

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, October 11, 2002

Topplin' the Terps

Check out our football preview for the next gridiron match against the Terps on Thursday. Page 27.

Are you a winner?

Check out the winners from Football Forecast and submit your picks online for this week. Page 27.



by the numbers

69

Length of the touchdown pass (in yards) that Damarius Bilbo threw to Kerry Watkins with 10:06 remaining in Saturday's game against Wake Forest's Demon Deacons.

7

Number of consecutive seasons that Georgia Tech has captured the Division I team title for Cross Country. The team successfully defended their title last Saturday in the Georgia Intercollegiate Championships.

21

National ranking of the Georgia Tech Volleyball Team in the most recent USA Today/Coaches Poll. The team is 3-1 in the ACC and 18-3 overall.

35

Number of seconds that Katie Griffin beat her nearest competitor by at the Georgia Intercollegiate Championships. Griffin was the first overall finisher and was named the ACC's Cross Country Performer of the Week.

atlanta thrashers number challenge

hint: Suggs

57

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
WT at ITA All-American	10/8-10/13
VB at Clemson	10/11
G at Jerry Pate Collegiate	10/14-15
VB at Duke	10/15
FB at Maryland	10/17
VB-Women's Volleyball, FB-Football	
G-Men's Golf, WT-Women's Tennis	
MT-Men's Tennis	

Buzz vies for nation's No. 1 mascot

By Finny Turner
Contributing Writer

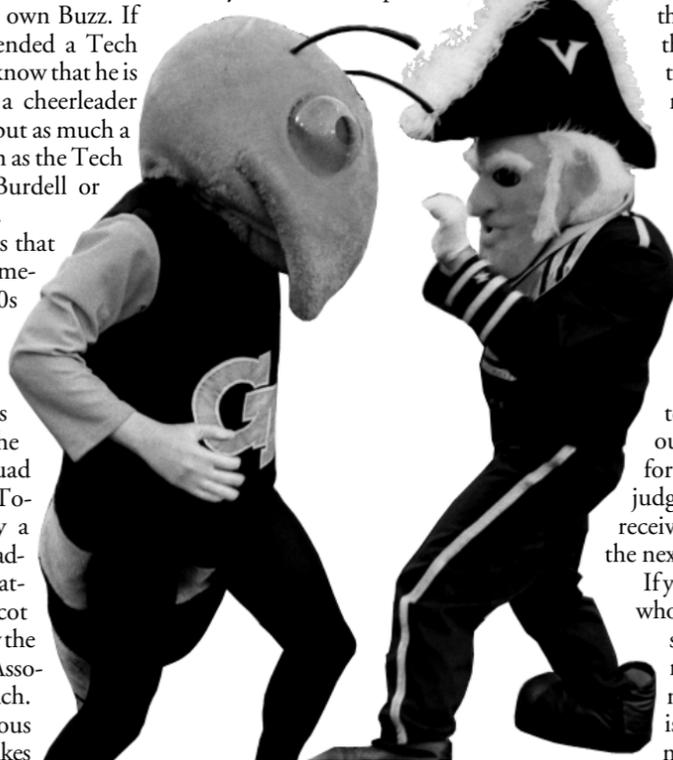
He's lovable, mysterious and sweet. He's our very own Buzz. If anyone has ever attended a Tech sporting event, they know that he is not only a mascot, a cheerleader and an ambassador, but as much a part of Tech tradition as the Tech Tower, George P. Burdell or the Ramblin' Wreck.

Urban legend says that Buzz showed up sometime in the late 1970s as an unofficial cheerleader for the home football games. Since the students and fans loved Buzz's antics, the GT cheerleading squad soon adopted him. Today Buzz is actually a member of the cheerleading squad, and even attends a special mascot camp hosted yearly by the National Cheering Association at Myrtle Beach.

"Buzz is very nervous and mischievous. He likes to be the center of attention," says the fifth-year senior and third-year Buzz.

Because of his popularity, Buzz is called upon for many duties as the

official Tech mascot. Along with the obvious duty of attending sporting events, Buzz is involved with charity events, team photos,



sports conventions, and official Georgia Tech events such as the annual President's Dinner. Buzz can also be hired for social gatherings, such as weddings and birthday parties.

Buzz also has the duty to help choose a successor during cheerleading tryouts. It is important for Buzz to live up to the winning tradition that the Yellow Jackets come to expect. Buzz has been named an All-American mascot on numerous occasions.

Those trying out for Buzz attend a three-day camp during tryouts in which they are taught how to be Buzz, learning the walk, mannerisms and hand gestures. After the workshop, tryouts are held, where the former Buzz joins other judges to decide who will receive the honor of being the next Buzz.

If you have ever wondered who Buzz is underneath the suit, well so does the rest of the world. The number one rule of Buzz is that his true identity not be announced until

after his term is complete. Buzz is also not allowed to talk while in uniform. But the key to understand-

See BUZZ, page 27

Tech's pep band out of penalty box

Ice hockey players stood by their band even with the threat of losing their national tournament eligibility



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Georgia Tech Hockey Club took a team vote and decided not to compete in the Memorial Health Hockey Classic unless the pep band was allowed by tournament sponsors to travel with them to Savannah.

By Derek Haynes
Managing Editor

After a brief stay in the penalty box, the Tech hockey pep band will attend the Memorial Health Hockey Classic in Savannah on Jan. 17-18.

Tournament officials concerned over liability issues after several altercations between the band and fans at the tournament last year, informed the team that the band would not be allowed to attend the annual tournament. However, members of Tech's most popular club sport wouldn't allow its seventh man to stay off the ice.

"The folks in Savannah told us they didn't want the band there," said Roland Sperlich, Tech's goalie and a mechanical engineering graduate student. "They said the band created a ruckus."

The hockey squad then held a team vote, where they pledged to play in the tournament only if the band could perform. It was a major risk for the hockey squad, which finished third nationally in division III at last year's American College Hockey Association's national championship.

The icers would lose their national tournament eligibility if the ACHA, which does not allow teams

with forfeits to participate in the national tournament, were to consider the tournament games a forfeit for Tech. The tournament's contenders are Georgia Tech, UGA, FSU and the University of Florida.

Luckily, Memorial Health, the tournament sponsor, and the Tech icers were able to work out the difficulties.

"We were concerned about liability issues after the last tournament," said Jack Boylston of Memorial Health. "We've been assured that there will be supervision this year."

See Band, page 27

Volleyball takes on Clemson Tigers tonight at 7 p.m.

The nationally-ranked volleyball team travels to Clemson to take on the Tigers at Jervy Gym. Friday's match marks the 35th meeting between the Yellow Jackets and Clemson, with the Tigers holding the edge, 23-11. Tech defeated the Tigers twice last year during the regular season and has won the last four contests, dating back to the 2000 season. The Jackets will be playing without one player, Lynnette Moster, who was injured Saturday against North Carolina. Blair Moon will replace her in the lineup.

Basketball practice starts this weekend

The men's basketball team opened practice this weekend, beginning with two practices a day until Tuesday. The team had the biggest in-season turnaround in ACC history last season by winning seven of their last eight league games, finished tied for fifth in the conference at 7-9 and 15-16 overall.

Seven letter winners return for Paul Hewitt's third season as Head Coach. The Jackets are picked by many to finish in the top half of the ACC. The team will still be one of the youngest teams in the conference and will rely heavily on a pair of incoming freshmen, swingman Chris Bosh and point guard Jarret Jack.

The Jackets' first game will be Nov. 10 with an exhibition game against the Southeastern All-Stars, then they face Nike-Marathon in a second exhibition on Nov. 19.

Golf places 11th at Ping tourney

The Georgia Tech golf team improved its team score over the final round of play, but was unable to make a significant move in the team standings, finishing in a tie for 11th at the Ping/Golfweek Preview in Stillwater, Okla.

The 54-hole tournament was contested at the par-72, 7,290-yard Karsten Creek Golf Club, which will host of the 2003 NCAA Championships. Senior Troy Matteson was Tech's top finisher for the second time this year.

football forecast

Arkansas vs. Auburn
Oklahoma vs. Texas
Liberty vs. Akron
LSU vs. Florida
Penn State vs. Michigan
Ball State vs. Toledo
Florida State vs. Miami
Colgate vs. Princeton
Tennessee vs. Georgia
NC State vs. North Carolina
Submit your picks at:
[nique.net/footballforecast](http://technique.net/footballforecast)



Prediction: Maryland 34 - Georgia Tech 17

Preview By David Rottman



Quarterback:

Maryland will look to junior Scott McBrien to lead the offense. McBrien has completed 54.2 percent of his passes for 971 yards with six touchdowns and four interceptions. His backup Chris Kelley has been ineffective when playing, throwing no touchdowns but three interceptions.

A.J. Suggs has yet to find favor with the Tech faithful. Despite completing 57 percent of his pass attempts, Suggs has thrown six interceptions. Suggs has also failed to show the capability to put this Yellow Jacket team on his back and carry them to victory. Recently Coach Chan Gailey has given red-shirt freshman Damarius Bilbo meaningful time under center. Bilbo threw a 69-yard touchdown pass to Kerry Watkins against Wake Forest to give the Jackets a 21-16 lead before the team eventually fell 24-21.

Advantage: Even

Running Backs:

Maryland has been without 2001 ACC Offensive Player of the Year Bruce Perry the entire season. The Terps have used a platoon of three backs, Chris Downs, Josh Allen, and Mario Merrills to make up for Perry's absence. The trio has combined for 798 yards and eleven touchdowns.

Following a breakout performance in his first career start against UNC, Ace Aziemefe sputtered against Wake Forest. The true freshman ran for only 47 yards on just eleven carries.

Advantage: Maryland

Wide Receivers:

Maryland has a group of tall and talented receivers. Senior Scooter Monroe and juniors Latrez Harrison and Jafar Williams are all above 6'2". They should have success against Tech's small secondary.

The Yellow Jackets receiving corps has been carried by senior Kerry Watkins. Watkins leads the Jackets with 30 receptions for 528 yards (an average of 17.6 yards-per-catch) and three scores. Senior Will Glover has 19 grabs for 204 yards and three touchdowns. Junior Jonathan Smith and true freshman Lekeldrick Bridges have each also have over 100 yards on the season.

Advantage: Georgia Tech

Offensive Line:

The Terrapin offensive line has allowed ten sacks on the season. They have also been able to control the line of scrimmage to allow for their running back trio to rush for almost 800 yards on the season. The Terps have a team yards-per-carry average of 4.2.

The Jackets have likewise allowed eleven sacks partially due to A.J. Suggs lack of mobility. They have opened good holes for Tech backs to run through. Tech is averaging 4.4 yards-per-carry.

Advantage: Even

Defensive Line:

Maryland's defensive front has 12.5 sacks, led by defensive tackle Randy Starks with five. The Terrapin defensive line's purpose is to occupy opposing offensive lines to free up the linebackers to make plays.

Georgia Tech's defensive line has only nine of the team's 15 sacks. This is partially due to the loss of Gathers, thus allowing teams to double team sophomore Tony Hargrove. While Hargrove has only two sacks, he has been able to get in the backfield and disrupt the run with six tackles for loss, good for second on the team.

Advantage: Even

Linebackers:

E.J. Henderson. That is all you need to know about Maryland's linebackers. The one-man wrecking crew is both a Butkus and Nagurski award finalist. The 2001 ACC Defensive Player of the Year has a team high 73 tackles, a team high 5.5 sacks, and one interception for good measure. Joining Henderson are weak-side backer Leon Joe, and strong-side backer Leroy Ambush.

Tech has a talented trio of juniors Key Fox and Daryl Smith and senior Recardo Wimbush. Fox leads the team with 49 tackles, eight for loss. Smith is second with 45 stops, with six coming behind the line of scrimmage.

Advantage: Maryland

Secondary:

The Terrapins have a solid secondary. This group is led by junior safeties Dennard Wilson and Madiou Williams, who each have 28 tackles on the season, with Williams recording a team high three interceptions. Corners Curome Cox and Domonique Foxworth round out this unit. Tech has also gotten solid play from senior safeties Jeremy Muiers and Cory Collins, who have combined for 59 tackles and three interceptions. Corners Marvious Hester and Jonathan Cox are solid cover-men, but have lacked big play ability; with both failing to intercept a pass all season.

Advantage: Even

Special Teams:

Maryland has gotten solid production from its special teams. Sophomore kicker Nick Novak is 10-13 on field goals and 22-22 on PATs. Senior punter Brooks Barnard is averaging a solid 43.2 yards-per-punt. Return man Steve Suter is a dangerous punt returner, with a 13.9 yards-per-return average and two touchdowns.

Tech special teams have been slightly under the standard set in previous years. Luke Manget and Dan Burnett are a combined 2-7 on field goals. Punter combo Dan Dyke and Chris Morehouse have combined for a 42.5 yards-per-punt average. Punt returner Kelley Rhino is averaging a respectable 10.6 yards on his returns.

Advantage: Maryland

Buzz

from page 28

ing him is to watch his hands. He compensates for his lack of speech through hand gestures that show his feelings and ideas.

In order to be Buzz, you have to be in excellent physical condition. If you have ever observed Buzz after the Jackets score a touchdown, you will see that he is busy doing push-ups. I guess that doesn't sound so

"Buzz is very nervous and mischievous. He likes to be the center of attention."

Buzz

Tech's No. 1 Cheerleader

bad, but imagine doing push-ups in the heavy mascot suit while you trust numerous Swarm fans and cheerleaders to support you.

Recently, if you were around the Atlanta University Center, you may have seen our beloved Buzz representing Georgia Tech.

He was at Morehouse College's chapel shooting a commercial along with 12 other college mascots. The theme is a beauty pageant where fans actually vote for their favorite

Band

from page 28

Sperlich does suggest that the band wasn't completely innocent at the last tournament, which Tech won, but he's confident there won't be any major situations this year.

"We put our rep on the line for the band this year," said Sperlich.

Boylston emphasized that he wants the band at the tournament.

"Anything that contributes to the atmosphere is great," said Bolyston. "We were only concerned about supervision."

Meanwhile, the 7-0 icers are



By Andrew Saulters / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Buzz has been named an All-American mascot on numerous occasions. Buzz's true identity is secretly guarded until after his term is complete.

mascot.

That's right, Tech students. We, being a technological school so deeply involved and reliant upon our computers, can get another opportunity to show our school spirit one mouse click at a time. You can go online at www.capitalonebowl.com and vote for your favorite furry friend. The

winner will be announced on Jan. 1, 2003 at what used to be the Citrus Bowl. So, let's get on our computers and let the public know the truth—Buzz is truly the No. 1 mascot in the nation.

To vote for Buzz online: www.capitalonebowl.com.

building on the success of last year. Their only close contest was a 4-3

"We put our rep on the line for the band this year."

Roland Sperlich
Hockey Club Goalie

win over last season's College Hockey South champion Florida. The Yel-

low Jackets, who played Georgia in front of over 12,000 fans following a Thrashers game last year at Philips Arena, will play three games on the Philips Arena ice this season.

Those games include an October 19 face-off against Duke and a pair of contests against the Bulldogs (December 1 and March 28). Tickets in the \$35 section will be available for \$20, or student tickets for all three games are \$45.

For more information about the Tech ice hockey team, feel free to visit the website at www.gthockey.com.

Beyond the White and Gold

Ranting about the radio

By John Parsons
Senior Staff Writer

Is anyone out there really entertained by the stunts radio morning shows pull every morning? I ask this because they just seem to get the DJs, and stations for that matter, into more trouble than they're worth.

Take the case of Beau Duran, morning personality for KUPD-FM in Phoenix. He thought it would be funny to call the late Darryl Kile's widow, Flynn Kile, and ask if she had a date to the Cardinal's playoff game against the Diamondbacks last Thursday. Needless to say, she didn't think it was funny and neither did the Cardinals organization.

As you may recall, Darryl Kile was found dead in his hotel room back in June. It was later found that he had a blocked coronary artery and an enlarged heart. Kile's pre-season physical had missed his abnormally large heart. I don't think I need to tell most of you that this stunt was a terrible idea. If any of you reading this work for WREK, just file this under "Bad Idea." The DJ has now been fired, and rightly so.

This begs the question in my mind of why radio stations put up with the shock value morning show competitions. I hear people all the time complaining about the lack of music on morning radio. Never does anyone say, "I hope those DJs come up with a clever way to offend someone today. That would be hilarious."

On a light note, since baseball is over in my mind (meaning there will be absolutely no baseball commentary here for the remainder of the playoffs), I figure it is high time we decide on the greatest sports video game of all time. Below are my nominees along with why I feel they deserve the nod. Send your picks to best_sports_game@hotmail.com and we'll check out the results.

Tecmo Super Bowl

Is there any need for an explanation? This game left out everything wrong with football to create easily one of the best video games of all time. There are no penalties, no excruciating waits for instant replays, and no over-complicated playbooks. Plus, this game made legends out of Bo Jackson and Christian Okoye.

RBI Baseball

I'm staying old school for a little bit longer for this one. It gets nominated on the same principle as TSB. It simplified the game to make it faster paced and more fun to play.

NCAA Football 2003

This series gets better every year, so I'll nominate the newest one. If nothing else, with well over 100 teams, this game has endless replay value. (Can you win the Fiesta Bowl with Prairie View A&M? How about Troy State?) Over the last few years they've improved the game with respect to the personality of the teams. For example, you can't throw the ball 40 times a game and expect to win with Nebraska.

Hon. Mention: Bases Loaded 2, NHL '93, FIFA '98, NFL Blitz

football forecast

nique.net/footballforecast

Last week's winners:

John Rafferty

Demetria Mitchell

Andre Evans

Karl Guertin