

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, September 20, 2002

Cougars come callin'

Check out the preview for this Saturday's football game against Brigham Young University. **Page 27.**

Students tap breweries

The *Nique's* Chris Webb investigates local breweries for your entertainment. ID not required to read it. **Page 19.**



by the numbers

148

Number of rushing yards that running back Tony Hollings averages per game. Hollings also leads the nation in scoring with eight touchdowns in three games.

18:08

Time that senior Katie Griffin ran for a second place finish in the five-kilometer run this past Saturday at the Bulldog Stampede. The women's cross country team finished the season opener in third place and the men's team finished in sixth place.

0

The number of times that Georgia Tech has previously played Brigham Young in football. The Yellow Jackets will make a trip to Provo, Utah in 2003. BYU becomes the 94th different institution that Georgia Tech has faced in its 110 years of football.

469

Total number of yards that redshirt junior A.J. Suggs has tallied in 36-of-58 throws this season. Suggs has had four touchdowns and one interception.

atlanta thrashers number challenge

hint: Volleyball Top 25

3

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

To enter email the Sports Editor at sports@technique.gatech.edu with the correct answer to the challenge. A winner will be selected from among the qualified entries. The winner will receive a pair of tickets to an Atlanta Thrashers home game, where admission is always \$8 for a seat in the \$36 section with a student ID. Visit www.atlantathrashers.com for more info on college nights.

on deck

Event	Date
WV vs. Alabama	9/20
F vs. BYU	9/21
G at BYU Dual Match	9/21
CC at Georgia State Invitational	9/21
WV vs. Florida International	9/21
WV vs. Cornell	9/21
WV- Women's Volleyball, F - Football	
CC - Men's and Women's Crosscountry	
G - Men's Golf	

Cross-country team makes NCAA Top 25 debut

By Finny Turner
Contributing Writer

Since all of the other athletic teams are off to such an amazing start, it is not surprising that the Lady Jackets Cross Country team has earned its first ever top 25 ranking in the NCAA coaches poll. Although losing some key members of the team to graduation, the team has set high expectations for itself this season.

"We did lose three of our top five runners off last year's team, so we enter this season needing some people to step up and fill in some gaps, but I don't want to lower our expectations," said Head Coach Alan Drosky.

The team hopes to not only finish the season with a top three finish at the highly competitive Atlantic Coast Conference championship,

but also earn a return trip to the NCAAs with a top two finish at regionals and place in the top 20 nationally.

The competition is stiff, considering there are four other ACC schools in the top 25. North Carolina State is ranked third; followed by North Carolina, which is ranked sixth; Duke ranked No. 11; and Virginia, ranked No. 16. Fortunately, the Jackets can boast a trio of Amy Dock, Katie Griffin and Renee Metivier, that, according to Coach Drosky, is one of the best in the country. It also doesn't hurt that the ladies have an amazing work ethic.

"It truly is awesome, and as a coach, I've never witnessed anything like it. I am literally in awe at how hard they train," said Drosky.

See *GT X-C*, page 26



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Captions are 2 or 3 lines. Align the top of this text block's window shade even with the bottom of the photo—spacing is automatic.

Coach Shymansky leads "point Tech" attack

By Al Przygocki
Senior Staff Writer

In his eleven years at Georgia Tech, Shelton Collier put the Volleyball program on the map. When he resigned, the team took a long time in deciding upon a successor. Well, if you count five minutes as a long time that is. The team went to then Assistant Coach Bond Shymansky and asked him if he wanted to stay. When he said yes, the search process was over.

Shymansky inherited a team that made the last two NCAA tournaments and was stocked with veteran players and several young stars in the making. Obviously, expectations were high, but the team is exceeding them so far. The Lady Jackets are 11-2 this year with three wins over ranked opponents.

Bond credits the team's early sea-

son success to their balance. Shymansky explains, "It's the whole team, and that's been a unique thing for us. Everybody is contributing both offensively and defensively, and when you have balance on your team, success will follow."

Shymansky further said, "It gets opponents frustrated, in that it forces them to make choices they don't want to have to make. A lot of teams may only have one or two good hitters, so when you play those teams you can choose to focus on them the whole time. For us, we have so many players who are contributing that it really makes it tough for our opponents."

The key to Shymansky's coaching method can be summed up in two words. Success Today. Shymansky has the team concentrate on getting better as individuals and as a team. Bond explains that it's all about

asking yourself, "How can we be successful today as a team, as an individual, in practice or in a match? We've got to work hard to be good, that moment, that day. Tomorrow will take care of itself when it comes around."

Shymansky further explained that once you find a personal goal to work on, "That's a goal you can attain. That's something you can have complete control over. You don't have control of all those other things. If you have success in the things that will make you a better player and make you a better team, the other goals will follow because we are that good."

In between all the demands of coaching, Shymansky still finds both time and energy to devote to his wife Catherine and their two children, Corrina, age seven, and Nick, age four.

"I want to have energy for my family. It's really important to me, so I work at it," said Shymansky.

When it comes to incorporating his family into his professional life, Shymansky explained that, "We try to do a lot of unique things as a family. They come down to campus a couple of times a week to eat either lunch or dinner with me. We try to take them on road trips, especially if we're bussing somewhere. It's really nice to have them with me while I'm working and to make them an important part of what I'm doing."

"That's important to me," Shymansky added. "It's important to me that they're an active part in the team. The team loves my kids, and they know my wife really well, and the team has Thanksgiving meal at my house. I want our volleyball family to be part of my family."

Bring on the Rain: Jackets lose in downpour



By Scott Meuleners / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tony Hollings, one of Tech's shining stars this season, dives for a fourth-quarter touchdown in the loss to Clemson last Saturday.

Gridiron Quickies

- Albert Poree, a cornerback from New Orleans, Louisiana, announced on Wednesday that he would be quitting the Tech football team, just days after the team's first seasonal loss to Clemson.

Poree, a highly-touted transfer from Notre Dame, watched his career come to a disappointing end after a crucial mistake in last Saturday's game, when he botched a special teams punt, letting the ball roll into the end-zone for a touchback, instead of stopping it at the 1-yard line.

Poree has been playing with Tech's second-team defense and on special teams this season. Personal matters at home hurt Poree last season after losing out on his starting position.

- The game this Saturday will be the first ever meeting between Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets and Brigham Young Cougars teams. Check out Ryan Peck's preview on Page 27 to get see what BYU, which was ranked in the top-25 until its loss to Nevada last week, will be bringing to Atlanta.

football forecast

- Georgia Tech vs. BYU
 - Florida vs. Tennessee
 - Colorado vs. UCLA
 - Florida A & M vs. Delaware
 - Notre Dame vs. Michigan State
 - Temple vs. South Carolina
 - Boston College vs. Miami
 - Virginia Tech vs. Texas A & M
 - Siena vs. Canisius
 - Idaho State vs. Montana
- Submit your picks at:
nique.net/footballforecast

GT Football Schedule

BRIGHAM YOUNG	9/21
at North Carolina	9/28
WAKE FOREST	10/5
at Maryland	10/17
VIRGINIA	10/26
at NC State	11/2
FLORIDA STATE	11/9
DUKE	11/16
at UGA	11/30

Beyond the White and Gold

Anna Kournikova or the NFL: Which is more appealing?

By John Parsons
Senior Staff Writer

It was another great week for sportswriters, at least for male sportswriters anyway. That's right, Anna Kournikova finally made it back to the finals of a WTA event. Granted, there were no Williams sisters, no Capriati, no Davenport, no Seles, nor anyone else whose name you'd probably recognize, but at least it was a WTA event.

Across the country, otherwise serious sports journalists were suddenly interested in covering the Shanghai Open. I honestly thought it was a hoax when I first heard about.

With all due respect to the people of Shanghai, who's ever heard of the Shanghai Open? There was one sole motive in this sudden interest in Kournikova's tennis career. It was an excuse for papers to

publish pictures of her, thereby drastically increasing newsstand sales that day.

Being the astute businessman I am, I approached our sports editor about the idea, with the conversation going something like this:

ME: If I write my column about Anna Kournikova, can we publish a picture of her?

EDITOR: Of course not. Men are such pigs.

ME: No, wait. This is strictly a business idea.

EDITOR: This is a free paper.

ME: Maybe we can do some sort of bonus edition

EDITOR: No.*

**This conversation never took place. Katie would never be so closed-minded to such a great business idea.*

After all the hype around the final, Kournikova fell in straight sets to Anna Smashnova 6-2, 6-3. It was her fourth finals appearance over-

all, but her first of since 2000. She has four semifinal losses and a 27-24 record this year. (Bear with me as I try to salvage my journalistic integrity.) Kournikova fared much better in the doubles final, winning with her partner Janet Lee in straight sets, 7-5, 6-3. It was her sixteenth WTA doubles title.

Now let's move on to some thoughts from the weekend in the NFL.

- Let's hope Curtis Martin can shake off that sprained ankle soon. He has eight carries for an anemic eleven yards so far. If it weren't for Chad Morton's special teams heroics two weeks ago, the Jets would be 0-2 and desperate.

- Can we start calling the Ravens the Baltimore Marlins yet? If Brian Billick were really a genius, he'd figure out a way to win with this team. I have a feeling we'll be waiting for while.

- I've also got the feeling that Kordell Stewart needs to rehire his security for when he's in Pittsburgh. After what looked like a breakthrough year last year, the normal "Slash" is back.

- The Rams are finally being bitten by their penchant for turning the ball over. Four turnovers against the Giants, two in the last four minutes, doomed them to their first 0-2 start since 1998.

- Spurrier might be realizing now what everyone else in America already knew. Shane Matthews and Danny Wuerffel aren't NFL caliber quarterbacks, no matter what scheme they're in. Redskins fans can only hope Spurrier will admit his mistake before next season. That would require him admitting that he's not infallible. We'll see.

Got comments on "Beyond the White and Gold?" Email: sports@technique.

GT X-C

from page 28

Before the team members can accomplish their goals, however, they must first get healthy. Unfortunately, for the first meet of the season, four of the top seven runners were either ill or injured. Renee Metivier, a junior from Highland Village, Texas is recovering from calf surgery.

After Metivier had what is described as a "magical season" in 2001, with a second place finish in the NCAA Championships, earning All-America honors, All-ACC honors and also capturing the NCAA South Region title, the team looks forward to her swift and successful recuperation.

"Renee is such a great competitor and such a hard worker," Drosky said. "I have every expectation that she'll be where she was last year and hopefully better."

Amy Dock was also out for last weekend's Bulldog Stampede. She red-shirted last season due to illness, but was an all-region performer in the 2000 cross-country season and a fourth place finisher in the 5000 in Indoor ACCs during the 2001-2002 season.

New to the cross-country team, though certainly not new to Georgia Tech athletics, is Jenny Lentz, a former swimmer, current track athlete and cross-country runner, who sat out last weekend due to illness.

And finally, freshman Carla Uribe was also out for the race. She was also troubled with illness that kept her sidelined.

Despite the missing key links, last weekend the team had a third place finish at the University of Georgia's third annual Bulldog Stampede at the UGA golf course. The Lady Jackets finished with 55 points, just behind South Florida and Tulsa.

Katie Griffin, finishing second with a time of 18:08 on the five-kilometer race, led the team. Griffin earned all-region honors last season and set the school record and qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in the 10,000 meters.

"Our team has a lot of talent and a lot of goals. First off, we have a great coach who has a lot of faith in us. His goals for us are just as high. We want to be a top 20 teams, at nationals at the least. We have a lot of good freshmen with good work ethics, which is definitely a plus. The one thing hindering us a bit is getting Renee [Metivier] and Amy Dock healthy and up to par again," said Griffin after last Saturday's performance.

Behind Griffin, Neta Ezer finished in 12th place, Carly Matthews finished 16th place, Eboni Crosby finished 20th place, Amanda Gilley finished in 26th and Catherine Spoth finished in 32nd.

"It only matters what happens at the end of the season. Until everyone is healthy, they won't know how good they can be," said Drosky.

This year, the team will be hosting the Atlantic Coast Conference Championship at home. Their meets are a lot of fun, and besides the championship, they will be in Atlanta for two other meets on their home course.

The first will be held Saturday, September 21 at the Georgia State Invitational, so Tech fans should be sure to come out and support the women in their efforts.

For more coverage of cross-country and all of Georgia Tech athletics, visit the GTAA website at www.ramblinwreck.com.



Georgia Tech (2-1-0) vs. Brigham Young (2-1-0)

Coaching:

This will be one of the tallest tasks Gary Crowton has been forced to face in his brief stint as BYU coach. The Cougars will be playing on the opposite side of the country and will face a direct contrast in style. However, don't expect the southern atmosphere to transform BYU into something it is not. Crowton has always been an offensive-minded coach, and he'll rely on his offense to carry BYU out of Atlanta with a win.

This game presents a golden opportunity for Chan Gailey to prove his ability to adjust to a tough loss. Saturday will be very telling as far as Gailey's weeklong preparation, and his penchant for correcting mental mistakes that sealed the Jackets' fate last week in Death Valley. Look for Tech to bounce back and play a fundamentally sound game. They'll need to, because BYU is no pushover.

Edge: Even

Quarterbacks:

Until recently, the BYU quarterback job belonged solely to junior Bret Engemann. However, Crowton has recently begun shuffling the snaps between Engemann and redshirt freshman Lance Pendleton. Pendleton is more of a running threat. Regardless of who is under center, the Cougars will put the ball in the air plenty. They are averaging 46 pass attempts per game—good enough for 271.7 yards passing per game.

Tech's A.J. Suggs struggled a bit in sloppy conditions last week in Clemson. However, he has still managed to play relatively errorless ball. Suggs has been picked off just once on the season. However, the one was costly and sealed Tech's fate at Clemson. If the Tech passing game is going to break through, this is the week it needs to happen.

Edge: BYU

Running Backs:

When BYU lost last year's Doak Walker Award winner, Luke Staley, there was good reason for panic in Provo. However, sophomore Marcus Whalen has more than held his own in the featured back role. Whalen is currently the nation's sixth leading rusher, averaging 138.7 yards per game on the ground.

The brightest spot of the season thus far for the Jackets. Junior Tony Hollings is averaging 148.3 yards per game, good enough to rank right ahead of Whalen for the fifth best per game average in the country. Hollings is also the nation's leading scorer, with eight touchdowns (48 points) in three games. Expect a steady diet of number 24 running the ball tomorrow afternoon.

Edge: Tech

Wide Receivers:

The Cougars feature a talented quartet here in Reno Mahe, Spencer Nead, Toby Christensen and Rodney Wilkerson. They have combined for 544 yards on 46 receptions and three touchdowns. All are sure-handed. Expect to hear those names called repeatedly Saturday afternoon, as the Cougars' bread and butter is and will always be the passing game.

The Yellow Jackets' Will Glover and Jonathan Smith both failed to register a reception against Clemson. That will have to change tomorrow if the Jackets are to move the ball successfully and with any type of rhythm. Look for Suggs to spread the ball around. Kerry Watkins leads the receiving corps with 14 grabs for 298 yards and a touchdown.

Edge: BYU

Offensive Line:

The Cougars took a big hit here when All-American candidate Ben Archibald went down prior to the season with a knee injury. However, the line has been good enough to continually spring Whalen, and pass protection has been solid thus far. The BYU O-Line has allowed just three sacks in three games.

Tech's pass protection must improve this week. The Jackets surrendered five sacks to Clemson last Saturday, and Suggs was frequently forced to take costly losses. It is imperative that Tech's O-Line continue to open up holes for Hollings in an attempt to avoid third and long situations, where the Cougars can more freely blitz Suggs.

Edge: Even

Defensive Line:

The Cougars have given up an average of 162.7 yards rushing per game this season. What's worse is that two of their three games thus far have been against pass-oriented teams. It doesn't get any easier this week with Tony Hollings coming at them. The pass rush has been decent, but the Cougars have yet to face a big, physical line like Tech's.

The Jackets simply must establish some sort of pass rush. It was non-existent last week in Death Valley, and Willie Simmons made the Jackets pay early on. Tech has stuffed the run for the most part, but unless they start to get some kind of push up front in passing situations, it could be a long day. The anticipated return of DT Gary Johnson from injury could help.

Edge: Even

Linebackers:

Considering BYU has not faced a back like Hollings yet, the Cougars may be a bit off-balance here tomorrow, unsure of when to blitz and when to stay at home. Hollings is going to get his yards, so the Cougars may be better off blitzing Suggs every opportunity they get. This corps is big and physical, so they are definitely capable.

The Tech linebacker unit has been the strength of the Jackets' "D" thus far. Key Fox, Ricardo Wimbrush and Daryl Smith have been solid and have done a good job of polishing off runners that have advanced past the line of scrimmage. If the line can consistently funnel the running patterns of Whalen to the Tech linebackers, the "D" will be in good shape from a run-stuffing aspect.

Edge: Tech

Secondary:

The Cougars have given up 984 yards of offense the past two weeks, with 410 of those coming through the air last week at Nevada. This area would definitely have to be considered BYU's Achilles heel. This unit is opportunistic, gathering seven interceptions thus far, but they were consistently burned against pass-happy Hawaii and Nevada for big plays. The Cougars surrendered a 95-yard scoring pass last week in Reno.

Aside from a couple of questionable pass interference calls at Clemson last week, the Jackets' undersized secondary has performed admirably to date. However, there is nothing they have seen previously that can prepare them for the aerial assault they'll see tomorrow afternoon. Tech will need to bring it's A-game, avoid mistakes, and tackle sure-handedly tomorrow if they are to slow down BYU's potent passing game.

Edge: Tech

Special Teams:

The Cougars' placekicker Matt Payne has already missed three extra points in 15 attempts. He is just 1-3 on field goals with a long of only 31. On the other hand, kick coverage has been solid for BYU, and yards per punt have been even better.

Generally considered as a strength, it was Tech's special teams that did them in last week. Kick coverage was atrocious and a botched snap on an early extra point attempt prevented the Jackets from being able to tie with a potential field goal attempt after a 2-point conversion failed in the fourth quarter. Punting and place kicking has been solid for the most part, but coverage must improve.

Edge: Tech

Preview By: Ryan Peck



Football Forecast Winners:

Jeff Lev Amos Tan

Dave Kline Ryan Peck