Sports
Respect Returns With New Competitive Atmosphere

Competition is much of what makes Tech what it is. During the decades of the sixties and seventies, it seemed to only apply to academics. However, with the hiring of Homer Rice as athletic director in 1981, Ma Tech decided that she wanted to be competitive again in sports. Rice sought out and hired Jim Morris, Bill Curry, and Bobby Cremins to coach baseball, football and basketball, respectively. Each one promised a successful program sometime down the road. This year, it appeared that the dividends are about to be paid. In the spring of 1983, Morris' baseball team won more games than any diamond squad fielded in Tech's history. In fact, one of the victories came over the then reigning world champions from Miami. The football team's season wasn't quite as successful recordwise as the winning season of last year. However, they were more competitive giving highly ranked teams a run for the money, It seems that the football program is about to turn the corner. Similarly, the 82-83 basketball team could play against any opponent. They just had problems beating them, that is, until this year. Bobby Cremins, in just three years at Tech, has built a highly respected program that has won the approval of both the students and the city of Atlanta. These teams aren't the only varsity teams that are doing well. The Golf Team, under the leadership of another new coach, Puggy Blackmon, has pulled itself out of the laughing stocks of golf into respectability. Women, too, are competing on a higher level. The Volleyball Team has attained varsity, Division I, status, and the Women's Basketball Team had their games broadcast on WREK. Cricket Yates was hired in the spring of 1983 to be the Assistant Sports Information Director to be in charge of women's sports publicity. All of these moves have been for the betterment of Tech athletics. The club sports continued their drive for excellence highlighted by the Rugby Team's upset of the nationally ranked 'dawgs.' Also this past year saw the complete turn around of the playing ability of the Men's Soccer Team. The Sailing Team made its move towards a national ranking with strong showings in northern regattas. On the intramural level, the students got their chance to shine and took advantage of the opportunity. The games were very competitive in nature and provided the students with a much needed break from academics. Competition is a basic part of this school. The challenge of better grades, a good job offer and athletics, have made the year exciting.
Musical Quarterbacks Acquire Valuable Experience

Chances are, as kids, Georgia Tech quarterbacks Stu Rogers, John Dewberry, Darrell Gast and Rick Strom all played the ever popular children's party game “musical chairs.” They would parade around a circle of chairs and when mom turned off the music, one person found himself in the standing positions as the others sat. The 1983 football season helped bring back these childhood memories. The Tech defense, instead of mom, was in charge of the music and when they stopped, one found himself standing while the others sat on the bench.

Stu Rogers was the experienced first stringer who started in the Jackets' first three games. However, John Dewberry got to play in the second half of the Alabama game as Rogers’ “productivity faltered.” Then, against Clemson, Rogers’ knee was twisted as he was sandwiched between five Tiger defenders. Coach Bill Curry once again called on sophomore transfer Dewberry to take charge. With the exception of his 66 yard quarterback sneak touchdown and a late second quarter drive that ended in a missed field goal, Dewberry was relatively ineffective against the Clemson defense. Enter freshman Darrell Gast. Against a substitute saturated defense, Gast completed seven of ten passes and led the Jackets to their second score of the long day.

Dewberry started against the University of North Carolina getting the Engineers off to a strong start. His pace slowed in the third quarter and both Gast and Strom alternated the quarterbacking job between possessions and even downs. Dewberry played the full game against North Carolina State, but the musical quarterback situation continued in the games against Auburn, Tennessee and Duke. Curry found himself in an enjoyable position against Virginia and Wake Forest. He substituted Strom and Gast against both teams and Andy Thomas, the jayvee quarterback, against the Deacons. It was Thomas' first varsity snap in his four year college career.

The injury of Stu Rogers, although certainly not a thing to rejoice about, may have been a blessing in disguise. The rotation of Tech's musical quarterbacks put them in excellent learning positions. The young quarterbacks matured faster on the field than they would have sitting on the bench. With all of this accumulated experience against the top teams in the nation, the future of Tech quarterbacks looks bright.

TOP: John Dewberry prepares to hand off as Kepano blocks out a Georgia defender. BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: Darrell Gast avoids the Clemson rush. Rick Strom scans over the Bullpup defensive line for a downfield receiver. Stu Rogers hopes for another big Yellow Jacket gain as he hands off to tailback Robert Layette.
First Half Victories Succumb to Second Half Woes

It seemed like last year the Jackets rode a rollercoaster alternating wins and losses each week. This theme, in effect, was followed again this year with one major variation — Tech alternated winning and losing the first and second halves of the game.

Against Furman, the Jackets played well enough to dominate the statistics but not the score (7-7) at half time. However, in the second half it seemed that something was missing from the team. The Palidins took charge and won the second half 10-7 leaving the final score at 17-14. While many saw problems in this “one time upset,” few actually realized the future problems the Jackets were going to have — problems finishing their games at the same pace that they began.

The next home game, the fans were thinking upset as the 0-3 Jackets took a 21-10 halftime lead against the then fifth ranked North Carolina Tarheels. The wishful thinking was for naught as the UNC offense scored twenty-eight unanswered points in the second half. The home game against Auburn was the same song; Tech won the first half against the SEC Champions impressively 10-7. A fumble followed by a Jacket field goal was enough to motivate the Tiger offense: the final score was 31-13. Tech took a 19-14 lead into the locker room against the winless Duke Blue Devils in Durham. Tech got a fast seven at the beginning of the third quarter but then sat back and watched Duke’s All-American quarterback, Ben Bennett, march his team up and down the field. The Tech defense was on the field for only eight of the last thirty minutes. As a possible cure, Curry encouraged his team to have as much fun in the second half as they did in the first. It seemed to have worked as the Jackets trounced Virginia and Wake Forest in both halves.

Probably the most exciting game of the year came against Georgia. The Jackets, once again, dominated the first half, which started with a 72 yard touchdown run by Robert Lavette. The Dawgs went ahead at the half with a field goal in the closing seconds. Coming out of the lockerroom, the Jackets were fired up for a second half victory. However, only a tie was achieved as a Dewberry pass was picked off six yards from the endzone with a minute remaining. The “sugar free” Dawgs escaped with a 27-24 win.

Like last year, it was a season of ups and downs. Unfortunately, the ups didn’t last all sixty minutes.
Injuries Spring Green Substitutes Into Starting Roles

With the injuries of preseason starter Stu Rogers, young quarterbacks John Dewberry, Darrell Gast and Rick Strom saw much more action on the field than they had expected. Similarly, when the top two runningbacks, Robert Lavette and Ronny Cone were injured during the season, many players found themselves in playing positions. Knowing that their number of plays were numbered before the regulars returned, these runningbacks played with extra intensity in order to prove their worth both to the coaches who were watching them but also to themselves. With this positive attitude, they made some major contributions to the team.

One of the most impressive players was freshman Cory Collier who was called on to fill the massive shoes of All-America candidate Robert Lavette. And fill them he did. At the end of the season, he led the team in yards per rush with 5.6. He played in ten of the eleven games but only saw extensive action in three of them. Thus, his average yards per game of 44.2 wasn’t as high as it would have been if he had played full time. Yet, even with his lack of time on the field, Collier finished twelfth in the ACC for all purpose running which is tallied by combining rushing yards, punt and kickoff returns and pass receiving. His kickoff return average of 30.0 placed him second in the nation. It was no wonder that he was named ACC rookie of the year. Comments head coach Bill Curry, “Cory Collier is the kind of person every coach dreams of. He’s a top student and a super athlete.”

Another person who made his appearance this fall was junior Keith Glanton. Following the injury of Ronnie Cone, Glanton got his chance to play the fullback position. He participated in all eleven of the contests and saw a great deal of play in two games following Cone’s injury. Behind Collier, he finished second overall in yards per carry with 5.4.

The substitutes were great additions to the team, but this is not to say that the preseason starters didn’t do anything. In fact, Lavette finished the season with 803 yards and five touchdowns even after missing a good portion of the season. Ronnie Cone rambled for 497 yards averaging 4.9 per carry.

In a season full of injuries to bodies and prides, there were still bright spots where the newcomers shined through. With the experience gained by these people, including the freshmen defensive backs who were called into duty due to injured starters, the football program will come of age in the near future.
From One Point of View, Jackets Have Great Season

The values system in the United States seems to only give people two choices on a subject, usually completely opposites. For example, the weather's hot or cold, a prof is either easy or a shaft. Looking at the Jackets' 3-8 record, many people automatically assume it's a bad team as opposed to a good one. However, closer observation leads us to the fact that the team did not face Slippery Rock State College and the such.

The opener was played in Birmingham, Alabama against none other than the 'Bama Crimson Tide under the direction of new head coach and old Curry teammate Ray Perkins. The Tide has rolled many notable teams, as they have many times in the past. A few weeks later, Tech had to face ACC rival Clemson. The Tigers did nothing other than win the ACC title, but since they performed recruiting violations, their victory was a hollow one. The following week, Tech put up a valiant effort against the Tarheels of North Carolina. At the time, the 'Heels were ranked fifth in the nation. 'Nuff said.

Two weeks later, at Grant Field, the Jackets gave another exciting show against the number three ranked Auburn Tigers. Tech went ahead at halftime 10-7. The second half started with the Tigers fumbling the kickoff and the Jackets recovering. After the ensuing field goal, the Tigers flexed their muscles and pounded Tech. After winning the Southeastern Conference championship, Auburn beat Michigan in the Sugar Bowl.

Tennessee was next on the list. The revenge seeking Vols tore Tech apart. This year, there was no overconfidence like last year when the Vols traveled to Grant Field only to lose on national television. Finally at the end of the season, the Jackets faced traditional state rivals Georgia. The dawgs had a ranking of seven and headed to the Cotton Bowl where they beat Texas.

Looking back at the season, the Jackets did drop a couple of games that they might could have won, but this is a part of football that all fans must accept. It's just that the American value system is based on two extremes, and there is little room for anything in between. The proper way to look at the football season is not one of good or bad but how they played, which was very tough against everyone.
Purely for the love of the game, Tech students go out for the Junior Varsity Football Team. They practice all year round and in the fall, simulate the varsity team’s next opponent during practice. Many of these athletes play for years before ever seeing any regular season action. However, the spirit of the team is always high, and for that reason they were able to defeat the physically stronger teams from Fort Benning and the Tennessee Military Institute. However, these games were mostly warm-ups for the big Scottish Rite charity game against the Bullpups of Athens.

In three years time, the Baby Jackets have amassed a seven game win streak including two victories over the Georgia Jayvees. After visiting the children for whom they are playing, the Tech Jayvees took the field looking for their third Scottish Rite victory in three years.

After a slow start, the young Jackets found themselves down 21-10. The first of two late fourth quarter drives run by freshman Rick Strom with the help of senior Andy Thomas and freshman Darrel Gast ended with a ten yard touchdown pass. Tech got the ball back shortly after a failed two point conversion. Unfortunately, time was running low and with seconds left, two defenders batted down a Strom pass in the endzone.

The Scottish Rite game, at its peak of popularity in the mid 1950’s, attracted crowds of up to 40,000 in size to see freshman talent from both teams. However, after freshmen were allowed to play varsity in the early seventies, the attendance at the game has dropped steeply. The charity hasn’t suffered though, as there were over 40,000 tickets sold to this year’s game.

TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT: In a first quarter drive, Reggie Mays runs wide in order to avoid a swarm of Bullpup defenders. There were many penalties committed in the game by the Bullpups. However, they didn’t get called for hitting Reggie Mays’ facemask.

BOTTOM: Before the game, Tech Jayvee players David Bell and Bart Jones give a young fan an autographed football at the Scottish Rite Hospital.
ACC Here We Come — Tech Stuns Wake at Alexander

With the celebrated signing of Bruce Dalrymple and the return of sophomores Mark Price, John Salley and junior Yvon Joseph, people were expecting Bobby Cremins’ first winning season as head coach at Tech. Much to everyone’s surprise and favor, the Jackets jumped off to their best start since 1971 with important victories over national powers Alabama, Wake Forest, and North Carolina State. The Jackets had become a force to be reckoned with.

The first display of the young team’s potential came in a heartbreaking loss in the Omni to Georgia. Tech maintained a lead throughout most of the game, ten points at one time. However, a late second half slump allowed the ‘dawgs’ to pass the Jackets in scoring. Still, it was close, the final score being 64-62.

Over the Christmas holidays, the Jackets captured two tournament victories. The first was the Casaba Cup Classic held in Stockton, California and the other, the more important of the two, was the Cotton States Classic held at the Omni where Tech faced Nebraska and Alabama. The most exciting was the final round where the Jackets faced the Crimson Tide for the championship. The game was close all the way with Tech leading by one point with seconds remaining. Scott Petway was fouled, and he went to the line with the chance to put the game away. He sank both securing both the victory and the tournament.

The then eighth ranked Deamon Deacons of Wake Forest invaded the coliseum during the first weekend of winter quarter. Students flocked to Alexander in full force. They were treated to what, at the time, was the most exciting Jacket basketball game in recent years. Leading by two points with the shot clock turned off, the Deacons were content to hold the ball and let the time run out. However, Mark Price stole the ball and then passed it off to Yvon Joseph who slammed the ball to tie the score up. The Deacons regained the ball and planned on stalling in order to make the game’s final shot. A foul was committed, and a Deacon went to the foul line. He missed the front end of a one-and-one, and the crowd went wild. Tech grabbed the rebound and held onto it until there were eleven seconds left. A time out was called by Cremins in order to plan a strategy. The plan was for the ball to be shot by Price or Joseph but since both were so well covered, Petway elected, with six seconds left, to take the shot himself. The fans waited breathlessly as they watched the ball fall effortlessly through the net. The remaining time was insufficient for Wake to get off a final shot and the crowd stormed the floor celebrating Tech’s 68-66 upset victory.

After a tough loss at Clemson, the Jackets returned home looking for a victory. The victim was the defending NCAA champions from N.C. State. The earlier loss seemed not to have had much effect on the Jackets as they dismantled the Wolfpack in fine fashion. The victory helped to reinstate some lost confidence but wasn’t enough to help Tech break into either the AP or UPI polls. Still the Jackets entered the USA Today Top 25 in the 22 position. This, plus the early season victories helped to build character in Cremins’ young team, character they would need to survive in the toughest basketball conference around — the ACC.

TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT: Craig Neal makes a layup. Yvon Joseph slams against the Deacons. BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: Neal drives toward the basket. Freshman Bruce Dalrymple gets two. Bobby Cremins and John Salley discuss strategy. Tim Harvey concentrates on making his shot.
The Thillerdome Is Born in Cremins' Best Season

By the third week of winter quarter, "Bee-ball" had captured the fancy of Tech students. Basketball was the talk of the campus as students stood for hours outside of the coliseum waiting to see the rejuvenated Jackets. ACC basketball fever had hit Atlanta.

The excitement hit a peak in a televised conference game against Virginia. The game was hard fought and at the end of regulation time, Mark Price missed a 28 footer thus sending the game into overtime. Neither team scored in the first five minute extension of play, so the game proceeded to a second OT. The Jackets found themselves against the wall as they missed shots and fell behind by five with 1:28 left on the clock. They didn't give up, though, closing the gap to within two with 20 seconds left. Yvon Joseph grabbed the ball and went up for a layup but was fouled with 10 seconds left. Cool as the weather outside, Joseph sank both shots and sent the game into the Jackets' first triple overtime. Tech, held the momentum, took control of the game with Anthony Byrd hitting four free throws. The final score read 72-71 as the students stormed the floor. You'd have thought that the Jackets had just won the NCAA.

After a revenge filled victory over Clemson, the Jackets took their young talent into the den of the division leading UNC Tarheels. The game was close all the way with the Jackets maintaining the lead for extended periods of time. However, a lapse in concentration in the second half allowed the Tarheels to take the lead. Many fouls at the end of the game allowed the score difference spread to twelve.

The next day, the polls came out with Tech 18th in the AP, 16th USA Today. That day they played Duke at Alexander. The Jackets fell behind but once again displayed guts in coming from behind only to see their lead slip away at the end. With the score tied at the end of regulation, a Duke round baller was fouled. He hit the second of his two shots and won the game for Duke. Three days later, the Jackets found the same kind of luck at Wake Forest. They managed to catch up after being impossibly behind and send the game into, what else, overtime. Some mental errors and poor shots led to the Jackets third straight ACC loss.

The then ninth ranked Terrapins of Maryland invaded the coliseum and a victory was essential for the Jackets to maintain their ranking, fan support and most of all, self respect. Once again, the Jackets fell behind by eleven but through determination, they tied the game up for another overtime. Each team scored four points in the first OT, and it looked like the game was going to be tied at the end of the second, but John Salley got his 21st point of the game with a three point play putting the Jackets up by three. The game was secured.

"Their inexperience is showing" commented a student. Other than Byrd, none had more than a year of ACC experience. Still, they captured the hearts of the people in the city of Atlanta and most of all, those of the students of Tech.
Duke Eyes and Cremins’ Suit Wet After Road Victory

The Maryland victory, although it helped the team’s record, only halted the losing streak for a short time. The road for ACC teams has always been bad news, and the Jackets, in the past, had not escaped this jinx. Tech went on to drop two games at Virginia and N.C. State, teams that the Jackets had beaten at Alexander. It seemed that the road had taken away some of the flare the Jackets had at the beginning of the season.

Bobby Cremins must have foreseen this problem last year when he scheduled two breathers for his team. Unfortunately, the roundballers weren’t very impressive against South Carolina or Maryland-Eastern Shore thus making their post season tournament bid chances look dimmer.

It was back on the road again. This time it was Maryland. The game was played tough, but the Jackets found themselves once again on the short end of the stick. That meant that a victory over fourteenth ranked Duke Blue Devils was essential. The Jackets rose to the occasion with a thrilling comeback win. It was the first ACC road victory for Tech in almost three years. Cremins took a fully clothed shower after the game. A post season tournament bid appeared to be locked up. However, the question was, which one?

The Carolina game was held in a sold out Omni. Only 3,000 student tickets were available thus weakening Tech’s “sixth man,” the rowdy students. The Jackets fell behind early, came back at the half but then slipped and fell behind by an insurmountable deficit.

After only three years in the ACC, Tech finished a strong fifth with a record of 6-8. Now, they had to prepare for Duke in the ACC tournament.

On the last day of classes, the Jackets traveled to Greensboro, North Carolina for the first round of the ACC Tournament. The opponent was the Duke Blue Devils, the team Tech had beaten on the road only a few weeks earlier. With each team fired up about winning this rubber match, it appeared to be the most intense game of the tournament. After the UNC Tarheels blew Clemson away, it was time for the Jackets to take the court.

Tech held the lead throughout most of the first half. However, Duke pulled away in the second half leading the Jackets by seven at one point. The score was quickly evened in the same exciting fashion the Jackets had used all year. Ironically, with almost half of Tech's ACC games going into overtime, it seemed only natural for the first round of the tourney to have an extended playing period. Things were looking bad with time running out and Duke with a two point lead and the ball. Mark Price stole the ball and drove down the court with seconds left. Under the basket, he passed the ball off to Dalrymple who made the would be tying basket. However, Price was called for charging on the play. The regular season had abruptly come to an end.

Two days later, the NIT bids came out and Tech was on the list. It was the first postseason game for Tech in eleven years. The opponent was Virginia Tech and the game was played in Blacksburg, Virginia. Of all of the Tech games this year, the one against the Hokies seemed to be the most even, not a seesaw affair the Jackets had become accustomed to. Unfortunately, the wrong Tech had more points at the end of the game.

“Next year, I'm really going to be a great player!” says Yvon Joseph who, along with his teammates and coaches, has big expectations for next season. With many playing in summer leagues along with the signing of some top notch high school seniors and all but one player returning, next year’s team looks very promising. However, looking back, this past season has had its great moments: the Cotton States Classic championship, beating eighth ranked Wake Forest the first weekend back to school, the triple overtime victory over Virginia, a national ranking, an ACC road victory, a post season tournament bid, Bruce Dalrymple being named ACC Rookie of the Year, and Mark Price being named All-America. It seems that ‘bee-ball’ has really turned the corner at Georgia Tech.
Increased Recognition Characterizes Jackets' Season

Recognition is probably the word that most characterized the Lady Jackets' tenth year of varsity competition. Cricket Yates was hired as the Assistant Sports Information Director; her job included total responsibility for publicizing women's athletic teams at Tech. Along with this first for women's sports' this year was the first year for the ladies to be on the radio as WREK covered all home and away basketball games with Richard Mustered serving as the voice for the Lady Jackets. Television was not far behind as a home game against Clemson was broadcast. The pep band and the newly formed JV cheerleaders added to the excitement of the games.

All of this publicity has not gone to peoples' heads, though, as the Lady Jackets continued to play quality basketball. The team had a well rounded game at both ends of the court with five players leading the team in rebounding in at least one game. In the scoring department, the norm was three people scoring in the double figures each game.

The senior guard Kate Brandt, who four years ago earned the first women's full scholarship, lead the team in scoring and left her mark on the list of all-time female scorers. Tory Ehle, the other starting guard, was hot from the free throw line shooting 71% and had her best night against Queens going 8 for 8. Michele Carter, a freshman walk-on, played well off the bench and was able to give Brandt and Ehle breathing time.

Five players shared the forward and center positions. Junior Cindy Cochran continued to climb the all-time rebounders list and still has another year of eligibility remaining. Senior Mary Rucker finished her fine Tech career by showing her abilities in making assists. Kirsten Weinert used her height, 6'3", to lead the team in blocked shots as Jennifer Leachman and Mary Lou Jicka came off of the bench and contributed their talent to the team.

The heightened publicity of the past year was certainly a step in the right direction for all women's sports. The enthusiasm on the basketball team is high for next year and the recognition received only adds to it.

TOP: Junior Cindy Cochran drives past a Lady Dog. BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: Point guard Anita Malone leads the Lady Jacket offense. Mary Lou Jicka looks for someone to pass to. Mary Rucker prepares to shoot. Jennifer Leachman lays one up against Clemson.
Overall, the Atlantic Coast Conference is one of the toughest conferences in the nation. Women's basketball is no exception. In non-division play, the Lady Jackets finished with a strong 8-5 record. Unfortunately, they didn't fare quite as well in the ACC where they finished 1-14, the only win coming against Wake Forest in the last game of the regular season. The ACC tournament found the lady hoopsters losing in the first round to top seeded Virginia 75-58. Virginia, along with five of the ladies' opponents, went on to the NCAA tournament. These six teams accounted for eleven of the team's losses.

There were high points in the season, though. Senior Kate Brandt finished her final season as the all time leading scorer while Junior Cindy Cochran moved into third place in the all time rebounders. At the ACC tournament, the lady cagers tied a team record by hitting ten of eleven shots from the free throw line.

Reflecting on the season, the Lady Jackets fought to overcome many obstacles. In trying to cope with five nationally ranked opponents in the ACC and a lack of depth (four or less players on the bench at a time), a true spirit of teamwork was developed. With eight highly spirited members of the team returning next season, a strong recruiting year and the momentum gained by winning the last game of the regular season, the future of the team looks bright.

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Morris Improves His Squad and Posts Record Season

Georgia Tech is fast becoming known as a tough baseball contender in the ACC and across the nation after only three years with Coach Jim Morris at the helm. During his stay at Tech, Morris has instituted many programs which have improved the team and their image on campus and in the ACC.

One such program includes seasons other than the regular spring schedule. He has started a summer and a fall league that helps keep the players in shape. The summer league is sponsored by Days Inn Motels, and the players, who jokingly call themselves the "Days Inn Bellhops," take time from summer school or employment to play. During fall the Jackets' opponents consisted of in-state schools whose coaches had the same fitness plan in mind. By spring it was obvious the program had worked because the Jackets were definitely ready. During the 1983 season, the Tech baseball team tallied the most wins ever by a squad of bat swinging Jackets; it was the winningest season since the 1971 season. Although the Jackets had the second best overall record in the ACC, their six wins and eight losses in the conference left them in fifth place at the end of the season.

As Tech mentor, Morris produced a markedly improved squad over the 1982 team. Of the thirteen school records kept, nine of them were shattered in 1983 including most hits, most doubles, most home runs, most RBIs, and average number of runs per game which reached a whopping 9.8 runs.

Individual records and personal goals were achieved as third baseman Rick Lockwood was named All-ACC for the second year in a row, and Scott Jordan was dubbed Outstanding College Player in Georgia by the Atlanta Dugout Club. Each with 201 at bats and more than 70 hits and 60 runs scored, Lockwood and Jordan led the team. Lockwood also hit 12 home runs, more than any other Tech player. For his abilities Lockwood was awarded Most Dedicated Player by his teammates, and for consistent play and an impressive average of .361, Chris Morgan received the 1983 MVP award.

Turning to pitching, Stu Rogers posted nine wins on the season and 72 strike outs. Reliever Mike Stanford finished the year with the lowest ERA of 3.14.

The Yellow Jackets' performance in the ACC tournament was described by Morris as a "nightmare." Only twice during the year did Tech suffer three consecutive losses, and the ACC tourney was one of these times.

Only two players, Lockwood and Woodward, were lost to graduation last year, and Morris had plans to fill those positions with promising new players.

In addition to working with the team itself, Morris has undertaken plans to boost enthusiasm for Tech baseball throughout the community. Expanded seating capacity, new lights, and regular contests and giveaways have sparked attendance at all Tech home games.

Morris feels like all these things will help attract quality recruits to Tech in the next few years.

TOP: Third baseman and team leader, Rick Lockwood loosens up his muscles before heading to the plate. BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: Rightie George Shirilla goes into his wind up. Head coach Jim Morris, the architect of a highly successful 1983 baseball season, maintains his third base coaching position.
Coach Morris Commands Winning Season for Tech

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Good things are happening to the baseball program at Georgia Tech, but to those who know head coach Jim Morris, this comes as no surprise. Morris' career history proves that he can do no wrong as a baseball coach. As head coach, his record is 182-52 and as an assistant coach, 108-32. More than sixty of his players have been drafted by professional baseball organizations.

Coach Morris first played college baseball at Brevard Junior College which he attended for one year before transferring to Elon College in North Carolina. There, he earned a B.S. in Health and Physical Education but not until after signing with the Red Sox for a summer of professional baseball. At Elon, Morris developed his skills by learning how to switch hit and then lead the team in hitting that year. During his senior year, he played virtually flawless baseball at shortstop. After fall graduation, Morris remained at Elon for six months as a graduate assistant coach and then spent the following three years playing in baseball's minor league system.

During those three years, Morris prepared for his career by playing every infield position except first base and catcher. Following his tenure with the Red Sox, Morris became a graduate assistant coach at Appalachian State University in 1974. A year later, he received his masters degree and went on to accept a job of head baseball coach at DeKalb South Junior College.

Faced with seemingly hopeless circumstances, Coach Morris began the baseball program there by initiating field construction, recruiting a team, and finishing then with a winning record of 26-14. His second season resulted in a 41-7 record and an advancement to the national finals. Though Morris never realized his dream of producing a national champion, his 1978 and 1979 teams were both nationally ranked.

Upon leaving DeKalb South, Morris became part of a very successful program at Florida State University. During his first year there, the Seminoles finished 51-11 and were national runner-ups. His second year was just as impressive as the team again finished with a national ranking and a record of 57-21.

So far, the Morris trend has continued at Tech. In 1982, the team met their goal by finishing the year with a record of 29-20. The following year was filled with broken records including the most wins by a Tech baseball squad.

With Morris in command, the Tech baseball program is headed for new heights in ability and success. Promoting the team and the sport itself, Morris has made Tech a definite threat in the ACC.

Top: Yellow Jacket pitcher Jeff Distasio stares down his opponent before starting his windup. Bottom, Left to Right: Third baseman Rick Lockwood prepares to tag out the Western Carolina runner as he tries to advance to third. A Tech batter takes a few practice swings as he waits to bat against Tennessee Temple.
For the first time in recent history, the cheerleading squad had something to really cheer about and helped to get the crowd involved in the games, whether it was football or basketball. With the two greatly improved and exciting teams, the squad proved to be an important factor in all of the games.

However, the cheerleaders did a lot more than cheer. They appeared on PM Magazine as they did a promotion for the opening of the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Buckhead. They also performed a promo for ACC basketball on the cable sports network ESPN.

During fall quarter, the cheerleaders practiced almost every night for three hours. The practice paid off; they took their talents to Dallas, Texas for the National Cheerleading Association Tournament and finished twelfth in a very strong field.

Once again, "Buzz Bee" added entertainment to the slower games while the JV cheerleaders cheered on the Lady Jackets. In all, the cheerleaders continued in their fine tradition of excellence in cheering on the Fightin' Jackets.

TOP: Kim Ligas, Todd Wood and Mary Van Deren root the Jackets to victory. Buzz finds an interesting place to sit.
Studying on the weekend was a rare occurrence for the members of the track team during winter and spring quarters. Their rigorous indoor and outdoor schedules had them on the road nearly every Saturday and Sunday from the beginning of January through the end of May competing in over twenty meets.

The high point of the 1984 Indoor season was an invitational tournament held in Gainsville, Florida where Tech’s Antonio McKay set the world indoor record in the 400 meter with a time of 45.79 seconds. It was only his third time to run in the 400 meters. He qualified for the United States Track and Field Meet and the NCAA Meet.

Last winter, the Yellow Jackets earned respect early in the year by having a strong indoor record. The indoor season was highlighted at the NCAA championships in Pontiac, Michigan where the mile relay team finished fourth. The members of the team, Tom Hind, Mike Armour, Carlyle Bernard and Jimmy Stanley enjoyed much success throughout the season.

Coming off a strong indoor season, Tech rambled onto the outdoor scene in peak form. They won the Georgia State Collegiate Championships for the second year in a row and finished fifth in the ACC Championships beating Duke, North Carolina and Wake Forrest. The mile relay team qualified for the outdoor championship where they finished twelfth in the process of breaking their own school record. Ten other school records were broken by the team.

The team is young and is returning most of its top finishers. Future seasons are being viewed with great expectations.
Improvement is a very good word to describe this year’s gymnastics team. From meet to meet, the overall score of the team increased steadily starting at 219.1 at the first meet and winding up at the season high of 231.85 at the last regular meet. In the process, many individuals broke personal records, the most significant being Les Rushing who broke the school record on the pommel horse with a score of 8.95.

Inexperience is another good way to describe the gymnasts. Three of the ten members are returning lettermen. Four freshmen and sophomore Dave Whalen, who enjoyed Coach Bill Beavers’ class so much last spring that he tried out for the team, are competing on the varsity level for the first time. The fact that they matured so much in a year is phenomenal. Unfortunately, the inexperience led to Coach Bill Beavers’ first losing season in his thirteen years at Tech. However, with most of the team returning next year, the resurgence of the gymnastics team is being looked forward to.

TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT: Chip Cookston concentrates on the parallel bars. The horizontal bar is a demanding event. Les Rushing displays his skills on the rings. BOTTOM, LEFT TO RIGHT: Cookston shows his flexibility on the floor. Phil Johnson performs on the pommel horse.

Five Rookies Acquire Invaluable Varsity Experience