

Patterson has sports in genes

By Al Przygocki
Contributing Writer

Many freshmen have a hard time adjusting to college life and to the rigors of college athletics. Then again, most freshmen haven't had the head start that Eric Patterson has had. With a world of talent and a strong family tradition at Tech to give him perspective, Patterson has taken the diamond by storm.

As Tech's secondary leadoff man batting primarily in the ninth spot in the lineup, Patterson has batted .390 and reached base at a .465 clip.

"The thing about hitting in the nine spot... usually you're going to see a lot of fastballs, a lot of good pitches to hit, and I just try to put a good swing on the ball every time and if it gets through a hole somewhere, so be it," said Patterson. "I go to the plate and try to hit the ball hard every time."

With current leadoff man Matthew Boggs due to move on after this season, Patterson is clearly being groomed to take over the position fulltime next season. Many of the things the freshman is doing in the nine spot he will be asked to do

later at the top of the order.

"I try to get on base, use my speed, and try to get into scoring position so the guys at the top of the order can drive me in," said Patterson.

After getting off to a slow start on the base-paths, Patterson leads the team in stolen bases (eight) and stolen bases attempts (ten).

"Early in the year, I think I was a little timid as far as looking for a good pitch or a good count or a good situation to run in," explained the freshman from Kennesaw. "Now, every time I get on base, I'm so much more relaxed. I get a good feeling, and I just go."

Many observers of the team were caught off guard when Patterson was named the starter at second base going into opening day. He impressed the coaches with a very strong showing in fall practice and solidified his hold on the position in spring drills. His wide range and smooth hands have helped him turn a team-leading nine double plays.

"I know sometimes freshmen come in, have to pay their dues, and maybe sit a few years, and I would've been okay with that," commented

the second baseman. "I was just determined to work hard and make the most of my opportunity when I got out there."

Eric's older brother, Corey, is currently the starting center-fielder for the Chicago Cubs. He originally signed a letter of intent to play baseball for the Yellow Jackets but never played college baseball, opting instead to sign with the Cubs. Eric's father, Donald, played football for the Jackets from 1976 to 1978, was a team captain in 1978, and went on to play for the Giants and the Lions in the NFL. Eric's mother Carolyn graduated from Georgia Tech in 1981.

With all of the success that his family has had in athletics, it would



COURTESY GEORGIA TECH SPORTS INFORMATION

Rookie second baseman Eric Patterson has impressed fans with his smooth fielding at second base. Patterson has also looked good at the plate, sporting a .390 batting average.

be easy to see how Eric would have a hard time stepping out of the shadows cast by his older brother and his father. That couldn't be farther from the truth for Patterson.

"I've just been myself. The good thing about my brother and my dad... we all understand that we're all three different individuals," said Patterson. "Corey does his thing every day. I just try to go out there and do mine. You're always going to have comparisons. A lot of kids have a hard time dealing with a sibling thing. I look at it in some ways as an advantage. I may have some opportunities because of my brother that might not have been there otherwise."

BASEBALL NOTES: Tech went 2-2 on the week, dropping both games at Wake Forest over the weekend and sweeping the midweek games at home versus Eastern Kentucky.

The 10-9 loss to Wake Forest last Friday was a heartbreaker as Brian Burks recorded Tech's first blown save of the year on a Ryan Johnson two-run double in the bottom of the ninth that scored the tying and game-winning runs. Tech

wasted home runs by Tyler Parker and Jason Perry in the loss. For the second time in two days, Tech lost a late inning lead in losing 11-5 to Wake Forest, as the Jackets allowed eight runs in their final two at bats runs to blow a 5-3 lead. Tech wasted a two-homer effort by Parker in the loss.

Tech used a four run rally in the sixth inning to come from behind to win 6-5 over Eastern Kentucky on Tuesday. The star of the game was Victor Menocal who went 4 for 4 and moved in from shortstop to earn the save. He came in with the bases loaded and no outs and was able to get a strikeout followed by a double play to end the Colonels rally. On Wednesday against Eastern Kentucky, the Jackets built a 10-1 lead after three innings and held on to win 13-9 after allowing seven in the ninth. Tech now stands at 16-3.

Eric Patterson File

Position: 2nd Base
Height/Weight: 5-10 / 160
Hometown: Kennesaw, Ga
High School: Harrison
Major: Management

Sallinger dominating in first season on mound

A daughter of a former major leaguer, the frosh threw two no-hitters in her first three starts



By Robert Hill / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Rookie Tech pitcher Jessica Sallinger says being close to her parents was a key factor in going to GT. "They haven't missed a game yet," she said. "Since we're in season right now, it's the only chance I get to see them."

By John Parsons
Contributing Writer

Yogi Berra once said, "Baseball is ninety percent mental. The other half is physical." While his math was off, the meaning behind what he said is true in any sport. Freshman softball pitcher Jessica Sallinger, with two no-hitters in her first three starts, seems to have the mental aspect of her game down already. To understand how she already seems so comfortable, one only needs to look at her reasons for coming to Tech.

"Everything just fell into place," said Sallinger, who chose Tech over UGA and FSU. "Lindsay [Wood] was my catcher in high school and I grew up with Katie [Donovan], so that had something to do with it."

Katie Donovan was also a high school teammate of hers.

Having played with two of her would-be Tech teammates before was just one reason she chose to come to Tech. Closeness to her parents' Kennesaw home also played a factor, since they are able to attend games.

"They haven't missed a game yet," she said. "Since we're in season right now, it's the only chance I get to see them."

Sallinger's dad is a more knowledgeable fan than most, as he was a catcher for the New York Mets. She attributes much of her success to his mentorship. After all, he knows a thing or two about pitching after playing professionally.

"He taught me a lot growing up," said Jessica. "He taught me a

lot about how to pitch."

Coming into the season, Sallinger was one of four pitchers expected to give the Lady Yellow Jackets a strong and deep pitching staff. With such a strong staff, she wasn't expecting to be relied upon as much as she has been already.

"I pitched a lot last fall, but I thought that was just because it was the fall and I was a freshman," she said. "But with Mimi (Utt) hurting her shoulder, we've all had to pitch more."

Sallinger doesn't mind the extra innings, especially given her coach's relaxed approach to managing her pitchers.

"A lot of coaches will try to change your pitching style to pitch the way they want you to, but Coach Madden doesn't do that," explained

Sallinger. "She lets us all pitch in our own styles, which since we all have different styles, is a good thing."

Overall, Sallinger is confident about the team's chances for reaching and having success in postseason play, and with good reason. The Lady Jackets have gone 1-2 against ranked teams so far this year, but all were one run games, beating No. 17 Iowa 2-1 and falling to No. 13 Florida Atlantic 1-0 and seventh ranked Arizona State 5-4. Sallinger started all three games, throwing complete games against Iowa and FAU while striking out a total of 25 batters and allowing just six hits. Arizona State, however, touched her up for four runs in just two innings of work. When asked about the frustration of dropping a 1-0 decision, Sallinger remains optimistic.

"If we can be more consistent with our hitting, I think we'll win a lot of games," she said. "I just wish more people would come out to our games because we have a good team."

The next chance to catch Tech in action will come this weekend in the Buzz Classic at the Al Bishop Softball complex in Marietta. The classic features 24 teams from Florida to Michigan with the title game to be played at 1 p.m. Sunday. The Lady Jackets will return to Glenn Field to host Maryland on Tuesday.

Jessica Sallinger File

| | |
|---|------------|
| Hometown: | Kennesaw |
| High School: | Harrison |
| Position: | Pitcher |
| Major: | Management |
| The freshman from Kennesaw has had a stellar campaign. She leads the Jackets in almost all pitching statistical categories: | |
| Record: | 11-3 (1st) |
| ERA: | 1.30 (1st) |
| Innings Pitched: | 97.0 (1st) |
| Strikeouts: | 123 (1st) |
| Opponents BA: | .169 (1st) |

DeVinny and Tech head to NCAA's

By Derick Stanger
Assistant Sports Editor

Georgia Tech's true freshman, Cara DeVinny, led the Jacket's women's swim team throughout the season. In the postseason she will have to represent the Tech ladies herself. This weekend she will be at the University of Texas in the Jamail Texas Swimming Center to compete for the 2002 Women's Swimming NCAA Championships. No other Tech women's swimmer excelled at the inaugural ACC tournament or met the provisional qualifying standards required to earn an invitation.

DeVinny qualified to compete in the 200 and 400-yard individual medley as well as the 200-yard butterfly events. She is ranked as high as 20th, that in her strongest competition, the 400-yard IM. This athlete that started swimming at age three, accomplished what no other Rambling Wreck ladies swimmer has been able to do, achieve a NCAA "B" qualifying time.

The top eight finishers in the final from each event receive All-American honors while the next eight finishers receive honorable mention.

The men's qualifiers, while not joining DeVinny in Texas, will be representing Tech at the NCAA championship next weekend in Athens. Three swimmers, juniors Shilo Ayalon, James Salazar and Tomonori Tsuji, met the qualifying standards to make the short trip up US 316 while senior Yellow Jacket Eduardo Oliver is the first alternative if somebody gets injured or cannot make it to the meet hosted by Georgia.

Metivier

from page 36

well. I trust him, he's been there, he's done it, since he's an All-American himself," said Metivier.

Under Drosky's guidance, Metivier has turned into one of the nation's top distance runners. As a freshman, she was an All-ACC honoree, and established the school record in the 3000 meter steeplechase. At the end of her rookie season, she had finished in the top five in each of her races during the indoor season. She later competed in the U.S.A. Track and Field Senior Nationals. "I remember last year I didn't do as well as I hoped. It was so intense. I was looking around, and I was just like 'that's so and so, what am I doing here, I'm only a freshmen in college,'" said Metivier.

In her sophomore year, Metivier has used her experiences to her advantage. In the fall, Metivier became an NCAA All-American when she was runner-up at the NCAA

Cross Country Championships. After the cross-country season, she jumped right into the Indoor Track

"I keep on getting better and better, and that's why I see myself making it to the next level as long as I keep the training that I'm doing."

Renee Metivier
on making the Olympics in '04

season.

At the ACC Indoor Track and Field Championships, the women's team made history. They be-

came the first Georgia Tech team ever to earn any ACC track and field title, and only the second Tech women's team to earn an ACC title in any sport; the last was Volleyball in 1995. In addition, the team dethroned the reigning champs in the sport, North Carolina, in their brand new venue. Metivier said of the meet, "It was awesome. It was so emotional. We came together and worked so hard together. We also got together every night in the hotel room, had motivational speeches between each other, and prayed together." Metivier also posted the nation's second fastest time in the 5000 meters at the meet.

Afterwards, the sophomore competed in the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. "I didn't do as well as I had hoped, I got ninth and eleventh. It was a tough meet, sometimes it's just not your day," said Metivier. Metivier also said that she has greater success running on hills than on the flat surface of the track. However, her finishes were good enough to earn her All-American honors, and qualify her for the

upcoming U.S.A. Track and Field Senior Nationals meet.

When the Outdoor Track and Field season begins this weekend, the team will be looking to repeat their successes from the indoor sea-

"I like to do multiple things. I'm really short; I can't do volleyball or basketball. And I was really good at running naturally."

Renee Metivier
on entering the running world

son. Metivier's short-term goals are another ACC title for the Yellow Jackets and an NCAA Championship title. Since the ACC conference is so strong for distance runners,

her competition at the national championships is similar to what she faces at the conference meet. "It makes us also have a little bit more of a connection with each other. From our conference, we kind of work together a little bit, because we know how each other runs," said Metivier.

As Metivier progresses, and improves on her times, she and Coach Drosky will be looking to take her career to the next level. That next level? The sophomore is an Olympic hopeful in the 5000 meters at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece, which is also her senior year. "Last year I was no where near where I am now. I keep on getting better and better, and that's why I see myself making it to the next level as long as I keep the training that I'm doing. Coach Drosky has it all planned out, I just follows what he says," said Metivier.

The Rambling Wreck harriers are in action this weekend in Tallahassee, Fla. at the FSU Relays.

Tech's women's basketball team finish disappointing season



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The women's basketball team, who were on the verge of making the Top 25 after a dominating 81-62 victory over powerhouse North Carolina, fell hard after starting junior point guard Nina Barlin suffered a torn ACL.

By John Parsons
Contributing Writer

The women's basketball team made significant strides this season, but there is still significant work to be done. The Lady Jackets fell short of their goal of an NCAA bid, settling for a third consecutive WNIT appearance and a first round exit at the hands of Miami.

Outstanding play and leadership from seniors Milli Martinez and Regina Tate along with an outstanding season from junior Sonja Mallory led to Tech's 15-14 record and fifth place finish in the ACC. Martinez and Mallory were named to the all-ACC second team while Tate was named to the third team. In addition, Martinez was named to the ACC all-defensive team.

The season did not get off to a good start as Niesha Butler was suspended for academic reasons and left the team later in the year. Butler led the team with 15.6 points per game in the 2000-01 campaign.

The Lady Jackets started with a somewhat disappointing 6-5 mark through the end of 2001, but turned it on with a 7-2 record in January of this year. The highlight of the month was a convincing 81-62 victory over North Carolina in Chapel Hill, who

finished the season ranked No. 16 in both major polls. Tech was led in that game by sophomore Fallon Stokes with 23 points. Tech led by as much as 32 before reserves were given some playing time in the second half. The month also included five other victories over ACC foes, one being a 92-61 trouncing of Virginia.

At that point, the team boasted a 13-7 mark with a 6-4 league record and an NCAA birth looked like a possibility. A crucial blow was dealt, however, when Nina Barlin injured her knee in the first half at Florida State. She missed the rest of the season and the team went 4-8 in her absence, including early exits in both the ACC and WNIT tournaments. Only one of the four wins came against a team with a winning record.

Despite the disappointing end to the season, there is reason for optimism heading into next year with Barlin and Mallory returning and five highly regarded recruits coming in. All five incoming freshmen are rated in the All-Star Girls Report's Top-100 prospects. Kasha Terry and April Johnson are the most highly regarded, rated 28th and 30th, respectively. Coach Agnus Berenato credits her staff with doing a "phenomenal" job in recruiting,

Beyond the White and Gold

Rivera's theft in terms of my bank account

By Derek Haynes
Sports Editor

About four times a year, an athlete does something so idiotic that it's easy to see why they often get labeled as "dumb jocks".

Ruben Rivera, step on up.

Rivera, a backup outfielder on the Yankees who has the potential of Andruw Jones but practices about as much as a Tech guy goes on dates, stole Derek Jeter's glove and bat so he could sell the equipment to a memorabilia dealer last week.

How much did the memorabilia dealer pay for the equipment? \$2,500.

What is Rivera's contract worth? \$1 million.

After the incident, Rivera didn't shine much light on the situation. In an interview with Telemetro Canal 13 television, a station in Rivera's home of Panama, Rivera made

it sound like he booted a fly ball.

"I made a rookie's error," said the 28 year-old reserve outfielder. "I did it without thinking, because it wasn't for the money, I had a

My earnings last year:
\$10,000.

My salary in proportion to Rivera's: 1/100.

What \$2,500 would seem like to me if I made \$1 million: \$25

good contract. It was just an instant when I wasn't thinking, and I made a mistake that I'm paying for now."

Now, what if Rivera did steal the items for the money? How much would the goods seem like to me?

I am going to adjust Rivera's salary to my terms so I can better see how little the bat and glove theft was actually worth.

My earnings last year: \$10,000.
My salary in proportion to Rivera's: 1/100.

What \$2,500 would seem like to me if I made \$1 million: \$25.

So here is what I could steal to lose my job:

- My roommate's Crocodile Hunter doll (actually over \$25).

- Editor-In-Chief Matthew Bryan's car (probably below \$25).

- Several reams of paper from the Student Center computer lab

- My friend's Ben Wallace (Detroit Pistons forward) bobblehead doll

- Half of a basketball from SAC Mr. Ruben Rivera. Let's make

this worth while. At least grab a couple of New York Yankee World Series trophies.

Intramural Notebook

with Jack B. Nimble

Catholic Center on crusade

What kind of crusade are these Catholics on?

The B League Catholic Center softball squad continues to put up football-like numbers after a successful polar bear softball season. The score from their first game? The Catholics 29, *Delta Sig* 0. I thought that **Marcus Cappelli, Ryan Vaughn, Chris Wiczorek** and the rest of the gang would have a top ranking, but it looks like these guys have some temper problems.

"We yelled at the refs too much," said team member **Matt Guinn** on the squad's No. 3 ranking in the B League.

About as powerful as Ms. Cleo's psychic powers

Pi Kappa Phi had the blow-out win of the first week in co-

rec volleyball after demolishing **Miss Cleo's Psychic Friends** in two sets by a combined score of 30-3. Looks like Ms. Cleo's pals are hangin' with the wrong lady.

Men's Tennis Top 15

| | |
|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Rodrigo Dominguez |
| 2 | Chris Beriha |
| 3 | Alberto Mhyrer |
| 4 | Vijay Sekaran |
| 5 | Neal Reeves |
| 6 | Christopher McGovern |
| 7 | Patrick Widener |
| 8 | Michael Apple |
| 9 | John Liu |
| 10 | Ryan McLellan |
| 11 | Brian Jackson |
| 12 | Boeuf Pierre-Alain |
| 13 | Daniel Leon |
| 14 | Vik Ramachandra |
| 15 | Bill Porter |

Yellow Jackets Statline



Baseball America's Top 25

| | Team | W-L | Last Week | Previous |
|-----|---------------------|-------------|------------|----------|
| 1. | Stanford | 14-5 | 0-0 | 1 |
| 2. | Clemson | 14-1 | 4-1 | 2 |
| 3. | Florida State | 24-5 | 4-1 | 3 |
| 4. | Rice | 18-4 | 3-0 | 4 |
| 5. | South Carolina | 18-3 | 4-1 | 6 |
| 6. | Wichita State | 10-2 | 2-1 | 7 |
| 7. | Houston | 15-5 | 3-1 | 8 |
| 8. | Baylor | 17-6 | 5-0 | 10 |
| 9. | Nebraska | 11-5 | 3-0 | 11 |
| 10. | Florida | 18-3 | 5-0 | 12 |
| 11. | Wake Forest | 16-2 | 3-0 | 13 |
| 12. | Georgia Tech | 14-3 | 1-2 | 5 |
| 13. | Alabama | 19-2 | 5-0 | 19 |
| 14. | Louisiana State | 14-8 | 1-3 | 9 |
| 15. | Cal State Fullerton | 13-9 | 2-1 | 16 |
| 16. | San Diego | 21-5 | 3-1 | 20 |
| 17. | Long Beach State | 13-6 | 3-0 | 25 |
| 18. | Texas | 20-6 | 4-0 | 22 |
| 19. | Texas A&M | 17-9 | 1-4 | 14 |
| 20. | East Carolina | 14-3 | 1-2 | 18 |
| 21. | Rutgers | 8-4 | 2-1 | NR |
| 22. | Oklahoma | 15-5 | 4-1 | NR |
| 23. | Arizona State | 16-8 | 1-3 | 17 |
| 24. | Mississippi | 13-6 | 1-3 | 15 |
| 25. | Richmond | 15-2 | 3-1 | NR |

ITA Women's Tennis Top 25

| Rank | Team |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Univ. of Georgia |
| 2 | Vanderbilt University |
| 3 | Stanford University |
| 4 | Duke University |
| 5 | Wake Forest University |
| 6 | University of Florida |
| 7 | Univ. of Texas at Austin |
| 8 | Arizona State University |
| 9 | UCLA |
| 10 | Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville |
| 11 | Univ. of Kentucky |
| 12 | Univ. of Southern California |
| 13 | UNC Chapel Hill |
| 14 | Northwestern University |
| 15 | Fresno State |
| 16 | California |
| 17 | Univ. of Notre Dame |
| 18 | Baylor University |
| 19 | Univ. of Washington |
| 20 | Univ. of Alabama at Tuscaloosa |
| 21 | Georgia Tech |
| 22 | University of South Carolina |
| 23 | College of William & Mary |
| 24 | Texas A&M University-College Station |
| 25 | Virginia Commonwealth University |

Golfweek's Golf Top 25

| Rank | Team | Score |
|------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Georgia Tech | 69.60 |
| 2 | Clemson | 70.45 |
| 3 | Wake Forest | 70.64 |
| 4 | Florida | 70.65 |
| 5 | Tennessee | 70.91 |
| 6 | Oklahoma State | 70.99 |
| 7 | Southern California | 71.06 |
| 8 | TCU | 71.10 |
| 9 | Fresno State | 71.16 |
| 10 | Auburn | 71.19 |
| 11 | Washington | 71.28 |
| 12 | Texas | 71.34 |
| 13 | Toledo | 71.43 |
| 14 | Georgia | 71.49 |
| 15 | Oklahoma | 71.57 |
| 16 | San Diego State | 71.65 |
| 17 | Purdue | 71.66 |
| 18 | Augusta State | 71.76 |
| 19 | Virginia Tech | 71.76 |
| 20 | Arizona | 71.77 |
| 21 | New Mexico | 71.79 |
| 22 | Baylor | 71.81 |
| 23 | Pepperdine | 71.84 |
| 24 | North Florida | 71.84 |
| 25 | Washington State | 71.85 |

The Statline feature will alternate with the Nique's other sports feature, *Ramblin'*, for the remainder of the semester.

Next week the Nique gets personal with Troy Matteson, Golf Week's top-ranked collegiate golfer.

atlanta thrashers numbers challenge



last week's winner

Congratulations to **Ron Ferrell**. He was the first to correctly answer that 3 is the number of consecutive seasons that the Tech women's basketball team has reached post-season play.

explain what the number on page 36 represents, and win a pair of thrashers tickets

South African Roger Anderson gives Wimbledon experience to GT

By Derick Stanger
Assistant Sports Editor

It's hard enough for a budding adult to venture away from their home to go off to college. New people and experiences can easily overwhelm anyone. Add that experience to leaving your homeland and venturing overseas to a completely different culture and one is twice more susceptible to being beleaguered. Everyone deals with their added stress, no matter what the cause, in different manners. For Junior Roger Anderson, his release came in the form of a tennis ball.

Anderson grew up a member of a sports family in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Both his father and mother, Richard and Judy Anderson, played routinely at a local tennis club and got young Roger into Tennis at the age of five. His grandparents as well as all his siblings were also very active in the sports world.

His neighborhood was not what most people think of when they would imagine an African community. They are actually very much like any neighborhood one would find in the states. But instead of kids running around the subdivision playing baseball and football, they played cricket and rugby.

Anderson continued playing tennis throughout his childhood and was taken to the local tennis club at least twice a week. While in high school he played varsity rugby and cricket but kept his passion of tennis at the club, where he received better instruction than at school. Day by day his skills increased and by the time the end of his senior season rolled around he had already won several championships including the Border Grand Prix and the Cape Town Grand Prix. He was consistently one of the top tennis players in South Africa and for the majority of his senior season was ranked in the top two spots by the South African Tennis Association. He was also ranked as high as No. 88 in the world junior rankings by

the International Tennis Federation. After his senior season he escaped the increasing troubles in South Africa and went to Boca Raton, Florida, to continue his tennis training, where he stayed with a South African coach for three months. During this time he started looking at colleges and was guided by his coach, who knew Tech Head Coach Kenny Thorne, to go to Tech. Attending a school back in his home country was never an option for him. "I always wanted to come to the states," said Anderson. "The tennis is much better (in the states). I wasn't going to improve if I stayed back (in South Africa)."

However, once he got to Georgia Tech he was having second thoughts. "I didn't like it at all my first semester," said Anderson. "I didn't know anybody. I arrived here by myself and it was pretty tough."

He totally committed and immersed himself in classes and practice. (An average collegiate athlete spends their mornings at classes and the rest of the day either at practice, in the weight room or sleeping from an exhaustive day. Rarely do they get a day off or time to be with friends). And because of Anderson's devotion, that first year he became one of the leaders of Tech's team. He ended the season tied for the team lead in matches won with 24 and led the team in winning percentage.

It was during his first year, when he received ACC Rookie of the Year, that he became doubles partners with fellow freshmen David Wright, brother of past Tech player Robert Wright. They went 8-5 their first year and 15-8 last year as Tech's number one seed and started this year ranked among the top 10 in the nation. "It's very important to be able to bond well," said Anderson. "We've been playing together for three years now so we know each other's games and we know where each either will move (on the court)."

However, at the beginning of this season Wright was injured and



COURTESY GEORGIA TECH SPORTS INFORMATION

Roger Anderson, who teams with David Wright on doubles, has seen the pair's ranking plummet from No. 8 to No. 54 after an injury to Wright. "We can still compete with the top 10 teams in the nation," said Anderson.

could not participate in all the practices. He is slowly recovering and getting back to his pre-injury form but in the meanwhile they fell to No. 54. "The more matches we play together as the season progresses we're going to get better and better. We can still compete with the top 10 teams in the nation."

Anderson and Wright have backed up that claim. While they have lost more matches than they have in their previous years, they still were able to beat the fifth ranked duo of Foreman and Gustafsson from Middle Tennessee State.

Meanwhile, Anderson has been improving his singles play and has jumped up to No. 27 in the nation.

"That's always been a goal of mine, to be ranked," said Anderson. "Last year I was happy to be ranked in doubles but I was still aiming at being ranked in singles as well. I just hope to finish in the top 16 by the end of this season."

And with Anderson defeating the No. 24 and No. 15 ranked players in the nation, he is very likely to reach that goal. However, Anderson's world does not simply revolve around a tennis ball. Rather, the high school varsity cricket and rugby player loves to play a lot of golf among other things. But even more so he likes to relax, just like any college student. "I'm pretty lazy," said the modest Anderson. "I like to

hang out and watch TV, listen to house and rock/punk music and just hang out with friends."

Throughout his high school and college career, Anderson has received many trophies, accolades and acknowledgments for his athletic prowess on the court. However, what he is most proud of came in the form of invitations to the Australian Open and to Wimbledon, two of the four events that make up the Tennis Grand Slam. While he lost in the first round of the intimidating events, he was able to meet his favorite tennis stars, Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras. Who knows, the next time he is invited to compete he may play against one of his idols.

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, March 22, 2002

Born to do it

Softball hurler Jessica Sallinger is 11-3 with a pair of no-hitters. Was the daughter of a former NY Met born to pitch? Page 31

South African Sensation

Tennis's Roger Anderson is climbing quickly up the tennis rankings. Does his cricket experience help his game? Page 35

by
the
numbers

0-3

Record of the Tech baseball team against ranked opponents. The No. 12 Jackets lost to No. 4 South Carolina and twice to No. 8 Wake Forest. Their third game against Wake was rained out.

12

Number of Spring Practices for the Yellow Jacket Football team. The first practice is today and the final practice will take place on April 20 with the Springfest.

10-0

Record of the baseball team at Russ Chandler Stadium. Last year they finished 28-7 at home and started the season 8-0 before losing to Rutgers.

2,500,000

Cost to name the varsity football locker room in the new Bobby Dodd Stadium. The name of the stadium will stay the same but everything from the equipment room to the entrance gates are available, for a price.

atlanta
thrashers
number
challenge

hint: Broken Record

16:12.26

Here's the number...what does it represent?

The first person to email sports@technique.gatech.edu with the correct response to the challenge will receive a pair of tickets to an Atlanta Thrashers home game, where admission is always half-price for select tickets with a student ID. Visit www.atlantathrashers.com for more info on college nights.

on
deck

| Event | Date |
|--|-----------|
| SW at NCAA | 3/21-3/23 |
| BM vs. GardnerWebb | 3/23-3/24 |
| TM at NC State | 3/23 |
| TM at North Carolina | 3/24 |
| TW at North Carolina | 3/24 |
| BM at Georgia | 3/26 |
| SM at NCAA | 3/28-3/30 |
| BM - Men's Baseball, SM - Men's Swimming | |
| TM - Men's Tennis, TW - Women's Tennis | |
| SW - Women's Swimming | |

ESPN brings awards show to Coliseum

Dick Vitale, college stars and SportsCenter to invade Tech campus next Thursday

By Derek Haynes
Sports Editor

Next Thursday the best in college basketball will descend upon the Coliseum. Unlike when Duke came to town, however, Jackets' Head Coach Paul Hewitt won't have to spend all night preparing a game plan.

ESPN *The Magazine* will broadcast their annual awards show from the Alexander Memorial Coliseum on Thursday, March 28. The event, which is free of charge, begins at 4 p.m. with the awards show running from 6-8 p.m. Before the show a *SportsCenter* Final Four segment will be taped, a player autograph session

ESPN Awards Show

When: Thursday, March 28

4 p.m.-6 p.m.: SportsCenter taping, autograph session, address to fans by Vitale, live music

6 p.m.-8 p.m.: ESPN *The Magazine's* College Basketball Awards

Who'll Be There?: Dick Vitale, Chris Fowler, Jay Bilas, Digger Phelps, and many men's college hoops stars

Admission: Free

will be held and Dick Vitale will address the crowd.

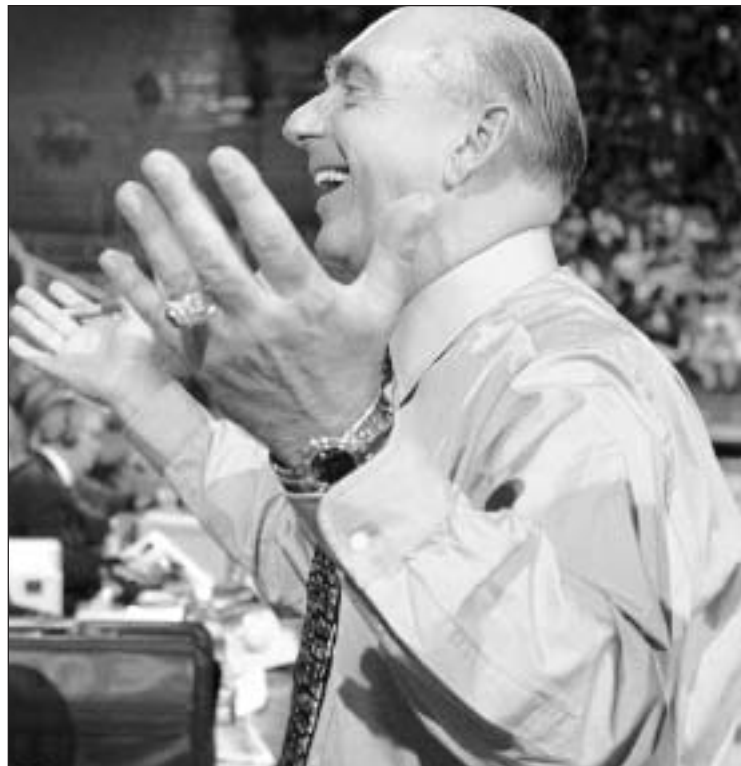
Vitale will be joined by several ESPN personalities at the event, which is held annually in the host city of the Final Four. Chris Fowler, Jay Bilas and Digger Phelps will join Vitale in hosting the show. Most of the nominees for the awards are expected to attend.

Seven awards will be presented at the show, including Men's Player of the Year and Men's Coach of the Year. The V Foundation Comeback of the Year Award will be announced prior to the show.

While no Tech players were nominated for any awards, three members of Duke's starting lineup are on the nominees list.

The nominees for the awards were determined by an *ESPN The Magazine* panel. The *USA Today*/ESPN Board of Coaches, the coaches who vote on the weekly *USA Today*/ESPN Men's Coaches Poll, use the list of nominees to determine the winners.

The women's award show is being held at the RiverCenter Mall in San Antonio.



COURTESY ESPN

Dick Vitale is just one of the ESPN personalities scheduled to attend next Thursday's college hoops awards show at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum.



COURTESY GEORGIA TECH SPORTS INFORMATION

Renee Metivier, who began her athletic career as a gymnast, holds the Tech record in both the 3000 and 5000 meters event. Metivier finished second at the NCAA Cross Country meet and won All-America honors at the indoor meet.

Metivier runs way into track record book

Distance runner gains All-America honors while double majoring

By Kimberly Rieck
Staff Writer

As a young girl growing up in Highland Village, Texas, Renee Metivier loved to participate in sports. Metivier focused most of her time and energies on soccer and gymnastics. Unfortunately, a series of injuries in sixth grade cut her career short.

"I got really hurt in gymnastics. I fell off the beam and dislocated my elbow," said Metivier. "I did it twice."

After her falls, Metivier decided to give up on gymnastics and began searching for a replacement sport. "I like to do multiple things. I was trying out for all the teams in middle school. I'm really short; I can't do volleyball or basketball. And I was really good at running naturally," said Metivier.

Surprisingly, Metivier never considered track until a summer track coach came up to her and asked her if

she wanted to run. She decided to give it a try because soccer was not in the summer. "I started off doing it, and I've been hooked ever since. I love to run and I see it as being a lifelong career or hobby," said Metivier.

As Metivier grew older, her soccer career quickly became phased out by her running career. In high school, Metivier led her cross-country team to a pair of cross-country state titles, and was an individual state title as a senior. She earned all state-honors all four years of high school, and received the Dallas/Ft. Worth Runner of the Year award on three occasions.

When it came time to decide which college to attend, Metivier chose to come to Georgia Tech. The main reason she came was because of the school's academic reputation. Academics have always been important to Metivier. At Tech, she has continued to perform well scholastically.

The double major in biology and math has consistently been on the ACC Academic Honor Roll.

Another factor that influenced her decision to come here was Coach Alan Drosky. "We get along really

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Renee Metivier File

Hometown: Highland Village, Texas

Year: Sophomore

Events: Distance

Major: Math and biology

Metivier posted the nation's second-fastest 5000 meter time and broke the school record with a time of 16:12.26 at the ACC Indoor Championships

Earned All-America honors at the NCAA Indoor meet in the 5000 meters event with her ninth-place finish. Also holds the Tech record in 3000 meters with a time of 9:22.89. Finished runner-up last season at the NCAA cross country meet

Gailey leads grid-ders into spring practice

New football Head Coach Chan Gailey will get his first look at the football squad in action this afternoon at 4 p.m. when Tech takes to the Rose Bowl Field for the first time this spring.

Men's crew wins SERCS regatta, undefeated since fall

Tech's men's club rowing team continued their strong 2001-02 campaign with a first-place finish in the South Eastern Rowing Championship Series last weekend. The Jackets won the men's varsity four and varsity eight events and medaled in several other events. The Jackets edged out Duke in the varsity eight event by one-tenth of a second.

The women's squad finished in second behind Georgia at the SERCS regatta, and won the varsity four event.

This week the men's and women's squads head to the Augusta/Aiken Sprints in Langley Pond, SC.

Women's Tennis falls in upset bid of No. 5 Wake

Singles wins by freshman Catherine Gunn (13-1 on the year in dual-match singles) and Laura Ozolins weren't enough to upset the Deacons, who pulled out a 5-2 win over the visiting No. 21 Yellow Jackets. Tech heads to Duke and UNC next weekend.