



By Wei Liao / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tyler Greene heads around the bases against Furman. Greene and five other Jackets were named to the All-Regional team.

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hit it out. I thought it was gone, but I hoped maybe he'd hit the top of the wall and come back."

Hall had planned on starting Tim Gustafson in the second, make or break game of the series. However, Gustafson needed another day of rest after pitching seven innings on Monday, so Lee Hyde started.

"We needed somebody other than Gus to win a game for us to go to Omaha and we felt like Lee was the guy," Hall said.

Hyde got off to a shaky start on the mound and was never fully able to recover. Hyde hit three batters and walked one during the first two innings, but managed to escape both innings without giving up a run.

Hyde gave up four runs and left a runner on for Jordan Crews to inherit with two outs in the fourth inning.

"The third inning was big," Hall said. "We felt like we had a chance to get out of the inning. We had a bang-bang play at first that went against us, and then [Rivera] hit a three-run homer right behind it. Then we made an error and gave them two more runs to kind of blow the

game open. But that was a pivotal part of the game because we could have got out of that inning with the score 1-0."

Crews managed to close up the inning, but not before allowing two more runs. Crews was not able to stop the bleeding in the third as six of the seven Tennessee batters reached base on a hit and three more runners scored in the fourth to give the Volunteers a 9-0 lead.

In the top of the fifth, Tech took advantage of Steven Blackwood being the only runner to be walked by the Vols. Blackwood stole second and was driven home by Mike Trapani, but the Jackets wouldn't threaten again until the eighth inning.

The Jackets put two more runs on the board in the eighth as Tennessee's James Adkins was tiring, but Tech was unable to get back within striking distance.

The Volunteers ended Tech's season with a 13-3 loss. Tennessee's Adkins pitched 7.2 innings allowing only a handful of hits and administering the lone walk to keep the Jackets at bay.

"We didn't have any answers for Adkins. He pitched very well," Hall said.

# Baseball wins Atlanta Regional

By Michael Clarke  
Senior Staff Writer

Tech baseball prevailed against Furman and South Carolina to win the Atlanta Regional. The team advanced to the Super Regional after a winner-take-all game with South Carolina.

Tech knocked off Furman in the first game of the Regional. Tech prevailed 5-4 scoring in the bottom of the 10th inning.

"We were one hit away several times from breaking the game open," Head Coach Danny Hall said. "We didn't get that done. I'm very happy of my team for hanging in there and finding a way to win."

Furman led off the scoring in the second inning when Matthew Betsill hit a homerun to left field. Tech put three runs across in the inning.

Furman tied it in the sixth and the teams traded runs in their halves of the seventh and eighth. In the bottom of the 10th inning with two runners on base, Jeff Kindel drove in the winning hit.

"I was glad to see Jeff Kindel come up with a guy in scoring position in the last inning," Hall said. "He had a great at-bat and came up with a huge hit."

Tech beat South Carolina 10-2 in the first game of the series.

"If you're at your best you'll have a hard time beating Coach Hall's team and we weren't even close to that," South Carolina Head Coach Ray Tanner said.

Blake Wood gave up the only two runs in the first inning. The Jackets scored four runs in the first inning and added runs in six of the nine innings for a decisive win.

"I'm very happy of my team ... finding a way to win."

Danny Hall  
Baseball head coach

"Getting off to a quick start in the first inning was very key for us," Hall said. "Blake Wood, after the first inning, pitched as good as he had all year. He has outstanding stuff and did a tremendous job of keeping them off balance."

Jeremy Slayden made his first appearance in a month at the top of the ninth, driving a pitch off of a truck in right-center-field. Slayden was out of action after having a cyst removed from his right foot. He went 4-5 on the weekend with two home runs and a walk.

"It was pretty special," Slayden said. "It's awesome to be back out there and I couldn't ask for more."

South Carolina's strong pitching performance helped them defeat Tech in the second game, forcing a third game.

"They got out on us early and got a couple runs," Hall said. "We thought we were going to get back into the game. Their home runs were probably the story. I think we were a hit away several times from getting back in the game and couldn't quite get the hit. To their credit they made some pitches when they needed to get out of trouble."

Tech gave up two runs in the first two innings and only managed three runs. The Gamecocks took advantage of three Tech errors to win the second game 8-3.

Tech pulled out all the stops in

the deciding game of the series and defeated South Carolina 5-0.

"Georgia Tech clearly had the best club in this regional," South Carolina head coach Ray Tanner said. "We were good enough to force a game today, and I was hoping we could do it again. We clearly got beat by a better club and I wish Georgia Tech well."

Tim Gustafson earned his second win of the Regional by pitching seven masterful innings. Gustafson gave up only four hits, two walks and four strike outs. Wieters completed the shutout, only Tech's third one of the season.

"Tim Gustafson was outstanding," Hall said. "He was as good as he's pitched in his career. He had everything working."

Gustafson earned the Regional's Most Outstanding Player honors picking up two wins in 10 innings of work. The sophomore struck out seven while giving up six hits and walking two with a 0.90 ERA on the weekend.

"Any one of our guys could've gotten it," Gustafson said. "Jeremy comes in after not playing for a month and has great at bats. Wieters does the same thing. I was thankful for it and it's a great honor. With the team that we have you could spread it out nine different ways."

Five Jackets join Gustafson on the All-Regional team. Juniors Andy Hawranick, Jeff Kindel and Tyler Greene earned the honors at catcher, outfield and shortstop respectively. Sophomore pitcher Blake Wood and Freshman centerfielder Danny Payne also earned the honors.

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## SPORTS

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## THE REAL WORLD

Recent graduates take a break from their new roles to talk about the challenges and surprises of life after Tech. Page 7

## IS HE OUT THERE?

Hillary Duff and Heather Locklear team together to find or create *The Perfect Man* in this new romantic comedy. Page 10

## Baseball falls to Vols at Super Regional

sports shorts

## Track takes 18th place in NCAA

Tech's track team finished in a tie for 18th place at the NCAA Outdoor Track &amp; Field Championships in Sacramento, Calif. last weekend.

Junior Chaunte Howard finished in second place in the high jump. The three-time NCAA high jump champion failed to win for the first time in 29 meets.

Sophomore Ashlee Kidd finished in fifth place in the 400 meters. She posted a season-best time of 51.87 in the finals.

Junior Brandy Depland finished in 11th place in the triple jump with a mark of 41'11.25".

Howard and Kidd both garnered All-American honors.

## Hall talks to Texas A&amp;M

Texas A&amp;M Athletic Director Bill Bryne has requested and been given permission to talk to head coach Danny Hall.

Texas A&amp;M is looking to replace their vacated head coaching position left by the firing of Mark Johnson.

Hall has a 529-230 record at Tech in 12 seasons. Hall has taken the team to the NCAA Tournament every year except for 1999. His postseason record with the Jackets is 59-42.

Hall has two years left on his contract and had a follow-up phone conversation with Bryne on Monday.

## MLB drafts three Tech recruits

Austin Jackson was one of three recruits that were drafted in the MLB draft.

The New York Yankees drafted Jackson in the 8th round. The Yankees are reported to have offered him a signing bonus well over half a million dollars to keep him solely in the Yankees farm system. Jackson was being recruited to play point guard as well as playing baseball.

The Minnesota Twins selected David Duncan in the 14th round of the draft and the Texas Rangers selected Chris Hicks in the 35th round.

## Wilson chosen to lead swim team

Tech assistant swimming coach Stuart Wilson was named the 14th head coach in Tech's swim-team history.

Wilson has been an assistant coach for the last three years and replaces Seth Baron.

Before coming to Tech, Wilson spent 11 years with Swim Atlanta. He was Head Senior Coach for his last four years with the team.



By Jamie Howell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS  
Junior infielder Mike Trapani shows his frustration after being picked off of first base. Trapani hit an impressive .449 in ACC play.

By Michael Clarke  
Senior Staff Writer

For the second consecutive year, Tech was swept out of the NCAA Super Regional at Russ Chandler Stadium. Tech fell in the series to Tennessee.

"Certainly we're disappointed in the outcome today, but give Tennessee a lot of credit," Head Coach Danny Hall said.

Tech got off on the wrong foot in the series, dropping the opening game 3-2. Tech took a 2-1 lead going into the top of the ninth, but was unable to hold on.

Despite the loss, Blake Wood had a dominating performance for the Jackets. Wood only gave up one hit to the second batter of the game that went just under the glove of third basemen Wes Hodges.

"I was trying to make my pitches and had a couple of hard hit balls that went right at people and made pitches when I had to," Wood said.

That hit later came around to score on a throwing error by Andy Hawranick on what would have been the third out of the inning as Wood struck out Eric King. The ball

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Danny Hall  
Baseball head coach

got away from Hawranick and was kicked toward the mound. A hurried throw sailed over Matt Wieters' head and into right field.

After talking to the umpires after the play, Hall stated the umpires thought that King kicked the ball inadvertently. Wood only gave up another hit through seven innings before handing the ball over to the closer, Wieters.

"I felt like we had the lead and that Matt [Wieters] would give us two good innings," Hall said. "He's a great pitcher and has been in that situation a lot for us this year."

Kelly Edmundson pinch-hit for Tennessee and led off the ninth inning with a single. After a sacrifice moved the runner over to second, Robert Fitzgerald sent a first pitch hanging breaking ball just over the right field wall to give Tennessee the lead.

"I was trying to get ahead early in the count and hung [the pitch] up a little bit," Wieters said. "He did what you're supposed to do to a hanger and

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## Golf finishes season second in nation

By Michael Clarke  
Senior Sports Writer

Tech finished as the national runner-up to rival Georgia despite finishing as the low round of the day for the second and third rounds. Roberto Castro had the best individual start finishing in third at one-under-par.

The runner-up finish is the fourth in the history of the Tech golf program and the third in the last five years. Castro's third-place finish is the best by an individual since Troy Matteson won the national title in 2002.

The Jackets entered the final round nine shots behind Georgia, but were not able to gain any ground on the Bulldogs. Tech shot two over par through the first nine holes.

The team rebounded behind the efforts of seniors Nicholas Thompson and Chan Song and sophomore Roberto Castro. The trio combined for seven-under-par before falling back at the end of the round.

"[Georgia] played very well, and we had a good round ourselves," Head Coach Bruce Heppler said. "But we couldn't really get anything going early and put any pressure on them. They had a lead, and they've got five good players, and they're well coached, and they just went

out and played well. We couldn't catch them."

Castro led the Jackets in the first round, shooting a 69; he was the only Jacket to go under par on the day. The Jackets found themselves 14 strokes back at the end of the day shooting eight-over-par. Georgia shot the high round of the day going six-under-par, followed by Tennessee, who shot one-under-par.

"[Georgia] just got away the first day," Heppler said. "They shot six-under-par, and we shot eight-over, and that's where they won the golf tournament. They beat everybody the first day, and then they played solidly the rest of the weekend. It's a great golf course and you have to play all

"It's a great golf course and you have to play all the way around."

Bruce Heppler  
Golf head coach

the way around."

Entering the second round in a tie for 12th, Tech shot the low round of the day at one-over-par. Tech moved up to third on the leader board, gaining three shots on Georgia. Castro's 68 and Thompson's 69 led the day for the Jackets.

"It was breezy when we got here today, and it didn't get any worse, which was fortunate for us," Heppler said. "The guys played well today. We made a birdie on 17, two birdies on 16 and two birdies on 18. We got through the front well, and we got



By Derrick Ma / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tech finished 11 shots behind Georgia to finish second in the NCAA Championship. This is Tech's third runner-up finish in five years.

through 7-8-9 better today than we did yesterday."

Tech scored the low round in the third round, securing a two-team race for the title. The team's fifteen-over-par helped them gain another two strokes on Georgia as well as an 11-shot lead on third place Southern California.

Thompson started off the day on a rough note by bogeying six of the first eight holes. Castro led the Jackets, shooting one-over-par at the end of the round. He tied for the second best overall round on the day.

"You kind of prepare for the worst all week," Castro said. "You know it's going to rain eventually. It's tough, especially after you make a couple of bogeys and then you think you might not make another par. I've never seen a course this long. It was absurd how long it played today, but we grinded it out."

Castro garnered first-team All-America honors with his strong play in the tournament.

Song and Thompson were voted second-team All-America by the Golf Coaches Association.