Swim team welcomes new assistant, Kit Raulerson

The swim team continued to build their rising program by hiring on a talented and tested assistant from the University of Michigan, which is known for consistently being a highly ranked program. Raulerson has worked with swimmers at all levels, having coached Big 10 champions, U.S. National competition qualifiers, and even Olympians. Raulerson also helped with a broad variety of the coaching responsibilities at Michigan. Not only was he involved in the usual practices and competitions, he also went above and beyond, helping with travel preparations and alumni relations. Still, one of the most promising areas that Kit helped with that could certainly be useful to Tech is in the recruiting department. Hopefully, with his many talents, Kit Raulerson can help the growing program in their continued success.

Jason Collier Rocket-to-be

Jason Collier dominates the lanes with his rebounding power during one of many outstanding performances as a Yellow Jacket.

Collier from page 16

against new teammate Steve Francis, 1999, on the baseline at Tech or where bigger players beat him on the boards. Still, he is not that vulnera-ble as his offense and experience will shore those holes up soon. He also wants to win and is not afraid to take the big shot.

Collier had this to say on draft night, "I'm very excited and very happy. This is all so unbelievable. I figured I would go around this point, but I didn't know to whom. I'm very happy that Milwaukee selected me, and then happy that Houston traded for me. Milwaukee didn't tell me that they were going to trade me, but I had gotten a hint from my agent Richard Howell. Houston is a great organization. They won back-to back NBA championships in the 90's. I know all about Steve Francis after playing against him last year. The more I can play next to or behind Hakeem Olajuwon, and the more I can learn from him, the better off I will be. And I know I will learn a lot from Coach Tomjanovich. I talked to him, and he's a great guy and a great coach. I'm really looking forward to playing for him and for the Houston Rockets."

Hats off and good luck to Collier in his career. Also hoping to make a move to the big leagues is 6'6" swingman Jason Floyd. Floyd, an outstanding leaper and shooter has worked out in several camps and continues to fine-tune his game in hopes of making the league. When you think Floyd you have to think Steve Smith, a big guard who can shoot the lights out. Floyd has added good muscle weight while here at Tech, has an incomparable work ethic, and is a nice pickup for any squad. At press time, it was not certain whether he was drafted this night. Thanks for the memories and good luck to these two standouts in the future.
Collier drafted, traded away to Houston

By David Williams

Quickly becoming a regular

The 2000 NBA Draft was a dream come true for a lot of young men whose lifelong aspiration was playing basketball to make it to the NBA. One of these players is someone we are all familiar with on North Avenue, Jason Collier, who was selected 15th overall in the first round by the Milwaukee Bucks. Collier was then traded to Houston for Joel Przybila and a future first round pick.

It was the end of a long trip for Collier, who transferred from Indiana to become a Yellow Jacket, where he flourished under Coach Bobby Cremins. Collier was a key member of a talented group of Yellow Jackets, as Tech has had 12 players selected in the first round since 1983. Collier is also now one of 12 players currently in the NBA (New York natives Stephen Marbury and Kenyon Martin, John junto from New Jersey, Tom Hammonds, Matt Harpring, John Salley, Dennis Scott, Fred Carter Jr., Matt Moncrief and “the gline”, Dion Glover).

Collier, who is listed at 7 feet tall and weighs in at 250 pounds, averaged 17.1 points per game and 8.3 rebounds in his 55 games at Tech. How will he play in the NBA? Fans might ask! Very well is the reply.

Collier possesses a nice touch from the outside and is a very serious threat from beyond the arc. This will enable him to bring bigger and slower defenders out of the paint where he can either drive by them or create lanes for cutting teammates like Steve Francis and Curtis Mobley Robinson. Add in the fact that Collier is left-handed and can finish around the basket on a consistent basis, and you have a nice addition to anybody’s team. Collier might have been a better fit with the Buck as they are young, run well, and have some skilled players that could put the Bucks back in the right direction. Houston is a little more wide open and reliable with Steve “WonderKid” Francis, but playing with Hakeem Olajuwon never hurt anybody.

Collier will probably have to double his efforts in getting to the lane and getting his teammates’ confidence, he may become the third option on the team, with the advent of Barkley’s retirement.

Collier’s New Blood

Collier didn’t have to worry, as putting in a time of 45.72 to where he finally met his match on May 15th, 1999 in Durham, NC, and.. this was a sign of things to come.

Swarn didn’t have to worry, as putting in a time of 45.36 to where he finally met his match on May 15th, 1999 in Durham, NC, and.. this was a sign of things to come.

Automatic bids in track mean that the time is low enough that Tech was represented very well. Swarn finished his last year of eligibility with earning an automatic bid for his time of 45.36 seconds to make it to the finals.

In his last chance, he did not improve upon their best times over. He continued on to place second in the ACC times over. He continued on to place seventh in the 1996 Olympic triple jump trials, and participated in the 1995 Pan American Games.

Three months earlier, Collier was trading weight on his seven-foot tall frame. Collier can be a little suspect defensively, exemplified by the games where smaller players were able to go out and easily (witness “the dunk”,

See Collier, page 15

Photos from the ACC Tournament

NCAA outdoor championships give Tech one more chance to shine

By David Williams

Chase the front page

Tech was represented very well this year at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field championships, which were held May 31-June 3 at Duke’s Wallace Wade Stadium in Durham, North Carolina. Tech sent a total of nine athletes in six events with representation in both the men’s and women’s division.

While both teams did not improve upon their best finishes ever at the meet (4th and 3rd respectively), there were some outstanding individual performances, starting with rising star Bryan Searcy.

Searcy, a sophomore from Denver, Colorado, came on strong at the end of the year after battling many minor but troublesome injuries. He started by earning an automatic bid to the tournament by running a 45.36 second time in the 400 meters in a qualifying meet. Automatic bids in track mean that the time is low enough that you will automatically be invited. Provisional times or marks mean that you may be invited. Swarn didn’t have to worry, as this was a sign of things to come.

He registered a time of 45.38 seconds to make it to the finals of the 400 meter dash. He finally met his match putting in a time of 45.72 to finish in second place. He was garnished all-American honors, nothing to sneer at. Swarn should do nothing but get better next year as he attempts to prevent the injuries that slowed him down this year.

The 4X400 team floured with the help of Swarn as they made it to the finals of the Championship finishing sixth. The team entered the competition with the fourth fastest qualifying time in the nation but could not duplicate the feat. Round out the quartet was Michael Johnson, Aaron Slink, and Sharif Azim. Johnson, a senior who is also from Colorado, had a terrific season, posting a few wins and taking Tech deep into the Championships, a feat most probably didn’t think was possible with amateur-turned-professional Angelo Taylor. Hats off to Johnson and the rest of the squad.

Also competing was graduate student and Delaware native Malcolm Leason. Leason was red-shirted one year and thus was finishing his last year of eligibility this season. Tech coaches probably wished he had one more year, as he did an outstanding job winning the Atlantic Coast Conference Championship and the Jesse Owens Meet. Just making it to the NCAA Outdoors was a goal for Leason, and he finally made it in his last chance.

The mechanical engineering student finished with honors in his undergraduate pursuits and has done well in grad school. What else could top it off? How about All America Honors after finishing eighth in the final of the triple jump with a leap of 52 feet 6 inches. Props to Leason for doing it on and off the field.

Others competing for the blue and white

collier

Eric Oostman, though not as much

The Running Shoe

Scott, Swilling top the list of six athletes selected as new members

The Running Shoe

Scott, Swilling top the list of six athletes selected as new members

By Bob Kirschuk

Sports Editor

This month, a new class of six former Georgia Tech athletes was announced for fall induction into the Tech Hall of Fame. The class features both familiar names and unsung heroes, and spans different sports.

The new blood will be inducted on September 8, 2000, at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Heading this class is a face that has been no stranger to Tech fans since his departure. Former Tech basketball player Dennis Scott was an all around star in his time here. As a member of the 1990 “Lethal Weapon” team, Scott scored an ACC single season record 970 points en route to a conference record 28 wins and the ACC championship. These efforts earned him not only first-team All-American status, but also the Naismith National Player of the Year award, the top award attainable by a college player, named for the inventor of the game, Jim Naismith.

Dennis Scott’s successes did not end with his departure from Tech. Taken as a lottery pick in the 1990 NBA draft, he enjoyed several strong seasons with the Orlando Magic, where he played alongside the likes of Penny Hardaway and Shaquille O’Neal.

His professional career recently started a new chapter, with the 10 year league veteran now playing for the Vancouver Grizzlies.

Ken Swilling, though not as much of a household name, is probably one of the more slender members for Tech athletics. Swilling started at free safety for the 1990 UPI National Champions on football team, and still holds the Tech record for tackles by a defensive back. Another first team all-American can, he played for three seasons in the NFL and now resides in Toccoa, Georgia.

Golfer Bill Pieper (1960-62) was a team captain and an honorable mention All-American. Now retired, he has met with great success in amateur golf events throughout his life. These culminated recently with his selection as the 1999 Senior Player of the Year by the Georgia State Golf Association.

Diver Hank Beban was selected for his consistent success harkening back to Tech’s membership in the SEC. He was a vital part of Tech’s 1942 and 1948 championship teams. Tech was a consistent presence during his four year stay at Tech.

All-American triple jumper Rich Thompson (1987-91) set Tech records in the indoor and outdoor triple jump which remain intact to this day. He was a three year letter winner and was named to All-American honors seven times over. He continued on to place seventh in the 1996 Olympic triple jump trials, and participated in the 1995 Pan American Games.

Doug Creek (1988-91) pitched for the Jackets for four years without attaining any conference or national honors. Still, the southpaw has faced better than many such honored players in keeping a sport for himself in professional baseball. During his college career, he set a Tech record with 41 wins, a mark that still ranks second in ACC history. He is still active in the pros, currently on the roster for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

Tickets for the Georgia Tech Hall of Fame Banquet are available at $65 each and may be purchased by contacting Barry Deckweiler in the Alexander-Thorp Fun Office at 404-894-6124

Tech Hall of Fame

By Dale Russell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Center Jason Collier proved his prowess in basketball here at Tech. Now, he will take to the next level wearing the uniform of the Houston Rockets.