

## Thompson loses in second round

Tech graduate and golfer Nicholas Thompson lost to Davie Van der Walt of South Africa in the second round of the U.S. Amateur Golf Championship. After 15 holes of the 18-hole match, the two golfers were all square. Thompson bogeyed the 430-yard par-four 16th to give Van der Walt the one hole advantage.

Each golfer parred the par-three 17th, which made Van der Walt dormie going in to 18. Thompson and Van der Walt tied with bogeys on the last hole to give Van der Walt the 1-up victory in the match.

Van der Walt won his next match to advance to the quarterfinals, where he lost to the eventual champion Edoardo Molinari from Italy.

Last year Thompson advanced to the round of 16, which was the furthest a Tech student had advanced since 1997 when Matt Kuchar won the title.

## 91

The number of times that Auburn and Tech have played each other in football. The only opponent Tech has played more times is Georgia.

Tech's all-time record against Auburn is 40-47-4. The two teams last faced each other in 2003, when Tech took the home victory 17-3.

Prior to that the last time Auburn played Tech was in 1987 when Auburn won 20-10 to cap nine years of consecutive victories over the Jackets.

## 16

The pre-season ranking of Auburn's football team according to the AP Poll. Georgia Tech received votes, but did not make the top 25 teams nationally.

In the *USA Today* Poll Auburn ranked No. 15. In both polls, USC, Texas and Tennessee finished first, second and third, respectively.

# Auburn rivals UGA as Tech foe

By Patrick Odneal  
*Sports Editor*

I didn't believe it myself when I found out that there was once a day when Tech students actually rooted for Georgia.

Here's the story. The year 1892 was the inaugural year for football in the Deep South. That season Tech's entire season consisted of just three games that were played throughout the month of November. Tech lost all three.

Earlier that year, in the month of February, Auburn played Georgia, and Tech students showed up to root for Georgia. Then in November, Auburn beat Tech 26-0. So from the very beginning, Auburn and Tech were never on the same side.

That first Tech vs. Auburn game in 1892 was the beginning of a long and storied rivalry between the Jackets and the Tigers, a rivalry that few students today are aware

ever existed.

By 1894 Tech and Georgia had developed "Clean Old-Fashioned Hate" for each other in football. (The baseball rivalry with UGA pre-dates the football rivalry.) The Auburn and Georgia rivalry coupled with the Auburn and Tech rivalry would lay a foundation for many years of battle to come for the three teams.

The 1896 game between Auburn and Tech was highlighted by one of the most amazing acts of buffoonery I've ever heard of. It's unfortunate that Tech students were the victims, but I applaud the Auburn students' creativity.

Auburn students, the story goes, greased the railroad tracks the night before the Tech team train was due. The next morning, as the Train tried to stop, it slid all the way through the city of Auburn and only stopped about five miles later. The Tech team had to walk back to Auburn, and Auburn won the game 45-0.

Auburn and Tech went through the first half of the 20th century as SEC rivals, and the teams continued to play each other when Tech moved to the ACC. Unfortunately the series stopped in 1987, after Auburn had beaten Tech nine times in a row.

In 2003 the rivalry was revived and Tech upset Auburn 17-3. As Tech students tore down the goal posts and carried them to President Clough's house, it was hard for onlookers not to taste sweet revenge for the losses in the 1980s.

Auburn hasn't lost to a non-SEC team since that 2003 loss to Tech, and they currently carry a 15-game winning streak.

The rivalry is something the players are aware of, and, though it will never compare to the rivalry with Georgia, the added attention that fans give this game make it all the more enjoyable to watch. This season Tech plays its two main rivals to start and end the season.

Come to the Photo staff meetings ... Thursday at 6 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building

# Davis returns for final season

By Michael Clarke  
Senior Staff Writer

Dennis Davis has been given a second chance at his senior season and is determined to make the most of it. Davis was ranked as the No. 14 cornerback in the nation out of high school, where he played on both sides of the ball. Whether it's football, track or academics, Davis strives to make the most out of life.

After dislocating his right shoulder twice during last year's Clemson game, Davis has been given a second shot at his senior season. Davis

opted for surgery after the North Carolina game and was granted a medical hardship by the NCAA allowing him a fifth year of eligibility.

"It means everything," Davis said. "This is my senior year, so I need to be able to come back and enjoy it rather than have it taken away from me. I'm going to take full advantage of the blessing that I have."

Once the decision to apply for a hardship was made, the waiting began on the official ruling, but the process was explained to Davis early on.

"It was after the second game when we made the decision [to red-shirt]," Davis said. "I went ahead and played the third game because [the coaches] already knew the rules and regulations of how far I could go. They knew that I would be good with that game. Coach Tenuta had a meeting with Coach Gailey, and they called around to the proper authorities explaining them the situation

and how much I played."

Despite the experience of Coach Gailey and the rest of the coaching staff, Davis's father remained concerned about whether his son would play this season, because the NCAA doesn't make a ruling on medical hardship cases until all games have been completed.

"I wasn't really worried about it, but my dad was the one that was nervous," Davis said. "He doesn't calm down until he gets something on paper."

In addition to being in his final season on the flats, Davis is also in his

final semester as an undergraduate. He is currently taking his final five classes and is expected to graduate in December with a degree in Management.

The players selected and voted on a motto for the upcoming season, "Team/Me" (pronounced, "Team over Me.") The team unveiled the motto last Saturday at the Fan Photo Day.

Davis mentioned that the motto reflects a new mindset of the football team.

"In the past years, we talked about being to this many straight bowls, but we're not accepting that this year. We're definitely trying to get to the

National Championship and the ACC Championship," he said.

"When you set your standards that high, then it becomes a team thing rather than an individual thing. It's no longer about stats. Now it's just about helping the team win. It's not that the bowls weren't fun. It's that we want more than that. It wasn't satisfying enough," he said.

Run and hit, team over me, everything or nothing, sacrifice is a whole season thing. All are different sayings, but they all are various mottos that the Tech players and coaching staff are using for motivation.

"There were a bunch of little things, but they all basically mean the same thing," Davis said. "We have to do whatever we have to do to get to where the team wants to go."

Davis is one of the fastest players on the football team, and he uses his speed as a member of the track team also.

Davis finished second in the 200-meter dash at the 2003 ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships. While a lot of people would be satisfied, he has never been.

"It meant that I didn't do well enough," Davis said. "I didn't win. Second in the ACC was something that I never was satisfied with. I was mad at myself because I thought that I

should have won the race if I would have run the race better."

When Davis was at Edgewood Regional High School in Sicklerville, N.J. he won the state championship

**"When you set your standards that high, then it becomes a team thing rather than an individual thing. It's no longer about stats. Now it's just about helping the team win."**

**Dennis Davis**  
Senior cornerback



By Matt Emerick / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

**Early Season Lacrosse Practice:** Last year the men's lacrosse club team finished 10-5 and were the Southeastern Lacrosse Conference champions for the second time in the club's history. The team practices twice a week on the Roe Stamps Field next to the CRC.

in the 100 meters, and he was also named the New Jersey sprinter of the year on two separate occasions.

"As far as Georgia Tech is concerned, track is a second thing for me," Davis said. "I wanted to run an outdoor season, but it's conflicted with the spring. Anytime that it's time for football I can't run track because I'm on a football scholarship.

This isn't high school where I have this season to dedicate to football and this to dedicate to track. I enjoy it almost as much as football."

The football team opens their season tomorrow at Auburn. Davis, at cornerback, will be a part of the Jackets renowned defense. The last time the two teams met, Auburn didn't score a touchdown.

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**V-ball** from page 32

them takes after an All-American that left in their own way but creating a new All-American at Georgia Tech at the same time.”

For 2005, Head Coach Bond Shymansky has brought in Tech volleyball’s most highly touted recruiting class in his three years as head coach.

This year’s freshman recruiting class includes six players: Laura DeMichelis, outside hitter from Aurora, Colorado; Allie Niekamp, who is slated to take over the setter role in her coming years at Tech; Callie Miller, a 6’1” middle blocker from Toledo; Michelle Kandell, libero and defensive specialist; Talisa

Kellogg, a 6’1” outside hitter; and finally, walk-on Stephanie Robbins, who has gotten rave reviews from Laband in practice.

Commenting on the size of the recruiting class, Laband said, “It’s so much fun to be a part of that, and me helping them out is really just trying to make that ball perfect for them technique-wise so they can get good technical swings in every time, mainly since they’re all hitters.”

Part of Laband’s role on the team in practice is to act as a mentor to the younger players, which includes teaching the players who will replace her next season.

Niekamp could be Laband’s replacement a year from now. “She’s so much further along than I was my freshman year. She has perfect hands

and I wish I had her hands.”

As one of two seniors on the squad, Laband assumes a leadership

**“Having this love for the game and having this passion to go for every ball is the cornerstone of...Tech volleyball.”**

**Lindsey Laband**  
Senior setter

role with classmate Jennifer Randall, who Laband is happy to have anchoring the backline. “She started every

single game since her freshmen year and she deserves more credit because I look to her and I’m like, ‘I need this ball. I need a perfect pass’. I’m always yelling ‘Serve, Jen, serve!’ She’s such a gamer and when she gets on the court, she’s always 100 percent focused.”

The team will open the season on the road in Arizona against three tough teams in Northwestern, Arizona and Winthrop, all teams that could jump out to an early lead on the young Tech squad.

“I think we’re all a little bit nervous when we’re down a little bit in a game,” Laband said. “It’s just a momentum game and it swings constantly. Maintaining our momentum is something we have to do. We have to focus on the next ball.”

Despite a team that is still developing a feel for game-like intensity, Laband feels that team chemistry is where it needs to be to compensate for the lack of experience on the team. Passion for the game, Laband said, drives this team chemistry.

“Having this love for the game and having this passion to go for every ball is the cornerstone of Georgia Tech volleyball. Bond talked about how there’s choices and there’s effort in practice. You’re going to choose to do something or you’re going to do it. We just do it,” Laband said.

The success of the team in the past few years as shown the success of having such a mentality

The Jackets home opener is Sept. 9 at 7:30 p.m. against George Washington.

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The Tigers are trying to continue a 15-game winning streak. The team will have to replace three members of their secondary as well as having to initiate a new quarterback in Brandon Cox. Cox was limited to mop-up detail last year behind Jason Campbell (below) and completed 22 of 34 passes for four touchdowns with two interceptions. This team is coming into the game after feeling slighted for the national championship game as well as being ranked lower than an undefeated team should.

“Experienced quarterbacks are usually much better in opening games than nonstarters like [Cox]. That is an advantage that they will have over us.”

**Tommy Tuberville**  
Auburn head coach speaking on quarterbacks



# AUBURN VS. GEORGIA TECH

By Michael Clarke  
*Senior Staff Writer*

## Four Key Questions

• **Will Cox overcome injury and get into a rhythm at the helm of his Auburn offense?**

After being held out or limited in several practices this fall, the sophomore QB enters Saturday’s game as the starter. Cox almost had his playing career come to an end because of poor circulation problems in his throwing arm. The Auburn coaching staff has resorted to having him throw a Nerf ball between series to keep their quarterback’s arm from stiffening up.

If Cox is able to find his rhythm early, the Jackets could be in for a long day. Defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta must keep Cox off balance and make life difficult on the new quarterback. Auburn’s offensive line must play a solid game to keep Tech’s front from racking up some sacks, and not allowing Cox to get in a throwing rhythm.

• **Can Tech hold on to an early lead for the entire game?**

An Achilles Heel for the Jackets has been the propensity to play not to lose once they get a lead on an opponent. Look no further than the Florida State game in 2003 and last year’s Thursday night Virginia Tech game. The Auburn squad, with a 15-game winning streak, knows how to play a complete four quarters.

If the Jackets go up early, the offense must not become conservative, but instead do the same things that got them the lead initially. If the Jackets have a lead they need to be able to go in for the kill instead of relying on the defense to hold a lead.

• **Who gains the advantage when one team’s strengths are another team’s weaknesses?**

Tech has an experienced quarterback in Reggie Ball and great receivers in Calvin Johnson and Damarius Bilbo, both with big-game experience. They will be facing three new starters in the Tiger’s secondary.

Auburn has one of the best front seven lineups in the nation, but the Jackets have an inexperienced, though talented, offensive line. The Tigers must unveil a new quarterback and backfield against a seasoned Jacket defense that has been together for a few years.

• **Will someone in Tech’s receiving corps step up and take advantage of Calvin Johnson being double teamed?**

Calvin Johnson will get his yards as he is around six inches taller than Auburn’s tallest defensive back. With all the attention that will be on Calvin, another wide receiver must step up and take advantage of being under the radar screen. If no receiver does this, the Tigers will be able to concentrate solely on Johnson and will be able to win the game even with a young and inexperienced secondary.

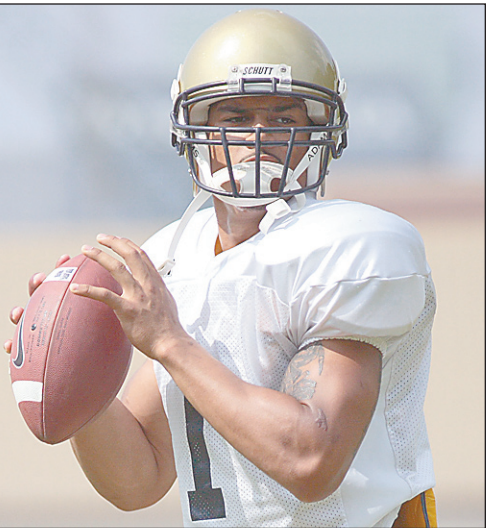
## Spread: Auburn by 3



The Jackets start this season in search of answers to several questions. The Jackets must find a way to piece together an offensive line and to find another receiver in addition to Calvin Johnson. For the second consecutive year, the Jackets are coming off an impressive victory in a bowl game after going through the off-season with heightened expectations. For the first time in a while there is a buzz around a team that is playing perhaps the toughest schedule in its 113-year history.

“It takes everybody to win. The quarterback could play great, but if everybody else doesn’t, it doesn’t matter.”

**Chan Gailey**  
In response to the idea that the success of the team relies solely on the success of the quarterback



Come to our weekly staff meetings:  
7PM Tuesday  
Room 137 of the Flag Building



## SPORTS

Technique • Friday, September 2, 2004

## AUBURN RIVALRY RUNS DEEP

College football starts tomorrow, and Tech will play an old-time rival in front of a national audience on ESPN. Page 26

## CENTER OF CHANGE

The first floor of the Student Center gets a facelift. Learn what else is changing other than the ATMs. Page 1



## Eye on the Tiger



## Students can gather today to send off team

The Jackets try to upset the Auburn Tigers, winners of their past 15 games, tomorrow night, under the lights, as both teams begin the 2005 football season. The team leaves today, and students are invited to gather by the north entrance to the stadium on Bobby Dodd Way, going up Freshman Hill. The bus will leave at 3 p.m., and students are encouraged to start gathering at 2:30 p.m. See **Football Preview**, page 31.

By Scott Meuleners / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Volleyball returns to action  
*Young team heads to Arizona to begin season*By Vishal Patel  
Staff Writer

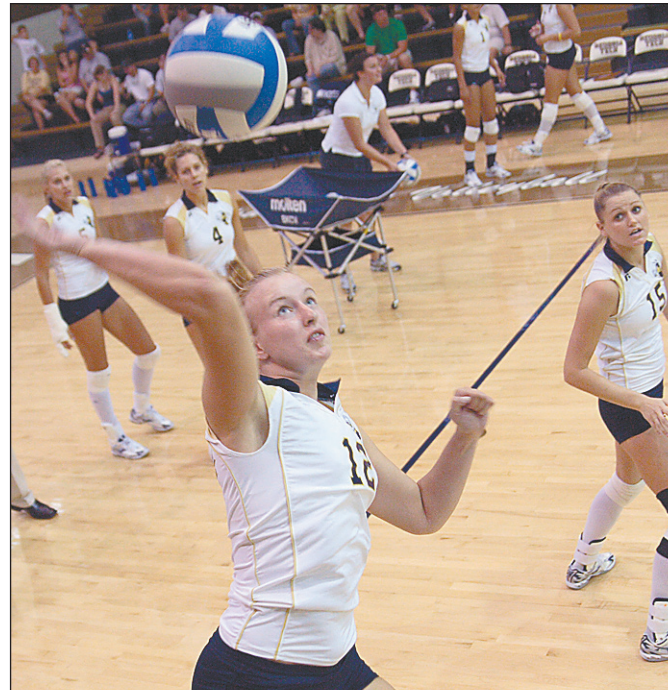
Looking to start the season off on the right foot, the women's volleyball squad will open the season today away from home for the second straight season in a challenging tournament on the road. Last year, they came away without wins until returning to friendly confines of O'Keefe Gymnasium.

This year, however, looks to be different through the voice and hands of senior setter Lindsey Laband, who anchors a talented front line with returning starter Ulrike Stegemann, a sophomore middle hitter from Germany.

"It's different than any other year with so many people and different people playing different positions. We definitely intend to lay out the new face of Georgia Tech volleyball and definitely prove people wrong because a lot of people don't know anything and they don't really understand how we're going to do it again. I think that's the fun part," Laband said.

Laband doesn't talk about personal goals as individual ambitions. For her, personal goals are team goals. On the court, Laband concerns herself with leading the team vocally and making sure she's doing her job: setting up the big kills for the front line.

This year's team is much different from last year's veteran squad led by All-Americans Lynette Moster and Lauren Sauer, who



By Jamie Howell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Sophomore Ulrike Stegemann goes for the spike in warm-ups. She returns as middle hitter for a young Tech team.

now plays a critical role on the women's basketball squad, as well as Jayme Gergen, who was recently hired as an assistant coach in Blacksburg for Virginia Tech. Losing such soon-to-be-legendary talent doesn't scare Laband, who banks on the combined talent of the underclassmen to come together to continue the success of Tech volleyball.

"I think they have the potential to create a new kind of All-American at Georgia Tech," said the star setter who led the nation in assists per game in her

first full season last year and who also earned her first All-American honor.

"[The team can get back] something different for what they bring to the table. Lynette [Moster] was really quiet but really focused and determined and made sure she got it done. Lauren [Sauer] was just so powerful and Jayme was quick and had a lot of heart. And that's one thing in that each player this year has something different and each of

See **V-ball**, page 29sports  
shorts

## Buzz named All-American mascot

Tech's lovable mascot Buzz has been named one of 12 mascots to the fourth annual Capital One All-America Mascot Team. Now Buzz will be competing for the mascot of the year award.

Fans can cast votes at [www.capitalonebowl.com](http://www.capitalonebowl.com) to vote for their favorite mascot. The fan vote is the sole determinant of the winner, and the contest consists of 11 weekly match-ups of the 12 All-Americans. The winner will be announced at the Capital One Bowl on Jan. 2.

The only other mascot from the ACC is Miami's Sebastian.

From the SEC Auburn's mascot Aubie, Tennessee's Smokey and South Carolina's Cocky also made the list.

"We created this contest to celebrate the unsung heroes of college football," said Pam Girardo at Capital One in a released statement. "These lovable characters have been cheering on their teams relentlessly, and now they need the favor returned."

## Rugby set to tackle Auburn

By Patrick Odneal  
Sports Editor

The football team won't be the only Tech team making a trip to play Auburn this weekend. The club rugby team opens their season at 1 p.m. tomorrow against Auburn.

Last spring these two teams faced each other, and Tech won the game 22-15.

The fall season for rugby is like a pre-season because only the spring games count toward playoff berths. The club plays in the USA Rugby South Division and made it to the playoffs last year for the first time since 1999.

Georgia Southern, Auburn and South Carolina all compete with Tech in the South Division.

The Tech Rugby Football Club has been scrumming on campus for more than 30 years and is one of Tech's newest traditions. They are renowned for being the main resident of the Burger Bowl, and their field reflects an overall down-and-dirty spirit of the team.

From talking to the players over the years, one gains a sense of the deep pride the team has both of their sport and of their team. They are quick to point out the consistency with which they beat Georgia's team, and they



By Christopher Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Tech Rugby Club travels to Auburn to begin the fall season, just hours before the two football teams will battle each other.

also mention the fact that rugby is a social sport, meaning that the same two teams who play against each other in the game will also hang out afterwards at parties.

Team coaches Dan MacDougald and Jason Parrish encourage

everyone interested to come out for the practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m., if only for the physical conditioning.

The vast majority of the players on the team have never played the sport before coming to college.

by the  
numbers  
8

The number of former Tech students who will be inducted into the Tech Sports Hall of Fame. Golfer Stewart Cink is the most nationally known of the athletes and was an All-American in 1995.

In his nine seasons on the PGA Tour, Cink has won four tournaments. He was a member of the 2001 and 2004 U.S. Ryder Cup team and a member of the 2000 and 2005 President's Cup team.

Two hall of fame inductees played more than 50 years ago, but have been strong supporters of Tech ever since. Henry Kalb was a baseball captain in 1947 and a four-year letter winner. He played in the 1943 season, then joined the Army for WWII. He returned for 1946-48 seasons, playing pitcher and right field.

Charlie Radford was basketball team manager for three years starting in 1950 and has supported the program ever since. He's been an intricate part of planning the alumni game since its inception in the 1985-86 season.