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## CAN'T MISS THIS WEEK

- 4** The Fletch discusses the latest in Atlanta sports media while Ryan Caiafa "rants" about the success of local teams.
- 5** In our cover story, Fletcher Proctor talks about the Falcons and their fast start to the 2012 season.
- 7** Stephen Black interviewed Cecil Flowe and Shane Queen about how they get their players to re-focus after recently pulling off major upsets.
- 8** We preview two local high school games and give you a run-down of the latest news in softball, volleyball and cross country.

## TEAM SCOOP AND VOICES

COVER DESIGN BY DJ GALBIATI  
 COVER PHOTOS COURTESY OF SONNY KENNEDY  
 AND JIMMY CRIBB/ATLANTA FALCONS

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## INSIDE AT SCORE

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## SHOT OF THE WEEK...



**HANDS-ON:** Georgia Tech coach Paul Johnson instructs a player during the Yellow Jackets' 56-20 drubbing of Virginia on Sept. 15. Despite a tough, overtime loss to Virginia Tech in the season-opener, Tech has rebounded to win its last two games heading into an off week. Photo courtesy Jon Barash.

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# THE FLETCH



## GPB's football sidelines a launching pad

By Fletcher Proctor

Georgia Public Broadcasting has been covering high school football for years now, first showing the state championship games before moving to weekly webcasts and telecasts. While some incredible players have appeared on the GPB airwaves, some amazing talent has also roamed the GPB sidelines before moving on to bigger platforms. Original sideline reporter Niki Noto grew from talking about high school football to working with the Atlanta Falcons and then on to become ESPN Road Trip co-host. Lindsey Thiry parlayed a gig as a GPB sideline reporter into becoming a Fox Sports beat reporter in California. She also now works with Scout.com

following her time with GPB. Jackie Brittain was GPB's media correspondent before becoming a host and reporter with the New England Patriots.

The newest member of the GPB team is Grace Olson, the new social media correspondent. Olson debuted at the 2012 Metro PCS Corky Kell Classic and did a phenomenal job handling the responsibilities of the position. Look for her all year on GPB's television games, breaking down the social media interaction during the games.

### AND THEY'RE GONE ...

If you have tuned in to 790 The Zone

recently during the Red Zone hoping to hear from the 2 Live Stews, odds are you have not been able to hear from Doug or Ryan. With the Stews' contracts expiring later this year, the station decided to take them off the air, likely for good. Rumors have been circulating that the Stews are interested in heading to the new sports talk station which will debut sometime in October on 92.9 FM. However, according to a story in the AJC, the Zone is exercising the six-month non-compete clause that could keep the Stews off the Atlanta airwaves until July 2013. The Stews have been with 790 The Zone for more than 11 years, bouncing from nights to afternoon drive to midday slots. Several years ago, the Stews appeared on the Sporting News Radio lineup from Atlanta, and the Stews could be seen on ESPN as well.

### PEYTON'S PARTY ...

The AJC's Mark Bradley wrote a witty piece following the Falcons' big win over Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos this past Monday on ESPN. Bradley called

the Falcons "party-crashers" for ruining what ESPN was hoping would be a dominating performance by the former Super Bowl MVP.

"ESPN tried to throw a Peyton party Monday night," wrote Bradley. "Some guys wearing red almost turned it into a pity party. The Worldwide Leader sought to show the world the greatness that is Peyton Manning; the Falcons almost made you feel sorry for the old guy."

This isn't the first time a major network has come to Atlanta for a primetime night game, only to focus on the opposing quarterback. Last year when the Eagles visited on Sunday Night Football, most of NBC's lead-in was centered around Michael Vick's return to Atlanta as a starting quarterback. I don't think the Falcons mind, though, as they won that game and won this past Monday. Perhaps one day the major networks will focus on Matt Ryan or Julio Jones or the Falcons. All they do is win and perhaps it is time they get their due.

*Proctor can be reached at [fproctor@scoreatl.com](mailto:fproctor@scoreatl.com).*

# CALL OF CAIAFA



## Local teams having successful autumns

By Ryan Caiafa

These past two weekends in the world of Atlanta sports have seen things that we aren't used to. The Falcons, Georgia Tech and Georgia have won each of their games the past two weekends and the Braves swept both the Mets in New York and the Nationals back at home.

Whether or not each of these teams can sustain their impressive runs as of late is another story, but one thing is for sure, there is once again reason to be excited about Atlanta sports. While the Jackets and Bulldogs took care of business handily the past two weekends, the Bulldogs notched the biggest win, going on the road to beat Missouri in the Tigers' first SEC game.

### TOAST OF ATLANTA ...

The Falcons and their 2-0 start have been the talk of the town. They not only dominated the Chiefs on the road at the always tough environment of Arrowhead Stadium, but they were able to stifle Peyton Manning into throwing three first quarter interceptions and beat the Broncos on Monday Night Football.

Matt Ryan is already playing like an MVP candidate and the dynamic receiving duo of Roddy White and Julio Jones has torched secondaries, with each player having a 100-yard receiving game. Tony Gonzalez looks to be making the most of his last NFL season and his last crack at a Super Bowl title. What can't be understated is the effort of

the defense against the Broncos. While the offense certainly looked solid once again, with multiple players contributing, the defensive effort may be what people remember about the game. William Moore was outstanding with multiple big plays, including his interception of Manning that was nearly brought into the end zone, along with a sack for a 13-yard loss. The Falcons will once again have a stiff road test when they take on another AFC West opponent in the San Diego Chargers. San Diego has also gotten off to a 2-0 start, beating the Raiders and Titans.

### A NEW YEAR ...

With the bad taste of last September's historic collapse, the Braves are doing everything in their power to avoid reliving 2011's disastrous end that saw them stumble out of the playoff hunt on the last day of the regular season. This month didn't get off to the best of starts as the Braves were nearly swept by the suddenly-surging Phillies, but it was a Chipper Jones' walk-off three-run homer that capped a five-run, ninth inning rally to sink Philadelphia.

That particular moment may have reignited the Braves as they took three of four from the

Rockies in Atlanta before sweeping the Mets in Chipper's last appearance in the Big Apple. After stumbling against the Brewers, there was a hint of pessimism once again as the Nationals came to town. Atlanta once again shook off a minor road block and was able to take three straight from the NL East leaders, giving them not only another boost of confidence, but also another glimmer of hope that they can catch the Nationals in the division race.

Ideally, that's the goal for the Braves, even though they do have a strong hold on the NL Wild Card lead. With a few weeks left in the regular season, you have to believe that the division title is still the objective, as they would avoid a one-game Wild Card play-in game where anything could happen. Several players have hit their strides at the right time, including Kris Medlen, who has been lights out since joining the rotation; Mike Minor, who has pitched well despite not having much run support in some outings; and even Dan Uggla, who has shown signs that he has broken out of his miserable slump. As the season comes to a close, we're definitely looking at a motivated, hungry Braves squad.

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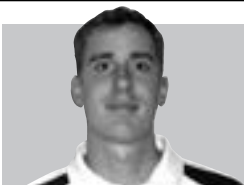
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# LEAGUE'S BEST



## Falcons look like NFC's team to beat

By Fletcher Proctor



The entire offseason had Falcons fans wondering what the team would look like after the addition of a pair of new coordinators as well as the extremely talented Asante Samuel. Fans were excited to hear about how Jerry Rice picked Julio Jones to be his breakout star for 2012, but others took pause when Curtis Lofton left a void at middle linebacker and the team did not bring in another option at left tackle.

Through the first two games, though, the team has shown far more positives than negatives. The offense looks explosive under new coordinator Dirk Koetter after piling up 40 points on the road against the Kansas City Chiefs before returning home to put 27 points up against Denver on Monday Night Football. Matt Ryan's understanding of the new system was obvious against Kansas City when he passed for 299 yards and three scores while recording an additional score on the ground. Jones also seemed to bust out against the Chiefs with six catches for 108 yards and two scores. Ryan spread the wealth around in Game 2, finding Roddy White for eight catches and 102 yards and one score and Tony

Gonzalez for 70 yards on seven catches plus one touchdown. Koetter has plenty of toys to play with and will likely exploit teams all year by emphasizing a different weapon when opposing defenses try to take last week's playmaker away. Ryan will be required to operate the plan, but if the first two games have shown us anything, it is that Ryan, following an intense offseason training routine, is up to the challenge.

### NOLAN'S IMPACT ...

Defensively, Mike Nolan's unit limited Peyton Manning to just seven points through the first three quarters while coming away with three interceptions and one fumble. The defense got to Manning three times, a high number considering how quickly Manning has gotten rid of the ball throughout his career. Nolan's defensive attack has been bringing pressure from different areas of the field as defensive tackles and a safety recorded sacks against Denver, and the defense has been disguised unlike in years past. The defensive players shift and rotate around right before the ball is snapped in an effort to con-

fuse the opposing quarterback. During the Falcons' postgame coverage, several people praised Nolan for confusing Manning with different looks and exotic packages. The three interceptions in the first quarter set the tone for the game and helped the offense put up 10 points to stick Denver in an early hole.

Nolan's defense also did a nice job adjusting to Kansas City at halftime of the season opener. The Chiefs put 17 points on the board in the first half but managed just one score coming with three minutes left in the fourth quarter during Atlanta's 40-24 win. The defense forced a missed field goal then forced a fumble, two straight interceptions and a punt to decide the game. William Moore and Stephen Nicholas recorded interceptions while sacks came from the defensive tackle spot, the end position and the linebacker spot.

### MONDAY NIGHT SUCCESS ...

For the Falcons to find success against Denver this past Monday, the team had to buck history. Entering the Denver game, the Falcons owned a lifetime 9-24 record in 33 games, most recently falling to the New Orleans Saints 45-16 in 2011, the team's sixth straight loss on Monday Night Football. The team had not won on a Monday night since Dec. 12, 2005, when Atlanta hosted the Saints. The Falcons did more than just buck history though, as the team managed to rise up and snuff out Manning early. The Falcons' defensive secondary had many in Dirty Bird Nation worried about the loss of Brent Grimes to a season-ending Achilles injury, but the defense picked off Manning's second pass, fourth pass and eighth pass of the night. Despite being outgained by Denver, the Falcons should feel pleased with the effort considering the situations they put the Broncos in early on and the turnovers the defense forced.

Moving forward, the team will need to continue to use exotic packages to confuse opposing quarterbacks while continuing to take the ball away when the opportunity arises. Last year, Nolan's Dolphins defense picked off 16 passes and recovered 17 fumbles while getting to the quarterback 41 times. His squad was third in the NFL in rush defense in terms of yards, rushing scores and fumbles recovered. The year before, his Dolphins defense was ninth in the league in passing yards allowed and seventh in rushing yards allowed. He is a master strategist and Falcons fans should be expecting his calls, as part of head coach Mike Smith's overall scheme, to continue to flummox opposing offenses.

### FUTURE IS OFFENSIVE ...

Radio co-hosts and national talking heads love to throw around the term "elite" when it

comes to quarterbacks. Apparently, winning is the lone thing that matters for quarterbacks, unless a quarterback simply wins and it isn't pretty in the process. For his first few years under center, all Ryan did was win in the regular season. In the postseason, Ryan is 0-3, leading many to say he is nowhere near elite. However through the first two games of the season, Ryan's 117.6 passer rating is the best in the league and his five touchdown passes is tied for the tops in the league. He is also in the top 10 in completions, percentage and fewest interceptions. Should Ryan continue to hook up with Gonzalez, White, Jones and Harry Douglas, the playoff drought and the elite talk should become a moot point as his numbers will just increase.

The Falcons should also look to take the next step as far as becoming elite. Two years ago, the team earned home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs, only to lose at home to the Packers. It is hard to see this team falling at home in the playoffs again. While Atlanta will likely not go 16-0 as only two teams have done in the past, it would not be a shock to see the Dirty Birds win the NFC South and handle their business in the postseason. If the first two games are any indication, the Falcons will be flying high with a pair of new coordinators and an offense that looks unstoppable.

*Photos courtesy of Jimmy Cribb/Atlanta Falcons. Proctor can be reached at [fproctor@scoreatl.com](mailto:fproctor@scoreatl.com).*



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# WHOS HOT

THUMBS UP TO THE NEW DC



## Mike Nolan

The Falcons' biggest personnel changes after a disjointed playoff loss to the Giants in January were on the coaching staff, not the roster. After a dominating Monday night win, new defensive coordinator Mike Nolan has shown that he can install a new scheme, mix in some swagger and get instant results.

## The Georgia Tech offense

The Yellow Jackets racked up 594 yards of total offense on the way to scoring 56 points against ACC rival Virginia. The Jackets broke out the big play machine, scoring long touchdowns on plays of 70, 77, 32 and 41 yards. The triple option looked unstoppable and explosive on the Flats against the Cavaliers.

## Braves' September

Thankfully, the Braves have already let the baseball world know that there wouldn't be another historic fall implosion like last September. Our boys probably won't catch Washington this month, but they're proving that they can hang with anybody come October. The biggest question now is how Fredi Gonzalez will shape his postseason roster.

## Yunel Escobar

What a waste of a supremely talented shortstop. The former Brave (2007-2010) wore out his welcome at Turner Field, always residing in the clubhouse doghouse. This week he was suspended three games by the Blue Jays for writing an anti-gay slur on his eye black. One word fits Escobar perfectly: imbecile.

## Arkansas football

The Razorbacks have gone from a top 10 team to a Grade-A embarrassment to the SEC almost overnight. The school took a chance on former Falcons coach Bobby Petrino and had a nice run, but now they're paying the price big time. An overtime loss to Louisiana-Monroe and a 52-0 shellacking by Alabama, both at home? Was it worth it?

## Replacement refs

Hopefully these dudes are a great group of guys, maybe even guys you'd like to share a beer with. That said, I don't want my buddy down the street figuring into which teams win and lose NFL games. Commissioner Roger Goodell: stop posturing and help put an end to the incompetence ... now.



# WHOS NOT

THUMBS DOWN TO BAD OFFICIATING

# SCORE LIST

BY BRIAN JONES

- 1** **FALCONS ON TOP:** With two consecutive wins, the Falcons are on top of the NFC South by one game. They are also one of six teams that remain undefeated. It will be down to at least five undefeateds when the Falcons face San Diego on Sunday afternoon. The Chargers are a good team and it looks like they have moved past last year's woes. But I have to pick the Falcons because their offense is red hot right now.
- 2** **TURNER ARRESTED:** One Falcon that is not red hot is Michael Turner, who only rushed for 42 yards on 17 carries in the win against Denver. It got worse for the 30-year-old running back after the game as he was arrested on suspicion of drunk driving. There is no word what the Falcons or the NFL will do with Turner, but it's clear that he is not the same back he was four years ago.
- 3** **DOG FIGHT:** The Bulldogs will continue SEC play on Saturday when they face Vanderbilt in Athens. There's a little bad blood between the two teams as the Bulldogs came away with a 33-28 win last year. But things got chippy during that game with players and after the game when Vandy head coach James Franklin and UGA defensive coordinator Todd Grantham got into a shouting match. It should be an entertaining game, but the Dawgs should win it with ease and improve to 4-0.
- 4** **REVENGE TIME:** Georgia Tech will be in action on Saturday as well when they face Miami in an ACC Coastal Division battle. The Yellow Jackets hope to avenge a 24-7 loss against the Hurricanes last year at Sun Life Stadium. Tech looks like they are a different team than last year and they hope to continue their hot streak on offense against a team that has surrendered 94 points in three games. I think this is where the Tech offense really shines which should lead to a huge victory over the Hurricanes.
- 5** **BACKYARD BATTLES:** Once again, GPB has you covered when it comes to high school football. The TV game will feature Lovett and St. Pius X while the web game will feature Milton and Roswell. Plus, there are other great games all across the state including Thomas County Central-Tift County, Statesboro-Burke County and Fitzgerald-Charlton County. Make sure to go to GPB.org/sports for both GPB games and go to scoreatl.com for the live scoreboard of all the high school games in Georgia.

# CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

BY RICKY DIMON

- 2** Times in his career Peyton Manning has thrown multiple interceptions in a first quarter
- 4** Denver turnovers in the first quarter, most for any team in the first 15 minutes since 2002
- 6** Undefeated teams remaining in the NFL, including Atlanta's Week 3 opponent, San Diego
- 100** Career touchdown passes for Matt Ryan after throwing three last Monday night
- 117.6** Ryan's quarterback rating through two games, best in the entire NFL
- 7** Braves' magic number to clinch one of two N.L. Wild Card spots as of Wednesday
- 3** Earned runs allowed by Kris Medlen in his last six starts (span of 46 innings)
- 0** Times out of nine starts this season that Medlen has allowed more than two runs
- 11** Wins for the Braves in the first 18 days of September (11-6 record)
- 9** Wins for the Braves in all of September last year (9-18 record)

# TRIVIA QUESTION

**The Falcons are 2-0 after their Monday night win over Denver. When was the last time Atlanta started a season 3-0?**

**Answer on Page 10**

# SANITY AT LAST

*"I put the defense in a hole, and (the Falcons) had some good field position that they took advantage of. Just a really tough start. I won't make any excuses for it. We made poor decisions."*

- Broncos QB Peyton Manning after the Falcons' 27-21 win over Denver on Monday night.

# COACH'S DIARY

*New Centennial football coach Jeffrey Carlberg is quickly putting his fingerprints all over the Knights program, and he has invited Score along for the ride during his first year at the helm. Here are highlights from this week:*

Obviously we are off to a slow start, but the players are working hard to make the adjustments from the old style to what our coaches are asking them to do right now. It is a process and we knew there would be an adjustment period. What really excites me as a coach is the energy and enthusiasm shown by both the coaches and the players each and every day at practice.

Our offense played its best game thus far against Milton last Friday. The defense made a few

too many mistakes to give us a chance for a victory. We need more consistency on both sides of the ball to have a chance to win.

Despite the slow start, the support from the community continues to amaze me. The Centennial community wants a well-rounded program that instills character, discipline and teamwork. That is what we have strived to do from Day 1 and the Centennial administration is very supportive of our efforts and energy so far.

When we came to Centennial, we wanted to reshape the entire program, starting with the community to the freshman team to the varsity team. Our freshman team is off to a fast start with a 2-0 record after knocking off Alpharetta and Chattahoochee the past two weeks.



# SCORE

PREP



## North Cobb, Parkview move on after big wins

By Stephen Black

Upsets happen in sports. The fans love them, the media smothers the teams involved and coaches are adored or reviled because of them.

As celebrated as they are, the hardest part about upsets is the next week. Getting a team off the canvas or down from the clouds is one of the toughest jobs even the best motivators have.

Parkview coach Cecil Flowe and North Cobb head man Shane Queen found themselves saddled with that task after their teams earned wins over No. 1 Grayson and No. 3 Walton last week.

### SKY HIGH ...

Flowe's Panthers played incredible defense and upset what some were calling the nation's best team in Grayson, which had not lost since the 2010 playoffs. The 22-7 win was important for a program that had dominated the state at

times around the turn of the century in winning four state titles between 1997 and 2002, but had fallen on hard times in recent years.

"It was huge because you beat a ranked team, a nationally ranked team," said Flowe in an exclusive interview with Score. "It's a situation where my kids grow confidence. You see that on any given night, what you preach is true: you can play with anybody."

The psychology of the upset is very real. Getting players to buy into the fact that they can beat teams ranked as highly as Grayson can be a challenge. But it wasn't for Flowe, who has won 187 games in 20 years at the Lilburn school.

"You've gotta go out and play the game," he said. "That's why you don't play it on paper."

Meanwhile, Queen's squad faced a similar goliath in Walton, which had not lost a regular

season game since September of 2010. But the Warriors were not intimidated and wasted no time in grabbing a 14-0 lead before the No. 3 Raiders got off the bus.

Wide receiver Xavier Borishade returned the opening kick for a touchdown, then caught a 78-yard pass for another score, and it was all but over. Borishade went on to catch two more touchdowns and North Cobb shocked the state with a 49-17 demolition of Walton.

### DOWN TO EARTH ...

Even professional teams have a tough time staying humble after an upset. Getting high school kids to stay grounded and not over-confident can be next to impossible for many coaches. But Flowe and Queen have their methods of working through that problem.

"Show 'em the film," said Flowe of how to get his team ready for its next game against Archer. "Take care of business. You just gotta go out there and play again each week. We told 'em, every week, it's going to get harder. It's not going to get easier."

That is especially true for the Panthers, who were dismissed 40-16 by the Tigers last season. And Archer may be even better this year.

"We're playing another big team this week," said Flowe. "We've got to get through this stretch."

While Parkview is already 1-0 in the region, North Cobb begins region play tonight in a game with Kennesaw Mountain. To get up for the Mustangs, Queen has a fairly direct approach for his team.

"It was a big win, but it doesn't help us get into the playoffs," said Queen. "We're 0-0 (in the region), so it's a new season now."

North Cobb defeated Kennesaw Mountain 42-17 last year, but coming off a huge win sets the Warriors up for the dreaded "hangover game."

How these two programs bounce back from monumental upsets remains to be seen. But the psychology of an upset in sports remains one of the most intriguing parts of the game.

*Black can be reached at sblack@scoreatl.com.*

# GPB TV

## JOHNS CREEK VS. CHATTAHOOCHEE

### Fulton backyard brawl goes statewide

By Stephen Black

Some rivalries are made after decades of competition. Others become heated before a game is ever played.

The Chattahoochee-Johns Creek rivalry can be considered the latter. While the Hooch began playing in 1991, Johns Creek was built more recently and took a large chunk of the Cougars' school district - and football team - with it.

"I'm pretty familiar (with Johns Creek's team) because probably half their kids went to Chattahoochee before Johns Creek was open and we know that the quarterback and the running back are really good football players," said Chattahoochee coach Terry Crowder.

#### NATURAL RIVALS ...

As if geography weren't enough, the two programs have already played some games with white-hot intensity. Last year, Chattahoochee won a 19-16 game in overtime in just the second meeting ever between the schools. As if the narrow loss to their neighborhood rival wasn't bad enough, it also gave the Gladiators their first loss of the season.

"We're just going to make sure the kids understand that they're not going to forget that," said Crowder. "They're going to remember that game, probably more so than us. We'll do all the things that we need to get ready for that game."

Coming into last Friday night's game against North Forsyth, the Cougars were 2-1 with shutout wins over Douglas County and Forest Park. After a 19-8 season-opening loss to Kell, Crowder's squad has rebounded nicely.

"We feel like we played very good defensively in the Kell game, as well as the last two games, so we're excited about the defense right now," said Crowder.

Specifically, Chattahoochee has gotten important contributions from a few guys on the defensive side of the ball.

"Probably the biggest surprise right now for us has been the play of our Mike linebacker Josh Weisberg, who is a sophomore," said Crowder. "Our defensive line is probably the best total group since I've been here, with Majeed Bilal, O.J. Thompson and John Sanders. Those three are playing really good right now."

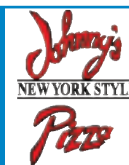
Johns Creek entered last Friday's game with Centennial undefeated after wins over Woodstock and Milton. Both teams will have played a region contest before next Friday's clash at The Arena, but the Johns Creek-Chat-tahoochee game is sure to have major Region 6-AAAAAA title and playoff implications.

The North Fulton backyard brawl will be televised on GPB on Sept. 28.

*Black can be reached at sblack@scoreatl.com.*

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## COLLINS HILL VS. MTN. VIEW



### Eagles look to soar past Bears

By Fletcher Proctor

The Collins Hill Eagles reached the state semi-finals in 2010, Kevin Reach's first year at the helm at the Suwanee school. The offense rode on the back of record-breaker Taylor Heinicke before falling to Brookwood in the semifinals. Current Eagles quarterback Brett Sheehan has Eagles Nation now dreaming of taking it one step further and appearing in a state championship game. In Collins Hill's last game against Habersham Central, Sheehan was 22-for-25 for 275 yards and three scores while also scampering for a score in a 52-0 rout.

Sheehan, who has committed to Florida International University, has found Julian Williams, Grant McDonald and Justin Wyatt with regularity this season as Collins Hill is 2-1 with Mountain View visiting on Sept. 28. Sheehan passed for 300 yards in a win over Dacula after amassing nearly 250 total yards against Central Gwinnett. Christian Harris provides plenty of push on the offensive line, which has plenty of experience for Reach.

Defensively, Wyatt and Daniel Fish lead the charge and look to stretch the Eagles' shut-out streak. Raymere Thomas and Rhyann England are two other players Reach credits as integral parts of the defense.

Mitchell Blanchard is also a weapon in both the kicking and punting games. He kicked Collins Hill past Dacula with late field goal, just as he did in the 2010 playoffs against Lowndes.

#### BABY BEARS ...

Mountain View is in just its third true varsity season and first with coach Doug Giacone after Tim Hardy departed for Greater Atlanta Christian. The Bears have had to overcome injuries while picking up a new system under Giacone, the team's former defensive coordinator. The defense was dominating in a 14-3 win over Pebblebrook as the Bears allowed just 129 yards in the victory. The Bears can force turnovers as they rang up four against Pebblebrook. Coleton Brindle and William Tuider each racked up 15 tackles in a loss to Mill Creek and Tuider is also a force on special teams after blocking a punt against the Falcons.

Offensively, Marvin Elam is a player to watch for at running back. He had a pair of scores after the first two games of the season. Chris Bartlett anchors the team's new triple-option offense, which has rebounded after a shaky first game against Archer.

*Proctor can be reached at fproctor@scoreatl.com.*

# PREP NOTEBOOK



### Sandy Creek volleyball on recent roll

By Stephen Black

Class AAAA No. 3 Sandy Creek has won seven of its past eight matches since coach Paul Collins won his 500th career win against East Coweta on Aug. 30. The Patriots have defeated De La Salle (La.), Class A No. 6 Eagle's Landing Christian, Class AAAAA No. 5 Northgate, Troup, Class AAAA No. 10 Shaw, Banneker and Class AAAA No. 7 Locust Grove while dropping a rematch with Northgate late last week.

Senior outside hitter Allie Davenport is leading the state with a kills-per-game average of 5.1 while totaling 137 kills this season. The Patriots as a team are ninth in Georgia with a hitting percentage of .199, while ranking third with 11.5 kills per game. Davenport is also tops on Sandy Creek in service aces with 29. Freshman Alexis Broadwater leads the Patriots with 7.8 assists per game and 195 total.

Class AA No. 1 Blessed Trinity improved its school-record start to 25-0 with wins over Cambridge and Dunwoody. The Titans lead the state in kill percentage at 42.7 percent, assists with 11.2 per game and are second in hitting

percentage at .301. Class AAA No. 3 St. Pius opened Area 5-AAA play by defeating No. 9 East Hall and Buford. Over the weekend, the Golden Lions hosted a play date and beat Starr's Mill, Class AA No. 2 Westminster and Lassiter.

Class AAA No. 4 Sonoraville took third place in the silver bracket of the Tennessee Tandem tournament with four wins and three losses against teams from Georgia and Tennessee. Carrie Cheeks led the Phoenix with 76 kills, 11 blocks and 79 digs in the seven-game tournament. Kristi Vaughn was tops on Sonoraville with 92 assists while contributing 77 digs. The Phoenix defeated Cleveland (Tenn.), Class AAAA No. 5 Southeast Whitfield, Signal Mountain (Tenn.) and Karns (Tenn.). Sonoraville dropped matches to Brentwood Academy (Tenn.), Blackman (Tenn.) and St. Agnes (Tenn.).

#### DIAMOND STARS ...

Class AA No. 1 Wesleyan beat Bacon County 9-1 and Calvary Day 10-8 last Saturday at Mercer University. Amanda DeLaPerriere got

the win versus Bacon County while Haley Gerup earned the win against Calvary Day. Sydney Stone was 2-for-4 with two runs, Victoria Distasi was 3-for-4 with an RBI and two runs and Riley Henning had three RBIs for the Wolves against Bacon County. In the Calvary Day game, CaralMia Tsigiros went 2-for-3 with three runs while Dacia Jones was 4-for-4 with three RBIs.

Grayson upset No. 7 Parkview Monday night 3-1 in a Region 8-AAAAAA matchup. Jen Spangler got the win for the Rams and also drove in one run. Peachtree Ridge dominated host Flowery Branch 14-2 Monday behind Sam Pierannunzi's homer and six RBIs. Pierannunzi was 4-for-4 and also had a triple and stolen base. Sarah Walker got the win after throwing five innings to improve to 9-0.

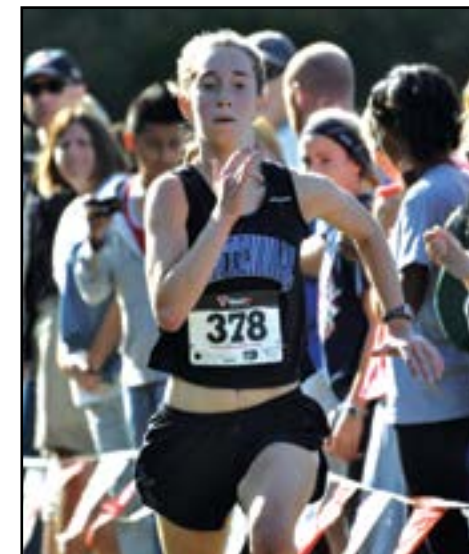
#### ON THE TRAILS ...

Walton's Kenan Farmer won the boys individual race in the Warpath Invitational, while his team finished third overall behind Milton and North Hall. Kennesaw Mountain and Wheeler rounded out the top five. The first-place Eagles had seven runners finish in the top 40, led by Nathan Riech, who came in fifth. Annie Kelly won the girls race for Milton, while her team also took home first place honors. Walton came in second, Roswell, third, Woodstock fourth and Centennial fifth.

Austin Sprague added to his list of meet championships this year by winning the Carrollton Orthopaedic. The St. Pius X junior ran a 16:18.37 to beat 175 other runners at the meet. Sprague and his top-ranked Class AAA Golden Lions team finished second overall behind Class AAAAAA No. 4 Brookwood. Norcross finished

third and Class AAAAA No. 1 McIntosh came in fifth. The Broncos had seven runners in the top 30 at the race, led by Matthew McClintock, who came in eighth overall. Katherine Yost of Norcross took home first-place individual honors in the girls race at Carrollton, but it was Brookwood that won the meet. The No. 5 Broncos place four runners in the top eight, and were paced by Payton Wilson, who came in third.

*Photo courtesy of Walter Pinion. Black can be reached at sblack@scoreatl.com.*







# TV GAME OF THE WEEK

## JOHNS CREEK GLADIATORS

Head Coach Mike Cloy



## CHATTAHOOCHEE COUGARS

Head Coach Terry Crowder

#	Name	Gr.	Pos.
1	Marcquel Garmon	12	WR/DB
2	Jack Pomerantz	12	WR/DB
3	Ben Deck	12	WR/DB
4	Matt Gorst	12	FB/OLB
5	Matt Azemar	12	WR/DB
6	Tommy Welch	12	ILB
7	Chase Solomon	11	RB/DB
8	Zac Disher	12	FB/OLB
9	Ian Ralston	11	WR/DB
10	Cody Hardage	11	WR/DL
11	Bradon Fortin	12	WR/DB
12	John Grayson	12	QB
15	Michael Nemetz	11	WR/DB
16	Jack Deweese	12	QB
17	Skye Overton	12	QB/DB
18	Will Somers	12	WR/DB/K
20	Matt Manning	11	WR/OLB
21	Todd Blackwell	11	WR/OLB
22	Andre Biggins	12	RB/DB
23	Andrew Szambelan	12	WR/DB
24	Austin Pack	11	RB/ILB
25	Michael Salomon	12	WR/DB
26	Kevin Nalecz	10	QB
27	Ryan Touchstone	11	RB/DB
35	Yong Lee	11	WR/DB
36	Daniel Couper	11	FB/OLB
37	Turner Fortin	10	RB/ILB
40	Kyle Fowler	12	K
42	Jack Lundstedt	11	WR/DB
43	Matt Siegman	11	WR/OLB
50	Corey Vaughn	12	OL/DL
53	Matt Goodman	11	OL/ILB
54	Devon Howard	11	OL/DL
55	Denny Victor	12	OL/DL/ILB
56	Sam Arrington	12	OL/DL
57	Kyle Tallis	11	OL/DL
60	Clayton Karl	11	OL/DL
63	Sam Purdy	12	OL/DL
64	Jake Brasher	12	OL/DL
67	Austin Dubois	12	OL/DL
68	John Reid	12	OL/DL
70	Harrison Barocas	12	OL/DL
71	Cameron Moore	11	OL/DL
72	Forrest Montet	12	OL/DL
75	Daniel Coterillo	12	OL/DL
80	Beau Sente	11	WR/DB
84	Mohammed Kredan	12	WR/DB
85	Austin Wedding	11	WR/DB

#	Name	Gr.	Pos.
1	Myles Hill	12	WR/CB
2	Dwayne Bartholomew	12	WR/CB
3	Brian Sykes	12	WR/OLB
4	Josh Hearn	12	WR/FS
5	Justin Jackson	12	WR/CB
6	Joel Clay	12	WR/CB
7	C.J. Leggett	11	RB
8	Avery Ward	11	WR/CB
9	Trey Hillman	11	RB/OLB
10	Patrick Hoffman	9	WR/CB
10	Adam Perleberg	11	QB/OLB
11	Doug Phillips	12	TE/MLB
12	Alec Rubin	12	QB/RB/CB
13	Collin Lisa	11	WR/FS
14	Brando Ernest	10	WR/C
15	Travis Marshall	12	QB
15	David Nicoletta	9	QB
16	Malik Stephens	10	WR/FS
17	Taz Wilson	11	QB
18	Natan Sherman	11	TE/LB
19	Hunter Fusco	11	WR/CB
20	Josh Barbee	9	WR/CB
21	Chase Nelson	11	RB
22	Jordan Hillman	10	WR/LB
23	Kieron Ashley	11	RB/OLB
24	Ryan Colangelo	9	WR/FS
25	Spencer Miceli	11	RB/LB
26	Aaron Laporte	9	WR/DB
27	Michael Fusco	10	WR/LB
28	Tay Young	9	RB/OLB
29	Junior Vancia	10	WR/OLB
31	Doryan Alexander	12	RB/LB
32	Hall Lauer	9	RB/LB
33	Frank Son	9	QB
34	Aaron Guerrant	12	RB/OLB
35	Ryan Clancy	12	TE/OLB
36	John Miller	10	RB/FS
37	Brandon Ware	9	QB/OLB
38	Sam McVay	10	RB/LB
39	Xavier Boucard	9	RB/OLB
40	Sean Hoffmann	9	RB/LB
41	Xavier Tharpe	10	RB/OLB
42	Chris Capizzi	12	WR/CB
43	John Sanders	11	TE/DE
44	OJ Thompson	11	TE/DE
45	Chris Rodgers	11	LB
46	Sam Stokes	9	WR/OLB
47	Jaylin Taylor	9	WR/FS
48	Carter Thomas	9	WR/DB
50	Evan Clay	9	OG/NG
50	Brandon Keith	12	OT/DE
51	Victor Williams	12	OT/NG
52	CJ Fisher	9	C/NG
52	John Headlee	11	OG/NG
53	Connor Hoyt	11	OG/NG
54	JC Alvarado	10	OT/NG
55	Majeed Bilal	12	OT/DE
56	Hunter Johnson	9	OT/DE
56	Josh Weisberg	10	OT/LB
57	Melvin Owens	9	OT/DE
57	Hunter Womac	10	C/DE
58	Zach Kladis	11	OG/NG
59	Boris Kopelev	10	OG/LB
60	Colby Hesseltnie	11	C/NG
60	Pavan Sastry	9	OG/NG
61	Aaron Rosenthal	10	OG/NG
62	Anthony Alanis	10	OT/DE
63	Perry Benton	10	OG/NG
64	Chris Bohner	11	OG/NG
65	Jacob Potts	12	DE
66	Patrick Shinnars	9	OT/DE
66	Ryan Simkoff	11	OG/NG
67	Chris Jobe	10	OG/NG
68	Brandon Spence	11	NG
69	Jake Zimmerman	10	OT/DE
70	Christian Hansen	10	OT/DE
70	Mikel Spigner	9	C/NG
72	Nabeel Khan	9	G/NG
73	Nicholas Atz	10	OT/DE
74	Alex Simon	9	C/NG
75	Nick Williams	11	OG/NG
76	Kenny Garrett	9	OT/LB
77	Patric Pelli	9	OT/DE
79	Matt Manwell	12	OG/NG
80	Dashawn Rock	11	WR/DB
81	Michael Dimond	11	WR/CB
82	Ian Frost	11	WR/OLB
83	Troy Campbell	9	WR/OLB
83	Richard Joseph	9	WR/DB
84	Zach Reed	11	WR/DB
86	Andrew Luchenbill	9	WR/CB
86	Nick Palermo	9	WR/OLB
87	Abram Panama	9	WR/DB
88	Taylor Harris	12	WR/OLB
89	Chase Thorton	11	WR/DB
90	Michael Phantja	9	OG/LB
98	Shane Burke	9	K/P
99	Matt Morgan	10	K



# WEBCAST GAME OF THE WEEK



## COLLINS HILL EAGLES

Head Coach Kevin Reach



## MOUNTAIN VIEW BEARS

Head Coach Doug Giacone

#	Name	Gr.	Pos.
1	Raymere Thomas	12	WR/DB
2	Julian Williams	12	WR/DB
3	Darrin Frye	12	WR/DB
4	Justin Wyatt	12	WR/LB
5	Tyler Henderson	11	RB/DB
7	Rhyan England	11	WR/DB
8	CJ Davis	11	WR/DB
9	Daniel Fish	12	RB/MLB
10	Finn Boston	12	WR/DB
11	Quentin Jones	11	WR/DB
12	Brett Sheehan	12	QB
13	Dwayne Smith	11	WR/DB
14	Mitchell Blanchard	12	K/P
15	Kip Whitney	12	TE/LB
16	Joseph Park	11	RB/LB
17	Connor Wallace	11	QB
18	Grant McDonald	11	WR/DB
19	Tyler Herman	11	QB
20	Amadi Stephens	11	WR/DB
21	Aubrey Johnson	11	RB/OLB
22	Tommy Lawrence	11	TE/OLB
23	Chris McFarland	11	WR/OLB
24	Austin Smith	10	WR/OLB
25	Ari Benoit	11	RB/DB
26	Mac Bonsack	11	WR/DB
27	Jonathan Thomas	11	RB/OLB
28	Cameron Black	12	WR/DB
29	Thomas Harris	10	RB/DB
31	Sterling Alexander	12	LB
33	Davis Herman	11	WR/DB
34	Jalen Taylor	11	WR/DB
35	AJ Kongchamanen	11	RB/DB
36	RJ Burnette	12	FB/DE
37	Blake Nichols	11	RB/LB
39	Braxton Hale	10	TE/LB
40	Devin Monroe	12	WR/DB
44	Mychal Miller	12	WR/DB
45	CC Madkins	11	WR/DB
46	Michael Johnson	11	RB/LB
49	Marcus Watts	12	RB/MLB
50	Jonathan Cross	12	OL/DL
51	Ben Yarn	11	OL/DL
52	Franky Filto	11	OL/DL
53	Tyler Ward	11	OL/DL
54	Shawn Mount	11	RB/LB
55	Adam Stokes	12	OL/DL
56	Devin Hicks	11	OL/DL
57	Chandler Bills	12	OL/DL
58	Drew Riner	11	OL/DL
59	Nathan Kinjo	12	OL/DL
60	Ian Torke	11	OL/DL
61	Marshall Sutton	12	OL/DL
62	Ben Mueller	11	OL/DL
65	Alex Ozoh	10	OL/DL
68	Kyle Henschel	10	OL/DL
70	Evan Pearson	12	OL/DL
72	Steven Bedoya	12	OL/DL
73	Aaron Reed	11	OL/DL
74	Chris Zelaya	11	OL/DL
75	Christian Harris	11	OL/DL
76	Miles Fox	10	OL/DL
77	Desmond Wade	11	OL/DL
78	Shahed Noorollahi	11	OL/DL
79	Josh Peterson	12	OL/DL
85	Ange Konan	12	WR/DE
86	Chase Seymour	11	OL/DL
88	Gary Richardson	12	TE/DE/LB
90	Tra Palmer	12	OL/DL

#	Name	Gr.	Pos.
2	Andre Joseph	10	QB
3	Johnny Thomas	10	RB/DB
4	Greg Burns	10	WR/DB
5	Marvin Elam	12	RB/DB
6	Tyrel Dale	12	WR/DB
7	Mark Adams	11	RB/LB
8	William Tuider	12	WR/LB
9	Jarred Marshall	11	WR/DB
10	Brad Weaver	10	RB/DB
11	Dominique Johnson	11	WR/DB
12	Chris Bartlett	12	QB
13	Derrick Walker	11	DL
14	Andrew Cirimele	10	RB/LB
15	Ty McRae	12	RB/DL
16	Crew Peery	11	QB/LB
17	Uras Agee IV	11	WR/DB
18	KC Mayne	11	RB/LB
19	Grant Palmer	10	RB/LB
20	Kavoseay McMillian	12	WR/DB
21	Diquan Jeter	11	WR/DB
22	Samir Bahsoon	11	RB/DB
23	Stephon Henry	11	RB/DB
24	Matt Buddan	11	LB
25	Kielan Whitner	10	WR/DB
26	Michael Hani	10	WR/DB
27	Josh Briggman	12	RB/DB
28	Ta'boris Wells	10	WR/DB
29	Jonathan Barber	12	RB/LB
30	Alim Grant	12	RB/DB
31	Chaz Westbrook	10	RB/LB
32	Chris Fajemisin	12	TE/DL
35	Sawyer Soucie	10	RB/LB
36	Brandon Barlan	11	WR/LB
38	Michael Davis	11	LB
39	Andrew Tacto	11	RB/DB
40	Isiah Peek	11	OL/DL
41	Darrel Khiev	12	RB/LB
42	Alex Herring	12	K/P
43	Jayce Kennimer	11	RB/LB
44	Michael Chambley	10	RB/LB
45	Coleton Brindle	11	RB/DB
46	Andrew Mozingo	11	LB
47	Aaron McGill	11	TE/DL
48	Burton Law	12	TE/LB
49	Bryce McCloud	11	TE/LB
51	Kendel Wright	10	OL/DL
52	Fred Geiter	11	OL/DL
53	Andre De Araujo	10	OL/DL
55	Tajai Stansel	11	DL
56	Tony Jones	11	OL
57	David McFarquhar	11	LB
60	Bryce Coleman	10	OL/LB
61	Jordan Jones	10	OL/LB
62	Brad Williamson	12	OL
63	Connor Soucie	12	OL
64	Blake Corry	11	OL
65	Edwin Alvarenga	11	OL
66	Michael Hayes	12	OL
67	William Koen	12	OL
70	Tommy Coggins	11	OL
71	Ryan Duke	11	OL/DL
72	Malik Johnson	10	DL
73	Zach Babiartz	11	OL/DL
74	Mohammed Sesay	12	OL
75	Patrick Walker	10	OL/DL
76	Spencer Manuel	10	OL
77	Brandon Wilson	10	OL
78	Myles Cabrera	10	OL
80	Malik Holcomb	11	WR/DB
82	Tanvir Sandhu	10	WR/DB
83	Jeffrey Stone	11	K/P
87	Aakash Sundar	11	RB/DB
88	Emmanuel Banjoko	11	DL
89	Garrett Strobe	10	TE/DL
92	Jeff Hollingsworth	10	K/P

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# BULLDOG BEAT



## Dawgs ready for battle with Vandy

By Chris Lionetti

After walloping the Florida Atlantic Owls 56-20 last week, the fifth-ranked Georgia Bulldogs have begun preparation for SEC East rival, Vanderbilt. The two teams head into Saturday's contest fresh off of victories but in completely different circumstances.

Georgia is currently 3-0 (1-0 SEC) and has not scored less than 40 points in a game this season. The Bulldogs racked up 713 yards of offense, a school record, against the Owls, a clear sign that the team's offense is now firing on all cylinders.

### DAWGS-DORES ...

On the other hand, the Commodores are 1-2 (0-1 SEC) on the season. Saturday's victory against the Presbyterian Blue Hose was the team's first of the season after suffering losses to South Carolina and Northwestern. Before the game against the Blue Hose, Vanderbilt head coach James Franklin made Austyn Carta-Samuels the team's starting quarterback due to the offense's inability to score with Jordan Rodgers at the helm. The junior transfer led the Commodores to a 58-0 victory. As of Wednesday, Franklin had not said which quarterback would start Saturday's game.

### HISTORY LESSON

In last year's 33-28 victory over Vander-

bilt, Georgia's special teams nearly cost the Dawgs the game. However, what most remember is the postgame confrontation between Franklin and Georgia defensive coordinator Todd Grantham.

Grantham's demeanor has earned him the reputation of being a fiery coach, a trait head coach Mark Richt was looking for.

"I wanted that," said Richt at Tuesday's press conference. "That was one of the things I wanted in the guy who was going to lead the way for us on defense. Defenses play a lot on emotion."

Richt also mentioned that teams tend to take on the personality of their coach. The Dawgs' defense will need to play with as much intensity as its defensive coordinator if Georgia plans on dispatching the Commodores. Georgia's defense has been of the bend-but-don't-break variety in the first half of games but tightens up in the second half. Against a quality SEC opponent, the Dawgs cannot afford to only be at their best for half of the game.

Georgia should have the services of All-American linebacker Jarvis Jones, which will certainly help. Jones was back at practice this week after missing the FAU game with an injured groin.

Lionetti can be reached at [clionetti@scoreatl.com](mailto:clionetti@scoreatl.com).

# TECH BUZZ



## Jackets roll over Cavs, await Canes

By Ryan Caiafa

Coming off a split of their first two games that saw them fall to Virginia Tech in heart-breaking fashion and get a dominant win in their home opener, the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets didn't take their next ACC clash lightly, as they trounced the Virginia Cavaliers 56-20 at Bobby Dodd Stadium. Virginia, which had just shocked a depleted Penn State squad the previous week, fell into a hole early against the Jackets and never could quite dig themselves out of it.

### OFFENSIVE OPTIONS ...

Tech quarterback Tevin Washington put together another solid outing, gathering 93 rushing yards on 11 carries and scoring three touchdowns, while also throwing for 125 yards and a 70-yard score to Zack Laskey on the game's opening drive. The Jackets' offense was already in mid-season form, amassing an astounding 594 yards of total offense, with 461 of those yards coming on the ground. Leading the rushing attack was senior Orwin Smith, who finally got himself going after struggling to do much of anything in the team's first two games. Despite only carrying the ball six times, Smith was able to gain 137 rushing yards, with 77 of those yards accounting for the Jackets' second touchdown of the game.

Freshman Vad Lee registered another

strong game, as he gathered 59 yards on the ground and two scores. Virginia simply could not stop the Jackets' early onslaught, allowing Paul Johnson's team into the end zone on its first four possessions.

### HURRICANE WARNING ...

Next up for the Jackets is a home matchup against another ACC Coastal rival, the Miami Hurricanes, who despite being 2-1 and sitting atop the division, haven't made things look pretty in their first three games. Al Golden's squad had to rally to put away Boston College, were blown out at Kansas State and got off to a slow start against Bethune-Cookman. They have, however, shown recent dominance over the Jackets over the past few seasons. Miami has won the past three contests by an average margin of 19 points. Tech will have to slow down the Hurricanes' rushing attack and take advantage of a Miami defense that has allowed just over 31 points per game so far.

Georgia Tech will have to do so without former starting B-back Charles Perkins. The former Collins Hill star has an "upper-body injury" according to Johnson and could miss the rest of the season.

Caiafa can be reached at [rcaiafa@scoreatl.com](mailto:rcaiafa@scoreatl.com).

# PANTHER PROWL



## Panthers fall to Roadrunners, now 0-3

By Brian Jones

In Georgia State's second home game of the 2012 season, the Panthers looked to get their first win of the year against Texas-San Antonio. That did not happen as the Roadrunners downed the Panthers 38-14 this past Saturday night and GSU fell to 0-3.

After a UTSA field goal, the Panthers took the lead when Ben McLane threw an 84-yard touchdown pass to Albert Wilson on the third play from scrimmage in the first quarter. After that, it was all UTSA which scored 21 unanswered points in the first half. Running back Evans Okotcha scored twice while Eric Soza threw a touchdown pass to Aaron Grubb late in the first quarter.

The second half was the same story. Soza threw a touchdown pass early in the third and Okotcha scored his third touchdown midway through the third to give the Roadrunners the 38-7 lead.

"You got to give a lot of credit to Texas-San Antonio, they made a lot of plays," Georgia State coach Bill Curry told [Georgiastatesports.com](http://Georgiastatesports.com). "But our players fight hard, we fight hard to the final whistle."

The Panthers were riddled with injuries before and during the game. Defensive tackle David Huey, defensive back Demarius Matthews and wide receiver Jordan Giles did not suit up

and McLane got hurt in the second quarter when he injured his wrist. He would come back at the end of the second quarter, but would sit out the second half.

That opened the door for backup Ronnie Bell, who threw a 35-yard touchdown pass to Wilson late in the third quarter. Bell finished the game 5-of-11 for 95 yards and one score.

The Panthers will be back in action on Saturday when they play the Richmond Spiders at the Georgia Dome, which will be the first of eight conference games for them.

### CARDINAL CUP ...

The women's golf team took part in the season-opening Cardinal Cup over the weekend and finished in ninth place out of 14 teams. The Panthers shot 920 over two days at the Cardinal Cup golf course in Louisville, Ky.

Maria Palacios was the top finisher for the Panthers as she came in 11th in the 97-golfer field, shooting a 223 which was a team best. Laura Sanchez tied for 33rd place with a 230 and Melissa Siviter was right behind her with 231. Lauren Court and Julie Lied rounded out the Panthers as both golfers shot 243.

Jones can be reached at [bjones@scoreatl.com](mailto:bjones@scoreatl.com)

# OWL OUTLOOK



## Owls beat Samford, lose to UT-Martin

By Brian Jones

The soccer team had a busy weekend as the Lady Owls faced Samford on Friday and Tennessee-Martin on Sunday. The Owls got in the win column on Friday with a 2-1 over Samford in Birmingham. Danielle Gary scored the Owls first goal four minutes into the match and Jewelja Strickland scored the Owls second goal 17 minutes later. The Bulldogs did score in the 74th minute but goalkeeper Melissa Hutto made some key saves down the stretch.

Things did not go as well for the Owls on Sunday as they fell to UT-Martin 2-0. The Lady Owls did outshoot UT-Martin 16-15 but the Skyhawks did have seven shots on goal compared to the KSU's six. UT-Martin also had seven corner kicks in the match while the Owls only had one.

"I thought we did well in the first half," head coach Rob King told [ksuowls.com](http://ksuowls.com). "Second half, I thought we look quite fatigued. Obviously, we had a Friday night game on the road and got back in late, but that's what it is about in the conference. You play two games in the weekend. You have to be up for both and you have to be physically ready for both."

The Lady Owls will be back in action on Saturday when they face arch-rival Mercer at KSU Stadium.

### SETTING A MILSTONE ...

Kaew Preamchuen had a strong showing

at the Dale McNamara Invitational as she finished in 10th place. The sophomore shot 77 in the first round, a 67 in the second round and 74 in the third. Preamchuen finished eight shots behind Florida's Isabelle Lendl who claimed medal honors. This was the first time Preamchuen has finished in the top 10 in her career at KSU.

As for the team, the Owls finished 33-over par 897 to finish eighth out of 15 teams. Arizona State captured the title, shooting 2-over par 866.

The Owls are off until Oct. 15 when they play in the Susie Maxwell Berning Classic in Norman, Okla.

### ON A ROLL ...

The volleyball team continues to win as they defeated USC-Upstate 3-1 on Tuesday at the Convocation Center.

Keyaira Stevenson and Turea Jones each had 20 kills and setter Sara Metroka had 67 assists in the four-set conference opener. The Owls were just coming off a strong performance at the 49ers Invitational in Charlotte over the weekend where they defeated Charlotte and UNC-Asheville. The Owls are now 11-4 on the year and they will look to win their 12th game on Friday when they face Florida-Gulf Coast.

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# HAWKS HAVEN



## Johnson remains a Hawk; Williams cut

By Robby Kalland

The Atlanta Hawks re-signed Ivan Johnson, one of their key pieces from last season's postseason run, to a new contract. The terms of the deal are undisclosed, but it is presumably a multi-year deal since this comes little over a week after Johnson signed his restricted free agent offer sheet.

Johnson provided quite the spark off the bench last season and was the rookie of the month in April when he averaged 10.7 points, 5.9 rebounds, 1.8 blocks and 1.5 steals per game in 11 appearances. Johnson was vital to the Hawks being able to overcome Al Horford's injury early in the season, and was thrust into the regular rotation and exceeded expectations. Johnson was never a great offensive weapon, but he was stellar defensively and played at a high energy level at both ends of the floor.

### GREAT SCOTT ...

Second-round pick Mike Scott signed his rookie contract recently which makes him an official member of the Hawks. Scott impressed in Summer League with his defense, rebounding skills and shooting ability. A little undersized at 6-foot-8, Scott makes up for his lack of height at the power forward spot by play-

ing with a lot of energy. He crashes the boards with reckless abandon much in the way DeJuan Blair of the Spurs or Kenneth "The Manimal" Faried of the Nuggets do. Scott should figure into the regular rotation as a nice bench option for Larry Drew when he needs a spark, much like Ivan Johnson last year.

### SO LONG ...

The Hawks have requested waivers on Jordan Williams, who was acquired this off-season from the Nets in the Joe Johnson trade. Williams did not figure much into the Hawks plans this season, and, by placing him on waivers, the Hawks cleared room for Johnson.

The current roster features 13 players, which leaves two open spots to be filled in training camp come October. The guard slots are filled up with seven guards on the roster currently and power forward slots are filled as well. True small forwards are the glaring omission from this Hawks team which means they will likely look to get two wing players in training camp to add to the final 15-man roster.

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# FALCONS BEAT



## Falcons secondary sets the tone

By Craig Sager II

The question mark leading into Monday Night's matchup was how the Falcons secondary would be schemed to disrupt, disguise and defend against the Peyton Manning-led offense. Despite the loss of Brent Grimes to a season-ending injury, the secondary was able to set the tone right away.

"All night [Mike] Nolan had us lined up and in position to make plays," said William Moore.

On the Broncos' opening drive, Moore intercepted the first of three Manning's first quarter interceptions, returning it down to the one-yard line.

### RIISING UP ...

Nolan and the defense answered both the cerebral and physical tests of the Denver offense, and Manning was doing everything he could to orchestrate a comeback. Nothing came easy though, and besides a miraculous touchdown grab by Demaryius Thomas and two short touchdowns by Willis McGahee, the defense kept Denver at bay. The pressure and coverage on third downs was airtight, and the secondary, led by Asante Samuel, chopped down any screen or play coming out to the perimeter. Denver was 4-for-12 on third down, and, unlike Week 1 when Kansas City was finding openings, third downs were right at the sticks with a difficult throw-and-catch needed to convert them.

"When teams come out passing, it is going to be key for us [the secondary] to do what our defense as a whole is trying to do, and that is to set

the tone and be a physical group," said Samuel.

Samuel went down early in the game and suffered what looked to be a neck injury. After sitting out a few plays, Samuel returned to the game and was getting hard hits on the Denver receivers.

### BECOMING ELITE ...

Before the 27-20 win, Matt Ryan was 0-3 on Monday Night Football. The national stage of a Monday game does not equal the pressure or intensity of a playoff game, but media coverage pointed out the similarity to his 0-3 record in the playoffs. Beating Manning, who has been Mr. Monday Night during his Hall of Fame career with a 24-for-36, two-touchdown, zero-interception performance shows that the 2012 Ryan is primed to battle on the big stage. Ryan threw his 100th career touchdown pass to Roddy White in the third quarter. He still holds the league's longest active streak for the most pass attempts without an interception.

"We have about 10 hours before we start preparing for San Diego," Mike Smith said during his late postgame press conference following Monday's marathon game.

With a short week ahead of them, the Falcons will face another great quarterback in Philip Rivers. The Chargers and Falcons are two of six unbeaten teams remaining heading into week 3.

*Sager II can be reached at 404-256-1572.*

# CHOP SHOP

PRESENTED BY



## Braves eyeing late run at Nationals

By Fletcher Proctor

Last season saw the Braves lose a seemingly insurmountable wild-card lead to miss the postseason. This September has been a different story thus far, and while a wild-card berth seems like a lock, the Braves may not have given up on a late run at the NL East division.

Tim Hudson picked up win No. 15 on the season as Atlanta took down Miami 7-5 Monday to move to within five games of Washington. Dan Uggla helped Atlanta jump out to a 6-0 lead in the fourth inning as the former Marlins second baseman pounded a three-run home run, his 19th of the year. Hudson allowed 10 hits in five innings, but still picked up the win. Craig Kimbrel notched his NL-leading 37th save of the year with a scoreless ninth inning.

"Our eyes are still trying to catch the Nationals, but we're playing good baseball," said Fredi Gonzalez to atlantabraves.com. "We're pitching good and our offense - you're starting to see some sparks here and there."

Tuesday saw the Braves rally with three runs in the ninth inning to tie the Marlins and force the game into extra innings. Paul Maholm pitched well enough to win, allowing just two

runs over 6.2 innings, but the offense could not do anything until the ninth. Uggla drove home Jason Heyward before coming home himself along with Chipper Jones later in the frame. The Braves would fall in the bottom of the 10th.

### INJURY BUG ...

Braves catcher Brian McCann has played through injuries throughout the season and lately the six-time all-star has been hindered by tendinitis in his right hamstring. McCann was held out of the lineup on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, but according to Gonzalez was available for pinch-hitting appearances. McCann had a crucial two-run double late in Tuesday's game after receiving the starting assignment.

Meanwhile, Andrelton Simmons returned to the lineup on Sept. 11 but scared the team when he had to miss a game with a sprained ankle. Simmons returned for the Nationals series and slapped a pair of hits his first game back. Simmons would miss Tuesday's game with a sore shoulder.

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# DREAM BEAT



## Atlanta reaches postseason yet again

By Joe Deighton

They're back. The Atlanta Dream clinched another trip to the WNBA playoffs for the fourth straight season with a win over Seattle 91-77. The win, combined with a Chicago loss, wrapped up a postseason berth.

This has been Atlanta's most tumultuous season with the firing of head coach Marynell Meadors and the short suspension thereafter of star player Angel McCoughtry. Since those two moments in late August, the Dream have strung together quite a run. With the return of McCoughtry and the stellar play of point guard Lindsey Harding, Atlanta has won six out of its last seven games and will be a No. 3 seed in this year's playoffs.

### SWEET DREAM ...

The Dream followed up the Seattle win with a victory over Washington, 82-74. Once again, McCoughtry led the way, scoring 26 points and along with eight assists, three steals and a block.

"They were out-rebounding us and getting a lot of second chance points which got them a good lead," McCoughtry told the AP. "We just had to adjust and get on the boards in the second half."

Point guard Lindsey Harding seems to be

playing her best basketball at the right time, as she scored 19 points to go along with four assists and two steals. Without Harding, Atlanta might be on the outside looking in for the playoffs. McCoughtry may be the MVP of the league, but Harding would get some votes for MVP of the team this year.

### PLAYOFF PREVIEW ...

Atlanta will match up with the Indiana Fever for the second consecutive season. The Fever have lost their last two games, but are the No. 2 seed for good reason with a 20-11 record. Indiana is dangerous, especially with last year's MVP, Tamika Catchings, at full strength. Catchings averages over 17 points and seven rebounds per game. It will be a tall order to shut her down, but Atlanta did just that last season, limiting Catchings to just 8.6 points per game in defeating Indiana in a first-round dual.

The Dream defeated Indiana 71-64 back on Sept. 5 and the two teams split the four regular season games. The best-of-three series should go right down to the wire, but with its strong regular season finish, Atlanta seems to have the edge.

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