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Volleyball ends five match winning streak



By Jamie Howell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Jackets five match winning streak came to an end when Kentucky defeated Tech in four games at the Kentucky Invitational.

By Akshay Amaraneni
Contributing Writer

The Jackets traveled to Kentucky this past weekend to take part in the Kentucky Volleyball Classic in Lexington, Ky. Tech joined Villanova, Toledo and the host team, Kentucky. The team started their season last week by going a 3-1 during Regency Suites Midtown Invitational.

The Jackets' first opponent of the tournament was Villanova. The Wildcats entered the tournament having lost five of six matches, but gave Tech trouble in the first game. However, Tech edged Villanova 31-29.

The Jackets seemed to have solved Villanova as they won 30-23 in the second game. In game three, they found trouble again. The team trailed by double-digits points for much of the game as Villanova bounced the Jackets 30-16.

Tech rebounded and finished off the Wildcats in the fourth game 30-26. Niekamp finished the match with 43 assists and six kills. Lindsey Gray, Talisa Kellogg, Callie Miller and Stegemann all had double digit kills for the Jackets.

In the second match of the afternoon, Tech battled the Toledo Rockets. The Jackets eased by the Rockets 30-21 in the first game, and cruised by in the second game 30-24.

Tech struggled to close out Villanova, and suffered a similar problem against Toledo. The third game featured four lead changes and three times Tech was within one point

of tying the game. Ultimately, the Jackets fell short in game three, but they won the fourth game 30-26.

It was a hard fought battle for the Jackets who swept their matches for the day and looked ahead to Kentucky.

"We got great leadership from our senior libero Abby Showers and we really needed her work ethic out there at times," said head coach Bond Shymansky of Tech's second match.

On the second day of the tournament, Tech saw their five match winning streak come to a close as the Wildcats of Kentucky finished

them in four games. Junior Lindsey Gray had 14 kills and 14 digs while Allie Niekamp had 10 kills and 55 assists to lead the team. After the Jackets looked strong to open the match with a win 30-28, the Wildcats rallied to win three straight games and take the match.

Kentucky easily beat Tech 30-21 in the second game. Tech's Achilles heel this year had been the third games of matches, and it showed against Kentucky. Tech played in a game that was tied 23 times and had 10 lead changes. Unfortunately, they came up on the losing end 38-36. That proved to be the turning point as they dropped the fourth game 30-27.

"We learned what the grind is like on the road this weekend," Shymansky said. "We are excited to come back home this weekend. We really feel good about heading into conference play after this home tournament."

"We learned what the grind is like on the road this weekend, [and] we are excited to come back home this next weekend. "

Bond Shymansky
Volleyball Head Coach

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Samford from page 26

"I just waited for the quarterback to throw it and intercepted it," Lewis said about the throw. "It was pretty much right at me."

With the offense starting the game with a three-and-out drive, Tech had to punt the ball into Samford territory. Two plays later, Samford receiver Josh Brennard tipped a pass from Jefferson Adcock. The tipped ball fell into the hands of Tech's D'Jay Jones, who returned the interception 29 yards for the touchdown.

"It happens," Coach Gailey said when asked if he was worried when the game opened with the short drive. "If you have concerns with each and every drive because it doesn't work out, you're going to end up with an ulcer."

The offense helped by adding three touchdowns before the first half was over. Reggie Ball was 10-for-16 with 83 yards, two touchdowns and an interception. Calvin Johnson recorded his third career multiple touchdown game after ending the first half with four receptions for 29 yards and two touchdowns.

"Everybody was real comfortable with [the offense]," Johnson said. "Everyone is starting to like it."

On Tech's second drive of the game, Ball demonstrated his skill as a pocket passer by completing all six of his passes for 56 yards. The possession was capped off by a six-yard touchdown run by Tashard Choice.

The Samford offense never seemed to develop a rhythm. With the help of constant blitzes, the defense was able to keep constant pressure on Adcock and Dante Williams. Often starting in the shotgun position and immediately being forced to scramble, the Yellow Jackets forced the Bulldogs to make mistakes.

The Jackets will have to perform better on kickoff coverage if they hope to be successful against more difficult competition. The unit allowed kick returns for 54, 36 and 31 yards. Both of the Bulldogs' scoring drives began with the Samford offense already in Tech territory. Poor kick returns and mistakes, like Ball's interception late in the first quarter, gave Samford easy yards and great field position. Tech's defense was able to hold Samford out of the endzone, but they were unable to keep the Bulldogs off of the scoreboard.

Tech won its first game after the loss to Notre Dame. They look to win tomorrow against a Troy team that pushed No. 9 Florida State to its limits. Ball certainly felt better about the offense and the team after Tech's first win.

"It feels a lot better after this game than the last game. It's always nice to put those numbers up in the left hand column," Ball said after the game. "A win is a win."

Samford - Georgia Tech, stats

Samford	6	0	0	0	— 6
Tech	14	21	3	0	— 38

First Quarter

Tech- D. Jones 29-yd INT return (Bell Kick), 13:31
Tech- T. Choice 6-yd run (Bell Kick), 6:55
Samford- Flemming 38-yd field goal, 4:00
Samford- Flemming 44-yd field goal, 1:19

Second Quarter

Tech- C. Johnson 5-yd pass from Ball (Bell Kick), 10:16
Tech- C. Johnson 11-yd pass from Ball (Bell Kick), 7:17
Tech- J. Lewis 97-yd INT return (Bell Kick), 2:41

Third Quarter

Tech- Bell 41-yd field goal, 4:39

Individual Leaders

Rushing

Samford	No.	Yds	TD
J. Ray	8	11	0
J. Adcock	3	8	0
Totals	15	11	0

Tech	No.	Yds	TD
R. Grant	4	44	0
T. Evans	11	44	0
T. Choice	7	44	1
J. Evans	12	37	0
Totals	36	177	1

Receiving

Samford	No.	Yds	TD
J. Moore	5	50	0
F. Young	5	48	0
Totals	20	152	0

Tech	No.	Yds	TD
J. Johnson	4	35	0
X. McGuire	4	27	0
C. Johnson	4	26	2
Totals	19	138	2

Passing

Samford	Comp-Att-Yds	TD	INT
J. Adcock	10-24-66	0	1
D. Williams	9-19-82	0	1
Totals	20-45-152	0	2

Tech	Comp-Att-Yds	TD	INT
R. Ball	10-16-83	2	1
Totals	19-32-138	2	1

Volleyball hosts invitational

By Asif Heerji
Assistant Sports Editor



South Florida

After suffering three losing streaks of at least seven games in 2005, the Bulls of South Florida are looking to bounce back with a solid season. In three tournaments this year, South Florida sports a 3-5 record. They are just one win away from matching their 2005 win total after a record of 4-22.

The Bulls are lead by redshirt freshman Marcela Gurgel. She has totaled 142 kills in eight matches and is averaging 4.9 kills a game, which is good enough for the 16th highest kill rate in the nation. She is also a threat as a server, netting 24 aces in 29 games. Her 0.83 aces per game is good for seventh best in the nation. Although Gurgel has 142 kills, she has committed 67 hit errors and has had 384 attempts, giving her a sub-par .195 hitting percentage.

As a team, the Bulls sport a hit percentage of .181 while opponents are hitting at a rate of .202.



Stetson

The Hatters started the season 1-5. They currently sport a 3-6 record coming off of a 2-1 effort at the Stetson Invitational. The Hatters have struggled offensively this year as they are hitting only .085 while the opponent is hitting .336. The

opposition has amassed 141 more kills and have committed 37 fewer hitting errors than Stetson, which accounts for the large discrepancy in hit percentage.

In each of their first five losses, the opposition swept the Hatters in three games and in their first victory, Stetson battled to five games after falling behind 2-1. Setting the pace for Stetson is sophomore Rebecca Orzechowicz who leads the team with 47 kills. The most efficient hitter on the team is sophomore Julie Fleming who sports a hit percentage of .228, but is averaging under one kill a game.



Sam Houston State

The Bearcats of Sam Houston State have a 3-4 record coming into the Regency Suites Midtown Invitational. Senior Lindsey Roebken leads the offense with 73 kills, averaging just under three kills per game. In seven matches this year, the Bearcats are hitting at a rate of .155 but have been solid defensively by holding opponents to that same mark of .155.

In the middle, Jackie Melinder steers the offense with 231 assists, averaging 11 assists per game. In addition, Megan McNamara has 84 assists and averages 7 assists per game. The Bearcats are an aggressive team from the service line, netting 62 aces on the season, but have committed 92 service errors.

Defensively, Sam Houston State has 25 fewer blocks than their opposition as a team. The Bearcats have yet to play a five game match this season and two of the three wins this season have been sweeps.

Tournament Schedule

Friday	
South Florida vs. Stetson	12 p.m.
Stetson vs. Sam Houston St.	5 p.m.
Tech vs. South Florida	7:30 p.m.

Saturday	
Sam Houston St. vs. USF	10 a.m.
Tech vs. Stetson	6 p.m.
Tech vs. Sam Houston St.	8:30 p.m.

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Cox

from page 28

of them. I was nervous and shaking. I made a couple plays, a pass break-up, a couple tackles and a fumble recovery.”

Tech wound up losing the game after taking a slim lead into the fourth quarter. During that game, the Seminoles’ William McCray fumbled inside the Tech 15 yard line. Cox recovered the fumble, securing his first turnover.

As a true freshman, Cox was a big part of the 2000 team. He played in every game as a sophomore and started every game as a junior and a senior.

During his junior year, he blocked the only field goal kick of his career, something that had not happened at Tech since 1996.

He was the only returning starter in the secondary during his senior season.

Off the field, Cox had his direction set as soon as he arrived on the Flats. Cox was recognized as possessing great technical skills. He started Tech enrolled in engineering with an interest in the sciences.

“The workload was extensive, but I could handle it. I went to a good high school and put in a lot of hard work. I was in engineering at first, so all my classes were directed towards that,” Cox said of Tech’s academics.

There was another important event that occurred while Cox was at Tech. Coach Georgia O’Leary resigned to pursue other opportunities and Gailey was hired as the head coach.

“As an athlete, I went through two different head coaches and four different position coaches. It was challenging trying to deal with

everything and change my technique according to what each coach liked,” Cox said.

Despite these huge changes, he found some stability with defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta.

“For the last two years, my technique was structured around what [Tenuta] did. He’s a really good coach if you know anything about him. I learned a lot from him and honestly, I probably took more from him than any coach ever, including the NFL. As a coach you have to work with what you have. He’s good at doing

“My first game ever was against Florida State. I was very nervous lining up against Anquan Boldin and Marvin Minnis.”

Jonathan Cox
2000-03 Cornerback

that,” Cox said.

After his eligibility expired, Cox entered the NFL draft. The Tennessee Titans called him saying they would draft him in any one of the later rounds. As the draft went by, he became very antsy about it. Unfortunately, the draft ended and he found himself without a team.

A week later, his agent arranged a tryout with the San Diego Chargers and “in a matter of days [the Chargers] went from them calling me ‘39’ to them calling me ‘hey Jonathan.’”

The Chargers sent Cox to NFL

Europe to play for the Rhein Fire in Dusseldorf. When he returned, he had to try out for the Chargers again.

“When I went over to Europe, they kind of made adjustments and did other things without me being there. So they kind of put me on the backburner. It was very frustrating because you’re dealing with a lot of politics as opposed to my pure talent. I was cut on the last cut day,” Cox said.

Cox’s football career struggled to take off after he was cut. He went through three different agents, but all of his attempts to get back into the game ended in disappointment.

“Everything was going against me. It was a lot of trouble dealing with everything, and I guess it just wasn’t meant to be. I just moved on. I wanted to do other things with my life anyway, and I didn’t want to waste time trying to do something that’s 50/50,” Cox said.

After handling the situation well, where others had failed, Cox decided it was time to pursue a different route: the academic one.

While he originally wanted to become an engineer, he changed his mind the second time around. He enrolled in the school of management this past fall.

He enjoys his return to Tech and his thirst for knowledge keeps him going. One of his former coaches described him as a very technically-oriented person.

Cox’s future plans involve entrepreneurship and living in a big city. A few of his ideas involve opening up a restaurant or a gym.

“Being in the real world, you realize that you need a degree. And honestly, I wanted to learn more because I want to open my own business” Cox said.

Jackets roll 38-6



By Matt Emerick/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Junior receiver Calvin Johnson hauls in a five-yard touchdown pass from Reggie Ball in the second quarter to give Tech a 21-6 lead.

By Hahnming Lee
Contributing Writer

In a 38-6 rout of Samford, Tech’s defense outscored the Bulldog’s offense by returning two interceptions for touchdowns. The team’s defense accomplished the feat for the first time since Bobby Dodd led the Jackets to a 35-17 win against Tulane at Grant Field in 1966.

“They played a lot of people in the second half, and we’re glad they did that. But we needed to come out and establish some things on both

sides of the ball. And I’m sure they answered some things on their side by playing their younger kids,” said Samford Head Coach Bill Gray.

Jamal Lewis was feeling historic after he returned the second of the team’s two interceptions 97-yards for a touchdown with 2:47 to play in the first half. The return by Lewis was the fourth-longest in Tech history and the longest since Jeff Ford set the school record against Notre Dame with a 102-yard return in 1969.

See Samford, page 25

Zach Braff
Jacinda Barrett
Casey Affleck
Rachel Bilson
with Blythe Danner
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What's yours?

From the writer of "Million Dollar Baby"
and co-writer of "Crash"

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void swap(int *i, int *j) { int t; t = *i; *i = *j; *j = t; }
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There are 10 kinds of people in the world, those that understand
trinary, those that dont and those that confuse it with binary
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Ping? Pong!



TROY (1-1) VS. GEORGIA TECH (1-1)

By Amy DeMao
Contributing Writer



After nearly upsetting the Seminoles last week, the Trojans look to rebound against an equally-determined Tech squad. A heart-breaking loss had Troy's linebacker Marcus Richardson promising to use the frustration from the Florida State loss against Tech. Troy's offensive philosophy relies on the four or five wide receiver spread which enables the offense to stretch the defense and open up the running game. Omar Haugabook completed 49 of 78 pass attempts for 390 yards and five touchdowns so far this year. Toris Rutledge has hauled in eight of those passes for 105 yards.

"We sent out a few messages to our future opponents. There is no question that we can get a lot better if we can stay well."

Larry Blakeney
Troy Head Coach



Four Key Questions

• How will Troy's cornerbacks match up with Calvin Johnson?

Troy's starting cornerbacks Leodis McKelvin and Henry Chubb are each 5-foot 11, giving Tech's Calvin Johnson a six inch height advantage. However, do not underestimate the two corners as they are fast and quick off the snap.

The fact remains that Johnson's 6-foot 5 frame can easily overpower the two defenders in the hope of making big plays. It is up to Reggie Ball to continue to utilize Johnson's size and athleticism to get him the ball and open up big play opportunities.

• Can fans expect another big week from the defense?

It was clear last week that Tech's defense came to play, allowing only 11 yards rushing and forcing two interceptions that were returned for touchdowns. However, any Tech fan can tell you that the defense can be great one week and then have an off week the next.

"I think Coach Tenuta and his staff do a wonderful job of teaching and coaching and getting their guys to understand their responsibility within the defense," said Tech football Head Coach Chan Gailey.

The defense may have to go without safety D'Jay Jones tomorrow because he is listed as doubtful with a thigh injury. Jones was one of two Jackets to return an interception for a touchdown last week.

• Will anyone other than Calvin Johnson step up this week?

For the past two weeks, Tashard Choice made some big plays in the running game for Tech. This is good news for Tech because it offers a variety of options in the offensive playbook other than just Calvin Johnson.

However, a second or third wide receiver, like James Johnson, Chris Dunlap or Greg Smith, will have to step up and take the pressure off of Calvin Johnson to deter the double and triple coverage that he often sees. Tech has to incorporate a mix of plays to keep the opposing defense guessing and allow other players, including Calvin Johnson, to make big plays.

• Will the Trojans be able to put together another solid game against a major Division I foe?

The performance by Troy last weekend was not an aberration. In just the last three years, the Trojans have played against six BCS conference teams. They have managed to stay close to their opponent at least until halftime and put scares into four of the six opponents in the final minutes.

In 2004, the Trojans knocked off Missouri 24-14 in their home opener. A few weeks later, they traveled to Death Valley and lost to Louisiana State by a slim 24-20 margin.

Tech is coming off of a solid win against Samford where the defense returned two interceptions for touchdowns in the game. This was the first time that had happened in 40 years. Last week Reggie Ball connected with preseason All-American receiver Calvin Johnson for two touchdowns in the victory. With a 29 point lead at halftime, Tech's second team got a chance to earn some playing time to add experience to the depth chart early in the season. Former Troy Head Coach Chan Gailey "wasn't terribly shocked" after hearing the news of Troy's near upset of Florida State.

"We all saw the game [Troy] played against Florida State last week. They did a great job, and could've won the ball game."

Chan Gailey
Tech Head Coach



Spread: Tech by 12

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-Nancy Gimbel, Director of Undergraduate Programs, College of Management

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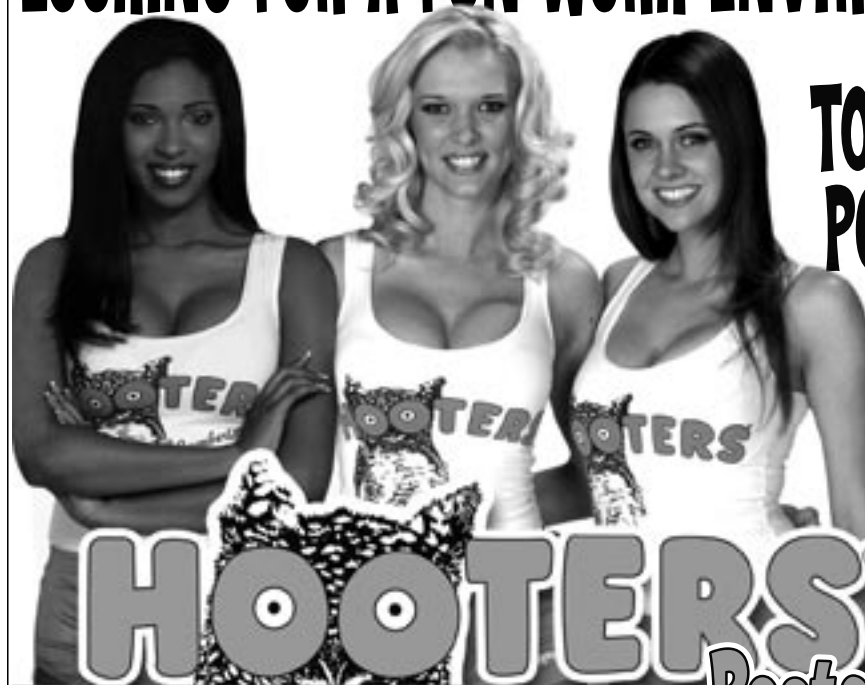
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SPORTS

Technique • Friday, September 15, 2006

PLAYING AGAINST ODDS

One-armed guitarist Jason Williams releases his new CD "Big Plans" and plays at Smith's Olde Bar. Page 17

NEW CHEFS ADD FLAVOR

Britain and Woodruff Dining Halls recently added new chefs with gourmet cooking backgrounds. Page 13



Softball names Perkins head coach

By William Bretherton
Senior Staff Writer

With the departure of Ehren Earleywhine to Missouri two weeks ago, Tech Director of Athletics Dan Radakovich was charged with making his first coaching hire. The search concluded when Sharon Perkins was announced on Tuesday.

For Earleywhine, the job offered him a return to his home state. Perkins will have big shoes to fill as she will be replacing a coach that led the Jackets to an ACC regular season and tournament championship in 2005 and NCAA tournament bids in all five seasons that he was with the program. Earleywhine's overall record in three seasons as head coach was 147-55.

"The coaches in the past have laid the foundation to keep it going and make it a great program," said new Head Coach Sharon Perkins at her press conference Tuesday.

"Now we are to this point where I don't want to come in here and change everything. I think it's on the right track and I would like to just keep this thing going and get it to the next level," Perkins said.

Before coming to Tech, Perkins played softball and earned a bachelor's degree in Biology at Nicholls State University from 1992 to 1996.

In 1998, she began her coaching career as an assistant coach at Southern Miss, and was hired in 2001 at Georgia as an assistant when current Georgia Head Coach Lu Harris-Champer was hired. Perkins has worked with Harris-Champer since she was a student assistant at



By Rob Skinner/GTAA

Sharon Perkins was selected as the new softball coach. She replaces Ehren Earleywhine who left for Missouri. Perkins joked with reporters in Tuesday's press conference about leaving Georgia for Tech.

Nicholls State in 1995.

"I think it will be pretty fun going up against [Harris-Champer]. There has been a rivalry between Georgia and Georgia Tech the last few years, so it will be fun. We think a lot of the same ways, so we might do a lot of the same things on the ballfield."

Last season at Georgia, Perkins helped guide the Bulldogs to a 54-15 overall record. The season ended with a loss to the No. 2 ranked Florida State Seminoles to fall short of the NCAA Super Regionals.

Perkins also helped lead Georgia to two SEC championships in the last four seasons and five consecutive NCAA Tournaments bids. This included the last two seasons that saw Georgia host NCAA Regionals.

One of the main concerns of Tech's softball program has been the need to update the current facilities for the sport. At her press conference, Perkins commented on this issue.

"We talked about it, and I know we'll be discussing it more. They have to look into the situation. I did not come here because of the facilities.

What they have is a great start and I think we can keep going from that. We went to the World Series when I was at Southern Miss [as a coach] and we did not even have our own field on campus," Perkins said.

Perkins will have help in her first year as head coach for the Jackets; Several key players from last year's team are returning.

These players include ACC Freshman of the Year Whitney Haller, who set the school record for home runs last season, All-ACC outfielder Caitlin Lever and Sarah Wood.

by the numbers

6

The Jackets have gone six consecutive games without scoring points in the fourth quarter. In those games, the team has totalled only 17 points after halftime. The last time Tech scored in the fourth quarter, it was courtesy of a field goal by Travis Bell against Wake Forest last year.

The last time Tech put up more than a touchdown in the fourth quarter was against North Carolina State on Nov. 6, 2004 when the team scored 17 points to win 24-14.

1984

Current Tech Head Coach Chan Gailey led the then Division II Troy State Trojans to a national championship in 1984. In his second and final year, he led the team to a 12-1 record.

In his first season with the Trojans, Gailey led the team to a 7-4 record in 1983. He left Troy State after the 1984 season to join Dan Reeves staff with the Denver Broncos. After spending five years with the Broncos, Gailey coached two seasons with the World League's Birmingham Fire before returning to the NFL. Gailey also made stops with the Pittsburgh Steelers, Dallas Cowboys and Miami Dolphins before coming to Tech.

Jonathan Cox returns to finish degree

By Akshay Amaraneni
Contributing Writer



Photograph courtesy of GTAA

Former cornerback, Jonathan Cox, has returned to Tech to finish earning a degree in Management after playing two years in the NFL.

Two years after leaving Tech to pursue a career in the NFL, Jonathan Cox makes his return to the Flats as a student. This time, Cox can be found at Tech Square as a Management major instead of Bobby Dodd Stadium.

A native of Chicago, Ill., he spent three years playing varsity football in high school where he excelled as a safety and wide receiver.

His career highlights featured an 18-tackle game while receiving MVP honors in his high school's conference. In addition, he lettered all four years in track and was a member of the National Honor Society.

During Cox's transition to college, he was recruited by several Big Ten schools. However, he wanted a change in scenery and found his calling when he came to visit his sister at Emory. He decided Atlanta would be

a great place to live and play football, turning down opportunities in the Big Ten and other ACC schools.

Cox expected more when he arrived at Tech to start practicing. The game was not quite as fast on the collegiate level compared to the hype.

"It was a little challenging, I expected a lot more. I'm not saying it's overrated, I just expected it to be a lot

faster. When I arrived at Tech, I was able to compete and was actually able to start," Cox said.

During his first year at Tech, he was thrown into action when Tech traveled to Tallahassee to take on the No. 2 Florida

"My first game ever was against Florida State. I was very nervous lining up against Anquan Boldin and Marvin Minnis."

Jonathan Cox
2000-03 Cornerback

State. This was a tall challenge for the true freshman in his first start.

"My first game ever was against Florida State. I was very nervous lining up against Anquan Boldin and Marvin Minnis. They were the receivers then. I played 10 yards off

See Cox, page 26

sports shorts

Thorne recognized tomorrow night

Kenny Thorne will be inducted into the Georgia Tennis Hall of Fame tomorrow evening at the Olde Town Athletic Club in Marietta, Ga. Thorne is in his eighth-year as the head coach of the men's tennis team.

As an undergraduate student-athlete, Thorne was an All-American following his senior campaign, and was All-ACC in each of his four seasons on the Flats. He continues to hold several Tech career records.

on deck

Event	Date
F vs. Troy	9/16 @ 1:30 p.m.
V vs. South Florida	9/15 @ 7:30 p.m.
V vs. Stetson	9/16 @ 6 p.m.
V vs. Sam Houston	9/16 @ 8:30 p.m.
V- Volleyball at O'Keefe Gymnasium,	
F- Football at Bobby Dodd	
For complete schedules, check out www.ramblinwreck.com .	