victory over their bitter in-state rivals for their third win in as many years.

The 41 degree game-time cold embodied the chill between teams and the tension in the air. The uncertainty that comes with rivalry games was quickly silenced when, on Tech's first drive, quarterback George Godsey kept the ball on an option to the left side and the dawg defenders en route to a 33-yard touchdown run.

Godsey was jubilant, saying, "I don't think they expected it. I don't think I broke one that far in practice."

In the first half, Georgia's offense struck for 157 yards of total offense and 9 first downs against Tech's 288 yards and 14 first downs. Each team gave up two interceptions in the half, but a well timed hit on Georgia quarterback Cory Phillips forced a fumble to negate one of them, and the solid Tech defense accounted for the rest.

Phillips, a mid-season substitute for injured former-Heisman hopeful Quincy Carter came into the game praised as every bit as able as Carter and more mobile, but questionable decision making proved to be a fatal flaw against a swarming Tech defense.

Godsey continued to dominate as he has in the latter half of the season, winging the ball for 187 first half yards for two touchdowns. He finishes the regular season in the

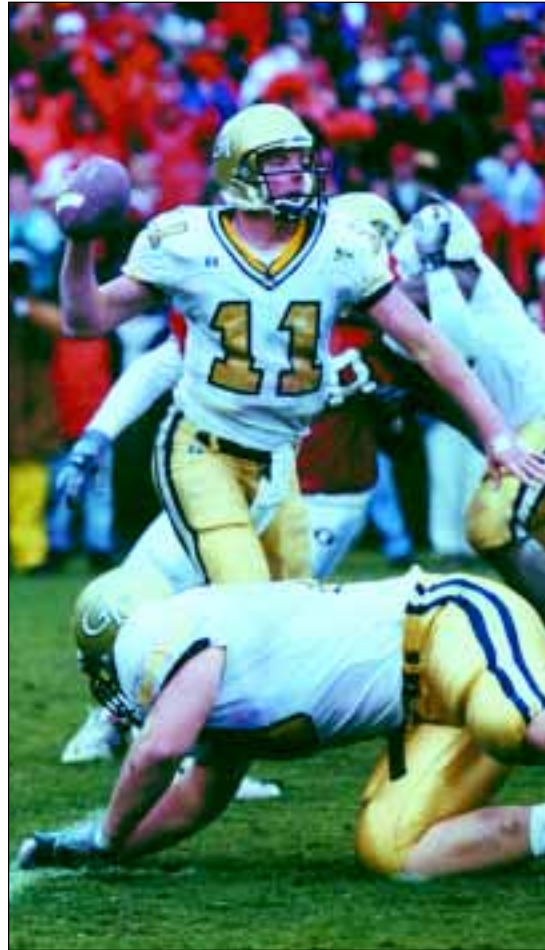


By Daniel Uhlig / Student Publications

Joe Burns led the offense in establishing the ground game with 3.2 yards per carry and 83 yards rushing.

top ten in passing efficiency, a feat unexpected by critics and fans alike, particularly when he was splitting time with reserves Jermaine Crenshaw and Andy Hall.

The first half was a battle of field position, and Tech won overwhelmingly. Georgia struggled largely due to a failure to establish the ground game, averaging less than a yard per carry in the first half with 12 yards on 13 carries. Coach George O'Leary indicated that this result was entirely intentional, saying, "You have to take either the run or the pass game away, and we wanted to make Cory Phillips beat us in the air."



By Bill Allen / Student Publications

Quarterback George Godsey capped his junior season treating Georgia like Wake Forest or Maryland.

the offense to grind out the clock and grant the opponent some dignity.

Godsey said, "I think with a big lead, you tend to relax, even if you don't want to."

Both sides of the ball seemed to tone down a bit, paced largely by the offense's switch to a heavy mix of run plays in the play-calling, but also due to stifling defensive tactics by the dawgs.

O'Leary added, "I think they made some good second half adjustments."

The tide truly turned on the arm of Phillips, with passing plays out-

numbering running plays 43-5. The prevent minded play-calling was worked thoroughly by a flurry of passes to the flat. These dump passes were the workhorse that carried the offense to 15 first downs in the second half and 300 yards in the air.

Phillips was able to avoid the blunders that derailed the offense in the first half each time it showed signs of life, and Tech's ground game was not enough to move the chains and retain possession of the ball.

Much of the fault for the Georgia loss can be placed squarely on the shoulders of head coach Jim Donnan, who has yet to prove his ability to competently coach in a big game.

From the South Carolina game to last year's Jasper Sanks fumble play (should have called for a field goal), he has blown big calls. Here, with a touchdown in hand to bring the tally to 27-9, Donnan elects to go for the two-point conversion, to no logic and no avail. This forces another such attempt on the ensuing touchdown, 27-15, and later forces him to attempt (and fail) to convert a 4th and 9 situation instead of attempting the chip shot field goal.

Go for the easy play in all of these situations instead of trying to prove a point, and it's a one possession game at 27-20. Combine this with the wasted time-outs that allowed Tech to grind out 4:15 of fourth-quarter clock in gaining a single first down.

This year's renewal of the rivalry may have left the dawgs crying of shame, but at least they can't complain about a single play.

The dominance on the scoreboard leaves little room for debate, except that the hope for next year has begun already. Our potential is being called into question without the presence of offensive genius Ralph Friedgen. Don't count on it, Georgia, this is still O'Leary's team, and we're running out of fingers.

Sports Commentary

Smart kids deserve good bowls

By Genay Jones
Also getting out

Yet again the Institute has marched through football season and the Bulldawg Nation. Tech will stay home in the Dome for the ACC's #3 slot Peach Bowl. We're second in the conference, but who wants to go back to Jacksonville, even U[sic]GA doesn't like doing that. (Gator Bait) Thank you Duke, Wake, and Maryland for the ACC's perceived weakness.

We're staying home because John Swofford, ACC commissioner, didn't lobby for a bowl upgrade. Clemson or FSU will probably be in a similar situation next year. Dear John: I know Carolina

wasn't good when you were a student, but please get a better bowl game for the ACC second place team. Catching up with the Criminoles means teams deserve more.

Also, can someone tell me why the press can't respect schools that are academic powerhouses? Northwestern got shafted because Michigan beat Ohio State. Again. Um, did the press miss that thriller at Ryan Field?

NU and Tech both deserve to be in better bowls. The Cats in Orlando; Tech ought to be in Dallas.

Just another case of disrespecting those who kick butt and take initials, we're not stopping for names, on and off the field.

Men's basketball team taking care of business

By Joseph Jeong
Reliable and stuff

While everyone else was taking a break and enjoying a long Thanksgiving break, Georgia Tech Men's basketball team were busy taking care of business in the Thrillerdome as they began their inaugural season under new head coach, Paul Hewitt.

"Clients" to this new "business" came in the form of the men's basketball team of Charleston Southern and Davidson. Both teams were handled methodically and effectively as Tech beat them 85 - 62 and 92 - 61 respectively.

Both games displayed Coach Hewitt's trademark style of up-tempo wide open offense and stifling pressure defense. He also kept his promise of going deep into the rotations as all 12 players on the roster saw some

playing time. Also encouraging was the marked improvement in free throw shooting under Coach Hewitt. Tech made an impressive 84.2% and respectable 72.0% of their shots from behind the charity stripe against Charleston Southern and Davidson respectively.

Against Charleston Southern, Alvin Jones continued to assert himself on the court as he dominated the paint. He led all players with 21 points and also contributed 9 rebounds and 5 blocks. Tony Akins continues to develop as a floor general scoring 15 points and had 8 assists (to 2 turnovers) and 4 steals.

Despite dominating the game and never really being threatened by Charleston Southern, Tech's play was marred by sloppy ballhandling and passing as they committed 18 turnovers.



By Daniel Uhlig / Student Publications

Alvin Jones takes the ball to the rack, continuing his low-post dominance on both ends of the court.

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