

# Football Forecast

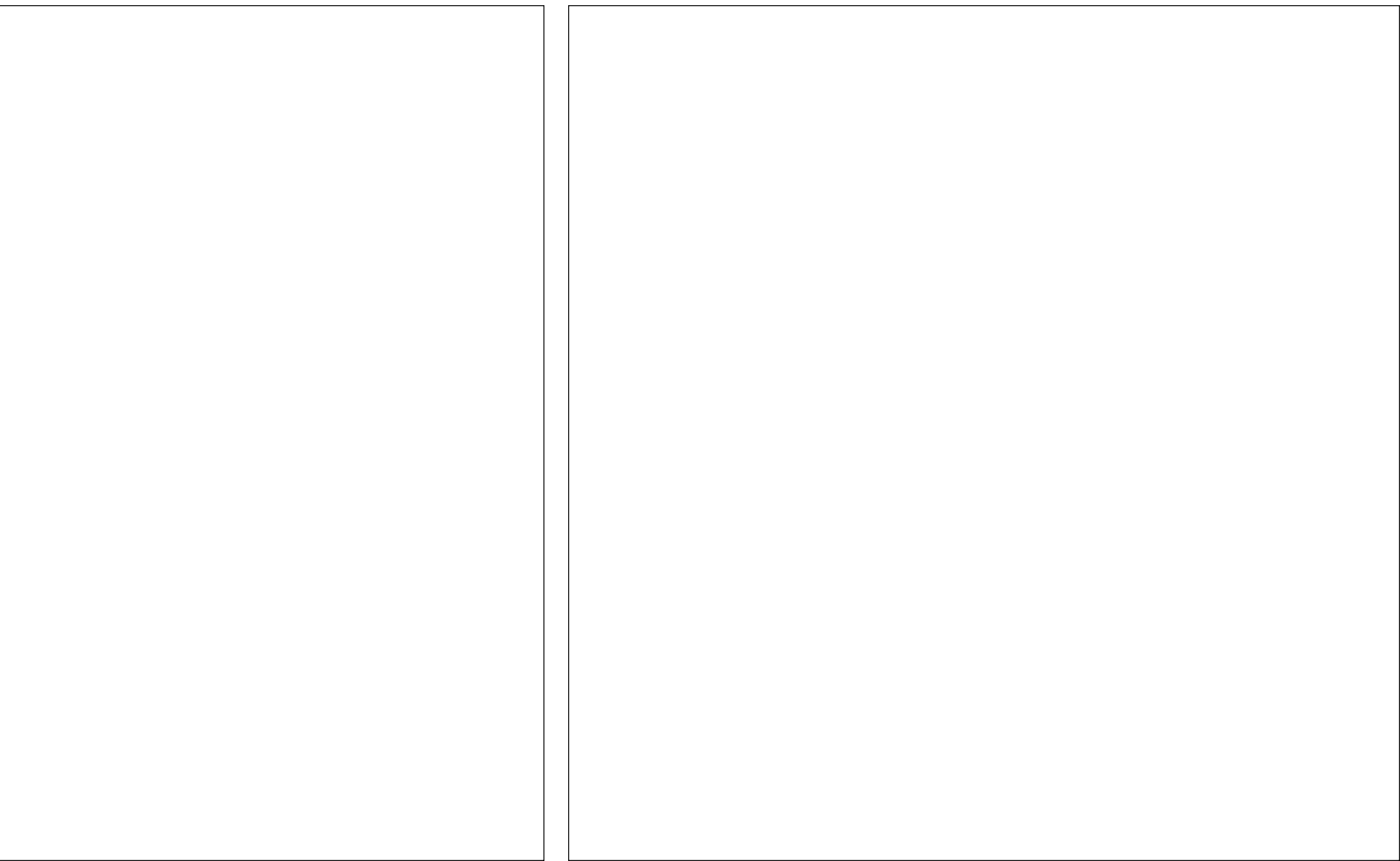
# WEEK EIGHT

<b>Lange</b> (81-24) 13-2	<b>Toner</b> (80-25) 13-2	<b>Siva</b> (76-29) 11-4	<b>Chin</b> (75-30) 13-2	<b>Jones</b> (75-30) 13-2	<b>Scherrer</b> (74-31) 13-2	<b>Grove</b> (73-32) 12-3	<b>Kazi</b> (72-33) 9-6	<b>Wiggins</b> (72-33) 13-2	<b>Honea</b> (71-34) 13-2	<b>Freeman</b> (70-35) 13-2	<b>Hashmi</b> (67-28) 12-3
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<i>Virginia at Florida St.</i>	FSU	FSU	FSU	FSU	FSU	UVA	FSU	FSU	FSU	FSU	FSU	UVA
<i>Maryland at North Carolina</i>	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC	MARY	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC	UNC
<i>Wake Forest at N.C. State</i>	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST	NCST
<i>Alabama at LSU</i>	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	ALA	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
<i>Mississippi at Arkansas</i>	ARK	ARK	ARK	ARK	ARK	ARK	ARK	MISS	ARK	ARK	ARK	ARK
<i>Mississippi St. at Kentucky</i>	KEN	KEN	KEN	KEN	KEN	MST	KEN	KEN	MST	MST	KEN	KEN
<i>Penn St. at Michigan</i>	MICH	PSU	PSU	PSU	MICH	MICH	PSU	MICH	PSU	PSU	PSU	PSU
<i>Syracuse at West Virginia</i>	SYR	SYR	SYR	SYR	WV	SYR	SYR	SYR	SYR	WV	SYR	SYR
<i>Colorado at Missouri</i>	MISS	MISS	MISS	MISS	MISS	COL	COL	MISS	COL	COL	MISS	COL
<i>Oklahoma St. at Texas</i>	TEX	TEX	TEX	TEX	TEX	TEX	TEX	TEX	TEX	OSU	TEX	OSU
<i>Washington at Oregon</i>	ORG	ORG	ORG	ORG	ORG	WASH	ORG	ORG	ORG	ORG	ORG	WASH
<i>California at Arizona St.</i>	AST	CAL	AST	AST	CAL	CAL	AST	AST	AST	CAL	AST	AST
<i>Butler at Quincy</i>	BUT	BUT	BUT	QUIN	BUT	QUIN	BUT	BUT	BUT	BUT	QUIN	BUT
<i>Tusculum at Austin Peay</i>	AP	AP	AP	AP	AP	AP	AP	TUS	AP	AP	TUS	AP
<i>Bethune Cookman at Hampton</i>	HAM	HAM	HAM	HAM	HAM	HAM	HAM	HAM	HAM	HAM	BC	BC

As the leaves change color and the miserable winter weather approaches, the ever-vigilant Football Forecasters are at it again. ("ever-vigilant" is a two word adjective and should be hyphenated.) The guy carrying the "Will Write Stories for Food" sign hung onto first place this week. He hopes a strong Forecast showing will help him find a job in Minnesota so he can live under the enlightened rule of Jesse "The Governor" Ventura. The Online Editor wisened up last week and decided "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em," so he managed to stay only one game back. The thrill of the race for the Forecasting crown has him so tense he doesn't even have time to fingerprint- it's kind of sad, really. The Philly Cheesesteak remained at #3 in the BCS (Breadstick Championship Series) standings this week. The stiff competition has left him begging for Deliverance. Maybe *that's* why his hair looks like that... The retired FFC editor is a step ahead of everyone this week- she knows that all the final scores for tomorrow's games are available at [www.abcnews.com](http://www.abcnews.com)- right now! Since she doesn't have to think about her picks, she is going to spend the extra time watching coverage of John Glenn's historic mission to Mars aboard Pathfinder. The Six-point Scribe next looks to the Layout Editor- or at least he would if the Layout Editor bothered to show up and do anything. So much for the Scribe's efforts to keep this edition of the Forecast insult free. Must be Layout boy's influence rubbing off. Skippy's been playing Word Association an awful

lot. Let's offer him a quick round. What's the first thing you think of when I say... oh... I don't know... "syrup?" Even in her performance-enhancing, Sudafed-induced coma, the office jock can only think about one thing- the Talkmaster. She confided her true feelings for Mighty Whitey to the Scribe just the other day. "He is so dreamy. He's just horribly gorgeous!" Hey, what are all those shouts of "I quit" and "Go ahead, fire me!"? It can only mean there is a News Editor logjam in eighth place. They each have so much in common, like their habitual "Dawson's Creek" viewing. Maybe they could co-host a weekly DC party. But most of all, they really seem to like long, long phone calls... Pocohontas continues to brutally weigh the poor, poor News section down with humongous amounts of space to fill. Maybe her fancy new(er) computer will appease her. The Photo maven solidified his hold on next-to-last with a 13-2 week. Everyone knows he can't be a decent judge of what constitutes bickering since he can't see past his photo squares blinders. Let's take a quick cigarette break. Ahh, refreshing. On a completely unrelated topic, the Entertainment Editor is bringing up the rear. He is trying to drag the Scribe to the Student Center Cafeteria (could be worse, could've been... never mind), so this is going to have to wrap up now. See you next week, unless Don Rickles or Captain Morgan herself reclaim this spot. One last word association to send you on your way- what's the first thing you think when you hear "breadsticks?"



Five games back with four weeks to play. It's possible.

# Men's basketball plays poorly in exhibition loss to Athletes in Action

By Nate Owen  
No cheering please

The Georgia Tech Men's Basketball Team has a lot of work to do. In an exhibition game played on Monday night, the Jackets looked very tentative and nervous, leading to a sloppy 84-73 loss to Athletes in Action.

With the exception of only a few short spurts by the Jackets, the Athletes in Action (AIA) controlled the play for most of the game. One of those spurts forced a 41 all tie at the midway intermission and another with about 5 minutes to play in the game shrank the AIA lead to 2, but the Jackets would get no closer.

The Jackets, who lost their star player, Dion Glover on the first day of practice, had another scare when Jon Babul and Alvin Jones went down on the same play late in the second half. Babul's injury looked the more serious of the two, as he was carried to the bench with an apparent knee injury. Jones' injury came on an apparent elbow (the referees didn't see it that way) above the eye that was closed in the final minutes of the game.

Junior guard/forward Jason Floyd, who shot 8 for 13 from the

field canning 5 treys in the process, had 21 points, paced Tech in the game. Jones chipped in 18 points and 4 blocks before he went down, and T.J. Vines had 15 points, including 4 three-pointers.

The game was marred with turnovers and poor shooting. The major faults for the Jackets were an inability to rebound or shoot free throws. The Athletes in Action outrebounded the Jackets almost 2-1 at 55 to 30. But just as important, Tech shot a woeful 8-21 from the strike. If Bobby Cremins' team is going to get better, improvement must start from these two areas.

A pleasant surprise for the "rambunctious" 1,823 people in attendance at the not-so-Thrilla Dome was the offensive play of Alvin Jones. His work during the off season in the low post created a sorely needed facet of the game for a team that had lost much of its scoring punch in the off-season.

"The one positive thing was that we were getting the ball inside to Alvin," said Jackets head coach Bobby Cremins. "I thought that was really good. Alvin played very well. He got a little tired, though, and they pushed him away from the basket." Todd Fuller, a '97 graduate of NC

State, who is currently employed by the NBA's Golden State Warriors, led the AIA with 20 points. Another NC State graduate, Jeremy Hyatt, put the nail in the coffin of the Jackets when he nailed three straight trifectas down the stretch, as it seemed the Jackets might be able to jump back into the game.

Casey Shaw, a '98 graduate of the University of Toledo, who had 15 points and 9 rebounds, was one of the other AIA players in double figures, along with Mike Penberthy, a '97 graduate of Master College, who chipped in 13 points.

The game marked the debut of Tony Akins in a Georgia Tech uniform. The highly touted freshman guard from Lilburn seemed nervous and unsure on the court, although he only made one turnover. Akins shot a disappointing 2 for 17 from the field for 5 points.

Darryl LaBarrie, also in his first game for Georgia Tech, gave the Jackets some good minutes off the bench, scoring 5 points and giving some needed rest to Vines and Akins. LaBarrie is a transfer from Florida A&M who sat out last season to become eligible. Ashley Kelley, a redshirt junior who has made his living on the practice squad, was



By Dale Russell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

**One of the few bright spots for the Jackets was Alvin Jones, who showed that his offensive game has improved significantly over the offseason.**

the only other Tech reserve to see playing time.

"We needed a game," commented Cremins on the game. "We looked very nervous at times and tentative. Obviously, we didn't play real well, but that's why we have exhibition games. When you have a game like that, you want to learn something

from it."

The next test for the Jackets will be next Monday night as they take on All-Star California at 7:30 in the Arch Deluxe at Alexander Memorial Coliseum. The Jackets will then start their regular season at home the next week against Charleston Southern.

## Maryland

from page 31

204 total yards, not bad for a first career start.

With 179 yards rushing, Burns became Tech's first 100-yard rusher this season. Also, he was named ACC Rookie of the Week.

"Joe Burns had a good day," praised O'Leary. "We needed someone to step up, and he did that."

Hamilton's passing improved in the second half. He completed one-half of his passes in the second half, including a 12-yard touchdown pass to sophomore fullback Ed Wilder in the final seconds of the third quarter to put a 31-14 stranglehold on the Terps. Overall, Hamilton was 11-26 and passed for 118 yards, one touchdown and no interceptions. He led the team to 312 yards of total offense.

Tech extended its lead on Chambers's 38-yard field goal with 6:15 left in the third quarter. Tech got the ball in great field position after Stimson hits sophomore wide receiver Jason Hatala hard, resulting in another fumble deep in Maryland territory. Yet a field goal was the best that Tech could do on that possession.

Chambers did not have a good day kicking the ball; he was unsuccessful in four out of five field goal attempts. Had Chambers made each of the field goals, Tech would have scored over 40 points for the sixth

time this season; however, the missed opportunities cannot be blamed solely on Chambers.

The Tech offense blew many chances to score and could not pick up necessary first downs for most of the game, which can be attributed to a number of instances of poor blocking, dropped passes, and fumbled snaps.

Maryland's 252 yards of total offense were almost entirely on the ground. The Terps' nonexistent passing game produced only 27 yards on 4 completions (15 attempts).

For the most part, the Jackets kept Maryland's running attack under control. Jordan led the Terapins with 99 yards rushing, but he did not score a touchdown. Jordan did break into the secondary on many occasions, but Tech's defensive backs stayed on their toes.

The first place Jackets have a bye this week and will finally be able to recuperate from the tough midseason stretch. By next week's game, the Jackets should be back to full strength. Tech's biggest concerns, Hamilton's hip and Rogers's shoulder, will most likely be in good shape, meaning that the Jackets will have all the confidence in the world when they play Clemson next Thursday night on ESPN.

Now that the Jackets have come this far, let's see how far they can go.

## Lady Jackets' comeback falls short against Latvia

By David Williams  
Needs to update his lu info

On Tuesday night, the Georgia Tech Women's Basketball Team took on Team Latvia in an exhibition game at the Thrillerdome. Latvia is a touring team mainly consisting of players from Yugoslavia and some from Lithuania.

This game marked the debut of the new look Yellow Jackets as the team has attained five new highly touted recruits who got an excellent taste of high-level basketball from the Europeans.

European basketball can be characterized as very fundamental, with crisp passing and execution of designed plays. Latvia was no different as they pushed out to a 7-point lead after 5 minutes of play, burning GT on backdoor cuts and very good execution of 3-on-2 fast breaks.

The Lady Yellow Jackets were hurt by missed layups, poor free throw shooting, and turnovers which came mostly from senior Kenya Williams. At 6-1, Williams gave up a lot of height to the centers from Latvia (6-6 and 6-4), and it affected her shot at first, as she had to adjust to shooting over the opponents. However, Williams' strong defense inside coupled with nice inside scoring from Candice McCallum kept the Jackets in the game for a while. More turnovers and eight missed threes

enabled Latvia to open up a 14-point 38-24 lead at halftime led by Rima Dauniene with 11 points and 4 rebounds. Williams battled back from a bad start to finish the first half with 13 points while freshman Ashley Ebert added in 10 points which included two three pointers.

The second half opened up with more of the same, as Latvia maintained about a ten-point lead. Then the game turned into the Danielle Donehew show. Donehew, who started out 0-3 from trey land in the first half, hit 5 threes in fifteen minutes to keep the Jackets close. Down 17 with 11 minutes to go, Williams caught fire, scoring ten points over the next eight minutes to tie the game at 84 with 4:13 left. Latvia extended the lead back to six, but the Jackets battled back to within one as New York phenom Niesha Butler took over making two steals, dropping off an assist, and canning a three over three minutes starting at that 4:13 mark. Regina Tate closed the lead to one with 43 seconds left, but like so many times last year, Tech could not get over the hump. Latvia made four of six free throws to close the Jackets out 96-91.

Bright spots for Tech were the heart they showed to come back from so far down. Also, the point guard play of Millie Martinez was nice, as she shook off some bad turnovers in the first half to finish with

four assists for the game. Williams finished with 25 points, 10 rebounds, and two assists as she played all but one minute of the game, showing she is in excellent condition. Regina Tate and Candice McCallum rounded out the scoring with 10 each. Bad points for Tech were the turnovers, 19 for the game, and spotty defense. Even though they forced Latvia into 26 turnovers, Tech didn't do a good job of stopping the ball on the fast break and sometimes let the point guard from Latvia go coast to coast from the defensive end. Asked to comment on turnovers and inability to pull out the win, Head Coach Agnus Bereranto was optimistic.

"The turnovers are to be expected with the young guards we have. Some of the players weren't used to their style of passes especially when we pushed the ball up the floor and that's why we turned the ball over. As far as not being able to pull it out, I'm more focused on the fact that we came back from 17 down. Last year's squad would have folded, but we actually came back and tied it up. And my goodness, we put up 91 points against a professional European team. Last year we only averaged 63 against regular college teams." Catch the ever-improving Lady Yellow Jackets November 12 in their last exhibition at home. Game time is 7 p.m.

# Cross country teams struggle at the ACC Championships

By Larry Memberg  
Don't diss my family name

The ACC Championships came and went for the men's and women's cross country teams, but unfortunately the Yellow Jackets missed their opportunity to gain some ground in the conference. Coach Alan Drosky anticipated Tech's chance to improve upon last year's seventh place finishes, but this year both the men's and women's squads ran to the same result.

Finishing in the latter half of a meet was new territory for the Jackets this season. The women's team went into the ACC Championships enjoying a three-meet winning streak, and the men had won two titles in their last three competitions. However, the Jackets weren't able to keep their dominance going. The Jackets placed seventh out of the ACC's nine schools, with the men scoring 201 points, and the women tallying 207.

"Let's look at the guys' results," said Drosky. "The difference between our first and third runner

was about 1:24. For most of the season, we've had 10 guys within one minute."

Sophomore Joe Stegall led the men's team with a time of 25:29.8 in the 8 K race to place 18th overall. He was followed by senior Brad Mills (26:23.3) in 37th place and sophomore Todd Gandee at 47th overall.

For the first time this season, the women's top finisher was senior Judy Johnson. She ran the 5 K course in 18:21.2, the 22nd best time overall. Sophomore Carolyn Kreiger and junior Becky Megesi came in right next to each other at 45th and 46th places.

"I'm disappointed," said Drosky. "It certainly wasn't the performance I was expecting."

Tech won most of its meets easily, but their early season contests contained no ACC opponents.

Drosky feels that this lower level of competition affected Tech's readiness for the ACC meet.

"I think that's a big part of it. Looking at it now, it's definitely something we'll address next year.

We need to face more ACC teams."

In fact, Tech expected to compete against Clemson and Wake Forest at the traditionally strong Furman Invitational on October 10. However, the two schools opted to participate in the NCAA Preview Meet, held on the same day in Lawrence, Kansas. Both Clemson and Wake finished ahead of Tech at the ACC Championships last Monday.

The cross country season is far from over. Tech still has the chance to qualify for the national championship at the NCAA District 9 Championships.

"I definitely don't view the season as ruined," said Drosky. "We made a lot of improvements, you just don't get another chance until one year later. One day goes a long way to how you think about the season."

Now Drosky is very anxious for the District meet, coming up next Saturday in Birmingham, Alabama. The men's and women's teams will hopefully bounce back from their disappointing seventh-place finishes

and run well at District.

Tech did the same thing in 1997. They finished low in the ACC, but rebounded with a strong performance at the District meet.

Drosky and his crew will keep on training in an effort to break back into the top five in District 9. At this point in the season, they're cutting down on the number of miles run in a week. More emphasis is being put on tapering skills and resting. The men, who normally run 90 miles a week, will tone it down to 50 miles a week, while the women will lower their total to 40 miles a week from 65 miles a week.

"It's going to take a great race from all of them. You have to have an emotional attachment to the race," stated Drosky.

The ACC Championships were the first time in 1998 that the men finished below third or the women's team placed lower than fourth, so the Jacket runners are eager to prove themselves again. They'll get their second chance, when Tech fights to add another title to this season's collection.

## Clemson from pg 32

"I would say that along with Georgia, Clemson is our biggest rival because they are so close, and I know our players like going up there and playing," stated O'Leary.

Although the Jackets are not playing football this weekend, there is another game that will have a significant impact on Tech's potential bowl invitations. Florida State and Virginia, two of the three teams tied for first place in the ACC, play each other this Saturday at 3:30 in Tallahassee. A Seminole victory will practically lock Florida State into capturing an ACC title, but a Cavalier victory could open up the gates for the Jackets to capture the ACC title and maybe even receive a bowl championship series bid. Too many factors are still unknown, but be assured that the team will keep a close eye on that game.

Nevertheless, the Jackets will have one key conference game on their mind this Thursday. Georgia Tech will be pumped to face Clemson in front of 80,000 roaring fans at Clemson Memorial Stadium before a national television audience.

# Jackets improve to 6-2 with sloppy win over Maryland

By Matthew Memberg  
Hogging the computer

The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets went trick-or-treating last Saturday in Baltimore and came away with a nice treat: a 31-14 triumph over the Maryland Terrapins. The win improves the team's record to 6-2, 5-1 in the ACC and keeps the Jackets in a tie with Virginia and Florida State for first place in the conference.

With the victory over Maryland, the Jackets have earned the minimum number of wins necessary to qualify for a bowl game. This fact may be somewhat lost in the shuffle of the ACC title chase, but it should not go unnoticed. Recall that last year, Tech didn't earn its bowl-qualifying sixth win until the 10th game of the season, also a victory against Maryland.

Head coach George O'Leary is certainly pleased that Tech is bowl-bound after only eight games. "[Qualifying at this point in the season] takes some pressure off. We've done an outstanding job of playing eight one-game seasons, but we need to keep focused."

The Tech-Maryland contest, the Terps' first showing in Baltimore since 1991, was the first ever Division I-A game played at the brand-new Ravens Stadium. Both teams got a good look at the stadium since it was only one third full. Unlike Tech, Maryland is used to playing in front of empty seats.

The Jackets entered the game last Saturday as the favored team, a status they had not enjoyed in an

entire month. Playing an inferior team gave Tech an excellent opportunity to regain some confidence after having humble pie stuffed down their throat at home by the Seminoles the previous week.

The Jackets took that excellent opportunity and threw it out the window in the first half in Baltimore. The Tech offense evoked bad memories from the Boston College game, managing only 95 total yards in the first two quarters and missing two field goal attempts. Junior quarterback Joe Hamilton, who suffered a hip pointer in the loss to Florida State, was way off track, completing only six of 16 passes for 58 yards before halftime.

"I was in some pain but that was no excuse," admitted Hamilton. "It was very frustrating. Those plays I'm counted on as a quarterback to make, I just wasn't making them."

Things looked really bad for the Jackets during their first possession. Sophomore wide receiver Dez White hurt his left ankle on the first play of the game but was able to walk off the field under his own power. A few plays later, on a broken play, Hamilton lobbed the ball towards freshman running back Joe Burns in a desperate attempt to avoid a sack. His weak toss was grabbed out of the air by Maryland junior defensive end Peter Timmins, who then danced his way 32 yards into the endzone to give the Terps a 7-0 lead with 12:56 remaining in the first quarter.

Maryland did not retain the lead for long, though. White's dazzling 100-yard return of the ensuing kick-

off nullified the seven-point Terp advantage. His ankle injury was obviously not that serious.

The Tech defense stopped Maryland on its first two offensive series, but the Tech offense stalled both times. Maryland seized the lead again on its next possession with a 40-yard scamper by freshman quarterback Randall Jones, his first career touchdown. White gave Tech excellent field position again with another long kickoff return, but the Jackets were once again not able to get anything going. It took yet another exciting play by the swarming Yellow Jacket defense to tie the score.

With nine and a half minutes remaining in the second quarter, Maryland tried in vain to run the option against an all-out Tech blitz. Jones pitched the ball too high for sophomore tailback Lamont Jordan to handle, and the ball bounced right into the path of senior safety Jerry Caldwell. Caldwell scooted 27 yards for the score, the Jackets' second fumble recovery of the day and sixth defensive touchdown this season.

The rest of the first half was sloppy and ugly, with neither offense making much progress. Tech went into the locker room at halftime with the score tied at 14 despite zero offensive production in the first thirty minutes of play.

Both the Yellow Jacket players and their fans expected O'Leary to rip the team during his halftime remarks; however, that turned out not to be the case.

"He told us the second half decided the rest of our season," said



By Carrie Chin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

**Defensive end Felipe Claybrooks notched a sack and four tackles, helping the Yellow Jackets defense completely shut down Maryland.**

senior defensive end Nate Stimson. "He put it on us. He didn't yell at us. He didn't have to tell us we were playing like crap."

The Jackets obviously took O'Leary's halftime words to heart and came back out of the locker room showing determination and a definite will to win. The Ramblin' Wreck rolled out 17 third-quarter points and shut down the Terrapins for the remainder of the game. The winning score came with 8:25 remaining in the third quarter when Hamilton and Burns gave Maryland a lesson on the correct way to

run the option. Burns took the pitch from Hamilton and sprinted down the sidelines virtually untouched for a 44-yard touchdown. After the extra point by senior placekicker Brad Chambers, Tech was on top 21-14. In the second half, Burns could not be stopped or contained as he ran for 143 yards on 10 carries. In addition to the 44-yard touchdown, the Burns highlight reel also included a 54-yard tackle-breaking run on another option pitch from Hamilton. Burns finished the day with

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## SPORTS

Technique • Friday, November 6, 1998

**Jackets defeat the Terrapins in Baltimore**

Page 31

**Georgia Tech at Clemson**  
**Thursday, 8 p.m.**

TV/Radio: ESPN/640 AM, 105.7 FM



# Tech preparing for Thursday night trip to Death Valley

By Haynes Killen  
*A little too apologetic*

After a 31-14 thumping of their ACC rival, the Maryland Terrapins, the battered Jackets will take advantage of this upcoming off-weekend to recuperate and improve on its fundamentals before traveling 100 miles up Interstate I-85 to face the Clemson Tigers the following Thursday. The Jackets will look to continue their impressive play against conference opponents.

The Jackets (6-2 overall, 5-1 conference) are currently tied for first place in the ACC with the Florida State Seminoles and the Virginia Cavaliers. The Jackets enter the game with a powerful offense that ranks first in scoring with a 34.6 point average. Directing the Jackets will be none other than junior Quarterback Joe Hamilton. Hamilton leads the ACC in passing efficiency and is always a threat to run with the ball.

Maybe the most promising asset of this season for the Jackets has been in its special teams play. With All-America candidate Rodney Williams at the helm, Tech leads the conference in net punting with an average of just over 40 yards. Tech head coach George O'Leary hopes that punt returner/wide-out Charlie Rogers will be in good health to compete in Thursday's game. Rogers is recovering from a shoulder injury he received against Florida State. Rogers leads the conference in punt return yardage with an average of just above

14 yards per return. Tech has also relied on the exceptional play of kick returner/wide-out Dez White. White had a spectacular game against the Terrapins that included an eye-popping 100-yard kick return for a touchdown.

The Jackets are looking to rebound after an off-day from place-kicker Brad Chambers. Throughout his career at Tech, Chambers has at moments demonstrated brilliance in his kicking ability including a game winning boot against Clemson last season at Grant Field. However, Chambers had a rough time in Baltimore this past weekend, converting only one field goal in five attempts including a 24-yard kick attempt that ricocheted off the goal post upright.

Although last in the ACC in total yards allowed, the Jackets defense ranks third in the conference in points allowed. The defense is anchored by senior defensive end Jessie Tarplin, who leads the conference in sacks with 9 along with Clemson linebacker Adrian Dingle.

Despite coming off a successful 1997 campaign that included a 7-4 regular season record and an invitation to face the Auburn Tigers in the Peach Bowl, head coach Tommy West's Clemson Tigers (2-7, 1-6) are having one of its worst seasons in recent memory. Ranked eighth in the conference, the Tigers are coming off a heart-breaking 46-39 loss to a very tough N.C. State team. The Tigers' two victories of this season have come at the hands of two weak teams

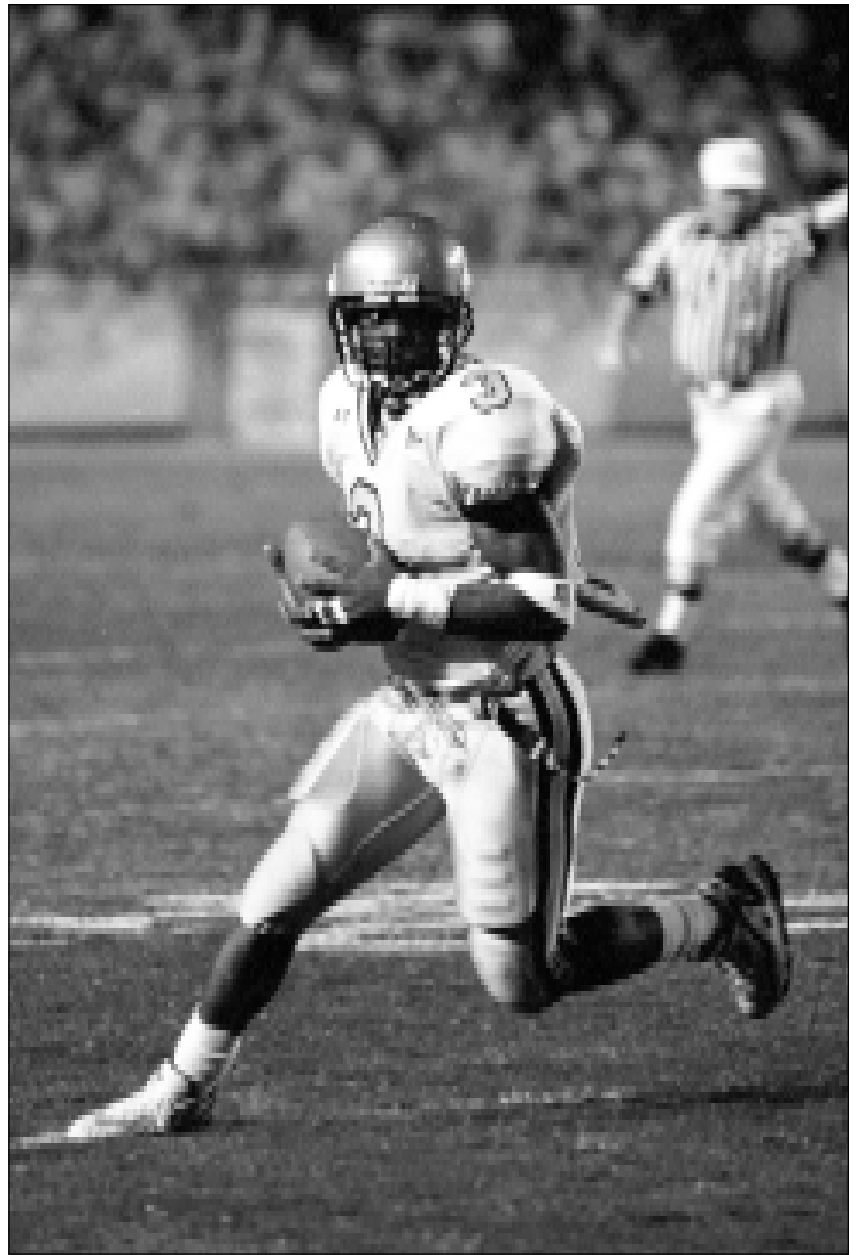
including Maryland, the worst team in the ACC, and Furman, a school with a division IAA football program. Many college football analysts predicted the Tigers to finish high in the conference, however, the Tigers have proven them wrong.

One element the Tigers are lacking is a consistent offense. Although Clemson demonstrated last weekend its scoring capability against the Wolfpack, as a team they still rank second-to-last in the conference in just about every offensive category including passing, rushing, total, and scoring offense. The team will look for direction from junior quarterback Brandon Streeter. Also, look out for tailback Travis Zachery, Clemson's leading rusher. He's just a freshman, but the Marietta, Georgia native is an upcoming star in the Clemson offense.

Entering the season, the Tigers were concerned about replacing its three year All-ACC linebacker Anthony Simmons. Simmons opted for the NFL after his junior year, but the Tigers have displayed a very promising defense without him. Led by defensive back Antwan Edwards and linebacker Adrian Dingle, the Tigers rank second in the conference in total yards allowed.

Although Clemson is down this year, they are still a threat to the Jackets as Tech has historically struggled in Death Valley. Clemson had beaten Tech four times in a row, before last year.

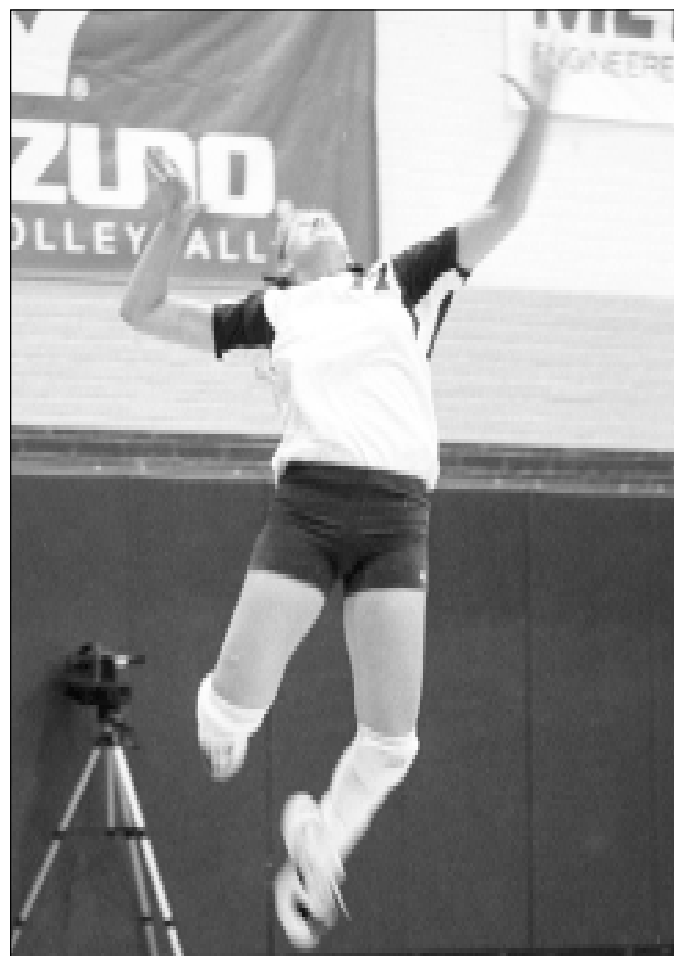
See *Clemson*, page 30



By Carrie Chin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Having this week off should allow Charlie Rogers and the other banged up Jackets to return to full strength for next week's Thursday night matchup against Clemson.

## Lady Jackets finish home schedule this weekend



By Kristi Odom / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The volleyball team, which is currently third in the ACC standings, plays host to ACC rivals Virginia and Maryland this weekend.

By Dale Russell  
*Photographer turned writer*

After a disheartening 0-3 loss at Florida State last weekend, the Lady Jackets rallied back this past Tuesday night to post a 3-0 victory over the Mercer Bears in front of a pathetic attendance of 278, compared to the 1,427 at the Clemson game.

The Lady Jackets were held to a season-low 33 digs in losing 15-6, 16-14, 15-11 to the Seminoles. The loss dropped Tech to third in the ACC.

The Jackets jumped to an early 11-3 lead in the first game against Mercer and kept on rolling, winning the match by a final score of 15-5, 15-4, 15-7.

Playing Mercer, a team that had gone 3-21 this season, provided sophomore Merran Miller, freshman Laura Grubka, and freshman Alexis Moran the opportunity to see more playing time. The highlight perhaps being Grubka's three kills of the evening.

Teryl Townsend led the Jackets with 10 kills, followed by Kyleen Bell who managed nine. Junior Amanda Sabo tallied 39 sets in the match as she filled the void created by injured Caroly Clevenger, who hasn't

played in six games, is still ranked eighth in the ACC in assists per game. Bell had a slow night, only earning a .263 kill average. Although the match was not as dramatic as the match against Clemson, which featured six game points and saw Coach Collier receive a yellow card warning, it was still good Yellow Jacket volleyball.

As the Jackets come down the homestretch, several players are among the ACC's leaders. Carla Gartner is ranked sixth in the ACC in hitting percentage and Maja Pachale is sixth in the league in kills per game. In the category of service aces per game, Amanda Medrow is ranked third and Aimee Boulet is ranked fifth. Bell is fourth in the ACC in blocks per game.

This weekend will be extremely important as the Jackets host two ACC matches. Friday's game against UVA is a battle for second place in the ACC. The Jackets will then host Maryland on Saturday. Both matches will begin at 7:30 p.m. in O'Keefe. As with any athletic event, crowd support plays a big part in the morale of the players, so come out and support the team and see what makes them as incredible as they are.

### TICKET BUZZ

The Georgia Tech volleyball team finishes its home schedule this weekend with two ACC contests. Tonight's 7:30 p.m. match against Virginia will be Met-Rx night. The first 100 fans will get free T-shirts. Saturday night's match against Maryland (7:30 p.m.) will be Senior Night. Both matches are at O'Keefe Gym.

The men's basketball team faces All-Star California in an exhibition Monday night at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free for students.

Coach Bobby Cremins will host Biscuits with Bobby Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. Chick-Fil-A will provide free biscuits and lemonade at the event, which is at O'Keefe.

On November 16, the men's team officially opens their season against Charleston Southern. At halftime, the world-renowned Cirque de Soleil will perform. See next week's *Technique* for more details.

The women's basketball team faces Slovakia in an exhibition Thursday at 7 p.m.

Some tickets still remain for the Clemson game on Thursday. Tickets are \$22 and they must be bought by Monday.

Final details for ticket distribution for men's basketball will be released shortly. Please see next week's *Technique* or visit <http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/tickets>.