ACC Gameday

N.C. State at

Georgia Tech

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Site: Bobby Dodd Stadium

Television: JP Sports

Series record: 14-8 Georgia Tech Key player: QB Philip Rivers(NCSU) and QB Reggie Ball (GT)

Pack has given up 1,200 yards in the

"We have to cut down on penal-

1-3, 0-2 ACC

3-1, 1-1 ACC

past two games.

'Pack seeks revenge at Bobby Dodd

BY BRIANA GORMAN STAFF WRITER

After last weekend's ego-boosting 47-34 stomping of North Carolina, N.C. State is trying to maintain their focus on today's ACC challenge against Georgia Tech.

The Wolfpack visit Bobby Dodd Stadium today for the Yellow Jackets' homecoming game. State (3-2, 1-1) is looking to avenge

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its defeat in Raleigh last year, in which the Yellow Jackets came from

behind to steal the victory. Revenge might be hard to come by - the Yellow Jackets (2-3, 0-2) have won their past seven homecoming games and seven of the last eight meetings with the 'Pack.

"Georgia Tech's defense is out-inding," said N.C. State coach standing," Chuck Amato. "I think they're only giving up 18 points a game. They're run defense is outstanding."

Georgia Tech's defense was key in last year's victory and will have to play big again today to contain State's potent offense

The Wolfpack racked up 615 yards of total offense against UNC last week, with quarterback Philip Rivers leading the charge with a 423-yard passing performance. Senior wideout Jerricho Cotchery had the best game of his collegiate career, catching nine passes for 217 yards against the Tar Heels.

"They might be, if not the best, certainly one of the best offenses in the country right now," said Georgia Tech coach Chan Gailey. "Nobody has proven that there is an exact way to stop them."

Even with the status of star tailback T.A. McLendon still questionable, the the Wolfpack will likely have no problem scoring.

But its struggling, penalty-plagued defense could have problems against a young, talented Yellow Jackets offense. Georgia Tech is coming off an impressive overtime win against Vanderbilt, in which true freshman quarterback Reggie Ball proved that not only can he throw the ball, but he is also a threat on the ground.

Ball gained 103 rushing yards to



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If T.A. McLendon is out again, Josh Brown will have to step up and help shoulder the offensive load for State. Brown has 193 yards and 4 TDs on 45 carries.

tackle better."

On the other side, Georgia Tech's defense ranks in the top half of the ACC and has only given up 327 yards per game. The Yellow Jackets are anchored by

linebacker Keyaron Fox and defensive end Eric Henderson. Fox is fourth in the conference with 12 tackles a game, and Henderson's five sacks are good for second in the ACC.

"I think the key is to not give up big plays," Gailey said. "We don't have to get five or six turnovers, although that would be nice. The key is to make them earn it all of the way down the field."

The Wolfpack will come at the Yellow Jackets from the air and on the ground, and Georgia Tech hopes to use the homecoming hype to hold off



DTH SportSaturday

Arizona fires head coach

Arizona head coach John Mackovic was fired on Monday after the Wildcats started the 2003 eason with a 1-4 record. Mackovic had been under fire since last season when he clashed with a number of players. Mike Hankwitz, the team's defensive coordinator, was named as the interim head coach. Arizona's athletic department announced that the program wants to have a new coach by the beginning of the recruiting period on Dec. 1.

University of Arizona president Peter Likins ended widespread rumors when he announced Tuesday that Mike Price will not be a candidate. Price was fired this summer by Alabama due to visits he took to strip clubs in Florida.

"We're not going to take a chance with somebody who has-n't been squeaky clean, if you will, in regards to the NCAA, in regards to compliance," said Arizona Athletic Director Jim Livengood.

Father attempts to shoot son in head after Alabama loss

Joseph Alan Logan, a 46-yearold man from Pinson, Alabama was charged with attempted murder and domestic violence after holding a gun to his son's head and pulling the trigger. According to reports, Logan was in the midst of a tantrum and under the influence of alcohol after Alabama's double-overtime loss to Arkansas when his son, Seth, asked him for a new car. The father proceeded to retrieve his gun, put the pistol to his son's head, threatened to shoot, and pulled the trigger. His son managed to move his head in the nick of time to avoid the bullet.

"I know we take football serious in the South, but that's crossing the line," said sheriff's spokesman Deputy Randy Christian. The elder Logan, who said he was just trying to scare his son, was released from jail Sunday

2004 ACC football schedule released with 11 team format

The ACC released its much-anticipated 2004 football schedule on Wednesday. Wake Forest, North Carolina State, Virginia, and North Carolina will have the and North Carolina will have the unfortunate task of taking on the powerhouses of Miami, Virginia Tech, and Florida State next year. ACC President John Swofford said the schedule is flexible enough to work with a one or two division schedule. division conference format.

-Compiled by Brandon Parker