Intramural Notebook

Intramural action heats up CRC

By Edward Tamsberg
Contributing Writer

For all those who may not have noticed, intramural sports have begun. The sports this season are whiffleball, sand volleyball, flag football and the cult classic Ultimate Frisbee.

Flag football continues to be the popular first choice of sports among the students here at Georgia Tech. The B league alone has a record 95 teams playing in it, and all of this competition is what makes the Flag football championship such a coveted prize.

Each year teams will send away for their team shirts hoping that it is money well spent and that this year Lady Victory will shine upon them. This year is bound to be no different than years past. The Greeks have put together their squads and a hundred of others have also organized in the race for glory.

Of all the sports, sand volleyball is by far the most sensitive to weather. Even the slightest change in temperature can make this sport a test a true stamina to see which team has the gall to be called champion.

Whiffleball has always been the awkward child of athletics, but nonetheless, has inspired its own players and continues to thrive. A sport in which a strong gust of wind is an imm mortal Babe Ruth, making for either strike-out or home-run, there are those who would claim it has a large degree of skill. However, I would dare say that a windy day will always be the true champion of this sport.

last, but not the least, is Ultimate Frisbee. A sport that seems to be perpetually underscored by its own name has what some might regard as a "cult" following, nor unlike the Georgia Tech Band. There are those who would swear it is the greatest sport in the world completely deserving of the surname "Ultimate," and will postpone social events to prepare and relax for upcoming games. Certainly the degree and accuracy with which any player can throw that regulation-sized plastic disk is a skill to be admired, but in the end it is the long-distance runners who will win this sport.

A league Flag Football

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<th>Rank</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Backfield in Motion</td>
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Ball from page 28

for them, just not at quarterback. The freshman was a Top 100 player in the South and led Stone Mountain High to a state championship. However, he was seen more as an athlete who did not have the height to play the position. A UGA quarterbacks coach told Ball that there was no way he could play quarterback on the Division I level.

Ball scoffed at those critics, just like he does at people who thought he could not handle the position as a true freshman. Head Football Coach Chan Gailey gave Ball the reins after he beat out returning starter A.J. Suggs. Why did Gailey make this decision?

“I don’t try to read anything into things. I don’t try to perceive something and try to make it happen in my mind,” Gailey said in the A.J. “I evaluate what happens and go with that. All I did was go by what was happening on the field.”

What was happening on the field was Ball. Gailey also said that the patience level must be very high especially my team know how to keep me down so I don’t get a big head.

Reggie Ball Quarterback

A record number of teams have signed up for this fall’s competition. Hundreds of teams are competing for the coveted intramural championship shirts. The current leaders include Backfield in Motion and TKE.

By Daniel Urribi, Student Publications

No matter what you’ve got to keep going forward because if you go down, the team goes down,” said Ball. Ball will have to maintain that energy level this season. Reggie will face another top-notch defense looking to rattle him with defending conference champion FSU.

“My mom, my brothers, and especially my team know how to keep me down so I don’t get a big head,” said Ball. But if the Jackets pull off another upset this week, Tech fans might be ready to dip this true freshman in something resembling the color of his helmet.
Quarterback:
Reggie Ball continues to impress with his poise and play-making ability. The true freshman is completing 53 percent of his passes and has thrown only one interception in two games. Chris Rix is back starting at quarterback this season for the Seminoles after last year’s starter Adrian McPherson was kicked off the team for gambling. Rix has looked solid in the ‘Noles first two games completing 60 percent of his passes for 460 yards with three touchdowns and only one interception. Even though Rix has looked much more comfortable in the pocket than he has in previous years, he is prone to making costly mistakes.

Advantage: Even

Running Back:
P.J. Daniels won’t put up big numbers, but the former walk-on always manages to get positive yardage. While Daniels is only gaining 3.2 yards per carry, he has lost only seven yards on thirty carries. Both Ace Eziemefe and Chris Woods got some carries against Auburn and looked good. Florida State has plenty of talent in the backfield. Greg Jones is a Doak Walker Award candidate and is a beast. Jones is averaging 6.7 yards per carry and has three touchdowns on the year. Behind Jones is redshirt freshman Lorenzo Booker who was named ACC Rookie of the Week after his performance against UNC.

Advantage: FSU

Wide Receivers:
Tech’s O-Line has been exceptional so far this year, allowing only two sacks. Tackles Nat Dorsey and Kyle Wallace are one of the best bookend combinations in football. Center Hugh Riley is one of the top centers in college football. Guards Andy Tidwell-Neal and Brad Honeycutt have played well. Florida State has a good set of tackles, as well. Ray Willis was named ACC Offensive Lineman of the Week after his performance against Maryland.

Advantage: GT

Defensive Line:
Advantage: FSU

Offensive Line:
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Wide Receivers:
Georgia Tech’s wide receiver corps has played well beyond expectations registering nine of Tech’s thirteen sacks. End Eric Henderson was the defensive star against Auburn, sacking Jason Campbell three times giving him four on the season. The unit is led by senior tackle Darrell Dockett, who ranks number one all-time at Florida State with 51 tackles-for-loss.

Advantage: Even

Linebackers:
The strength of both defenses is the linebacker corps. Middle linebacker Daryl Smith has led the Jackets in tackles the past two years. Outside linebacker Key Fox is Tech’s top tackler this year with 27 total tackles. Senior Ather Brown has been effective at getting into the backfield to make plays. While Tech’s unit is very good, Florida State’s is slightly better. Speed is the key word for the ‘Noles as they boast college football’s fastest trio of linebackers. Outside linebackers Michael Bouware and Kendyll Pope are probably the best duo in the country. Both are Butkus Award candidates.

Advantage: FSU

Defensive Backs:
The inexperienced Yellow Jacket secondary has played better than anticipated. Free safety James Butler is second on the team with 24 tackles and has one interception. Corners Reuben Houston and Jonathan Cox have been solid. While the Tech secondary has three picks, they have given up three touchdowns. The Seminoles have plenty of depth in the secondary, especially at safety. Jerome Carter will start at rover and B.J. Ward will start at free safety. Both have big time playmaking ability. The corners are experienced with Bryant McFadden and Stanford Samuels starting. Samuels’ two interceptions off A.J. Suggs were the reason why the ‘Noles won last year.

Advantage: FSU

Special Teams:
Tech’s special teams have played well so far this year, highlighted by Kenny Scott’s blocked punt returned for a touchdown by Nathan Burton against BYU. Dan Burnett has been solid going 3 of 3 on field goals and PATs. Hal Higgins is averaging 37.9 yards per punt. Tech is losing the field position game on kickoffs, averaging just 18.0 yards per return compared to 25.2 yards per return by their opponents. Florida State’s Xavier Beitala is a Groza Award candidate, but he is only 1 of 3 on field goals and 9 of 10 on PATs this season. Jesse Stein is averaging a solid 42.8 yards per punt. Chris Davis has been dangerous on punt returns, averaging 14.0 yards per return. FSU has struggled on kickoff returns, averaging just 15.0 yards per return while allowing 19.4 yards per return.

Advantage: GT

Coaching:
Bobby Bowden is second only to Joe Paterno in all-time college coaching victories with 334. Bowden has experience coaching in and winning big games against top-notch competition. Chan Gailey coached very well against Auburn. The biggest change was opening up the playbook and letting Reggie Ball air it out some. Defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta has the Tech defense playing great, especially against the run. Georgia Tech ranks no. 17 nationally and first in the ACC in run defense.

Advantage: FSU

Outlook:
Coming off a big win at home against Auburn, the Yellow Jackets have the daunting task of traveling to Doak Campbell Stadium to take on a fast, reloaded Seminoles team. No matter how well Reggie Ball has played the past two games, having to play on the road against an experienced Florida State defense does not bode well for the Jackets. Also, Georgia Tech is 0-11 against Florida State since the ‘Noles joined the ACC in 1992. The Tech defense will put up a good fight, slowing down Jones and Booker on the ground and pressuring Chris Rix into some mistakes. However, the Jackets may not be able to muster enough offense to pull out the win.

Spread: FSU by 14

Join the Photo staff!
Weekly meetings on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building
Tech rugby stomp Auburn 30-10

By John Scaduto
Contributing Writer

Last Saturday Tech's rugby club defeated the visiting Auburn rugby club, 30-10.

Auburn came within three points by opening the second half with a penalty goal, but Tech would then respond with 17 unanswered points. During the run, Von Brembsen completed his third and fourth penalty goals of the match, with Robert Schierholz and rookie Josh Ireland each contributing a try (both conversions successful). The most impressive statement of the half was Tech's goal line stand after an 80 meter scamper by Auburn in the 65th minute, with the Jacket's stuffing the Tigers through five phases of play. "All but sealed the game, as Tech would go on to a 30-10 win," said MacDougald.

This coming Saturday, the rugby team will travel to Knoxville to take on the University of Tennessee. The next home stand will be against Clemson on September 20 (same date as Tech/Clemson football game). Practices take place on every Tuesday and Thursday at 6PM, at the Burger Bowl – anyone is welcome.

For more information on the Georgia Tech Rugby Club, check out www.gtrugby.com.
PJ Daniels
Sophomore-R
Running Back - Football

With most eyes on freshman quarterback Reggie Ball against Auburn on Saturday, many fans didn’t notice Tech’s top tailback, red-shirt sophomore P.J. Daniels, making his way into the Bobby Dodd limelight. But in the second quarter all eyes were on Daniels when he made a 1-yard touchdown plunge to score Tech’s second TD for the season.

A former walk-on, Prince Ahadzie Daniels, Jr, or “P.J.,” was Tech’s fourth-leading rusher in 2002 with 72 carries for 255 yards and two touchdowns. Daniels was named ACC Rookie of the Week last year after rushing 95 yards in the Virginia loss. Daniels was placed on scholarship last January.

Alexandra Preiss
Senior
Women’s Volleyball

Alexandra Preiss, a senior from Berlin, Germany, is the starting middle blocker for Tech’s No. 10-ranked volleyball team that hasn’t lost a match this season. Preiss was last week’s Player of the Week for the ACC and was also named the MVP in Tech’s victory in the Courtyard by Marriott Classic Tournament.

Preiss currently leads the team in hitting percentage and stands second in block. She had a season-high 16 kills and five blocks against Coastal Carolina and recorded ten kills in Sunday’s championship match against Western Carolina. She also recorded 12 kills against Northwestern.

Scott Schnugg
Senior
Tennis

This senior All-American for the Yellow Jacket men’s tennis team has already been ranked by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association as the country’s No. 65 singles player.

Scott Schnugg, who finished last year ranked 10th in doubles with partner Roger Anderson, led Tech’s team a year ago in singles victories with a 26-14 overall record, while playing in the second position in the Tech lineup. Schnugg and Jose Muguruza will play at the top position in this year’s doubles lineup and will begin the season ranked No. 28 in the ITA poll. The season begins this weekend.
Jackets sting no. 17 Tigers in upset

By John Parsons
Staff Writer

Tech recorded its biggest home win since a thrilling 51-48 overtime win over Georgia in 1999 last Saturday with a 23-0 win over the no. 17 ranked Auburn Tigers. The game was a renewal of a rivalry started in 1892, the first year that Tech fielded a football team. The last time the two teams met was in 1987, which resulted in a victory for Auburn.

Auburn’s most anticipated football season in years is now shaping up to be a disaster. After a humiliating 23-0 home loss to USC to open the season, Auburn came into the picture and was a huge underdog. Not many Tech fans thought the Jackets could pull out a win against a team that was rated preseason number one by two publications. One Tech "fan" was not to be, though, as Auburn’s offense averaged a paltry 1.5 points over two games.

The Tigers came out trying to cram the ball down Tech’s throat, lining up with just one receiver in each of the five plays on their first drive. The Jackets were back and show why The Sporting News selected Auburn as its preseason national champion. It was not to be, though, as Auburn’s defense averaged a try of 1.5 points over two games. The Tigers came out trying to cram the ball down Tech’s throat, lining up with just one receiver in each of the five plays on their first drive. The Jackets were back and show why Tech was not to be, though, as Auburn’s defense averaged a try of 1.5 points over two games.

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Ball fever takes over campus as quarterback delivers

By Clark Nelson
Contributing Writer

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"I love to play in front of big crowds. The spotlight is where I want me and my teammates to be. I want everyone to see what we have and what we can do," said Ball. A lot of big-time schools wanted the 5’11”, 192-lb Ball to come play for Tech.