

# Cricket Club looks forward to new season

By **Suyog Mody**

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The Georgia Tech Cricket Club got a boost last year when GTCN broadcast the Cricket World Cup. The broadcast raised awareness of the sport and breathed new life into its popularity at Tech. But to most Tech students, cricket is still a mystery, a warped form of baseball. So before proceeding, a short description of the game and its rules is in order.

Cricket is a team sport for two teams of 11 players each. A formal game of cricket can last either an afternoon or several days. Although the game play and rules are very different, the basic concept of cricket is similar to that of baseball.

Teams bat in successive innings and attempt to score runs, while the opposing team fields and attempts to bring an end to the batting team's innings. After each team has batted an equal number of innings (either one or two, depending on conditions chosen before the game), the team with the most runs wins.

The ball used is a hard, cork and string ball, covered with leather. It is a bit like a baseball (in size and hardness), but the leather covering is thicker and joined in two hemispheres, not in a tennis ball pattern. The bat used has a blade made of willow, flat on one side, humped on the other for strength, attached to a sturdy cane handle. Pads, gloves, helmet and other protective gear are worn by batsmen to prevent injury

when struck by the ball.

A cricket field is a roughly elliptical area of flat grass, ranging in size from about 90 to 150 meters (100-160 yards) across, bounded by an obvious fence or other marker. In the center of the field, and usually aligned along the long axis of the ellipse, is the pitch, a carefully prepared rectangle of closely mown and rolled grass over hard packed earth.

The order in which the teams bat is determined by a coin toss. The captain of the side winning the toss may elect to bat or field first. All eleven players of the fielding team go out to field, two players of the batting team go out to bat. The remainder of the batting team waits off the field for their turn to bat. When ten batsmen are out,

no new batsmen remain to come in, and the inning is completed with one batsman remaining not out.

The roles of the teams then swap, and the team which fielded first gets to bat through an innings. When both teams have completed the agreed number of innings, the team which has scored the most runs wins.

Cricket is played in two very

distinct forms. The first is limited duration, in which a specific number of hours of playing time are allocated and each team plays two innings. The second is limited overs, in which each team plays one innings of a pre-determined number of overs. The International Cricket Council oversees all international cricket world-wide. Full members play Test matches. They are currently: Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Zimbabwe and Bangladesh. Associate members take part in the ICC Trophy. The top teams in this competition also compete in the World Cup.

Cricket has been played in the U.S. for several decades, and is now played in all 50 states with the

major cricket centers in New York, New Jersey, California, Florida, Chicago and Texas.

Currently there are 29 established leagues, 500 clubs and over 10,000 players. A national youth program was recently established. Cricket is being played mainly in public parks. There are approximately 200 pitches, most are mat wickets, a few are astro-turf and Southern

**“It would be nice to have more people join the Cricket Club and have a larger pool of players to choose from.”**

**Ahmad Mazhar**  
Cricket club president

California has four natural turf wickets. Cricket is still very much an amateur sport in the U.S. Tech, though, hosts a significant minority of international students from test playing nations. Around five years ago some of them got together and started the Cricket Club.

The idea behind the formation of the club was to make the international students feel more at home and at the same time, teach and familiarize local students with the game. The club started by hosting monthly games with their counterparts in UGA. After the first year, the membership of the club grew enough to form a team to play in the Atlanta Georgia Cricket League.

Although the Tech team hasn't won any league titles yet, they have performed well against most recognized teams. Ahmad Mazhar, GTCC president who has been a member of GTCC since he was a freshman, is excited about the prospects of the team. “We have a good chance of winning most of our games this season. However, it would be nice to have more people join the Cricket Club and to have a larger pool of players to choose from. Telecast of the cricket world cup on the campus cable network boosted cricket's popularity last year.”

“Most of our club members are international students, but we would like to be more diverse and get members from all countries to enjoy cricket just like we do,” Mazhar said.

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to the pro game if they want to be successful. For Jason the biggest changes were that “we didn't have school to worry about. Tech is no cakewalk for anybody, and it really doesn't matter what majors you're in because there isn't a cakewalk in anything. You have to get your diploma.”

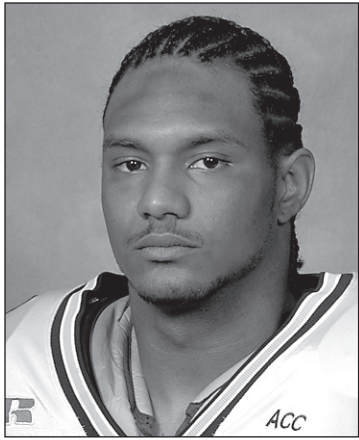
“The other thing is you are responsible for everything now. You get a piece of that being away and living in college and going to college at first, but when you are completely out on your own, you are out on your own,” Varitek said.

Varitek talked about the lessons he learned from Tech, “You have to be disciplined in playing a sport, and doing schoolwork [at Tech]. You have to do both because you can't do one without the other. You can do your schoolwork without performing, but you can't perform and not do your schoolwork. It teaches you a lot about yourself,” he said.

“College makes a guy mature more, instead of skipping college for the pros, and it allows a guy to get a base of being out on their own instead of having to be responsible. You have a budget and things to deal with rather than a guy coming out of high school with a ton of money and blowing it right away,” Varitek said.

“The biggest [life lesson] is that I have a degree from there, and that when my baseball career is over with I'll always have that diploma,” replied Varitek when asked what he's taken from Tech.

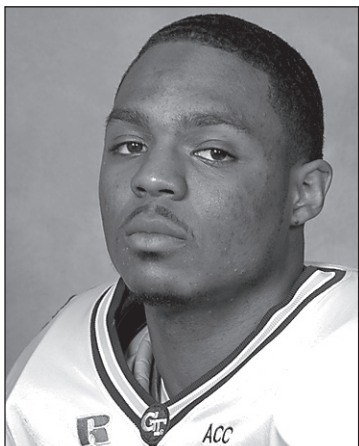
# faces in the crowd



**REUBEN HOUSTON**  
Rising Junior  
Cornerback - Football

This 6-0, 195-pound cornerback started every game last fall and was Tech's top returnee. He has four career interceptions and is also a former all-ACC triple jumper for the Tech track team. Houston had a team-leading eight pass breakups and was the fifth-leading tackler with 70 tackles, including four tackles for loss. Houston was named to the ACC all-freshmen team in 2002.

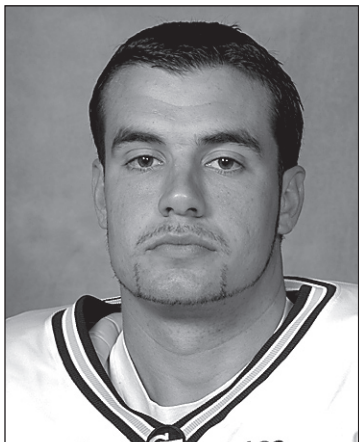
In high school, he was named Georgia AAAAA offensive player of the year by the *Atlanta-Journal Constitution* and the *Augusta Chronicle*. He rushed 145 times for 1,401 yards and 14 touchdowns with 21 caught passes for 428 yards and five scores.



**LEVON THOMAS**  
Junior  
Wide Receiver - Football

This junior from College Park, Georgia is expected to compete for a starting berth this season. He has played primarily in three-wide receiver sets. This wide receiver is 6-0 and weighs 195 pounds. He was fifth on the team in receptions with 10 for 101 yards and one touchdown.

In high school, Thomas was named one of the top 50 players in Georgia by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. He was also named to Max Emfinger's Super 70 in Georgia and Border Wars Top 100 in the south. He played quarterback as a senior at Banneker High and accounted for 1,686 yards and 20 touchdowns rushing and passing. He caught 21 passes for 876 yards as a junior.



**ANDY THOMSON**  
Rising Senior  
Punter - Football

This 5-11, 180-pound rising senior from Coral Springs, Florida took over the starting position last season. Thomson is a left-footed punter and joined the program as a walk-on in 2002. He has punted in seven games, starting the last five and averaged 39.8 yards per kick. In the Humanitarian Bowl, he averaged 47 yards on four punts, including a career-high 56-yarder. Against Duke last season, he averaged 41.4 yards on five punts.

In high school, Thomson was a three-year letterwinner as a placekicker and punter at Coral Springs High. He earned all-county honors from the *Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel* and the *Miami Herald* and was also team captain.

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her second national title in as many years in the women's high jump while Amandi Rhett finished ninth in the 200 meters. The women's 4x100-meter relay team finished an all-time best sixth.

### Softball

Tech's team reached the finals of the ACC tournament where they lost to Florida State. In the NCAA Championships, Tech finished third at the Athens Regional and ended the season with a 47-19 record, finishing their second-best season ever. Junior Jessica Sallinger finished the season with pitching records in strikeouts per game, wins and ERA and also started for the College All-Stars team against Team USA. The Jackets also moved up to No. 22 in the NFCA Poll after being unranked and finished No. 23 in the ESPN.com poll.

### Volleyball

The volleyball team had a banner season with a 34-4 record and reached the Elite Eight in the NCAA tourney. They also reached the finals of the ACC tournament before losing out to Maryland. The .895 winning record was the best in school history and it included a record 23 straight season-opening wins. They ended the season ranked No. 8 in the final USA Today/AVCA Coaches Poll, the highest ranking in school history and for any ACC school.

### Golf

Chan Wongluekiet shot a final-round 71, and Mike Barbosa added a 72 Friday to help Tech's sixth-ranked team rally to a fifth-place team finish in the NCAA Men's Golf Championship in early June 2004. Earlier in the season, the golf team had finished third at the ACC championships.

This was the golf team's fourth top-five finish in the last five years with this season's finish being more difficult to achieve due to intermittent hard rain and gusty winds on the last day at the NCAA championships.

## Tennis

The men's and women's tennis teams earned at-large berths into the NCAA Championship's field of 64. While the men's team lost to SMU, the women's team defeated Alabama in their first match, 4-0, before falling in the Round of 32 to the University of Georgia. Both teams finished with winning records this season as the men concluded the year with a 15-8 record and the women were 12-11. All-ACC honorees Scott Schnugg and Lyndsay Shosho played in the singles with Schnugg making it to the round of 32.

### Swimming and diving

Sophomore Sam Morgan became only the third Tech men's swimming and diving athlete to earn All-America honors with a 15th-place finish in the 1500-meter freestyle to lead the men's swimming and diving team to a 35th-place finish at the Men's NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships.

Freshman Vesna Stojanovska swam a personal-best time of 2:11.02 in the 200-meter butterfly to finish in 10th place at the Women's NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships. She became Tech's first women's swimming and diving athlete to claim such honors.

### Cross-country

Led by an 11th-place finish by Kyle Rabbitt, Tech men's cross country team placed sixth at the ACC championships, that was three spots above last year. Rabbitt later concluded his junior season by finishing 125th out of 254 runners in the NCAA Cross Country Championships. Tech did not have any participants at the NCAA championships last year.

The women's team finished eighth in the conference meet. Senior Katie Griffin finished 32nd in the six-kilometer race. At the NCAA Championships, Griffin led the Tech women again in the six-kilometer race by finishing 22nd in 21:41.92 while they had not participated at the NCAA level last year.

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rain

rain

go away

To the idiot who lit firecrackers in the hall and set off the fire alarm at 2AM in 6th Street: You will die a horrible and slow death I had something a little too spicy Saturday night. Had my own fireworks on Sunday. In my pants.

Summer CS 1371: The class of broken promises...good thing I'm not in an intimate relationship with it  
jen's gonna kill me

i'm tired of writing this crap

daniel's making us write this crap

vitamins come in plastic things... that have the day of the week on them

cheerleader! so and so! what's her face! THE UGLY ONE!

daniel, we need to work on the whole voice-cracking thing



## SPORTS

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## THE GREEN PARTY

Tech professors win an award for the invention of environment-friendly industrial processes. **Page 7**

## SPIDEY SENSE

Toby Maguire and Kirsten Dunst return in the sequel to *Spiderman*. Does Spidey weave any exciting webs this time? **Page 9**



## Sports excel beyond the Big Three



Photo collage by Jamie Howell/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

By Suyog Mody

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In 2004, the men's basketball team soared to new heights, fighting its way to the NCAA championship game. But while we cheered the team's successes, the accomplishments of some other sports teams

passed with less fanfare. As the baseball season comes to an end, and the football team gears up for another year, we use this opportunity to look back on these achievements.

## Track and field

The women's team finished second while the men's team finished fourth

at the outdoor ACC championships as eight Jackets clinched ACC titles. Chaunte Howard in the women's high jump, Brendon Mahoney in the 800 and 1500 meters, Ashlee Kidd in the 400 meters, Lauren Reimer in the women's heptathlon, Amandi Rhett in the 100 meters, Marcus Canty in the javelin throw and Zeb

Sion in the shot put all won ACC titles.

At the NCAA championships, Mahoney finished 10th in the 1500 meters and Montrell Person finished ninth in the 110-meters hurdles. Chaunte Howard captured

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## Tech's Varitek reflects on lessons learned

By Michael Clarke

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The Boston Red Sox came into town for the Fourth of July weekend to play the Atlanta Braves. The Red Sox featured two former Georgia Tech baseball stars, Nomar Garciaparra and Jason Varitek, making their return to Atlanta.

"It's fun for me to come back and get a chance to play here. I remember being here as a freshman and sitting behind the dugout when nobody was here," explained Jason about playing in Atlanta again.

Jason Varitek played at Tech from 1991-94, and in that time period the Jackets had a 184-76 (.708) record. Varitek holds nine offensive

records, and is the only player in Tech history to have his number (33) retired. He is the career record holder in home runs, RBIs, hits, doubles, total bases, and runs scored, and he holds the record for most walks in a season.

In his time at Tech, he amassed three All-American selections, and he was a member of the 1994 College World Series team that lost to Oklahoma in the championship

game. He was also selected as one of the 50 greatest Tech athletes of the 20th century.

Varitek played with Nomar Garciaparra for his final three seasons in college, and ever since he was called up to the majors at the end of the 1997 season.

"You talk about one of the best in our game, and I've had the opportunity to play with him at two different levels," said Varitek of Garciaparra.

He also credits his parents for a large portion of his success because they "made [him] do everything 110 percent."

Varitek enjoys keeping up with Tech athletics, but "sometimes it's hard because you have your own things going on and the schedules conflict."

I talk to Danny [Hall] and make sure that they are doing alright. I know that they put together a real big string, and that they finally turned it around and played some really good baseball. From the day that he got the job, I thought, [Hall] brought a little bit of fire to the program." He also came to a few of the football games last year as well as a basketball game.

Over the years, he has been able to witness the changes that the campus has gone through, and finds it "amazing that ATO lot is gone, all of the housing, the fraternity houses, and where the SAC (now CRC) building is with the huge aquatic center. The constant change makes it such a different view. They are doing as much as they can with a limited amount of space."

When Jason was at Lake Brantley High School in Florida, he was a third baseman and a catcher, but decided that he wanted to come to Tech because "they wanted [him] to play catcher, and that was a plus. The fact that I was far enough away from home [because] I wanted to get away. The biggest thing was that the school sold itself."

Not only has he had the fortune to take part in the Georgia vs. Georgia Tech rivalry, but as a Red Sox team member he also participates in the Boston vs. New York rivalry.

This rivalry is considered the most competitive rivalry in professional baseball, but it's hard for people who are not around that area to comprehend at times. To compare the two, he says to "take the rivalry

"You have to be disciplined and doing schoolwork [at Tech]...it teaches you a lot about yourself."

**Jason Varitek**  
Boston Red Sox catcher

a lot of people it was about themselves and it was about development, which has its benefits, but guys don't learn how to win. College taught me how to win, and that is an intangible that can never be taken away."

There are many differences that players have to get accustomed to if they are going to survive the transition from the college game

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## sports shorts

## Football game times announced

Kickoff times for the first three football games of the 2004-05 season have been announced. The season's opening game against Samford on Saturday, September 4 will kick off at 1 p.m. at Bobby Dodd Stadium. Tech's next two games are on the road, including a September 11 game at Clemson, which will kick off at 8 p.m. at Clemson Memorial Stadium and the third at North Carolina on Saturday, September 18 at 6 p.m. at Kenan Memorial Stadium

## Tech finishes 31st in Director's Cup

Tech's athletics program concluded the 2003-04 school year with an all-time best 31st place finish in the annual NACDA Director's Cup standings, which measure overall athletics success based on each sport's finish in the NCAA Championships. Led by Top 10 finishes in four different sports, Tech totalled 560.5 points to easily outdistance its previous best showing of 45th place in 1993-94. Tech finished in the top five in basketball, golf and volleyball.

## Hausman added to men's tennis staff

Josh Hausman, formerly a head coach at University of South Carolina-Spartanburg, was added to the Tech tennis coaching staff, Head Coach Kenny Thorne announced Tuesday. As the USC men's head coach, Hausman helped the Rifles finish with a No. 7 final ranking in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) poll during the 2003-04 season. The team finished with a 20-5 record and advanced as one of the final 16 teams in the NCAA tournament.

## Kidd wins at junior championships

All-American Ashlee Kidd won the 400-meters with a time of 52.91 at the USA Junior National Championships to lead the women's track and field team on July 26th. Freshman Cristian Duvall closed out competition for the Tech men's and women's track and field teams with a 10th-place finish in the men's 3,000-Steeplechase, posting a time of 9:43.56. Jennifer Sims finished sixth in the women's 800 meters for Tech with a time of 2:12.41. Kidd will compete for Team USA at the World Junior Championships. In Utah, national high jump champion Chaunte Howard tallied a lifetime-best mark of 6'6.00" in the women's high jump to win the event and post the second-best mark ever by a collegian.