

QBs

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However, one thing made the decision a little easier. This past Monday, one of the lead candidates, Andy Hall quit the team. No comment was given from him as to why he left the team after fighting for the starting position the past three years. However, this sudden decision has shocked many fans who have been watching the quarterback struggle closely.

Andy Hall's departure, while unexpected, has given new hope to Camp, who now has the most experience on the squad. After holding the clipboard on the sidelines the past few years, he knows the system well and seems to know his reads as if they are second nature. While he does not possess the physical aspects of the other two contenders, he could easily claim the backup role and even receive some playing time.

On the other hand Bilbo, who is seen by many as the future of Tech football, may actually be hurt by Hall's departure. Hall was putting

"You would like to have a clear cut guy that jumps up there and becomes a hero, but right now we don't have anybody that fits in that category."

Chan Gailey
Head Football Coach

pressure on Bilbo and kept Bilbo attentive. One could see Bilbo having trouble with his reads, but could also see how hard he was working on them. As definitely the most athletic back, he easily has the strongest arm and now is the best scrambler



By Marques McMillan / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Head Coach Chan Gailey looks over spring practice last week. Gailey has to face another major challenge with the departure of 2001 backup quarterback Andy Hall who most likely will transfer to a I-AA school.

and option runner now that Hall is gone.

He is also the best at handing the ball off. Many of you out there may be thinking, how hard is it to simply hand a ball to a runningback? Well, the quarterback needs to deliver the ball in the same way in which he would fake the handoff on a play action. Bilbo sticks the ball out at the last second and delivers it in the same spot every time.

Right now, since there's so many backs of different sizes competing, it's hard to get a rhythm down, but once a starter is selected Bilbo's handoff will be flawless. It will leave the defenders on their heels well after the ball is hiked since they won't know whether to approach the line or back into zone coverage.

Suggs on the other hand has a forecasted handoff in which he sticks the ball as far away as possible from him almost immediately after the ball is hiked. Suggs has the passing down pat, however, is an immobile quarterback that needs guidance from the coaches. The transfer that at one point started at Tennessee has not played to the high caliber that was expected from him.

With the departure of Hall, the job is Bilbo's to lose. However, much can happen over the course of the remainder of spring practice and the entirety of summer practice. Those that were worrying about a two-quarterback system can be rest assured though.

"I'd like to find one right now," said Gailey, "and then we'll worry about trying to find two. We're not in that position right now."

But what type of position are they in now? Before, Tech had depth at the QB position. Now it seems as if it may be too thin. However, one talent Gailey has always had is to build his program around his players and not try to transform them. Whoever is selected as the starting quarterback will be in command of an offense that is tailor-suited to him. And that may be all that's needed for this team to be successful.

Upcoming Spring Practices

4/12 Practice	4 p.m.
4/13 Scrimmage	10:40 a.m.
4/16 Practice	4 p.m.
4/19 Practice	4 p.m.
4/20 Springfest*	11 a.m.
* - Held at Marist School	

were, why not support a team that wants and needs attention? A team that for some reason is in the national spotlight everywhere other than at Tech. There is more to golf than simply Tiger Woods. After all, before Woods mastered the Masters he was simply a student athlete at Stanford. Would you want to be one of those Stanford fans who missed out on their Tiger era?

The Rambling Wreck are in action next at Old North State Club in Uwharrie Point, N.C. for the ACC Championships from April 19-21. The NCAA East Regional comes to Georgia at the Ansley Golf Club's Settindown Creek in Roswell.

Crew

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chine.

On the women's side, Canavan points to first-year rower Denize Ozmen, a fourth-year chemical engineering student, as a rower with a large upside. Ozmen, who has the second best ergometer time on the women's team, moved quickly from the novice squad to the undefeated varsity four boat. Ozmen is one of two first-year rowers on the varsity team, the other being Jane Woodrow, a freshman from Tampa, Fla.

The Tech men's varsity team has also benefited from a couple of talented freshmen. Taylor Bronikowski, a native Georgian and industrial engineering major and John Hoffman, a freshman computer engineering major from Jacksonville, Fla. both stepped up to the varsity level immediately last fall. Their presence on the team has helped fill the void of a departed class that created a dominant varsity eight boat. Last year's varsity four men's boat (which actually featured several members of the eight boat) finished in fourth place at the IRA Regatta, meaning the varsity four team members were the fourth-best in the country.

"We beat Brown, Princeton, Yale and Harvard [traditional Division I rowing powerhouses]," said Canavan. "We gained a lot of respect after appearing in the *New York Times* and *Philadelphia Inquirer*."

While this year's men's varsity eight boat hasn't had the same success as last year's team, they have made large strides as spring marches on.

The varsity light weight squad raced a Dartmouth boat that finished third in the country last year and lost by only one length of a boat (about four seconds).

On the women's side, the team has been moving strong all season. Led by seniors Joy Parrott and Sarah Tourtellott, the team has the first women's varsity four boat to ever go undefeated heading into southern nationals and Dad Vail's.

The women's crew team hasn't seen this much success since the spring of 1999 when the women's heavy-weight four received silvers at nationals.

How does the Tech club team compete against teams with deep pockets? Richards and Canavan both agree on the formula for Tech crew success.

"I find that Georgia Tech rowers are better than other clubs out there because of the people who go to Tech," explained Richards, who was a member of the cross country, basketball and softball teams in high school. "We are determined and we want to win."

Canavan echoes the thoughts of Richards.

"Tech is easy in some ways to coach, the school has very intelligent student athletes," said Canavan. "You really have to want to be a rower because the course load is so demanding."

The varsity rowers make plenty of sacrifices to compete at the top level. The squad practices on the water five times a week with four extra practices on land lifting weights or doing cardiovascular routines. While the squads don't have as many of the early-morning crew practices as many imagine, the early practices do require some special preparations. The Tech shells, which cost about \$25,000, are equipped with lights and the club has special permits to row in the darkness of the 5 a.m. mornings.

Baxley, who has been rowing for two years, is happy to live through the few early practices.

"The time-commitment is worth it," said Baxley. "Seeing the courses perfectly buoyed and all the excitement at big events is a big rush."

As usual, the team has their sites set on the biggest event of them all, the Dad Vail's Regatta on May 10 and 11.

"The only one that really counts is the Dad Vail's Regatta," said Canavan. "We go to win, I wouldn't put a boat on the water if I didn't think it had a chance."

Golf

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23 freshman Chan Wongluekiet, No. 24 senior Matt Weibring, No. 50 freshman Nick Thompson make up the rest of the competing team.

"This group is solid from top to bottom and really is a five-man team," said Coach Heppler. "They all can go low and they all can pick one another up if someone is struggling."

And that's what will determine how well the Jackets finish the season. They need the support of their teammates as well as their fans to compete. So, instead of ripping apart how much of a disappointment last year's football and baseball squads

Beyond the White and Gold

Forecasting next MLB Home run king

By Derek Haynes
Sports Editor

It's never too early in a baseball season to project the statistics for the rest of the year. I've decided to go ahead and make my early season projections.

Curt Schilling: Strikeout King
Schilling, who fanned 17 batters against Milwaukee on Sunday, is currently on pace for 842 strikeouts. If he holds to his current pace, he will eclipse Old Hoss Radbourn's single-season strikeout record by 401 strikeouts. Also of note, Schilling is on pace for 65 wins.

Jacque Jones: New Homerun King

This Minnesota Twin, who has averaged 18 homeruns per season, is on pace to slam 97 homeruns. Jones, who regularly appears on ESPN's "Sports Center" for his highlight reel catches in the outfield,

can now expect to be compared with Barry Bond's measuring reel homeruns.

If he holds to his current pace, Curt Schilling will eclipse Old Hoss Radbourn's single-season strikeout record by 401 strikeouts.

Carlos Guillen: Ducks on the pond

Guillen, who is usually known as Alex Rodriguez's replacement in Seattle, should eclipse Hack Wilson's RBI record of 191 easier than failing a physics test. Guillen is on pace for 227 RBIs, a little bit more than the 53 the 180-pound slugger

hit home last season.

Detroit Tigers: Hockey anyone?

The Tigers, who after starting 0-6 are on pace for a league-record 162 losses, are on pace to score 2.3 runs per game. The Detroit Red Wings of the NHL average 3.08 goals per game.

Minnesota Twins: Is this wif-fleball?

Jacque Jones isn't the only Twin donating baseballs to the fans in the cheap seats. As a team, the Twins are on pace to smash 432 longballs. On average, each Twin will hit 48 homeruns this season.

Mike Williams: Leading the Pirates to the top

Pittsburgh, who's team was as bad in 2001 as their stadium is beautiful, has enjoyed more success this season. Williams, on pace for 97 saves, is leading the charge. Williams had 22 saves last campaign.

Intramural Notebook

with Jack B. Nimble

Recovering from tourney weekend

Police moved quickly to quiet the wild crowds this weekend after another wild table tennis and badminton tournament at the SAC. While school officials have declined to comment on the actual damage, students reported seeing golf carts overturned on the steps of the Woodruff Residence Hall and general drunkenness.

Co-Rec Volleyball Top 10

1	Pi Kappa Phi
2	Short Bus CR
3	M5M
4	Can't Beat This
5	FIJI
6	TKE Co-Rec
7	It's How You Play
8	WCF
9	Miss Ceo's Psychic...
10	Delta Chi

Men's 3 on 3 Top 10

1	Beta Theta Pi
2	FIJI
3	Pike
4	Fastees
5	Phi Gam
6	Sigma Nu
7	Bongo Heads
8	Lambda Chi
9	TKE
10	Airballs

The winners, Albert Susilo in badminton, Fong and Susilo in doubles badminton, and Mike Hadsell in table tennis had to be flown to a remote location while order was restored to campus.

Susilo and Hadsell will participate in a ticker-tape parade Monday down Bobby Dodd. Drinks and light snacks will be served.

No. 1 Tech golf looks for repeat title at ACC tourney

By Derick Stanger
Assistant Sports Editor

This year one of the best teams that Georgia Tech can claim as their own has somehow managed to slip by undetected. While many Yellow Jackets were focusing on a crumbling football team, a youthful basketball team or an emerging baseball team, not many people have noticed what has been going on at the links. Unbeknownst to many, Tech currently holds the No. 1 ranking in the NCAAs and has done so practically since the season started way back in September. This is the team that has four of its players ranked among the nations top 25 and a fifth in the top fifty.

It is not like this is a fluke either. This team has been atop the rankings for many years now. This is the team that has produced PGA greats David Duval and Stewart Cink, not to mention the emerging stars of Matt Kuchar and Bryce Molder. They have won four consecutive tournaments, a feat that Tech as

a team has never been able to accomplish. What else could be expected from the team? They have accomplished near perfection. In fact they have been criticized for playing so well.

"Some people say we're peaking too early," said Coach Bruce Heppler. "So what do you do, tell the guys to go out and lose, not try to win? I'm sorry, I can't do that. I think you go out and play your best at all times. They're learning how to win and I can't believe that is bad."

And they definitely have learned how to win. So far this season the Jackets have won five of their eight matches outright. Their five winning performances tied the NCAA record for wins in a season since the NCAA limited the number of matches allowed per season. The Jackets will only play eleven tournaments

this year, and that's including the NCAA and ACC tournaments.

So far this year they have already defeated the competition at the Carpet Capital Collegiate, Long Cove Invitational, Waikoloa Intercollegiate in Hawaii, Puerto Rico Classic and Las Vegas Collegiate. The Jackets came through with especially strong victories in Puerto Rico and Las Vegas, where their combined lead over their closest opponents was 25 and 19, respectively.

"But they still know that while this [winning] is great, there is still one more out there [the NCAA Championship]," Heppler said. "And hopefully, what we're doing now will help us when the big dance comes around."

But even before the Jackets reach the NCAAs they will have to endure and defend the ACC Championship. The ACC is by far the hardest golf conference, as it has the three top-rated teams in the nation in Tech, Wake Forest and Clemson, as well as NC State, who is among the top 20 teams in the Golfweek/Sagarin Collegiate Rankings.

In order to do so, they will have to rely on their leadership from top-performers No. 5 junior Troy Matteson and No. 17 senior Kris Mikkelsen.

Mikkelsen is the consistent factor the team needs. While Matteson can have extremely explosive performances, he also has had disastrous weekends like his recent 11-over-par finish at U.S. Collegiate Championships where he placed No. 47. On the plus side, Matteson finished in first in three consecutive tournaments during the Jackets' winning streak, an amazing achievement at any level of competition. Mikkelsen has been doing great in his own right, but can't seem to break away from consistently finishing around tenth and move up into lead contention. No.

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er and a quality reliever. Burks had the first complete game shutout for a Tech pitcher since 1998 and also leads the team with three saves. Kyle Schmidt has worked his powerful fastball and hammer curveball into a weekend spot in the Jackets rotation. Jeff Watchko has made the transition from closer to starter a smooth one by pitching very efficiently, avoiding walks, and drawing a constant stream of ground balls. Chris Goodman, a converted shortstop, started the season as the closer but after struggling early has worked his way into a solid mid-week starting role.

"I think they've all done great," said Hall. "Bakker's been what I thought he would be, a guy that's just consistent and gives us a chance to win every Friday night, and the

rest of the guys have all contributed in different ways, whether it's been Watchko, Burks, Goodman, Schmidt. All those guys have contributed."

Relief Pitching (C): Victor Menocal took over the closer role when the team needed someone to step in and take it, earning two saves in the process, both in dramatic fashion. Philip Perry started the season as a starter, but an arm injury sidelined him for several weeks. Since then, Perry has worked his way back into starting shape by working very effectively out of the bullpen, earning two saves as well. Freshmen Jeff Kindel, Drew Taylor and Nick Wagner and sophomore Aaron Walker have seen a fair amount of action out of the bullpen as well.

"We've made a lot of the games that we've won way too interesting late. That's something we've got to continue to work on," explained

Hall. "The thing that I like about both of these guys [Watchko and Perry] is they're experienced guys and they throw strikes. Those other guys have got to get comfortable throwing strikes, be able to handle the pressure of being in there late in the game when the score's probably tight. I've been pleased with what Victor's been able to do, but it's tough for a guy to come from shortstop and go on the mound and pitch. We've got to get more and more of those freshman contributing."

Defense (C): The defense has been the biggest weakness on the team thus far as the Jackets have committed more errors than would be expected from a top ten team. Their defense is the one thing that could hold them back from competing for a national title. 24 percent of the runs that Tech has given up have been unearned and many of those have occurred in late and critical

situations. Tech also does not turn as many double plays as other teams in the top ten which could help them escape potentially big innings unscathed. Against lesser teams this is not an issue, but against ranked opponents and the level of competition that the Jackets will face in postseason competition, giving up those extra outs and extra runs could make the difference between winning the national title and going home empty handed.

"I think the area that we have to improve on is defense. We've made too many errors," commented Hall. "Our fielding percentage is in the .960's. Ideally, I'd like to see that get up to .970. I think that's one area we need to keep working at to get better."

Overall team performance (A-): The starting pitching (23-2, 2.85 ERA) has been strong all season as four of the Jackets starters are in the

top nine in the ACC in ERA. The offense has been almost as good, scoring 8.48 runs per game while batting .316 and stealing 74 bases. The bullpen has been slightly above average (6-2, 4.16, 9 saves) but has a tendency towards giving up runs in the late innings to make many games closer than they should have been. The defense has been a real area of concern as unearned runs and errors have been an ongoing problem. Hall will be keeping an eye on the team's progress as he looks towards the rest of the season.

"I still don't think we've totally gelled as a team. I don't think as a coach you're ever totally satisfied. As far as I'm concerned, I think we're sitting pretty good right now, but we've got a long way to go, and obviously some tougher opponents to play, so we'll have to keep getting better to play that type of competition."

Yellow Jackets Statline



Next week the Nique gets personal with punter Dan Dyke, one of the most athletic and academic punters in the nation.

U.S. Collegiate Champ. Team Results (Tucson, AZ 3/7)

Fin. Top 10 Scores

1	Texas	278	290	291	859
2	Arizona	290	287	284	861
3	Oklahoma State	281	296	286	863
4	TCU	289	297	283	869
5	Georgia Tech	282	300	289	871
6	Arizona State	286	294	295	875
7	Houston	280	301	301	882
8	UNLV	296	300	290	886
9	Northwestern	289	311	287	887
10	Kent State	297	304	302	903

U.S. Collegiate Championships Indiv. (Tucson, AZ 3/7)

Fin.	Top 10	School	Scores			
1	Hunter Mahan	Okla. St.	62	73	69	204
2	Chris Nallen	Arizona	65	73	68	206
3	John Klauk	Texas	67	70	71	208
4	J.J. Wall	Texas	67	71	71	209
5	Tom Johnson	N'western	67	75	69	211
6	Andy Doeden	TCU	70	73	70	213
7	Matt Weibring	Ga. Tech	69	73	72	214
8	Par Nilsson	Okla. St.	70	75	71	216
9	*Scott Ferguson	Houston	72	73	72	217
10	Chez Reavie	Arizona St	71	74	73	218
	Ben Flam	Arizona St	69	79	70	218
	Nicholas Thompson	Ga. Tech	68	78	72	218

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Recent Softball Scores and Upcoming Games

Date	Opponent	Location	Result
3/26	Maryland	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 3-0
3/26	Maryland	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 4-0
3/30	Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 5-1
3/30	Virginia	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 3-1
4/03	Ga. Southern	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 7-3
4/03	Ga. Southern	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 4-0
4/05	North Carolina	Chapel Hill, N.C.	4:00 PM ET
4/05	North Carolina	Chapel Hill, NC	W, 1-0
4/05	North Carolina	Chapel Hill, N.C.	W, 5-4
4/06	Maryland	Chapel Hill, N.C.	W, 5-1
4/06	North Carolina	Chapel Hill, N.C.	W, 8-5
4/07	Virginia	Chapel Hill, N.C.	L, 1-0
4/07	Virginia	Chapel Hill, N.C.	L, 10-5
4/09	Chattanooga	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 5-1
4/09	Chattanooga	Atlanta, Ga.	W, 2-0
4/13	Florida State	Tallahassee, Fla.	1:00 PM ET
4/13	Florida State	Tallahassee, Fla.	3:00 PM ET
4/18	Mississippi State	Starkville, Miss.	3:00 PM ET
4/18	Mississippi State	Starkville, Miss.	5:00 PM ET
4/20	Jacksonville State	Jacksonville, Ala.	12:00 PM ET
4/20	Jacksonville State	Jacksonville, Ala.	2:00 PM ET
4/24	Samford	Birmingham, Ala.	4:00 PM ET
4/24	Samford	Birmingham, Ala.	6:00 PM ET
4/26	Mercer	Atlanta, Ga.	3:00 PM ET
4/26	Mercer	Atlanta, Ga.	5:00 PM ET
4/28	Georgia	Atlanta, Ga.	2:00 PM ET
4/28	Georgia	Atlanta, Ga.	4:00 PM ET

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whole park.

"I think offensively our infield has been good. Menocal just set a record. Eric Patterson has been great," said Hall. "All the guys that we've played at first base have contributed from time to time. Jason Perry was big for us over the weekend. He started pretty hot, went cold, and now is hot again."

Catcher (A): Tyler Parker has lived up to his preseason all-America status both offensively and defensively. Parker leads the team in

RBI's, is second in slugging, has added the stolen base to his offensive arsenal, and has mowed down five of the twelve base runners daring enough to try him. Mike Nickeas has done an excellent job of backing up Parker behind the plate as well as filling in at both first and third from time to time. Nickeas has thrown out three of the eight base runners that have tried to run on him.

"I think our catchers have been outstanding. The biggest thing for me at the catcher position is what they do defensively and both those guys have caught well," said Hall. "I

think it's not easy for teams to run on us. Our catchers throw well enough that people aren't too anxious to run on them. Offensively, Parker's a leading RBI guy. I think he's done real well. Nickeas in limited roles has gone in there and caught well and swung the bat well."

Starting Pitching (A+): Kyle Baker has been the Friday ace all season and has performed masterfully as the staff anchor with his pinpoint control, overpowering fastball, and his extreme competitiveness. Brian Burks has been both a quality start-

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Crew

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By Scott Meuleners / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Tech men's club crew team in action at Lake Lanier in Gainesville. Both the men's and women's squads have shots at a national club title.

"All the varsity teams give their shirts to the winners," explained Bob Baxley, a member of the Tech varsity eight boat. "Club teams usually don't do it except for the big events."

Crew tradition states that the losers in an event have to give up their shirts to the champion. However, because most of the teams that the Jackets race against aren't varsity squads, the shirts aren't given up except for events like the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association (SIRA) Regatta and Dad Vail's (the Division II, III, and club national championship). In these events the shirt rule is actually written into the regatta rules. If a Tech boat wins a national title, as Baxley expects to happen, that could mean a lot of shirts. T-shirt betting is done on occasion during the early regattas, but it is up to the teams to decide at the starting line.

"We're talking 60 shirts if a Tech boat wins at nationals," said Baxley.

What makes the success of both the men's and women's squad even more amaz-

ing in a sport where the bigger the athlete the better, is the fact that the Tech varsity eight boat could compete as a light weight boat (all rowers under 160 pounds for men and 130 pounds for women) too.

"It seems like we're competing against guys twice as big as us," said Baxley, who weights in at 160 pounds.

Tech Head Coach Rob Canavan wasn't that impressed with the men's team at the beginning of the season. Canavan, in his ninth year at the helm of the Tech Club Crew Team, has coached several national team rowers at Tech. Canavan himself rowed for the national team after competing collegiately at Temple. While this team is talented, they don't have as many stand-out performers.

"In the fall, I told them they were the most difficult team I had to coach, but they worked hard," said Canavan, who earned his masters degree at Temple University. "They are very diligent workers, they just tried harder. It's been fun because it's been a project, they've really blossomed in the past several months."

The success of both the men's

and women's teams can largely be credited to the team's overall size with a record 80 rowers hitting the placid waters of Lake Lanier each week. The Tech men have lost to only one boat out of 35 in varsity eight races this season, and both the men's and women's teams haven't lost in varsity four. The women are almost as successful in varsity eight races, as they haven't taken first in the event only three times.

"Normally, we only have one or two novice men's boats. This year we have three men's boats," said Baxley.

Another reason for the recent success of the women's team has been Head Coach Ethan Johnson.

The former Florida State rower has managed to coach and build oar and boat racks at the Tech boat house while working and taking graduate classes at Emory.

"[He] has put his heart and soul into coaching," said Anne-Marie Richards, a

third-year international affairs major and one of the top women rowers on the team.

Richards also credits Tech's novice program for much of the team's success.

"Tech has a really good program, the novice level integrates you into the sport really easily," said the Madison, Conn. native. "You get a taste of the sport."

While the sheer numbers of the Tech crew team are very intimidating to other southern schools, there is one rower that stands out from the large team. Jordan Smith, a fourth year civil engineering major from Santa Rosa, Calif. is that rower. Smith stands 6'7" and weighs 220 pounds with a 2000 meter rowing time of 6:05, only five seconds slower than the national team mark of 6:00.

Canavan, who calls Smith a "diamond in the rough," feels that the native Californian could move up to another level.

"Jordan has a lot of raw talent, he has the God-given ability to be an Olympian," said Canavan, whose 2 1/2 year-old son Bobby recently rowed 800 meters on the ERG ma-

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"It feels good to come home at 8 a.m. realizing that you have already accomplished more today than most people will the whole day."

Anne-Marie Richards
GT Women's Crew member

Baseball Midseason Report

No. 4 Joltin' Jackets thriving with youth, solid pitching staff

By Al Przygocki
Contributing Writer

Now that the Jackets have played 33 of their 56 regular season games, it's time to check on their grades so far. Tech's record is now 29-4, 6-2 in ACC Play. The offense and the starting pitching have been real strengths of the team all season with the relief pitching and the defense the only concerns.

Outfield (A): Jeremy Slayden has led the way in right field, pacing the team in home runs, slugging percentage, and OPS, as well as playing a solid right field. Left fielder Matt Murton started off hot, got into a slump, and has since blasted his way out of it, raising his batting average to .307 to along with 12 stolen bases. Brandon Boggs won the starting job in center field to start the season, but the young switch-hitter has cooled off, leaving room

for Wes Rynders to get more playing time. Rynders, a three year starter known mostly for his excellent range in center field, has adjusted well to playing off the bench and has been able to hit his way into a larger role.

"I think that as a unit they've been very good. Rynders in limited roles has played great," said Head Coach Danny Hall. "Boggs, for a freshman, has done well. Murton started slow, but lately has been outstanding for us, particularly the last two conference weekends. There's not a whole lot more you can say about Jeremy Slayden. For a freshman, he has been outstanding."

Infield (B): Senior shortstop Victor Menocal has led the way offensively, sporting a .426 batting average and leading the team in seven offensive categories to go along with his recently ended 30-game hitting streak that set a school record. Eric Patterson has grown into a huge

offensive threat at the top of the lineup with a .449 on-base percentage and a team-leading 19 stolen bases while also providing spectacular range at second base. Four-year starter Matthew Boggs has made the difficult transition from second base to third base this season, and while Boggs looked shaky early on in the season while making some uncharacteristic errors, he has really grown into the third base position and is able to charge bunts and slow rollers with ease and is also adept at starting the double play. Jason Perry has split time between first base, right field, and the designated hitter positions but has been able to provide left-handed power hitting from all of them. Perry went through a slump but has been able to break out of it by becoming less pull-conscious and trying to use the

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By Marques McMillan / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tech, shown here in their home win over UGA, haven't lost at the new Russ Chandler Stadium. Tech beat their first Top 25 team in Auburn last week.

atlanta thrashers numbers challenge



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

last week's winner

Congratulations to **Jon Sims**. He was the first to correctly answer that 1.23 is the ERA and .429 is the batting average of Tech shortstop Victor Menocal.

SPORTS

Technique • Friday, April 12, 2002

What are they doing?

The game is very popular overseas but rarely played in the states. What is this mystery club sport? Next Week

Young and gunnin'

The No. 4 GT baseball squad is winning with rookies and pitching. Al Przygocki gives his midseason grades. Page 35



by the numbers

9-0

Record for the Men's Tennis team at the Bill Moore Tennis Center on Tech campus. Six of the games were against top 50 teams. Away from Tech the Jackets are 3-8.

22

Rank of Auburn by the ESPN rankings. No. 4 Georgia Tech beat Auburn 9-5 on Tuesday and earned their first victory against a ranked opponent. They now have a 1-3 record against Top 25 teams.

39

Wins by the Jacket Softball team. With their two victories against Chattanooga on Wednesday the Jackets surpassed their previous high of 38 wins in a season, which was set during the 1991 season.

100.1

Efficiency rating of ex-Tech quarterback Andy Hall in the nine games that he received playing time. He completed 19 passes for one touchdown and two interceptions.

atlanta thrashers number challenge

hint: golf top 25

4

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
BB at Maryland	4/12-4/14
TM vs. Florida St.	4/12
SB at Florida St.*	4/13
BB vs. Auburn	4/16
TW at ACC Championship	4/18
TM at ACC Championship	4/18
SB at Mississippi State*	4/18

* Double Header

BB - Baseball, TW - Women's Tennis
SB - Softball, TM - Men's Tennis

QB Battle: Down to two

Bilbo, Suggs to battle for QB slot



By Marques McMillan / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



By Bill Allen / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

A.J. Suggs (left), a drop-back passer who transferred to the Jackets after starting four games for Tennessee in 2000, is competing with Damarious Bilbo (right) for the starting quarterback job after leading the scout team last season. On the right, Bilbo looks for running room against Navy last season. Bilbo, a muscular 6'0", 200 lbs., received a medical redshirt after a recurring thumb injury sidelined him for much of the 2001 season.

By Derick Stanger
Assistant Sports Editor

There are many types of quarterbacks that can lead a team through a successful season. There are the quarterbacks that have unheralded skill; those that can place the ball anywhere they want and are smart on the field, basically the Joe Montana's and Dan Marino's. Then there's the Jim Miller style, where the players aren't amazing but they have enough talent to get by simply because they do not make any mistakes.

Next comes the Brett Favre's of football. These are the quarterbacks that makes quite a few mistakes but simply have such a gun of an arm

that the mistakes are nullified. And finally there are those quarterbacks out there that hardly even throw the ball. The Eric Crouch's are more of a third back than anything else. At this point in the spring training season, Tech would gladly take any one of these types of quarterbacks to lead their team.

At the beginning of spring practice, four players were in the trenches fighting for the sole starting job at Quarterback. But all four of them refused to step forward to stake their claim. No one clearly rose from the crowd and proved that they were clearly the best choice. What will make this an even harder decision for Head Coach Chan Gailey is that each player has their own unique

talents and flaws.

Redshirt Freshman Damarious Bilbo clearly has the edge with athletic ability and arm strength. Redshirt Junior Andy Hall has been with the Jackets the longest and knows the system well. A.J. Suggs has the most experience starting a game, which he got from Tennessee before he transferred to Tech. And finally there's the redshirt junior Brian Camp, who switched from fullback to quarterback this spring, but was the sideline signal quarterback.

"You would like to have a clear cut guy that jumps up there and becomes a hero," said Gailey. "But right now we don't have anybody that fits in that category. We're letting everybody have a chance and

we'll see how it shakes out."

So far Coach Chan Gailey has not made any sort of pecking order for the quarterbacks. Every practice, the four athletes rotate the starting assignments and each player's number of snaps vary solely on how well they are performing that day.

The Race for QB

Damarious Bilbo	Redshirt Freshman, 6'3" 200 lbs.
	The Dick Butkus Football Network National High School Player of the Year
A. J. Suggs	Redshirt Junior 6'4" 220
	Transfer from Tennessee

See QBs, page 31

Club crew team leaving big wake



By Ian Clark / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Members of the Georgia Tech Crew Team prepare to put the boats into the water. The boats are a major expense, costing \$25,000 each.

By Derek Haynes
Sports Editor

This past weekend, the Tech crew team found themselves in a very uncomfortable position, a position the squad hadn't experience for all of the 2001-02 season.

Second place.

The Tech crew team didn't finish in first last weekend at the John Hunter Regatta in Gainesville, but that hasn't been a regular occurrence for the 2001-02 season. The men's squad has won the team points at every event this season. The women's team has been doing almost as well, with two out of four women's point titles so far this season. Both squads have undefeated varsity four boats and very competitive varsity eight squads. As a whole, the squad has won three out of four regatta point titles, losing only to Georgia at the John Hunter Regatta.

Too bad the squads weren't competing against varsity competition—they'd never have to buy shirts again.

See Crew, page 34

Sallinger and Tech softball set school record

With doubleheader victories over Chattanooga, the Tech softball team broke the 1991 team's season record with their 39th win.

Freshman pitcher Jessica Sallinger also set the school record with her 18th win of the season. Winning the first game (5-1) and the second (2-0), Tech next looks for a victory versus FSU on Saturday to extend the record.

Sinotte heaves javelin on route to new GT mark

With a throw of 227 feet and one inch, Chris Sinotte broke the record in the javelin set by Tom Smith in 1989, qualifying him to throw for an NCAA championship.