Dodgeball teams compete for glory in CRC’s newest sport

By Kimberly Rieck
Sports Editor

Before a crowd of joggers, basketball players and small packs of fans, two teams competed in the newest intramural sport to hit Tech in recent years—dodgeball.

“It’s a monumental battle when two teams are brought together on the court,” said Elliot Hunt, a member of the team We Wear Cups.

Games begin when two teams, composed of ten players each, race to gain possession of four rubber gym balls placed at the center of the basketball court. There is no limit on how many balls one team can gain at once. Once ten seconds have passed, a player may throw the ball at any opposing team member. Multiple balls can be thrown at once.

The object of the game is to be the last man standing at the end of the six-minute game. Instead of hearing chants for defense, teammates can often be heard shouting “get catches.” A player can throw one of the balls anywhere below the neck. To win a match, a team has to win the best out of five games.

During last Monday’s sequence of games, the Johnty Boys faced off against the Ducks. In the first game, the Ducks grabbed three balls compared to the Johnty Boys’ one ball and flung them at the Johnty Boys as soon as ten seconds had passed. Within a minute, the Ducks had already knocked out one of their opponents.

“Dodgeball brings out your inner beast,” said Courtney Wilson, a STAC major.

The matchup was ferocious as dodgeballs flew all around the court, even straying and coming close to hitting spectators. Players were only able to dodge or catch the ball because it is illegal to duck.

“With this many balls flying around, it’s hard to keep track of who’s in or out,” said Cody Spencer, an intramural supervisor. Intramural referees have to watch closely to catch any illegal plays and keep score totals.

Both teams effectively made use of “out” players by having them retrieve stray balls for them. After two games, it was clear the Ducks were dominating the field as the team made many skillful moves such as deflecting a dodgeball from hitting a fellow Ducks by deflecting it with another ball.

At the end of the match, the Ducks had won 3-1 over the Johntys Boys. While the teams may have been hostile on the court, the two teams were good sports and shook hands after the match.

For more information and rankings, go to www.sac.gatech.edu/IM.
Rugby triumphs over Bulldogs

By Andy Holt
Contributing Writer

In the latest installment of the storied rivalry between the Jackets and the Georgia Bulldogs, the club rugby teams of both schools met at Atlanta’s Central City Park last Saturday. After football and basketball losses, Tech is on the board for the season with three victories in three rugby matches against UGA.

In the main event, the A-sides of both squads played a closely fought rugby in the match. The Georgia Bulldogs gave their all, but were ultimately defeated by Tech, 17-15. The Jackets dominated possession and outplayed the Bulldogs in both sets of games.

The Alumni game and B-side game were just as exciting, with the OGRES, the Old Gold Rugby Elite Side, defeating the Georgia alumni team, the Blind Pig Sporting Society.

The alumni jumped out to a 14-0 lead thanks to two early tries by Doug Hardin, who is now a professor at Vanderbilt. When the dust settled, the score was 26-7 and the OGRES had stomped the little Blind Pigs into blind bacon. The B-side showed great promise in finishing the shutout 31-21. These victories may be the start of an upswing for the Jackets, who have been known to play much defense in their previous matches.

The Alumni game was a highlight for Tech, as one of seven freshman starters for the Jackets scored a try against UGA. Freshman Steve Genevish was a surprise addition to the lineup, and his presence in the match paid off with a try.

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While growing up, as well as now.

Stokes was named to the 2001 Dairy Queen list. Her junior year was really a breakthrough year for her, when she scored her career high with 34 points against UNC, and was second leading scorer on the team, averaging 15.7 points per game.

She only played collegiate basketball and has been a source of guidance in her career. Her father, Wayne, was the most inspirational and influential person in her life. Her father played collegiate basketball and football at Kentucky State University, and has been a source of guidance and advice for her daughter while growing up, as well as now.

Along with her mother, Claudia, he attends all of Fallon’s home games and some of her away games as well. Fallon sent home on weekends when she can to spend time with family. Second only to her parents, Stokes credits Coach Joseph as being a major source of inspiration. Playing for Coach Joseph is “always intense.” Stokes said. “She’s such a competitor because she was a player... and that’s the only way she knows how to play and coach. Everything’s intense.” She definitely feeds off the intensity of her coach, and takes it with her on the court.

“Off the court, Stokes is a self-proclaimed movie fanatic, and lists going to the movies and chillin’ with her teammates as her favorite things to do. She also loves to listen to music. “Right now my favorite song is: ‘Yeah!’ with Lil’ Jon and Usher.” Stokes said. “I’m a huge Lil’ Jon fan, I think his music is always energetic and it always puts me in a hype. (The) ban’ up.” Stokes also loves writing and said her favorite class at Tech has been Social Policy. Stokes will graduate in May with a bachelor’s degree in Public Policy.

She hopes to one day obtain a law degree and is always energetic and it always can hype us [the team] up.” Stokes also knows how to play and coach. Everything’s intense.” Stokes said. “She’s such a competitor because she was a player… and that’s the only way she knows how to play and coach. Everything’s intense.”

A member of Tech’s first women’s swim team, Moeko Wallis has swum her way into the school record books. Wallis came to Tech after a successful prep career where she was the Georgia state champion in the 50-yard freestyle and earned three letters in cross country and one in track.

For the third consecutive time this season, Asheboro, North Carolina native, Michael Massey won the high jump event, clearing the NCAA provisional mark at the same time. At Tech, Massey balances his athletic duties with his studies in Industrial Engineering. Multitasking is nothing new for Massey who balanced a 4.6 GPA with basketball and track and field in high school.

As a junior, Massey earned All-ACC honors in the high jump after he finished third at the ACC Outdoor Championships. In his senior season, Massey has won the high jump events at the Kentucky Invitational and Clemson Invitational.

Ashlee Kidd
Freshman
Track and Field

Hailing from St. Petersburg, Florida, freshman Ashlee Kidd has made her mark on the women’s track and field team. Kidd has already qualified provisionally for the NCAAs Indoor Track Championships. Before Kidd came to Tech to major in industrial engineering, she was named the St. Petersburg Female Athlete of the Year. Kidd was a member of the National and Spanish Honor societies and graduated summa cum laude from St. Petersburg High School.

Kidd first qualified for the NCAAs championships in the 400 meters at the Kentucky Invitational. She set an new Clemson indoor track record last week in the 400 meters at the Clemson Invitational.

Moeko Wallis
Junior
Swimming

A member of Tech’s first women’s swim team, Moeko Wallis has swum her way into the school record books. Wallis came to Tech after a successful prep career where she was the Georgia state champion in the 50-yard freestyle and earned three letters in cross country and one in track.

Wallis, a management major, has received recognition for her academic pursuits, making Dean’s List, Faculty Honors and the ACC Honor Roll.

Last week, the 400 free relay team of Wallis, Elizabeth Foster, Dana Peters and Natanya Harper finished first against Clemson with a time of 3:33.36. Wallis placed third in the 50 free and the Clemson meet with a time of 24.86.

Faces in the crowd
by Kimberly Riek

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Before the men’s basketball team faced Clemson Tuesday night, the men’s and women’s track and field teams faced the Tigers at the Clemson Invitational last Sunday. The women’s team narrowly finished behind host Clemson, 99-91.33 points. The men’s track and field team finished fifth out of nine teams with 66 points.

Senior Kyle Rabbit broke in Clemson’s brand new indoor track and field facility by setting a new Clemson indoor track record in the 3000 meters with a time of 8:17.49. Freshman Ashlee Kidd also set a new Clemson indoor record in the 400 meters with a NCAA provisional time of 54.38.

Breaking another kind of record, ACC performer of the week Monctrel Person destroyed his own school record in the 60-meter hurdles and won the event for Tech. Junior D’ana Rogers had an NCAA provisional mark in the same event for the women’s side. Teammate Andriane Lapsley finished sixth in the events with a personal best time.

In the long distance events, senior captain Brandon Mahoney finished third in the 800 meters, while freshman Jennifer Sims finished fourth in the event for the women’s team.

Much of the Jackets’ success in the meet was due to three Tech runners finishing in the top eight in the mile run.

Senior Jennifer Lentz led the Rambling Wreck with a sixth-place finish in 5:08.39. For the men’s team, junior Neil McDonagh placed seventh, posting a time of 4:22.84, and freshman Kirby Cross finished the race in eighth place with a time of 5:12.70.

In addition to placing in the 60-meter dash, Person and Lapsley finished fifth and sixth, respectively in their 60-meter dash events. Bringing home the silver for the pack, senior Amandi Rhett tied her season-best time of 7.46. Rhett also placed in the top eight in the 200 meters.

Leading the field events for Tech, All-American sophomore Chaunte Howard won the high jump for the third straight time this season for the women. Howard posted a mark of 1.78 meters in the event. Howard placed second in the long jump even with a mark of 5.93 meters. For the third consecutive week, senior Michael Massey captured the high jump event and cleared an NCAA provisional mark of 2.17 meters.

Sophomore perfection Harrison, who also plays football for the Wreck, posted a mark of 7.45 meters in the long jump. Junior transfer Mike O’Pherson finished behind Harrison in the top eight with 7.14 meters.

After tallying an NCAA provisional mark of 12.95 meters in the triple jump, junior Shanta Smith found herself in second place in the event.
The critical moment for Tech and Elder came at the seventeen-minute mark, when Elder made his second consecutive three pointer. When asked after the game when he knew it was his night, Elder said, “After I made my second shot, I knew it.” What Elder knew then, Clemson was about to find out.

Clemson's head coach Oliver Purnell tried putting four different guards on Elder, but it was to no avail as he contributed almost half of Tech's total offense. “He was outstanding and obviously the player of the game,” Purnell said. Elder ended the night shooting 60 percent from the field and from behind the arc, going 12 for 20 and 6 for 10 respectively.

“Yesterday, I was worried for him because he was suffering from a stomach flu. I wasn’t even sure he was going to play today. Obviously, he wasn’t feeling too bad,” Head Coach Paul Hewitt said after the game.

Despite Elder’s 20 shots, team captain Marvin Lewis said that they weren't intentionally running plays for Elder. “A lot times we weren’t even looking for him,” Hewitt said of his shot,” Lewis said.

Elder’s 36 point performance may not have given him the school record for highest scoring output by a Tech player in a single ACC game—he was one point shy of Dennis Scott’s record—but did give him the honor of the highest scoring output by a player in an ACC game this year. When asked about the record, Elder said that he wasn't even aware of it and that no one on the bench even told him about it. Tech will try to keep the momentum going against ACC opponents.

Before the basketball season even started, Hewitt said junior guard B.J. Elder was college basketball’s “best kept secret.”

“We need to break loose,” Hewitt said in the majority of Duke rebounds. “We need to break this little malaise in terms of rebounding. I think everything else, we’re doing well.”

Paul Hewitt
Men’s Basketball Coach

At last year’s Duke game, Jarrett Jack tries to sneak past Duke’s J.J. Redick. Duke won the game 77-58. The Jackets hope to defend their unbeaten home record against the No. 1 Blue Devils tomorrow at 5 p.m.

Cagers look to upset second No. 1 of the season

By Vishal Patel
Contributing Writer

Going 4-1 since dropping their ACC opener at Chapel Hill nearly two weeks ago, Head Coach Paul Hewitt's Jackets are now getting ready for their premier game of the season as the team welcomes the No. 1 team in the nation, the 16-1 Duke Blue Devils, to Alexander Memorial Coliseum Saturday.

Tech goes into the game this weekend with plenty of rest and high hopes for an upset, thanks to the stellar play of Will Bynum off the bench against Maryland, Wake Forest and North Carolina as well as the slump-breaking performance of B.J. Elder Tuesday night against Clemson.

“We need to shake this little malaise in terms of rebounding. I think everything else, we’re doing well.”

Paul Hewitt
Men’s Basketball Coach

Before the basketball season even started, Hewitt said junior guard B.J. Elder was college basketball’s “best kept secret.”

“The secret is out after Elder’s 36 point barrage against a Clemson squad that has won only once in seven ACC games.

Perhaps the momentum provided by Elder will be able to last and overshadow the loss of forward Clarence M ore, who is nursing lingering turf toe and is likely to sit out Saturday.

M ore was replaced by senior guard Marvin Lewis, who resumes starting after a four game hiatus.

Unbeaten against ACC opponents and riding a 13-game winning streak going into a face-off against Florida State Jan. 29, the Blue Devils are a young squad capable of throwing a lethal two-way attack that can score both from the perimeter as well as inside. Led by sophomore guard J.J. Redick, Duke shoots an average of 38 percent from beyond the arc, which is second in the ACC, compared to Tech’s average of 36 percent, good for third place.

Duke's powerful inside presence cannot be forgotten either. Forward Shelden Williams and Shavlik Randolph gather the majority of Duke rebounds. Overall, Duke boasts the best shooting and best scoring defense in the ACC.

However, more important for Tech will be keeping up with Duke on the rebounding end. The Jackets have had difficulty rebounding lately, getting outboarded in the last four games.

The loss against NC State can be attributed heavily on State’s rebounding edge of the four teams, outrebounding Tech by 13.

The Jackets will have to step up their rebounding game to a higher ground if they want a chance at the second upset of a No. 1 team for this season.

The Duke game will be televised tomorrow at 5 p.m. on ESPN.
Elder battles flu to lead Tech

By Joseph Jang
Staff Writer

Tech’s basketball team suffered another bump in the road with a loss to N.C. State 76-72 at Raleigh. The notoriously tough-at-home Wolfpack fought off a comeback by the Jackets to take sole possession of second place in the ACC. The team quickly rebounded from that loss when they defeated their homecourt against a valiant Clemson effort Tuesday night. Behind Elder’s career-high 36 points, Tech held on to defeat the Tigers 76-69.

At Raleigh, Tech did a fantastic job of defending the then-leading ACC scorer Julius Hodge, restricting him to just two points, which he earned from the free throw line. However, the game was lost on the boards as State pulled down 21 offensive rebounds and took full advantage of the second chance points. Scooter Sherrill led State with 18 points and Bynum was Tech’s leading scorer with 17.

Tech put up another stellar defensive effort against Clemson at home, but the Tigers returned the favor in kind. The game started out slowly, with both teams playing good defense and struggling on offense. Clemson had a hard time adjusting to Tech’s full court press and found it difficult to move the ball up the court. However, Tech didn’t really capitalize on the turnovers forced; errant passes and dropped balls were the main culprits for Tech’s 17 turnovers.

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Defending Tech’s home record, guard B.J. Elder was unstoppable against Clemson last Tuesday. Elder scored a career-high 36 points. The junior was recently named to the watch list for the Wooden Award.

Stokes fires up Lady Jackets with athletic prowess

By Fenton Gardner
Contributing Writer

If you were asked to look up the verb denoting dictionary, you would find the following definition: “to poke or stir up (as a fire) supply...” If someone asked you to use the word in a sentence, you could say something like “It’d man Giles stoked up the fire every evening in order to keep warm after coming in from the cold.” Stokes, a 5’10” guard, has served as a role model on and off the court for her team. Currently Stokes is the No. 3 scoring leader in the ACC with 17.5 points per game and the leading rebounder for the team with 6.6 rebounds per game. Her field goal percentage of 42.7 percent and free throw percentages are both above 71 percent have also increased since last year. Although amazing and numerous, these accomplishments are only a part of the story.

A Dean’s List student, Stokes has served a role model on and off the court for her team. Currently Stokes is the No. 3 scoring leader in the ACC. The 5’10” guard was also named a pre-season All-ACC candidate.

Tanglin’ with Tigers

While the basketball team faced Clemson on the court, men’s and women’s track and field took on the Tigers on their home turf.

Baseball Benefit honors 1994 team

Tech’s annual Baseball Benefit Dinner will honor the 1994 College World Series team tonight. The annual dinner and auction will be held at the Georgia Tech Hotel & Conference Center. Boston Red Sox Catcher Jason Varitek, an alumnus of the 1994 team, will be in attendance. On Saturday, the baseball team will also hold the annual free alumni game at 12 p.m., with an autograph session set to follow.

Softball team ranked ACC No. 2

Tech’s softball team has been selected as the No. 2 pick for the 2004 ACC softball season after finishing in a tie for second with UNC and Virginia last season. Florida State was picked as the No. 1 team in the poll.

Galley hosts signing day party

Tech fans have been invited to join Head Coach Chan Gailey and his staff for a Signing Day Celebration Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. The event includes an open house, dinner and a video presentation on Tech’s 2004 class of signees. The event will be held in the Club Lounge on the east side of Bobby Dodd Stadium. Tickets are $12 each.