Staff Picks

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13TH, 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>60-43</td>
<td>Oregon (-20) @ Cal</td>
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<td>Hoffman</td>
<td>56-47</td>
<td>#2 Auburn (-8.5) v. Georgia</td>
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<td>Cappetta</td>
<td>54-49</td>
<td>#3 TCU (-25) v. San Diego St.</td>
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<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>59-44</td>
<td>#4 Boise St. (-30) @ Idaho</td>
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<td>Prasad</td>
<td>60-43</td>
<td>#5 LSU (-31) v. Louisiana Monroe</td>
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<td>Staff</td>
<td>60-43</td>
<td>#6 Stanford (-7) @ Arizona St.</td>
<td>Stan. ASU Stan. Stan. Stan. Stan.</td>
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<td>#7 Wisconsin (-23) v. Indiana</td>
<td>Wisc. Ind. Ind. Ind. Wisc. Ind.</td>
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<td>#9 Ohio St. (-17) v. Penn St.</td>
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<td>#10 Oklahoma St. (-6.5) @ Texas</td>
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WISCONSIN

Wisconsin has scored over 30 points in every one of its conference wins and scored 24 against Michigan St. in its only loss. The Badgers have been tested and will welcome the chance to return home after two tough road contests.

The Hoosiers kept things close against Iowa and Michigan earlier this year, but their best win is over Akron and they were throttled in their only two Big Ten road contests. In a tough environment at Madison, they stand little chance of being competitive.

KANSAS

Nebraska’s quarterback Taylor Martinez may be out for this game, and if he misses the game, Nebraska will not come close to covering 32 points as the team’s backup quarterback is pedestrian at best.

Kansas is an awful team, but they are still in a good conference in the Big 12. They also have a good coach in Turner Gill, and the Jayhawks were good enough to beat Tech and are riding the momentum of last week when they came back to beat Colorado on the road, 52-45.

SAN DIEGO STATE

San Diego State has been under the radar all season, only losing in a last minute thriller against a solid Missouri squad and against a decent BYU team.

While the team is not going to put up massive points, San Diego State is going to hold onto the ball with a good offensive line and its solid running game to prevent TCU from scoring points. TCU is coming off a huge win against Utah and might get caught looking over the Aztecs.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Fri Nov. 19th @ 7
Phi Kappa Sigma

Sign up in teams of 4
Contact speersrbs@gmail.com

**PRIZES!**

1: $Cash! 2: GT Swag
FREE PIZZA and DRINKS
Free to play!
The Jackets will take the field on Saturday, Nov. 13 at Bobby Dodd Stadium after a close loss last Thursday to the Virginia Tech Hokies. This week, Tech will face off against another ACC rival, the Miami Hurricanes. Tech comes in to the game with a 5-4 (3-3 ACC) record and is fourth in the Coastal Division. The Jackets look to hand the Hurricanes their third ACC loss and put an end to their ACC title hopes. The three keys for the Jackets to win on Saturday are playing to manageable third down distances, containing the Hurricane’s athletic players and forcing Miami into committing penalties.

Tech has emphasized converting third downs throughout the season. In Head Coach Paul Johnson’s system, every down matters, and in the 2010 season, third-down conversions have been especially important. This season, on third downs of five yards or less, the Jackets have converted 51 percent of the time. But on third downs of six yards or more, the percentage drops to a meager 24.5 percent. This gives Coach Johnson two very important decisions to make on first and second downs to put the team in a position to succeed when Tech has a chance to keep the drive alive.

It is no secret that Miami recruits stellar athletes. Miami’s team speed is nearly unparalleled along with the team’s intimidating size. Senior cornerbacks Mario Butler and Dominique Rease will have to match up against the hyper-talented likes of Miami senior wide receiver Leonard Hankerson and junior wide receiver Travis Benjamin. These two alone account for 65 percent of Miami’s touchdowns through the air.

The last key for a Tech victory will be to force the Hurricanes to commit penalties. Miami is the second most penalized team in major college football. Miami has racked up 83 penalties for 698 yards, an average of just over nine per game for 87 yards. Those 87 yards could mean the difference between a Jackets’ win and loss.

The Hurricanes sit in second place with a 6-3 (4-2) record and are looking to put together back-to-back wins after defeating ACC foe Maryland last week at home. The Hurricanes will have to execute in three key areas if they want to take down Tech on Saturday: working in many of their talented running backs, taking advantage of Tech’s thin secondary and stuffing the run on first down.

Miami must take advantage of their superior athletes and use them against a Tech team that looks very average. One particular area where the Hurricanes could excel is in the run game. Miami has four extremely talented running backs who play and could start anywhere in the country. Not only do they collectively have years of experience, but they can consistently deploy each to maximize the specific players’ talents. The Hurricanes’ stable of backs includes runners with 115 yards, 294 yards, 377 yards and Senior Damien Berry, leading the team with 690 yards and four touchdowns.

In addition to the Canes’ advantage at running back, Miami will look to abuse Tech’s thin secondary early and often. This job falls to the Hurricanes wide receivers. Hankerson, who is sixth in the country in receiving touchdowns, has snagged 10 touchdowns this season. Tech’s defensive backs will have to keep an extra careful watch on Hankerson which could leave other players open.

The last key for Miami will be to stuff the Jackets’ offense on first down. With little or no gain on first down, Johnson will feel the pressure on second and third downs. This could lead the Jackets to throw the ball, something they have struggled with this season.

Prediction: GT 24- UM 17

Want to reach 10,000 Tech students? Advertise in the Technique! Reduced rates for student organizations!
A 33-yard run from Allen gave Virginia Tech its first lead of the game, 21-14. Down seven, Washington helped execute a long drive that included a 13-yard run that set up another touchdown by Smith. It was all but assumed that Taylor would be forced to execute his best two-minute drive in order for the Hokies to win the game. Unfortunately for the Jackets, Taylor did not even have to take the field for the Hokies to secure the win. On the ensuing kickoff, Davis ran the ball back 90 yards to give Virginia Tech the lead with just under three minutes left.

“The kickoff return was just a killer. You give back all the momentum from going up the field and scoring,” Johnson said.

Down seven and with all the momentum going against them, Georgia Tech took over needing a touchdown to force the game into overtime. The sixth false start penalty of the game looked to end the Jackets’ hopes of winning the game until Washington completed a 38-yard pass to senior wide receiver Kevin Cone. With 14 seconds left in the game, Washington threw the ball to senior wide receiver Tyler Melton in the end zone. Melton did not catch the ball and a Virginia Tech defender did, ending the game and Georgia Tech’s hopes of winning the ACC.

“[Tevin] did [well] to be forced in [a situation] like that, and he made some plays. In that last drive he made some plays and kept us going,” Johnson said.
Basketball

ACC opponents.

17 last season with losses to two rivals Coliseum.

at 7:30 p.m. in Alexander Memo-

Charleston Southern Buccaneers execute better,” Rice Jr. said.

we need to play a little harder and have been that close. Obviously,

overtime in games. It shouldn't we have to do to stop getting into

son because now we know what

out like that than later in the sea -

throws to seal the game at 71-68.

25 seconds into the contest gave

McSparron said.

C.J. came in and bailed us out as

injury. With the UCF forward line

able to get up for several mo-

crashing the net, Lucas moved

charging the net. Lucas moved to

puck popped in the process and he was unable to get up for several mo-

Eventually he was helped off the ice, and he did not return.

The Jackets replaced him with sophomore goalie C.J. Layer, who had been sharp in goal in several starts this season.

It would have been great to see [Lucas] play the whole game, because he was in a groove. But C.J. came in and bailed us out as usual…he's always ready to play,” McSparron said.

Layer held strong in the first few minutes after entering the game, but with 10:23 to go, UCF center Connor Cafferty scored from the left side to cut Tech’s lead to 3-2. Layer preserved the 3-2 lead heading into the final period.

Before long, though, the game ended up tied. A Knight winger ended up in the clear, and his backhand shot snuck past Layer for the game-tying score with 10:46 left in the contest.

Two minutes later, with UCF threatening in the Tech zone, the Knights scored again on a shot from just in front of the net. With

Hockey team loses to UCF at home, 5-3

By Nishant Prasad

Online Sports Editor

Tech’s ice hockey team came up just short in a battle of two of the top teams in its region this weekend.

The Jackets, ranked No. 5 in the ACHA Division III South region, hosted No. 1 Central Florida on Saturday, Nov. 6, and although the Jackets pulled out to an early two-goal lead, an injury to senior goalie Maxx Lucas and good puck movement by the visiting Knights allowed them to pull out a 5-3 victory.

“Our goal was to try to keep the game close, and we were win-

ing going into the third, but a couple mental breakdowns cost us,” said Head Coach Brian McSparron.

As the game began, Tech found the rebound from a missed shot by the Panthers and made two free throws to seal the game at 71-68.

The lead did not last long, though. Shortly after the ensuing face-off, UCF notched a power play goal and tied the game with 19:01 left in the period.

Even with UCF’s quick response, the Jackets were beginning to control the puck and put pressure on the UCF defensive line, and the result was two more goals. With 13:57 to go, sophomore defenseman Alan Dagesser fired a wrister from the blue line that ju-

ninie forward Zack Berry deflected into the air. Junior winger Matt Zaske came up with the rebound and tied the game with 13:57 to go, sophomore goalie C.J. Layer, who had been sharp in goal in several starts this season.

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SPORTS

MIDDLE EAST BUZZAR

A celebration of culture and diversity

MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER

4th Street Apartments, South Lounge

TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER

Belly dancing Class 6pm-7pm
Learn the art of belly dancing in this introductory session
Student Center Ballroom - Blue

WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Cultural Exhibits 11am-1pm
Learn about Middle Eastern food, clothing, music and much more!
Student Center 1st Floor
Bazzgammon 7pm
Come be a part of this annual Backgammon tournament
Student Center Theater

THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER

Cultural Exhibits 11am-1pm
Learn about Middle Eastern food, clothing, music and much more!
Student Center 1st Floor
Bazzgammon 7pm
Come be a part of this annual Backgammon tournament
Student Success Center Press Room B

FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER

Plaka Party 9pm
Finale celebration
Taverna Plaka

See Knights, page 22
Hokies slip by the Jackets, 28-21

By Alex Mitchell
Sports Editor

On Thursday, Nov. 4 the Georgia Tech football team traveled to Blacksburg, Va. for its annual meeting against the Virginia Tech Hokies. The Jackets dominated the first half, but in the end, the Hokies came out with a win, 28-21.

The Jackets were playing for their conference lives as a loss would eliminate them from a chance to play in their second consecutive conference championship game. The win would not have guaranteed the Jackets a place in the game, but since the ACC split into two divisions, the winner of this game has represented the ACC Coastal Division in the ACC Championship game.

The Jackets started strong with a rare long kick return to open up the game. Junior A- back Embry Peoples took the kick and raced up the right sideline for 42 yards, giving Georgia Tech great field position at its own 42-yard line. The offense started the game off with a pass that fell incomplete, but on second down, sophomore A-B back Orwin Smith took a pitch and ran 27 yards for Georgia Tech’s first big play of the game. Redshirt senior B- back Anthony Allen gashed the Hokies’ defense for 27 yards on five carries before senior quarterback Joshua Nesbitt ran for his first rushing touchdown of the game.

The Jackets kicked off to the Hokies on the ensuing play, and the Virginia Tech offense began to go to work. Running back Darren Evans ran for small gains and quarterback Tyrod Taylor did not miss a receiver as Virginia Tech marched down the field. Finally, on a third-down play, Taylor’s pass was broken up and the Hokies had to punt.

On the third play of Georgia Tech’s next drive, Nesbitt found a hole and got a few blocks. Seventy one yards later, Nesbitt found himself in the end zone again, and the Jackets were up 14-0.

On the next Virginia Tech possession, the Hokies opted to let their other running back, Ryan Williams, take most of the carries. The decision worked out for the Hokies as Williams scored their first touchdown of the game to start the second quarter and set the score at 14-7.

Georgia Tech’s next possession began with three straight runs by Allen to set up a fourth-and-one. Head Coach Paul Johnson elected to go for the first down, but eventually punted after a false start penalty by redshirt senior right tackle Austin Barrick moved the Jackets back five yards.

Taylor led the Hokies down the field on Virginia Tech’s next possession. The Hokies were threatening to score when Taylor dropped back to pass and his offensive line gave him time to complete the pass, and in doing so set up a field goal.

Men’s basketball wins exhibition game in overtime

By Alex Sohani
Contributing Writer

On Friday, Nov. 5, Tech faced off against Clark Atlanta in an exhibition game at Alexander Memorial Coliseum. What was expected to be a routine practice game turned out to be a 71-68 overtime victory for the Jackets, with the game finishing on Virginia Tech’s third string running back, Wilson ran for 39 yards on only seven carries. It was his best rushing performance since Oct. 16.

The Jackets started strong with a rare long kick return to open up the game. Junior A- back Embry Peoples took the kick and raced up the right sideline for 42 yards, giving Georgia Tech great field position at its own 42-yard line. The offense started the game off with a pass that fell incomplete, but on second down, sophomore A-B back Orwin Smith took a pitch and ran 27 yards for Georgia Tech’s first big play of the game. Redshirt senior B- back Anthony Allen gashed the Hokies’ defense for 27 yards on five carries before senior quarterback Joshua Nesbitt ran for his first rushing touchdown of the game.

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