

**ACC** from page 24

news, and that's what they'll be seeing for the next for the next four or five years." Most importantly, the winner of the ACC title game will earn an automatic berth in a Bowl Championship Series game.

Determined in October of 2003, the scheduling for the eleven-team conference for the 2004 football season features rotations similar to its eleven-member counterpart, the Big Ten. This features playing one rival annually and rotating among the other ten teams in seven games.

ACC scheduling features annual rivalries like the Big Ten, but revolves around its three "powerhouse" teams, Miami, Virginia Tech and Florida State. Four teams, Virginia, North Carolina, North Carolina State and Wake Forest will play all three "powerhouse" teams in a home-and-home series, which means that one team will host the other in 2004 and vice versa in 2005. The remaining four teams, Tech, Maryland, Clemson, and Duke, will play two of the three

"powerhouses" in a home-and-home series. For this season at least, Tech lucked out in its scheduling. It faces only two of the three "powerhouses"—both at home. The refurbished schedule features one less non-conference opponent, still maintains the Turkey Day rival match-up against UGA and ACC match-ups against everyone but Florida State and Wake Forest.

With the two-year home-and-home series that go into effect this year, it makes sense for the Eagles to come into the league in 2006, when the ACC will revamp its schedule once again to accommodate twelve teams and two divisions as well as an ACC Championship game, which

is already scheduled to be hosted by Jacksonville, Florida in 2006 when the crucial twelfth member of the ACC is officially admitted.

Because the focus during expansion seems to be more inclined towards football, (actually, it is because football is the most lucrative sport in the NCAA) other college sports, especially basketball, could end up being forced into accepting the two division layout in a couple of years, which many coaches have already spoken out against.

Coach Krzyzewski of Duke, seemingly the spokesperson against ACC expansion for college basketball, claims that "I don't think we have any say at all... If it's going to be done then the coaches won't have a say."

Krzyzewski argued that the two division format does away with some key rivalries. Thus, the new format would restrict teams from playing all the members of the conference, which Maryland coach Gary Williams concurred with claiming that he didn't want to lose home-and-home rivalries with Duke and

North Carolina.

Other sports like women's volleyball will play all their ACC opponents twice except for Clemson and Virginia Tech, who the Lady Jackets will face only once each this season. Ranked first in the conference as they look to defend their title against the new members in the conference, Coach Bond Shymansky recognizes his team needs to step it up even from last season's valiant run to the Elite 8 in Hawaii.

"We have a lot of work to do and for us to be the top seed at the end of the season is going to be very difficult because there are so many strong teams this year in our conference," he said.

**"I don't think we have any say at all... If it's going to be done, the coaches won't have a say."**

**Mike Krzyzewski**  
Duke basketball coach

**W&G** from page 22

effort to find out when the next swim meet will be held at Tech than trying to figure out if there is a football game on Saturday, mainly because the teams do not have large budgets for advertising or the as large of a fan base as others, but these athletes and their teammates deserve the campus' support.

Tech boasts a great track and field team, which usually holds an outdoor invitational in the spring. The rivalries are intense, and the competitors are certainly world-class athletes. Even if you don't have a lot of free time, the 100-meter dash only takes about ten seconds.

The swimming and diving program has also produced great results. Since Tech has a state of the art facility, it is able to host a multitude of meets throughout the season. This year, the ACC Men's and Women's Championships as well as the NCAA Zone Diving Championships are coming to campus along with a major invitational and several other meets starting in October.

So, when you're looking for a good way to take a break from the rigors of Tech, take a look at the softball schedule, the track and field slate or the swimming and diving calendar; you might find that there is an exciting, high-caliber competition just a few minutes away.

**Daniels** from page 23

more moves to my arsenal.

**Nique: How do you balance the academics at Tech with football?**

P.J.: It's pretty tough. If you ask any regular students or anybody I'm always in the library. At lunch, I eat and run to the library. I just get my books and stay studying. That's what I do most of the time. I usually try and set my schedule up so that I can have MWF classes and have Tuesday and Thursday off, but this semester I wasn't able to do it, and I had to have one class on Tuesday and Thursday, so Tuesday and Thursday is my day to rest and catch up with my reading and stay ahead. Because once you fall behind it's tough to catch back up. My major is Business Management and my minor is Organic Chemistry, so I have to keep up with that.

**Nique: What is your favorite thing about Tech?**

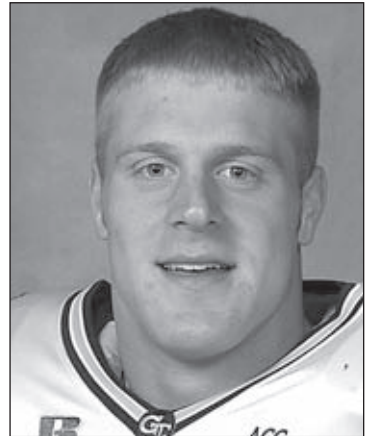
P.J.: My favorite thing about Tech would have to be the students. I try to get the students to smile. One thing that I read through an email, "The one thing that you can always give is a smile. You can pass it along and it can go a long way." I think that's my life application to the students. Some of them are antisocial, but I try to break the mold by smiling at them and saying hello every once in awhile, after that because that will

# faces in the crowd

## CHRIS REIS Junior Linebacker - Football

Standing six feet tall, and weighing in at 215 lbs, this native of Roswell, Ga. has earned the nod to be starting linebacker this season after spending the last two years as a backup strong safety. He also lettered for special teams work as a freshman. It will be his job to fill the void left by Keyaron Fox and Darryl Smith.

Last year, he posted 37 tackles with six for a loss and saw his greatest playing time against NC-State and Tulsa, often coming in as a sixth defensive back and working in a hybrid linebacker position. However, his best moments came when Reis recovered the NC State fumble on kick-off and converted a fake punt in Tech's victory over Auburn.



## JESSICA SALLINGER Senior Pitcher - Softball

The school record holder in career wins, strikeouts, shutouts, ERA, innings pitched, games started and complete games, Sallinger is only 13 strikeouts shy of breaking the ACC record for career strikeouts. She has twice been named to the All-Southeast Region team and an All-ACC Pitcher.

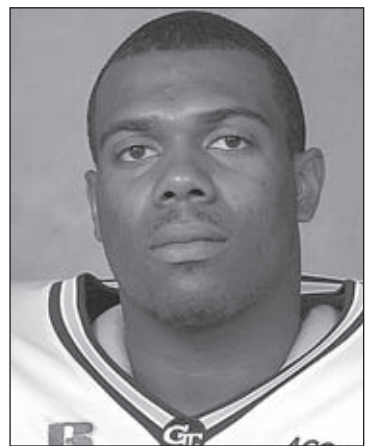
Last year, she finished eighth in the nation in strikeouts per game (10.23), ninth in wins and 16th in earned run average (0.82). Sallinger became only the second pitcher in ACC history to surpass 1,000 strikeouts ending her junior year with 1,025. As a senior in high school, she posted a perfect 0.00 ERA, led her alma mater, Harrison, to a state title and was named Georgia Pitcher of the year.



## MARK LOGAN Senior Backup Quarterback - Football

Virtually unknown to most Tech fans, Logan will be serving as the back-up quarterback for the Yellow Jackets this year. After having bounced between both wide receiver and quarterback in his career and worked at both during Spring Practice, this fifth year senior will focus solely on quarterback from now on.

Logan had one of last season's biggest plays with a diving 26-yard touchdown catch in Tech's upset win over Auburn. He also had a seven yard reception against Vanderbilt during Tech's last minute, game-tying drive that forced overtime. Logan was named the 1999 South Carolina Player of the Year by USA Today and selected Mr. Football by the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association.



take you a long way. One smile can have you smiling for the rest of the year. That's what I try to do.

**Nique: What's your least favorite thing about Tech?**

P.J.: My least favorite thing about Tech would have to be the academic standards. The tests here are pretty hard, and it's not like you can slack off because as soon as you slack off your grades will go down. You have to stay on top of it. It's like my schedule. It's so tight. I enjoy it because it keeps me busy, but I would enjoy a break somewhere here and there.

**Nique: Who is the vocal leader on the team?**

P.J.: I'd have to say Andy Tidwell-Neal. He's the vocal leader of this team. He's the center and he gets everything started and tells the team to get together.

**Nique: You aren't just saying that because he's one of your linemen and right there?**

P.J.: No. Oh yes, another vocal leader is Darius Williams. He's a senior and a good leader. Both of our vocalists are seniors.

**Nique: Will Darius Williams be the starting tight end this year?**

P.J.: Yeah, he is. He's been running with the one's and I don't think that they will change it up because he's doing real good.

**Nique: What has been the hardest thing for you to do in life?**

P.J.: Actually, my great-grandmother passed, and my best friend just passed a couple of days ago. I went

to his funeral. The hardest thing for me was to cope because he was my best friend since we were two years old, it's kind of hard for me now that he's gone. It's just not the same. Him being there one minute and gone the next is probably the toughest thing for me to deal with. Other than that, everything

happens for a reason. This year I'll be dedicating the season to him and my great grandmother. That's one of the hardest things for me to deal with is someone dying.

**Nique: What is your favorite football memory?**

P.J.: My favorite football memory was in the Auburn game, when Darius Williams caught the 20-something yard catch, because when I first came here, he and I, we had our

struggles with the coaches. Both of our skills weren't good enough for our positions. When he caught the ball, I was so excited. I didn't know what to do. I didn't know if I should hug him or hit him or do whatever. I wanted to tackle him, but I think that was my most inspiring moment in football. When he caught the ball against Auburn that was just touching.

**Nique: Who has had the biggest influence on your football career?**

P.J.: I would say Barry Sanders and Walter Payton. They are two guys that I looked up to. I just loved watching those guys. They are real humble, and they do their thing with finesse and they play it cool. That's how I am, and I try to mirror them. That's just how I am.

**Nique: What does it feel like to go from virtually unknown to the Doak and Walter Camp award lists?**

P.J.: Nothing. I feel like just a regular person. You win awards and records get broken. It's a blessing to me. I'm still the same old P.J. I talked to people when I was a nobody, and now that I am somebody I still talk to people. Football comes with fame and everybody gets their time to shine. I just enjoy seeing people happy. When my teammates are happy, I'm happy.

**"I'm still the same old P.J. I talked to people when I was a nobody, and now that I am somebody, I still talk to people."**

**P.J. Daniels**  
Running back

## BEYOND THE WHITE AND GOLD

# Olympic spotlights quickly dimmed after Games

By Kyle Thomason  
Assistant Sports Editor

Chances are that if you own a working television, you've probably seen the Olympics pop up quite a few times over the past couple weeks. It seems that NBC has bought hundreds of networks, simply in an effort to keep anyone from being able to escape the Games in Athens—not that this is entirely a bad thing. The Olympics have been a much more compelling drama than most of the shows they are replacing.

Michael Phelps has captivated the country with his run to six gold medals, and his best days may still be ahead of him. The Iraqi soccer team, which qualified without the benefit of a home field, made it to the semifinals before suffering a setback. The U.S. Softball squad won the gold

medal, only allowing one run, total, in nine games. Carly Patterson drew comparisons to Mary Lou Retton during her all-around gold medal run, and Paul Hamm stands on top of the men's gymnastic world.

As an Olympic fan, I'm thrilled by all of these great storylines. Making it even better is the fact that there are several Tech students and alumni competing in Athens. As I've followed these Tech athletes of past and present in competition, a pair of questions has popped into my head.

First of all, whose idea was it to put Tech alum Stephon Marbury on the U.S. Basketball team? Marbury is a good NBA player, but he is the embodiment of an NBA star whose game does not translate to international competition.

The international game requires

a point guard who can distribute the ball to teammates and knock down open shots; for a good example of this, watch Puerto Rico's Carlos Arroyo, or think of John Stockton.

Marbury is the complete opposite of this description; he likes to move the ball by dribbling—a lot—which is frowned upon in this arena. Most of his scoring opportunities in the NBA season come from getting to the basket as a result of this dribbling. In international competition, opposing squads have a myriad of defenders positioned near the basket that take away this method of scoring points.

In Marbury's defense, he could be trying to compete with the Tech football team's outstanding community service project for Habitat for Humanity—by building a house of bricks in Athens; he has only hit

6 of his first 30 shot attempts in the Olympics.

I could go on for hours about how the creators of this "Bad Dream" Team seemed to forget the team would have to play by international rules in the Olympics, but this team still has the talent to bring home the gold medal, and there is another important question to address.

Every four years, track and field, swimming, diving and gymnastics are watched by millions of viewers during the Olympics. These sports experience incredible popularity for a couple weeks, and then they disappear for another four years.

Contrary to popular belief, athletes in these sports are not forced into a dark cave to train sixteen hours a day for overbearing coaches between Olympiads.

In fact, many of these Olympians

are college students, and quite a few of them compete for their school. Considering this makes me wonder: Why do we not flock to see the same events on campus that glue us to the television during the Olympics?

At Tech, we are lucky enough to have a trio of Olympians who will compete for the Jackets this upcoming year. Incoming freshman Onur Uras, who swam for Turkey in the Olympics, will compete for the men's swimming team, and sophomore Vesna Stojanovska of Macedonia will swim for the women. Junior Chaunte Howard, who is set to high jump for the U.S. squad after finishing second in the Olympic Trials, will be jumping for the Jackets once again this year.

I admit that it takes a little more

See **W&G**, page 21

**\*\*\*Student Orgs\*\*\***  
**Advertise in this space...without breaking the bank**  
 email nique@gatech.edu to find out how

# ramblin' with P.J. Daniels

senior running back

by Michael Clarke

Often times, in the world of sports, the underdog is the one who steps up the most. P.J. Daniels came to Tech as a walk-on to the football team out of Elsie High School in Houston, Texas. Despite having a senior season where he rushed for over 1600 yards and played in Houston's North-South game, P.J. was overlooked by most programs.

Now, the former walk-on is now on scholarship as a red-shirt junior. Last season, P.J. rushed for 1447 yards and went from relatively unknown to one of the best running backs in the country. At the end of last season, he was voted first team All-ACC, and was also named to the ACC All-Academic team.

This season, P.J. is on the Doak Campbell and the Walter Camp award lists as well as a preseason honorable mention All-American and is named as one of the top ten running backs in the country by *The Sporting News*.

P.J. sat down with the *Technique* to talk about his game, video games and more.

**Nique: What is your full name?**

P.J.: Prince Ahadzie Daniels Jr. I try to make a short sentence out of it "A-had-zie," so people can write it down. That's my whole name, and my father is the senior. A lot of people don't know that.

**Nique: What is your favorite hobby?**

P.J.: I don't know. I have so many of them. I love watching movies,

reading, playing video games with my teammates and just hanging out. I don't have just one favorite hobby.

**Nique: What video games are you playing currently?**

P.J.: We are always playing Halo. We hook up four consoles to the one Internet connector and we just go at it.

**Nique: What's it like being able to play yourself in video games?**

P.J.: It's like a dream come true. I purchased NCAA 2005 not too long ago, and I play with myself. I think that they robbed me a little bit on some of my attributes. I kind of enhance them a bit, but other than that I enjoy it. It's a dream come true. It's a blessing.

**Nique: How is the offensive line coming along?**

P.J.: They are just getting banged up right now, but they'll be good when the season starts.

**Nique: How do you think the team will do this year?**

P.J.: I think that the outcome will be good. I think that this will be a good year for us. Things are going to be great, we just need to focus and believe and keep taking every game like a playoff game. Like Coach Gailey said, "you have to take it one game at a time."

**Nique: Which game are you looking forward to the most?**

P.J.: All of them. I treat all of them the same, and I prepare the same for all games. If I had to choose one, I'd probably have to say Maryland. There is something about Maryland where I

think that the team has a little inside rivalry with Maryland. It's a team that we anticipate to play well.

**Nique: Who do you think will step up and have a good season that may be under the radar?**

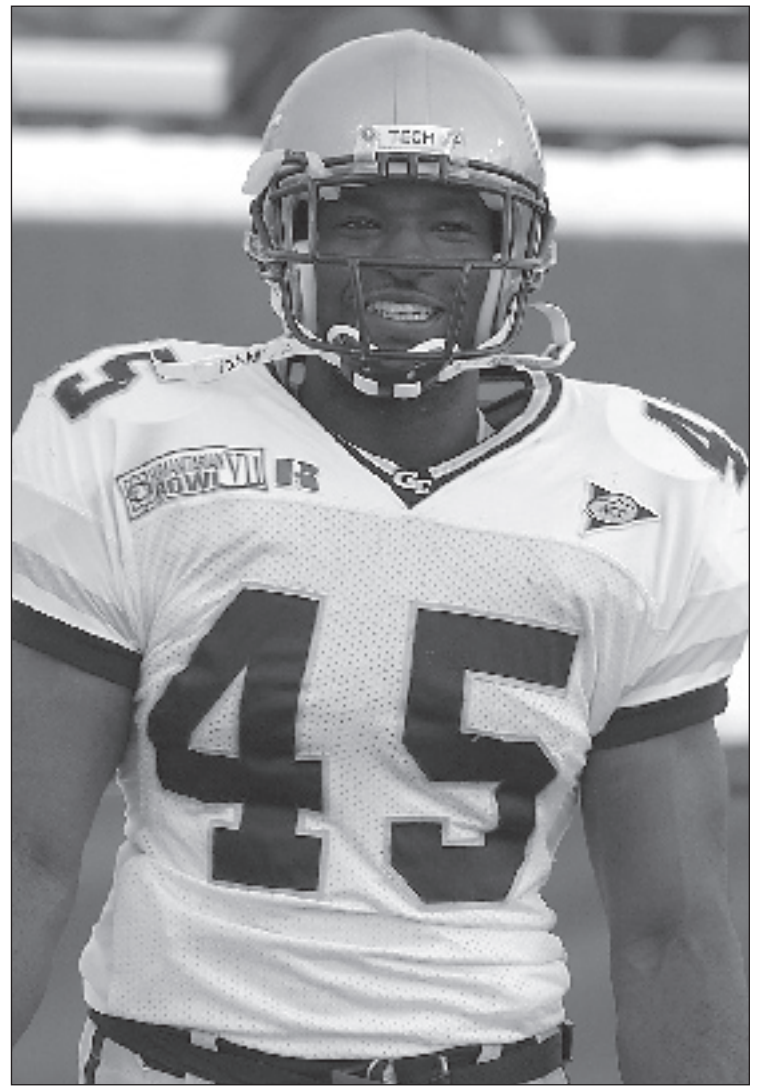
P.J.: I'd have to say Nate Curry, Christopher Woods, Levon Thomas and definitely my linemen. The defensive players will also be real good. You have to have your eyes open for Dawan Landry, and definitely for Gerris Wilkinson and Chris Reis.

**Nique: How much pressure is there on you to do well?**

P.J.: Pressure? There was pressure last year, but pressure is just a normal day in the life of me. I'm used to it. I usually set myself up for it. I deal with pressure everyday and pressure just comes to me and I take it and run with it. I don't have any pressure. I just go out there and have fun like I do in real life.

**Nique: What have you learned from playing with and studying Chris Woods and Rashaun Grant?**

P.J.: I learned a lot. I learned how to be more agile because they bring different things to the table. As a backs committee we all bring different abilities to the table. They brought the finesse and being able to move and being able to beat people one-on-one. I kind of picked up on that. That was one of the things that I was missing to get more yards. I got 1400+ yards in 13 games and this year we play 11, so I added some



By Christopher Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

P.J. Daniels can always be seen breaking a smile around campus. He also has been known to break many long runs for the Jackets. Last year, Daniels rushed for 1447 yards, a career best.

See Daniels, page 21

## SLIVER

[www.nique.net/sliver](http://www.nique.net/sliver)

First there was FTA, then FTB, now FTV... thank God for Focus Time, it's the only way I've survived this school. Of course that and the Calc I tutoring  
 We're gunna play out the GPA competition all the way till the end. I may lose, but I still have the Regents Test on my side  
 Biology majors are girly  
 OOOOHHH OOOOHHH.... MO-YAH  
 Should be doing some kind of work... but you know... not  
 Starting the "screw it" attitude early this semester  
 Yarrrrrrrrrr Gay  
 Sound of rain drop hitting eye  
 brag-a-doosh ... it means brake dumbass  
 I think Kerry is going to win  
 The CRC is freakin awesome  
 Damn those CS majors  
 After you turn 21, it's pretty much the same life you had before only now much better because of alcohol  
 Jolly Ranchers are good...  
 I hope SixFlags night is as fun as it was last year... thanks to whoever came up with that idea  
 I'm "The Naked Roommate" another one is "The Dirty Roommate" and the last one is "The Fancy Roommate"  
 People should just give me money... I'm serious  
 Caution Gas Pipeline  
 Brian Regan - November 5th 8:00 pm The Roxy - Buy tickets, he's hilarious  
 I hope all this stuff actually gets printed cause i'm gunna be pissed if it doesn't

## SPORTS

Technique • Friday, August 27, 2004

## AN OLYMPIC MEDLEY

Once every four years the sports world gets together for the Olympics, and there is never a lack of hot topics. Page 22

## GOING TO THE GARDEN STATE

The writer, director, producer and star of the movie goes back to his Jersey roots for his latest project. Page 15



## Volleyball to start season in Colorado

By Edward Tamsberg  
Sports Editor

Today the volleyball team begins their season against the No. 1 ranked team in the nation, the University of Southern California. The Yellow Jackets are one of four teams that will be participating in the prestigious NACWAA Classic.

"Being invited to this tournament really signifies that our program is considered to be one of the top teams in the country, and it's a huge opportunity for us to measure ourselves against other top programs," said Head Coach Bond Shymansky, who begins his third season as the head coach at Tech.

At 7 p.m. Tech will open the tournament against the Women of Troy, the two-time defending national champions, who return with three All-Americans in their lineup and an NCAA-best winning streak.

"Probably the biggest challenge that players have to get passed is the fear of playing a team like Southern Cal. They have so many great players that they return this year. What will be important for our team is to remember that they are just a volleyball team like we are and they will have the same anxieties and nerves that any team does since it is the first match of a new season."

Shymansky has great respect for USC. "They have so many great players that they return and even the players that are new to the lineup are going to be fantastic athletes and they



By Christopher Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The volleyball team gets geared up for their game against the University of Southern California during a practice in O'Keefe gym. The Jackets return six starters from last year's Elite Eight squad. They will be tested in a hurry this season, as they battle the Women of Troy.

will rely heavily on their seniors to step up and anchor their team this weekend," Shymansky said.

On Saturday, the Jackets will face either Minnesota, which advanced to the Final Four last year, or Colorado State, who has won five consecutive Mountain West Conference titles.

"Minnesota really played fantastic at the end of last season and will probably enter this weekend with a great deal of confidence while

Colorado State returns every starter from last year's team and is very difficult to play on its home court. Either opponent will be a challenge for us, but also a great chance for us to measure our lineup against some of the top teams in the country," Shymansky said.

The Jackets are coming off of the most successful season in school history. They compiled a school-record 34 wins, won the ACC Regular Season

and advanced to a Region Final of the NCAA Tournament.

"Certainly it's a great chance for Georgia Tech to be in the spotlight with some big-name teams, which means a lot to our program in a number of ways. In some ways, our team is probably the underdog, but in the past when Tech has been the underdog, we've risen to the occasion and played some great volleyball," Shymansky said.

## by the numbers

47

The number of consecutive matches won by the University of Southern California's volleyball team, the back-to-back defending national champions. The 12th ranked Tech volleyball squad opens their season tonight at 7 pm against the top-ranked Trojans.

15

Tech swimmer Vesna Stojanovska's age when she competed in her first Olympics for Macedonia in Sydney, four years ago. This Olympiad, Stojanovska competed in the 200-meter butterfly, finishing 26th. Stojanovska also finished 27th in the 400 freestyle and 34th in the 200 freestyle in Athens.

56.37

The number of seconds it took incoming freshman Onur Uras to complete the 100-meter butterfly in the preliminaries Athens. Uras finished 49th overall in the competition, representing his native country of Turkey.

## New ACC set to break the mold

By Vishal Patel  
Contributing Writer

It's almost September, and like every other year, the kickoff to fall sports is just around the corner. But unlike most, at least the last 11, the teams, coaches, and especially the fans of ACC universities are a bit perkier than they have ever been. Not since the inclusion of Florida State University in 1992 has the Atlantic Coast Conference looked in the mirror and seen a new face — this time fashioned with the recent additions of powerhouses Miami and Virginia Tech.

Both schools made the move official July 1 after almost a year of contentious legislation and prolonged talks about it. The vision, in the eyes of ACC commissioner John Swofford, is a twelve-team, two-division, dual-sport conference.

This, in the eyes of many of the most influential individuals surrounding the NCAA, would become the most-watched, most lucrative, most significant and "best" conference in all of college sports.

Back in July, Swofford said, "The ACC is stronger today than yesterday and may well be at its strongest point in history."

What was seen primarily as a basketball conference held together by the Tobacco Road schools (Duke, UNC, Wake) and a pathetic football conference in the Southeast is all but a vague and distant memory.

With the evolution of Coach Hewitt's basketball

pro prowess for Tech, Wake's rising upperclassmen and UNC's return to the top five, basketball will be stronger than ever.

Then with the return of eminent football glory for some schools like Virginia, Clemson, and Maryland, coupled with the additions of Miami and Va. Tech, the new ACC could not have come at a better time.

In order to make Swofford's dream a reality though, the ACC

awaits the arrival of Boston College in 2006, one of the four Big East teams that got invited to secede from the dying conference.

"The ACC is stronger today than yesterday and may well be at its strongest point in history."

John Swofford  
ACC Commissioner

With BC rounding out the crucial 12th spot, the ACC would be able to implement a lucrative conference championship game for football, which is not permitted by NCAA

standards for conferences short of the twelve-team mark.

This one game alone would bring in as much as 5.9 million dollars in revenue, in addition to other benefits such as a national audience that will help television ratings through games televised on ABC, and a bigger name in the recruiting world, will help to bring in more five-star recruits like WR Calvin Williams year after year into the ACC.

Football Head Coach Chan Gailey agreed that Jacksonville is an ideal location for the championship, claiming that "those young guys who are 13, 14, 15-years old may have no allegiance anywhere. They're looking to see whose in the

See ACC, page 21



## sports shorts

## Softball head coach to stay

Coach Ehren Earleywine has signed a three-year contract to remain head softball coach at Tech through 2007. Earleywine has guided Tech to major successes, including 47 wins last year and a third place finish in the Athens Regional. The Yellow Jackets posted their first ever wins over top ten opponents, defeating No. 9 Louisiana-Lafayette and No. 10 Georgia.

## Thompson's run on the links ends

Tech's Nicholas Thompson advanced to the final 16 in the U.S. Amateur last week, but, despite a valiant charge from five down after 10 holes, his run ended when he was eliminated, 3 and 2, by Jeff Overton of Evansville, Ind. It is the farthest a Tech player or alumnus has advanced in the U.S. Amateur since Matt Kuchar won the title in 1997 in Lemont, Ill.

## Flag Football Classic today

The annual Intramural A League tournament is being held today and Saturday. The cost is \$25 and all participants receive a T-shirt, and the winner will receive a free bid to the state flag football tournament. More information can be found at [www.crc.gatech.edu/IM](http://www.crc.gatech.edu/IM).

## Taylor fails to hurdle the semis

Former Tech men's track standout Angelo Taylor did not get a chance to defend his gold medal in the 400-meter hurdles after finishing fourth in the semifinals of heat one with a time of 48.72 on Tuesday afternoon in Olympic Stadium at the Athens Olympics. Overall, Taylor ended the race in 13th place, with only the top eight runners advancing to the finals.

## Slayden stays, Owings to leave

Outfielder Jeremy Slayden has passed on an opportunity to sign a professional contract and will return to Tech for his junior season. Slayden played only nine games last year due to a shoulder injury and received a medical redshirt for the season. Pitcher/designated hitter Micah Owings has been granted his release and is free to transfer. Second baseman Eric Patterson, an 8th round draft pick of the Chicago Cubs in June, has yet to reach a decision on whether he will return to Tech for his senior season or sign a professional contract.