Tiger Woods to teach summer golf class at Tech

By Joe King
Senior Staff Writer

Georgia Tech baseball Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Scott Stricklin accepted the head coaching position at Kent State, his alma mater, on Tuesday. Stricklin will finish out the season with the Jackets before leaving for Ohio. Kent State fired head coach Rick Rombelak on Monday after the Golden Flashes were swept by Oral Roberts last weekend. The sweep dropped Kent State to 7-10 and Athletic Director Larr Kennedy saw his opportunity.

"I've been waiting for an opportunity to get Stricklin ever since I saw the way he coached first base in the series we played against Tech two weeks ago," said Kennedy. "Our four-game losing streak since that series turned out to be incredibly convenient."

The defending MAC champions will look to rebound from their current slump and make the NCAA tournament again. Last year, Kent State was eliminated in just two games, losing to South Alabama and Ohio State.

Georgia Tech will be looking to replace Stricklin with another coach good enough to garner a fan club. Undergraduate student Robert Sutton, president of The Stricklinites, Coach Stricklin's student-fan club, was inconsolable when he heard the news.

"I am the most fundamentally sound catcher to ever sit foot in the three-sid box. His flat-backed stance with hands placed firmly on his knees, his signature three claps flowing smoothly into perfectly folded arms, and his intense confidence as he encourages Tech's centerfielder, 'Come on, Bossy!'," said Sutton.

"Not only is his style impeccably, but also his character," Sutton added. "About two weeks ago at a game against Kent State, Coach Stricklin clearly faked a foul ball and brought the ball down to a little boy eagerly awaiting by the visiting dugout. Scott Stricklin is a true citizen in a time of national crisis."

Sutton is planning to petition the administration here at Tech to make Stricklin's birthday a Tech holiday.

"If that petition doesn't pass, Sutton will try for each season-opener to be deemed a Tech holiday in honor of Stricklin. T here's no word yet whether either will even be considered."

As for Coach Stricklin, he's happy to be moving on to a head coaching job.

"It's always great to get a promotion," said Stricklin. "It's seven more incredible that my first opportunity will be at my alma mater."

Stricklin is also happy to be getting away from The Stricklinites.

"T hose guys worship the ground I walk on because I tell guys when there's one out to make sure a line drive gets through the infield before they run," said Stricklin. "It's kind of creepy."

Brennan Miller, who played pitcher. After Tuesday's victory, Miller will try for each season-opener to be deemed a Tech holiday.

"I walk on because I tell guys when there's one out to make sure a line drive gets through the infield before they run," said Stricklin. "It's kind of creepy."

Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Scott Stricklin will finish out the season with the Jackets before leaving for Ohio.

Woods cancels 10 tournament appearances to come, Phil Mickelson jumps at chance to capture No. 1 in his absence

By Ric S. Thear
Ex-golf Pro

In a surprising announcement Wednesday night, Tiger Woods, the world's number one golfer for so long, announced that he will miss 13 tournaments between May 12 through July 31. Woods announced he was doing so in order to dedicate himself to teaching the golf options class offered at Tech during the summer.

Speaking informally with assembled gathering of reporters and fans at Atlanta International Airport on Wednesday, Tiger cited a lack of competition on tour as contributing factor to his decision.

"It's not like I can't take a couple of months off and still be No. 1 in the world Golf Rankings," he said. "I have more than twice as many points as my closest competitors." Woods added. "And I can't wait to set the course record at the new Georgia Tech Golf Club." Tigers Woods
New Tech options teacher

Woods will miss 13 tournaments total, including the US Open and the British Open. When asked why he was foregoing the chance to win the Grand Slam this year, Tiger simply said, "I can always win the Grand Slam next year."

"Tiger has been dominating the tour for so long that we all will appreciate his break to pursue teaching," Phil Mickelson said.

"I just hope he doesn't get shafted like many other first time Tech students," Mickelson added. "I certainly don't want anything bad to happen to the guy."

Students interested in enrolling in Woods' options class may register at the end of spring semester at the student center box office. Equipment will be provided.

By Buck Futter / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tech alumus Bryce Molder is considering a return to campus to enroll in Woods' options class. Equipment will be provided.
Shanghai’s exports are becoming a focus of the world, especially the world that revolves around both their BA and college basketball showgrounds. It looks like the next biggest export leaving China will be Wow Ming, the younger brother of Yao Ming, the current NBA star who signed with the Houston Rockets just recently.

This past Wednesday, Georgia Tech head coach Paul Hewitt and his staff held a press conference to announce the exciting news for Tech basketball fans.

"Wow Ming has declared his intent to come to Atlanta to play for Tech next season," said Hewitt. "We are certainly glad to have his name added to our roster. Next year is going to be our season, I know it. The Big Dance is ours. Final Four here we come."

"Wow, whose full name is Wow Ming, with Wow being his surname and Ming his given name, is coming from a small dynasty of basketball players.

Both his parents played for China’s National Teams and his older brother, Yao, has caused an international sensation after he joined the NBA, becoming the first-ever number one pick to come from an international basketball league. Wow’s father, Yao Zhi Yuan, stands 6-foot-7 and his mother Fang Feng Di stands 6-foot-3. His brother, Yao, is 7-foot-5-inches and weighs in at 296 pounds, barely tow- ering over Wow, who’s 7-foot-3-inches and 280 pounds.

"He has the genetic background to make him a superstar," said Tech head coach Paul Hewitt. "I told him Georgia Tech was the perfect place for him. Well, I mean I didn’t actually get to tell him, the translator told him for me, but Wow just looked at me and gave the thumbs-up sign, so I took that as a yes."

Many scouts, reporters, and schools have asked why Wow didn’t follow his big brother’s footsteps and head straight to the NBA. "I want Wow to get an education," said Yao and Wow’s mother. "Yao did not understand how to do that. He went straight for the big money and the NBA. But that is fine because now I have a new house and, as you Americans would say, a “bling-blinging” new car."

If Wow Ming did enter the NBA, he would become the fourth Chinese player in NBA history to do so, following his brother and Chinese National Team members Wang Zhizhi and Mengke Bateer.

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GIVE ME TWO PAIRS

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By Art Vandelay
College of Architecture faculty
ameritus

“Every now and then, it creeps out,” explains Paul Hewitt, Head Coach of the Georgia Tech basketball team. “Whether it is through the poetry he writes, the songs he sings, or the delicious potato brandade he made for me Tuesday, Bob Knight definitely has a soft spot.”

Tech, which lost to Knight’s Texas Tech squad Wednesday night, got the chance to see the refined side of the Red Raiders discipline-minded coach Tuesday evening.

Knight invited both basketball squads to his house in northeastern Lubbock for a night of “reflection, soulful music, male-bonding, and elegant dining” according to an invitation sent by Knight to the Yellow Jackets coaching staff.

Knight—as he usually does during his house gatherings—provided the majority of the entertainment and led several discussions on classical music, spiritual awakenings, and alternative forms of therapy.

“Life without Love,” the latest in his self-titled Spring Series, was met with a round of applause from both the Texas Tech squads and the Jackets.

“This was by far my favorite in his series,” said Red Raiders guard Andre Emmett. “I really connected with its strong undertones. I felt as if I was being slowly pulled down a lazy river on a hot summer day.”

After his opening session, Knight thanked both squads for visiting his house, and asked each to light a candle. According to sophomore forwards Ed Nelson, the candle was meant to represent the fire within themselves.

“I’ve always choked up on spiritual symbolism, so as expected I really got a lot out of it,” said Nelson.

The meal, however, was what left many players speechless. Besides the potato brandade, Knight served up butter-poached Maine lobster with braised artichokes, salad made with crisp, Chesapeake soft-shell crab, and grilled white corn salsa and a cilantro aïoli.

For those players over 21, Knight had a tantalizing array of wine featuring 20 sparklers and a large selection of Chardonnays, Pinot Noirs and Cabernets.

To top off the dinner, the Red Raiders head coach served a flurry of truffles.

“It was pure elegance,” said Tech shooting guard Marvin Lewis. “When you match the food with the décor, which featured pressed-tin ceilings, crown moldings and rich woodwork, materials-etched glass, bird’s-eye and heartwood cabinetry, and tortoise-shell blown-glass chandeliers, I can’t imagine a better atmosphere.”

After the meal Knight’s discussion on alternative forms of therapy raised many questions from the players, but luckily Knight was able to provide direction to those in attendance.

After the discussion, Knight gave each player a copy of the Inner Peach Home Spa Collection, which Knight used to provide a soothing musical background during the evening engagement. Knight gave a final piece of advice regarding the music.

“To enjoy the music on a deeper level, close your eyes, take a deep breath, and let the music carry you into your virtual oasis of serenity,” said the Raiders coach.

Hewitt thought there may have been a deeper message.

“It may have appeared that he was talking about a song, but I believe he was talking about our lives,” said the Jacket’s third-year coach.

Bob Knight, known more for throwing chairs than sitting on them, led several thoughtful discussions with the Jacket players on Tuesday evening.

By Scott Meuleners / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
The Georgia Tech Athletic Association has announced a new alcohol policy for Georgia Tech-sponsored sporting events. The policy will be initiated at the start of the Fall 2003 semester. Every Georgia Tech sporting event and venue will be allowed to sell alcohol to of-age individuals.

President Clough has been an advocate for such a policy since the beginning of his term as president, but has finally won Athletic Director Dave Braine over to the idea. "I wasn’t sure about it at first,” Braine said. “But then, I figured, if we just give a wristband to every of-age individual who pays $20 when they walk in, we might actually make some money off of this new policy."

The policy states that any sporting event attendee of appropriate age may buy a wristband that can be used at the regular snack and beverage vendors to receive unlimited beer on tap. There will be no hard liquor or grain alcohol served, but Braine has assured fans that there will be a vast amount of stored kegs so ensure that the alcohol supply does not run out.

"We have worked hard to create relations with Atlanta Beer Company, Gordon Biersch, and Sweetwater breweries to guarantee that the alcohol will not expire during a game," Braine said.

"We need fan support, so as long as they stay in the stands, we will supply the beer."

President Clough is excited about the new policy and looks forward to the impact it will have upon future game-goers and Tech fans. "I know how game-days work."

Wayne Clough
Tech President

"We need fan support, so as long as they stay in the stands, we will supply the beer."

Dave Braine
Athletic Director
Major changes to the BCS: new conference, new outlook

By Slim Pickens
Staff Writer

The BCS, the NCAA’s current method for determining a college football national champion, has been tweaked yet again announced the NCAA on Wednesday.

The most startling of the changes was the creation of a new conference, the New Big Ten, consisting of just eight teams: Notre Dame, Alabama, Southern California, Michigan, Oklahoma, Ohio State, Miami and Nebraska.

The eight BCS berths will automatically be granted to the members of this conference.

“We were shooting for about a sixty percent success rate in choosing who should play for the national championship,” said Donnie Duncan, chair of the NCAA Football Rules committee. “With the eight teams in this new conference having combined for 63 national championships since 1901, we figured we’d get about that success rate with this set up.”

The only dissenting voice to this measure came from Frank Beamer, head coach of Virginia Tech.

“I’ve got Michael Vick’s little brother coming to play for me and now I won’t get another shot at a national title with a Vick as my quarterback.”

Frank Beamer
Head Coach of Virginia Tech.

Most vocal of the objectors has been Bobby Bowden.

“Michigan won three of their championships before 1905,” said Bowden. “Those shouldn’t count for anything. We’ve been in the championship hunt just about every year in the past decade. To just cut us out like this is unfair.”

Some outside the committee have cried foul over Michigan being selected to the conference with Michigan head coach Lloyd Carr sitting on the committee.

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Donnie Duncan
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Major changes to the BCS: new conference, new outlook

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