

Georgia Tech waiting for someday to arrive

By **ROBYN NORWOOD**
Staff Writer

There is basically one reason things are looking so good for Georgia Tech this year: things were so bad before.

Before as in before last year, before Mark Price, before a sixth-place finish in the Atlantic Coast Conference and before winning its first game ever in an ACC tournament.

Coach Bobby Cremins earned ACC coach-of-the-year honors in just his second year of reconstruction in Atlanta largely because of Price, a Cremins recruit who led the league in scoring with a 20.3 average and was named ACC Rookie of the Year.

At a school that hasn't had a winning basketball season since 1979 and actually charted a 20-loss season (4-23) in 1981, last year's 13-15 record looked tantalizingly close to even.

But that was, after all, last year. "Our biggest challenge this year will be trying to sustain the enthusiasm we have brought in," Cremins said. "I don't think people will be taking us lightly anymore."

Wake Forest won't be — the Yellow Jackets handed Carl Tacy's team a 70-69 loss during the regular season last year. And neither will Maryland, after an overtime defeat in the first round of the ACC

tournament at the Omni in Atlanta.

With the element of surprise gone, Georgia Tech will have to depend on last year's freshmen — this year's sage sophomores — to lead the team.

Forward Danny Pearson had academic problems and transferred to Jacksonville University, but the other three freshman starters all return — bigger (6-11 power forward John Salley is up to 215 pounds from just 185), better (Cremins said Price has improved after playing in the Pan American games) and faster (that's Tim Harvey, who picked up some quickness after dropping 10 pounds from his 6-10 frame).

So Price is back. Unfortunately, the three-point goal is not. For Price, who hit 73 from beyond 19 feet to lead the league last season, that represents a 2.6 point-per-game drop in average. For Tech, that could represent some close losses.

Fresh in to assist Price in the backcourt is Bruce Dalrymple, the first All-American recruit (Parade Magazine, first team) ever to sign with the Yellow Jackets. A 2,740-point career scorer at St. Johnsbury Academy in Vermont, Dalrymple will start. The only question is where.

If it's at guard, Scott Petway, a 6-6 transfer from Pensacola (Fla.) Junior College will probably start at small forward. But if



Hot-shooting guard Mark Price, the ACC's 1982-83 leading scorer, again is the pivotal player on Bobby Cremin's squad.

Cremins uses the 6-3 Dalrymple inside, the other freshman, Craig Neal, moves in at guard.

A strong rebounder, Dalrymple averaged 20 boards and 28.5 points per game in his senior prep season.

"He's a real fighter and a battler," Cremins said. "But he realizes there's a major difference between high school basketball in Vermont and ACC basketball. He's going through that transition right now — but he's starting."

At center, returning starter Harvey may find himself just half that — the returning half. Junior Yvon Joseph, a transfer from Miami Dade North Junior College who was redshirted last year after an early season back injury, is likely to push Harvey out of the center position with his 6-11 frame.

A native of Cap-Haitian, Haiti, Joseph has only been playing organized basketball three years. But in his 32 minutes of pre-

injury playing time last season, Joseph scored 20 points.

According to teammate Salley, "If he gets the ball within four feet of the basket, he's going to score."

A little wisdom on the situation at Georgia Tech comes from one of the ancients — sophomore forward Salley, whose 11.5 average was second only to you-know-who.

"After each game (last year), I had dead butterflies in my stomach," he said. "I was more nervous after the game than before it."

"In New York they say the only way you learn to fight is to get beat up. That's what happened to us last season," Salley said.

Beat up or not, Cremins called Salley the brightest spot in the team's preseason drills. "He used to be very timid, but he's improved tremendously," the coach said. "He's grown a couple of inches and I think

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GEORGIA TECH YELLOW JACKETS

No.	NAME	HT/WT	CLASS	HOMETOWN
30	Anthony Byrd	6-2/180	Sr.	Apex, NC
45	Bruce Dalrymple	6-4/190	Fr.	Manhattan, NY
20	Scott Gardner	6-4/180	So.	Greenville, SC
44	Tim Harvey	6-10/225	So.	Plainfield, NJ
54	Yvon Joseph	6-11/245	Jr.	Cap-Haitian, Haiti
34	Jack Mansell	6-7/210	So.	Sharon, PA
10	Craig Neal	6-5/165	Fr.	Washington, IN
24	Scott Petway	6-6/210	Jr.	Chicago, IL
25	Mark Price	6-0/165	So.	Enid, OK
22	John Salley	6-9/215	So.	Brooklyn, NY
43	Greg Wilson	6-8/220	Sr.	Grand Ridge, FL

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