Progress report: Tennis results mixed

By Katie Neal
Sports Editor

The No. 14 Georgia Tech men’s team hosted No. 20 South Carolina in a non-conference match on Wednesday afternoon.

Senior Roger Anderson was the only singles winner for the squad as the Georgia Tech men’s tennis team lost its third-straight match in the loss to South Carolina.

Tech had won three-straight matches prior to falling to both No. 11 Duke and Wake Forest last week, while South Carolina had won two in a row prior to losses to Auburn and 16th-ranked Alabama.

The Jackets and Gamecocks met for the twenty-ninth time in history with South Carolina leading the series at 24-4.

Senior Roger Anderson and junior West Nott have displayed continuous solid performances so far this season for the men’s side. Anderson, who is currently ranked at No. 26 in the nation, grabbed single’s wins against the Duke and Wake Forest, beating Duke’s No. 24 Phillip King by scores of 6-1 and 6-4. Anderson is second on the team with a 21-6 overall singles record.

Nott recorded a pair of victories, including a 6-0, 4-6, 6-2 win over Duke’s Jason Zimmermann and a marathon 7-5, 5-7, 7-6 (3) win over Wake’s Mike Murray, both at No. 4 singles. Nott leads the team with a 14-2 dual match record and is 20-8 overall for singles action.

On the Tech women’s tennis front, the No. 21 ranked Tech team picked up its ninth-straight victory of the season by grabbing a 6-1 win over Maryland on Sunday afternoon in College Park, MD.

The Lady Jackets (12-2 overall, 4-0 ACC) had their first victory of the day with a win from doubles partners Mysti Morris and Lyndsay Shosho, as they defeated the Terrapins’ team of Emily Marker and Chloe Chavardes by a score of 8-6.

The Lady Jackets also won its second match in the No. 3 position in doubles on the day by default. Morris, and fellow teammates Jaime Wong, and Kelly Anderson, all took home wins in the singles category. Morris won the first set in a tiebreaker and the second in a 6-3 win.

Wong had her seventh-straight victory when she defeated Maryland’s No. 2 single’s player, Emily Marker, with the scores of 6-4 and 6-1.

The Lady Jacket’s next home match will be on Saturday, April 5, at 11 a.m. at the Bill Moore Tennis Center. The men’s next home match will be on Sunday, April 6, as they take on Middle Tennessee State at 1 p.m.
## Crossword Answers

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From Page 23

### Southern brawl moves to ice

The Georgia Tech Ice Hockey team wrapped up its season with a game at Philips Arena against UGA. The team played after an Atlanta Thrasher’s game, resulting in one of the largest crowds of the season.
By John Parsons
Senior Staff Writer

I went to the Braves home opener this past Monday for the fourth consecutive year. Unfortunately, they lost this year for the first time in an opening day game I’ve attended.

OK, they didn’t just lose. They got pounded by the Expos 10-2, and Vlad Guerrero wasn’t even in the lineup because of his suspension.

I think I could’ve enjoyed the game despite the bad result if the Braves had just played like a big league team. The four walks in the eighth inning and three errors made it painful to watch though.

It got downright comical when Chipper made a slightly errant throw home from left that Javy made into a more difficult play than it was. Then Javy tried to throw out the runner advancing to third and Castilla falls to the ground blocking the throw, only to get up and frantically spin in circles trying to find the ball laying at his feet.

Finally, Furcal showed him where the ball was and sanity was restored. I think mainly because the Expos were tired of running the bases.

There was nothing funny about the top of the first, with Maddux getting pounded for four runs on four hits to start the season. Even the first batter caused problems. Eny Fisher tripled into the right field corner and Sheffield crashed into the wall trying to make the catch. Thankfully, I was in the hot dog line at the time and missed the collision.

Speaking of the hot dog line, it was a welcome, sunny escape from the chilly shadows behind the plate and up the third baseline. A fifty-degree temperature with 17-18 mph winds wasn’t exactly my idea of great opening day weather.

It didn’t rain, but at least with rain I’d have had an excuse to leave, although the Expos scoring three runs in the eighth to open the game up to an 8-1 margin was reason enough for my party to call it a day.

So what is my point in all this? Let’s compare this to the Jackets baseball home opener this year, a 13-4 rout of George Washington.

The Jackets pounded out 13 runs on 14 hits and even hit a couple homers.

Kyle Bakker was fairly sharp as well, striking out seven batters in six innings. All of this is to say you should save your money. Go see Tech baseball instead of the Braves.

For one thing, the Jackets are being run like a program trying to win a championship. As long as the Braves are owned by AOL, I can’t see them being run in any way except to field a team just good enough to get fans to come to the games.

Most successful sports franchises are teams that are some insanely rich guy’s hobby, like the Yankees, or even the Ted Turner-owned Braves.

So here’s hoping that AOL can unload the Braves soon—maybe there’s another guy that got rich off Home Depot that can buy the team.

Until then I’m going keep suggesting to AOL that they take that money they waste on sending AOL CDs in these nice little tins to college students with Ethernet connections and use it instead to get a (take your pick) third baseman, a first baseman, a catcher, a starter and/or a reliever.
A recently emerging powerhouse on Tech campus has been the Georgia Tech men’s lacrosse team. The team as a whole has been improving over the last few years, aided by the increase of interest in lacrosse from the high school level and incoming college athletes.

As the interest in lacrosse has increased, the lack of growth of varsity teams has been a determining factor in the growth of club teams. With the help of US Lacrosse, a national governing body who has helped in creating varsity programs for college club teams, the Tech team has entered an elite category that is categorized USLIA or as the “US Lacrosse Intercollegiate Associates Program.”

With US Lacrosse’s assistance, a “virtual varsity” program can be created for college club team in instances where there is no varsity lacrosse team on campus.

Tech competes in the SELC, or Southeastern Conference at the A level, which is the highest level for their division. This conference is for college club teams who have elected to play by Division 3 rules, regulations, and eligibility requirements.

Tech’s recent improvements and hard work paid off last Friday night as the Jackets defeated the Virginia Tech Hokies in a resounding 14-4 victory. Tech jumped out to a 7-0 lead and by the end of the third period, were leading 11-1.

“The attack played great today, especially early in the ball game. Bob Jaeger, Sean Dvoren and Gary Bridges, all three of them played a great game,” said Georgia Tech Head Coach Ken Lovic.

For the Jackets, Bab Jaeger and Will Oakley had three goals a piece, Gary Bridges had two goals, Sean Dvoren had put in two as well, and Jim Pallotta, TJ Losier, and Colin Wallace all contributed with one goal a piece for the game.

“It was a great effort tonight. This was the first game where we put together four straight quarters. The players were really focused the whole week,” said Lovic.

“It’s good to get this monkey off our back. Virginia Tech is a strong program and they definitely have been a handful for us the last few years. So it’s good to get a win,” added Lovic.

Overall, the men’s lacrosse team is 7-3 for regular season games, with losses to Florida State, University of Florida, and Colorado.

The Jackets next game in Atlanta will be Friday, April 4 at 7 PM against the cross town rivals of Emory University. The team will then hit the road for trips to Auburn and Athens to take on the Auburn Tigers on April 12 and the University of Georgia Bulldogs on April 17.
Baseball’s O wings a two-way threat

By Al Przygocki
Senior Staff Writer

Micah Owings is not your average freshman. Not by any stretch of the imagination.

Owings had an amazing high school career. At Gainesville High School, he hit 25 home runs in his senior season, a state single-season record. Along the way he hit 69 career home runs, one shy of the national prep record, and took home two state titles. Oh, and he pitched a little, too.

That senior season saw Owings go 12-1, with a 1.03 ERA, while striking out 121 and walking just three in 75 innings.

With that kind of talent, people take notice. Important people. The kind of people who will pay you big money to play baseball. The Colorado Rockies drafted Owings in the second round of last year’s draft.

Unfortunately for the Rockies, the two sides were unable to come to terms. Owings took it all in stride, cause I struggled a little bit coming back on the mound, in the batter box, in the field, and dealing with other situations–has made a difference.

As far as what the future may hold, the sky’s the limit. In two years, Owings becomes eligible again for the MLB draft. So, would he rather make the majors as a pitcher, a hitter, or both?

Owings says, “That’s been something I’ve been dealing with since high school. People keep asking me, what do you want to do? Hit or Pitch? I don’t know. It’s one of the hardest decisions I’ve ever had to deal with.”

“Right now,” Owings added, “I’m just trying to put myself in the position to have the opportunity to do both. I’m just working at both, trying to do the best that I can to have that opportunity either way, and if I do get the opportunity to do both, that’s definitely a consideration to me. It’s hard to give up one or the other.”
by the numbers

3
Number of consecutive games dropped by the Tech baseball team during a recent trip to play the Hurricanes of the University of Miami. The Jackets righted the ship with a win over Winthrop Wednesday and take on UNC this weekend.

2
Number of school records set at the Florida Relays by the Tech Track and Field teams. Chaunte Howard cleared a school record and placed first in the Invitational high jump, and sophomore Ian Brewer surpassed his own Tech mark in the hammer throw.

3
Number of occasions that senior swimmer Shilo Ayalon has been named an All-American in his swimming career. He is scheduled to swim the men’s 1500-meter free-style in the National Championships, as is fellow NCAA qualifier Sam Morgan, who took 18th in the 1650 free last weekend.

SPORTS

Marvelous Micah
What does a pitcher, a first baseman, and a designated hitter have in common? A lot, especially since they are all the same guy. Page 31

Tomahawk choppin’
How bout them Braves? If the season opener is to be trusted, they leave a lot to be desired. Check out Beyond the White and Gold. Page 29

No. 8 UGA sweeps softball
Jacket’s offence, three-hit game pitched by Jessica Sallinger not enough to stop the Bulldogs’ batting power

By John Parsons
Senior Staff Writer

The Georgia Tech softball team suffered a tough 1-0 loss to No. 8 Georgia (38-5) Wednesday in the second game of a doubleheader at the Bulldogs’ Women’s Athletics Complex. Georgia won the first game, 6-0.

Winning 12 of its last 15 games before taking on the Bulldogs, the Tech softball team faced one of its toughest competitors when they played intrastate rivals Georgia (36-5).

Tech trail the all-time record with Georgia by an 8-2 count, despite splitting the doubleheader here in Atlanta last year. The rivals first met in 1997, which was the Bulldog’s first season of competition, with UGA posting an 8-2 victory at the Georgia State Invitational.

In this last meeting, Tech’s sophomore pitcher, Jessica Sallinger, kept the Bulldogs hitless through the fifth inning of the second game, until a run-scoring fielder’s choice in the sixth allowed UGA to score the game’s only run.

The Tech offense was slow into the second game, with great pitching being the major focal point of both teams throughout the game. Sallinger had seven strike-outs and Georgia’s Michelle Green struck out six of the first nine Tech batters that came up against her.

Georgia grabbed an early lead in the first game, putting five runs on the board in the first inning. UGA had another run in the in the fourth to seal the game. The six runs allowed by Tech are the most since a 6-3 loss at St. Mary’s on March 6.

Soraya Reddick and Tara Knudsen had the only hits of the first game. Reddick singled in the top of the fifth and Knudsen singled in the seventh to extend her hitting streak to 10 games. Knudsen went hitless in game two to stop the streak.

Knudsen was also recently named Atlantic Coast Conference Softball Player of the Week after leading the Jackets to wins over Harvard and Mercer. She also scored eight runs in the four games. In the first game against Harvard, she hit two home runs and 14 RBI.

The Jackets next games will be ACC openers, as they travel to Virginia and Maryland this weekend. The Jackets and Cavaliers are set for a doubleheader Saturday, and Sunday Tech will play the Terps twice.

By Scott MacIver | STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Getting solid hits was a struggle for both Tech and UGA in their second game of the day, as both team’s pitchers dominated from the mound.

Tech Softball Schedule

4/05 at Virginia Noon
4/05 at Virginia 2 p.m.
4/06 at Maryland Noon
4/06 at Maryland 2 p.m.
4/09 at Georgia Southern 3 p.m.
4/09 at Georgia Southern 3 p.m.
4/14 vs. Mississippi St. 3 p.m.
4/14 vs. Mississippi St. 3 p.m.
4/17 vs. UNC 3 p.m.
4/17 vs. UNC 3 p.m.
4/19 at Gardner Webb 1 p.m.
4/19 at Gardner Webb 1 p.m.
4/22 vs. Florida State 7 p.m.
4/22 vs. Florida State 7 p.m.
4/26 at Alabama TBA
4/26 at Alabama TBA
5/02 vs. Auburn 4 p.m.
5/04 vs. Florida State 1 p.m.
5/04 vs. Florida State 1 p.m.
5/07-11 ACC Tournament TBA
5/15 NCAA Regionals TBA
5/17 NCAA Regionals TBA
5/18 NCAA Regionals TBA
5/22-26 Women’s CWS TBA

By Daniel Leigh | STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Sophomore pitcher Jessica Sallinger threw a three-hitter in Tech’s 1-0 loss on Wednesday to the University of Georgia.

SPORTS

Tara Knudsen
named ACC Player of the Week

Tara Knudsen was named ACC Softball Player of the Week, as she led the Tech softball team to a 4-0 week with a .667 batting average, three home runs and 10 RBI in doubleheader sweeps of Harvard and Mercer.

On the season, Knudsen leads Tech with .353 average, nine home runs, 29 RBI and 28 runs scored. She is currently riding a season-high nine-game hitting streak. Knudsen is batting .356 with four home runs and 14 RBI.

Jacket baseball adds two games to 2003 schedule

The Georgia Tech baseball team has added two more games to their schedule for the 2003 season. The Yellow Jackets will host Winthrop at 7 PM on Wednesday, April 2, and Savannah State next Wednesday, April 9, at Russ Chandler Stadium. First pitch for both games is 7 PM, and tickets will be available at the stadium box office. Georgia Tech baseball season ticket holders will be granted admission at the third base ticket booth.

Swim team sends 15 to NCAA Championships

Senior All-American Shilo Ayalon headlines a group of 15 Yellow Jackets competing at the 2003 ConocoPhillips National Swimming Championships. After day one of the meet, Eduardo Oliver placed eighth in the 800-meter freestyle and Matt Figh finished second in the bonus consolation final in the 200-meter butterfly to lead on day two of the meet. The top swins from the women came from Ashley Kracke, who finished twenty-eighth in the 200 back and Anna Stann was forty-second in the same event. Competition continues through Saturday with prelims, followed by finals.

Mallory, Berenato to be in WBCA All-Star Challenge

Georgia Tech senior center Sonja Mallory will play her final game at Alexander Memorial Coliseum and Agnus Berenato will coach one of the two teams of collegiate all-stars at the WBCA All-Star Challenge on Friday night. The game will be part of a doubleheader that also includes the WBCA’s High School All-America game, which will tip off at 6 p.m. Tickets for the WBCA’s Night of All-Stars are available by calling 1-888-TECH-TIX or by logging on to www.wbca.org.

on deck

Event Date
BSB at UNC 4/4/03
MG at Augusta State 4/5-6
TR at Yellow Jacket Inv 4/5
WT vs. FSU 4/5
SB at Virginia 4/5
SB at Maryland 4/6
MT vs. MTSU 4/6
BSB vs. State 4/8
TR - Men’s and Women’s Track
WT- Women’s Tennis, MG- Men’s Golf
BSB- Baseball, MT-Men’s Tennis
SB- Softball

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