During the Great Depression, a remarkable hero named James J. Braddock -- a.k.a. the Cinderella Man -- captivated the American sports scene. His underdog role, both in and out of the ring, gave the country someone to identify with, especially when he took on the champion of the world, the seemingly unbeatable Max Baer. Don't miss this week's Cinema @ 7 movie: Cinderella Man on GTCN 21

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to the defense. However, that does not mean that Clark will not get chances to play both ways. "Pat [Clark] is making good progress. I'm not ruling out the possibility of him playing both ways," head coach Chan Gailey said.

Tight End:
Seniors George Cooper and Michael Mathews lead this group. Cooper is listed atop the depth chart at this position, but it is very likely that both will see action on the playing field this season. Behind Cooper and Mathews are sophomore Colin Peeke and junior transfer Wayne Riles who came from Louisville.

Offensive Line:
The offensive line returns four out of five starters this year. Graduated senior Bead Honeyscutt will be replaced by senior Mansfield Wooto.

"Bead was a three-year starter and had the size, strength and skills to play that position even though he was a guard previous to that," said senior left tackle Mansfield Wooto. "I've been meeting up with him sometimes just to get some pointers on what to do, mostly technique, and how to use your hands."

Although Wooto has no game experience at the position for Tech, he practiced on the offensive line last spring, but was moved back to defensive tackle after the season ending injury that Daryl Richard had during the 2006 season. In May, Richard had hip surgery that will likely keep him out for the entire 2006 season. He will use a medical redshirt and will retain one year of eligibility for the 2007 season.

"I've been meeting up with him on what to do, mostly technique, and how to use your hands." Wooto returned from missing all of last season with a knee injury.

He replaces Mansfield Wooto who was last year's replacement starter for Richard. Behind these starters is sophomore Michael Johnson at end, and sophomores Vance Walker and Elris Anyaibe. All of them are talented, and all of them have game experience from last year.

Linebackers:
At linebacker, Tech needs to replace graduated senior Gerris Wilkinson. Sophomore Phillip Wheeler and senior Kainoa Hall return as starters for the Jackets.

However, it appears that Wheeler is moving to inside linebacker this season. Although it is not official, he has been going to the third string for a majority of the practice. This leaves open Wheeler's spot which is open to all competition.

Junior Avery Robinson and sophomore Jahi Word-Daniels provide depth at the position.

Safeties:
This is the position where Tech has the most question marks. Both Dwan Landry and Chris Reigstad made this the position with the least amount of experience.

Junior Dajy Jones is the frontrunner to take over at this position one of the safety positions. Senior Joe Gaston was also a frontrunner to take over the other safety spot, but suffered a knee injury on Wednesday that will likely keep him out for the entire 2006 season. He will use a medical redshirt and will retain one year of eligibility for the 2007 season.

"I've been meeting up with him on what to do, mostly technique, and how to use your hands." Jones was also a frontrunner to be against No. 3 Miami. James was called on to return a punt after the previous two punt catches were fumbled. "Johnson is one of the low points had been a small town, you get to grow and see everything," he said.

Johnson is looking forward to next season. "I'm really excited about next season," Johnson said, while talking about this fall.

It is most likely that James will be lining up across from Calvin in a tandem that will be worn out by many large sports stations as the "Johnson brothers." (Calvin and James are not related, by the way.)

Either way, Tech fans should get their first look at James's abilities on September 2 with the season opener against Notre Dame.

There is nothing that can replace the joy that a loved one or cherished friend brings to our lives. Each year the Georgia Tech community is deeply saddened by the loss of members of our own community. This spring we will honor the memory of each student, faculty, and staff member who passed away in the last year. Join us as we pay tribute to these individuals who have touched our lives and contributed to our community.
In singles competition, Rath and North both won their matches in straight sets and picked up two points for Tech. Blackmon clinched the victory with a win in straight sets and picked up two and North both won their matches and won their match, 8-5. Rajevac and North won their match 8-4 and Scott Blackmon and Rath took their matches in straight sets to tally two points for Tech, while Christy Striplin won her match to give Tech the fourth point to clinch the victory.

Tech returns to the court tomorrow and continues its four match road swing as they travel to North Carolina to play against the No. 3 Tar Heels in Chapel Hill. Tech will then travel the 11 miles to Durham to take on the No. 14 Duke Blue Devils Sunday.

Signing day for tennis is next week, and the Lady Jackets look to keep it that way as they

In their first ACC victory, the Jackets fought back to win four of the six singles points to comeback and take the match. Top-ranked Miller faced the No. 3 singles player Audra Cohen and fell in straight sets, but she was picked up by her teammates. Shosho, ranked No. 51 overall, No. 61 Alison Silverio, No. 76 Kelly Anderson and Whitney McCray all took their matches in straight sets to lead Tech. Tech continued the strong play against the Seminoles, as they defeated them 5-2 in Tallahassee, Fla.

Miller and Shosho got back on track as they won their doubles match 8-4. Coupled with a doubles win from Katie Anson and Silverio, Tech took the doubles point.

Tennis from page 37

Tennis Rankings

Tennis from page 37

losing streak as they dropped to No. 49 Virginia Tech, 5-2. In their first ACC victory, the Jackets won the doubles point as Rajevac and North won their match 8-4 and Scott Blackmon and Rath won their match, 8-5.

In singles competition, Rath and North both won their matches in straight sets and picked up two points for Tech. Blackmon clinched the victory with a win in straight sets in the number six singles match. Despite not having any singles or doubles players ranked nationally, the team as a whole is ranked No. 30 overall by the FILA Collegiate Tennis Rankings.
Spring football practice begins, young players look to fill vacant positions

By William Bretherton  Staff Writer

Even though it is 147 days until the next Leather at the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame, spring practice has begun.

The Jackets are expected to be slated in the top 25 in many preseason polls. They are returning eight out of 11 starters on offense, but only five on defense. Last year, the defense was the heart of the team. They helped win many defensive battles such as the 10-9 win over Clemson, and the 14-10 upset of Miami.

Tech has the chance to improve upon its 7-5 record from a year ago. In order to do that, the Jackets will have to fill many holes and improve some positions.

“Seven wins wasn’t too good [last year],” senior quarterback Reggie Ball said. “We were there in a lot of close games and we easily could have won a lot of those games. It just motivates us.”

Quarterbacks:
Ball will be at the helm for the last time. He will be a four-year starter. Last season, he threw for 2,165 yards, 11 touchdowns, 12 interceptions and a 48 percent completion percentage.

Last season, he had 54 receptions for 72 yards. Last season, Choice ran for 512 yards, 11 touchdowns, and averaged 4.4 yards per carry. Behind Choice and Grant on the depth chart are sophomore Loyall Gause, freshman Jaymal Evans and freshman James Johnson.

Wide Receivers:
First team All-American Calvin Johnson leads this group. There is no question about Johnson’s talent. Last season, he had 54 receptions for 888 yards, with six touchdowns and averaged 16.4 yards per catch.

This year, graduating senior Damarious Bilbo will be replaced at wide receiver by sophomore James Johnson. Seniors Xavier McGuire and Chris Dunlap will step in as the third wide-receiver in a three-receiver scheme, against N.C. State and Virginia.

James was born Sep. 9, 1985. He attended West Orange High School in Florida. There, he was rated the No. 55 player in the state by Super Prep. He was used as a wide receiver, but also used as a punt returner and had close to 500 yards rushing.

Johnson describes himself as a quiet person who would prefer a quiet evening with friends to huge campus parties. “Tech is a really good school as far as getting to know people like you.”

He chose to come to Tech over other schools mainly because of the location and the academics.

“Tech is a really good school as far as getting to know people like you.”

Johnson is in position to be a stand-out receiver as well.

The Jackets must replace a starting quarterback. He will need to show more consistency in order to start.

The Jackets are expected to be ranked the lowest in the ACC among starting quarterbacks. He was redshirted, saw limited playing time in his first year of play.

As a native of Oakland, Florida, he wanted his family to be able to commute to see him play at a location not too far from home.

His most exciting moment in high school was knowing that he was coming to Tech.

Johnson, like a lot of students at Tech, enjoys playing video games.

“I’m just now getting into adventure-RPG games. Right now I’m into Kingdom Hearts.”

Last season, Choice saw limited playing time behind Calvin and Damarious Bilbo.

When Calvin saw a lot of double coverage, Bilbo had many opportunities to step up to make plays. The 2006 season will be similar for James.

Last season he caught 14 passes for a total of 185 yards.

In Tech upset victory at Auburn, Johnson caught one pass for 25 yards, which took Tech in to Tiger territory. He had timely catches against N.C. State in the Jackets’ comeback that fell short.

See James, page 33

James Johnson joins Calvin

Next year, the Yellow Jackets will have two receivers named Johnson standing on the line of scrimmage as wide-outs. Everyone knows about 2005 All-American Calvin Johnson, but the lesser known James Johnson is in position to be a stand-out receiver as well.

With limited playing time last season, James Johnson has the potential to do great things. James, who was redshirted, saw limited playing time in his first year of play.

But as the year went on, he had more opportunities with the ball. Johnson started two games as the third wide-receiver in a three-receiver scheme, against N.C. State and Virginia.

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See James, page 33

James Johnson (89) saw limited playing time last season but was called upon to make important catches, like this one against Auburn.
The Gamekillers OBITUARIES April 2006

Game Killed

Andre Massis
Fernando Nieves
Zack Danielson

Eric Smith
Hanwey Shieh
Bharat Kumar
Jon Fox
Chad Utsh

MASSIS Andre, Sao Paulo, BR
Was lured away from a pretty young thing and into a heated game of ‘foos’ by his good friend Carl—more commonly known as ‘The Mayor of No Women’s Land.’ While Andre made several attempts to step away and put himself back into contention with the said female, Carl’s relentless pursuit for ‘all things that don’t involve getting some’ was ultimately too much for the young Andre. He quickly found himself sweating it out over the air hockey table, from where he would catch a glimpse of his young beauty heading out the door with another suitor. Andre’s game will be remembered by many, just not her.

NIEVES Fernando, New York, NY
His game was alive and well on its way to a ten digit exchange with a hotie known as Britney, but was suddenly bushwhacked by a classic Gamekiller, The Drama Queen. She ran into the scene, tears streaming, and sobbed a story of having seen her ex from four years ago. “I, I, I just can’t be done tonight, Brit.” Still a retrievable situation had Fernando kept his cool. But he didn’t. “Four years seems like a long time ago,” he said in all innocence. By the time The Drama Queen was done flipping the script, Fernando was recast in the role of “the villain” in front of a crowd of horrified onlookers. No one hooks up with an insensitive pig. Rest in peace Fernando, but you sleep alone.

DANIELSON Zack, Atlanta, GA
It was early in the evening yesterday when Zack’s game left us, and while it didn’t go without a fight, Zack did have his arse unceremoniously handed to him. Upon returning from the bathroom, Zack found the girl he was seeing had been surrounded by a bevy of masomorph, Early Man, who tried to use his abundant muscle to strong-arm him out of the picture. Zack did not keep his cool and accused his young lady friend of flitting with the first guy who came along. His girl, no doubt disgusted by Zack’s over-the-top bravado, filed the scene when he saw from attractive jealousy escalate into Zack throwing a punch, which was caught in midair by something that looked like a hand, but felt like a 20lb vice. By the time Zack regained consciousness, he was home alone and unable to console himself with his dominant hand.

SHIEH Hanwey, Los Angeles, CA
Hanwey was chatting up a Latin diva at an apartment complex barbecue and his game was hot enough to pose a fire hazard, that is until his friend and coconan of horror known as The Mass entered the picture and snatched Hanwey up like a flash flood of distraction. Somewhat of a loose cannon, The Mass immediately engaged Hanwey in the age-old male bonding tradition of lighting one’s own farts. Sure, there’s little more enticing than the ignition of one’s own combustible human gasses, but much like riding an electric scooter, you don’t look that cool doing it. When the laughter subsided, Hanwey was left with nothing but a good laugh and the faint smell of old eggs, while his lady was snared by a new suitor. Man, talk about blowing it.

KUMAR Bharat, Jacksonville, FL
After kicking his game to a leggy redhead at a dorm mixer, Bharat was interrupted by
teror, a.k.a. British Accent Guy. Women are drawn to men with British accents, so all it took was a single ‘pardon’ to make his girl raise an eyebrow toward this game killing Redcoat. This prompted Bharat to get nixed by calling out the guy’s busted grill of yellowing bad teeth and comparing the merits of baseball over cricket. The British Accent Guy smiled and opened his mouth only to offer small bits of non-confrontational banter, allowing his accent to seep into the girl’s brain like a piece of brilliant propaganda. In the end, the Brit would invade on Bharat’s territory with ease, taking the girl, and leaving Bharat’s game stoned on the road as a piece of collateral damage.

SMITH Eric, Washington, DC
His game came to its demise in the most unlikely of circumstances. While engaging in two of his most pleasurable pastimes: talking about boats, with his other passion, a beautiful girl who seemed genuinely interested. They were even planning to go out in his 15-foot dinghy, only to hit unseen rocks in the form of The One Upper, the classic Gamekiller who lives by the motto ‘Anything you can do I can do better.’ Sure enough, The One Upper claimed to not only own boats, but he also boasted of captaining his own 40-foot vessel. Eric tried to navigate to the calmer waters of chat talk but was run over again by The One Upper’s supposed vintage German roadster. The tension quickly mounted, and soon the two were engaged in a ruthless game of one-upmanship. On and on they went, seeing what the other guy just said and raising him. When the smoke cleared, Eric had won the great, fast, but the girl was nowhere to be found. No one takes a braggin’ Eric’s game was last seen drifting away towards the vast sea of loneliness in an undersized boat.

UTSH Chad, New Brunswick, NJ
His game was faring nicely at the local coffee shop with a seemingly receptive late drinker called Rita and he seemed well on his way to a little afternoon delight, that is until the cardy-wielding Gamekiller known as ‘IQ’ entered the picture. This pompous scholarly scavenger, famous for luring men into heated debates on subjects of which they know nothing, overheard the conversation turning to art and pounced. Immediately he steered the dialogue into an area known as Out Of Chad’s Deep where he would dish out over increasing portions of intellectual emasculation. Chad reacted as anyone with a 20 point IQ deficit facing ‘IQ’ would: the wrong way. No, the answer to “When do you feel Picasso peaked?” isn’t to shove the questioner in the chest. Rita was left to apologize emphatically for Chad’s actions and asked if she could make up for it in some way. Chad tried to recover, but it was too late. He had lost his cool, and his game would retire home, where it would begin its own blue period.

Game Killed

Fox Jon, Landon, UK
Jon’s game, beloved to many a cheerleader and facilitator of the ménage of 2003, was faring well at a Gold Coast club with a delightful pair of sisters. That is until the playboy-predator and full time Gamekiller simply known as Kashi Munni entered the picture. A well-endowed socialite famous for trashing 5star hotel rooms, Kashi had traveled in from oil rich lands wearing expensive Italian loafers and indoor sunglasses. Drinks were bought for willing and unwilling recipients alike with his family’s fortune, which he shamelessly flaunted in the form of an array of high status plastic. This caused Jon to suddenly lose his cool and go on the defensive by opening a tab of his own. On his debit card. After three rounds, Jon’s account was maxed. Shortly after he was dropped off alone would Jon learn the hard way that a woman’s affection should never be for sale, and that many a man has gone broke trying to prove otherwise.

Obituaries can be created and sent via email to friends at gamekillers.com

Keep Your Cool. Axe Dry.
The fencing club competed at their first national competition this past weekend at Clemson. The club sent squads for men's foil, saber and epee and women's foil. Five out of the 11 Jackets that competed scored in the top half of their respective brackets. In 'A' competition were Morgan Hunter (8th, men's saber), Paul Heim (9th, men's foil) and Haining Yu (11th, women's foil). Clinton Smith finished 12th in men's foil 'B' and Andrew Coetschak finished 13th in men's saber 'C' after taking up saber only two months ago.

Economos two-RBI single.

Payne came up in the bottom half of the seventh and broke the tie with a leadoff home run. It was his seventh of the season, and the second straight day that he hit one over the outfield wall. Later in the inning, the Jackets loaded the bases up for Blackwood. He drove in a run to make the score 5-3. This was followed by a Trapani RBI ground out, and an RBI single by Wieters to make the game 7-3. The game was not without drama. In the top of the ninth, the Eagles loaded the bases with no one out. Sophomore catcher Jeremiah Parker struck out. Then junior outfielder Mike Economos grounded out, but drove in a run to make the game 7-4. That would be the final score in this one as Wieters struck out the last batter infielder Brett Pelfrey to end the game.

“[Any] time you go on the road in this league, you'd better be ready to play,” Hall said.
Softball from page 38

Seminoles took the first game by a score of 9-1. According to Earleywine, the pitching “did not hold up” and the Jackets did not have “a chance to come back”.

“Our biggest problem was communication,” Haller said. “We were not listening to the coaches or listening to each other.”

Earleywine was “frustrated” after losing the series to the Seminoles.

“Florida State out-hit us. Our pitchers had a dry spot, and we came short of our goal of winning the series,” he said.

The Jackets took the lead in the first inning of the second game as Morales scored on a Haller single. The Jackets scored four runs in the second inning on a homerun by Sheridan and Morales and a two-RBI single by Humphreys and freshman Lacey Richardson.

Junior Kristina Hull and Morales each had an RBI in the seventh inning as Tech tacked on two more runs. Junior Caitlin Lever earned a single, stole a base and scored a run.

Haller at the pitcher position, capped off the game with her school-record sixth save. Haller currently holds the school record for saves in a season and leads the conference in the category this season. The Jackets won the second game by a score of 8-3.

“We just played the game for ourselves,” Haller said. “We didn’t worry so much. We wanted to show that we are not a team than can run away.”

On Sunday, Hosier and Hull drove in runs between them as the Jackets collected a total of eight hits.

“Hosier is one of our most consistent players,” Earleywine said. “She is always hitting and swinging the bat well. If I was a player, she would relax me because of her poise. She brings confidence to the other hitters.”

On the mound, sophomore Humphreys and freshman Lacey Richardson allowed just two hits between them. Hull gave up a pair of runs, one of which was a home run hit by Michelle Snyder.

Hull and Haller each had a home run on Sunday, but it was not enough as the Jackets fell to the Seminoles, 7-4.

Earleywine wants “not get the taste out of his mouth” in reference to the past weekend. “We definitely look forward to another opportunity to regain our respect.”

The Jackets play a three-game series this weekend at N.C. State, and the next home game is Tuesday, April 11 against Georgia Southern at 4 p.m.
Baseball rides .500 streak

By William Brethen
Staff Writer

The Jackets are in a midseason slump as they go into the second half of the season. They have won seven of the last 14 games. Over the past week, they went 2-3 against Maryland and Georgia Southern.

"I think that we are making teams better than they really are right now," said senior left fielder Steven Blackwood. "Whether we are playing against Maryland or Georgia Southern, they are both very competitive teams that are very good."

Last weekend, the team traveled to Maryland and faced a team which they had played against earlier last season. They lost 6-3. Maryland pitcher turned against the Jackets. They lost seven runs in the first two innings. In the rubber match, the Jackets had a season-high 21 hits and three runs in only one inning of work.

The Jackets, however, did have some success at the plate. Second baseman Mike Trapani hit his first run shot. The Jackets got on the board in the seventh, but were unable to come away with a victory in a lopsided 3-0 loss.

Taking Gold: Sophomore Chandler Alford won three gold medals and the Junior National Championship in Orlando this week. He is training at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs for the next three months.

Sophomore Michael Fisher makes a play at shortstop. The Jackets have gone 7-7 in their last 14 games after starting the season 16-0.

Sophomore Chandler Alford

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Haller hits conference record 17th homerun

By Randy Darnowsky
Contributing Writer

The Jackets hosted the Chattanooga Mocs for a doubleheader on Wednesday. Freshman sensation Whitney Haller earned three home runs against the Mocs and hit .47. She currently holds the single-season school and conference record in home runs with 17, which is also tied for the second in the NCAA. She also holds the school record for RBI and runs scored in a single season.

Senior Amy Hosier hit a walk-off home run in the second game to lead the Jackets past the Lady Mocs. Sarah Wood earned the win for the first game, and Whitney Humphreys won the second for the Jackets. The Jackets had a combined 18 hits on Wednesday.

The Tech softball team hosted ACC-rival Florida State last weekend in Atlanta and dropped two of the three against the Seminoles. Haller hit two homeruns and had five RBIs for the weekend. Although she does not worry about statistics, Haller currently leads the conference in home runs, RBIs, runs scored, total bases and slugging percentage. The freshman sensation states that she is a “team player” and adds that there is still “much room for improvement.”

Head Coach Ehren Earleywine summarized Haller’s performance as “amazing.” “I would have only expected an upperclassman to perform like her,” Head Coach Earleywine commented. “I would have to think where we would have been without her performance on the basis of a win-loss standpoint,” Earleywine said. During the first game, sophomore Whitney Humphreys allowed three runs over five innings. Earleywine claimed that Humphreys is Tech’s “hottest pitcher.” During the past weekend, “Humphreys gave us a chance to win and pitched strikes,” Head Coach Earleywine added. Junior Alejandra Morales scored the only run after a sacrifice fly by senior Christine Sheridan, and freshman Blaire Shimmel doubled and went for 2. The Jackets committed four errors, three of which occurred in the same inning, as the Jackets return to action next week as they travel to Athens, Ga. to compete in the Spec Towns Invitational on April 8.