The Jackets’ lineup heading into 2010 has several key hitters returning. Tech’s 111 home runs last season led the ACC and put them at third in the NCAA. Despite losing two key middle-of-the-order hitters in catcher Jason Haniger and right fielder Luke Murton, who led the team in homers last year with 20, the Jackets should continue their trend of power hitting in 2010.

Three returning players hit over 10 home runs last season. Senior first baseman Tony Plagman had 16 homers and led the team in RBIs, driving in 73 runs as Tech’s clean-up hitter in 2009. Junior shortstop Derek Dietrich hit 10 homers and registered 54 RBIs, and sophomore third baseman Matt Skole was second on the team with 17 home runs.

Junior center fielder Jeff Rowland will resume his role at the top of the order. Rowland hit .340 last year and finished with 13 doubles. Rowland’s speed allowed him to steal 21 bases as well.

Seasoned junior Cole Leonida is prepared to take over for Haniger as the starting catcher. Leonida played in 25 games last season, hitting .306 with five home runs.

“I think [Leonida] has total respect of our team and with pitching staff and I fully expect him to have a great year,” said head coach Danny Hall.

Hall has indicated that Skole will be the main backup catcher. The defense looks to be set. With Skole, Dietrich, Plagman and senior second baseman Jason Garofalo all returning to man the infield, junior Thomas Nichols and senior Patrick Long will continue their dual roles as relief pitchers and backup infielders.

The outfield returns plenty of talent, but former starters Murton and Chris House are gone. Rowland will be joined by junior Chase Burnette in right and redshirt senior Jay Dantzler in left. Sophomore Evan Martin will be one of Tech’s main utility players off the bench.

One side story is the addition of Roddy Jones to the roster. The redshirt sophomore A-back will probably not start much, but his speed should make him a viable pinch-runner.

Tech will need to find right-handed power after losing Haniger and Murton.

On the mound, junior right-hander and First Team All-American Deck McGuire returns as Tech’s top starting pitcher. McGuire is 19-3 in his career at Tech and has a career ERA of 3.48.

As a sophomore McGuire led Tech starters with a 3.50 ERA and was selected as the ACC Pitcher of the Year. McGuire’s 118 strikeouts last season showcased his ability to get batters to swing and miss using his four-pitch repertoire.

Tech also returns its second starting pitcher in junior Brandon Cumpton. Last season, Cumpton was second on the team in strikeouts with 63. He finished the season with a 4.76 ERA while allowing an ACC-low three home runs.

Tech will have to find a way to replace weekend starter Zach Von Tersch, who went 6-2 in 13 games last season and was drafted by the New York Mets.

Sophomore right-hander Mark Pope offers one option. Pope was Tech’s primary closer last season, but Hall said that he expects to employ Pope as a starter this season. “We started to transition [Pope] towards a starter because we felt as though that was...better suited for him,” Hall said.

Tech has another option in sophomore lefty Jed Bradley, the lone southpaw starter last season. Bradley posted a 6.65 ERA but had some bright spots, including a victory at Georgia.

The Jackets could also turn to freshmen right-handers Luke Bard and Buck Farmer. Both had stellar high school careers. Bard, who is the brother of Boston Red Sox reliever Daniel Bard, was 10-0 with an 0.37 ERA as a senior.

Tech returns a number of pitchers who performed well last season, including junior closer Kevin Jacob. Jacob started seven games for the Jackets last season and logged 55 innings. He went 5-3 with a 4.69 ERA. His strong play in the summer Alaskan League led Hall to make the First Team All-American his closer for 2010.

Tech also returns two lefties to the bullpen in junior Zach Brewster and sophomore Jake Davies. Brewster made a team-high 32 appearances out of the bullpen, 20 of which were scoreless outings. He had a 3.73 ERA and held opposing hitters to a .214 average.

Davies made 27 appearances last season posting a 3-0 record with a 3.54 ERA.

Senior right-hander Andrew Robinson will be a key set-up man. Robinson came on strong at the end of 2009, with a 1.47 ERA in his last 10 appearances.

Senior Patrick Long and junior Thomas Nichols, right-handers who double as reserve infielders, offer additional relief arms.

“It’s the deepest pitching staff we have ever had,” Hall said.

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inning home run by Yee—who later added an RBI double—and a fourth-inning shot by Adkins were more than enough support for Rush in the circle. The freshman phenom pitched another complete game shutout and came one out shy of throwing a no-hitter in Tech’s 3-0 win.

After allowing a walk in the first inning, Rush proceeded to retire 18 straight Pirate hitters and allowed just two balls in that span to go beyond the infield. With two outs in the bottom of the seventh, ECU’s left fielder Marina Gusman-Brown knocked a single to right to end the no-hit bid. Rush allowed another hit to the next Pirate batter, but Gusman-Brown was thrown out, ending the no-hitter bid. Rush allowed another hit to the next Pirate batter, but Gusman-Brown was thrown out, ending the no-hitter bid. With two outs in the bottom of the seventh, ECU’s left fielder Marina Gusman-Brown knocked a single to right to end the no-hit bid.

The tournament final pitted Tech against Florida Gulf Coast, and while the Jackets finally allowed a run and committed five errors in the game, the game’s lead to a 1-0-1 victory. Adkins, the starting pitcher for the Eagles to manufacture a run on a walk and two singles. She made up for it in the bottom half, though, at the plate. Adkins drove in Yee and sophomore Shannon Bear with a two-run double to put Tech ahead 2-1. Tech added three more in the bottom of the second increasing the lead to 5-1.

Over the next three innings, the Jackets scored five runs, with Yee and Weseman again combining to drive in three runs in the fifth. Tech gave up a run in the fourth and three in the fifth, but all were unearned and resulted from a series of defensive mishaps. With runners at the corners and one out in the top of the seventh, Head Coach Sharon Perkins shifted Adkins to third base and put Coan in to pitch. The sophomore Coan struck out the next two ECU batters to end the inning, then struck out the side in the bottom of the seventh to close out the game and improve Tech’s record to 4-0 to open the year.

Of the five runs that Adkins surrendered, only one was earned. Adkins gave up seven hits and two walks in 5.1 innings pitched, striking out two. Coan pitched the final 1.2 innings and struck out every batter she faced over that span.

At the plate, Weseman went 3-for-3 with four RBI, and she fell a home run shy of hitting for the cycle. Yee, batting leadoff, was 2-for-2 and drew a pair of walks, and she scored all four times she reached base.

Jones, Walls on ACC’s All-Academic Team
Two Tech redshirt sophomores, A-back Roddy Jones and defensive tackle Logan Walls, were named to the ACC’s All-Academic Football Team. Jones started at A-back for much of the year and had 345 rushing yards on the season. Walls was one of Tech’s main four-man tackle rotation and recorded 25 tackles and two sacks.
Men’s Tennis faces No. 27 Auburn

By Hahnming Lee
Business Manager

After falling behind 3-1, the Jackets won the last three matches to claim the victory over No. 27 Auburn on Feb. 17 at the Bill Moore Tennis Center, 4-3.

Facing their fifth straight ranked opponent, the Jackets broke a two-game losing streak and stayed undefeated at home.

Tech took two of three of the doubles matches to take an early lead. The teams of junior Guillermo Gomez and junior Ryan Smith and freshman Magin Ortizga and freshman Juan Spir each won their matches, securing the point heading into singles play. Tech’s No. 3 team of junior Dean O’Brien and junior Eliot Potvin could not take down Auburn’s team of Tim Puetz and Alex Stamchev, ranked No. 6 in the nations in doubles.

Still, despite falling behind early, the Tigers were able to take a large 3-1 lead to force the Jackets to win all of its remaining matches in order to win the matchup between the two schools. All of Tech’s higher-ranked players lost their matches.

O’Brien, No. 3 on Tech’s singles team, was the first Jacket to drop his singles match, losing in straight sets to Tim Hewitt. Ortizga, No. 2 on Tech’s singles team, was next to lose, also losing in straight sets to Alex Stamchev, ranked No. 6 in the nations in doubles.

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Tech began the come back when Spir won his point, 6-4, 6-4 in the No. 4 matchup. While Potvin lost his first match set, he won the next two, blanking opponent Strecke. The final score was 4-6, 6-2, 6-0.

Tied at 3-3, Tech turned to sophomore Kevin King to break the tie for the victory. King beat Auburn’s Alexander Sajonz, 6-4, 6-3 to secure Tech the comeback win.

Tech will next play its ACC opener against Florida State on Feb. 21. The Jackets lost last year’s meeting at Bill Moore Tennis Center, 5-2.

Men’s from page 32

head coach Paul Hewitt said in Monday’s teleconference, courtesy of ramblinwreck.com. “In assessing the video and looking at some of the things we did in the game, I thought we did some really good things...and I just hope we carry that into Tuesday night.”

And carry good things into Tuesday night they did. The Jackets took the floor in Atlanta on Tuesday night to face a struggling North Carolina team for the second time this season, and again Tech came away victorious. The win gave the Jackets their first season sweep of UNC since the 1995-96 season.

Both the Jackets and the Tar Heels started slowly, notchng three fouls and two fouls respectively in the opening two minutes. UNC took the initial lead, but three Tech dunks helped the Jackets tie the score at seven with 15:51 on the clock. A jumper by freshman forward Derrick Favors pushed Tech in front 9-7, and they never looked back.

By the eight-minute mark, the Jackets had extended their advantage to 10. UNC cut it to nine twice over the next minute, but a three-pointer by Rice propelled Tech’s lead back to double-digits, giving them a 30-18 edge with 6:37 remaining in the half.

The Jackets went on an 11-3 run in the final six minutes of the half, giving them a 41-21 lead at the break.

The second half saw Tech continue their dominance. After just over ten minutes transpired, the Jackets had increased their lead to 17 with 1:20 to play, but Tech held them scoreless for the remainder of the match to take the 68-51 win.

The Jackets shot well against Carolina, shooting 44.6% from the field as a team and 40% from beyond the arc. The points were more evenly spread across the line-up as well, with the starters contributing 30 points and the bench adding 38 to the board.

That’s the way the game should be played,” Hewitt said of the more even point contributions.

Favors, who led the team in scoring on the night, finished with 13 points and nine rebounds. 11 of his 13 points came in the first half.

“It’s always important to get [Favors] off to a good start,” Hewitt said.

“Obviously he is a guy that can have an impact on the game.”

Olive and Peacock each recorded 12 points, and Miller added 11 to give him his second straight double-figure game.

The free throw shooting dropped off compared to the Wake Forest game, as the Jackets shot just 12-for-24 from the line in the contest. Both Favors and Lawal rounded at the foul line, just 1-for-5 and 1-for-6 respectively.

Despite their 50% free throw effort, Tech actually out-rebounded Carolina, shooting 44.6% from the field, taking the 68-51 win.

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Despite their 50% free throw effort, Tech actually out-rebounded Carolina in this category. The Tar Heels shot just 41.7% from the stripe, hitting only 10 of their 24 opportunities.

“It’s good to get the win,” Hewitt said. “I thought our guys played really well in the first half and pretty good at times, especially at times in the second half.”

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Women’s Basketball tripped up vs. No. 10 FSU

The Seminoles used their momentum from the latter part of the first half to grab the lead early in the second half. In less than a minute, Jacinta Monroe’s four quick points gave the Seminoles the lead, 27-26.

Monroe finished the game with 14 points, 12 of which came in the second half.

A pair of successful free throws by Montgomery at the 9:02 mark kept the Jackets within one at 42-41, but from that point onward the Seminoles controlled the game.

FSU went on a 14-4 scoring run to give them a commanding lead, 56-45.

Sophomore guard Mo Bennett tried to keep the Jackets close with a layup with 2:08 left in the game, but it was not enough. FSU’s Monroe and Harvin scored six of the Seminoles last ten points to give Florida State the win, 69-59.

There was one bright spot for the Jackets as Montgomery hit a three-point shot with 11.3 seconds left in the game. The outcome of the game was already decided, but the shot was special because it made Montgomery the twenty-third Tech player to reach 1,000 career points, but the shot was special because it made Montgomery the twenty-third Tech player to reach 1,000 points in their career.

Montgomery finished the game with ten points and 13 rebounds. She struggled from the field, though, hitting just two of five field goals.

“Alex did a tremendous job on the boards but her shot just wasn’t falling,” said Head Coach Ma-chelle Joseph, courtesy of ramb-linwreck.com.

The Jackets look to rebound from this tough loss on Friday Feb. 19 when they host No. 8 Duke in their second consecutive matchup against a top-10 opponent. Duke is currently at the top of the ACC standings with a conference record of 9-1.

By Alex Mitchell
Assistant Sports Editor

On Monday, Feb. 15, the Tech women’s basketball team hosted the No. 10 Florida State Seminoles. The Jackets played hard but ultimately did not shoot well enough to beat the Seminoles, hitting just 32.8 percent from the field and 36 percent from three-point range.

The loss was the first loss at home this season for the Jackets, who now stand 20-6 overall and 6-4 in ACC play.

Early in the game, both teams looked like they were evenly matched. Halfway through the first half, the score was tied at 10 apiece. Senior forward Breightre Ardossi and junior guard Alex Montgomery kept the Jackets close early, combining to score all 10 of those early points.

Ardossi scored a game-high 23 points, nine rebounds, and added four assists.

After the early tie, the Jack-ets seemingly began to pull away by going on a 12-2 run. Ardossi scored six straight points for the Jackets, and then sophomore cen-ter Sasha Goodlett made three straight jump shots to give the Jackets a 22-12 lead with 4:32 left in the first half.

Goodlett finished the game with 16 points and nine rebounds. She also shot 50 percent from the field. She picked up her third foul late in the first half, though, and was forced to sit, allowing FSU to take advantage.

The Jackets were able to build their lead thanks to their strong play in the paint. Tech’s forwards combined to score 21 of their 26 points in the half, and Tech out-rebounded the Seminoles 28-14 in the first 20 minutes.

After allowing Tech’s low post players to dominate the majority of the first half, FSU ended the first half on a 14-1 run.

FSU’s Alexia Deluzio came off the bench and scored four points and Alysha Harvin ended the half with a long jump shot to pull the Seminoles within three at 26-23.

Tech rebounded in the last of its three contests in the tourna-ment, defeating host Wisconsin 61-4 on Sunday, Feb. 14.

The Jackets took the doubles point, winning two of the three matches. All were close contests, but Fakoni and Krapina defeated Aleksandra Markovic and Angela Chapa 8-4 on court one and Ngo and Davis held off Hannah Ber-nett and Kathleen Saltarelli 9-7 to clinch the point for Tech.

In singles play, Tech won four matches in straight sets as Fal-coni, Krapina, Ngo and Kilbourn cruised to victories. Blau won by default after taking the first set of her match 7-6. Wisconsin’s only singles victory came as Alaina Trigovic edged Davis 7-5, 7-5 on court six.

The Jackets have ten days off before opening ACC play at home against Clemson on Feb. 24.

FEBRUARY 22-26

GT Campaign for Everybody

Georgia Tech’s third annual GT Campaign for Everybody Week, formerly Body Image Awareness Month, will be held February 22-26. During this week men and women will have the opportunity to examine perceptions and attitudes related to body image and participate in discussions on body image issues on campus. Activities are sponsored by the GT Body Image Committee.

GT Campaign for Everybody Kickoff Event
Monday, February 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Student Center

Message in a Body Open Mic Night
Monday, February 22, 7 p.m., HOD C44, CRC

How to help a friend: Eating disorders on GT’s campus
Tuesday, February 22, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Rm. 204, CRC

Reading of The Good Body
Thursday, February 25, 5:30 p.m., Clary Theater, Student Affairs Center

Healthy Perspectives on Body Image Photography Exhibit
Entire week, exhibit in CRC

International Perspectives on Beauty Photography Exhibit
Entire Week exhibit in Library

Body Mod Blog
Visit www.bodyimage.gatech.edu for tips and your story about body modification.

GT Body Image Treaty
Join our Facebook Group!

For more information, visit www.bodyimage.gatech.edu

The economy sucks.
Free pizza rations on Tuesdays.
Softball goes 4-0 to open ‘10, including win over No. 3 UF

By Nishant Prasad
Sports Editor

The opening weekend of the 2010 season was a record-breaking one for Tech’s softball team. Led by freshman phenom Hope Rush, who pitched two complete-game shutouts and homered in the first plate appearance of her career, the Jackets defeated No. 3 Florida—marking their first-ever win over a top-five opponent—and opened the year 4-0 at the University of South Florida’s Wilson DeMartini Tournament from Feb 13-14.

It was a solid start for the Jackets, who were ranked No. 13 in the preseason National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) poll and predicted to repeat as ACC champions. The tournament was scheduled to begin on Friday, Feb. 12, but rain throughout the day in the Tampa area prevented any Friday games from being played. Tech had been set to face Long Island and then Florida; the Long Island game was cancelled, while the contest with the Gators was postponed to Saturday afternoon.

As a result, Tech opened the season against Canisius on Saturday morning, and the Jackets had little trouble in picking up their first victory of the year. Sophomore Jessica Coan carried a no-hitter into the fifth inning and three Tech players homered as the Jackets rolled to a 9-0 five-inning victory over the Griffins.

Tech took the lead right out of the gate, as Rush, the designated player, hit a two-out, opposite-field two-run homer to deep right in the top of the first. Junior first baseman Kristine Priebe and senior third baseman Kristen Adkins reached scoring position later in the inning but were unable to score, and Tech finished the frame ahead 2-0.

Canisius threatened in the third inning, loading the bases with two outs. Coan, though, induced a flyout to escape the jam, stranding all three runners and escaping with no damage.

The Jackets went on to add seven runs over the next two innings, two in the fourth and five in the fifth. With the bases loaded in the fourth, sophomore right fielder Jessica Sinclair doubled down the left field line. Senior Kelly Eppinger—who pinch-ran for Priebe—and Adkins scored on the hit, but sophomore left fielder Kate Kuzma was thrown out. Redshirt senior second baseman Jen Yee led off the top of the fifth with a solo home run, increasing the lead to 5-0. After sophomore shortstop Kelsi Wiesman was hit by a pitch, Adkins reached on an error and Kuzma drew a walk. Sinclair struck again as she hit a grand slam, bringing her RBI total for the day to six.

With Tech ahead 9-0 after five innings, the mercy rule was invoked and the Jackets won the game.

Coan shut down the Griffins’ lineup, allowing just one hit and three walks while striking out nine. Sinclair’s 2-for-3, six RBI performance powered the offense as the sophomore got off to a big start after struggling from the plate in 2009. As a team, Tech took advantage of every opportunity at the plate, scoring their nine runs on just seven hits and leaving just four runners on base in the game.

The Jackets returned to the field later that afternoon to face No. 3 Florida. In addition to being a battle between top-15 teams, it marked the fifth time the Jackets and Gators had met since the start of the 2007 season, with UF winning all four games over that span. Additionally, two Tech players, Adkins and Priebe, had transferred to Tech from UF.

Tech sent the freshman Rush into the circle to face UF junior Stephanie Brombacher, who had gone 42-0 with a 1.30 ERA in her first two seasons with the Gators. It was Rush, though, who proved to be the star of the game.

The Gators put two runners on base in each of the first two innings, but both times the Jackets were able to escape with no damage. In the top of the second Ga
tor second baseman Aja Paculba hit a line drive up the middle; Rush caught it, then quickly fired to Adkins at third to complete the inning-ending double play.

In the third, UF loaded the bases with one out, but Rush got a strikeout and induced a grounder to third to end the inning, once again with no damage.

Tech was having no success at the plate against UF’s Brombacher, though. After junior center fielder Christy Jones led off the game with a bunt single and stole second, the Jackets were unable to get another hit until the fifth inning. Their only baserunner in that span came in the fourth, when Woerman was hit by a pitch.

In the fifth, Tech finally got on the board. Sinclair doubled with one out, and after freshman designated player Caitlin Jordan grounded out, Kuzma knocked a triple into the right-center gap to plate Sinclair and put Tech ahead 1-0.

The Gators went quietly in the top of the sixth while Tech added two more runs in the bottom half. After Yee hit a lead-off triple, Rush launched a long home run deep left to increase the Jackets’ lead to 3-0. Rush then retired the side in order in the top of the seventh, striking out two Gator hitters as she finished the complete-game shutout and handed Brombacher her first career loss.

The victory over the No. 3 Ga
tors marks a huge win for Tech, as the Jackets had not defeated an opponent ranked higher than No. 9 since Louisiana-Lafayette in 2004. Tech hosted then-No. 3 Washington in last year’s Super Regional round but was swept in the best-of-three series against the eventual national champions.

Tech faced two more opponents on Sunday, Feb. 14 and notched another pair of victories over East Carolina and Florida Gulf Coast.

Tech’s offense was fairly quiet for most of the game, but a first...
See Softball, page 28
Women’s Tennis takes one of three at ITA Indoors

By Nishant Prasad
Sports Editor

Facing some of the top teams in the country, the No. 9 Tech women’s tennis team’s early-season unbeaten streak finally came to an end. The Jackets fell 5-2 against No. 3 California on Feb. 12 and 4-3 against No. 13 Tennessee the following day before rebounding to defeat host Wisconsin 6-1 on Valentine’s Day at the ITA Team Indoor National Championships.

The Jackets qualified for the tournament two weeks earlier when, as the host of one of 15 regional tournaments on ITA Kick-Off Weekend, they defeated Arizona State and Kentucky to clinch a berth in the 16-team tournament.

With the eighth-highest-ranked country qualifying for the tournament as well, the Jackets were unseeded and received a first-round matchup with No. 3 California.

It marked the second year in a row Tech had faced Cal at the ITA Indoors. Last year, the Jackets dropped the second-round contest 5-2 despite a win by new senior Amanda McDowell in the first flight.

This year, Cal jumped out to a quick lead by sweeping all three doubles matches. Sophomore Hillary Davis and junior Viet Ha Ngo went down 8-3 against Cal’s Marina Cossou and Kasia Siew, and sophomore Lynn Blau and freshman Elizabeth Kilborn dropped their match by the same score.

On court one, sophomore Irina Falconi and junior Sasha Krupina came closer to victory but ultimately fell 8-5. The highlight of singles play was on court one, where the top two singles players in the nation faced off as No. 1 Falconi took on No. 2 Jana Juricova. The match was close throughout, and ultimately Falconi exacted revenge for her 2009 loss to Juricova with a 7-6, 7-5 victory.

By the time their match finished, though, the Golden Bears had already clinched the match.

Cossou, the No. 10 singles player in the ITA rankings, took down No. 66 Krupina 6-2, 6-1 in the first match to finish. Tech rebounded as McDowell completed a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Swisz to give the Jackets their first point.

Cal took the next two matches, sealing their victory. On court six, Cal’s Taylor Davis defeated Kilborn 6-4, 6-3, and Mari Anderson knocked off Ngo 6-0, 6-3 to clinch the victory for the Golden Bears.

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In the court five match, Blau took an early lead on Cal’s Annie Goransson but fell 3-6, 6-4, 10-1.

With the loss, Tech moved into the consolation bracket to face No. 13 Tennessee, which had lost its first-round match with No. 2 Northwestern.

The Jackets were once again swept in doubles play, but they put up a fight. Falconi and Krupina had a tough match against the nation’s No. 1 doubles tandem of Annie andradio Pliskova, but they kept the match close before falling 8-6.

Davis and Ngo dropped their court two match 8-3 against Zsofia Zabor and Rosalija Alda, and Blau and Kilborn fell 8-4 to Maria Sorbello and Katie Lee.

The Jackets evened things up in the first singles match to finish, as McDowell notched a 3-6, 6-1, 6-2 comeback victory over Alda in the third flight.

Blau and Tennessee’s Jennifer Meredith played a close match on court five, but Meredith held off the sophomore for a 7-6, 7-6 win.

Court one saw the closest match of the day—the another battle between top-10 players in Falconi and No. 6 Whoriskey. Falconi edged out a first-set victory, but Whoriskey held her off to win sets two and three to take the match 6-7, 6-4, 6-4.

Kilborn knocked off Lee 6-2, 6-0 on court six to keep Tech alive, but Sorbello’s 7-5, 6-2, 6-3 win over Krupina clinched the

See WTennis, page 30

Men’s Basketball stumbles at Wake, cruises past UNC

By Kyle Conarro
Staff Writer

A close game between Tech and Wake Forest swung in the Demon Deacons’ favor late, and the Jackets lost their fourth straight road game on Saturday, Feb. 13 at Wake 75-64. Tech rebounded, shutting down North Carolina 68-51 on Tuesday, Feb. 16 to complete a season sweep of the Tar Heels.

When Tech and Wake met in Jan., Tech downed the Demon Deacons 79-58 in their biggest victory in conference play. This time, Wake Forest returned the favor, handing the Jackets their second straight loss and dropping them to 5-6 in the ACC and 17-8 overall.

The Demon Deacons struck early in the first half, building up a 15-5 lead within the first five minutes of play. By the 11:29 mark, though, Tech had stolen the lead, hitting five three-pointers to put them in front 20-18. Junior Maurice Miller hit one for the Jackets, and freshman guard Gani Lawal hit the second.

Tech exchanged leads for a couple minutes, Wake Forest pulled ahead by nine with 5:04 left in the half. Tech surged back before the break, though, slowly cutting into the Demon Deacons’ lead and ultimately tying the score at 37. Eight of the Jackets’ 13 points over this period came from the foul line as they made 8 of 10 free throws in the first half.

Tech jumped back in front heading out of the locker room, as junior forward Gani Lawal hit the second of two free throws to give the Jackets a one-point edge. Wake distanced the score yet again, though, going on an 8-0 run to take a 46-38 lead with 16:19 to play. Tech responded with an 8-0 run of their own to tie the score, and the next seven minutes saw five more ties as the Jackets battled to keep it close.

A jumper by Wake guard Ishmael Smith put the Demon Deacons ahead 64-62 with 5:18 to go. Wake Forest responded with a 6-2 run to take a 70-64 lead with 3:14 left in the game.

The Jackets had one of their best nights from the foul line as they made 11 of 12 free throws in the game on Saturday night against a very hot Wake Forest team.

With the win, Tech moved into the consolation bracket to face No. 13 Tennessee, which had lost its first-round match with No. 2 Northwestern.

The Jackets were once again swept in doubles play, but they put up a fight. Falconi and Krupina had a tough match against the nation’s No. 1 doubles tandem of Annie andradio Pliskova, but they kept the match close before falling 8-6.

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