

Recruiting

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country. But all this matters little in comparison to who will actually be joining Tech next year. So, without further ado, here are the commitments, some of the possibilities and those that it would be a reach for the Yellow Jackets to land.

Commitments

Brad Brezina – DT – 6’4” – 260 – 4.9
Brezina was named to the SuperPreps Top 50 in Georgia for both the preseason and the postseason as well as the AJC Top 50 and was selected to the Ga/Fla All-Star Game. In his season at Athens Academy, he increased his speed off the ball and earned five sacks, an improvement on his three sacks of the previous year before. He committed to Tech in October over Wake Forest, SMU and Troy St.

LaKeldrick Bridges – WR – 6’ 2” – 170 – 4.3
Rivals100.Com ranks Bridges among the top 50 athletes in the nation as well as the No. 30 receiver by the Emfinger Rankings. What’s even more impressive are his stats that he put together while playing for a run-oriented offense. In his junior season, he caught 13 passes for 285 yards and 7 TDs and in his senior season had 37 receptions for 677 yards and 13 TDs. He also has expressed interest in returning kicks and punts. Tech most likely would not have landed Bridges if O’Leary was still the head coach. While at Hillcrest High in Dallas, Texas,

Bridges excelled in both football and basketball and wants to continue being a two-sport athlete in college. Ex-coach O’Leary would not let his athletes participate in other sports. It is still to be seen what Coach Gailey’s stance on this position will be. Bridges, who runs the 40 in 4.3 seconds, is also an excellent performer on the track. He chose the Yellow Jackets over Oklahoma, Arkansas, Maryland, Purdue, Colorado and Alabama. It is also rumored that he is the silent committal that everyone has been speculating over.

George Cooper – TE – 6’5” – 250 – 4.75
Cooper’s commitment to the White and Gold last Monday boosted the tight end portion of the Jackets recruiting efforts into the elite tier of the nation. Tech’s incoming tight ends are ranked behind only Notre Dame and Miami (Fla.).
Cooper is a preseason SuperPreps All-American and is listed as one of the top 10 TE’s in the nation by most rankings. While he is a gifted tight end, he is equally gifted as defensive end. In both his junior and senior seasons he recorded 70 tackles and 12 sacks. Cooper’s father played fullback at Ohio State and it was assumed that Cooper, a native of Ohio from North High, would follow his footsteps to become a Buckeye.
Cooper cited both Tech’s academic and athletic prowess as his reason to become a Jacket over powerhouses such as Ohio St, Wisconsin, Clemson, Notre Dame, Tennessee and Arizona St.

Ajenavi EzimEFE – RB – 6’2” – 220 – 4.5
EzimEFE is another top recruit from the state of Louisiana. While ranked No. 16 in the state by SuperPreps, he is ranked even higher at No. 4 FB in the nation by the Emfinger rankings. This back has the speed to run past defenders but also has the size and physical mentality to run through opposing tacklers. During his senior season he amassed 756 yards and scored 13 times. The bayou back that gives both linebackers and spelling bee contestants nightmares picked Tech over LSU, Texas A&M, SMU and Tulane.

Adam Jones – DB – 5’11” – 180 – 4.4
Jones is one of the top cornerbacks in Georgia. During his senior season at Westlake High in Atlanta, he recorded 110 tackles and seven interceptions. As proof of his athleticism there are his offensive stats. As a running back he ran for over 1700 yards and scored 23 times in class AAAA. He was ready to commit to South Carolina, however, no offer was made. When Tech offered a scholarship, Jones committed, choosing to become a Jacket over ACC foes Wake Forest, Duke and Virginia.

David Jordan – P/K – 6’4” – 185 – 4.49
When Luke Manget leaves after his senior season there will be someone ready to step in to replace him. Jordan, who some think is one of the best kickers in the nation, may even take over on kickoffs this next year. He comes from Brookstone School in Columbus, Ga. and has been consistent on the field, remaining al-



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The departure of junior running Joe Burns has left a hole for a recruit to fill. Michael Sampson, a running back out of Texas, could help fill the void.

most perfect on extra points. He also has a strong leg and has career longs of 52 yards on a field goal and 67 yards on a punt. He will also most likely become an Academic All-American as he had a 4.0 in high school and obtained a 1300 on the SAT. He chose Tech over nearby UGA and MSU and also Michigan, FSU, Miami, Stanford and Auburn.

Mike Matthews – TE/DE – 6’5” – 255 – 4.7
Matthews, the second recruit to come from Ohio, originates from Sycamore High in Cincinnati. While he had arthroscopic knee surgery as a junior, he came back and played well during his senior season. As a tight end he caught 22 passes for 297 yards and only played a couple downs a game on the defensive side of the

ball. With the very limited playing time on defense, it is impressive that he was able to easily gain four sacks. Matthews chose Tech over Tennessee, Ohio and Toledo.
Xavier McGuire – WR – 6’5” – 210 – 4.55
McGuire is one of the influx of recruits emanating from the heartland of Texas. With the hire of Chan Gailey, Tech has found a new recruiting base in Texas, a land full of talent. Gailey coached the Dallas Cowboys for a few seasons and still has the needed ties in the state. McGuire, a PrepStar All-American and one of the top receivers in the nation, will help fill the void left by the departing Kelley Campbell. He averaged over 20 yards per catch in

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his junior and senior seasons and is a deep threat on almost every play. Alabama, Florida, Tennessee and Oklahoma all showed interest before McGuire committed to Tech.

Zeb McHargue – OL – 6’5” – 310 – 5.2
McHargue can play at guard or tackle, however, has been recruited mainly as a tackle. It is hard to tell which position he will settle into for the Golden Tornadoes. Rated as one of the top 25 linemen in the country, McHargue has great feet and can stand up with the best of them. The Gray resident picked Tech over the efforts of Auburn, Florida, Georgia, USF and Alabama.

Terron Pullen – DE – 6’3” – 265 – 4.78
Pullen, a defensive end that also has played at running track, has surprising speed. He is known for chasing down offensive players. He was selected as the Class A Defensive Player of the year by the AJC and improved from the No. 46 ranked player in Georgia in preseason to No. 28 in the postseason by Super-Preps. Wrightsville Pullen and his 46 solo tackles picked Tech over Auburn, Georgia, Clemson and Alabama.

Chris Reis – CB/WR – 6’2” – 205 – 4.5
Reis could be a good fit in many parts of the Ramblin’ Wreck. While he played cornerback primarily in high school, he was also a gifted receiver and could also fit well as a safety. The two-way player from Roswell, Ga. recorded 95 receptions and 112 tackles over his last two seasons at Roswell High. Tech competed with Auburn, Notre Dame, North Carolina, Northwestern and Tennessee for the rights to Reis.

Michael Sampson – RB – 6’2” – 195 – 4.55
Sampson, originating from Lewisville, Tex. is another big name recruit landed thanks to Coach Gailey’s connections. Sampson is currently ranked by Rivals.Com as the No. 39 athlete in the nation. Sampson, in a senior season that was plagued

by injuries, averaged 10.4 yards per carry, 30.6 yards per catch and scored 13 times. During this time period he played through separated shoulders and an ankle sprain. Imagine what he could do healthy. He chose Tech partly because of Coach Gailey. Sampson wants to play in the NFL and feels that Gailey can teach him things that non-ex-NFL coaches would not be able to. “I have so much I want to do, and one of them is to make a name for myself in college,” said Sampson. He will be fighting for the starting job left open by the departure of RB Joe Burns.

Probable

I-Perfection Harris – CB – 5’10” – 165 – 4.35
SuperPreps ranks Harris as the No. 6 prospect in New York and the DB was selected for the PrepStars All-American Team. Not only does he have amazing speed, but he also has the leaping ability and break on the ball to make up for his average height. He can take away one side of the field with his coverage, thus the reason he only had 35 tackles as a senior. Currently Harris favors Tech over Penn State while also courting offers from Miami, Duke and Boston College. He has said that each school’s track program would have a big impact on his decision.

Marcus McNeil – OL – 6’8” – 315 – 5.0
Many have ranked McNeil as the best offensive lineman in the nation. The Ellenwood resident has also been named to five major All-American Teams. He attributes his high level of play to his long arms, good feet and playing basketball his entire life. The basketball handling skills has drastically improved his hands, a crucial weapon for any lineman. Right now Auburn has a slight edge over Tech and Tennessee and it is said that he will commit sometime early next week.

Jonathan Palmer – OL – 6’6” – 310 – 5.2
It is said that if Marcus McNeil,

Palmer’s teammate from Ellenwood, commits to Tech that Palmer would happily follow. The gifted guard already seems to be leaning toward Tech but is not certain whether Tech has an offer waiting for him. Both McNeil and Palmer are great linemen and unless Tech has a mass influx of recruits that commit, Palmer will most likely receive that offer. He already has offers from Clemson, Alabama, Florida State and Miami.

Aaron Scranton – DE – 6’6” – 235 – 4.8
The senior from Buford, is a beast along the offensive line. He has impressive quickness off the ball and can make open field tackles. In his senior year he recorded over 130 tackles, 23 of them for a loss, and 9 sacks. In the Ga/Fla All-Star Game, in which he was named MVP, he had six tackles, three for a loss, a sack and a forced fumble. Scranton is ranked as the No. 18 end in the nation by Emfinger and No. 40 by Rivals100.Com. Scranton has said that right now Arkansas and Tech are equal in his eyes and that Tennessee is close behind. He should make his decision by Sunday.

Doubtful

Nicolaus Brooks – DB – 6’1” – 185 – 4.44
Brooks is a PrepStars All-Region Team member and is listed as one of the top 20 prospects in Georgia by SuperPreps. He would fit well into the Tech defense with his speed and leaping ability. As a senior he intercepted five balls, returning two for touchdowns and had 50 tackles. Right now he is down to Tech, Mississippi St., LSU and Florida, with UF and LSU leading. He will visit Tech this weekend and will make his decision after that. If he chooses to stay close to home, the Warner Robins native will most likely choose Tech. However, if he chooses to go with his teammates, he may head over to MSU.

John Doucette – TE – 6’3” – 250 – 4.7
Doucette was the first member of the highly touted Tech tight end class that the Jackets made an offer to. He is rated as one of the top 15

players in the Bayou and as one of the top 20 tight ends in the nation. The St. Augustine player from New Orleans expressed that he definitely wanted to go to a school out of state and chose Tech over the likes of Florida State, Florida, Arkansas, Michigan, Miami, Clemson and Texas. Unfortunately, this past Monday, Doucette decommitted from Tech. Doucette declined to give a reason for his change in mind but it is possible that either he was upset after the signing of Cooper or that Tech retracted their scholarship offer to him. He is strongly considering Memphis among the other schools already listed.

Troy Reddick – OL – 6’6” – 310 – 5.1
Rivals ranks Reddick as one of the top 30 linemen in the nation. Reddick is proud of his athletic ability and flexibility. He weighs in at 310 pounds and can pull off a full split. He has said that he wants to start playing his freshmen year at either guard or tackle and that he can excel at either position. While Tech is not the frontrunner it is a strong possibility that he may still become a part of the Ramblin Wreck. Auburn, Clemson, Stanford and Ohio St. have all made offers.

Nothing is certain until the last minute of the signing period. Those committed to Tech now can sign at other schools. Likewise any player can sign with Tech. However, once a player does sign with a school, he is obliged to fulfill his commitment. The first day of the signing period is Wednesday, February 6, National Signing Day. It is on this day that the twelve current committals along with hopefully a couple others will sign to become Jackets. It is also speculated that Tech may have a couple silent committals that will come out of the woodwork on signing day. One of these is assumed to be LaKeldrick Bridges. The other is supposed to be a highly touted recruit that is currently committed to Georgia.

However, the signing period is fickle and the only thing that one can be assured of is that at least be one surprise will take place. Whether that is a good or bad surprise will determine how Tech stands once the dust clears.

Collier

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and prestigious opportunity for her, I feel it is best for me to make the move.”
Coach Collier does not currently have any jobs lined up in Charlotte, however, with his reputation, he will not be out of work for long. Collier is the all-time winningest coach of Tech history. During his tenure which lasted 11 years he amassed a record of 271-114 and has brought the spikers up from the depths of the ACC. Before he came to Tech, the Jackets were ranked at No. 250 in the nation but within his first few years brought the program back to its feet and has kept it among the top 25 in the nation. He won AVCA South Region Coach of the Year in his first year and ACC Coach of the Year in 1995, the year the team won the ACC tournament. He has also led the Jackets to three regular season championships and six berths into post-season play. This past season the Jackets finished the season at 19-8 after the shortened season and earned a trip to the NCAA tournament.
Before coming to Tech, Collier already had an impressive career. From 1988 till 1990 he coached the USA Women’s National Team and before that he spent nine seasons as the coach at the University of Pittsburgh. During this tenure he earned a 565-207 record and is one of only 15 active coaches who have over 550 wins.
Every one of his players since he arrived at Tech has graduated and the majority of which have done so while excelling. This past year nine of 14 players made the Dean’s List and two had a 4.0 GPA. He also built up an impressive reputation with fans. He has always openly welcomed supporters of the team and there are many stories of him taking students with the team to away games when they had no other way to get there.
Although it will be hard to replace such an impressive coach, the team favorite is current assistant head coach Bond Shymansky, who is the head of recruiting.
“I think we’re all in agreement about [wanting Bond to get the job]. I think he’d do a great job,” said Amanda Hess.

Remember, Tech didn’t earn environmental awards by sitting around doing nothing. After enjoying your *Technique* experience, we ask that you please recycle this paper.

Beyond the White and Gold

What if Georgia Tech started a boxing circuit?

Derek Haynes
Sports Editor

The Mike Tyson-Lennox Lewis incident got me thinking. If the Georgia Tech community was to start an imaginary boxing circuit, what would some of the matches look like?

Starting point guard Tony Akins vs. punt returner Kelley Rhino

Both of these vertically-challenged stars are quick on their feet and have solid builds. However, Rhino would have a slight edge in weight. Akins has a slightly longer reach and has a quicker first step. Akins also has the swagger of a boxer, while anyone watching Rhino field punts with a defender in his face, without calling for a fair catch knows he won't be afraid of a punch.

Akins in a 12-round TKO victory over Rhino. Rhio promises victory in rematch.

Women's basketball guard Milli Martinez vs. Dean Boyd

Martinez could be the consummate boxer; quick feet, long arms and an athletic build. Dean Boyd would bring experience to the ring

"The burly Watson has an athletic pedigree, playing football in high school."

that Martinez couldn't match. Boyd is a veteran of many tough disputes in the halls of the Student Services Building.

Boyd's experience doesn't pay off in this 5-round KO victory for Martinez.

SGA Vice-President Nate Watson vs. SGA President Chris Kavanaugh

The burly Watson has brawn behind those brains; the head of the SGA House played football in high school. Kavanaugh really doesn't toot a boxing talent. When this bout is over, Watson might have to take over SGA.

*Watson by KO in just 18 seconds
into the first round.*

Men's basketball forward Ed Nelson vs. small forward Clarence Moore.

Nelson could be a boxer when he decides to leave the hardwood; he's tall, strong and athletic. However, the quicker Moore would be all over the ring against his freshman teammate. The gritty and hard-working Moore matches Nelson's toughness; this would be a test of power vs. agility.

Nelson in a 4-round stunner.

Intramural Notebook

with Jack B. Nimble

Campus Rec to sponsor several events

Those lively ladies and gents at the intramural department are at it again! Check out these upcoming events:

- 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament Feb. 1-2—If you don't have the endurance to run full court, this is the tournament for you.
- Sweetheart Fun Run Feb. 14—Run off those love handles. Not that you'll be able to run them off in one race!

Wait, that's mean.

- Softball Tournament March 22—Hit the big ball.
- Table Tennis Tournament March 29—Where the big boys will be.

- Badminton Tournament
March 30—Slam that shuttlecock.

Now, onto the intramural sports report.

Dirty fingers

3 *Fingers* of the men's basketball b-league has been treating their opponents like Bob Knight treats his basketball team. They won their first game over *The Ballers* 47-16 and killed *You're not ready for this*, 52-17. So congrats to *John Brewer*, *Jason Faulkner*, *Robert Wheeler* and the rest of this fiesty squad.

The Steve Spurrier Award for running up the score

Glenncore—This squad is averaging a league-high 72.5 ppg. *John Fuller, William Ampong, Neil Hubble* and the rest of the gang have gotten hoop happy.

What sport are they playing?

Catholic Center 24, So Kings 3.
Trew 24, WCF 0.
Softball, not football.

atlanta

thrashers

numbers

challenge



explain what the number on page 32 represents, and win a pair of thrashers tickets

Forward Ed Nelson making big impact



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Forward Ed Nelson leads all freshman cagers in the ACC with 7 rebounds per game and is in the top 10 for defensive rebounds in the conference.

*By Katie Neal
Contributing Writer*

With all the talk of Georgia Tech men’s basketball being limited by having such a young team, it’s gratifying for the Yellow Jacket coaches to see that freshman Ed Nelson has stepped up to take a position as one of the team leaders. The 6’7”, 250-lb. power forward from Fort Lauderdale, Florida has repeatedly proven himself by holding his own against some of tallest players in the NCAA. Until last Tuesday’s comeback of Tech’s injured 7-foot center, Luke Schenscher, Nelson had to fill the gaping hole in the paint left by Tech’s biggest man.

Mainly by using his strength and body weight against his opponents’ size, Nelson has made an impressive impact on the boards this season. He is not only leading the Tech team by averaging 7 rebounds per game, but he is also leading the ACC in freshman rebounders.

Nelson is among the top 10 players in the ACC for defensive rebounds, and along with fellow teammates Robert Brooks and Clarence Moore, has made it into the list of the top 15 ACC offensive rebounders as well.

“We said before the season started that Ed Nelson was going to be one of our better rebounders and one of our better scorers,” said Coach Paul Hewitt. “Early in the year, he had a little bit of adjustment playing against some taller defenders. Instead of taking the ball at them, as he was accustomed to, he shied away from contact, double-clutched a little on his shot. Now he seems to have smoothed that out, and he’s going right at people.”

Although he is continuously adjusting and improving with each

game, Nelson had a slow start when it came to scoring. He has been able to enhance his free throwing from 51.6 percent to 65.6 percent in his last eight games. He made 3-4 free throws in the loss to Virginia and was 6-11 from the field, tying Clarence Moore for a team-high 15 points.

In the past four games against Duke, Maryland, NC State and Virginia, Nelson has scored in double digits each time. In this past Saturday’s match versus Wake Forest, Nelson once again led the team in rebounds, finishing with 8 rebounds and 12 points.

With an average playing time of at least 25 minutes per game, Nelson has been molded into a helping hand both on offense and defense for the Jackets. He has improved by leaps and bounds, from the apprehensive newcomer who was nervous about being on national television, to an increasingly stronger and more developed presence on the court.

Critics have pointed to the team’s inexperience level as their biggest weakness, and so far, they’re right. But there is no doubt that the talented Nelson and the rest of the heralded freshman class have the ability; one only has to look to the packed student section to see fans eagerly anticipating the future.

Ed Nelson File	
Position:	Power Forward
Height/Weight:	6’7”/250
Year:	Freshman
Stats:	8.9 PPG, 6.9 RPG
Hometown:	Fort Lauderdale, Fl.
Number:	32
Notes:	Rated as the No. 29 player in the country by PrepStars out of St. Thomas Aquinas
	Selected as the Florida High School Player of the Year by USA Today

Men’s Hoops: North Carolina (6-11, 2-5 ACC) at Georgia Tech (8-13, 1-7 ACC)

Frontcourt

North Carolina should have a big scoring advantage from the inside as long as they remember to get the ball to Kris Lang and from the wing with Jason Capel either slashing for drives or pulling up for jumpers. Ed Nelson continues to improve and, along with Marvin Lewis and Halston Lane, will provide inside scoring, rebounding and defense. The addition of Luke Schenscher, the freshman seven-footer from Australia, should help, but he may see limited playing time as he continues to work his way back from injury.



Backcourt

Tech should have an advantage from the outside as Tony Akins continues to be among the conference leaders in scoring and UNC has yet to establish a consistent outside game. If either Adam Boone or Brian Morrison, both notorious streak shooters, gets hot from long range, it could be a long night for the Jackets.



Bench

The Jackets are deep on the bench; however, they don't have many strategic subs. Most of the players on the bench are athletic with little size, but that shouldn't hurt that much against the Heels who have very little depth on the bench and struggle against fast squads.



Coaching

Matt Doherty is an excellent motivator and should be able to get his troops ready to play. His team has struggled this year, but it has been more a question of poor recruiting caused by multiple coaching transitions than it has been a question of Doherty's abilities. Tech coach Paul Hewitt continues his multi-year plan to transform Tech into a more athletic, more defensively-minded team, and is a good in-game manager.

Intangibles

Tech's depth should cause problems for North Carolina, as Tech will go ten deep in its efforts to keep fresh players on the court who can maintain the high-tempo, high-intensity attack. UNC's tradition of greatness and great players is usually enough to scare most teams into submission, but not this year. UNC has been beaten at home and on the road by what would ordinarily be considered weaker teams. In short, the luster is gone from this once-mighty program.

Forecast

The Jackets have been in several close games; this one won't be against the Tar Heels. Tech is due for a win after going down to the wire against several NCAA Tournament-caliber teams. *Jackets 83, Tar Heels 72*

EVEN



Tarred Cagers

Tech's cagers look to reverse a trend of coming up just short in ACC games this week when they take on the struggling Tar Heels of North Carolina on Saturday. North Carolina, normally the gold standard in men's college basketball, is having one of their worst seasons in the school's history, but they always play well in Atlanta.

Tech comes in off of a string of near misses against Maryland, Virginia, NC State, and Wake Forest. Coming away with a victory over North Carolina would finally show dividends for Tech's consistent improvement this season.

Tech should be able to score from the outside and in transition as North Carolina's defense has had trouble against more athletic teams.

Will you be Tech’s next

Truman Scholar?

Rhodes Scholar?

Marshall Scholar?

Come to an information session on these and other prestigious graduate scholarships, including the Goldwater, Gates, Churchill and Mitchell Scholarships

Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2002
Clary Theatre, Student Success Center
11 a.m.-noon

Meet Rhodes Scholar Will Roper and Marshall Scholar Andy Ozment, who will talk about their experiences in the competitions.

All undergraduate and graduate students are invited.

For more information, contact:

-Amanda Gable, Graduate Studies Office
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SPORTS

Technique • Friday, February 1, 2002

Win a pair of Thrashers fixs

We've debuted our new contest, *Number Challenge*, below. The winner receives a pair of tickets to Atlanta's coolest game. Below

'He's going right at people'

Freshman power forward Ed Nelson has picked up his game several levels; he now leads ACC freshmen in rebounds. Page 30

by
the
numbers

16

Number of years in the last 17 that the Tech baseball team has been in the NCAA Regionals.

25

Rebounding margin between the Tech and North Carolina Women's Basketball teams (58-33). Tech won the game 81-62.

26

Tech's Men's Tennis Team's Pre-season National Ranking by the ITA.

327

Before their win over FSU, days since last time the Tech Men's basketball team won a regular season ACC game. (March 9, 2001)

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number
challenge
hint: spikers

.704

Here's the number...what does it represent?

The first person to email sports@technique.gatech.edu with the correct response to the challenge will receive a pair of tickets to an Atlanta Thrashers home game, where admission is always half-price for select tickets with a student ID. Visit www.atlantathrashers.com for more info on college nights.

on
deck

Event	Date
TM at Wildcat Classic	2/2
MB vs. North Carolina	2/2
SW vs. Western Kentucky	2/2
TM vs. Charlotte/Mercer	2/3
WB vs. Wake Forest	2/3
MB at Clemson	2/6
WB vs. NC St.	2/7

MB - Men's Basketball SW - Swimming TM - Men's Tennis TR - Track TW - Women's Tennis WB - Women's Basketball

Spikers coach Collier unexpectedly resigns



By Scott Meuleners/ STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tech's volleyball coach Shelton Collier leaves as the winningest coach in Yellow Jacket volleyball history. Collier announced the unexpected decision last week at a team meeting.

By Derick Stanger
Assistant Sports Editor

With all the noise that was made after the O'Leary resignation, it is a surprise that the resignation of a gifted coach came about without much notice. This past Monday Georgia Tech announced that Shelton Collier had resigned from his position as the head coach of the Yellow Jacket Women's Volleyball Team. Collier gave his resignation early last week and held a team meeting before his decision was announced to the public.

In the press release, athletic director David Braine stated that Collier will be hard to replace.

"We are going to miss Shelton. The entire Georgia Tech family is appreciative of what he has done for Georgia Tech volleyball, and he is leaving us a program which is in good shape and will continue to be successful in the future.

I respect the decision that Shelton has made and wish him well in the years to come," said Braine.

This respect is shared by the players. "Everybody was in disarray, but when he explained why, we thought it was honorable of him," said sophomore setter Kele Eveland. "Everyone is still in shock...and everyone expected him to be around a bit longer."

His resignation did not come because there was any type of scandal or error on his bio, as is the trend these days. He will be moving to Charlotte, NC, where he will be joining his fiancée, DiAnn Gorham.

"Our original plan was for DiAnn to move to Atlanta," said Collier, "but recently we learned she is on track for a promotion from captain to chief (in the Charlotte fire department), and with that being such a unique

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Résumé problems rock Tech football program

By Derek Haynes
Sports Editor

School officials revealed that new Tech defensive coordinator Rick Smith and receivers coach Tommie Robinson both have inaccuracies in their school-released biographies just over a month after former head coach George O'Leary resigned at Notre Dame under similar circumstances.

Smith's bio at the University of Kentucky, where he coached before accepting the coordinator position at Tech, states he played baseball and basketball at Florida State when he played neither. Robinson's bio from Oklahoma State says he earned a masters degree in education from Troy State; Robinson is actually six hours short of earning the masters degree.

Smith, who offered to resign, and Robinson will both be retained by Gailey.

Errors have been present in Smith's bio several times in his career. In 1978, the East Tennessee State football program states Smith played baseball and football at North Alabama. Smith, who was coaching at Tennessee State, was offered a partial scholarship to North Alabama but never attended the school.

Smith, who was on former head coach Bill Curry's staff from 1982-85, had the FSU claims under his name in 1985. The baseball and football claims also appear in the 1986 Alabama media guide. Smith says Ray Perkins, the Alabama head coach at the time, told him to say he played football at FSU.

Robinson tried to inform Tech officials of the inaccuracies in his bio before his hiring was announced, but Jackets Director of Communications Mike Stamus told the AJC he forgot to delete the false claims from the press release announcing the hiring.

Hockey concludes home slate Saturday

The Tech hockey squad has had a productive season by anyone's standards. They've already been guaranteed the top ranking in division III club hockey, broke the division II club game attendance record, and swept Georgia. Now they hope to add a pair of wins over division II North Carolina at the Cooler Friday at 9 p.m. and Saturday at 5 p.m. The Jackets, 18-1 on the year, head to California next weekend to play UC-Davis on Friday and UC-San Diego Saturday. Tech will also host the national tournament March 1-3.

Football recruiting class shows Gailey's Texas connections



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

Chan Gailey, former Dallas Cowboys Head Coach, has lured several players from the lone star state to Atlanta thanks to his Texas connections.

By Derick Stanger
Assistant Sports Editor

College football ended almost a month ago and the Super Bowl is Sunday. All those College All-Star games are slowly passing by. After those TV's are turned off after the Pro Bowl, football will be gone. The season will be over.

So what is there to talk about? Sure there's that occasional talk about the year before. Dreams that never reached their full potential (Tech) and wishes that came true (Maryland). But there's a limit as to how much one can talk about something once it's already happened. The future, however, is limitless. Those recruits that chose a school to be their future Alma Mater will be the talk among college football fans. After all, what else is there to talk about?

Tech has put themselves into a tricky position. The firing or resign-

nation of any member of a coaching staff, let alone the entire staff, can wreak havoc on the recruiting season. Incoming players are unsure about what the new coaching staff will try to put in to effect and do not know how well they will fit in the new scheme. Fortunately, and surprisingly, Tech sustained little damage. While some big name prospects that had Tech in mind as a possibility may have chose to go another route, there is no guarantee that under O'Leary Tech would have landed them anyway.

In the opposite direction, a new staff can bring in connections that the old staff may not have had. Coach Chan Gailey's Texas connections have provided several possible recruits out of the heartland. He has also brought together a staff of assistants that have roots across the

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