Virginia Tech then closed out the match, stringing together several brief runs and winning the final five points to take the set 25-21.

The Jackets struggled offensively, Tech had 21 attack errors and hit .098 as a team. Hunter had a kill and two service aces in the early going, and the Jackets built an early lead and took the first set 25-17.

The second set went back and forth, but Virginia prevailed 25-20 to tie the match. Tech responded quickly, as DeMichelis and Hunter combined for nine kills in Tech’s 25-15 victory.

The Jackets prevented the Cavaliers from taking the lead in the final set, and DeMichelis registered 10 kills in the set as Tech won 25-21 to clinch the match.

DeMichelis was the star for Tech, with 20 kills and a .500 hit percentage. She added three digs and three solo blocks. Hunter’s 10-kill performance marked the 16th consecutive game in which she had posted double-digit kills.

Junior setter Mary Ashley Tippins had a double-double as she recorded 49 assists and 12 digs.

Staff Picks
Oct. 24

#1 Florida (24-5) vs. Mississippi State
UF UF UF UF UF MSU
#2 Alabama (-17) vs. Tennessee
UA UA Tenn. Tenn. Tenn.
#3 Texas (-16) vs. Missouri
Mizzou Mizzou Mizzou Mizzou Mizzou
#4 Boise State (24) vs. Hawaii
BSU BSU Hawaii BSU BSU
Louisville vs. #5 Cincinnati (-17)
Cinn. Cinn. UL UL Cinn.
#6 Iowa vs. Michigan State (pick ’em)
Iowa Iowa Iowa Iowa Iowa
Oregon State vs. #7 USC (-20)
USC Ore. St. Ore. St. Ore. St. USC
#8 TCU vs. #16 BYU (pick ’em)
TCU BYU BYU TCU BYU
Auburn vs. #9 LSU (-10.5)
LSU LSU LSU AU LSU
Clemson vs. #10 Miami (-7.5)
Miami Clem. Clem Miami Clem.
#11 Oregon (-5.5) vs. Washington
UW Ore. UW UW UW
#13 Penn State (-4) vs. Michigan
UM Penn St. UM UM UM
#15 Oklahoma State (-10.5) vs. Baylor
OSU OSU OSU OSU OSU
SMU vs. #17 Houston (17)
Air Force vs. #18 Utah (-8)
Utah Utah Utah Utah Utah
Minnesota vs. #19 Ohio State (-17)
Minn. Minn. Minn. Minn. Minn.
South Florida vs. #20 Pittsburgh (-7)
USF Pirt. USF Pirt. Pirt.
UCLA vs. #22 Arizona (-8)
Connecticut vs. #23 West Virginia (-7)
WVU UConn WVU WUV UConn
Vanderbilt vs. #24 South Carolina (-13)
SC Vandy SC SC SC
Oklahoma (-7.5) vs. #25 Kansas
OU KU OU KU OU

#1 Florida (-5.5) vs. Mississippi State
W 54-42
#2 Alabama vs. Tennessee
W 67-64
#3 Texas (-16) vs. Missouri
W 80-77
#4 Boise State (24) vs. Hawaii
W 3-0
Louisville vs. #5 Cincinnati (-17)
W 3-0
#6 Iowa vs. Michigan State (pick ’em)
W 3-0
Oregon State vs. #7 USC (-20)
W 3-0
#8 TCU vs. #16 BYU (pick ’em)
W 3-1
Auburn vs. #9 LSU (-10.5)
W 3-0
Clemson vs. #10 Miami (-7.5)
W 3-0
#11 Oregon (-5.5) vs. Washington
W 3-0
#13 Penn State (-4) vs. Michigan
W 3-0
#15 Oklahoma State (-10.5) vs. Baylor
W 3-0
SMU vs. #17 Houston (17)
W 3-0
Air Force vs. #18 Utah (-8)
W 3-1
Minnesota vs. #19 Ohio State (-17)
W 3-0
South Florida vs. #20 Pittsburgh (-7)
W 3-0
UCLA vs. #22 Arizona (-8)
W 3-0
Connecticut vs. #23 West Virginia (-7)
W 3-0
Vanderbilt vs. #24 South Carolina (-13)
W 3-0
Oklahoma (-7.5) vs. #25 Kansas
W 3-0

* Starring this week, the BCS rankings will be used in place of the AP poll rankings.

Sliver

ethicpoint

holy christ, still no archives.
xoO Gossip Girl

up with the white and gold
god a** get a life you are such a b**y b***

Why are so many venues 21+?! I’m gonna try to get in anyway.

It’s worth it

y that little girl on the windows 7 commercials cant be black?
y the smart girl gotta be asian?

i wish people would actually stop by the CRC during swim meets, maybe then we would have as many spectators as the away teams
say anything is a joke band right? “i hate everybody’

Come on but then again i thought 100g ‘pain’ was a parody at first too.

deed GTDP. Do your job. Campus is safe, homepark is not.

How many Tech grad does it take to get police in homepark?

Peace. The one that finally gets killed

12 Muggings since summer in homepark. You decide.

Chels, I don’t know who you are, but THANXS for the amazing

music via sharing on iTunes.

Chels, I don’t know who you are, but THANKS for the amazing

cloudman is the best dorm ever

12 Muggings since summer in homepark. You decide.

Chefs, I don’t know who you are, but THANXS for the amazing

music via sharing on iTunes.

Chels, I don’t know who you are, but THANKS for the amazing

cloudman is the best dorm ever

/фт

Answer: 1.

How many Tech grads does it take to get police in homepark?

Dear GTPD. Do your job. Campus is safe, homepark is not

/fi

12 Muggings since summer in homepark. You decide.

12 Muggings since summer in homepark. You decide.

Chels, I don’t know who you are, but THANXS for the amazing

music via sharing on iTunes.

Chels, I don’t know who you are, but THANKS for the amazing

cloudman is the best dorm ever
Virginia Tech finally got on the board with a 34-yard field goal in the second quarter. On the second play of the Jackets’ ensuing drive, Nesbitt hit Thomas for Tech’s lone completion, a 51-yard strike to reach the Hokies’ 13-yard line.

“It wasn’t supposed to go to him...[but] I saw the 1-on-1, and [I knew he would come down with it],” Nesbitt said.

Five plays later, Nesbitt scored on a quarterback sneak to give the Jackets a 7-3 lead, and the score remained that way at the half.

The Jackets only amassed 88 total yards of offense in the first half, but made adjustments at halftime and were much more effective in the second half.

“They played the second half the same way they played the first. We got the reads right and everyone went in the right direction,” Johnson said.

“They did some things we hadn’t seen before...[but] Coach Johnson put us in position to make some blocks, and it worked,” said redshirt junior center Sean Bedford, who was named ACC Lineman of the Week.

On the Jackets’ opening drive of the second half, big runs from redshirt junior A-back Anthony Allen and Nesbitt set up Nesbitt’s third touchdown of the day, a 28-23 lead, giving the Jackets a 28-16 lead.

Virginia Tech answered quickly, with Taylor following the short kickoff by going four-for-four passing and throwing a touchdown to Williams to cut the lead to 28-23.

The Hokies had used all three of their time-outs on the Jackets’ previous drive, so Nesbitt knelt down to Williams to cut the lead to 28-23. The Hokies attempted an onside kick, but Jackets redshirt sophomore cornerback Jer-Ray Tarrant made a leaping catch.

The Hokies broke free on a keeper and ran down the left sideline to score his third touchdown of the day, giving the Jackets a 28-16 lead.

Virginia Tech also moved into a three-way tie for second place in the ACC Coastal Division with Miami and Virginia Tech.

“We know we already have a loss, and I don’t think you can win [the Coastal Division] with two...What we did tonight was stay alive and put everyone else back in it,” Johnson said.

They struggled on kick coverage as well, allowing 30 yards per return.

“It’s a mess...It almost cost us the game,” Johnson said.

Still, the Jackets sustained their longest drive of the day, a 12-play, 86-yard march that took 6:38 off the clock and ended with sophomore A-back Marcus Wright’s 13-yard touchdown run.

“We had our backs against the wall...and [Nesbitt] engineered an 80-yard drive to take the momentum back,” Johnson said.

After the defense forced a three-and-out, the Jackets sustained another 12-play drive, but a Nesbitt pitch went out of bounds.

“We had our backs against the wall...and [Nesbitt] engineered an 80-yard drive to take the momentum back,” Johnson said.
After handing the Hokies their first ACC loss last weekend in front of a capacity crowd at Bobby Dodd Stadium, the No. 12 Jackets look to keep their ACC championship hopes alive as they travel to Charlottesville to take on the Cavaliers. Saturday’s 28-23 win was the first time Tech defeated the Hokies at home since 1990, which was also the last year that the Jackets beat Virginia on the road. The victory over Virginia Tech was big for the Jackets, establishing them as contenders for the ACC championship and perhaps a BCS bid. The defense played fairly well, surpassing expectations after lackluster showings against Mississippi State and Florida State the previous two weeks. Utilizing a simplified scheme and an effective pass rush, the Jackets forced four punts, grabbed two interceptions and contained Hokie quarterback Tyrod Taylor enough to come away with a win.

The offense had a strong performance against Virginia Tech. Junior quarterback Josh Nesbitt went just 1-for-7 through the air with an interception, but his one completion went for 51 yards. The ground game, Tech’s bread and butter, was increasingly effective as the game went on and powered the team to victory. Nesbitt led the rushing category again for the Jackets, racking up 122 yards and three touchdowns. Junior B-back Jonathan Dwyer was next with 82 rushing yards, followed by redshirt junior A-back Anthony Allen at 59 yards. Sophomore A-back Marcus Wright added a 13-yard touchdown run. The biggest concern after last week’s game is the special teams unit. On kickoffs, the Hokies averaged 30 yards per return, while Tech’s return team only averaged 15.7 yards. The punting game was also mediocre, as the Jackets averaged just 34.5 yards per punt, but fortunately the Hokies only averaged 35 yards per punt. Still, Head Coach Paul Johnson highlighted special teams—particularly kick coverage—as an area that needs improvement.

As they vie for the top position in the Coastal Division, Saturday’s game will be crucial for the Jackets. The Cavaliers are 2-0 in the ACC and currently sit atop the division, while the Hokies (4-1 ACC) are tied for second with Miami and Virginia Tech. In order to oust Virginia, the Jackets will need to continue to play as they did last week, relying on the ground game and getting big stops from the defense. If those things happen, and the special teams perform better, the Jackets have a good chance to end their Charlottesville losing streak and improve to 7-1 overall on the season.

Virginia hosts the No. 12 Jackets on Saturday with a chance to upset a top-15 team and gain control of the ACC’s Coastal Division. The Cavaliers have only played two conference games, but they are the only team undefeated in ACC play to date, so they control their own destiny in the race for the Coastal Division title. Last year, Virginia was the only team to beat Tech in Bobby Dodd Stadium. Cavalier quarterback Marc Verica threw for 270 yards and two touchdowns, and the Jackets had trouble stopping running back Cedric Peerman. The then-senior Peerman finished the game with 118 rushing yards and a touchdown on 25 carries. Virginia entered Saturday’s game with momentum; the Cavaliers had rebounded from an 0-3 start to win three straight games. The Cavaliers lost their first three games by a combined score of 93-62, including a season-opening loss to FCS school William & Mary. Since then, though, the team has rebounded to win its last three by a combined 83-19. The Cavaliers took down North Carolina 16-3 on the road, rolled past Indiana 47-7 at home and topped Maryland 20-9 in College Park last week to reach 7-0 on the season.

Virginia is led by left-handed senior quarterback Jameel Sewell, who missed all of last season due to an academic suspension. Sewell showed signs of rust in his first two games, but he threw for 300-plus yards against Southern Miss and Indiana. Sewell is also a threat to run and has four rushing touchdowns this season. He left the game against Maryland with an ankle injury but should be ready for Saturday.

Senior running back Mikell Simpson has performed well as the new starter. When Simpson has done well, Virginia has done well; Simpson had a total of 64 yards in the three losses, but over his last two games he has rushed for 183 yards and five scores.

Even with Virginia’s offensive success this season, their greatest asset has been their defense. Virginia’s defense is third in the ACC with 18.7 points allowed per game and 293.8 total yards allowed per game, and the unit has held each of the team’s last three opponents to fewer than 10 points. The Cavaliers are led on defense by junior cornerback Ras-I Dowling. Dowling was a preseason All-ACC selection and has improved from week to week. He had nine tackles, a sack and an interception against Indiana, and he is third on the team in tackles with 31. Dowling also has a forced both a fumble and a fumble recovery this season.

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Josh Nesbitt breaks into the open field en route to a fourth-quarter touchdown. For the second straight game, Nesbitt led the team in rushing, picking up 122 yards on the ground and three touchdowns as the Jackets amassed 309 rushing yards in the 28-23 victory.

**Jackets win homecoming game over No. 4 Hokies**

By Nishant Prasad

Tech football improved to 4-0 at home and avenged last year’s early-season loss to Virginia Tech by defeating the No. 4 Hokies 28-23 in Saturday’s homecoming game at Bobby Dodd Stadium. It was the Jackets’ first win at home over an opponent ranked in the top five of the national AP poll since they defeated then-No. 1 Alabama in 1962.

The game was expected to be a shootout; instead, neither team scored in the first quarter—marking the first time that had happened for both in 2009—and the Jackets reached halftime ahead 7-3.

Both offenses picked up after halftime, and junior quarterback Josh Nesbitt led the way for the Jackets. He gained 122 yards and three touchdowns on 23 carries. Nesbitt completed just one pass, but it was a 51-yard strike to junior receiver Demaryius Thomas that set up a touchdown.

The defense’s strong first-half performance was a surprise. An improved pass rush was key for the Jackets as they made three stops in the first quarter and held the Hokies in check early on.

“I thought we had a good plan and simplified it. We didn’t do a lot. The guys played hard and flew to the ball...Everybody knew what they were doing and showed up,” said Head Coach Paul Johnson.

The Hokies’ first three drives resulted in a punt, a three-and-out and an interception, the last of which came when Jackets redshirt sophomore defensive tackle Jason Peters ripped a pass at the line and made a diving catch. On the other hand, the offense was inept out of the gate. The Jackets were victimized by a missed pitch and a delayed-out-of-gate penalty on their first offensive possession, and they committed three consecutive penalties on their second drive.

Tech had two lost fumbles and made a diving catch. On the other hand, the offense was inept out of the gate. The Jackets were victimized by a missed pitch and a delayed-out-of-gate penalty on their first offensive possession, and they committed three consecutive penalties on their second drive.

For the second straight game, Nesbitt led the team to Jonathan Dwyer during Saturday’s game for the Jackets. He gained more rush yards in one game against Virginia Tech than anyone else in nearly a decade, defeated Florida State two times in a row (two more victories than Tech had earned before since Bobby Bowden became coach) and broken a streak of seven straight losses to rival Georgia. For all of its accomplishments, Tech struggled early last year and had many problems with consistency on a week-to-week basis. The biggest issue throughout the season was ball control. Tech had two lost fumbles in each of its first three games, and the team fumbled and lost the ball twice in seven games over the course of the season.

When Tech has lost two fumbles or more under Johnson, they are just 6-4. They were 4-4 in 2008. With fewer than two fumbles, Tech is 9-1.