

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, January 17, 2003

Hangin' tough

Lady Jackets put up hard battle against No. 1 Blue Devils. Check out the game review. Page 31.

Mud bath, anyone?

Tech took on Fresno State in the Silicon Valley Classic, or, more aptly, the San Jose Mud Bowl. Page 29.



by the numbers

1

Number of extra points that Luke Manget needed to tie of the NCAA consecutive extra points record. Manget trailed the consecutive record of 161 points set by John Becksvort of Tennessee from 1991-94.

33

Number of points tallied by Marvin Lewis in Tech's men basketball 81-74 triumph over ACC opponent FSU Tuesday night. Lewis scored a career high as the Yellow Jackets made 28 of 31 free throws on the night.

38

Number of steals this season by junior guard Megan Isom. Isom has helped lead the Lady Jackets to one of their best starts in school history, going 11-4. Isom currently ranks third in the ACC for steals.

15:15.19

Time set by All-American Shilo Ayalon in the 1650-yard freestyle against No. 19 Alabama. Ayalon became the first Yellow Jacket swimmer to meet an NCAA qualifying standard this season.

atlanta thrashers number challenge

hint: Falcons

6

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

To enter email the Sports Editor at sports@technique.gatech.edu with the correct answer to the challenge. A winner will be selected from among the qualified entries. The winner will receive a pair of tickets to an Atlanta Thrashers home game, where admission is always \$8 for a seat in the \$36 section with a student ID. Visit www.atlantathrashers.com for more info on college nights.

on deck

Event	Date
TR at Kentucky Invitational	1/17-18
MT at ACC Indoor Champs	1/17-18
MB at Wake Forest	1/19
WB at FSU	1/20
MB vs. Elon	1/22
WB vs. Clemson	1/23
TR - Men's and Women's Track	
MT - Men's Tennis	
WB - Women's Basketball	
MB - Men's Basketball	

Streaking Jackets continue home dominance

Elder, Bosh silence Wolfpack's bark

By Al Przygocki
Senior Staff Writer

After giving up the first basket of the second half and the lead to the Wolfpack, the Yellow Jackets went on a 22-4 run and turned a close game into a rout. With the 85-61 victory, Georgia Tech improved to 7-5 overall, 1-1 in the ACC.

N.C. State fell to 8-3 overall, 1-1 in ACC play. After last season's 0-7 start in conference play, Tech was happy to get its first win a little bit earlier this time around.

Sophomore B.J. Elder led all scorers with 24 points. Marvin Lewis (15), Chris Bosh (11), Jarrett Jack (11) and Ed Nelson (11) joined Elder as five Tech players broke into double digits.

Bosh added 12 boards on his way to his sixth double double of the season and his third selection as ACC Freshman of the week, while leading the ACC in shooting percentage.

The key to Tech's second half onslaught was offensive efficiency. In outscoring the Wolfpack 53-30 in the second half, the Jackets shot 64.5 percent, including five for seven from three-point land, while com-

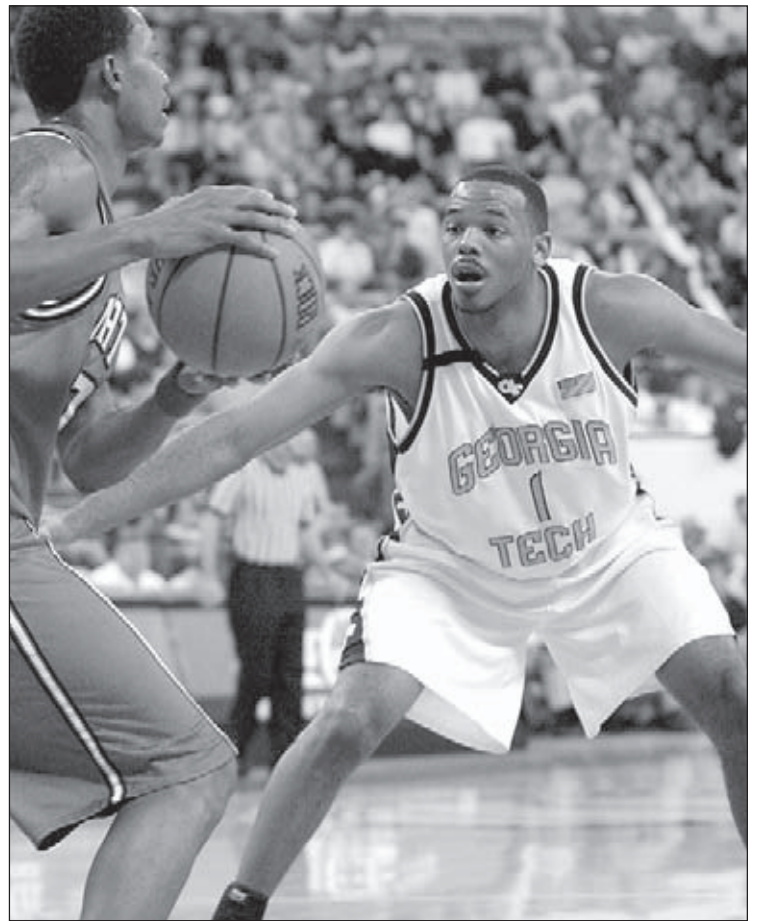
mitting only three turnovers.

Georgia Tech Coach Paul Hewitt discussed his team's performance after the game, saying that, "Obviously I'm very pleased to see our guys come out and play like that and really enjoy themselves on the court. Our halfcourt execution and our offense in general has been the thing that's made us stub our toe a little bit and get off to a little bit of a bumpy start."

"Watching our halfcourt execution and our offensive execution in general is what made the difference today," Hewitt added. "I thought we did a very good job defensively on Julius Hodge and Marcus Melvin, but more than anything else it was our offensive execution."

"20 assists on 30 baskets, shot 70 percent from the foul line, turnovers were down, assists were up. Those are the things we really have to watch because I think our defense has been good enough to win most of the games, but our offense has really been hurting us. Today it certainly didn't hurt us at all."

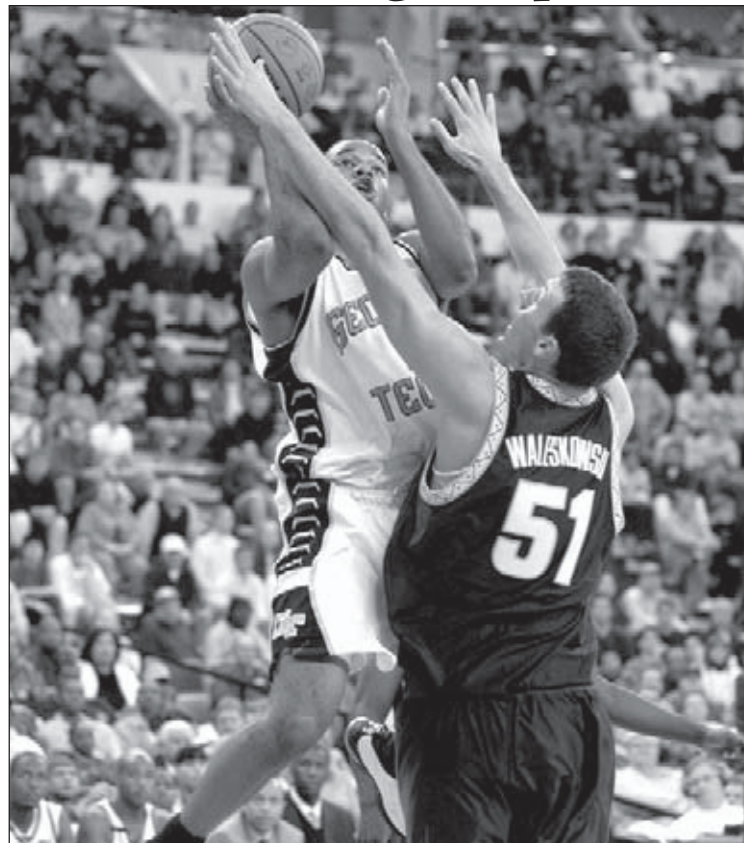
Georgia Tech continued its hot play in Atlanta this year where they are undefeated. N.C. State fell to 0-3 on the road so far this season.



By Scott Meuleners / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

B.J. Elder was the dominating player in Saturday's win over the NC State Wolfpack. Elder finished with 24 points - one point off his season high.

Lewis's career high chops 'Noles



By The Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Freshman Jarrett Jack has been a strong asset to the Jacket's offense. Jack was considered as one of the nation's top incoming point guards.

By Katie Neal
Sports Editor

Junior Marvin Lewis lit up the AMC Tuesday night by continuously draining 3-point shots to lead the Jackets to a 81-74 victory over ACC rivals FSU. Lewis ended the game with a season high of 33 points, going six-for-eight outside the arc. His halftime buzzer-beater 3-point shot even made ESPN's top-ten basketball highlights of the day.

Three-time ACC Rookie of the

Week Chris Bosh had his seventh double-double of the year, with 19 points and 12 rebounds. B.J. Elder added 14 points, while the team as a whole made 28 of their 31 free throws. The Jacket defense stepped up, holding Tim Pickett, who is fifth in the ACC at 18 points per game, to just 13 points on only 5-of-16.

With this win, the Yellow Jackets (8-5 overall, 2-1 ACC) improved to 7-0 at home and are off to their best start in the ACC since the '95-'96 season.

Swimmers fall to Clemson, 'Bama

By Kimberly Rieck
Senior Staff Writer

The Georgia Tech men's and women's swimming and diving teams faced ACC rival Clemson and No. 19 Alabama at Emory's Woodruff P.E. Center over the weekend.

On Friday against the Tigers, the men and women struggled after a two-month break in the dual-meets schedule. The last meet was in November against Purdue and Cincinnati.

While Clemson defeated the Jackets in the relay events, there were several noteworthy individual wins for both the men and women's teams. Senior All-American Shilo Ayalon dominated the field with wins in the 500 and 1000-yard freestyle events. Ayalon defeated Clemson's Jonathan Menger by over 7 seconds in the 1000-yard freestyle with a time of 9:23.48. Junior Mike Comer won the 50 free in 21.49. Additionally senior Tomonori Tsuji placed first in the 200 breast with a time of 2:05.94.

On the women's side, Laurissa Prystaj posted a score of 226.05 on the one-meter board and 273.30 points on the three-meter board. Prystaj had already qualified for the NCAA Zone Diving Championships earlier this season. Coach Seth Baron said he was very pleased and impressed with Prystaj's performance. In the sprint events, Moeko Wallis won the 100 free with a time of 53.43. Sweeping the top places in the 200 back

were Ashley Kracke, placing first with a time of 2:05.91 and Anna Saum, finishing second with a mark of 2:06.48.

Last year the Jackets' men had surprised the nationally ranked Clemson by crushing them 143-93. This year the No. 25 men's team lost to an unranked Clemson by 159-84. Clemson's women team topped Tech by a score of 156-87. The men and women both fell to 0-2 in the ACC with the loss.

After the loss to Clemson Friday night, the Jackets had to face the Crimson Tide. The highlight of the meet was Ayalon becoming the first Tech swimmer to qualify for the 2003 NCAA Championships this season. Ayalon earned an NCAA "B" time in the 1650 free after he defeated Alabama's J.T. Jones by over 17 seconds. Ayalon placed eighth in the 1650 at last year's NCAA Championships.

"Shilo posted a time in the 1650 free that was 5 seconds faster than what was invited into the NCAA championships last year. So that's a pretty good thing to do in a dual meet situation," said Baron.

Tech's only other victory came from Jeremy Raines. Raines won the 100 yard backstroke in a close race with a time of 51.78. Ayalon and Raines's times were season-best for the team.

For the men's diving squad, Junior Paul McCarty led the way with a second place finish in the

See *Swim Teams*, page 30

Lady Jackets suffer tight loss to No. 1 Duke Blue Devils



By The Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Jackets held the lead 11 times, with 13 lead changes, but shot 22 percent in the second half after leading 36-35 at the half-time break

By Finny Turner
Contributing Writer

In front of an atypically large crowd of 3,592 in Alexander Memorial Coliseum, the Lady Jackets fell to 11-4 and 0-3 in the ACC, after a hard fought battle to No. 1 Duke Blue Devils.

The Lady Jackets hit on three three-point field goals, with six blocked shots and 11 turnovers. The game was tied 11 times with 13 lead changes.

Fallon Stokes led the Yellow Jackets with 21 points and Megan Isom scored 13. However, Stokes and Isom were the only two players in double figures for Georgia Tech. The duo combined for four of 18 field goals in the final half of play.

All five Duke starters scored at least 10 points a piece. At the half, the Jackets had the lead at 35-36

and held on until Duke's Alana Beard, a national player of the year candidate, had a spurt of energy early in the second half.

Beard, who only scored two foul shots, missing all six of her attempted field goals in the first half, came back in the end and scored 19 for the night. Tech's second-leading scorer in the match up, Isom was Beard's key defender.

"I did a good job on her, but it doesn't matter, I didn't finish it,"

commented Isom on her performance against Beard.

When Beard swiped a ball from Isom, the score was 47-43 in Tech's favor, but things soon fell apart. The Lady Jackets went six minutes without scoring and in the final ten minutes, Tech was outscored 30-10.

The Jackets made only eight of 36 shots (22.2 percent) in the second half, in comparison to 13 of 32 (40.6 percent) in the first half.

When asked about the loss, Tech's head women's basketball Coach Agnus Berenato said, "We're getting there."

"For 37 minutes we were with them, and that's improvement. I do not believe it was a 20 point game. But that's what the scoreboard says."

She went on to complement Alana Beard, "She's everything she's touted to be. There are 352 teams in the country, and 351 of them are not as good as Duke."

Stokes, Tech leading scorer for the evening commented, "We played hard as a team, but didn't sustain for the long haul."

Georgia Tech has lost 19 in a row to the Blue Devils who are on a winning streak of 27 ACC victories in a row and dropped to 0-5 against top-ranked teams.

"We're disappointed in the loss. We played about 32 minutes of really good basketball. Making 32 be-

come 40 is the difference between the win and the loss," said senior Sonja Mallory.

"We're getting there. For 37 minutes we were with them, and that's improvement. I do not believe it was a 20 point game. But that's what the scoreboard says."

Agnus Berenato
Head Coach



By The Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Junior forward Fallon Stokes scored a team-high of 21 points against Duke. Stokes ranks second in the ACC in scoring in conference games.

Beyond the White and Gold

Make it or break it: New year, new start, new body... Can it really be done?

By Al Przygocki
Senior Staff Writer

Ah, January, the month of new beginnings and resolutions. A time for turning over all of those new leaves. For finally getting on that road to becoming the great and wonderful person we all meant to become but never got around to.

We're two weeks into the new year, and I bet 90 percent of those resolutions have already fallen by the wayside. Smokers are back to smoking. Drinkers are back to drinking. The disorganized are back to losing things. The overweight have already stopped working out and have healed their guilt with comfort foods. Well, not all of them.

This overweight guy actually started his program last year, and I am happy to report I am still going strong. Heck, I've beaten cigarettes, and I've defeated the bottle. Why can't I tame fast food, Ben & Jerry's, and my sedentary lifestyle?

The big thing is recognizing that it's not just about running a few laps, lifting a few weights and eating a few carrots. It's about lifestyle change.

That's evolution, baby, and that's not something you suddenly wake up and do on January 1. It takes time, and it takes help. It takes a village to do anything these days.

My parents have helped by keeping my fridge stocked with healthy food that I could prepare for myself. Ah, the joys of microwave cooking,

The girl I'm seeing has helped by pushing me to be less sedentary and more active whenever possible. We like to walk around Stone Mountain every now and then. My personal trainer (paid for by the folks, of course) has also been a huge help.

I've started and quit workout programs a dozen times. The biggest reason? I don't like doing things alone. It's much easier for me to

quit on myself than it is for me to quit on anyone else. It sounds weird, but I pay someone to be there and help me work out. Actually, it's one of the best experiences I've had at Tech.

My trainer is a psychotic Polish guy who makes bad jokes and never lets anyone perform less than their best or he'll give them hell. Basically, Woj's a lot like me, only strong and healthy. I joined the Barbell Club, one of the best clubs on campus.

It's an old-school gym in the basement of O'Keefe. There are weights and machines everywhere. There's also this smell. My guess is that it's from fifty years of sweat. I love it. The place is like a big dungeon, and I hope to slay all the weights and machines and come

out a big, strong hero.

I've lost twenty-five pounds in the last year. That's net. There've been some setbacks, some bad days (ok, weeks) of fast food and ice cream.

Being a sports writer means free food at sporting events, hardly any of it healthy, and an open invitation to sit in one place for two to three hours at a time.

Heck, you can go to almost any Tech function and find yourself awash in a sea of pizza and sodas. Temptation is everywhere, my friends, everywhere.

What's the point of all this? It's simple really. You want to change yourself? Do it.

But get as much help as you can. Understand that you can't change one part of you all at once. You have to change all of you over a long period of time.

And be prepared for setbacks. There will be failures, but that doesn't mean that you should pack it in and give up. It's a gradual process. You do a little bit every day, and one day you look up and realize you're on the right road.

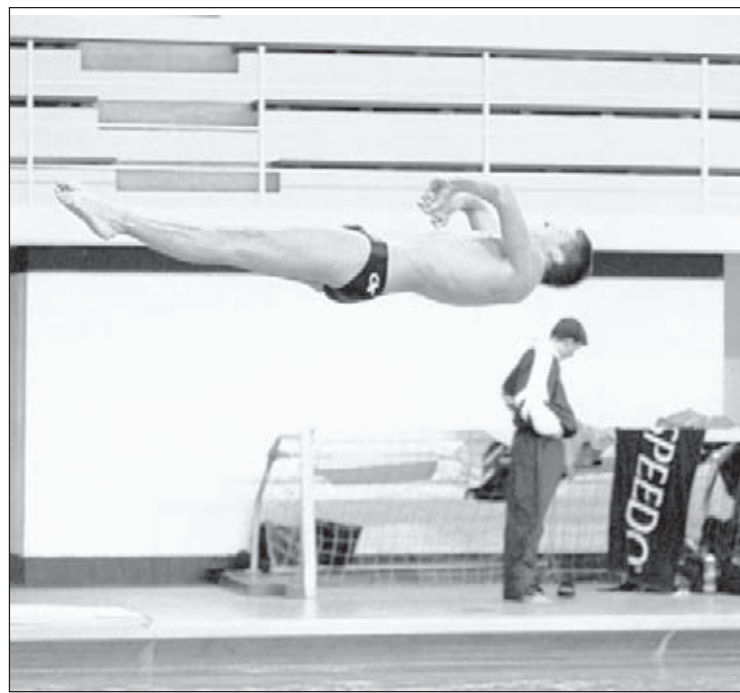
I've given up smoking. I've given up drinking like I used to. I'm giving up being unhealthy, overweight and sedentary. Now, if I could just find the things I lose in this house! I give up!

It takes time, and it takes help. It takes a village to do anything these days.

I joined the Barbell Club, one of the best clubs on campus... There are weights and machines everywhere. There's also this smell. My guess is that it's from fifty years of sweat. I love it.

SwimTeams

from page 32



By Bill Allen / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tech's swimming and diving teams faced ACC rival Clemson and No. 19 Alabama at Emory's Woodruff P.E. Center over the weekend

one-meter board. Other notable achievements on the men's side were Tsuji's second place finish in the 200 breaststroke and senior Robbie Foster's third place finish in the 100 breaststroke.

The winner for the 100 breaststroke, Alabama's Vladislav Polyakov, qualified for the NCAA Championships with a NCAA-B time in the event.

Wallis led the women's team with second place finishes in the 50 and 100 free events. Freshman Elizabeth Foster also placed third in the 50 free. In the 100 back, Saum and Kracke had another back to back finish with second and third places, respectively.

Freshmen Laura Heiser and Ashley Skala went 2 and 3 in the 200 yard backstroke. Alabama's Anne Poleska won first place in the event with a NCAA-B time. In the 200

fly, sophomore Lisa Hancock posted the Jacket's top time in the event this season.

Overall, the loss was disappointing for the team who had hoped to pick up their first ACC victory. "We've got to do a better job of stepping up to the blocks and performing and being a team that represents Georgia Tech and not individuals that happen to represent Georgia Tech. I think they understand that a little bit better now," said Baron.

"There's not much time left in the season, so I think they realize that this past weekend was not very fun. And it was indeed a wake-up call that this team needs."

The Crimson Tide defeated the Tech men, 160-124. The Yellow Jacket women lost by 182-106. With the losses, the men are now 2-5 and the women are 3-4.

Silicon Valley "Mud Bowl" disappoints

By Clark Nelson
Contributing Writer

Georgia Tech came into the third Silicon Valley Football Classic hoping to end the year on a high note; the outcome was far from that.

The Jackets turned the ball over seven times in a muddy, disappoint-

"If I don't have the picks, we could have won the game."

Damarius Bilbo
GT Quarterback

ing 30-21 loss in San Jose.

The Fresno State Bulldogs came into the game with an 8-5 record, finishing third in the Western Athletic Conference. Earlier in the week, they had lost five starters due to academics and only suited 45 for this bowl game.

Behind Rodney Davis' 153 yards on the ground and a defensive touchdown, Fresno State chalked up their first bowl win in 10 years.

It was a disappointing day for Tech all the way around. In front of a sparse crowd of mostly Fresno fans, the Jackets needed to come out and play well after having a month off from their last game.

Fresno State kicked a field goal on their first drive, but Tech responded with a 35-yard pass from A.J. Suggs to Kerry Watkins to take

a 7-3 first quarter lead. However, Suggs completed just 2 of 7 passes in the first half and threw an interception with 14 seconds left on a questionable coaching decision that gave Fresno a 13-6 halftime lead.

Redshirt Freshman Damarius Bilbo started the second half, but did not fair much better.

Bilbo led the Jackets to two touchdowns, but he also threw four interceptions. The Jackets were down 23-21 with three minutes to play on a fourth down and one to go, but a miscommunication between Bilbo and fellow freshmen Lekeldrick Bridges led to the sixth interception of the day for Tech.

Bilbo was ready to take the blame for the loss square on his own shoulders.

"If I don't have the picks, we could have won the game," he said. "I put the blame on myself. As a quarterback, you have to take the fame and the blame. I take the blame for that one."

"I'm disappointed with the execution," said Head Coach Chan Gailey. "Obviously, you have to be able to stop the run and you have to be able to execute on offense, and we didn't do either well."

This game leaves many questions for Tech as they head into the off-season. The one to get the most attention will most likely be the quarterback position.

"You always remember your last game," Offensive Coordinator Bill O'Brien said. "And obviously this game meant a lot to the [quarter-

back] situation."

Gailey also went on to say that all starting jobs would be open this spring.

Bilbo struggled in his most significant action since early in the season, but he was limited to certain offensive sets by the coaching staff.

Fresno dominated the time of

"I'm disappointed with the execution."

Chan Gailey
Head Coach

possession, holding the ball for 38 minutes.

A bright spot for Tech was the play of Jonathan "Freddie" Smith. Smith caught a 42-yard touchdown, ran seven times for 35 yards, and returned 4 punts for 59 yards.

Smith was filling in on punt returns for the injured Kelly Rhino.

The Jackets return 14 starters next season and also hope to get All-American Greg Gathers and speedster running back Tony Hollings back from injury.

Senior placekicker Luke Manget kicked three extra points, extending his streak to 160 consecutive PATs, but he finished his career one shy of the NCAA record.

Georgia Tech is now 20-11 in all bowl games after its sixth straight postseason game, the most since Bobby Dodd's tenure.



By Scott Meuleners / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Yellow Jackets are now 20-11 all-time in bowl games. They came into the bowl game tied with Penn State for a .667 bowl winning percentage.

Finishing football for 2002

The Nique's Al Przygocki wraps up the year and looks to the new

By Al Przygocki
Senior Staff Writer

Tech lost to the other FSU 30-21 in front of about twenty people who probably asked for a refund. The Silicon Valley Classic was anything but classic.

I guess it was appropriate that Tech came out in all white for the first time since a 1994 loss to UGA. It was clearly time to lose to bulldogs wearing red.

The Jackets quickly became coated in a layer of mud and were unrecognizable by halftime. The seven turnovers, six by interception, jogged my memory.

7-6 was a disappointment, but there were flashes of life from the team this year. Maybe next year. (Hmm, Pepper Rodgers flashback, anyone?)

As I was getting ready to watch this year's national title game, I couldn't help but think about the 1986 Fiesta Bowl. Yes, that means I'm old and watch too much ESPN Classic.

Anyway, in that game, Miami came in with an air of invincibility and an overhyped quarterback.

A defensive-minded, ball control team from the Midwest came in, stopped the run, forced the Hurricanes to pass the ball all night, and tricked Heisman Trophy winner Vinny Testaverde into five interceptions on their way to the national title.

Ohio State stole that blueprint from Penn State and won this year's title in incredibly dramatic fashion. The Buckeyes were the kind of team that confounds experts every year. You look at their stats and watch them play and you have no idea why they never lose. Then, you realize that the one thing they do well is find ways to win, like the old Bill Parcells Giants.

The Atlanta Mike Vicks over-achieved this season and were lucky to make the playoffs. Then, they went out and surprised everyone (including themselves—be honest, fellas) and absolutely whipped the Green Bay Packers on the frozen

tundra of Lambeau Field.

Three things: the Packers had never lost a home playoff game, Brett Favre had never lost a game with the temperature below freezing, and tundra is by definition frozen so "frozen tundra" is redundant like "wet snow."

Too bad the Mike Vicks crashed to earth in Philadelphia last week. It was a fun ride while it lasted, and I can only hope that they fire Dan Reeves, bring in a GM, a head coach and an offensive coordinator.

Oh, and that they make sure that they bring in three separate men to do to the three separate jobs.

The other thing that the Mike Vicks need to do is find more Mike Vicks and sign them immediately. And Arthur Blank buys the other Atlanta sports teams.

Bonus NFL prediction:

Eagles avenge their Super Bowl XV loss at the hands of the Oakland Raiders, by the same score, 27-10. Hey, I was a little Polish kid who loved to wear green. How could I not be a Ron Jaworski fan?

Playing dirty in the Valley



By Scott Meuleners/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

True freshman Ajenavi "Ace" Eziemefe had to step up this year to fill the large void left by the injured running back Tony Hollings.