Baseball

From page 40

The Jackets had their chances with 14 total hits and 12 in the first seven innings. The team also had a runner on base in each inning with the exception of the eighth. Brian Burks picked up his second loss of the season, giving up six runs in five innings of work.

Tech won the rubber match of the series with Wake in convincing fashion. Junior Andrew Kown pitched his first career complete game, giving up two runs on four hits. Kown struck out eight while only walking three in the 9-2 victory. Owings hit his second homerun and sixth of the season in the third inning giving the Jackets a 3-2 lead. Tech added five insurance runs in the sixth. Mike Nickeas led the offensive attack with four hits.

The Jackets will be home this weekend for a series against Georgia Southern. The game times are 1 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday.

NCAA

From page 35

had watched them during the ACC season. I’ve probably followed Tech since Malcolm Mackie played for them. I’ve liked their style of play. I cheer for Muhammed. I’d love to see him dunk. He’s an awesome dunker.” Dyer said.

While Dyer may have supported the Jackets against the Eagles, the Badger nation was surprisingly neutral during the matchup. The Badger fans really only cheered loudly when Muhammed dunked. Even though the Boston College game turned out to be another nailbiter, Tech pulled through in the end (for more details read our tournament notebook page 37).

Clough best summed up the feelings of Tech fans everywhere. “It was a very exciting game. They weren’t given a lot of credit at the beginning of the season, but through a great coach and great players, they’ve succeeded when others thought they would not.”

Come to the Photo staff meetings... Thursday at 6 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building.
A look behind the scenes of “Miracle in Milwaukee Part 2”

By Kimberly Rieck
Sports Editor

Last weekend I made the long journey to Milwaukee, courtesy of an early-morning Airtran flight last Friday.

I had hoped that Tech would play closer to Atlanta but alas, Milwaukee was my fate, and I happily boarded the flight.

When our flight touched down to General Mitchell International Airport, our pilot said “it’s a cold and overcast day in Milwaukee today, have a great time all you basketball fans,” a somber remark which was answered by a few groans from the cabin.

Basketball fanaticism had taken over Milwaukee, but it wasn’t anything surprising considering how much excitement and enthusiasm Tech’s basketball team has generated on campus.

Besides small mobs greeting the team from their road trips after the Duke and later Milwaukee wins, a group of students have even designed a T-shirt that symbolizes the fever pitched level March Madness has reached on campus. Tech’s chapter of the Industrial Design Society of America is selling “Andre the Giant has a posse.”

The proceeds go to help the group of the Industrial Design Society of America is selling “Andre the Giant has a posse.”

Throughout the Tech game, it was the Technique. Hot damn!” Durham exclaimed to our delight.

When I found my seat in the press row, I immediately noticed the hoards of Northern Iowa fans clad in bright yellow, purple and maroon gear. While we had a loyal Tech contingent not far behind my seat, I could definitely tell there were more Northern Iowa fans.

While with the Tech’s surprise placement in Milwaukee also enabled alumna Nancy Tavares to catch the game with her son Joseph. Tavares graduated from Tech with a degree in management science in 1979, and now lives in Delafield, Wisconsin.

Throughout the Tech game, Northern Iowa fans were louder than the Tech contingent and the Wisconsin fans, who had packed the coliseum, were cheering for the Panthers out of an apparent Midwestern loyalty and a desire to root for the underdog.

The game ended up being a complete nervous wrecking, and I was on the edge of my seat the entire time. When Ben Jacobsen’s three-point shot in the final seconds of the game failed to go in, I was able to breathe a sigh of relief.

On Sunday’s games, I had the opportunity to interact with Tech fans who had made the long journey to Milwaukee. Tech’s ticket office had sold 500 tickets for the game, although it could have sold a maximum of 550 tickets. Many fans were deterred by the long distance from Milwaukee to Atlanta.

However, Betty and Wesley Paxson flew to Milwaukee all the way from Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. Paxson had played basketball for Tech from 1941-1947—he had served in World War II as well during that time with fellow members from his Navy ROTC group at Tech. When I asked what position he played, Paxson replied, “All of them. I was 6’3” and that was pretty tall back in the 1940s.”

Although he can’t make it to many games during the regular season, Paxson never misses the annual ACC games during the regular season, Paxson never misses the annual ACC games during the regular season.

Former Tech basketball player Wesley Paxson and his wife, Betty, made the trip to Milwaukee from Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. Paxson was one of many longtime jacket fans that made the trip up to Wisconsin.

“the fans in Milwaukee really seem to know great basketball when they see it because of Marquette and the Milwaukee Bucks.”

Although Dyer came to the Bradley Center to see Wisconsin play, he is a self-proclaimed Tech fan. “I

Submit a Sliver and We’ll Print It in the Paper!
Go to www.nique.net/sliver, and express your feelings!
The softball team bowed out in the Run off of the Buzz Classic last weekend with a 4-2 record. The Jackets opened up the tournament with two wins against Austin Peay and Ohio on a Friday double-header.

Against Austin Peay, senior Erin Voeltz paced the team with a seven-inning, school-record 16 strike-out performance. The Jackets scored two runs in the first inning and never relented, taking the game 3-1. Fellow senior stand-out Tara Knudsen led the offensive, going 3-3 with a home run and one RBI.

In the second game of the day, Tech rushed out to a 6-0 lead on Ohio behind three home runs in the first three innings—one each from Soraya Reddick, Amy Hosier and Lauren Schlechte. Jessica Sallinger got the win for the Jackets, allowing only one hit and striking out seven in five innings. Freshman Sarah Wood closed out the final three, as the Jackets won 7-3.

The Saturday match against Nicholls State turned into a pitcher’s duel, with Tech on the short end 2-1. The loss ended Tech’s eight-game win streak at the Buzz Classic.

Juniors Liz Bartle and Sallinger led the Tech charge. Bartle went 3-3 with four RBIs, in-the fourth inning which was followed by Sara Wissmann—the second four-inning rally with a rocket to put Tech in a hole, Reddick led a

The Jackets finished pool play by clark nelson

Anthony McHenry
Junior
Basketball—Forward

Defensive stalwart for the Jackets who has played a key role in Tech’s first two wins in the NCAA Tournament. The junior scored 10 points against Northern Iowa and Boston College, and compiled a 3-1 record. Kown leads the pitching staff in innings pitched and is second in strikeouts. Last weekend, he pitched a complete game against Wake Forest—striking out nine batters in the process. He threw a total of 115 pitches including 73 strikes in the two game series. He received the Wendy’s Georgia Tech Student Athlete of the Week Award for his efforts in the game against the Demon Deacons.

Last season, Kown appeared as both a starter and a reliever last season for the Jackets. He is Tech’s tallest player at 6’6” feet tall.

Maria Nieto
Senior
Tennis

Originally from Madrid, Spain, Maria Nieto transferred to Tech after two years at Florida Gulf Coast University. She played from the number six spot last season and teamed up with Catherine Gunn to form one of Tech’s most successful doubles tandems. Nieto has a 15-9 record overall this season with a 8-3 mark at dual meets.

Last year, she was a member of the 2003 ACC Honor Roll as a Dean’s List student. At the British Council School, Nieto competed in basketball and track, serving as team captain for two seasons. She was the No. 138 singles tennis player in Spain during high school. Her father was a professional soccer player in the third division.
By Jody Shaw
Associate Editor

Jackets win close calls against Northern Iowa, Boston College

Tech vs. Northern Iowa (65-60)

Bynum shines for family

With starter Jarrett Jack mired in foul trouble and struggling to score against the defense of the Northern Iowa University Panthers during last weekend’s NCAA Tournament opener, Coach Paul Hewitt turned to backup Will Bynum. Bynum, who had struggled in recent weeks with his offensive game, delivered in a big way.

“He was the one that saved the day, as far as I’m concerned,” Hewitt said in the postgame press conference.

After scoring just 13 points in his previous three games and sitting out Tech’s final home contest against Florida State, Bynum scored 11 points, six rebounds and three steals in his previous three games and sitting out Tech-BC rivalry ready for ACC.

Jarrett Jack’s intensity throughout the season, uncharacteristically struggled to match the play of his former teammate. Strangled by the Tech defense and limited by foul trouble throughout the game, he played only 22 minutes in the ballgame, contributing two points, six rebounds and three steals. Hewitt praised the BC players for their effort, despite the struggles of their star. “We didn’t react well to their stepped-up defense,” Hewitt said. “They said ‘Look, Craig isn’t here today, let’s make sure we keep playing hard’.”

As teammates at Rochester Academy in Massachusetts, Smith and Jack both shined. During the 2001-2002 season, Smith averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds a game, leading the Hilltoppers to a 27-4 record, the best in school history.

In foul trouble and struggling to defend, they have a chance to control their own game in a contest Coach Mo Cassara during his senior year.

To dunk or to dribble

That was the question for Jack, as he made a key steal from BC’s Steve Hailey in the closing seconds of Sunday’s game.

“I definitely wanted him to dribble it out,” Hewitt said. Tech already holds a one-point lead when Jack made the steal.

Jack, who has started to make late-game heroics a habit, had an idea. He drove to the basket for an emphatic slam-

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Jack, who has started to make late-game heroics a habit, had an idea. He drove to the basket for an emphatic slam-dunk. Though less than six seconds remained in the game, the decision forced Tech to defend the Eagles a final time.

“I wanted him to pull it out, but [Jack’s] answer made an awful lot of sense,” Hewitt said.

“He didn’t know how close somebody was to him, so you might as well get the sure two and defend it. As it worked out, that was the right decision.”

The Jackets were able to hold the Eagles scoreless in the final six seconds, but, for the second straight game, they held their collective breath as an opponent’s game tying three-pointer soared towards the basket, only to fall short.

Tech-BC rivalry ready for ACC.

When the Eagles join the ACC in 2005, they will already hold bragging rights. Though Sunday’s game marked the first time the two teams had met on the hardwood since 1996, that contest also occurred in the second round of the NCAA tournament with a spot in the Sweet 16 on the line.

Stephon Marbury and company led that Tech team, as it defeated BC in Orlando 103-89. Two bounces from the big dance by Tech should provide a good amount of animosity when the teams meet in Atlanta and Chestnut Hill.

According to Hewitt and his players, who all offered the Eagles praise in the postgame press conference, BC’s game should make the expanded conference even more competitive.

“They have some good players, and they’ve got a great coach,” R.J. Elder said.

“They come out there and compete hard, as they did today. They are really worthy of coming into the ACC.”

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, March 26, 2004 • 37
The WAC Champion Wolf Pack are led by conference player of the year Kirk Snyder. The versatile 6’6” junior guard averages 18.7 points and 5.8 rebounds per game. He is complemented by a strong inside presence in 6’11” freshman forward Nick Fazekas.

Fazekas posts a solid 12.7 points and 7.6 rebounds per contest, and he has the ability to step outside and hit the long-range jumper. Six-foot senior guard Todd Oke-sen and 6’4” senior guard Garry Hill-Thomas are also critical to the Wolf Pack’s success. Oke-sen provides great leadership and has been putting on a clinic on how to run a fast-paced system. This year’s Kansas team is vastly different from last year’s team that went up to Connecticut and played there, I looked at them as a team that could definitely make a run to the Sweet 16 and Final Four,” said Tech Head Coach Paul Hewitt.

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They rebound the ball very well, especially on the offensive boards, as I think they’re averaging almost 13 offensive rebounds a game. They’re an aggressive team, and they play with an awful lot of confidence.’’

Tech can expect a good game with the Wolf Pack. Spectators will not want to leave their seats during this one; both teams will be trying to push the tempo and turn the game into a high-scoring affair.

The game will also feature many intriguing match-ups. It is likely that Nevada stopper Garry Hill-Thomas will be the assignment of leading scorer B.J. Elder, and Tech will likely try to take advantage of its depth and use several players to attempt to shut down Nevada’s star, Kirk Snyder.

If Tech survives its match with the Wolf Pack Friday night, the winner of Kansas-UAB will be waiting for them Sunday. Kansas, last year’s national runner-up, goes in as the higher seed in the match-up, but UAB has shown that it will not back down, as evidenced by its win over top-seeded Kentucky.

This year’s Arizona team is vastly different from last year’s team that made it to the championship game. They sorely miss the outside shooting of Kirk Hinrich, who is now starting at the point for the Chicago Bulls, and the all-around game of current Seattle SuperSonics Nick Collison.

This Arizona team does not have the deadly shooting that defined many of its past versions. Although high-rising guard Keith Langford and veteran point guard Aaron Miles are solid players, UAB will go only as far as star 6’9” junior forward Wayne Simien carries them. Simien, a third team All-Ameri-can this year, missed last year’s tournament run with a shoulder injury but has come back strong. He takes the ball hard to the rim and can be a dominant force in the paint, averaging 17.6 points and 9.2 rebounds per game.

If Tech faces the Jayhawks, they must try and limit Simien’s touches and keep him from having a monster game.

Kansas is not a very proficient shooting team, so keeping the Jayhawks from getting the ball near the basket could lead to a good day for the Yellow Jackets.

Kansas’ opponent, UAB, plays a style very reminiscent of that imple-mented by Nolan Richardson at Tulsa and then Arkansas, commonly referred to as “40 Minutes of Hell.”

Tech coach Mike Anderson, a Richardson disciple, said that he takes “that as an ultimate compliment” when his team’s style is compared to that of the Razorbacks of the ’90s.

UAB is loaded with lightning-quick guards. Point guard Carldell “Squeaky” Johnson led the nation in assist-to-turnover ratio and takes great care of the ball in the Blazers’ fast-paced system. Along with Johnson, Twins Ronell and Donell Taylor and leading scorer Morris Finley provide constant pressure on the ball.

Forward Gabe Kennedy, twovet the field at 6’9”, provides the Blazers with an inside presence and helps to balance the attack, but UAB’s game is not pounding the ball down low. They substitute often, and the Blazers run and press from the time they get off the bus.

If Tech sees UAB in the regional final, expect a shootout. This works in Tech’s favor with their strong transition game if the Jackets can take care of the ball and limit careless turnovers.

While everyone else may be looking ahead, the team itself isn’t looking past the Nevada game. “We won a couple of games, and all of a sudden, we’re in the Sweet 16 and everyone is excited for the opportunity,” said Tech Center Luke Schenscher.

Go Jackets!
Beat the Wolf Pack!
It is a rare occasion for a college athlete to walk away from competition in the professional arena, but Tech's Philip Perry has done it—twice.

Perry was selected by the New York Mets in the 41st round of the 1998 Major League draft coming out of high school but came to Tech instead. Four years later, Perry once again got the invite to play, this time for the St. Louis Cardinals, when he was selected in the 48th round of the 2002 Major League draft, but once again, he turned down the pros.

After having elbow surgery in the fall of 2002, Perry was redshirted and recently returned to active duty after missing all of last season. Now Perry is working towards his five-year M.B.A. and may soon hang up his cleats.

Technique: So, how's the arm?
Perry: Arm's getting better every time I go out there

'Nique: You had surgery two years ago?
Perry: It was a year ago this past September, so about 18 months ago.

'Nique: Do you think this is going to be a good season for Georgia Tech?
Perry: No, not yet. We are struggling right now, but we are starting to turn around a little bit. We had a great weekend at Wake Forest and two games at Purdue. We played well, so hopefully we will turn it around.

'Nique: What do you think is going to be the toughest thing for the team to do this year?
Perry: I think that right now we are pitching well at times and hitting well at times. We are just not putting two and two together, and that's why we are 13-10. But as soon as we start playing as well as we can, I think we will be alright.

'Nique: What's going to be the toughest thing for you to do this year?
Perry: The toughest thing for me is to be consistent. I've done well and then poorly and then well and then poorly. I'm trying to get more consistent so I can get out there in bigger situations and the bigger games.

'Nique: You're from Marietta, GA. It's sometimes hard being the hometown hero out there on the mound?
Perry: Oh no, half our team is from Marietta, we all played on the same summer team, [The East Cobb Yankees], one time or another. I would say that about nine or ten of our guys have played on the same team. So a lot of us—a lot of us are Marietta guys. It's nice, you know, the family come down.

'Nique: So, you guys actually knew each other well before you came to Tech?
Perry: Most of us know each other, yes. Except for a lot of the out-of-state guys.

'Nique: Why didn't you go to the majors?
Perry: Well I didn't feel that I was drafted high enough to sign. I was drafted pretty low, and I wanted to come back and graduate. Out of high-school, I wanted to come to college. After my junior year I wasn't healthy enough to go play. So I wanted to come back.

'Nique: You're not holding out for the Braves, are you?
Perry: Uh...no.

'Nique: Would that be your dream position?
Perry: Actually, this—I think this might be it for me. I think after this year I am going to hang em' up and graduate with my Masters and go work. I think this is going to be my last year playing ball.

'Nique: What's the best experience you have ever had with baseball, whether it is being in the stands or on the field?
Perry: I think the 2002 team playing in the College World Series...that was awesome. Fun to be out there, hopefully we can make it back.

'Nique: Do you ever wonder if you missed the boat for the majors?
Perry: No. Not at all.

'Nique: What do you think is in the future for you?
Perry: Well, I am either going to stick around next year and try and get my Master's degree or I am going to try and get a job here this fall. I haven't decided which one I want to do yet. But I think...I think this is my last year playing.

'Nique: Which is harder: working for your Masters or playing baseball?
Perry: Baseball's definitely more fun. School's tough, it's a lot tougher than I thought it would be, but they are both difficult in their own right.

Do you like to write? Come write for us! Weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building.

After an elbow injury sidelined him for 18 months, pitcher Philip Perry is back in the rotation. Perry, a Marietta native, is currently working on his Masters of Business Administration in Tech's College of Management.
Tournament fever
When the Jackets took on Northern Iowa and Boston College in Milwaukee, the ‘Nique was there to get the inside scoop. Page 37

The Apprentice?
When he’s not practicing his fastball, pitcher Philip Perry is working on earning his MBA. Find out what’s next on his agenda. Page 39

Tech faces Wolf Pack in Sweet 16

By Kyle Thomason
Contributing Writer

Following a pair of hard-earned victories in Milwaukee over Northern Iowa and Boston College, Tech’s men’s basketball team is headed to St. Louis for a regional semifinal contest with Nevada tonight at 9:40 p.m. on CBS. A wacky weekend of upsets has left Tech as the highest remaining seed in the St. Louis region.

The No. 10 seeded Nevada Wolf Pack, Tech’s next opponent, and the lowest seed still playing anywhere in the tournament, was one of the biggest bracket busters from the first two rounds of the tournament. The team came from behind to upset perennial powerhouse Michigan State in the opening round and ousted No. 2 seeded Gonzaga 91-72 in a second-round shocker.

“We saw them play against Connecticut, and I was very impressed and am not shocked at all to see them in the Sweet 16. When they

Baseball team improves record with UGA upset

By Michael Clarke
Contributing Writer

After losing three straight to Virginia, the baseball team appears to be out of its slump with series wins over Purdue, Wake Forest and an upset victory over the Georgia Bulldogs Wednesday.

Tech’s second baseman Eric Patterson drove in two runs in the top of the ninth inning to lead Tech to a 4-3 win over the No. 24 Bulldogs at Foley Field. While Tech has had one of its worst starts in recent years, UGA was having its best start since 1992. It was also Tech’s first win in the series against Georgia since the 2002 season.

Tech was leading by two in the seventh inning, but Owings pitched a six batters.

Cheerleaders host annual preview

Tech’s nationals cheerleading squad will host a free performance March 29 at 6:30 p.m. in O’Keefe Gymnasium. The performance is open to everyone and is a preview of the squad’s routine for nationals. For more information, email lauren9@at.gtaa.gatech.edu.

by the numbers

25

Number of points that the women’s club gymnastic team lost by at the championship meet due to an injury. For more information, email gts707@pmail.gatech.edu.

4

Number of “Luke Schenscher has a posse” T-shirts head coach Paul Hewitt bought for the team and staff. The T-shirts are being sold by Tech’s student chapter of the Industrial Design Society of America for $10. The proceeds go towards the group’s travel to its annual conference.

2:11.02

Personal-best time of Vezina Stejanovska in the 200-meter butterfly at the Women’s NCAA Swimming and Diving championships. Stejanovska, a freshman from Macedonia, received All-America accolades for her tenth place finish. She is the first female swimmer from Tech to receive the honor. With Stejanovska’s win, Tech finished No. 3 overall at the championship meet due to her seven points.

Morgan heads to championships

Sophomore Sam Morgan will make his second straight appearance at the NCAA Men’s Swimming and Diving Championships this weekend in Long Island, N.Y. Morgan will swim in the 400- and 1500-meter freestyle events. Tech is one of only 42 teams to have a representative at the meet.

GTAA set to show Nevada match-up

The Athletic Association has opened up the Club Lounge in Bobby Dodd Stadium to show Tech’s tournament game against Nevada Friday night. The No. 9 men’s basketball team will face No. 10 Nevada Wolf Pack tonight in the semifinals of the St. Louis Regional. Game time is set approximately 9:40 p.m. Gates will open at 9 p.m. and buzzard is required for free admission.

The Apprentice?

When he’s not practicing his fastball, pitcher Philip Perry is working on earning his MBA. Find out what’s next on his agenda. Page 39

Michigan this weekend. The men’s club gymnastic team lost by at the meet, after scoring a was 137.85. Alissa Feucht won all-Georgia State. The overall team score Diving championships. Stojanovska in the 200-meter butterfly at Heston bought for the team and “posse” T-shirts head coach Paul Number of “Luke Schenscher has a posse” T-shirts head coach Paul Hewitt bought for the team and staff. The T-shirts are being sold by Tech’s student chapter of the Industrial Design Society of America for $10. The proceeds go towards the group’s travel to its annual conference. For more information, email gts707@pmail.gatech.edu.

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