

August 15, 2009

## Jesuit alum Anthony Allen set to start at Georgia Tech

When we last heard from **Jesuit grad Anthony Allen**, he was starting at running back for Louisville.

That was two years ago.



After leaving the Cardinals following the 2007 season, the 6-foot, 228-pounder transferred to Georgia Tech and sat out a year per NCAA rules.

Now a junior, he's expected to start at A-Back in the Yellow Jackets' vaunted triple option attack. That means he'll line up as a wing off the tackle.

In two seasons at Louisville, Allen scored 20 TDs. At Georgia Tech, however, he will share the backfield with heralded running back Jonathan Dwyer, a player many believe has All-

American potential.

In an Atlanta Journal-Constitution article today, Allen said he's not worried about how many carries he gets.

Meantime, another **Jesuit** alum, redshirt freshman offensive tackle **Phil Smith**, might also start for Tech this fall.

--KEITH NIEBUHR

### ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION

Friday, August 14, 2009

---

## Ga. Tech's mixes Louisville-transfer Allen into offense

By Ray Glier for the AJC

"No. 18, No. 18," she called out.

That happens to be the number of captivating running back **Anthony Allen**, a transfer from Louisville who sat out the 2008 season.

How many times will his number be called in 2009?

**Allen** (6-feet, 228 pounds) is a starting A-back, a wing lined up off the tackle, and in terms of how the ball is shared, you have to think he is a third option in the offense behind B-back Jonathan Dwyer and quarterback Josh Nesbitt. Dwyer was named first-team preseason All-American by ESPN on Friday, and Nesbitt starts the play with the ball in his hands.

Allen is not letting the number of carries distract him.

"Like we preached the other day, it is a family, one team, and if a guy is getting the carries, the other guy is blocking and you have to do your part, but it is OK if you get excited, because they can't key on one guy," **Allen** said. "They don't know who is going to get the ball."

**Allen** averaged eight yards per carry in two seasons at Louisville and scored 20 touchdowns.

What looked so intriguing about **Allen** in practice Friday was not how he carried the ball — he didn't carry it much — but how he caught it and blocked.

In one drill, he stretched out to catch a deep ball over the middle, bobbling it on his fingertips, then reeling it in with a defender just off his shoulder.

“My soft hands were a born gift,” **Allen** said.

In another 11-on-11 drill, **Allen** was lined up in the slot, split out from his usual wingback spot, and zipped inside to deliver a jarring block. Redshirt freshman linebacker Austin Flannery, a walk-on, was flat-footed and caught up in some traffic when **Allen** popped him. Flannery had to be helped off the field.

Jeff Monken, the A-backs coach, said turns with the ball will be the last thing anybody worries about with **Allen**.

“We preach unselfishness, which is important if you play in this offense,” Monken said. “He's not ever asked when am getting it, can I play this position, none of that. He'll get the ball plenty at slot. I was at Navy for six years, and those guys playing the slot kept breaking the school record for yards per carry. Of the 12 seasons I have been with Coach [Johnson], the leading receiver in probably five of them was the slot back.

“I don't try and coddle those guys and tell them ‘we're going to get you the ball’. It's a blue-collar offense, and everybody is doing their part.”