

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, September 13, 2002

Atlantic Station work

What's the forecast for the Home Park community? Possible traffic congestion and pollution. Page 13.

Time for Thai?

Lookin' for some good grub? Check out the Tamariand Thai Restaurant. Page 19.



by the numbers

144

Total number of yards that Tech running back Tony Hollings gained in last Saturday's victory over Connecticut. Hollings ran for 144 yards, all of which occurred in the first half of the ballgame.

63

Number of kills that Lynette Moster posted in the Georgia Tech Courtyard by Marriot Classic. The Jackets finished 3-0, upsetting No. 22 Louisville and defeating Florida A&M and Miami of Ohio.

415

Total number of yards achieved by the Tech offense against Connecticut. The Yellow Jackets held the Huskies to a total of 249 yards for the entire game.

4

Number of consecutive years that the Georgia Tech Volleyball Team has upset the University of Georgia. Tuesday's match put the Jackets in a 7-1 lead while the Bulldogs fall to 4-5 for the season.

football forecast

Georgia Tech vs. Clemson

Michigan vs. Notre Dame

Duke vs. Northwestern

Georgia vs. South Carolina

VMI vs. William & Mary

Army vs. Rutgers

Mississippi vs. Texas Tech

Washington State vs. Ohio State

Nebraska vs. Penn State

Iowa State vs. Iowa

Vanderbilt vs. Auburn

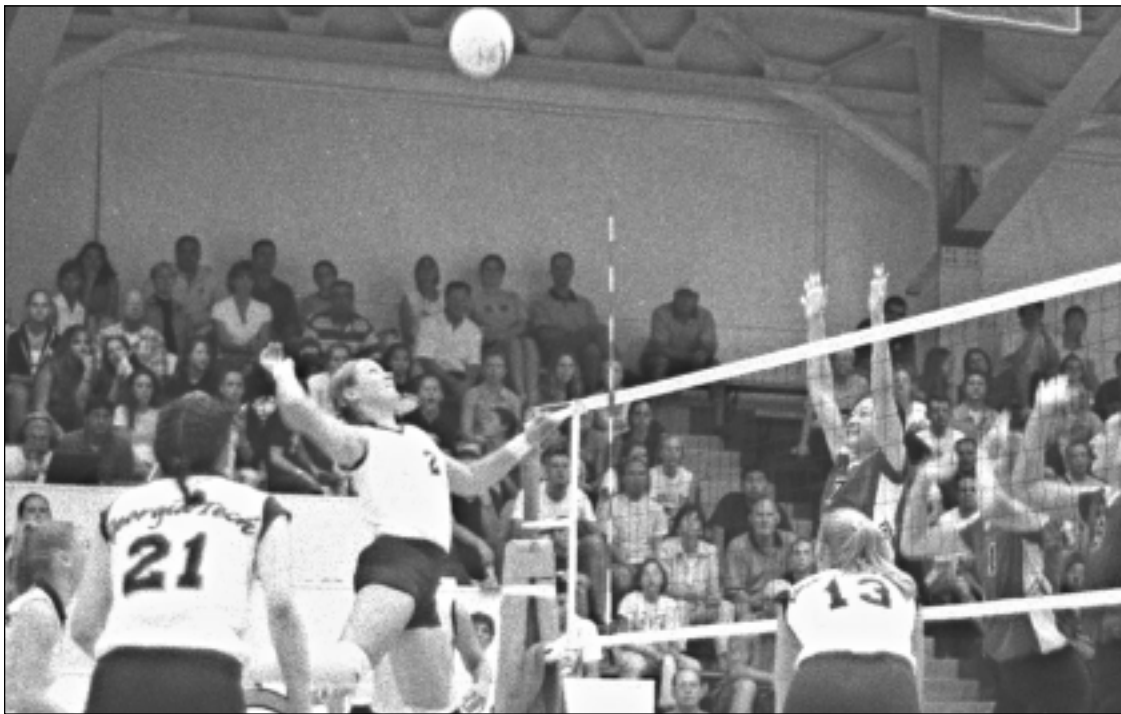
Submit your picks at:

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on deck

Event	Date
WV vs. Michigan State	9/13
F vs. Clemson	9/14
MCC at Bulldog Stampede	9/14
WCC at Bulldog Stampede	9/14
WV vs. South Florida	9/14
WV- Women's Volleyball, F - Football	
MCC- Men's Cross Country	
WCC- Women's Cross Country	

Yellow Jacket spikers on a roll



By Percy Hung / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Yellow Jacket Women's Volleyball team has gotten off to the best start in school history. Tuesday's win over the University of Georgia marks four consecutive years that the Jackets have beaten the Dawgs.

By Finny Turner
Contributing Writer

The Lady Jackets Volleyball team is off to their best start since their 1996 season. Having won seven of their first eight games, with a loss only to number 14 ranked Northern Iowa; it looks like good things are to come for these exceptional athletes.

The most fundamental change from last year came after the resignation of the team's head coach, Shelton Collier. Collier served the team for eleven years and elevated them to the winning tradition that all Tech fans have come to enjoy.

Collier left with no hard feelings for the program after he decided to relocate to North Carolina to be with his fiancée. His successor, Bond Shymansky is in his third year at Tech after serving as defensive coordinator for the past two seasons.

"We are so lucky to have Bond as our new head coach. I have a ton of respect for him as a coach and as a person. If for no other reason, I would want to win just to make Bond successful," said this year's co-captain Lauren Sauer.

After finishing third in the ACC last season, the Coaches Poll placed Tech as No. 3 in the ACC. Ranked behind only North Carolina and Duke in the conference, the Jackets' three captains, Kele Eveland, Alexandra Preiss and Lauren Sauer are ready to lead the team into a successful year.

Eveland, a junior from Grand Rapids, Michigan is a returning captain who holds the school record in most assists in a match. Eveland led the offense to a No. 1 ranking in the ACC last year for kills per game.

Preiss is a middle blocker who had a breakout season last year. She was named the team's Most Improved Player Award both of her years at Tech. She shares the school record for block assists in a single match.

Finally, Sauer, the third captain, is known for her defense and passing. She is the 2001 ACC Rookie of the Year and the tallest person to

ever play volleyball at Tech.

Last weekend the team won the Georgia Tech Courtyard by Marriot Classic by upsetting No. 22 ranked Louisville, and also defeating Florida A&M and Miami of Ohio in the tournament. Lynette Moster was named this week's ACC player of the week and the tournament's MVP after leading the team to a 3-0 finish.

To top off their success, the Jackets traveled to Athens to contend with their arch-rival UGA on Tuesday. Tech came out on top with their four games to one victory. This marked the fourth consecutive win

over the Dawgs.

"We're happy to walk away with a win over our arch-rival. Georgia is a much improved team this year and made us work hard the entire match. Once again great play from Lynette and Alexandra, who led the way for us. Our offense was very aggressive tonight," Shymansky said.

The Lady Jackets are definitely on a roll, and they hope to continue their dominance as they take on No. 19 Michigan State at the South Florida Invitational in Tampa, Florida. The team returns home to play Alabama next Friday, September 20 at 7:30 p.m. at O'Keefe Gym.

Moster named Player of the Week

Georgia Tech outside-hitter Lynette Moster was named Atlantic Coast Conference Volleyball Player of the Week after leading the Yellow Jackets to a 3-0 finish in last weekend's Georgia Tech Courtyard by Marriot Classic. Moster averaged 5.73 kills per game, while hitting .336 throughout the three matches. She also added 2.27 digs per game, including 14 against Louisville.

Cross Country to travel to Athens

The Men's and Women's Cross Country teams will travel to Athens this weekend to compete in the Bulldog Stampede. The Georgia Tech Women's Cross Country is ranked No. 24 in the nation in the preseason FinishLynx/NCAA Division I Women's Cross Country Association Poll.

ESPN to air Tech-Clemson battle

The Atlantic Coast Conference football opener for both the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets and the Clemson Tigers will be broadcast at noon on Saturday on ESPN. Radio coverage on the Georgia Tech-ISP Radio network is available in the Atlanta area.

Cover photos

Cover photos by Chris Gooley, Robert Hill, Peter Jensen, Scott Meuleners and Daniel Uhlig. Cover layout and design by Ian Clark and Scott Meuleners.

Time for the real deal

Clemson next for Jackets



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

A.J. Suggs' receivers will need to perform as well as Kelly Campbell did last year if the Jackets home to escape Death Valley with a victory.

By Ryan Peck and Amanda Nabers
Contributing Writers

The Georgia Tech football team faces its first real test of the season this Saturday. The Jackets open up conference play at rival Clemson, in a nationally televised ESPN game set for a noon kickoff in Death Valley.

The Tech-Clemson series has been one of the most compelling series in recent college football history. The past six gridiron battles between the schools have all been three-point decisions. The Jackets have won four out of five from their friendly neighbors to the north. The Tigers snapped their four game losing skid to the Ramblin' Wreck last season by defeating Tech 47-44 in an overtime thriller in Atlanta.

Tech is 2-0 going into the Clemson game, having steamrolled non-conference patsies Vanderbilt and Connecticut by a combined margin of 76-17. The Tigers rebounded from their bitter opening season loss to Georgia by throttling Louisiana Tech 33-13 last weekend.

In its first two games, Tech has ridden the back of speedy junior tailback Tony Hollings. Hollings, currently the ACC's leading rusher, has amassed 298 rushing yards in just slightly over four total quarters of play, good enough for nine yards per clip and six touchdowns. He has sat out the majority of the second half of both games to this

point, giving way to Tech's backups. Hollings has put to rest many of the questions regarding the inexperience of Tech's running game, which was much maligned prior to the season with the departure of Joe Burns, Tech's workhorse the past two seasons.

A.J. Suggs has performed solidly at quarterback, playing mistake-free football and throwing for 268 yards while connecting on three touchdowns. Like most of his first-string comrades, Suggs' playing time has also been limited mainly to first half action, as the Jackets have cruised to cushy-soft halftime leads the first two weeks.

He'll need to stay sharp against Clemson's experienced defense. The Tech defense has more or less manhandled opposing offenses to this point. The Jackets expect a much sterner test from the Tigers tomorrow afternoon.

"Clemson has very good team speed, and they'll be bigger than anybody we've faced so far, and the atmosphere will be different," Tech Head Coach Chan Gailey said.

One place that the Jackets may be at a decided disadvantage is in the defensive secondary. Clemson will counter Tech's speedy, small cornerbacks with equally quick, but tall receivers. The Tigers like to take advantage of opposing secondaries by throwing jump balls and having their big, athletic receivers outleap their smaller counterparts.

See Clemson, page 28

"They'll be bigger than anybody we've faced so far, and the atmosphere will be different."

Head Coach Chan Gailey
Speaking about Clemson

Clemson

from page 30



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Kerry Watkins is corralled by three Clemson players at last year's overtime loss to the Tigers. The Jackets seek redemption this Saturday.

Clemson has utilized this type of passing offense since head coach Tommy Bowden set foot on campus in 1999. The average height of Clemson's four leading receivers is 6-4. Tech's starting cornerbacks, Marvious Hester and Jonathan Cox, are 5-11 and 5-10, respectively.

Defensive coordinator Jon Tenuata will need to formulate a gameplan designed to keep Clemson's physical receivers in check. While coaching at North Carolina last year, Tenuata's scheme was brilliant as the Tiger offense was off-balance all game, mustering but three points and losing by 35.

Look for safeties Jeremy Muyres and Cory Collins to provide support in coverage. Tenuata may also look to employ Tech's nickel package, bringing in Kelley Rhinno as a fifth defensive back on third down situations. The nickel was noticeably effective against U.Conn last Saturday.

Junior Willie Simmons inherits the quarterback reigns from former Clemson star Woody Dantzler. Tech fans may recall that Simmons replaced Dantzler after halftime two years ago in Death Valley when Dantzler was hampered by an ankle injury. Simmons is not the scrambling threat that Dantzler is, but he has a good arm, quick feet, and a vast knowledge of the offensive system. In two games this season, Simmons has thrown for 407 yards and has played mistake-free football with the exception of one intercepted pass.

Like Tech, Clemson may have found a budding star at running back. Junior Yusef Kelly replaced the injured Bernard Rambert last week, and rushed for 97 yards and three touchdowns against LA Tech. Clemson misses the workmanlike efforts of its second all-time leading rusher, Travis Zachary, who was lost to graduation. However, Kelly may be a worthy candidate to fill that void for the Tigers in 2002. He is a versatile back who is fully capable of carrying the bulk of the rushing load.

Clemson's defense, much like Tech's, is laden with experience. Directed by former Auburn defensive coordinator John Lovett, the Tigers are surrendering a meager 242 yards per game, and have already forced six turnovers. One of

those was a fumble returned for a touchdown against Georgia.

Look for Clemson to crowd the box in an attempt to slow down Hollings, and also to bring heat on Suggs, who has not faced a formidable defense in nearly two whole years. Through two games Tech has not even begun to scratch the surface of the offensive and defensive playbooks.

The Clemson coaching staff has very little idea of what to prepare for when breaking down film on the Ramblin' Wreck. The Jackets have played relatively basic football on both sides of the ball thus far. There has been hardly any misdirection from the offense, nary a flinch from the linebackers prior to the

snap on defense, and just an overall reserved approach taken in pummeling Vandy and U.Conn.

Expect that to change in Death Valley. Tech will most likely open up the playbook

and let it ride tomorrow. Expect Suggs to throw the ball between 30-40 times. Hollings will continue to tote the ball, but for all four quarters this week.

Look for the Tech defense bring some heat on Simmons, especially if the Jackets can force the Tigers into some third and long situations. Unlike Tech's first two games, the Jackets' starters will likely play the entire 60 minutes. Coach Chan Gailey expects his team to be well prepared.

"We'll be focusing this week on making sure we take advantage of every opportunity," he said. "Everybody understands that this is a big ball game, and we'll try to make sure our guys understand the sense of urgency necessary to prepare for a game like this."

This game should give the players, coaches, and fans a good idea of exactly what type of team Tech has. A win would most likely catapult the Jackets into the polls and set up an exciting Top-25 clash with BYU on September 21 in Atlanta. The past six meetings with Clemson have been nail-biters that have gone right down to the wire. Expect the 2002 edition to be no different.

"This will really let us know how good we are," middle linebacker Daryl Smith said. "We're looking forward to a great game."

"This will really let us know how good we are."

Daryl Smith
GT Middle Linebacker

Beyond the White and Gold

Gridiron grind is on

By John Parsons
Senior Staff Writer

I had planned to dedicate this column to the U.S. Open, the greatest prize in tennis, despite the opening weekend of the NFL.

The U.S. Open created some moments worthy of mention, my favorite of which was Andy Roddick asking the judge, "What are you doing?" in his quarterfinal loss to Pete Sampras.

Then the NFL came around and what a Sunday it was. In case you missed it, Sunday was an incredible day of close games. Ten of the fourteen games were decided by eight points or less, and the Texans didn't increase their lead to nine until less than three minutes to go.

Speaking of the Texans-Cowboys tilt, the Texans can thank Tags for their opening week matchup with a Dallas team that it appears was heavily overrated by the pre-season prognosticators. Quincy Carter is still definitely, shall we say, "a work in progress."

I'm just waiting for Jerry Jones to fire Dave Campo and start calling the plays himself. I can hear him now, "Quincy, throw that brown thing to somebody on our team. No, not three feet over his head, throw it *to* him. That's it! You're fired too!" At this point he'll start quarterbacking the team himself as well.

The moment that stuck out the most was Dwayne Rudd's world record helmet toss that cost his Browns an opening week win against the Chiefs. Rudd got to Chiefs quarterback Trent Green and slung him to the ground. Thinking he had just clinched the win with a sack on the last play, he took his helmet off and threw it in celebration.

What he didn't know was that Green had flipped the ball to a tackle

who was rumbling 30 yards down the field as Rudd celebrated. Rudd got flagged for unsportsmanlike conduct, which allowed for the Chiefs game-winning field goal, since a game can't end on a penalty on the defense.

What bothers me about this was the explanation. He thought the game was over and he was celebrating. Apparently the NFL rulebook states that throwing one's helmet is on par with the seven deadly sins until time runs out in the fourth quarter. Then a player can do whatever the heck he wants. Some players sniff coke; Rudd throws helmets.

That's not even the end of the story. The Chiefs' great field position for their final drive was created by a taunting penalty by the Browns on their go-ahead field goal. The unique thing about this call was that the holder (also the Browns punter) was the guilty party.

So, uh, who exactly was being taunted? Did the referee feel the punter was actually striking fear in the hearts of the 300-pound linemen? Was the referee able to keep a straight face when he made the call? Given that referees are required to be emotionless drones, I'd have to say that he was.

The most pleasing development to me was Michael Vick's performance at Lambeau Field. Every pass was crisp and accurate. He ran when he needed to run. He threw when he needed to throw. That's probably the most important thing about being a quarterback that can run.

If he keeps making those decisions correctly, the Falcons will be in the playoffs. If not for two dropped would-be touchdowns, the Falcons would have come away with the win. Wait a second; I'm starting to sound like an optimistic Falcons fan. Who's ever heard of one of those?



By Shelley Hoyal / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Members of the Georgia Tech practice at the Buckhead Gymnastics Center. The one-year old team that was the brainchild of Tara Hayden will compete in the national club gymnastics championships in Austin, Texas.

Tech gymnastics club leaps into second year

By Al Przygocki
Senior Staff Writer

Last September, freshman Tara Hayden had a dream. No, not the kind of dream that Martin Luther King, Jr. had or the kind of dream that inspired men to walk on the moon, but an important dream nonetheless. She had a dream to start a Gymnastics team at Georgia Tech. It took a lot of time and a lot of cutting through red tape, but by November, Hayden and her fellow gymnasts had a recognized team, began to practice, and things were rolling.

It's a club sport, but they hope to one day become a varsity program. In the meantime, the program got a real shot in the arm when they were invited to participate in Nationals. The team finished

19th out of 30 teams which is an amazing finish for a first-year program. This year the team will be attending three meets, including Nationals in Austin, TX, a meet with Emory, and one more at either the University of Indiana or Miami, OH. With one Nationals appearance under their belts, they hope to place in the top ten in this year's Championship event.

Most of members were gymnasts as youths or in high school but haven't been active in the sport for a while. They were happy to have another chance to once again participate in one of their favorite activities. As a club sport, they aren't allowed to recruit, but they believe that this year's team may have some varsity quality competitors who simply chose Tech over other schools with varsity level teams.

The team received a lot of support from Director of Intramurals and Sport Clubs Dan Hazlett. Hazlett helped Hayden deal with all of the requirements of founding a club and helped her through the red tape. Last year, they were named Burdell's Best New Organization, and this year the club is still working to become a fully chartered organization with SGA.

Currently, the team practices at the Buckhead Gymnastics Center three nights a week, and they also have optional conditioning sessions twice a week at SAC. One reason that stops many schools from having a team is the unavailability of quality training equipment. Very few schools can afford to purchase their own gymnastics equipment, and even the best teams often have to practice in private gyms.