Hewitt

going to give up some easy lay-ups, so it's nice to have a guy back there who can erase some mistakes.

Neal: What's on the agenda for the team this summer?
Hewitt: It's not finalized yet, but what we're planning to do is to take the team on a six-game tour of Australia. It's for a couple of reasons. I think it might give us the opportunity to play a couple of extra games and give our still-young team a little more experience. It's always nice to have some kind of little treat like this to make the experience even more rewarding and gratifying, we try to. And obviously, it gives us a chance to take the team home for Luke and give him the chance to play in front of his family.

Neal: What do you expect for the future of Georgia Tech basketball?
Hewitt: I hope we can get to the NCAA tournament and I think that goes without saying. I guess my big thing now is to really concentrate on what's going on right now and not worry about what's going on at the end of the year... if we keep improving as a team and help the players improve individually, by the end of the year we'll be rewarded by having more games to play. But the way you get that reward is to take care of what's going on right now.

Neal: Who do you think will be the leaders of the team next year?
Hewitt: Marvin Lewis. He's a guy that I think has a strong commitment to basketball. He is a very bright player... a guy that I think has the chance to be the person everyone looks up to on and off the floor. He's an excellent student and has been a starter for almost every game he has been here, with the exception of senior night two years ago... He is a guy that has a chance to lead because he wants it. He's committed. That's important.

Neal: Who are your all-time favorite coaches?
Hewitt: John Thompson, George Raveling... Rick Pitino, because I admire his style of team play. His tempo style and his way he wants to play has changed. Marvin Lewis is a terrific young man that is a great player, we just have to make him believe that he is and he will be a big part of this program.

Neal: Has your style of coaching changed during your time at Tech?
Hewitt: The way I want to play has not changed. We've had to make some adjustments. The last couple of years based on personnel and injuries. The 8/8 scholarship rule [a maximum of five scholarships in one year, and maximum combination of eight scholarships in any consecutive two-year period] that limited us to 10 scholarship guys this year. But in terms of my goals and what we are going to try to do, I think Robert Brookshasachance as well. He had an up and down sophomore year, but he had some great flashes. I think he has struggled with his confidence a little bit, which is something our coaching staff will work with. He is a terrific young man that is a great player, we just have to make him believe that he will be a big part of this program.

Neal: What is your style of coaching?
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 Neal: If you weren't coaching, what would you be doing?
Hewitt: I would probably work in a high school some place. I would probably be a guidance counselor or teacher or something like that.
Bakker has pitching records in sight

By Al Przygocki
Contributing Writer

Sophomore Kyle Bakker, who stands 6’9”, is the tallest player in the ACC. The lefty also has control, giving up only 1.6 walks per inning-pitched.

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Even if you know going in that the sophomore left-handed ace of the Jackets is six foot nine and the tallest baseball player in the ACC, there is still no substitute for walking right up to him and appreciating what it must be like to try to bat against him.

“I’ve always loved Randy Johnson,” said Bakker. “I haven’t checked out what everyone else has done. I just go out and try to do the best I can, and I am really not worried about what other people have done.”

You begin to talk to others about what makes Bakker such a good pitcher. You find the same things over and over. It’s not Bakker’s physical skills that make him a success. It’s his competitive fire, his absolute focus on success, and his overwhelming desire to win and to win championships. All those factors make him the staff ace.

“I think it takes a lot of hard work and obviously God-given talent, and I just worked as hard as I could. Yeah, I did want the ball in my hand Friday nights,” explains Bakker. “I got a taste of being a weekend starter and obviously it’s a lot nicar just wanting to worry about coming out of the pen and worrying about all the other stuff. It’s very nice, I wanted it and I worked for it.”

Bakker knows his skills, what hitters are trying to do and how to win those one-on-one battles. He just focuses on challenging hitters and making them beat me instead of letting myself get to them,” explains the 6’9’ lefty. “I basically go right after hitters and hope for the best.”

Bakker’s stats easily compare to the great pitchers in Tech’s spast and if he continues on his current pace, he will eventually break many records. He would earn them most wins in a season and a career. However, Bakker has only made fifteen starts in his young career and will likely be drafted after his junior season. The fact remains that the start of his career at Tech has been incredibly impressive and one can only dream of his potential future.

Of course, one key to Bakker’s success is his ability to focus on the moment and not think about statistics or the future.

“We really never astat rat,” said Bakker. “I haven’t checked out what everyone else has done. I just go out and try to do the best I can, and I am really not worried about what other people have done.”

On being in line to tie or break Brad Rigby’s single season record of 14 wins in a season Bakker says, “Fourteen wins is a very high mark and it would be an honor to be able to have fourteen wins. I just hope I can stay healthy and contribute to my team’s season.”

Keeping in mind, the only thing that is important is Bakker’s desire to win the College World Series. For Bakker, it would have added meaning since he went to high school in D’ohama, the home of the College World Series. He would be able to share his greatest team moment with his parents, Larry and Donita, and his younger sister, Larissa, a 6’2” sophomore in high school.

“It’d be more than I could ever ask for,” said the Omaha, Neb. native. “I’ve dreamed of playing in the College World Series since I was five when I watched the College World Series watching it. It would be a dream come true.”

It’s his competitive fire, his absolute focus on success, and his overwhelming desire to win and to win championships. All those factors help Bakker to win the College World Series. For Bakker it would have added meaning since he went to high school in D’ohama, the home of the College World Series. He would be able to share his greatest team moment with his parents, Larry and Donita, and his younger sister, Larissa, a 6’2” sophomore in high school.

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Beyond the White and Gold

Dynamics of a standard sports brawl

By Derek Haynes
Sports Editor

There's nothing like a traditional sports brawl. The sports fight is like a one-night stand. Both of the parties involved won't comment on the action, both will somehow dismiss the event as something minor, and both will talk about the event with all their close friends for quite a while (just as long as the parent or coach doesn't find out).

On Sunday, the Georgia Tech and Maryland baseball squads had a bench-clearing brawl that ended the game with the Jackets up 12-1 over the Terps in the seventh inning. Unfortunately, the game was not on television so I didn't get to see any video replays. However, a photo in the Diamondback, Maryland's independent student newspaper, gave some insight.

There are several parts of a quality sports brawl that must be present. Here are the steps to a qualified, sanctioned sports fight.

1. A drastic difference between playing ability.
While there have been some good fights between teams of equal talent (the mammoth Detroit Red Wings–Colorado Avalanche fight comes to mind) a proper beating on the scoreboard sets up a titanic battle on the playing field. When the game is over on the scoreboard, there is one other area to win in: the fight.

2. The foreplay: stupid penalties or throwback pitches.
Teams know they can't proceed to the fight unless the events leading up to the brawl are satisfying. Jeff Watcho's pitch, which sailed behind Jeff Maxey, was very satisfying and emotional on both ends. It served Maryland notice that this was for real.

3. The staredown
This is the most important aspect of the fight, a properly orchestrated staredown provides more tension that an 8-year-old waiting to see if he got the video game he wanted for his birthday.

4. The instigator's walk
The walk to the challenger is of utmost importance. It is important to throw down the equipment in an aggressive but controlled action to show a quiet determination.

5. The event
Don't be surprised if the actual event doesn't live up to the pre-brawl theatrics.

Intramural Notebook

Volleyball's How You Play is winning games the easy way

It's official— an independent team has got game. It's How You Play is the No. 1 team in the Spike division of Co-Rec Volleyball and haven't even played a full regulation game. Then how do they have game if they have not even played a single game?

Their game comes from the fact that every single one of their competitors have lost to them on the basis of either no-show or forfeit. What does this mean? It means that the It's How You Play gang has enough game to get the ladies to show up. Ladies that are not only willing to show up, but also to play for them.

So, not only have the men of It's How You Play won the admiration of their classmates from the CA, Delta Chi, Miikasa Es Su Kasa and Phi Psi teams, but with the help of their ladies, they have also won the top spot in Co-Rec Volleyball. It's a new technique for the road to an intramural championship: show up.

Thrashers numbers challenge

Congratulations to Kamden Robb. He was the first to correctly answer that 4 is the number of Tech golfers ranked in Golfweek’s Top 25 poll.
sophomore year with an average of 42.3 yards per kick. He also maintains a 3.88 GPA in Electrical Engineering.

For the past three years, Dan Dyke has been named to the first team Academic All-American team. The Yellow Jacket's starting punter came to Tech from Winter Springs, Florida on a President’s Scholarship. He goes into his senior year with an average of 42.3 yards per kick. He also maintains a 3.88 GPA in Electrical Engineering.

KR: You miss playing soccer (In high school, Dyke lettered in football and soccer)?
DD: Yeah a little bit. I just miss being involved in more of the action. You know a football game, I only get a few plays a game. In soccer, it’s continuous non-stop action. I just miss that a little bit. I’m definitely happy with what I’m doing now though.

KR: Would you ever play for the Minnesota Vikings under O’Leary?
DD: Would I ever? Yeah I would.

KR: So you would play for him again?
DD: Yeah, he was a great coach. I don’t think anyone would turn down a job in the NFL. They would be crazy to do that.

KR: If you could do it all over again, would you still walk on to the football team, or just take your president’s scholarship and focus on school?
DD: I’d walk again.

KR: What’s your favorite game memory?
DD: Winning the Seattle bowl. It was great how the team came together that week after all of the drama with changing coaches. It was the happiest locker room that I’ve ever been in.

KR: Are you a Gators fan or a Seminoles fan?
DD: Definitely a Gators fan all the way. My dad went there, and we used to go to games at “The Swamp” all the time.

KR: Did you ever think about going there?
DD: Yeah, definitely, it came down to Florida and Tech. In the end, the service of its everyday left-fielder M at M urton for the first two games in the upcoming weekend series at Florida State. Tech will miss Mur- ton’s bat, as he has been one of the Jackets’ hottest hitters in the past month. Brandon Boggs will replace him in the lineup in left field with Wes Rynders taking over center field duties full time.

Brawl
message. M avey responded by hitting a homerun several pitches lat- ter. M avey also got into a verbal exchange with Watchko aheround- ed the bases. The M aryland team came out to great M avey at home plate as is customary. T yler Parker, T ech’s catcher, was in the middle of this gathering and words were exchanged once more. Players began shoving each other, and both benches cleared as umpires, players, and coaches attempted to break up the action.

Once the activities were halted, the umpires conferred for over an hour on how to handle the situation. They decided to halve the game in order to ensure that T ech was able to make its plane ride home. They also turned in the names of T ech’s T yler Parker and M aryland’s R ay G emmill to the N CAA as having been active participants in the skirmish. On T uesday, at 6 p.m., the commis- sioner of the ACC, J ohn Swofford, ruled that the game was officially complete with T ech winning 12-1, and handed down suspensions. Park- er and G emmill each received a three game suspension for leaving his position to join the fight. After reviewing videotapes of the altercation, the ACC also handed out a gamesuspension to T ech’s M att Murton and T yler Park- er and M aryland’s K yle G eorge for unsportsmanlike behavior.

“ We cannot tolerate this unacceptable behavior...this action will serve as a message to both players and coaches.”

J ohn Swofford
ACC Commissioner

Those suspensions began imme- diately. The T ech players sat out against Auburn and M aryland faced Penn State shorthanded with both T ech and M aryland claiming victory in those contests. The only lin- ing implication for either team is that T ech will be without the
Record-breaking Tech softball squad shoots for NCAA regional bid, ACC tourney crown

By John Parsons
Contributing Writer

Tech softball team set a new school record for victories on April 9, with a doubleheader sweep of Chattanooga for wins 36 and 39 on the season. The Lady Jackets will be looking to add to their record as they close out the regular season and head into postseason play. Tech will likely be the second seed in the ACC tournament after dropping both games in a doubleheader against FSU last weekend. The disappointment in Tallahassee has served as a wake-up call heading into the final stretch of the regular season.

"We didn't come ready to play," junior catcher Lindsay Wood said. "We ened to focus and realize that this is the most important part of the season."

The Lady Jackets play a stretch of ten games out of conference to close out the regular season, concluding with a doubleheader against Georgia on April 28 here at Glenn Field. The ACC tournament begins on May 10 in Tallahassee. The team is not shy about their goal at the conference championship. While winning the tournament would not guarantee a berth in the NCAA regional tournament, according to head coach Kate Madden, an appearance in the final four would probably be good enough to qualify.

"We love to make it to a regional tournament," said softball shortstop Tara Knudsen. "My goal is to help my team reach that goal."

This is a lofty goal from a team that posted a meager 24-29 record last year and coming into the season would have been happy with any winning record. Like any team with a quick turnaround, a change in attitude is at the heart of their success.

"We expect to win, whereas we used to go out there expecting to lose," said Wood. "We have a lot more chemistry this year."

This change in attitude has led to an 11-5 record in games that are decided by one run or extra innings, as opposed to an 8-17 record last year.

"This team knows they can do it," Coach Madden said of her team's approach to tight games. "I tell them they're the better team."

Another reason for their success this season has been the immediate contribution of the three freshmen on the squad, all of whom start.

"The freshmen have stepped up into roles that needed to be filled," Knudsen said. "They're the better team."

The record of dominant strikeout pitcher, for one, has been filled by Jessica Sallinger. She has already set the team wins record with 18 and has shattered the strikeout record with 214 so far. Her strikeout total already places her third on the Tech career list. Her catcher, Lindsay Wood, who previously caught her in high school, has been impressed with Jessica's improvement since the last time she pitched with her.

She has a lot more composure on the mound," Wood said. "She's one of the best," Madden said.

"She has a lot of weaknesses. There's no pitch she can't hit."

Kate Madden
softball coach, on Tara Knudsen

Sophomore basemen Jamie Frost gives much of the credit to first year assistant coach Beth Frost.

"I've changed everything about my approach to hitting," Frost said. "I've changed everything about my style."

Tech as a whole has seen a sharp improvement in hitting this year, as evidenced by an improvement of over 40 points in last year's team batting average. Senior pitcher Jamie Frost gives much of the credit to first year assistant coach Beth Frost.

"He came in and revamped a lot of people's hitting styles," Frost said. "He's changed everything about my style."

Jamie has a 40-point improvement in her batting average to show for her efforts. She was less forthcoming when asked about another aspect of the team's performance, her "T Think D own" pregame ritual that has been adopted by others on the team.

"I think that's the 100th time I've said it," said Jamie. "If I told you that, I'd probably have to kill you."

"I don't think I meant to scare you," she said.

Find out more information on the Cricket Club on the web at cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/cricket
Softball Success
T he Tech softball squad has already moved in front of any other team in jackects' history, but the squad has bigger goals. Page 39

Fighting 101
There are some things that have to be present in every sports brawl. The Nique's Drek: H ayes covers the basics. Page 36

Jackets in the W N B A draft
T today, the WNBA is holding their collegiate draft. Amongst the names, the Lik- en draft is Lady Yellow Jacket guard Milli M antine and forward Tia He. They have both been chosen by proagnostica- tors to be picked today. Check WBNA.com draft2002 for updates throughout the day.

Ex-Jacket Rogers heading to Bills
Charlie Rogers is now a member of the Buffalo Bills. On Thursday, the kick and punt-return specialist, who last year was a member of the Se- attle Seahawks was traded by the Houston Texans for LB J ay Foreman. The Texans se- lected Rogers in the expan- sion draft but had already acquired specialist Jermaine Lewis (fifth-rounder/fellow) jack- ets on (Carman, Jason Bedic and Travers T illman.

by the numbers
$0.00
Cost to attend this year's Football Springfest. The annual spring in- tra-squad game will be held at M arist H igh School at 11 a.m. on Satur- day. T he gate will cap off the spring prac- tices.

3-4
Score for the men's tennis team against M ami in their regular-sea- son finale. It washed first and only home loss of the season.

5-16
NCAA rule which was used to sus- pend six T ech and M aryland base- ball players during their game last Sunday which turned into a bench- clearing brawl in the seventh inning of the 12-1 Tech victory.

776
Slugging percentage for sophomore * Double Header
BB vs. Mercer 4/23
TF at ACC Championship 4/19-4/20
MG at ACC Championship 4/19-4/21
TW at ACC Chmpionship 4/18-4/19

7-8-9
ABB vs Mercer 4/19-4/21
ABB at Jacksonville St. 5/20
ABB at Florida St 4/19-4/21
ABB at M aryland 4/14-4/15
MG at ACC Championship 4/19-4/21
TF at ACC Championship 4/19-4/20
BB vs Jacksonville St.* 4/20
BB vs. Mercer 4/23
BB at Georgia 4/24
* Double Header
BB = Baseball, FW = Women's Tennis
SB = Softball, TF = Track & Field, MIG = Golf

Jackets baseball squad brawls with Terps
By A l Przygody
Contributing Writer

The jolts' jackets went 3-1 this week to raise their record to 32-5, 8-3 in the ACC, but the big story of the week was neither the jackets hitting nor their pitching. It was a roller with M aryland on Sunday.

In the rubber match of their week- end tilt with M aryland, the Jackets were cruising along with a 12-0 lead when things began to go wrong for the Jackets.

The Terps had been several instances of players being hit by pitch in the series and in the game on Sunday. In both instances, the Terps benches were getting a bit chippy. Jeff W atchko's first pitch of the seventh went behind M aryland's J aison M ax- ey in an obvious attempt to send a