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ACC from page 28

like we are now expecting these wins. We’ve kind of turned a corner with our mentality and our approach,” Joseph said.

In the first round of the tournament, Janie Mitchell, Chioma Nnachaka, Kentrina Wilson and Higgs all scored double-digit points in the victory.

Mitchell also grabbed 10 rebounds to finish with a double-double.

The balanced offense helped Tech build a 37-26 before the half and lead by double digits for the rest of the game.

With the win, Tech now awaits the NCAA Tournament Selection Show to see if they have been chosen to play in the tournament. The team finished with a 9-5 ACC record and a 20-10 overall record.

“I think we are absolutely in… We’ve got some of the best teams in the country in our conference and we combined margin of 50 points.

Every game this year we have been down early. We expected this because they are such a good team in transition, but we just kept fighting. We got back into the game and continued to fight,” Young said.

While the first half saw both teams explode on offense, the end of the game saw defensive lock downs. The last five minutes were dominated by turnovers, fouls and free throws.

In the game, the Jackets committed 28 personal fouls to the Tar Heels 18. Tech went to the line 15 times to Carolina’s 14-of-15 free throws.

“We don’t have any other way to get it done,” Hewitt said.

Tyler Hansbrough, the Tar Heels’ superstar center, finished with 16 points, eight coming from the charity stripe. Hansbrough dominated Tech earlier in the season, making 14-of-15 free throws and 24 points. He scored a career-high 40 points in last year’s game against Tech.

This was the Tar Heels’ first time in the Coliseum since the 2003 season, when they lost to Tech 88-68.

The win bolsters Tech’s resume for a ticket to the big dance. “[Tech is a NCAA tournament team.] They are 7-8 in the league. I think they are a very good basketball team. If they are not an NCAA team, then there is something wrong,” said North Carolina Head Coach Roy Williams.

We’re not going to finesse people,” Hewitt said.

Despite leading by double digits for much of the second half, Tech saw Carolina storm back to within 18 points, eight coming from the charity stripe. Hansbrough dominated Tech earlier in the season, making 14-of-15 free throws and 24 points.

Anthony Morrow finished with 18 points and keyed the offense early in the game, scoring 13 points in the first half.

“IT was more mental than anything else… This game I really concentrated on getting my feet off the screen. We have to keep moving and setting good screens,” Morrow said.

The Jackets fell behind early in the game, allowing the Tar Heels to jump out to a 7-0 lead. Tech responded with a 23-7 run that had just three missed shots.

Tech upset the No. 8 Tar Heels at the Coliseum. The Jackets avenged an earlier loss to North Carolina, where they fell 77-61 on the road.

UNC from page 28

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With the win, the Jackets have swept the Hurricanes this season, winning all three contests by a combined margin of 50 points.

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“We don’t have any other way to play. We have to play tough, physical defense and if they call fouls on us, they’re going to call fouls on us.

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Come to our weekly staff meetings!

Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
in Room 137 of the Flag Building

There will be pizza.
You’ll have fun, we promise.*

*Results may vary. We are not responsible for temporary insanity, uncontrollable laughter or indigestion.
Rutgers from page 28

runs on two hits, including a home run, in just two-thirds of an inning of work.

Rutgers went on to hit two home runs in the inning, a solo shot off of Von Tersch and a grand slam off of junior Brad Rulon, scoring seven runs in the top of the seventh to tighten the score at 12-11.

However, Luke Murton responded for the Jackets in the bottom of the seventh with a three-run home run and added three more runs in the eighth to pull away and eventually get the 18-12 victory.

“Tonight it wasn’t as bad because they got behind in the count and you were able to sit on the pitch that you wanted,” Murton said. “They were not wild enough to where it bothered us. It just allowed us to get into a position to put a good swing on the ball.”

Saturday: GT-10, Rutgers-8

It did not start out as well on Saturday as starter Chris Hicks allowed five runs on seven hits in the first 1 2/3 innings to put the Jackets in a deep hole.

Tech was able to pull to 5-4 with a run in the first and three more in the second, and then added three runs in the fourth inning to assume a 7-5 lead.

Rutgers would not go down without a fight, however, evening the score at 7-7 with a Ryan Hill home run, his first of the game, and an RBI single.

With two outs in the fifth, Tech loaded the bases with three consecutive walks and Michael Fisher was hit by a 5-0 pitch to give the Jackets the lead for good, Tech added one more run in the frame on another walk to assume a 9-7 lead.

Tech would extend the lead to three on a RBI single by freshman Tony Plagman. Hill hit his second home run of the game to make the score 10-8.

Danny Payne and Matt Wieters came on for Tech to close the door in the eighth and ninth innings respectively to secure a 10-8 win for the Jackets.

Red-shirt junior John Goodman made his first appearance of the season, throwing two innings and allowing just one run on two hits while striking out a pair.

Goodman missed the entire 2005 season due to Tommy John elbow surgery and returned in 2006 to pitch only 14 2/3 innings before injuring his knee and missing all of summer and fall practice.

“Overall it feels pretty good just to be back in action,” Goodman said. “I have a few things to work on and some things to do to get back to where I was. I have to get back into my routine and rhythm.”

Sunday: Rutgers-9, GT-5

The final game of the three series against Rutgers. He gave up seven hits and five earned runs.

can picked up the win for Tech by pitching six solid innings and allowing four runs on eight hits while walking five and striking out seven batters, tying a career-high.

Tim Ladd picked up the save in relief, allowing just one unearned run on two hits in 2 2/3 innings of work.

Both sides were unable to consistently find the strike zone as the two teams combined to walk 21 batters—Tech with 11 and Rutgers with 10.

“I just went up there and took a good swing and fortunately the ball went over the fence,” Murton said. Sophomore starter David D aun.

took two out of three from Rutgers this past weekend to improve to 8-6 on the season. The Jackets scored 33 runs in the three games.

to give Rutgers a 6-4 lead.

Then Rulon was called upon to stop the bleeding for Tech and was able to do so. Things looked promising in the bottom of the seventh as Rulon and Murton led off with back-to-back doubles but could not score and the lead in half in 6-5, but the Jackets would not score again.

Querns added a two-run home run and Tom Edwards singled off Tech reliever Wieters to create the final score of 9-5 in favor of the Scarlet Knights.

Turner (1-2, 4.76) got the loss for the Jackets while Rutgers’ starter Steve Halicki earned his first save of the year.

The Jackets return to Russ Chandler Stadium this afternoon to face the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, also known as Virginia Tech, at 4 p.m. The series continues on Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. Tech will also travel across town to Kennesaw when they take on the Fighting Owls of Kennesaw State this Wednesday for a midweek affair at 4 p.m.
The truly insane thing about March basketball is all the money universities get from alcohol advertising.

According to the most recent figures, the alcohol industry spends more than $52 million on college sports advertising — more than twice the amount spent on non-college TV programming.

Alcohol advertising in college sports undermines efforts to combat the dangers of high-risk drinking, which is the single greatest cause of student-related deaths, accidents and sexual assaults.

And in a national poll, the American Medical Association found that nearly three out of four adults believed that alcohol advertising has no place on college campuses and sends the wrong message to young people.

So why are universities taking money from Big Alcohol?

We call upon all universities, athletic conferences and the NCAA to stop the madness — this March and beyond — and permanently bench alcohol marketing from college sports.

Visit AlcoholPolicyMD.com for more information.

1 TNS Media Intelligence/CMR 2001-2003
2 AMA in conjunction with The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, April 2005

STOP THE MADNESS.

This message is sponsored by A Matter of Degree
The National Effort to Reduce High-Risk Drinking Among College Students

AMOD is a project of the American Medical Association and campus-community partnerships across America.
By Hahnming Lee
Assistant Sports Editor

Tech won its last game of the season against Boston College at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum, 74-60.

Javarris Crittenton led all scorers with 16 points. The freshman star point guard also dished out 10 assists for his second consecutive double-double. He made just one turnover in the game.

“We’re executing the offense better. It opens up a lot of things. That’s where my assists come from,” Crittenton said.

Boston College scored the first field goal of the game a little under four minutes into the game to take a one-point lead, but then allowed Tech to go on a 15-0 run.

The Jackets never looked back and led by a comfortable margin for much of the rest of the game, extending the deficit to 20 points late in the second half.

In Mario West’s last game at the Coliseum, the guard played some of his best basketball, creating turnovers and scoring points.

“I’m very happy for Mario West, to play his last game on this court. He’s done a tremendous job guiding these guys,” said Head Coach Paul Hewitt.

The red-shirt senior finished with seven points, two rebounds and four assists.

“I was very happy and sad at the same time. I’ve had a wonderful career and wonderful opportunity here,” West said.

With 12:09 left in the second half and with the shot clock wind- ing down, West made a three-point shot from well beyond the arc as time expired. This gave the Jackets a 55-40 lead.

While Tech scored over 70 points for its fourth straight game, the key to many of their recent victories has been defense.

“We’re a talented offensive group, but when we don’t guard and when we’re not disruptive defensively, then we’re not going to score. We have to be disruptive,” Hewitt said.

The team forced Boston College to commit 22 turnovers to Tech’s nine. The turnovers proved costly as the Eagles only attempted 35 shots in the game to Tech’s 62.

“Defense has always been Tech’s foundation to success. That opens everything for us. We have a lot of guys that can score, but it always starts on the defensive end,” West said.

The Eagles’ guard Tyrese Rice finished with eight turnovers. Jared Dudley, the ACC’s leading scorer going into the game with a 19.6 scoring average, finished with a season-low 10 points.

“Teams aren’t going to just allow us to walk down the floor and hand the ball to Jared Dudley... Obviously we’d like to get him more shots than that,” said Boston College Head Coach Al Skinner.

Tech has now won seven of nine, including six of eight in league play.

Tech won its last game of the season against Boston College at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum, 74-60. The win brought Tech up to .500 in ACC play.

Tech reached .500 in conference play after falling to 2-6 earlier in the season.

The win combined with Duke’s loss to North Carolina earns Tech a No. 6 seed in the ACC Tournament currently held in Tampa.

“We’re playing well, so why not try and go there and erase all doubt?” Hewitt said.

Tech now awaits Selection Sunday to see if they have been chosen to play in the NCAA tournament.

Mario West, in his final game at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum, scored seven points, had two rebounds and dished out four assists.
Basketball upsets No. 8 Tar Heels

Tech defeated North Carolina last Thursday in its second-to-last home game of the season, 84-77.

Thaddeus Young scored a career-high 25 points and made five-of-six shots from behind the arc. Young attempted 18 shots, also a career high.

He’s getting more and more aggressive. He’s an unselfish player in an age where everybody thinks me, me, me… Do I want him to shoot more? Absolutely. But I love his game. He’s a terrific player,” said Head Coach Paul Hewitt.

Javaris Crittenton posted a double-double, his second of the season. He finished with 13 points and 11 assists.

Crittenton bounced back from his game in Chapel Hill, where he made just two shots and committed seven turnovers.

“We got into our offense better [this time]. We set good screens, got open on the wing, and I think that was the difference,” Crittenton said.

Maryland also blocked 11 shots better than Tech, with the Jackets making just 39.2 percent of their shots. Maryland shot significantly closer in field goal percentage, making just 39.2 percent of their attempts and led throughout the game, building a 40-26 lead going into the locker room.

“Maryland also blocked 11 shots while Tech only blocked one. Still, Tech committed just six turnovers to Maryland’s 23. Tech stole the ball 11 times and made 11-of-13 free throw attempts. Obviously, Maryland is a phenomenal team. We couldn’t counter their inside game in the first half. It was a very physical game, and we like a physical game. But I don’t know that we responded the way we would have liked to,” said Head Coach MacChele Joseph.

No. 5 Maryland beat Tech for the second time this season. In their last meeting, Tech scored a major upset against then-No. 4 Maryland, winning at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum, 77-72.

Earlier in the week, Tech advanced to the second round of the tournament after defeating Miami, 66-52.

“Not the biggest thing in the world that we won a first-round game. As a program and a team, it’s...” Tech

Tech takes two from Scarlet Knights

No. 21 Tech (8-6) won two of three games this weekend against the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers (5-4).

Friday: GT-18, Rutgers 12

In the first game of the series, the Tech batters flexed their muscles, launching three home runs to power their way to an 18-12 victory.

Junior Brad Feltes, making just his second start of the season, hit a grand slam, his first home run of the season. The homerkeyed a five-run second inning. Later, freshman Patrick Long hit his first career bomb, also a grand slam, sparking another five-run inning and giving Tech an early 11-3 lead.

All seemed to be smooth sailing until the seventh inning. With the Jackets cruising with a 12-4 lead, the Rutgers bats suddenly erupted when freshman Zach Von Tersch entered the game to pitch for Tech. Making just his fourth career appearance, Von Tersch allowed four

Patrick Long slides into base in a game against Rutgers. Long had five hits and drove in five runs in the series against the Scarlet Knights. He also recorded 11 assists while playing at the third base position.