

Kevin Jones

# MEET THE HOKIES



# DRESSED FOR SUCCESS



*Cedric Humes and Brandon Manning*

## 2003 PLAYER PROFILES

## NATHANIEL ADIBI

83



**Defensive End • 6-3 • 255 • r-Sr. • 3VL  
Hampton, Va. • Phoebus H.S.**

An outstanding defensive end who is expected to assume a key role for the Hokies this season as both a player and a leader ... Was listed as the No. 2 defensive end in Division I-A by *The Sporting News* and was selected a first-team preseason All-American by the publication ... Named second-team preseason All-America by *Athlon Sports* magazine ... Has started 34 games at end over the past three seasons, including three bowl games ... Moved to the stud end position during the spring, but could play either end spot ... Won the President's Award for outstanding leadership at the conclusion of 2002 spring practice and shared the award with center Jake Grove in 2003 ... A hard worker who has shown steady progress during his time at Tech ... Tied with teammate Cols Colas for fourth place among BIG EAST players in quarterback sacks last year with nine ... Combines good size with excellent strength and speed ... Is both intelligent and physical ... Focused on being successful both on and off the field ... Was a first-team Freshman All-America pick by *The Sporting News* following the 2000 season ... Tied for the team lead in sacks with five that season ... Has 15 career sacks ... A key figure in Tech's defensive plans for 2003 ...

**2002:** Started 13 of Tech's 14 games ... Recorded a career-high nine sacks ... Tallied 37 solo tackles and 18 assists ... Included in his 55 tackles were 15 tackles for loss ... Also had two passes broken up, three forced fumbles, a blocked kick and 16 quarterback hurries ... Recorded a solo tackle, an assist, a PBU and a quarterback hurry in just 19 plays during the opener against Arkansas State ... Had two solo stops and two quarterback pressures against LSU ... Turned in a sack against Marshall ... Had a big hand in shutting down Texas A&M's offense ... Recorded five solo stops, two

assists, three sacks and caused a fumble in that road win ... Had two solo tackles, one for a loss, a sack and a forced fumble at Western Michigan ... His forced fumble against WMU was returned for a Tech touchdown ... Recorded five solo tackles, an assist, a tackle for loss, a quarterback hurry and a sack in the win at Boston College ... Graded higher than any other defensive player against Rutgers, recording two solo stops, an assist, a sack, a pass broken up and four hurries ... Also had a solo stop on special teams in that game ... Played on a sore ankle against Temple, but still registered two quarterback hurries ... Got the start against Pittsburgh and recorded a solo stop and two assists ... Also blocked a punt — the first of his career — which led to a Tech touchdown ... Had a big game at Syracuse, recording 13 tackles — eight solo — including two tackles for loss ... Also had two sacks and caused a fumble ... Recorded five solo tackles and an assist, including two tackles for loss, as well as a quarterback hurry against West Virginia ... Was in on four tackles against Virginia and added two quarterback hurries ... Posted three solo tackles and an assist in the San Francisco Bowl ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during the off-season, registering a personal-best 575-pound back squat in the process ... Contributed two sacks in Tech's final spring scrimmage ... Shared the President's Award for outstanding leadership during the off-season program and spring practice with center Jake Grove ...

**2001:** Recorded 18 solo stops, 23 assists, two tackles for loss and a sack in 11 games ... Also had 15 quarterback hurries and broke up two passes ... Started eight games during the regular season, plus the Gator Bowl ... Registered one assist and a hurry in the opener against Connecticut ... Had three total

tackles and a hurry versus Western Michigan ... Recorded four solo stops, including one behind the line, broke up a pass and caused an interception at Rutgers ... Had two solo tackles, two assists and three hurries against UCF ... Registered a solo stop and three assists at West Virginia ... Recorded three assists and four quarterback hurries against Boston College ... Was in on six tackles during the Syracuse game and four at Pittsburgh ... Was credited with two solo stops, an assist and his first sack of the season against Temple ... Had three assists at Virginia ... Contributed six tackles and three QB hurries against No. 1 Miami ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during both preseason testing session and during 2002 spring max testing ... Bench pressed 410 pounds and squatted 560 pounds during the fall ... Turned in a personal-best 321-pound clean during the off-season ... His 4.28 time in the NFL shuttle run ranked second-best among the defensive ends ... Posted three tackles in the Maroon-White game, including two behind the line ... Also blocked a field goal during that game ...

**2000:** Earned Iron Hokie honors in preseason athletic performance tests ... Got his first collegiate start against Akron and contributed five tackles, including a sack and another tackle for loss ... Went on to start every game and averaged over 40 defensive plays a game ... Contributed two quarterback hurries against East Carolina and forced an interception ... Was in on five tackles at Boston College and added another hurry ... Had two tackles behind the line, including a sack, during a five-tackle outing versus West Virginia ... Collected another sack and a season-high six tackles in the Pittsburgh game ... Posted two sacks and returned a fumble 36 yards for a touchdown in Tech's win at UCF ... Was in on five tackles in wins against Syracuse and Virginia ... Played a season-high 52 defensive snaps against the Orangemen ... Saw action on over 75 plays as a starter on the punt and punt return teams ... Finished the season with 45 total tackles ... Had eight tackles for loss, including five sacks for minus 33 yards ... Hurried the passer five times and knocked down a pass ... Registered three tackles in Tech's Gator Bowl win against Clemson ... Won Iron Hokie honors again during winter workouts ... Turned in career bests with a 400-pound bench press and 550-pound squat during spring testing ... Averaged 4.55 seconds in the forty during Tech's pro timing day ... Had four sacks during the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Also blocked a field goal ...

## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Nathaniel ADIBI ..... uh-DEE-bee  
XAVIER ADIBI ..... ZAY-vee-ur uh-DEE-bee  
MIKAL BAAQEE ..... meh-KELL Bah-KEY  
Noland BURCHETTE ..... bur-CHET  
John CANDELAS ..... can-DELL-us  
Cols COLAS ..... coles CO-las  
DeANGELO Hall ..... dee-ANNE-juh-lo  
Mike IMOH ..... EEE-moh  
Jason LALLIS ..... LAH-liss  
Jared MAZZETTA ..... muh-ZEH-tah  
Chris PANNELL ..... puh-NELL  
Robert PEASLEE ..... PEEZ-lee  
Tim SANDIDGE ..... SAN-didge  
Chris SHREVE ..... shreev  
Carter WARLEY ..... WOR-lee

**ADIBI** CONTINUED

**1999:** Was redshirted while working at defensive end ... Added 16 pounds through his work in the strength and conditioning program ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Bench pressed 380 pounds ... Posted a 530-pound back squat and a 304-pound power clean ... Returned a fumble 49 yards for a touchdown in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Fractured a bone in his right wrist during one of the scrimmages but returned to action ... Contributed four tackles and forced a fumble in the annual spring game ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the team's top defensive newcomer ...

**High School:** Played running back and defensive end for Coach Bill Dee at Phoebus High ... Listed as the No. 10 defensive lineman in the country by *PrepStar* and picked to its Dream Team ... Listed as the No. 4 jumbo athlete in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 8 athlete by *The National Recruiting Advisor* prior to his senior season ... A first-team Group AAA all-state pick as a defensive lineman ... Named the No. 6 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named district offensive and defensive player of the year as a senior ... Posted 101 tackles in 1998, including a school single-season record 16 sacks ... Finished with 35 career sacks ... Led the district in rushing ... Closed out his senior season with 855 yards and 10 touchdowns rushing ... Had 207 yards rushing in a game against Henrico ... Turned in 11 sacks as a junior ... Holds the school record with a 300-pound power clean ... Won the state Group AAA outdoor shot put championship as a junior and was second as a senior ...

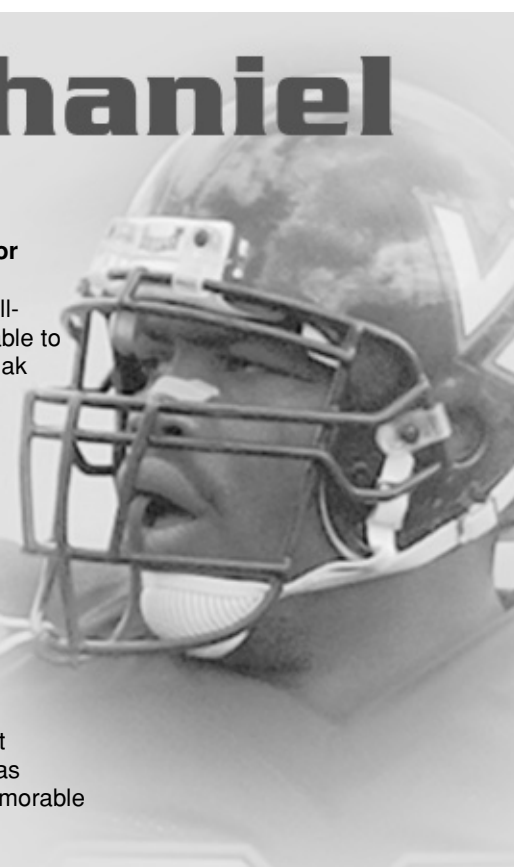
**Personal:** Nathaniel Barnell Adibi ... Born 1/25/81 in Mississippi ... Son of Abiodun and Leanne Adibi ... Brother, Xavier, will be a freshman on the squad this year ... Majoring in residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	28	17	45	8- 44	5- 33
2001	11	18	23	41	2- 11	1- 10
2002	14	37	18	55	15- 72	9- 61
Career	36	83	58	141	25-127	15-104

2002 Tackles Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	1	1	2	0- 0	0- 0
LSU	1	2	0	2	0- 0	0- 0
MU	1	1	0	1	1- 9	1- 9
at TAM	1	5	2	7	3- 15	3- 15
at WMU	1	2	0	2	2- 11	1- 8
at BC	1	5	1	6	2- 6	1- 5
RU	1	3	1	4	1- 14	1- 14
TU	1	0	0	0	0- 0	0- 0
PITT	1	1	2	3	0- 0	0- 0
at SU	1	8	5	13	4- 14	2- 10
WVU	1	5	1	6	2- 3	0- 0
UVa	1	1	3	4	0- 0	0- 0
at UM	1	0	1	1	0- 0	0- 0
vs. AF	1	3	1	4	0- 0	0- 0

# talk with Nathaniel



**What are your expectations for your senior season, for yourself and the team?**

I want to play better and possibly make an All-America team or All-BIG EAST first team. If I'm able to make all of that, I'm sure all the numbers will speak for themselves. For the team, it's always to win every game and win the BIG EAST.

**If you could play any other position, what would it be and why?**

I'd play tailback. I played tailback in high school and I know what it takes. I also like all the fame you get with it.

**What has been your most memorable game so far?**

I'd say the Texas A&M game, when I had my first three-sack game. That was probably the best game I had played in a while. Going down to Texas A&M and playing well was probably the most memorable game.

**How do you feel about having your brother here this year?**

I think it will be a good opportunity to spend time with him. I can pretty much show him what it takes to get through college, both in athletics and in school.

**What do you like to do when you're not playing football or studying?**

Sleep and play video games.

**What has been the best part about your experience here at Tech?**

It has been being in this type of great atmosphere during football games.

## JESSE ALLEN



**Fullback • 6-0 • 241 • r-Fr.  
Monson, Mass. • Pathfinder Regional H.S.**

A physical young player who could battle for some backup duties at fullback this fall ... Joined the team as an invited walk-on and was redshirted last fall ... Combines outstanding strength with good size ... Has the kind of work ethic coaches like ... Is already excelling in the athletic

performance program ... Made progress during spring practice, but still has some things to learn ... Should continue to get better with added reps ...

**2002:** Worked at fullback while redshirting ... His 351-pound hang clean was the second-best on the team during fall testing ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during spring max testing ... Bench pressed 400 pounds and posted a 530-pound back squat ... Turned in an 18-yard run during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages and had a 7-yard pass reception in another ...

**High School:** Was a four-year letterman as a running back and linebacker for Coach Chris Pope at Pathfinder Regional High ... Set a school record with 2,316 yards rushing his senior year ... Scored 23 touchdowns on the ground and two receiving ... Ran for 301 yards and five TDs in a game against Dean Tech ... Posted 180 tackles, nine sacks and four interceptions from his linebacker spot ... Finished with over 3,700

yards rushing and 42 career touchdowns and had his number retired ... Scored a touchdown in the state all-star game ... A three-time all-league pick and a two-time selection for All-Western honors ... Was the team's offensive MVP as a junior and senior ...

**Personal:** Jesse Lee Allen ... Born 10/22/83 in Springfield, MA ... Son of Tim and Sharron Allen ... Enrolled in university studies.

## JAMES ANDERSON



**Linebacker • 6-2 • 217 • r-So. • 1VL  
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.**

Will vie for time at whip linebacker this fall after seeing action at the backer position last season ... Made the move during spring practice ... Brings good size, speed and athleticism to the position ... Is still adjusting to his new responsibilities ... Is a Super Iron Hokie in the weight room ... Set a position record for whip linebackers with a 341-pound push jerk during spring testing ... Was pressed into some starting duty late last season at the backer position ... Had some ups and downs but gained valuable experience ... Serves as a starter on three special teams units ... Needs to have a good summer preparation and preseason practice ... Continued progress at the new position during the fall will be the key to playing time ...

**2002:** Played in all 14 games ... Recorded 28 solo stops and 20 assisted tackles ... Included in those 48 tackles were three tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks ... Also had three quarterback hurries and a forced fumble ... Had a solo stop and an assist against Arkansas State ... Caused a fumble and recorded five total tackles against LSU ... Had two solo stops on

James Anderson

defense against Marshall ... Also had an assisted tackle on special teams ... Played briefly on eight defensive and eight special teams plays in the win at Texas A&M ... Saw extensive playing time at Western Michigan, recording five solo tackles, an assist, two quarterback hurries and a sack ... Played 23 snaps against Rutgers ... Made his first career start against Temple ... Recorded four solo tackles, seven assists and a quarterback hurry in that game ... Tallied six solo stops and two assists in a start against Pittsburgh ... Also had a tackle for loss and shared a sack ... Started and played all 100 defensive plays at Syracuse, recording four solo tackles and two assists ... Also played 14 snaps on special teams ... Returned to the top backup role when Vegas Robinson returned for the West Virginia game ... Was on the field for 14 snaps on special teams against WVU, recording a solo tackle ... Had a solo tackle and an assist on special teams against Virginia ... Had two assisted stops in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... Ran a 4.43 forty during spring max testing ... Also bench pressed 370 pounds and had a 38 1/2-inch vertical jump on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors ... Moved to whip linebacker for spring practice ... Had three tackles, including one behind the line, in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

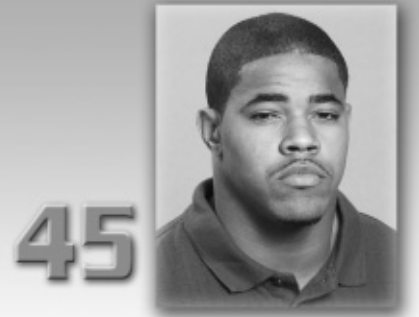
**2001:** Redshirted while working at the backer position ... His 36 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring testing was the second-best among the Hokies' inside linebackers ... Also turned in the second-best hang clean (305 pounds) in the group and the third-best back squat (500 pounds) ... Continued to work at backer during spring practice ... Contributed a pair of tackles and broke up a pass during one spring scrimmage ... Was in on two tackles during the spring game ...

**High School:** Posted 41 tackles, five sacks, four fumble recoveries and an interception as a senior for Coach David Cox at Deep Creek High ... A *PrepStar* All-American who was rated the No. 8 linebacker in the Atlantic Region ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state as a linebacker by both the coaches and The Associated Press ... Also named first-team All-Tidewater by the *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot* ... Ranked the No. 26 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and *The Roanoke Times* ... Also competed in basketball and track ... High jumped 6-6 ... Finished sixth in the state shot put as a senior ...

**Personal:** James Nathaniel Anderson ... Born 9/26/83 in Roanoke Rapids, NC ... Son of James, Sr., and Brenda Anderson ... His father played basketball at North Carolina A&T ... Is enrolled in art.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	14	28	20	48	3-	9 1.5- 8

## MIKAL BAAQEE



**Linebacker • 5-10 • 227 • r-Jr. • 2VL  
Columbia, Md. • DeMatha H.S.**

Is coming off an extremely productive year ... Showed great improvement over the course of his sophomore year ... Was one of the Hokies' most consistent players ... Picked up some valuable experience along with an additional 15 pounds of muscle ... Led the Hokies in tackles last fall during his first season as a starter ... Was named one of the team's most valuable performers during 2003 spring practice ... Has become better at the point of attack and more physical against the run ... Rates as a solid performer versus the passing game ... A play-maker with a nonstop motor ... Strong and athletic ... Works extremely hard ... Tech's coaches are counting on him to be one of the leaders of the defense ...

**2002:** Earned Super Iron Hokie Honors when he returned for preseason practice, turning in personal bests in all four major lifts ... Led the inside linebackers with a 380-pound bench press ... Started 13 games, leading the team in tackles ... Had 112 total stops, 66 of which were solo ... Posted 12 tackles for loss and 3.5 sacks ... Also had eight quarterback hurries, five passes broken up, a forced fumble and an interception ... Had five total tackles against Arkansas State in his first career start ... Also had two tackles for loss and a quarterback hurry in that game ... Recorded a team-high 10 tackles — five solo — in the win over LSU ... Had a big game against Marshall, recording an interception of a Byron Leftwich pass, to go with nine total tackles and a pass broken up ... Had three solo stops and three assists at Texas A&M ... Missed the Western Michigan game due to a sprained ankle ... Returned to action at Boston College, getting the start and recording three assisted tackles ... Contributed 11 tackles against Rutgers ... Seven of those stops were solo ... Also had a quarterback hurry and a sack on a key fourth-down play ... Continued his excellent play against Temple, registering six solo stops, five assists, a tackle for loss, two quarterback hurries and also causing an

## BAAQEE CONTINUED

interception ... Was in on seven tackles against Pittsburgh ... Also had a tackle for loss, a sack and caused a fumble ... Was on the field for all 100 defensive snaps at Syracuse ... Registered 11 solo stops and six assists for a career-best 17 total tackles ... Included in those were two tackles for loss and two sacks ... Also had two quarterback hurries and caused an interception ... Registered 11 tackles against West Virginia ... Played all 62 snaps on defense against Virginia, recording eight solo tackles and three assists ... Also had a pass broken up and a tackle for loss ... Had five solo stops, an assist, a pass broken up and a quarterback hurry at Miami ... Was in on six tackles, including a TFL, in the San Francisco Bowl ... Continued to excel in the weight room during the off-season, leading the linebackers with a 575-pound back squat and earning Super Iron Hokie honors once again ... Turned in six tackles, including a sack and tackle for loss in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Added four tackles in the Maroon-White game ... Shared the George Preas Award as one of the most valuable performers of the spring ...

**2001:** Recorded a 500-pound squat and 326-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Played in all 11 games as a starter on special teams ... Worked as a backup at the backer position but did not see game action ... Recorded seven total tackles and a forced fumble ... Had an assist against Western Michigan ... Turned in a solo stop and an assist on seven special teams plays at Rutgers ... Had two tackles on special teams at Pittsburgh ... Registered a solo tackle on special teams against Temple ... Forced a fumble on kickoff coverage that was recovered by the Hokies at Virginia ... Played a season-high 12 special teams plays against Miami ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Turned in a time of 4.03 seconds in the NFL shuttle run and bench pressed 370 pounds ... Switched to the mike linebacker spot during the spring ... Was in on seven tackles during one spring scrimmage and four during another ... Posted three tackles in the annual Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Was redshirted while he worked at the backer position ... Was a personal record-breaker during winter workouts ... Improved his bench to 355 pounds ... Also posted a 530-pound back squat ... Got extra work during the spring while starting backer Ben Taylor was rehabbing from fall surgery ... Contributed a tackle in the spring game ...

**High School:** A three-year starter as a linebacker for Coach Bill McGregor at

DeMatha ... A *PrepStar* All-American who was rated the No. 3 linebacker and No. 17 overall prospect in the Atlantic Region ... Ranked the No. 17 player in Maryland by *SuperPrep* ... Posted 102 total tackles his senior season, including 65 solos ... Had 11 quarterback sacks and 16 tackles for loss ... Caused six fumbles and recovered two ... Intercepted two passes in 1999 and blocked a punt ... Contributed 12 tackles, two sacks, three passes broken up and two fumbles caused in a game against Paul VI ... Earned all-county, all-conference and first-team all-state honors ... Was in on 117 solo tackles and 34 assists as a junior ... Caused six fumbles that season and added eight sacks and five interceptions ... Finished his prep career with 274 total tackles, 14 fumbles caused and seven interceptions ... Helped the team to a 33-2-1 record during his three varsity seasons ...

**Personal:** Mikal Rahim Baaqee ... Born 12/20/81 in Boston, MA ... Son of Susanne Bilal and Shakir Baaqee ... Enrolled in psychology.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	4	3	7	0- 0	0- 0
2002	13	68	44	112	12- 50	3.5- 28
Career	24	72	47	119	12- 50	3.5- 28

2002 Tackles Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	4	1	5	2- 11	0- 0
LSU	1	5	5	10	0- 0	0- 0
MU	1	3	5	8	0- 0	0- 0
at TAM	1	3	3	6	0- 0	0- 0
at WMU					Did not play	
at BC	1	0	3	3	0- 0	0- 0
RU	1	7	4	11	1- 8	0- 0
TU	1	6	5	11	1- 1	0- 0
PITT	1	6	1	7	1- 3	0.5- 3
at SU	1	11	6	17	4- 20	2- 17
WVU	1	7	4	11	1- 3	0- 0
UVa	1	8	3	11	1- 1	0- 0
at UM	1	5	1	6	0- 0	0- 0
vs AF	1	3	3	6	1- 3	0- 0

## NOLAND BURCHETTE



**Defensive End • 6-2 • 240 • r-Fr.**  
**Richmond, Va. • Highland Springs H.S.**

Made an immediate impression with his athleticism when he arrived last fall ... May have gotten a chance to contribute in 2002 but was slowed by a hamstring injury and redshirted ... Took advantage of the situation by becoming familiar with both

the Tech system and the Hokies' strength and conditioning program ... Possesses good athleticism and a willingness to learn ... Is deceptively quick and agile ... Plays well in space ... Must continue working to add size and strength so he will be better at the point of attack ... Was named Tech's top defensive newcomer at the end of spring practice ... Still has some work to do but has the potential to be a contributor this fall ...

**2002:** Was slowed by a hamstring injury during the early part of the year ... Worked at defensive end while redshirting ... Sprained his knee in spring practice, causing him to miss some time ... Had four tackles and a sack in one spring scrimmage and a fumble recovery in another ... Posted two quarterback sacks and three tackles in the spring game ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the top defensive newcomer of the spring ...

**High School:** Lettered three seasons as a defensive end and tight end for Coach Scott Burton at Highland Springs ... Posted 21 tackles for loss his senior season, including 12.5 sacks ... Finished with 61 total tackles, 21 quarterback hurries and five passes broken up ... Caused four fumbles and recovered two ... Had 11 pass receptions at tight end for 175 yards and three touchdowns ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state by both The Associated Press and the state coaches ... Saw some action as an H-back, rushing for 225 yards and five TDs ... Contributed 58 tackles as a junior ... Registered 11 sacks and nine additional tackles for loss that season ... Turned in 32 catches for 416 yards and three touchdowns on offense ... Averaged 40.5 yards as the team's punter ... Was a two-time all-district and all-region pick ... Named to the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* All-Metro first team his senior season ... Helped his team to the Group AAA Division 5 regional division title game ... Starred on a defense that held opponents to 148 total yards per game ... Listed as the No. 56 weak-side defensive end in the nation by *Rivals* ... Competed in the 100 meters and on relay teams as a member of the track team ... Also lettered two seasons as a forward in basketball ...

**Personal:** Noland Duke Burchette II ... Born 3/23/83 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Noland and Pollie Burchette ... Enrolled in university studies.

## EXTRA POINT

Twenty-seven of the 37 players who started games on offense or defense last season are on Virginia Tech's 2003 roster. Sixteen of those 27 players have more than one year of eligibility remaining.

**VINNIE BURNS**

38



**Punter • 5-11 • 202 • r-Jr. • 2VL  
New Orleans, La. • St. Augustine H.S.**

Earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors last season in his second year as the Hokies' starting punter ... Was one of 10 semifinalists for the Ray Guy Award, given to the nation's top punter ... Mixes a strong leg with good athletic ability ... Showed improved consistency in 2002, but has yet to reach his full potential ... Has benefited from the athletic performance program ... Must continue working to improve his operation time ... Will be looked to for a big year ...

**2002:** Punted 64 times for 2,591 yards, an average of 40.5 yards per kick ... Had a long of 58 yards with eight touchbacks, seven fair catches and 22 punts inside the 20-yard line ... Had two punts blocked ... Punted five times for an average of 40.6 yards in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had a long of 55 with three punts downed inside the 20 ... Averaged 44.7 yards per punt on nine kicks in the win over LSU ... Had a long of 58 yards with four kicks downed inside the 20 ... Performance earned him BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week honors ... Punted just once against Marshall, a 49-yarder ... Punted seven times at Texas A&M, averaging 40.7 yards a kick with a long of 51 yards ... Had three punts downed inside the 20, including one at the 1-yard line and one at the 5-yard line ... Punted six times for an average of 44.3 yards at Western Michigan ... Had a 57-yard punt and three downed inside the 20-yard line ... Had a big game against Pittsburgh, averaging 43.6 yards on seven punts ... Punted five times for an average of 41.2 yards at Syracuse ... Had a long of 55 yards and three downed inside the 20-yard line, including one at the 7-yard line ... Also had a punt blocked against the Orangemen ... Spent the Virginia game punting in winds of up to 30 miles per hour ... Never kicked with the wind at his back ... Punted five times for an average of 28 yards ... Had one punt downed inside the 20-yard line ... Punted three times for an average of 44.0 yards per kick at Miami ... Had a long of 48 yards, but also had a

punt blocked ... Punted three times in the San Francisco Bowl, averaging 40.0 yards per kick ... Had two punts in the Maroon-White spring game for an average of 45.0 yards ...

**2001:** Punted 59 times in 11 regular-season games for 2,233 yards, an average of 37.8 yards per punt ... Averaged 42 yards per punt on two punts in his first collegiate action against Connecticut ... Had a long kick of 52 yards against the Huskies ... Averaged 41 yards on three punts versus Western Michigan ... Placed two kicks inside the 20-yard line against the Broncos ... Completed a 33-yard pass to Garnell Wilds on a fake punt against UCF ... Also had three punts downed inside the 20-yard line in that game ... Punted eight times at West Virginia with three punts ending up inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 40.2 yards on four punts against Boston College ... Suffered a blocked punt in the Syracuse game ... Had his best game of the year against Temple, averaging 43.4 yards on eight punts ... His 63-yard punt in that game was a season best ... Had a 53-yard punt at Virginia ... Punted six times for an average of 42 yards against top-ranked Miami ... Put three punts inside the 20 in the Gator Bowl but had a kick blocked ... Handled all the punting in the spring game ... Punted five times for an overall average of 46.4 yards ... Posted punts of 57, 48, 45, 41 and 41 yards ...

**2000:** Traveled with the team briefly during the early going, but was redshirted ... Made strides in the off-season strength and conditioning program ... Came out of spring practice as the No. 1 punter ... Showed the consistency needed to win the job during the final two weeks ... Finished with an average hang time of 4.6 seconds and an average distance of over 46 yards per kick ... Punted five times in the Maroon-White game for 231 yards, including punts of 59 and 53 yards ... Shared Defensive MVP honors after averaging 46.2 yards per punt ...

**High School:** Was a four-year letterman as a punter/place-kicker for Coach Anthony Biagas ... Named to the Coaches' Class 5-A all-state team as a punter his senior year at St. Augustine ... Averaged 43 yards per punt ... Punted three times for a 53.3-yard average in one game his senior season ... Twice pinned Airline High inside its own 10 in the bi-district playoffs ... Named all-city, all-district and all-Metro as well as all-state ... Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar*, which listed him as the No. 4 punter in the Southeast Region ... Averaged just under 40 yards per punt his junior year and was an all-city selection ... Captained the football and track teams his senior year ... Helped the track team to a state

championship ... Competed in the long jump (23-2) and the 400-meters (50.2) ... Served as the school's student body president ...

**Personal:** Ronald Vincent Burns, Jr. ... Born 2/2/82 in New Orleans, LA ... Son of Ronald and Sheila Burns ... His dad serves on the Nokia Sugar Bowl committee ... Is studying sociology.

Punting	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	120
2001	11	59	2233	37.8	63	20
2002	14	64	2591	40.5	58	22
Career	25	123	4824	39.2	63	42
2002 Punting Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	5	203	40.6	55	3
LSU	1	9	402	44.7	58	4
MU	1	1	49	49.0	49	1
at TAM	1	7	285	40.7	51	3
at WMU	1	6	266	44.3	57	3
at BC	1	5	186	37.2	45	0
RU	1	2	63	31.5	39	1
TU	1	2	89	44.5	47	1
PITT	1	7	305	43.6	57	0
at SU	1	5	206	41.2	55	3
WVU	1	4	145	36.2	52	2
UVa	1	5	140	28.0	33	1
at UM	1	3	132	44.0	48	0
vs AF	1	3	120	40.0	52	0

**REGGIE BUTLER**

61



**Offensive Tackle • 6-5 • 333 • So.  
Keswick, Va. • Monticello H.S.**

A young player with good potential ... Mixes excellent size with a desire to succeed ... Has made strides in the strength and conditioning program but must continue those efforts ... Has only played organized football for four years ... Got a brief taste of action last fall ... Picked up some valuable reps in the spring ... Is maturing quickly ... Will compete with freshman Tripp Carroll for reserve duty at left tackle when preseason practice opens ... Still has some things to learn, but has a chance to become a real asset to the line as he develops consistency in his play ...

**2002:** Played 34 snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Saw brief action against Marshall ... Played seven offensive snaps at Western Michigan ... Was in for six offensive snaps in the win over Rutgers ... Saw brief action on special teams against Temple ... Played in Tech's two jayvee games to gain extra experience ... Turned in a 570-pound bench press during spring testing ...

**BUTLER** CONTINUED

**2001:** Did not enter school until January ... Posted a 500-pound back squat and a 316-pound push jerk during spring athletic performance testing ... Bench pressed 370 pounds ... Worked at left tackle during spring practice ...

**High School:** Lettered two seasons as a tackle for Coach Brud Bicknell at Monticello High ... Earned first-team all-district honors after helping his team to a 7-3 record in 2000 ... Also named All-Central Virginia by *The Daily Progress* in Charlottesville ... Gained second-team all-region recognition ... Had 10 tackles, three sacks and two fumble recoveries in limited action on defense as a senior ... Listed as the No. 55 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Ranked the No. 37 prospect in Virginia by *PrepAtlantic* ... A three-year letterman on the track team ... Placed seventh in Group AA discus finals in 2001 ... Played a role in two district titles ...

**Personal:** Reginald Allan Butler ... Born 8/21/82 in Charlottesville, VA ... Son of Lee Ethel Butler ... Enrolled in university studies.



John Candelas

**JOHN CANDELAS**



**Tailback • 6-0 • 199 • So.**  
**Blacksburg, Va. • Blacksburg H.S.**

Will help provide depth at the tailback position after getting a brief taste of action as a freshman ... Scored a touchdown in the Hokies' win over nationally-ranked Marshall ... Showed a good work ethic after entering school in January 2002 ... Made progress that spring and picked up some additional reps on the jayvee team last fall ... Has done a good job picking up the Tech system ... Possesses solid ability ... Must continue to make strides in the athletic performance program ... Has shown steady improvement at the position ...

**2002:** Played in two varsity games at tailback ... Saw action on 10 plays at tailback and two on special teams in the season opener against Arkansas State ... Carried the football five times for 15 yards ... Got just three plays in the Marshall

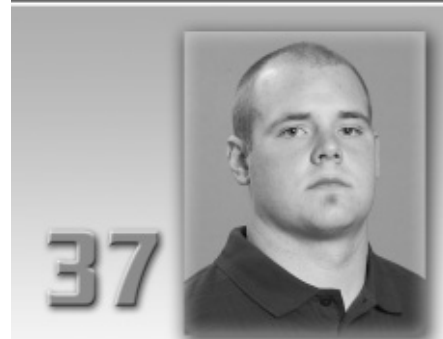
game, but made the most of it with a 10-yard touchdown run ... Finished with two carries for 11 yards ... Rushed nine times for 70 yards in a jayvee game against Hargrave ... Had a personal-best 330-pound bench press during spring testing ... Returned two kickoffs for 54 yards during the Maroon-White game ... Also contributed a 4-yard run ...

**2001:** Entered school at mid-year and went through spring practice ... Worked at tailback ... Had a 410-pound back squat during spring workouts ... Rushed for 23 yards and had a 6-yard pass reception during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Ran for 18 yards and had a 4-yard catch in another scrimmage ... Carried twice for four yards in the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Lettered two seasons as a running back and linebacker for Coach Dave Crist at Blacksburg High ... Rushed for over 1,000 yards and seven touchdowns as a senior ... Added 54 tackles on defense ... Carried the football 24 times for 172 yards during a win over Christiansburg in 2000 ... Earned first-team All-Blue Ridge District honors his senior season ... Was an honorable mention all-district pick as a junior when he rushed for 321 yards and seven TDs ... Also a sprinter on the track team ... Placed seventh in the 55-meter hurdles at the 2001 Group AA state indoor track championship ...

**Personal:** John Edwin Candelas ... Born 4/21/83 in Miami, FL ... Son of Teresa Candelas and the late José Candelas ... Enrolled in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

**STEVE CANTER**



**Fullback • 6-0 • 232 • r-Sr.**  
**Virginia Beach, Va. • Kempsville H.S.**

Switched from linebacker to fullback during the spring ... Will compete for a backup spot at the position when practice resumes ... Saw brief action on special teams last season ... Saw action at fullback in high school, but played defense for two seasons at Concord College ... Transferred to Tech and worked as a linebacker during a redshirt year in 2001 ... Also practiced at linebacker last fall, but saw action on both offense and defense during the Hokies' two jayvee games ... Has made progress in the strength and conditioning program ... A physical player who mixes toughness with a will to succeed ... Is still adjusting to his new position ... Could challenge for some backup duty if he continues to make progress during the preseason ...

**2002:** Worked at the backer position during the fall ... Saw special teams action in games against Arkansas State, LSU and Rutgers ... Played in both Tech jayvee games ... Rushed for 25 yards on five



# talk with Steve

## What is your favorite bowl memory at Virginia Tech?

I would have to say getting to see Alcatraz last year in San Francisco. That was a great opportunity and not many people get to do that with a great group of guys like I did.

## What will you miss the most after you graduate?

The things I will miss the most would be my teammates and also just playing the game of football. It has been such a huge part of my life, and I will miss that competition.

## You transferred to Tech from a Division II program. What is the biggest difference between the D-II game and playing with a program like Tech? How did you make those adjustments?

Well, the biggest difference between Division II and Tech is obviously the talent level. In Division II, I was a great player and here I am just average. To make up for my shortage in talent, I just work harder than everyone.

## If you could play any position, other than fullback, what position would you play and why?

If I could play any position other than fullback, it would probably be the offensive line. I know that sounds crazy, but I really like the bond those guys have and regardless of how little publicity they get, all those guys keep getting after it.

## Who was your idol growing up?

My idol when I was growing up would have to be my mother. She works harder than anyone I have ever met, and she taught me how to be a successful person in life. She means everything to me.

## What would you consider your "theme song" and why?

I'd say "The Big Payback" by James Brown because I have been out to pay back or show up all those people who told me I couldn't play football at Virginia Tech.

carries against Fork Union Military Academy ... Turned in a personal-best 326-pound clean during spring max tests ... Had a pass reception for one yard during the Maroon-White spring game ...

**2001:** Practiced at the backer position while sitting out a season ... Turned in a 360-pound bench press during fall testing ... Added a 410-pound back squat during the spring ... Was in on three tackles during one spring scrimmage and contributed a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

**Concord College:** Played two seasons at Division II Concord College ... Had 83 tackles, three sacks, 13 tackles for loss and an interception in 2000 ... Was

named second-team All-WVIAC ... Posted 61 tackles and a sack as a freshman ...

**High School:** Played fullback and linebacker for Coach John Bowles at Kempsville High ... Earned three letters ... Was the team defensive MVP and a second-team all-district pick as a senior ... Compiled 112 tackles, including nine sacks ... Contributed 22 carries for 97 yards and a TD as a fullback ... Also caught nine passes for 83 yards ... Registered 17 tackles in a game against Bayside ... Posted 75 tackles his junior season ...

**Personal:** Steven Christopher Canter ... Born 2/15/81 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Judy and Ron Turner ... Enrolled in interdisciplinary studies.

## TRIPP CARROLL

# 57



**Offensive Tackle • 6-4 • 306 • Fr.**  
Charlotte, N.C. • Andrew Jackson H.S. (Fla.)

A promising young lineman who could see action as a true freshman ... Entered school in January after his senior season at Andrew Jackson High in Florida ... Got to go through winter workouts and spring practice ... Worked at center and guard during the early stages of spring drills, but ended up at left tackle ... Should draw big dividends from the Hokies' athletic performance program ... Combines good size with excellent football instincts ... Is smart, mature and has a desire to do well ... Will battle Reggie Butler for the top backup duties at left tackle when practice resumes in August ...

**2002:** Enrolled at Tech in January ... Posted a 380-pound bench press during off-season testing ... Entered spring practice splitting work between center and right guard ... Was moved to left tackle for the last few practices of the spring ...

**High School:** Played his senior season at Andrew Jackson High in Jacksonville, Fla., after playing the first years of his high school career at Myers Park High in Charlotte, N.C. ... His father, Gil, was his head coach in Florida and for two years in Charlotte ... A *SuperPrep* All-American as an offensive lineman ... Named to the *PrepStar* Top 100 Dream Team ... Named an All-American by *PrepStar* as an offensive lineman ... Was an all-city, all-district, all-conference and all-state selection as a senior in Florida, while also being named to the Super 24 and Florida Super 75 teams ... Participated in the U.S. Army All-America Bowl, a high school all-star game which features the top high school prospects from around the nation, held in San Antonio ... Registered nearly 100 tackles and seven sacks on defense while grading out at over 90 percent in his blocking assignments at the offensive tackle spot his senior season ... Named first-team all-conference, first-team all-county and academic all-state as a junior in North Carolina ... Rated sixth among centers and guards in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... Rated the No. 165 prospect nationally and the No. 22

## CARROLL CONTINUED

player in the Mid-Atlantic region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 13 offensive lineman in the country and the No. 12 prospect in Florida by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 15 offensive lineman in the nation by *PrepStar* ... A preseason *SuperPrep* All-American, rated No. 4 in North Carolina and the No. 13 offensive lineman in the country ... A preseason *PrepStar* All-American, rated the No. 79 player in the nation ...

**Personal:** Lloyd Gilbert Carroll III ... Born 9/18/84 in Lumberton, NC ... Son of Gil Carroll and Renee Carroll ... Enrolled in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

## CHRIS CEASAR



**Split End • 5-10 • 165 • r-Fr.**  
Delray Beach, Fla. • Spanish River H.S.

A young player who is trying to break into the depth chart at split end ... Possesses good athletic ability, but must continue working to improve his strength ... Entered Tech in January 2002 and has been through two spring practices ... Worked on the scout team while redshirting last fall ... Still has some work to do at his new position after playing quarterback in high school ... Needs a good summer of preparation ... His progress during the preseason will determine his status on the depth chart ...

**2002:** Was redshirted while working at split end ... His 37 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring max testing was the second-best among Tech receivers ... Turned in a 45-yard reception during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ...

**2001:** Entered school in January ... Ran a 4.53 in the forty during spring testing ... Practiced at flanker during spring workouts ...

**High School:** Played quarterback for Coach Bill Bretherick at Spanish River ... Became the first quarterback to guide the team to back-to-back playoff berths ... Passed for 1,300 yards and 18 touchdowns as a senior ... Rushed for over 400 yards and five more TDs ... Named to the Palm Beach County all-star team and earned

first-team all-district honors ... Voted the team's offensive MVP ... Passed for four touchdowns during the win that earned his team a playoff spot his final season ... Threw for six TDs and ran for two in just six games during his junior year ... Had his season cut short by a shoulder injury ... Lettered as a sprinter in track ... Was clocked at 10.8 seconds in the 100-meters and 21.8 seconds in the 200 ...

**Personal:** Christopher Anthony Ceasar ... Born 12/20/82 ... Son of Willie and Dorothy Ceasar ... Enrolled in secondary education.

## CHRIS CLIFTON



**Split End • 6-4 • 197 • r-So. • 1VL**  
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.

Is becoming more comfortable at the split end position after beginning his Tech career as a quarterback ... Will still serve as the Hokies' No. 3 signal-caller, but has the potential to become a contributor as a receiver ... Got a limited taste of action at receiver last fall ... Started on the punt return team ... Brings height and athletic ability to the receiver position ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the strength and conditioning program during the off-season ... Had a productive spring catching the football, but must continue to learn the offensive scheme and defenses ... Has shown the type of desire it takes to be successful ... Developing consistency will be important in his quest for playing time ... Will get a good look when preseason practice opens in August ...

**2002:** Saw action on 10 offensive plays in the opener against Arkansas State ... Played two snaps on special teams ... Was in for eight special teams plays against LSU ... Played three snaps on special teams against Marshall ... Saw brief action on special teams at Texas A&M ... Saw brief action on offense and seven plays on special teams at Western Michigan ... Was in for two plays on special teams in the win at Boston College ... Saw action on six offensive and seven special teams plays against Rutgers ... Was in for six special



Chris Clifton

teams plays against Temple and five against both Pittsburgh and Syracuse ... Played in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave to get some extra experience ... Contributed three catches for 34 yards ... Saw action in Tech's bowl game against Air Force ... Improved on all four lifts during spring max testing ... Grabbed three touchdown passes and five total receptions for 97 yards during Tech's last major scrimmage of the spring ... Had three catches for 25 yards and a TD in another scrimmage ... Finished with the most receiving yards in the Maroon-White game with two catches for 53 yards ... His 36-yard catch was the longest of the game ...

**2001:** Practiced at quarterback when preseason workouts opened in August ... Spent some time as a receiver on the scout team while redshirting during the fall ... His 34 1/2-inch vertical jump tied for second-best among incoming freshmen ... Posted a 400-pound back squat during spring testing and ran a 4.54 40 ... Opened spring practice at quarterback before switching to receiver ... Had a 17-yard reception in one spring scrimmage and a 6-yard catch in another ... Hauled in two passes for 18 yards during the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Was 23-2 as the starting quarterback for Coach David Cox at Deep Creek ... Led the team to the Group AAA Division 6 title game as a senior ... Threw for 1,286 yards and 18 touchdowns his senior season and added nearly 300 yards and six TDs rushing ... Passed for 192 yards and three TDs in a playoff game

against Princess Anne ... Tossed four touchdown passes during a 28-26 loss to Centreville in the championship game after seeing his team fall behind 28-0 ... Finished that game with 225 yards passing ... Earned *PrepStar* All-Atlantic Region honors as an athlete ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* rated him the No. 70 player in Mid-Atlantic Region ... Picked the No. 23 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and No. 22 in the state by *The Roanoke*

*Times* ... Named All-Southeastern District at QB as a junior and senior ... Gained second-team all-region honors following his senior season ... Also competed in track ... Finished third in the state in the long jump as a junior and second as a senior ...

**Personal:** Chris Arron Clifton ... Born 10/27/82 in Portsmouth, VA ... Son of Cheryl Clifton ... Enrolled in university studies.

## talk with **Colts**



### What are your goals for the defensive unit this year?

Our goals are to be very effective in the passing game, put out a high number of tackles for losses and sacks. We want to be very dominant on the field and make the offenses constantly have to adjust to us.

### Do you have any pre-game or post-game rituals?

Before the game I like to listen to music to get myself pumped up for the game, especially during the 'Walk' that we do when we arrive at the stadium. After the game I take a shower and get out of there as fast as possible. I guess it's not that exciting of a ritual, huh?

### Defensively, Tech is known as one of the best units in the country. What does a label like that mean to you as a member of Tech's defense?

The label means that we work hard and we are really good at what we do. That label is a testament to our great coaching staff that knows the game, especially defense. It means a lot to us, because whenever anyone mentions Virginia Tech they mention the defense, and that is a tradition we want to continue.

### Most of the starters on this year's defensive line are seniors. What has it been like to work along side of these guys for so long?

I came in with most of these guys from the very beginning and we built a positive relationship with one another. We have always pushed each other in practice and have been there for each other on and off the field. It's going to be really hard to leave these guys next year.

### If there were any other positions you could play on offense and defense, what would they be and why?

On defense, I would probably play linebacker. If I have a chance to go to the NFL, it would be at the linebacker spot so I would like to play that. On offense, I think I would play running back, because that's what I was recruited as out of high school.

### Being from Florida, why did you choose to attend college so far away from home?

I had been in Florida all my life and I wanted to try something new. I loved the campus and family atmosphere of Virginia Tech. Also, Coach Wiles sold Virginia Tech to my mom, so that pretty much sealed the deal.

## COLS COLAS



**Defensive End • 6-0 • 226 • r-Sr. • 3VL  
Plantation, Fla. • South Plantation H.S.**

An experienced defensive end with all-star potential ... His ability to put pressure on the quarterback and to make big plays will be important elements in Tech's defense this fall ... Possesses a combination of speed and power that makes him hard to handle on the corner ... Should be ready to go after undergoing surgery during the spring to repair a patella tendon ... Did not participate in contact work during the spring ... Has played in 36 games, including 13 as a starter ... Led the team in quarterback hurries and tackles for loss in 2002 ... Shared the team lead in sacks with nine ... A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room who bench presses 410 pounds and runs a sub-4.5 forty ... Has shown steady improvement during his time at Tech ... Mixes a good attitude with aggressiveness and great athletic ability ... Spent a good portion of his high school career as a running back ... Will be looked to for leadership and a big senior season ...

**2002:** Led the defensive ends in the bench press (410), back squat (600) and the push jerk (370) during preseason testing ... Started in nine games ... Led the team with 24 quarterback hurries ... Tied for the team lead with nine sacks ... Had 34 solo tackles and 17 assists ... Included in those 51 tackles were a team-high 19 tackles for loss ... Also had a pass broken up ... Played just 10 snaps against Arkansas State ... Had a solo tackle, which was for a loss, and a quarterback hurry ... Had four quarterback hurries against LSU ... Also had a solo stop and a sack against the Tigers ... Recorded two solo tackles and a quarterback hurry in the win over Marshall ... Earned the start at Texas A&M ... Recorded three solo stops, a sack and two quarterback hurries ... Registered four solo stops, an assist, two tackles for loss, two sacks, a forced fumble and four quarterback hurries at Western Michigan ... Had two tackles, including one for a loss, caused a fumble

## COLAS CONTINUED

and recorded half a sack in the win at Boston College ... Had two stops on defense, along with a sack and three quarterback hurries against Rutgers ... Also had an assisted stop on special teams ... Recorded two solo stops, an assist, a tackle for loss and two quarterback hurries against Temple ... Had a solo tackle and three assists against Pittsburgh ... Also had a tackle for loss, two quarterback hurries and caused an interception ... Got the start at Syracuse, recording five solo tackles, six assists and a quarterback hurry ... Included in that total were a tackle for loss and half a sack ... Talled three solo tackles and three assists, including a tackle for loss, against West Virginia ... Recorded six solo tackles in the win over Virginia ... Included in that total were a tackle for loss and three sacks ... Also had two quarterback hurries, a pass broken up and a forced fumble ... Had two solo tackles, one of which was for a loss, in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... Underwent surgery to alleviate some tendonitis in his knee before spring practice began ... Was held out of contact work ...

**2001:** Saw action in every game ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the preseason testing session ... Finished the season with 22 solo stops and 15 assists ... Posted 10 tackles for loss, including 3.5 sacks ... Registered a team-high 17 QB hurries, along with a pass broken up and a forced fumble ... Recorded three tackles, two assists and a hurry in the opener against UConn ... Saw action on 20 defensive plays, recording a tackle, against Western Michigan ... Finished with two tackles, an assist, a forced fumble and a sack at Rutgers ... Had two solo stops, two assists and two hurries against UCF ... Had two assists and a hurry against Boston College ... Was in on five tackles against Syracuse ... Played a great game at Pittsburgh, recording six solo stops, three tackles for loss, two QB hurries and a sack ... Got his first career start at Temple and played a season-high 37 defensive snaps ... Compiled three tackles and three QB hurries in that game ... Recorded four solo stops, three TFL, two QB hurries and 1.5 sacks at Virginia ... Had two solo stops, an assist, a tackle behind the line and three QB hurries against No. 1 Miami ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors again during spring testing ... Set personal bests with a 600-pound back squat and a 360-pound push jerk ... Posted three sacks in one spring scrimmage and two in another ... Added a sack and three tackles in the annual Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Saw playing time in 10 of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games ... Was in on two tackles against Akron in his first collegiate game ... Contributed three tackles and a quarterback hurry against East Carolina ... Turned in a personal-best four tackles in the Rutgers game ... Posted three-tackle outings against both Pittsburgh and UCF ... Added QB hurries at Miami and Central Florida ... Played a season-high 30 defensive plays against Rutgers and 27 versus UCF ... Finished the season with 20 tackles and four hurries ... Saw playing time against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Gained Super Iron Hokie honors during off-season strength and conditioning work ... Posted career-bests in six categories during spring testing, including a 550-pound back squat, a 341-pound push jerk and a 4.41 time in the 40 ... He led the defensive ends with a 34-inch vertical jump ... Posted three tackles, two tackles for loss and a fumble recovery in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Collected two tackles in the Maroon-White game ... Underwent hernia surgery in May ...

**1999:** A redshirt who spent the fall working at outside linebacker ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during scout team testing in November ... Improved his bench press from 300 pounds to 380 pounds by the time spring testing ended ... Also added more than 20 pounds ... Moved to defensive end when spring practice opened ... Contributed a sack in the Hokies' opening scrimmage ... Also posted a sack in the Maroon-White spring game ...

**High School:** Played several different positions for Coach Dan Margurit at South Plantation, including fullback and defensive end ... Rushed for 1,064 yards and 11 TDs as a senior ... Had 197 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries in a game during his senior season ... Also saw action on defense, contributing 20 tackles, two sacks and two fumble recoveries ... Helped team to a 9-3 record and the second round of the Class 5A playoffs ... A postseason All-America pick by *PrepStar*, which named him the No. 15 running back in the SEC Region ... Rated the No. 14 prospect in Broward County by *The Miami Herald* ... Was in on 50 tackles, including four sacks, his junior year ... Registered career totals of 1,268 yards and 16 touchdowns on the ground ... Starred as a sprinter in track ... Finished third in the state in both the 100 and 200-meters his junior year ... Turned in a best time of 10.49 in the 100-meters, 21.3 in the 200-meters and 41.2 in the 400-meters ... Won the state 100-meter outdoor title as a senior ...

**Personal:** Cols Colas, Jr. ... Born 5/16/80 in Miami, FL ... Son of Evelyn

Colas ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	10	6	14	20	0- 0	0- 0
2001	11	22	15	37	10- 58	3.5- 42
2002	14	34	17	51	19- 74	9- 48
Career	35	62	46	108	29- 132	12.5- 90
2002 Tackles Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	2	0	1	1- 6	0- 0
LSU	1	2	0	1	1- 6	1- 6
MU	1	2	0	1	0- 0	0- 0
at TAM	1	3	0	3	1- 7	0- 7
at WMU	1	4	1	5	4- 11	2- 8
at BC	1	1	1	2	2- 9	0.5- 8
RU	1	1	2	3	1- 2	1- 2
TU	1	2	1	3	1- 1	0- 0
PITT	1	1	3	4	0- 0	0- 0
at SU	1	5	6	11	2- 13	0.5- 9
WVU	1	3	3	6	1- 4	0- 0
UVa	1	6	0	6	4- 14	3- 8
at UM	1	0	0	0	0- 0	0- 0
vs AF	1	2	0	2	1- 1	0- 0

## TRAVIS CONWAY



**Deep Snapper • 6-5 • 240 • r-Jr. • 1VL  
Richmond, Va. • J.R. Tucker H.S.**

Has a chance to take over the Hokies' deep snapping duties this fall ... Showed signs of developing some much needed consistency during the spring ... Needs to carry that over with a good summer preparation ... Has a good frame but needs to continue his efforts to add strength ... Got some experience in 2001 when he handled the snapping duties for punts much of the season ... Served as the backup last year ... Appears ready to step up this season ...

**2002:** Served as the backup snapper for the punt, field goal and PAT units ... Did not see any varsity action, but did play in both of the Hokies' jayvee games during the fall ... Concentrated on his snapping duties during spring practice ...

**2001:** Turned in a 390-pound bench press and a 300-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Saw action in nine games, snapping for 50 punts ... Had two tackles on special teams ... Saw action on two plays on offense and snapped for both punts in the opener against Connecticut ... Was in for eight special teams plays at West Virginia ... Snapped on all four punts and saw action on six special teams plays

against Boston College ... Snapped seven times on punts against Syracuse and eight at Pittsburgh ... Had a solo tackle on punt coverage against the Panthers ... Was in to snap for nine punts against Temple ...

**2000:** Practiced as a center and snapper while redshirting ... His 340-pound bench press was second-best among Tech's newcomers in August ... Improved that lift to 360 by spring testing ...

**High School:** Lettered three seasons for Coach Rusty Curle at Tucker High ... Saw most of his action at center and defensive end ... Started three seasons at DE ... Played three games as a tight end his junior year before moving to center ... Earned additional attention as an accomplished deep snapper on special teams ... Named the team's most valuable player as a senior ... Rated the No. 18 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Gained honorable-mention All-USA honors from *USA Today* ... Was first-team all-Metro, all-district and all-region as a center in 1999 ... Selected second-team all-district as a defensive end ... Earned second-team Associated Press Group AAA all-state honors at center ... An honorable-mention pick on the coaches' all-state squad ... Had five knockdown blocks in one game his senior season ... Contributed 95 tackles and two sacks on defense ... As a junior, he won the team's Tolley Award as the best defensive player "with leadership and skill" ... Was first-team all-district as a center and second-team all-region ... Also a second-team all-district choice at DE ...

**Personal:** Travis Scott Conway ... Born 6/3/82 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Doug and Suzanne Conway ... His uncle, Andy Hromyak, was the starting punter for Tech in 1971 and '72 ... Enrolled in consumer studies.

## CHAD COOPER



**Linebacker • 6-2 • 211 • r-Jr. • 2VL Herndon, Va. • Oakton H.S.**

Could figure in at both the backer and mike linebacker positions this fall ... Has come a long way since battling Guillain-Barré Syndrome during the spring of 2002 ... Returned to play in 13 games during

the 2002 season, but never quite returned to the form that made him one of Tech's most improved players in 2001 ... Got some much-needed reps during the spring, working at both inside linebacker positions ... Played well in the Maroon-White spring game ... Possesses good athleticism and range ... Plays well against the run and the pass ... Turned in his best time in the forty (4.62) during spring testing ... Continues working to get bigger and stronger ... Has the ability and the desire to be successful ... Needs a good summer of preparation ... Is expected to be a strong contender for a spot on the depth chart at linebacker ... Will also be looked to for continued help on special teams ... His progress will be watched closely when practice resumes ...

**2002:** Missed the opener while battling shin splints ... Played in the other 13 games, mostly on special teams ... Started on the kickoff and kickoff return teams ... Had a solo tackle and five assists on the season ... Also had a quarterback hurry ... Had an assisted tackle on special teams against LSU in his first game back ... Played seven snaps in that game and 10 on special teams in the win over Marshall ... Played five snaps on special teams at Texas A&M ... Saw action on both defense and special teams at Western Michigan ... Recorded two assisted stops and a quarterback hurry in that game ... Recorded an assisted tackle on special teams in the win at Boston College ... Was in for 10 plays on special teams against Rutgers ... Saw action on seven special teams plays against Temple ... Was in for nine plays on special teams, recording an assisted tackle, against Pittsburgh ... Played 14 snaps on special teams at Syracuse and nine against West Virginia ... Had a solo tackle on special teams against Virginia ... Got reps at both the mike and the backer positions during spring workouts ... Had three tackles in two different spring scrimmages ... Posted two tackles behind the line of scrimmage and three tackles total in the Maroon-White spring game ...

**2001:** Played in all 11 regular-season games as a starter on special teams ... Worked at the backer position, but did not see action on defense ... Had two solo tackles and nine assists on the year in a special teams role ... Also had a fumble recovery ... Saw action on a season-high 14 plays on special teams at Pittsburgh ... Had three assisted tackles on special teams against Temple ... Recovered a fumble and had an assist on special teams at Virginia ... Was stricken with Guillain-Barré syndrome in December ... Was unable to attend school for the second semester ... Stayed home and made a full recovery ...

**2000:** Worked at both inside linebacker positions during a redshirt year ... Spent most of the fall at the mike linebacker spot ... Moved to the backer position for spring practice ... Had two tackles, including one for a loss, during the Hokies' first spring scrimmage ... Was in on three tackles in the annual Maroon-White spring game ...

**High School:** A high school All-America pick by both *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* magazines ... Was named to *PrepStar's* Top 100 Dream Team ... Played free safety, linebacker and running back during three varsity seasons for Coach Pete Bendorf at Oakton ... Registered 109 tackles as a senior ... Added five quarterback sacks, two interceptions and three fumble recoveries ... Rushed for 450 yards and 10 touchdowns ... Was a first-team selection on *The Washington Post* All-Metro team ... Also first-team all-district and all-region and second-team all-state ... Listed as the No. 8 defensive back prospect in the nation and the No. 1 DB in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 24 linebacker in the country by *SuperPrep* and the No. 27 linebacker by *Rivals* ... An honorable-mention All-USA pick by *USA Today* ... Named the No. 5 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Finished his junior year with 128 tackles and six pass interceptions ... Holds the record for most career tackles in Oakton's history ...

**Personal:** Charlton Douglas Cooper ... Born 6/10/81 in Houston, TX ... Son of Tom and Connie Cooper ... His dad was a starter in the defensive secondary at Tech in the mid-1970s ... Studying marketing management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	2	7	9	0- 0	0- 0
2002	13	2	5	7	0- 0	0- 0
Career	24	4	12	16	0- 0	0- 0

## MICHAEL CRAWFORD



**Rover • 5-11 • 209 • r-Sr. • 3VL Baltimore, Md. • Patterson H.S.**

A 10-game starter who returns to the Hokies with a clean bill of health ... Held down the starting rover position for eight games before being diagnosed with symptoms of lymphoma before the

**CRAWFORD** CONTINUED

Pittsburgh game ... Underwent further tests while still playing ... Missed a week following an open biopsy, but returned to play in the Hokies' last three games ... Further testing in January found him to be cancer free ... Showed no ill effects during spring practice and regained his starting position with a solid performance ... Possesses experience and knows the

expectations of the position ... Has worked extremely hard to be successful ... Combines top effort with a great attitude ... Should help solidify the Hokies' secondary ...

**2002:** Started the first two games for the Hokies ... Played in 13 of 14 games ... Had 31 solo stops and 18 assists ... Included in those 49 tackles are four tackles for loss and two sacks ... Also had two passes broken up and a forced

fumble ... Had a solo stop and an assist in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had two tackles in the win over LSU ... Came off the bench against Marshall to record four solo stops and two assists ... Started against Texas A&M, registering four solo tackles and an assist ... Had a tackle for loss, a pass broken up, a sack and caused a fumble in the win against the Aggies ... Recorded two solo tackles and four assists in the win at Boston College ... Also stopped a two-point conversion with an interception ... Registered three solo stops, an assist, a sack and a pass broken up against Rutgers ... Had a solo tackle and two assists in the win over Temple ... Recorded three solo tackles and an assist against Pittsburgh ... Missed two days of practice prior to the Syracuse game while undergoing tests, but still played against the Orangemen ... Talled three solo tackles and four assists, including a tackle for loss ... Underwent an open biopsy on Nov. 20 ... Was available for the West Virginia game, but did not play ... Saw action on 14 defensive snaps against Virginia, recording two solo tackles ... Had six solo tackles and an assist at Miami ... Got the start in Tech's win over Air Force in the Diamond Walnut San Francisco Bowl ... Was pronounced cancer free following further tests in January ... Contributed an interception and a tackle for loss in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Posted two tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Met all six of his strength and conditioning goals during preseason testing ... Recorded a 300-pound bench press and a 455-pound squat ... Played in all 11 regular-season games on special teams and in six games at rover ... Recorded 14 total tackles ... Was credited with five solo stops, nine assists, two tackles for loss and a sack ... Had an assist on 13 total plays against Connecticut ... Recorded an assist on special teams versus Western Michigan ... Had a solo stop and an assist at Rutgers ... Played 18 total plays against UCF, registering an assist ... Played season highs of 13 snaps on defense and 16 on special teams at West Virginia ... Posted two solo tackles and a sack in that game ... Contributed two assists at Virginia ... Had an assisted tackle on special teams against No. 1 Miami ... Played in the Hokies' Gator Bowl game against Florida State and was in on one tackle ... Had personal bests in the bench press (310), back squat (470) and clean (285) during spring testing ... Was slowed during part of spring practice by an ankle injury ... Returned to action in the Maroon-White game and posted a tackle ...

**2000:** Met five of his six goals during preseason testing ... Saw his only defensive action in the opener against Akron ... Worked six plays at rover and

# talk with Michael



**If you could be one of your teammates for a day, who would it be and why?**

I would be my boy DeAngelo Hall on defense and Ernest Wilford on offense. On defense, I really respect DeAngelo, even though he's an underclassman. I respect the way that he plays. He plays aggressively and that's the way I like to play. He's got talent and skills. On offense, Ernest also has the aggressive attitude and the attitude to win.

**What have you learned from your experiences in the past year?**

Just go out there and have fun. Go out there and have as much fun as you can because life is too short to be worrying about situations that you can't control, basically.

**What's the best advice you've ever been given?**

Stay in school. Even though it sounds like a joke, that's been some of the best advice. I've had so many learning experiences, growth spurts mentally and physically, but mostly mentally, because I've experienced a lot more by going to school and being on my own.

**What has been the best part of your experience at Virginia Tech?**

The best part of my experience has been building the relationships. Between guys coming in and guys leaving, now me being a senior, it's gotten crazy. A lot of guys look up to me. It's just been building those relationships.

**What has been your favorite bowl memory?**

My true freshman year at the Sugar Bowl, that has been the most memorable. When we got up on Florida State, I was talking trash to the fans and put on my jersey in the stands. That has to be it right there.

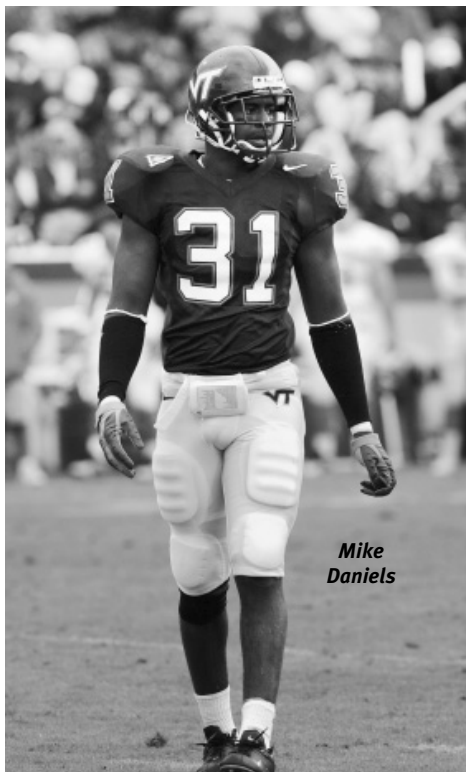
**What is one thing that most people would be surprised to know about you?**

I wasn't even going to come to college at first. That would probably surprise some people because I've overcome so much and people only see that "Wow, Michael Crawford is so successful." But my plan wasn't even to come to college at first. At first, it was just that I wanted to play football, and if I didn't play football at any school I wanted to get into, I was going into the Army. I would go into the military, like a lot of my family has. It's going to feel good to be one of the first males in my immediate family and our second generation to graduate from college.

contributed a tackle ... Played on special teams in eight of the team's last 10 games ... Was in on a personal-best 13 special team plays in the Miami game ... Started on the kickoff team and also worked with the punt return unit ... Had one tackle in games against Akron, East Carolina, Rutgers and West Virginia ... Registered two hits in the Boston College game ... Finished with three solo tackles and three assists ... Set seven personal bests during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Registered three sacks in spring scrimmages ... Added two more sacks during the annual Maroon-White game ...

**1999:** Practiced at the rover position while redshirting ... Showed improved speed and quickness during spring testing ... Broke up a pass in the Maroon-White spring game ...

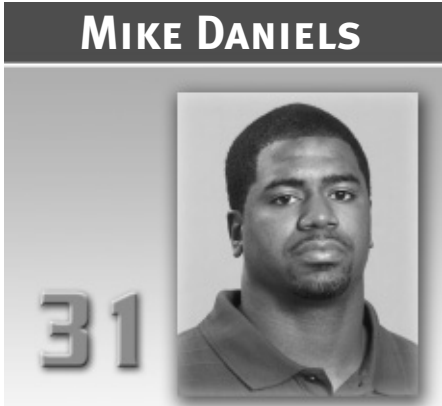
**High School:** An All-Baltimore City/County running back/linebacker for Coach Roger Wrenn at Patterson High ... Scored 22 touchdowns to help the team win the City East Division championship with a 10-1 record ... Rushed for 1,376 yards, averaging 20 yards per carry ... Posted seven touchdown runs of 70 yards or more ... In a game against Southwestern, he scored the first four TDs and rushed for 196 yards on nine carries ... Played linebacker on defense ... A *PrepStar* All-American ... Was rated the No. 23 player in the Maryland/D.C. area by *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Played in the Baltimore County All-Star game ... A two-time MVP in football, indoor track and outdoor track at Patterson ... Won city and region high jump championships both indoor and outdoor ... Ran a 6.7 time in the 55-meters ...



Mike Daniels

**Personal:** Michael Antonio Crawford ... Born 2/20/81 in Baltimore, MD ... Son of Iantha Carrington ... Enrolled in family financial management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	9	3	3	6	0- 0	0- 0
2001	11	5	9	14	2- 14	1- 13
2002	13	31	18	49	4- 25	2- 18
Career	33	39	30	69	6- 39	3- 31



**Free Safety • 6-0 • 205 • r-Jr. • 2VL  
Fairfax, Va. • Fairfax H.S.**

Will compete for playing time at free safety this season after spending the past two seasons as a contributor at whip linebacker ... Began his Tech career working at free safety while redshirting as a freshman ... Switched to the whip position where he started four games in 2001 and one game last fall ... Is capable of holding his own at free safety, especially against the running game ... Came out of spring practice No. 2 on the depth chart ... Works hard and plays a physical brand of football ... Knows the Tech system ... A solid tackler with a knack for being around the ball ... Is making progress in the strength and conditioning program ... Will be a real plus for the Hokies if he can maintain his steady level of play ...

**2002:** Played in all 14 games, starting one ... Had 25 solo tackles and 26 assists ... Included in those 41 tackles were two tackles for loss ... Also had a pass broken up and forced fumble ... Had two solo stops, including a tackle for loss, against Arkansas State ... Had a solo stop in the win over LSU ... Earned the start against Marshall ... Had two solo tackles and three assists ... Registered a solo tackle and two assists in the win at Texas A&M ... Recorded three solo stops and two assisted tackles at Western Michigan ... Registered two solo stops and two assists in the win at Boston College ... Also caused a fumble which prevented an Eagle touchdown ... Played 25 snaps on defense against Temple, registering three solo tackles, two assists and a tackle for loss ... Was in on 28 snaps on defense against Pittsburgh, registering two solo

tackles and two assists ... Recorded three solo stops, three assists and a pass broken up at Syracuse ... Had three solo tackles and two assists against West Virginia ... Had three assisted tackles against Virginia ... Had a solo stop and two assists at Miami ... Registered three assists in the bowl win over Air Force ... Moved back to free safety before the start of spring practice ... Was in on five tackles during one spring scrimmage ... Had four tackles, including one behind the line, in another scrimmage ... Registered a tackle for loss and two total tackles in the annual Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Played in every game ... Recorded 12 solo tackles, 16 assists and broke up a pass during the year ... Started on the kickoff team and the kickoff and punt return teams ... Saw action on 17 special teams plays against Connecticut ... Saw brief action on special teams versus Western Michigan ... Had an assist on 11 plays at Rutgers ... Saw action on a season-high 24 special teams plays against Boston College ... Played 18 snaps on defense and 14 on special teams at Pittsburgh, recording a solo tackle and an assist ... Earned his first career start at Temple ... Had two solo tackles and an assist, and broke up a pass in that win ... Was credited with four solo tackles and four assists at Virginia ... On a personal-best 87 plays, had four solo tackles and nine assists against No. 1 Miami ... Led the Hokies with seven tackles in the Gator Bowl ... Had two sacks in that game for minus-14 yards ... Also recovered a fumble ... Met all six of his goals in the weight room prior to the season ... Turned in a personal-best 450-pound back squat during spring testing ... Posted four tackles and broke up a pass in one spring scrimmage ... Added four tackles in another spring scrimmage and contributed a pair of tackles during the Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Spent a redshirt season working at free safety ... Improved in three of Tech's four major lifts during the off-season strength and conditioning workouts ... Was in on four tackles, including two behind the line in the Hokies' first spring scrimmage ... Intercepted a pass in the annual spring game and assisted on three tackles ...

**High School:** Set a school record with 18 career pass interceptions during his four varsity seasons at Fairfax ... Lettered four years as a defensive back and wide receiver for Coach Tom Verbanic ... Was the Liberty District Player of the Year as a senior ... Went on to earn first-team all-district, all-region and all-state honors ... Was a *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* All-American ... An honorable-mention All-USA pick by *USA Today* ... Rated the No. 25 defensive back prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Posted 102 tackles and

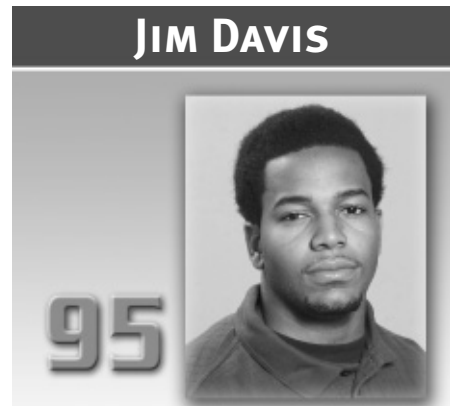
**DANIELS** CONTINUED

four interceptions during his senior season ... Also contributed 23 pass receptions for 450 yards and three TDs ... Averaged 25 yards on punt returns and 27 yards on kickoff returns ... Ran for one touchdown, caught a pass for another TD and collected 12 tackles in a game against Madison his senior year ... Picked off seven passes as a junior ... Helped the team to a four-year 31-9 regular-season record and two district

titles ... Also excelled in basketball, lettering four years and setting a school scoring mark with 1,250 points ...

**Personal:** Michael William Daniels ... Born 9/18/81 in Germany ... Son of Fletcher, Jr., and Carolyn Daniels ... Studying sociology.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	12	16	28	0- 0	0- 0
2002	14	25	26	51	0- 0	0- 0
Career	25	37	42	79	0- 0	0- 0



**Defensive End • 6-3 • 255 • Sr. • 3VL**  
Highland Springs, Va. • Highland Springs H.S.

May miss the 2003 season after suffering a torn pectoral muscle just days prior to spring practice ... Underwent surgery and did not participate in contact work ... His status will be re-evaluated prior to the season ... Has a redshirt year available if needed ... Is considered the Hokies' most talented defensive end when healthy ... Has struggled with nagging injuries on and off during his Tech career ... When healthy, he is a play-maker who can disrupt a game ... Posted three sacks in a win over No. 14 LSU last year ... Returned an interception for a touchdown and caused two fumbles that were returned for TDs during his sophomore year in 2001 ... Has played in 35 games, nine as a starter ... Is big, fast and athletic ... Can get to the quarterback in a hurry ... Has matured as a player over the past two seasons ... Tech's coaches were hoping Davis could avoid injury and become an every-down player his senior season ... That is still their hope, but it may have to wait a year ...

**2002:** Started six games ... Had 24 solo stops and 13 assists ... Included in those 37 tackles are nine tackles for loss and 5.5 sacks ... Also had 10 quarterback hurries, three passes broken up and a forced fumble ... Had a quiet opener against Arkansas State, playing just 19 snaps on defense with an assisted stop ... Came back strong against LSU, recording three sacks against the Tigers ... Also had five solo stops, an assist, two quarterback hurries and a tackle for loss ... Performance earned him BIG EAST Co-Defensive Player of the Week honors ... Played on a sprained left ankle against Marshall, but still managed to play 41 snaps ... Had two solo stops, including one for a loss, and a pass broken up ... Also had an assisted stop on special teams ... Did not start at Texas A&M due to his sore ankle ... Played 24 snaps on defense, recording an assisted stop ... Had three quarterback hurries and a tackle on special teams at Western Michigan ... Was back at full speed for the Boston

**talk with Jim**



**What are your expectations for the defensive unit this year?**

We strive to be the best defense in the nation, year-in and year-out, and I expect nothing less than that for the upcoming year. We have a solid defensive team coming back and if we play together as one, then we'll be the best defense in the country.

**You've been a part of the bowl game tradition at Tech. What is your favorite bowl memory?**

I think the 2000 Gator Bowl when we played Clemson. I played as a true freshman and had back-to-back sacks in that game. It felt like I had finally started to become a "real" college football player after that and that I had truly had an impact in that bowl win.

**Who motivates you the most during practice?**

When Coach Foster starts getting hyped up about that week's game and starts talking about the upcoming opposing team. That turns me up a notch and gets me even more fired up to do well in practice.

**If you could play any position other than defensive end, what would it be and why?**

I would definitely choose running back because they get all of the glory. I think I would be a great running back because I have some pretty good moves in my repertoire and I can be shifty. I think they should give me a chance there — I could be the next Jerome Bettis.

**If you could have traded places with one of your teammates for one specific play that occurred over your time at Tech, what play would it be and why would you want to experience that particular play?**

I would like to be Wayne Ward when he had that monster hit against West Virginia in 2000. It was a hit like no other, and definitely the hardest hit I've ever seen in my life. I was amazed and I would want to see if I was capable of taking that kind of shot on someone.

**If you were stranded on a desert island, what three things would you want to have with you and why?**

I would bring my dog because he's my first son. I would bring my mom because she's my favorite person. Finally, I would bring a battery operated television, because I doubt I could find an outlet on a deserted island to plug in a normal TV.



College game, registering three solo tackles, an assist and 1.5 sacks ... Had an assisted tackle and three quarterback hurries against Rutgers ... Earned the start against Temple and recorded two solo tackles, two assists, a sack and a quarterback hurry ... Had a solo tackle against Pittsburgh, playing 40 snaps ... Registered four solo tackles and an assist on defense at Syracuse ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams ... Tallied two solo tackles and an assist, including a tackle for loss, against West Virginia ... Had a solo stop and two assists in the win over Virginia ... Had a solo tackle at Miami ... Recorded a solo stop and an assist, including a TFL, in the San Francisco Bowl ... Ran a 4.68 forty during spring testing ... Tore a pectoral muscle the week before spring practice was scheduled to begin ... Underwent surgery and did not compete during the spring ...

**2001:** Played in 10 games, starting three ... Had 17 solo tackles, 21 assists and eight tackles for loss ... Also had 4.5 sacks, six QB hurries, two forced fumbles, a PBU and an interception ... Finished with one tackle, one assist and a hurry in the opening game against UConn ... Did not dress against Western Michigan due to a bulging disc in his back ... Returned to action against Rutgers, recording three stops, two assists, a forced fumble and a shared sack ... Had two solo stops, an assist, a sack and a pass broken up against UCF ... Recorded two tackles and a sack at West Virginia ... Also collected his first career interception in that game, which he returned for a touchdown ... Was in on five tackles and had a QB hurry against Boston College ... Caused a fumble in the BC game that teammate Kevin McCadam returned for a score ... Had three solo tackles and two sacks against Syracuse ... Posted seven tackles against Pittsburgh ... Got his first career start at Temple ... Was credited with five assists and a QB hurry in that win ... Had

three solo tackles, two assists, a sack and three tackles for loss at Virginia ... Tore his right pectoral muscle against No. 1 Miami and was limited in the Hokies' Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Returned to full action in the spring ... Contributed four tackles in one spring scrimmage and three tackles and a sack in another ...

**2000:** Was one of only three true freshmen to see action ... Played on 27 snaps against Akron in his first collegiate game and contributed two tackles ... Saw action on a season-high 30 plays at East Carolina ... Posted three tackles, two quarterback hurries and shared a sack in the win over the Pirates ... Knocked down a pass against Rutgers ... Registered a personal-best six tackles in the Temple game, including a pair of sacks for minus-16 yards ... Had two tackles for loss and two quarterback hurries against Syracuse ... Was in on three tackles at Miami and added another sack in the Virginia game ... Averaged 25 plays per game for the season ... Finished with 28 tackles, including 17 primary hits ... Turned in six tackles behind the line, including 3.5 sacks ... Hurried the quarterback five times ... Contributed four tackles in Tech's win over Clemson in the Gator Bowl, including two quarterback sacks that came on consecutive plays for a total loss of 16 yards ... Ran a 4.68 in the forty during spring testing ... Posted seven sacks during the Hokies' four spring scrimmages ... Recovered a fumble in the end zone for a TD during the Maroon-White game ... Also registered a sack and three tackles ...

**Prep School:** Recorded 15 sacks and seven pass deflections as a defensive end for Coach John Shuman at Fork Union Military Academy ...

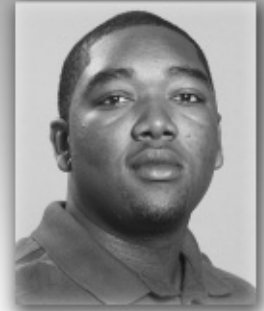
**High School:** Attended Highland Springs High School where he played defensive end and offensive tackle for Coach Randy Stokes ... Lettered three seasons and was team captain as a senior ... Was named the team's MVP and best defensive lineman his final season ... Earned first-team all-district honors and second-team all-region recognition ... Gained second-team all-district honors his junior year and was selected the team's best offensive lineman as a sophomore ... Also lettered three seasons as a center on the basketball team ... Helped the team to a pair of district titles ... Played in the AAU national championship basketball game (14 years and under) in 1994 ...

**Personal:** James Edward Davis, Jr. ... Born 10/4/81 in Richmond, VA ... Son of James, Sr., and Sandra Davis ... Enrolled in hospitality and tourism management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	17	11	28	6-32	3.5-23
2001	10	17	21	38	8-44	4.5-27
2002	14	24	13	37	9-43	5.5-32
Career	35	58	45	103	23-119	13.5-82

JON DUNN

79



**Offensive Tackle • 6-7 • 343 • r-Jr. • 2VL**  
Virginia Beach, Va. • Tallwood H.S.

An imposing figure who must become an imposing player in order to make a difference for the Hokies' offensive front this season ... Drew extra attention during the spring in an effort to help him reach his full potential ... Has the size and physical ability to be a dominating force but is still working to develop the consistency and intensity needed to make it happen ... Opened the 2002 season at right tackle and started seven games before seeing his playing time dwindle late in the season ... Gained some valuable experience ... Improved in three of his four major lifts during the off-season, but still needs to get stronger ... Showed additional progress during the spring ... Got some work at both tackle positions ... Is slated to start at left tackle ... Has a chance to make a real impact with a good summer of preparation and continued progress during the preseason ...

**2002:** Started seven games and played in all 14 ... Saw action on 498 regular-season snaps and graded out at 80.3 percent for the season ... Had 22 knockdown blocks ... Graded out at 89 percent in the opener against Arkansas State on just 28 offensive snaps ... Played 67 snaps against LSU, grading out at 81 percent ... Played 74 snaps in the win over Marshall, grading out at 80 percent ... Had five knockdown blocks ... Was in for 57 snaps on offense at Western Michigan ... Played 67 snaps at Boston College, grading out at 82 percent with five knockdown blocks ... Played 57 snaps on offense with a knockdown block against Rutgers ... Came off the bench against Temple to play 32 snaps ... Graded out at 84 percent against the Owls ... Played 26 snaps against Pittsburgh, recording a knockdown block ... Saw limited action on offense and special teams at Syracuse ... Played nine snaps on offense and two on special teams against West Virginia ... Played 20 snaps on offense at Miami, grading out at 80 percent ...

**2001:** Averaged nearly 26 snaps per game on offense ... Played a total of 231



Jim Davis

## DUNN CONTINUED

offensive snaps ... Saw action in 10 games, including nine on offense ... Worked on the extra point and field goal team in six games ... Got his first collegiate action in the opener against UConn ... Was in on a season-high 44 offensive snaps in that game ... Played 34 offensive downs against both Western Michigan and Rutgers ... Had knockdown blocks against West Virginia and Virginia ... Played 27 plays on offense against Temple, grading out at 86 percent ...

Posted a 351-pound clean during spring testing ... Turned in one of the best times among the offensive linemen in the NFL shuttle run at 4.46 ...

**2000:** Worked at right tackle while redshirting ... Made some strides during the off-season program ... Got some work with the first team during spring practice ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as Tech's top offensive newcomer ...

**High School:** Earned All-America honors from *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 35 offensive line prospect

in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 9 player in Virginia ... Listed as the No. 20 offensive tackle prospect in the nation by Lemming ... Picked the No. 1 offensive lineman in the state and the No. 7 overall prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Lettered three seasons for Coach Thad Harold at Tallwood ... Saw most of his action as an offensive tackle ... Also got some playing time at defensive tackle and as a long snapper ... Earned all-district honors his junior and senior seasons ... Named All-Eastern Region as a senior ... Had eight tackles and two sacks in limited defensive duty in 1999 ...

**Personal:** Jonathan Paul Dunn ... Born 12/12/81 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Paula and Willie Heggins ... Enrolled in residential property management.

## talk with Doug



**Tech's football team has a strong reputation as being a program where walk-on athletes contribute heavily to the Hokies' gridiron success. What is it that makes you and other walk-ons so successful?**

For me, the reason walk-ons are successful is the work ethic. As a walk-on, we feel that we need to make our mark on the team, and as for me, it was showing the coaches that I was willing to work hard for the team.

**What will you miss the most and the least after you graduate?**

The thing I will miss the most is the guys on the team. Over the last five

years we have all grown really close, and I will miss that family atmosphere. The thing I will miss the least is 6 a.m. workouts.

**What goals do you have for this, your senior year?**

Individually, I want to be the best player I can be. As a team, I really think we can be special. Winning the BIG EAST and making it back to New Orleans for the national championship are my goals for the team.

**If you could trade places with any one player, who would the player be?**

I would trade places with Carter Warley. I would trade with him during two-a-day practices because I think it would be cool to eat sunflower seeds and plant grass while the team practiced.

**You came here as a wrestler and a football player. What made you decide to focus on one sport and why did you choose football?**

I decided to focus on football because it was too difficult for me to compete in those two sports. Both of them are very demanding, and I felt football gave me the best opportunities.

**Who was your idol growing up?**

I always loved Barry Sanders. I used to love to watch him play the game. He played every down hard and was amazing when he touched the ball. I wish his career hadn't been cut short. I would have loved to have seen him get the rushing record if anyone was going to beat Walter Payton's record.

## DOUG EASLICK



**Fullback • 5-11 • 238 • r-Sr. • 2VL  
Marlton, N.J. • Cherokee H.S.**

Has developed into one of Tech's leaders on offense since taking over the starting fullback duties last season ... Started every game in 2002 and made an immediate impact ... A punishing blocker who runs well and has great hands ... Brings tailback skills to the position after starting his Tech career as a tailback ... Makes positive yards when asked to run the football ... Knows the Tech system and plays smart ... Is always in the right place at the right time ... Knows how to use leverage from his high school days as a championship wrestler ... Moved from tailback to fullback prior to the 2000 season ... Made the travel squad and saw limited action in six games ... Served most of the 2001 season as the No. 2 fullback behind Jarrett Ferguson ... Tech's coaches expect him to have an outstanding year in 2003 ...

**2002:** Started all 14 games ... Carried the ball 19 times for 92 yards ... Caught 16 passes, fourth most on the team, for 118 yards and a touchdown ... Played just 11 offensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had a 15-yard rush and a 5-yard reception in that game ... Had a 5-yard catch in the win over LSU

... Provided several key blocks to spring touchdowns in that game ... Carried the ball four times for 21 yards against Marshall ... Had an 18-yard carry against the Herd ... Also had an 8-yard reception ... Carried the ball twice for three yards at Texas A&M ... Caught two passes at Western Michigan ... Was in for 53 offensive snaps at Boston College, grading out at 81 percent ... Graded out at 82 percent on his blocking assignments against Rutgers ... Threw several key blocks that led to big runs and nearly 400 yards on the ground ... Had his best game of the 2002 season against Temple ... Rushed four times for 17 yards, including a 16-yarder ... Also had three catches for 38 yards, including a 32-yard touchdown reception ... Graded out at 86 percent at Syracuse and had two catches for 19 yards ... Had two carries for 11 yards and two catches for 17 yards against West Virginia ... Had a 7-yard rush and a 4-yard reception in the win over Virginia ... Had two catches for 14 yards and a 4-yard run against Miami ... Carried the ball twice for 16 yards and had a 10-yard reception against Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during both fall and spring testing ... Set a position record in the back squat during the spring with a squat of 640 pounds ... Added a 400-pound bench press ... Turned in a 14-yard run in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages and a 9-yard reception in another ...

**2001:** Saw action in nine regular-season games ... Rushed four times for five yards and caught four passes for 54 yards and a touchdown ... Caught his first career touchdown pass when he took a shovel pass and went 22 yards for a score against Western Michigan ... Also rushed once for three yards versus WMU ... Had one carry for a yard against Rutgers ... Had a 17-yard reception in the UCF game ... Played a career-high 31 offensive plays and five special teams plays during a win over Boston College ... Carried the ball twice against Temple ... Caught two passes for 15 yards at Virginia ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the strength and conditioning program during the off-season ... Posted a personal-best 550-pound back squat ... Turned in a 20-yard run during one spring scrimmage and caught a pass for a 6-yard gain ... Hauled in three passes for 23 yards during the annual Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Rushed three times for 19 yards against Akron ... Turned in a personal-best 18-yard run in that game ... Played 15 offensive snaps against Rutgers, carrying the football twice for nine yards ... Rushed once for three yards against Temple and had a 2-yard carry in the West Virginia game ... Also saw action against East Carolina and Virginia ... Finished the season with eight carries for 32 yards ...

Played for the Tech jayvee against Fork Union Military Academy and ran for three touchdowns ... Registered personal bests in seven of nine categories during off-season strength and conditioning tests ... Bench pressed 385 pounds and lowered his time in the forty to 4.59 ... Worked at tailback as well as fullback during the spring ... Rushed for 50 yards on 12 carries in one spring scrimmage, scoring twice on short goal-line situations and catching a 9-yard pass ... Posted an 8-yard touchdown run in another scrimmage ... Led the White team in rushing during the spring game with 30 yards on four carries ...

**1999:** Was redshirted while working as a tailback ... Joined the wrestling team following the football season and compiled an 11-17 record as a heavyweight ... Won the heavyweight title at the Virginia State Intercollegiate Wrestling Championships ... Carried seven times for 32 yards in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Led the team with 36 yards on nine carries in another scrimmage and caught a pass for 12 yards ... Rushed five times for 16 yards in the spring game ...

**High School:** A star football player and wrestler at Cherokee High ... Lettered three seasons as a tailback and safety for Coach John Scott ... Rushed for over 1,500 yards and 17 touchdowns his senior season ... Contributed 115 tackles and three interceptions on defense ... Scored four touchdowns and rushed for 245 yards on eight carries in a 1998 game against Cherry Hill East ... Ran for 200 yards and three touchdowns and registered 13 tackles against Willingboro that same season ... Won all-conference, all-South Jersey and all-state honors ... Was named an honorable mention All-American ... Gained 1,400 yards on the ground his junior year and finished his career with 3,600 yards rushing, 43 touchdowns, eight interceptions and 240 tackles ... Set school career and single-game records for rushing yards ... Posted a 122-8 career wrestling record ... Won the state championship his senior season and finished third at the high school nationals ... Was a four-time district and two-time regional champ ... Earned second-team All-America honors his senior year ...

**Personal:** Arthur Doug Easlick ... Born 12/4/80 in Mt. Holly, NJ ... Son of Jon and Connie Easlick ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	6	8	32	4.0	0	18
2001	9	4	5	1.2	0	3
2002	14	19	92	4.8	0	17
Career	29	31	129	4.2	0	18

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	6	0	0	0.0	0	0
2001	9	4	54	13.5	1	22
2002	14	16	118	8.4	1	32
Career	29	20	172	8.6	2	32

## RASHAD FEREBEE



**Offensive Guard • 5-8 • 272 • So.**  
Norfolk, Va. • Granby H.S.

Played on the scout and jayvee teams last season as a freshman ... Proved to be a hard worker ... Showed improvement during the course of the year ... Made strides in the strength and conditioning program, but still needs to get stronger ... Should benefit from added reps ... Will help provide depth along the offensive line ...

**2002:** Joined the team as a walk-on ... Worked at left guard during the fall and spring ... Turned in a 500-pound back squat during spring max testing ...

**High School:** A versatile player for Coach Dave Hudak at Granby High ... Lettered four years and saw action at a number of positions, including offensive guard, nose guard, linebacker, fullback and center ... Also handled deep snapping duties ... Won the football Ironman Award ... Also lettered as a shot-putter on the track team ...

**Personal:** Rashad Micah Ferebee ... Born 3/18/84 in Annapolis, MD ... Son of Angeline Ferebee-Hawkins and the late Maurice Ferebee, Jr. ... His stepfather is Tarrent Hawkins ... Enrolled in university studies.

## ANDREW FLECK



63

**Center • 6-3 • 275 • r-Fr.**  
Edmond, Okla. • Santa Fe H.S.

Moved from defensive tackle to center during the spring ... Is still adjusting to his new position ... Has made strides in improving his strength, but must continue

## FLECK CONTINUED

working to add some bulk ... Entered school in January 2002 ... Worked on defense during 2002 spring practice ... Continued to work there while redshirting last fall ... Still has some ground to make up before he is ready to vie for playing time ... Has the work ethic to make the switch a success ...

**2002:** Worked on the scout team as a defensive tackle during the fall ... Turned in a 400-pound bench press during spring max testing ... Was moved to offense prior to spring practice ... Put in time at the center position ...

**2001:** Underwent back surgery during the summer and fall ... Joined the team in January ... Was limited during the winter off-season program ... Worked at defensive tackle during the spring ... Posted a tackle in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

**High School:** A four-year letterman and three-year starter at tight end and defensive end for Coach Brian Kelly at Santa Fe ... Named first-team all-state as a defensive lineman in Class 6A by the coaches and second-team all-state by the media ... Also garnered first-team all-city, all-conference and all-district recognition as a senior ... Posted 60 tackles, seven sacks and four fumble recoveries his senior season ... Caught 35 passes for 575 yards and five touchdowns as a tight end in 2000 ... Contributed seven of those catches for 120 yards in a single game ... Registered 21 catches and three TDs on offense and 45 tackles on defense as a junior ... Collected three sacks in a game during the 1999 season ... Set school career record for catches by a tight end with 68 ... Also saw time as a deep snapper during his prep career ... Ranked the No. 62 tight end in the nation by *Rivals* ... Chosen to play in the Oil Bowl, which pits the best high school seniors from Oklahoma against the top seniors from Texas ... Also excelled as a four-year letterman in basketball and track ...

**Personal:** Andrew Garrett Fleck ... Born 10/11/82 in Oklahoma City, OK ... Son of Terry and Deanna Fleck ... Enrolled in university studies.

## EXTRA POINT

Nine different Virginia Tech players contributed at least one play that covered more than 55 yards during the 2002 season and six of them are back on the roster this season — tailback Kevin Jones, split end Ernest Wilford, tight end Keith Willis, defensive tackle Jason Lallis, punt return man DeAngelo Hall and kickoff return man Richard Johnson. Tech had plays of 87 yards or more on offense, defense and special teams. The Hokies had 14 plays of more than 50 yards — four passes, three runs, three punt returns, two interceptions, one kickoff return and one fumble return.

## BRANDON FRYE



**Offensive Tackle • 6-4 • 268 • r-Fr.**  
Myrtle Beach, S.C. • Myrtle Beach H.S.

Finds himself working at offensive tackle after beginning his Tech career on defense ... Has a big frame to go with good work habits and athleticism ... Must keep working to improve his strength through the athletic performance program ... Entered Tech in January 2002 ...

Worked at defensive end that spring and was redshirted during the 2002 season ... Moved to offense prior to 2003 spring practice ... Worked at right tackle ... Is still learning the position ... His progress will be monitored during the preseason to determine his status on the depth chart ...

**2002:** Practiced at defensive end while redshirting in the fall ... Moved to the offensive line for spring practice ... Turned in the top vertical jump among the offensive linemen during spring testing at 33 1/2 inches ... Also had the top time in the forty (4.76) and the second-best showing in the NFL shuttle run (4.31) ... Improved his bench press to 400 pounds ... Was tried at right tackle during spring workouts ...

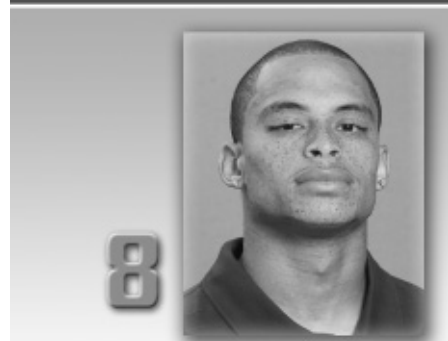
**2001:** Enrolled in school for the second semester ... Bench pressed 355 during spring testing ... Also posted a 500-pound back squat and a 304-pound push jerk that ranked second among the defensive ends ... Practiced at the stud end position during the spring ... Turned in three tackles during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ...

**High School:** Posted 14 quarterback sacks and 18 tackles for loss in 2000 as a defensive end for Coach Scott Early ... Saw most of his action at tight end until his senior season — his first year as a starter on defense ... Had a total of 74 tackles for the season ... Also contributed 18 pass receptions for 220 yards and two TDs on offense ... Listed as one of the top 50 seniors in the state by *South Carolina Prep Football* ... Picked to that publication's AAA all-state team ... Earned all-region honors and was named to the WPDE All-Zone team ... Caught eight passes for 136 yards and three touchdowns his junior year ... One of those TD receptions came as time expired to send a game into overtime

... Was the first Myrtle Beach High player to sign with a Division I school in five years ... A member of the National Science Honors Society ...

**Personal:** Brandon Lee Frye ... Born 1/23/83 in Myrtle Beach, SC ... Son of Brenda Epps and Stan Rome ... His father played football and basketball at Clemson and went on to play with the NFL Kansas City Chiefs ... Enrolled in business information technology.

## VINCENT FULLER



**Cornerback • 6-1 • 181 • r-Jr. • 2VL**  
Baltimore, Md. • Woodlawn H.S.

Made what was supposed to be a temporary move to cornerback a permanent one last season with some solid performances ... Started four games and played in all 14 ... Combines excellent skills with speed and athleticism ... Picked up some valuable experience in 2002 ... Finished spring practice in a dead heat with Eric Green for the starting job at field corner ... Will resume that battle when preseason practice opens in August ... Can also help out at free safety if needed ... Doesn't shy away from contact ... With a little added strength and discipline, he has all it takes to be successful ...

**2002:** Started four games at cornerback, including the bowl game ... Earned the start in Tech's first two games at field corner ... Had 16 solo tackles and seven assists for the season ... Included in those 23 tackles were a tackle for loss and half a sack ... Also had four interceptions and six passes broken up ... Played just 16 defensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had a solo stop, an assist, a pass broken up and caused a fumble against LSU ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams against the Tigers ... Didn't start against Marshall, but still played 31 snaps on defense ... Recorded two solo stops, an assist and two passes broken up in that game ... Had two assisted stops in the win at Texas A&M ... Had two tackles and a pass broken up at Western Michigan ... Recorded his first career interception at Boston College, along with two solo stops, an assist and a



pass broken up ... Also had a solo stop on special teams ... Had an interception to go along with a solo tackle and a pass broken up against Rutgers ... Returned to the starting lineup for the Temple game ... Recorded two interceptions

against the Owls, both deep in Tech territory to stop Temple drives ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams ... Played 13 snaps on defense against Pittsburgh, recording a solo tackle ... Also had two solo tackles on special teams in that game ... Was in for 29 snaps on defense against West Virginia ... Had a solo tackle on special teams against Virginia ... His 37-inch vertical jump was third-best among the defensive backs during spring max testing ... Was in on five tackles during one spring scrimmage ... Broke up a pass in the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Played in 10 games, recording 12 total tackles ... Registered five solo stops, seven assists and a QB hurry ... Broke up two passes ... Saw some special teams duty on the kick blocking teams ... Had a solo stop and an assist on 16 defensive plays in the opener against UConn ... Had a solo tackle on nine defensive plays versus Western Michigan ... Had four assists at Rutgers ... Recorded two solo tackles on 12 plays against UCF ... Played a season-high 25 snaps on defense against Temple, recording a solo tackle, two assists, a QB hurry and two PBU ... Played 13 plays at Virginia ... Saw brief action on defense against No. 1 Miami ... Registered a personal-best 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Was in on four tackles during one spring scrimmage ... Broke up a pass and had two tackles in another scrimmage ... Posted five solo hits and an assist during the annual spring game ...

**2000:** Turned in the second-best forty time (4.53) and third-best vertical jump (34 inches) among Tech's newcomers ... Got a look at cornerback during the preseason before moving to free safety ... Was redshirted ... Added 12 pounds by the time spring testing rolled around ... Improved his vertical to 36 1/2 and his forty time to 4.43 ... Picked up some extra repetitions while starter Willie Pile sat out the spring with a shoulder injury ... Got work at corner and safety during spring practice ... Had three tackles and an interception

during one spring practice ... Was also in on three tackles in the Maroon-White game ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the team's top defensive newcomer ...

**High School:** Passed for a school single-season record 1,683 yards his senior year at Woodlawn ... Completed 78 of 109 passes, including 13 for touchdowns ... Added 390 yards rushing and scored six TDs on the ground ... Played quarterback, free safety and cornerback for Coach Reggie White during his three varsity seasons ... Posted 65 tackles and three interceptions on defense as a senior ... Won all-county, all-Metro and consensus all-state honors ... Finished his prep career with 2,685 yards passing and over 1,000 yards rushing ... Compiled 28 touchdown passes and 20 rushing TDs ... Picked off 10 passes and collected over 100 career tackles on defense ... Ranked the No. 12 player in Maryland by *SuperPrep* ... Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar*, which rated him the No. 7 athlete in the Atlantic Region ... Selected honorable-mention All-USA by *USA Today* ... Named the MVP in football and track by his teammates as a senior ... Helped the track team to a state championship in 1998 ... Turned in a time of 21.2 seconds in the 200-meters ... Won the Unsung Hero Award on his basketball team ...

**Personal:** Vincent Fuller II ... Born 8/3/82 in Baltimore, MD ... Son of Vincent Fuller and Renee Richardson ... A cousin of former Tech safety Damien Russell ... Studying business information technology.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	10	5	7	12	0- 0	0- 0
2002	14	16	7	23	1- 10	0.5- 10
Career	24	21	14	35	1- 10	0.5- 10

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	14	4	0	0.0	0	0



**Offensive Guard • 6-4 • 306 • r-Sr. • 2VL Rocky Mount, Va. • Franklin County H.S.**

Will help anchor the offensive line as one of two senior starters ... A tough, versatile performer who has the ability to vie for All-BIG EAST honors ... Moved

around on the line during his first two seasons due to his ability to play either tackle position as well as guard ... Found a home at left guard midway through the 2002 season ... A true team player who has worked extremely hard to be successful ... Showed leadership during a good spring practice ... Focused on improving in several areas and accomplished his goals ... Shared time with Luke Owens at the starting left guard position in 2001 ... Started four games ... Saw only limited action as a redshirt freshman during the 2000 season ... His experiences have helped him develop a great understanding of the game ... Is being counted on for a big senior season ...

**2002:** Started 12 games for the Hokies, including the bowl game ... Played in all 14 contests ... Saw action on 768 regular-season offensive snaps and graded out at 85 percent ... Had 39 knockdown blocks ... Played 23 offensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State, recording three knockdown blocks ... Played 26 offensive snaps against LSU, grading out at 92 percent ... Got the start against Marshall, playing 66 offensive snaps ... Graded out at 80 percent with a team-high six knockdown blocks ... Graded out at 83 percent with three knockdown blocks in the win at Texas A&M ... Graded out at 84 percent with two knockdown blocks at Western Michigan ... Played 67 snaps on offense at Boston College, grading out at 90 percent with five knockdown blocks ... Graded out at 81 percent with two knockdown blocks in the win over Rutgers ... Played 75 snaps on offense against Temple, grading out at 83 percent ... Had five knockdown blocks in that game as well ... Graded out at a season-high 93 percent against Pittsburgh ... Played 69 snaps in that game with a team-high four knockdown blocks ... Was in for 62 snaps on offense at Syracuse, grading out at 80 percent with a knockdown block ... Played all 78 offensive snaps against West Virginia, grading out at 91 percent with three knockdowns ... Played 62 snaps on offense against Virginia, grading out at 87 percent with three knockdown blocks ... Played all 73 offensive snaps at Miami, grading out at 82 percent ... Had one knockdown block ... Posted a personal-best 400-pound bench press during spring testing ... Continued to work at left guard during spring practice ...

**2001:** Played in nine games, averaging 31 offensive plays per outing ... Saw action on a total of 286 offensive plays during the season with 17 knockdown blocks ... Turned in a 530-pound squat, a 331-pound clean and a 331-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Made his first career start against Connecticut ... Played 39 offensive snaps against the Huskies

**GIBSON** CONTINUED

and had a personal-best seven knockdowns ... Saw action on 50 offensive snaps against Western Michigan ... Was in for 44 offensive snaps at Rutgers ... Played a season-high 63 snaps and led the team with four knockdowns against UCF ... Had three knockdown blocks on 48 plays at West Virginia ... Came off the bench against Boston College ... Saw limited action over the final five games ... Missed games against Syracuse and Virginia ... Also sat out the Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Moved to tackle during spring practice ...

**2000:** Worked his way into a backup spot at right guard ... Played 15 offensive snaps against both Akron and Rutgers ... Saw limited action in games against West Virginia, Miami and Virginia ... Also saw playing time in the Hokies' two jayvee games ... Played in Tech's Gator Bowl victory over Clemson ... Underwent arthroscopic knee surgery following the Gator Bowl ... Was held out of contact work during the early stages of spring workouts, but got a lot of reps during the final seven or eight practices and showed improvement ...

**1999:** Was redshirted during the fall while practicing at right guard ... Improved in six of seven categories during spring strength and conditioning tests ... His 31 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring testing was the third-best among offensive linemen ... Ran the second-fastest forty time among the O-linemen at 4.94 ... Broke his leg on the second day of spring practice and missed all contact work ... Broke the leg again in May ...

**High School:** Played running back, tight end, offensive tackle and linebacker for Coach Jerry Little at Franklin County High during his prep career ... Was first-team all-district and all-region on offense and defense as a senior ... Earned first-team Group AAA honors as a linebacker ... Posted 113 tackles his senior year ... Forced five fumbles ... Named team MVP ... Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar* ... A *USA Today* honorable mention All-America pick ... Selected the No. 22 offensive lineman in the ACC Region by the *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Ranked the No. 16 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Contributed 122 tackles his junior season on the way to first-team all-district and second-team all-region honors ... Also competed in basketball and indoor track ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

**Personal:** Jacob Edward Gibson ... Born 1/29/81 in Rocky Mount, VA ... Son of William B. and Martha Sue Gibson ... His father, Benny, played football for East Carolina ... Is studying curriculum and instruction.

# talk with Jacob



**What is your favorite bowl memory at Tech?**

Obviously going to the national championship my freshman year is hard to beat, unless of course, we do it this year. If that happens, then I'll have a new favorite bowl memory.

**What will you miss the most after you graduate?**

I'll definitely miss the guys the most. It's going to be hard saying good-bye to a group of guys that you've spent every day of the last five years with.

**What goals do you have for this, your senior season?**

The first goal I have is for us to be the BIG EAST champs. Any goals bigger than that will take care of themselves when we win the BIG EAST.

**The running game is a huge part of the Tech offense. How much pressure is added to you, as a lineman, and how do you deal with it?**

It's not different than anybody else's position on the field. I have to know my assignments and block just like the other guys have to do their jobs.

**If you could play any position on the team, what position would you play and why?**

I would definitely be a kicker. I'm sure that is a little easier on the body.

**What is the hardest thing about being an offensive lineman?**

Linemen have a hard time getting to class with all the ladies approaching us on campus.

## LANCE GOFF



**Flanker • 5-11 • 202 • r-Jr.**  
Wytheville, Va. • George Wythe H.S.

A versatile team player ... Underwent knee surgery near the end of the 2002 season and missed spring practice ... Saw his first varsity action last season on special teams against Arkansas State ... Joined the team as a walk-on in 2000 and

competed for the punting duties ... Played on the scout and jayvee teams in 2001 ... Worked as a receiver last year before being injured in practice ... Works hard and always gives top effort ...

**2002:** Played in three varsity games, recording a solo tackle ... Saw action on offense and defense and handled all the kicking chores during a jayvee win over Fork Union ... Threw the game-winning touchdown pass in that game with just over a minute remaining ... Also kicked a field goal and two extra points and punted twice for a 49-yard average ... Tore his ACL in practice and had off-season surgery on his knee ... Did not participate in spring contact work ...

**2001:** Worked at split end throughout the year ... Played on the scout and jayvee teams ... Caught two passes for 12 yards in a jayvee win over Hargrave ... Improved in all four major lifts during spring strength and conditioning tests ...

**2000:** Got a look as a punter during the fall ... Worked some as a place-kicker during the spring ...

**High School:** A four-year varsity letterman for Coach Larry Russell at George Wythe ... Saw action as a linebacker, punter, place-kicker, defensive back, running back and quarterback ... Was first-team Group A all-state as a linebacker and punter his senior year ... Was also the all-state punter his sophomore and junior years ... Won numerous all-district and all-region honors ... Registered over 500 tackles during his career ... First-team all-state in basketball as a senior and second-team all-state in baseball ...

**Personal:** Lance Gwynn Goff ... Born 3/29/82 in Radford, VA ... Son of Dennis and Judy Goff ... Is studying management.

**COREY GORDON**



**Free Safety • 6-3 • 207 • Fr.**  
Gainesville, Fla. • Gainesville H.S.

A skilled newcomer who played at Hargrave Academy last fall ... Enrolled at Tech in January and went through winter workouts and spring practice ... Picked up some valuable reps at free safety ... Is still adjusting to the Tech system, but showed plenty of promise ... Combines good size and speed with a physical style of play ... Is working to polish his coverage skills ... Should benefit from the Hokies' athletic performance program ... Could figure into some playing time this fall if he continues to make a good showing when preseason practice opens ... Another talented young player with a bright future ...

**2002:** Enrolled at Tech in January ... Tied for the top bench press among the defensive backs during off-season testing with a lift of 320 pounds ... Added a 400-pound back squat ... Worked at free safety during spring practice ... Was in on five tackles during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

**Prep School:** Helped Hargrave to a 9-1 season ... Played for Coach Robert Prunty ... Had 48 solo tackles, three fumble recoveries and two interceptions ... Has four tackles, a tackle for loss and three

passes broken up in a game against the Virginia Tech jayvee team ...

**High School:** Played for Coach Rick Swain at Gainesville High ... Named to the all-area team by *The Gainesville Sun* as a senior ... Caught 29 passes for 443 yards and three touchdowns his final season ...

**Personal:** Corey Daven Gordon ... Born 6/9/84 in Gainesville, FL ... Son of David and Gloria Gordon ... Enrolled in university studies.

**BRANDON GORE**



**Offensive Guard • 6-5 • 328 • r-Fr.**  
Warrenton, Va. • Liberty-Bealeton H.S.

Will compete for playing time at right guard when practice resumes ... Is coming off a good spring practice ... Possesses the ability to play either guard spot ... Has great size and strength ... Must keep an eye on his weight and maintain his conditioning in order to have the needed stamina ... A great team player who has worked to improve his fundamentals ... His summer preparation will be important ... Has the potential to give the offensive line a boost this season ...

**2002:** Tied for the top bench press among incoming freshmen in August with a lift of 380 pounds ... Was redshirted while working at offensive tackle ... Gained Super Iron Hokie recognition during spring testing when he turned in a 400-pound bench press, 600-pound back squat and 316-pound clean ... Was moved to guard during spring practice ...

**High School:** A prep All-American offensive lineman for Coach Joe Trabucco at Liberty-Bealeton High ... Helped clear the way for an offensive attack that rushed for more than 4,100 yards in 2001 ... Also played on defense, collecting 43 tackles, including 16 behind the line of scrimmage ... Turned in eight tackles, three tackles for loss and two sacks in a game against Loudon Valley ... Team finished with a 12-1 record and advanced to the region championship game ... Named to All-America teams selected by *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 18 offensive guard in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Football Report* ... Listed the No. 28

offensive guard by *Rivals* and the No. 35 offensive lineman in the country by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 11 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and No. 13 by *The Roanoke Times* ... A first-team All-Metro pick by *The Washington Post* ... Named the player of the year in his district and region as a senior ... Earned all-region honors on offense and defense ... Was a first-team all-state pick as a senior and a second-team selection his junior year ... Lettered three seasons in football and two years in track ...

**Personal:** Brandon Lee Gore ... Born 11/7/83 in Warrenton, VA ... Son of Tom and Nadine Gore ... Enrolled in university studies.

**ERIC GREEN**



**Cornerback • 5-11 • 190 • r-Jr. • 2VL**  
Clewiston, Fla. • Clewiston H.S.

Is anxious to return to action after missing the entire 2002 season ... Saw action at cornerback in 23 of 24 games during his first two seasons at Tech ... Was in the running for a starting job at field corner when he suffered a torn ACL in his left knee prior to the start of preseason practice ... Underwent reconstructive surgery and began his rehab in the fall ... Worked extremely hard to get back in shape ... Returned to participate in all of the Hokies' spring drills and scrimmages ... Is right back in the thick of the battle for starting duties at the field corner position ... Still has some catching up to do from a technique and fundamental standpoint, but seems ready to go physically ... Was one of Tech's top special teams performers before the injury ... Blocked three punts during his first two seasons ... Possesses good size and athletic ability ... Got a lot of experience early in his career ... Found himself pressed into action as a true freshman in 2000 due to injuries at the cornerback position ... Ended up starting five games and playing nearly 400 defensive plays ... Was named second-team Freshman All-America by *The Sporting News* after the season ... Shared time at the field corner spot in 2001 and got a start against Syracuse ... Will be

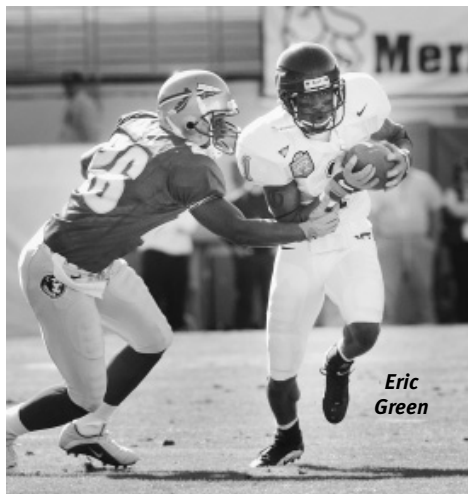
## GREEN CONTINUED

battling for the starting job again when practice resumes in August ...

**2002:** Missed the season while recovering from an off-season ACL injury ... Tore the ligament in a summer workout ... Redshirted while rehabbing the knee ... Was able to post a 36-inch vertical jump and 4.49 time in the forty during the off-season ... Worked at field corner during the spring ... Was in on three tackles and broke up a pass during the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Played in 10 games, recording 18 total tackles ... Had 11 solo tackles, seven assists, two passes broken up, two blocked kicks, a forced fumble and a tackle for loss ... Recorded a tackle and broke up a pass in the win over Connecticut ... Had four solo tackles, including three on special teams versus Western Michigan ... Played 28 total plays at Rutgers, 15 on defense ... Also blocked a punt that led to a safety in that game ... Played 47 total plays against UCF, recording a solo stop and two assists ... Got a start against Syracuse, recording an assist ... Did not travel with the team to Pittsburgh due to tonsillitis ... Played 42 snaps on defense against Temple and had a solo tackle ... Had a solo stop and two assists at Virginia ... Blocked a punt that was returned for a touchdown against top-ranked Miami ... Had two solo tackles and an assist against the Hurricanes ... Contributed two tackles against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Also intercepted a pass in that game and returned it nine yards ... Registered a pair of tackles and a fumble recovery during the spring Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Played in all 12 games on both defense and special teams ... Worked with several different special team units, including the extra point, field goal and punt block teams ... Registered three tackles against Akron in his first collegiate action ... Earned BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week honors for his play in



Eric Green

the Rutgers game ... Set up two first-half touchdowns in that game, one when he tackled RU punter Mike Barr for a 22-yard loss after a bad snap, and the other when he blocked a punt ... Also registered his first collegiate interception in that game and had two tackles ... Made his first start against Temple and turned in four tackles and two pass interceptions for 41 yards ... Also drew starts against West Virginia, Syracuse, Pittsburgh and Miami ... Was in on a season-best five tackles versus WVU and broke up three passes ... Had three more break ups, plus an interception, in the Pittsburgh game ... Played 68 defensive plays at Syracuse ... Finished the season with 31 total tackles, 19 unassisted ... Led the team in passes broken up with 12 ... Ranked third on the team in interceptions with four ... Contributed two tackles and broke up a pass in Tech's Gator Bowl win against Clemson ... Posted a 36 1/2-inch vertical jump and 4.43 time in the forty during spring testing ... Posted five unassisted tackles and two assists during the spring Maroon-White game ...

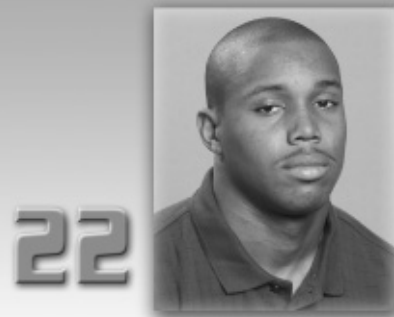
**High School:** Excelled as a quarterback, receiver and defensive back for Coach Al Morrell at Clewiston ... Helped the team to a 32-8 record over three seasons ... Was the first player in school history to pass for over 1,000 yards in two consecutive seasons ... Set a state record with a 105-yard interception return ... Turned in a school-record 82-yard punt return ... Rated the No. 46 player in Florida by *SuperPrep* and the No. 4 free safety in the state by *The Florida Times-Union* ... A member of the *Times-Union* Super 75 team ... Posted five interceptions as a senior ... Passed for 1,100 yards and rushed for over 400 yards his senior season ... Had 12 touchdowns passing and six rushing ... Passed for three touchdowns and rushed for two in a game against Bishop Verot ... Accumulated over 2,200 career passing yards during his last two seasons ... Caught over 20 passes as a sophomore for more than 500 yards ... Voted the team's MVP in 1999 ... Named to *Palm Beach Post* All-Area team ... Earned all-state honors ... Also lettered in track and basketball ... Placed fifth in the state in the 110 high hurdles with a time of 14.3 seconds ...

**Personal:** Eric Denaud Green ... Born 3/16/82 in Pahokee, FL ... Son of Janice Freeman and Willie Green ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	19	12	31	1- 22	0- 0
2001	10	11	7	18	1- 10	0- 0
Career	21	30	19	49	2- 32	0- 0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	11	4	51	12.8	0	41
2001	10	0	0	0.0	0	0
Career	21	4	51	12.8	0	41

## JAMES GRIFFIN



Rover • 6-1 • 193 • Jr.  
Memphis, Tenn. • East H.S.

A junior college All-American who entered Tech in January ... Worked at the rover position during spring practice ... Possesses outstanding physical skills, but is still adjusting to the Tech defensive system ... Had a good spring ... Runs well and plays with a good motor ... Rates as a good tackler ... Must continue working to add strength and to become a more disciplined player ... His progress during the summer and in preseason practice will go a long way in determining his playing time this fall ... Has what it takes to be successful ... Could give the Hokies a big boost once he gets adjusted ...

**2002:** Entered school in January after attending Pasadena (Calif.) City College ... Went through winter strength and conditioning workouts ... Spent spring practice working as a rover ... Was in on seven tackles during one spring scrimmage ... Had five tackles, including a quarterback sack and a tackle for loss in another scrimmage ... Posted a tackle for loss and four total tackles during the Maroon-White game ...

**Junior College:** Played two years at Pasadena City College for Coach Tom Maher ... Named a first-team All-America linebacker by *JC Grid-Wire* ... Led his team with 86 tackles, nine sacks, five forced fumbles, 39 quarterback hurries and 12 tackles for loss last season ... Named the junior college player of the year by the Pasadena Quarterbacks Club, given to the area's top junior college player ... In his first year at PCC, was a first-team All-Mission Conference selection, recording 69 tackles, eight sacks, 18 quarterback hurries, four fumble recoveries, two blocked kicks and an interception ... Ranked the No. 76 JUCO prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... One of *PrepStar's* top 125 junior college players ...

**High School:** An all-state selection for Coach Wayne Randall three consecutive years at East High in Tennessee ... The Tennessee state player of the year his junior season ... Set several state records, including sacks in a season (29), sacks in



a career (60) and blocked kicks (19) ...

**Personal:** James J. Griffin ... Born 12/28/81 in Memphis, TN ... Son of Jackie Griffin and Eric Avant ... Enrolled in interdisciplinary studies.

## JAKE GROVE

64



**Center • 6-3 • 300 • r-Sr. • 3VL  
Forest, Va. • Jefferson Forest H.S.**

A great leader who really sets the pace for the rest of the offensive line ... Rated the No. 1 center in the Division I-A ranks by *The Sporting News* ... A relentless warrior on the field ... Has everything you want a center to have ... Is tough, physical, aggressive and possesses the intangibles needed to play the game at the highest level ... Started all 14 games at center last season and graded out at over 90 percent for the year ... Reached the Winners' Circle every game ... Tech's strongest player with a 490-pound bench press ... Has good athletic ability to go with his strength ... Knows the Tech system and plays with great leverage ... Saw action on 565 snaps while starting 10 games at right guard in 2002 ... Played the last eight games of the 2001 season, including the Gator Bowl, with a broken hand ... Still managed to lead the team in knockdown blocks with 48 ... Averaged 25 plays a game at center as a redshirt freshman in 2000 despite having trouble with his back ... Will anchor the Hokies' offense this season ...

**2002:** Is the only offensive lineman to grade out above 80 percent in every game, putting him in the "Winner's Circle" ... Saw action on a team-high 838 offensive snaps and graded out at 90 percent or better in nine of 14 regular-season games ... Graded out at 90.6 percent for the season with a team-high 43 knockdown blocks ... Played just 28 snaps against Arkansas State in the season opener ... Graded out at 86 percent with a knockdown block in that game ... Played 67 snaps against LSU, grading out at 85 percent with a team-high six knockdown blocks ... In 74 plays in the win over Marshall, graded out at a team-high 93 percent with three knockdown blocks ... Graded out at 83

## talk with Jake

**The offensive line doesn't get a lot of glory, but it's one of the most important positions on the team in terms of the success of the offense. What's the toughest part about being a lineman?**

The toughest part is also the part that I enjoy the most — every play you're in a physical battle, especially at center. You're not going to get a play off, whether it's a run or a pass; you're going to fight every play. You can't take a play off. If you're a receiver on the backside, you might not have to do too much that play, but when you're playing line, you have to battle every play if you want to win. That's the toughest part, but that's why you play offensive line.

**You are on the field for almost every offensive down and you made the Winner's Circle in every game last season. How do you keep up your performance level consistently?**

You have to take care of yourself every week. You've got to try to get better as much as you can, eat right, take care of yourself during practice. My dad always tells me, "If you're lax or you're not going full speed, that's when you get hurt," so I just try to go full speed all the time and try to stay away from those guys falling off the pile.

**If you could play any other position, what would it be and why?**

Probably quarterback, but I wouldn't want to answer all the questions if we lost. You play center, normally you don't have to answer those questions. If you don't play a good game at quarterback, you get the finger pointed at you all the time. That's nice when you're winning, but if you have a bad game, that's not too good. But I kind of like offensive line. You don't get all the glory, but I kind of like it.

**How would you like to be remembered when you leave Virginia Tech?**

I'd like to be remembered as a guy who came out every day and gave everything he had every time I came on the field. The coaches and players could count on me to do my job the best I could. If I didn't do it right one time, I'd come back the next time and get it right. Just as someone the coaches could count on and my teammates could count on.

**What has been your most memorable moment on the field?**

I don't know if I can say for certain one time, but every time you run out onto the field, whether it's Lane Stadium or Texas A&M or at the Orange Bowl in Miami, you know it's a big rush. I just love college football and everything that goes with it: the fans, the players, the coaches, the TV. I can't say one play on the field was better than another. I love Saturday football and getting up in the morning and going to the stadium. You can't beat it.

**Who in your life has contributed the most to where you are today?**

Both my parents. My mom and dad set a really good example for me all the time when I was growing up. They never let me slack around or be lazy. They always had me doing stuff. At the time, I didn't like it so much, but now I really appreciate everything that they did for me. I wouldn't be the person or the player that I am now if they hadn't influenced me the way they did.

## GROVE CONTINUED

percent with three knockdown blocks in the win at Texas A&M ... Graded out at 93 percent with two knockdowns at Western Michigan ... Was again in the "Winner's Circle" for the Boston College game, grading out at 90 percent with four knockdown blocks on 67 snaps ... Graded out at a season-high 94 percent with three knockdown blocks against Rutgers ... Played 75 snaps on offense against Temple, grading out tops among the linemen at 92 percent ... Also had a team-high six knockdown blocks ... Played 69 snaps on offense against Pittsburgh, grading out at 93 percent ... Also had three knockdown blocks ... Tied his season high at Syracuse in grading out at 94 percent ... Played 62 snaps and had three knockdown blocks ... Was in for 78 snaps against West Virginia, grading out at 90 percent ... Played 62 snaps on offense against Virginia, grading out at 91 percent with three knockdown blocks ... Was named the team's most valuable lineman following the season ... Also shared the President's Award for outstanding leadership during the Hokies' off-season program and spring workouts ... Posted the second-best bench press in Tech football history with a 490-pound lift during spring maxing ... His 4.26 time in the NFL Shuttle was tops among the Hokies' offensive linemen ...

**2001:** Played in all 11 regular-season games, averaging 51 offensive snaps per game ... Graded out at 84.9 percent for the year with a team-high 48 knockdown blocks ... Recorded a team-high 10 knockdowns on 37 snaps in the opener against UConn ... Graded out at 86 percent with four knockdowns at Rutgers ... Did not start against West Virginia due to a broken hand, but played 20 snaps ... Came back to get the start at right guard against Boston College ... Saw action on 68 snaps and graded out at 92 percent in that game ... Saw action on all 68 offensive snaps against Syracuse ... Played 53 offensive snaps and had six knockdowns at Pittsburgh ... Graded out at 93 percent with a team-high three knockdown blocks at Virginia ... Graded 85 percent against No. 1 Miami on 48 plays with four knockdown blocks ... Switched back to center during the spring ... Earned



Jake Grove

the George Preas Award as the most valuable offensive performer during the spring ...

**2000:** Saw action in every game ... Worked a season-high 46 snaps against Temple and played 35 downs in the Miami game ... Earned a winning grade in seven of the 11 regular season games ... Also played against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Moved from center to guard during the spring ... Finished spring workouts as the starter at right guard ...

**1999:** Made the most of a redshirt year, adding strength and gaining familiarity with the center position ... Set a position record with a 376-pound power clean during spring testing ... Tied for the team's top push jerk at 375 pounds ... Bench pressed 420 pounds during the fall ... Made a big push for the center duties during spring practice ...

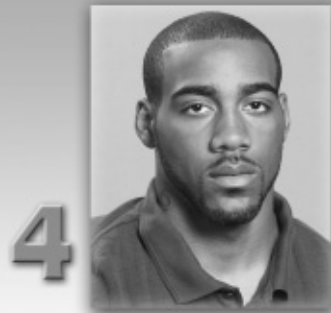
**1998:** Enrolled at Tech in January ... Made an immediate impact in the weight room ... Bench pressed 380 pounds during spring testing ... Set a record for the best power clean by a Tech center with a lift of 360 pounds ... Also set a position mark in the vertical jump at 32.5 ... Made a strong challenge for the starting center duties during spring practice ...

**High School:** Lettered two years as a center and

defensive tackle for Coach Bob Christmas at Jefferson Forest High ... Played his senior year at guard and defensive tackle for Coach Ed Landis ... A postseason first-team All-America pick by *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 20 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named the Region III and Seminole District defensive player of the year in 1997 ... Was an all-district and all-region pick on both offense and defense ... Picked first-team all-state as a defensive tackle by both the coaches and AP ... Helped the team to the state Group AA championship game in '97 ... Registered 48 solo tackles and 53 assists for the season ... Added nine sacks and three fumble recoveries ... Had three sacks, caused two fumbles and made 13 tackles in a game against Appomattox ... Grew two inches and added 40 pounds between his junior and senior seasons ...

**Personal:** Charles Jacob Grove ... Born 1/22/80 in Johnson City, TN ... Son of Chuck and Ruth Grove ... His dad is a Tech graduate ... Enrolled in residential property management.

## DEANGELO HALL



Cornerback/Flanker • 5-11 • 198 • Jr. • 2VL  
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.

An exciting player whose talents may allow him the opportunity to contribute big plays on offense, defense and special teams this season ... Returns as Tech's starter at the boundary cornerback position and as the Hokies' top punt return man ... Earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors for both jobs in 2002 and finished seventh nationally in punt returns ... Began 2003 spring practice working at receiver as an experiment to bring additional big-play ability to the position ... Got a solid foundation in the offense and studied it ... Still has a lot to learn, but his showing at the position was enough to earn him the chance to be a three-way performer when the season opens ... Possesses extraordinary athletic ability and speed ... Set a Tech football record with a 4.15 clocking in the forty during the spring ... Selected a second-team preseason All-American by *Athlon Sports* magazine ... Ranked the nation's No. 6 cornerback and the No. 14 return man by *The Sporting News* ... Has registered seven interceptions during his first two seasons ... Was one of four true freshmen to play in 2001 ... Saw action in every game and got a start at Temple ... Was named fourth-team Freshman All-America by TSN ... Has excellent coverage skills, but must learn to stay disciplined and focused every down ... His time at receiver may actually make him better in the secondary ... Will be asked to shoulder a lot of responsibility this season ... Has the ability to pull it off ...

**2002:** Started 10 games at cornerback and also returned punts ... Ranked seventh in the nation in punt returns, averaging 16.0 yards per return ... Had a long of 71 yards and scored twice on returns ... Had 36 solo tackles and 19 assists for the season ... Also had four interceptions, 12 passes broken up and a forced fumble ... Started the 2002 season with a bang against Arkansas State ... Returned a punt 69 yards for a touchdown, then returned an interception 49 yards for a score ... Recorded seven tackles and a

pass broken up against LSU ... Had three "big hits" against Marshall ... Also had two solo tackles, two passes broken up and an assist ... Recorded three solo stops and two assists, along with two passes broken up in the win at Texas A&M ... Had three solo tackles and an assist at Western Michigan ... Registered two solo stops, three assists and an interception in the win at Boston College ... Had four tackles and a 51-yard punt return for a touchdown against Rutgers ... The return helped earn him BIG EAST Co-Special Teams Player of the Week honors ... Came off the bench against Temple to record a solo tackle, a pass broken up and his third interception of the season ... Returned to the starting lineup against Pittsburgh and had one of his best games of the season ... Recorded three solo tackles, two assisted stops and two pass breakups ... Also recorded his fourth interception of the year, which he returned 46 yards ... Missed both the Syracuse and West Virginia games with lower back pain ... Returned to play 20 snaps on defense against Virginia, recording two solo tackles and an assist ... Had 14 solo tackles and two assists at top-ranked Miami ... Also credited with two passes broken up and a forced fumble ... Had an assisted tackle and a pass broken up in Tech's bowl win ... Posted the fastest forty time ever for a Tech football player with a spring timing of 4.15 on Tech's indoor track ... Opened the spring working at the flanker position ... Split time between offense and defense during the last few practices ... Caught a 10-yard pass and had a 10-yard carry during the first spring scrimmage ... Hauled in a 41-yard touchdown pass in the third scrimmage ... Had three catches for 17 yards to go with a tackle and two passes broken up in Tech's final scrimmage ... Grabbed four passes for 47 yards during the Maroon-White game and returned a punt 18 yards ... Was named one of Tech's four most valuable performers of the spring ...

**2001:** Turned in the fastest 40-yard dash among the freshmen at 4.37 in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Also bench pressed 300 pounds ... Played in all 11 games, starting one ... Had 42 tackles on the year ... Recorded 24 solo stops, 18 assists, three pass breakups and three interceptions ... Got his first collegiate action in the opener against Connecticut ... Had three tackles, two assists and also recorded an interception against the Huskies ... Had a solo tackle on 10 defensive plays versus Western Michigan ... Was in on three tackles at Rutgers ... Broke a bone in his hand during that

game, forcing him to play with a cast against UCF ... Had two solo tackles and an assist against the Golden Knights ... Played 25 snaps on defense at West Virginia, recording three solo stops ... Saw action on nine defensive snaps against Boston College, collecting two solo tackles and an assist ... Collected his second interception of the year at Pittsburgh, returning it 35 yards ... Also had seven tackles in that game ... Made his first career start at Temple ... Played a season-high 78 total snaps, recording six solo tackles, five assists, two passes broken up and an interception ... Recorded one solo tackle, four assists and a PBU at Virginia ... Had an assisted tackle against No. 1 Miami ... Was in on four tackles, including one for a 3-yard loss, during Tech's Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Shared the George Preas Award as the most valuable defensive performer during spring practice ... Posted four tackles and broke up a pass during the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Had an outstanding senior season for Coach David Cox, helping Deep Creek to the state AAA Division 6 championship game ... Scored 30 touchdowns and rushed for over 1,300 yards ... Also intercepted nine passes, posted over 100 tackles and had 16 tackles for loss ... Averaged 10 yards every time he touched the ball ... Was named a *SuperPrep* All-American and ranked the No. 9 defensive back in the nation and No. 2 player in Virginia by that publication ... Also earned All-America honors from *PrepStar* which named him the No. 3 defensive back and No. 12 overall prospect in the Atlantic Region, and from *Student Sports*, which rated him the No. 13 cornerback in the nation ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* listed him the No. 41 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... A first-team Group AAA defensive back pick by The Associated Press ... Selected first-team all-state as a DB and kick returner by the coaches ... Ranked the No. 2 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Tidewater Player of the Year as a senior ... Also the Norfolk Sports Club Player of the Year ... Earned all-district player of the year honors and was named to the all-district team as a running back, defensive back and return man ... Averaged 9.8 yards a carry during his junior year and added seven picks ... Was the district offensive and defensive player of the year as a junior and a first-team pick as a defensive back on the All-Tidewater team ... Ran a sub 4.4 time in the forty at Tech's summer football camp in 2000 ... Was a sprinter on the track team ... Placed sixth at the junior nationals in the 60-meter dash as a junior ... Third in state AAA long jump as a senior ...

**Personal:** DeAngelo Eugene Hall ... Born 11/19/83 in Chesapeake, VA ... Son of Joan Hall ... Enrolled in secondary education.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	24	18	42	0- 0	0- 0
2002	12	36	19	55	0- 0	0- 0
Career	23	60	37	97	0- 0	0- 0

2002 Tackles Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	1	0	1	0- 0	0- 0
LSU	1	2	5	7	0- 0	0- 0
MU	1	2	1	3	0- 0	0- 0
at TAM	1	3	2	5	0- 0	0- 0
at WMU	1	3	1	4	0- 0	0- 0
at BC	1	2	3	5	0- 0	0- 0
RU	1	3	1	4	0- 0	0- 0
TU	1	1	0	1	0- 0	0- 0
PITT	1	3	2	5	0- 0	0- 0
at SU				Did not play		
WVU				Did not play		
UVa	1	2	1	3	0- 0	0- 0
at UM	1	14	2	16	0- 0	0- 0
vs AF	1	0	1	1	0- 0	0- 0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	3	37	12.3	0	35
2002	12	4	100	25.0	1	49
Career	23	7	137	19.6	1	49

Punt Ret	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	1	0	0.0	0	0
2002	12	22	352	16.0	2	71
Career	23	23	352	15.3	2	71



**Justin Hamilton**  
Split End • 6-3 • 209 • r-So. • 1VL  
Clintwood, Va. • Clintwood H.S.

Picked up some valuable experience as a receiver during the 2002 season ... Was starting to come into his own during the spring when he was slowed by an ankle injury ... Showed improvement in his body control and his route running before being injured ... A big, strong player with good speed and athletic ability ... Possesses a good feel for the game ... Is smart and motivated ... Has worked hard to adjust since being moved from tailback to receiver prior to 2002 spring practice ... Was named Tech's top offensive newcomer at the conclusion of spring practice that year and led all receivers in the spring game with four catches for 44 yards ... Saw action as a receiver in nine games last season and started on the punt return team in every game but one ... Blocked two punts during the season, one of which

## HAMILTON CONTINUED

led to a Tech touchdown and one that was returned for a touchdown ... Will get a chance to increase his playing time at receiver this fall ...

**2002:** Saw limited action on offense ... Also played on both the field goal and punt block teams ... Led the team with two punt blocks ... Also caught five passes for 56 yards ... Played 16 offensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Caught his first collegiate pass in that game, a 5-yard reception ... Also played 11 snaps on special teams ... Saw 10 snaps on offense and 11 on special teams against LSU ... Blocked a punt against the Tigers that resulted in a Tech touchdown ... Saw brief offensive action in the win over Marshall ... Also played seven snaps on special teams against the Herd ... Played seven snaps on special teams at Texas A&M ... Caught a key 23-yard pass on the opening drive of the second half in the win at Western Michigan ... Was in for seven special teams plays in the win at Boston College ... Played 13 snaps on offense and 10 on special teams against Rutgers ... Recorded a 10-yard reception in that game ... Had an 11-yard reception in the win over Temple ... Played eight snaps on special teams against Pittsburgh ... Missed the Syracuse game with a sprained left ankle ... Played three snaps on offense and 10 on special teams against West Virginia ... Blocked his second punt of the year against Virginia, which was picked up and returned for a touchdown ... Caught a 7-yard pass in Tech's bowl win ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during the off-season ... His 340-pound bench press tied for tops among the receivers ... Added a 450-pound back squat and ran a 4.46 forty ... Worked at flanker and split end during the spring ... Missed some practice time due to an ankle injury ... Had one catch for 2-yards in the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Worked at tailback and receiver while redshirting ... Bench pressed 330 pounds and ran a 4.53 forty during spring testing ... Moved to flanker during the early stages of spring practice ... Caught two passes for 26 yards during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Had four catches for 44 yards in the Maroon-White game ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as Tech's top offensive newcomer ...

**High School:** Rushed for over 4,000 yards and scored 62 touchdowns for Coach Bob Meade during his prep career ... Had 1,153 yards rushing and 19 TDs as a senior, but won first-team Group A all-state honors for his play as a defensive back ... A *SuperPrep* All-American, he was ranked the No. 24 running back in the nation and the No. 6

player in Virginia ... Named *PrepStar* A-A and listed as the No. 3 RB in the Atlantic Region and the No. 26 overall prospect in the region ... Listed the No. 4 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Gained 1,550 yards and tallied 20 TDs in 1999 on the way to first-team all-state honors as a running back ... Was named the district player of the year and earned all-district and all-region honors on both offense and defense ... Added over 800 yards and 19 touchdowns his sophomore season ... A two-time all-state pick in basketball ... Averaged 21 points and 13 rebounds as a senior and 24 points and 12 boards his junior season ... Also excelled in track, winning the state title in both the 110- and 300-meter hurdles his junior year ...

**Personal:** Justin Lee Hamilton ... Born 9/17/82 in Norton, VA ... Son of Beth Stanley ... Enrolled in hospitality and tourism management.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	13	5	56	11.2	0	23

## BRENDEN HILL



**Split End • 6-1 • 200 • r-Fr.**  
Newport News, Va. • Warwick H.S.

A newcomer who adds depth at the split end position ... Began adjusting to the Tech system while redshirting last season ... Picked up some reps during spring practice ... Possesses good size, but must continue working in the athletic performance program to enhance his strength and speed ... Coaches would like to see him gain some explosiveness ... Has shown flashes of his potential, but needs some added exposure to the position to develop more consistency ...

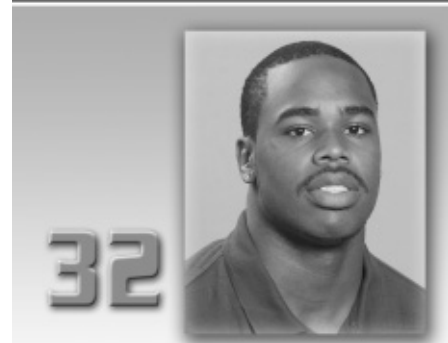
**2002:** Was redshirted during the fall while working at the split end position ... Showed improvement in three of the four major lifts during the off-season ... Had a 6-yard reception during one spring scrimmage ... Caught a pass for a 1-yard gain during the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Led Warwick High and the Peninsula District in receiving as a junior and senior ... Was a first-team all-district pick as a senior and earned second-team district honors on both

offense and defense his junior year ... Lettered two seasons as wide receiver and outside linebacker for Coach Tommy Reamon ... Caught 41 passes for 567 yards and six touchdowns in 2001 ... Grabbed five passes for 115 yards and a touchdown against Gloucester ... Contributed 46 tackles and four quarterback sacks on defense ... Finished with 39 catches as a junior, gaining 534 yards and scoring eight TDs ... Hauled in seven passes for 110 yards and two TDs against eventual state champ Heritage ... Scored a touchdown on a pass interception his junior season and posted 33 tackles ... Averaged 13.7 yards per catch during his two seasons ... Earned the team's Michael Vick Award for the most potential in 2000 ... Named a preseason All-American by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Was a preseason All-Atlantic Region pick by *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 38 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast region by Lemming following his senior year ... Rated the No. 36 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 37 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... Played basketball and competed in track ... Was named the basketball team's top defensive player as a junior ... Set a school track mark in the 400 meters with a time of 47.8 ... Also participated in the 4x400 relay and the 300-meter hurdles as a sophomore ...

**Personal:** Brenden Dee Hill ... Born 7/7/84 in Newport News, VA ... Son of Ms. Shawn Hill ... Enrolled in university studies.

## CEDRIC HUMES



**Tailback • 6-1 • 223 • r-So. • 1VL**  
Virginia Beach, Va. • Princess Anne H.S.

Returned to the tailback position during the spring after serving as the No. 2 fullback last season ... Took some time to readjust to the position, but was showing the form that turned heads during his redshirt freshman season by the end of spring practice ... A big, powerful runner who is hard to bring down ... Mixes good athletic ability with outstanding speed ... Got some extra work on blocking while he was working at the fullback position ... Has

benefited from the Hokies' strength and conditioning program ... Must concentrate on being a north-south runner ... Gives the Hokies another threat at the tailback position ...

**2002:** Was switched from tailback to fullback when practice opened ... Played in all 14 games, carrying the ball 16 times for 68 yards ... Also caught seven passes for 76 yards ... Saw action on 34 offensive plays in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had a team-high 10 carries in that game for 52 yards ... Also caught a 1-yard pass ... Played 13 snaps on offense against LSU ... Carried the ball two times for three yards in the win over Marshall ... Caught a 4-yard pass in the win at Texas A&M ... Carried the ball once for three yards at Western Michigan ... Played 12 snaps on offense and four on special teams in the win at Boston College ... Played 12 snaps on offense and three on special teams against Rutgers ... Carried the ball three times for 10 yards in the win over Temple ... Also had a 6-yard reception ... Caught a 15-yard pass against Pittsburgh ... Played seven snaps on offense and eight on special teams at Syracuse ... Caught a pass for seven yards against West Virginia ... Caught a 26-yard pass out of the backfield at Miami ... Improved his back squat to 560 pounds during spring testing ... Posted personal bests in all four major lifts ... Moved back to tailback for spring practice ... Ran for three touchdowns during red-zone work in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Added two more short TD runs in another scrimmage ... Led all rushers in the Maroon-White game with six carries for 57 yards ...

**2001:** Was redshirted as a true freshman ... Worked at tailback during the fall ... Earned Iron Hokie status during the off-season ... Turned in a 320-pound bench press and 500-pound back squat ... Ran a 4.42 forty and posted a 34 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Rushed for two touchdowns during one scrimmage on runs of one and 25 yards ... Gained 36 yards on nine carries ... Ran for 29 yards and one TD in another scrimmage ... Finished the Maroon-White game with 28 yards on five carries, an average of 5.6 yards a carry ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the top offensive hustler of spring practice ...

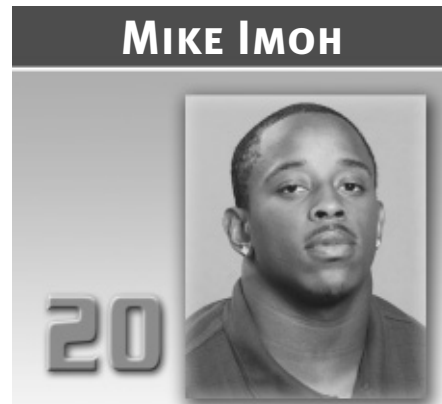
**High School:** Played running back and linebacker for Coach Jeff Ballance at Princess Anne ... Earned *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* All-America honors after rushing for 1,640 yards and 22 TDs as a senior ... Rated the No. 28 running back in the nation and the No. 8 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... Picked the No. 2 RB in the Atlantic Region and the No. 22 overall player in the region by *PrepStar* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* named

him the No. 25 player in the Mid-Atlantic area ... Ranked the No. 9 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... The No. 76 running back in the nation according to *Rivals* ... Contributed 87 tackles on defense his senior year with two sacks and eight fumble recoveries ... Rushed for 197 yards on just nine carries in one contest during his senior season and had 200 yards on 18 attempts in another game ... Named to the All-Tidewater team and also earned all-district and all-region honors as a tailback ... Selected conference offensive player of the year ... Gained 1,300 yards and scored 18 TDs as a junior ... Contributed 80 tackles on defense and intercepted five passes, returning three for touchdowns ... His team posted a 19-5 record in his two years as a starter and made back-to-back appearances in the Group AAA playoffs ... Also contributed in basketball and track ...

**Personal:** Cedric Akeem Humes ... Born 8/7/83 in Virginia Beach, VA ... Son of Alfred and Sheria Humes ... Enrolled in university studies.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	14	16	68	4.2	0	9

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	14	7	76	10.9	0	26



MIKE IMOH

Tailback • 5-7 • 185 • So.  
Fairfax, Va. • Robinson H.S.

A talented young back who does an excellent job in all phases of the game ... Saw a limited amount of playing time at both receiver and tailback last year ... Could play an important role for the Hokies this fall, especially in third-down situations ... A tough runner with good speed and quickness ... Has made himself stronger through his dedication to the strength and conditioning program ... Works hard and loves to compete ... Made a lot of progress during the course of his freshman year ... Should be a real asset in Tech's offensive plans this season ...

**2002:** His 36-inch vertical jump was the best among incoming freshmen ... Played in five games, rushing 10 times for 38 yards ... Also caught four passes for 28

yards and a touchdown ... Saw his first collegiate action in the opener against Arkansas State ... Played 22 offensive snaps ... Caught a team-high four passes for 28 yards ... Caught a 19-yard pass for his first collegiate touchdown ... Saw six offensive snaps and five on special teams in the win over LSU ... Carried the ball once for three yards at Western Michigan ... Was the workhorse in Tech's jayvee win over Fork Union, carrying the ball 31 times for 164 yards ... Carried the ball five times for 13 yards in the win over Rutgers ... Missed the Temple game with a sprained ankle ... Dressed for the remaining games, but did not see any action ... Improved his bench press to 350 pounds during the off-season and increased his vertical jump to 37 1/2 inches, second-best among all of Tech's running backs ... Posted the second-best forty time (4.41) and NFL shuttle time (3.95) among the running backs ... Rushed for 22 yards on seven carries and added two pass receptions for 40 yards during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Had seven carries for 21 yards in the annual Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Named the Virginia Group AAA Player of the Year by The Associated Press in 2001 ... Rushed for 5,280 yards and scored 68 touchdowns during his varsity career for Coach Mark Bendorf ... A *SuperPrep* All-American who was rated the No. 41 running back in the nation ... Helped his team to the state AAA Division 6 championship as a senior ... Ran for 2,077 yards and 28 touchdowns ... Added over 400 yards and three TDs on pass receptions ... Had 292 yards rushing and four touchdowns on just eight carries in a game against Langley High ... Scored four TDs and rushed for 210 yards in the state championship game ... Earned all-district, all-region and all-state honors ... Named to *The Washington Post* All-Metro team ... Picked up 1,760 yards on the ground his junior season, scoring 16 touchdowns ... Set over 20 school records during his prep career, including career and season marks for rushing yards and touchdowns ... Contributed over 1,000 yards receiving ... Team was 31-5 during his career ... A three-time varsity captain in football and basketball ... Won a region power lifting championship ... Rated the No. 11 player in the state by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named to *PrepStar* All-Atlantic Region team ... Rated the No. 13 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ...

**Personal:** Michael U. Imoh ... Born 7/21/84 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of James and Alice Imoh ... Enrolled in university studies.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	5	10	38	3.8	0	18

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	5	4	28	7.0	1	19

**RICHARD JOHNSON**



**Flanker • 5-10 • 189 • r-Jr. • 2VL  
Baltimore, Md. • Milford Mill Academy**

An experienced player who the coaches are hoping will become more explosive in 2003 ... Worked hard during the spring to get separation faster and to become more consistent in his route execution ... Showed he could carry that over into scrimmage situations ... Underwent ankle surgery after spring practice and should be able to start conditioning by the end of June ... Brings plenty of potential to the receiver positions ... Is a quick, elusive runner who excels in the open field ... Adjusts to the ball and makes catches ... Also handles the Hokies' kickoff return duties ... Had a 91-yard return against Miami last season ... Set a Tech bowl record for kickoff return yards with 118 in the Gator Bowl following the 2001 season ... Seemed poised for a good season in 2001 but was slowed by a nagging hamstring injury for most of the year ... Only played seven offensive snaps over the Hokies' last eight regular-season games ... Played in every game in 2002, including two as a starter ... His summer preparation will be important coming off surgery ... Is expected to compete for the starting flanker duties in the fall ... Coaches would like nothing better than to see him fulfill his potential as a big-play threat ...

**2002:** Saw action as a receiver, punt returner and kickoff returner during the season ... Caught 14 passes for 147 yards ... Also rushed three times for 22 yards ... Returned 23 kickoffs for an average of 21.1 yards per return with a long of 91 yards ... Returned 14 punts for an average of 7.1 yards per return ... Returned his lone kickoff against Arkansas State 33 yards to start the game ... Also played 11 offensive snaps ... Had a 14-yard punt return and a 20-yard kickoff return in the win over LSU ... Also played 24 offensive snaps ... Returned a kickoff 19 yards against Marshall ... Saw action on 30 offensive plays against the Herd ... Caught an 8-yard pass at Texas A&M ... Also had a 13-yard rush on a reverse in that game ... Made his first career start at Western

Michigan ... Caught two passes for 26 yards in that game ... Started at Boston College, returning one punt and four kickoffs ... Also had a catch for seven yards in that game ... Played 27 snaps on offense and returned three kicks against Rutgers ... Registered a career-high four catches against Temple for 40 yards ... Also rushed for nine yards on a reverse ... Played 25 snaps on offense and five on special teams against Pittsburgh ... Caught two passes for 10 yards at Syracuse ... Also saw action on 14 special teams plays ... Made the move to punt returner against West Virginia ... Returned his lone kick 20 yards ... Also had two receptions for six yards ... Came up with a big reception against Virginia, turning a short pass play into a 39-yard reception that set up the game-clinching touchdown ... Returned a kickoff 91 yards at Miami and had an 11-yard catch ... Missed the San Francisco Bowl due to a sprained ankle ... Posted a personal-best 340-pound bench press during the off-season ... Had three catches for 40 yards in one spring scrimmage and two for 35 yards in another ... Ran 20 yards on a reverse and caught two passes for 20 yards in a third spring scrimmage ... Hauled in three passes for 35 yards, ran 26 yards for a touchdown on a reverse and returned a punt 11 yards during the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Caught four passes for 34 yards on the season ... Rushed twice for seven yards and averaged 22.2 yards per kickoff return ... Opened the season with two receptions for 29 yards against Connecticut ... Averaged 24.5 yards on two kickoff returns in that game ... Returned a kickoff 26 yards against Western Michigan ... Had a catch for four yards against Rutgers ... Averaged 23 yards on three returns against UCF ... Did not dress for the West Virginia and Boston College games due to a hamstring injury ... Played in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave ... Came in at quarterback in that game with Tech down 15-2 and led the team to a 19-15 win ... Threw a 36-yard touchdown pass, caught a pass and rushed four times ... Registered three solo tackles and two tackles for loss as a cornerback in that jayvee game ... Returned to varsity action against Syracuse ... Had a 9-yard rush on a reverse in that game ... Returned three kickoffs for 50 yards with a long of 21 yards at Pittsburgh ... Caught one pass and had a 40-yard kickoff return against top-ranked Miami ... Set a Tech bowl record when he had 118 yards on five kickoff returns against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Caught three passes for 69 yards and a touchdown during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Blocked a punt in another scrimmage ... Hauled in a

10-yard pass during the Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Worked at the flanker position during the fall while redshirting ... Improved in seven categories from fall athletic performance testing to spring testing ... Added over 15 pounds to his frame during that span ... Turned in a 450-pound back squat and a 37 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Averaged 4.37 seconds over one group of three 40-yard dashes during Tech's pro timing day ... Caught an 89-yard touchdown pass in Tech's first scrimmage of the spring ... Had five catches for 31 yards in another outing ... Led all receivers in the Maroon-White game with six catches for 49 yards ...

**High School:** A prep All-American who was listed the No. 5 wide receiver and the No. 28 overall prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Saw action at quarterback, running back, wide receiver, free safety, strong safety and cornerback for Coach Reggie Brooks during his varsity career at Milford Mill ... Also returned kicks ... Accumulated nearly 6,000 yards of total offense during his career, passing for 3,343 yards and rushing for 2,430 yards ... Threw for 1,109 yards and 18 touchdowns as a quarterback his senior year ... Added 1,138 yards and 10 TDs on the ground ... Returned three kickoffs for touchdowns ... Posted three interceptions ... Finished with 41 career passing touchdowns and 28 rushing TDs ... Named to *The Baltimore Sun's* All-Metro team ... A consensus all-state selection as a junior and senior ... Earned *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* All-America honors ... Ranked No. 77 on the National Recruiting Center's list of Top 100 Players ... Rated the Mid-Atlantic Defensive Player of the Year by *SuperPrep* ... An honorable mention All-USA pick by *USA Today* ... Listed as the No. 1 player in Maryland and No. 2 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *SuperPrep* ... Picked the No. 4 receiver in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Named the No. 25 safety in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Averaged nearly 10 points a game as the starting point guard on the basketball team ...

**Personal:** Richard M. Johnson ... Born 6/17/82 in Baltimore, MD ... Son of Betty and Rodney Swayne ... Enrolled in secondary education.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	7	4	34	8.5	0	20
2002	13	14	147	10.5	0	39
Career	20	18	181	10.1	0	39
2002 Receiving Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
LSU	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
MU	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
at TAM	1	1	8	8.0	0	8
at WMU	1	2	26	13.0	0	14
at BC	1	1	7	7.0	0	7
RU	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
TU	1	4	40	10.0	0	18

PITT	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
at SU	1	2	10	5.0	0	6
WVU	1	2	6	3.0	0	4
UVa	1	1	39	39.0	0	39
at UM	1	1	11	11.0	0	11
vs AF	did not play					

K.O. Ret	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	7	12	267	22.2	0	40
2002	13	23	485	21.1	0	91
Career	20	35	752	21.5	0	91

Punt Ret	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	13	14	100	7.1	0	20

## KEVIN JONES



**Tailback • 6-0 • 209 • Jr. • 2VL**  
**Chester, Pa. • Cardinal O'Hara H.S.**

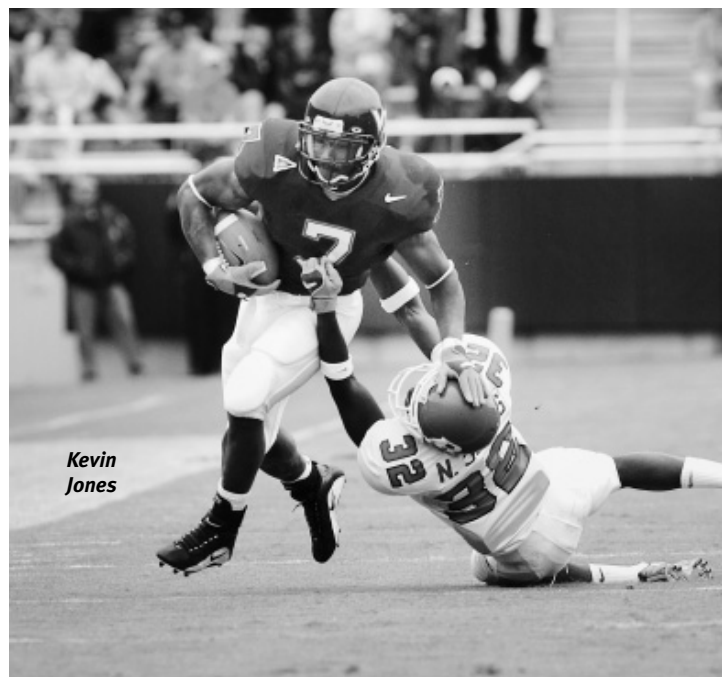
One of the top tailbacks in the collegiate ranks ... Will take over as the featured back in the Hokies' I-formation this fall ... Has rushed for 1,828 yards the past two seasons while starting just three regular-season games ... Shared the spotlight with record-setting senior Lee Suggs last year ... Was having an outstanding year until a hamstring injury slowed him down ... Still registered 871 yards and nine touchdowns ... Continues to get better in all phases of the game ... Selected to the 2003 *Playboy* All-America Team ... Named second-team preseason All-America by *The Sporting News* ... Was a third-team preseason pick by *Athlon Sports* magazine ... Listed as the No. 3 running back in the nation by TSN ... A tough, physical runner with blazing speed ... Excels in the strength and conditioning program ... Has become a good blocker and is running good pass routes out of the backfield ... Is tough to bring down ... Was the nation's top recruit when he came to Tech in 2001 ... Played in every game that season ... Worked his way up to the No. 2 tailback spot by the second game and was starting by the ninth game ... Led the Hokies in rushing with 957 yards ... His rushing total set a Tech freshman record ... Finished the season fifth in the BIG EAST in rushing, tops among freshmen ... Was fifth among all Division I-A freshmen in rushing for the season and third among true freshmen ... Voted the BIG EAST Rookie of the Year by the league coaches and was a second-team Freshman All-

America selection by *The Sporting News* ... Coaches feel he has all the tools to be the best running back to play at Virginia Tech ...

**2002:** Rushed for 871 net yards and nine touchdowns on 160 carries ... Also caught four passes for 21 yards ... Began the season in quiet fashion, rushing for just 31 yards on four carries ... Had a 19-yard run for a touchdown ... Also had three solo tackles on special teams ... Carried the ball 14 times for 70 yards in the win over LSU ... Had a 2-yard touchdown run and a long run of 34 yards ... Erupted in the Hokies' win over Marshall, rushing 24 times for 171 yards and three TDs ... First score came on a 25-yard run up the middle ... Scored on a 15-yard rush around the left end in the second quarter ... Final score came on a 1-yard run around the right side in the fourth quarter ... Ran for 48 yards on 15 carries at Texas A&M ... Suffered his first lost fumble of the season in that game ... Ran the ball 14 times for 36 yards and a touchdown at Western Michigan ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams ... Carried the ball 18 times for 144 yards in the win at Boston College ... Scored on a 4-yard run that put the Hokies up for good ... Had a season-long run of 67 yards ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams ... Carried the ball 13 times for 132 yards and a touchdown against Rutgers ... Scored on a 58-yard run that was on every highlight show ... Also had a solo tackle on punt coverage ... Led the team with 72 yards rushing against Temple on 17 carries ... Also had an assisted tackle on special teams ... Left the Pittsburgh game early with a strained hamstring ... Carried the ball twice for four yards ... Scored on a 3-yard run before the injury ... Missed the Syracuse game with that injury, but returned to rush for 36 yards on nine carries against West Virginia ... Came back strong against Virginia, rushing 15 times for 91 yards ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams ... Carried the ball four times for one net yard at Miami ... Caught two passes for 14 yards in that game ... Rushed 11 times for 35 yards and caught two passes for seven yards against Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Was an Iron Hokie during the winter ... Posted a 360-pound bench press, a 560-pound back squat, a 41 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.3 foot ... His vertical jump set a Tech record for the tailback position ... Scored on a 43-

yard run in Tech's second spring scrimmage ... Turned in 26 yards on six carries and scored a touchdown before leaving the Hokies' third scrimmage with a sprained ankle ... Did not participate in the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Played in every game as a true freshman, starting the last three regular-season games and the Gator Bowl ... Finished with 957 yards rushing and five touchdowns on 175 carries ... His rushing total set a new Tech record for freshmen ... Averaged 5.5 yards per rush ... Caught six passes for 47 yards ... Rushed 11 times for 63 yards in the first action of his career against UConn ... Ran for 75 yards on 10 carries against Western Michigan ... Recorded 76 yards on 18 rushes at Rutgers ... Scored his first career touchdown against UCF, a 7-yard run ... Finished with 90 yards on 11 carries in that game ... Also had a 21-yard reception ... Put up 67 yards and a score on 16 carries at West Virginia ... His touchdown against WVU came on a 44-yard burst ... Ran for 60 yards on 17 carries in the win over Boston College ... Put on a show at Temple in his first career start ... Rushed for 155 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries in that game ... Had an 87-yard scoring run, the fourth-longest on record at Tech since 1950 and the longest on record by a freshman ... Was the workhorse in Tech's win at Virginia ... Carried the ball 37 times for 181 yards and a touchdown ... The 37 carries were the most ever for a Tech freshman and the 181 yards were the second-most for a Hokie under Coach Frank Beamer ... Ran for 160 yards on 24 carries against top-ranked Miami ... Got 23 carries against FSU in the Gator Bowl, gaining 55 yards and scoring on a 5-yard



Kevin Jones

## JONES CONTINUED

run ... Ran a 4.38 forty during spring testing and posted a 37 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Bench pressed 340 pounds and added a 505-pound back squat ... Contributed a 69-yard touchdown run in Tech's first scrimmage of the spring ... Finished that scrimmage with 94 yards on five carries ... Had two 4-yard TD runs and 44 total yards rushing in another scrimmage ... Rushed eight times for 35 yards and caught a 3-yard pass during the annual Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** The most highly-rated recruit in Virginia Tech history ... Ranked the nation's top high school player in 2000 by *SuperPrep*, *Max Emfinger's Blue Chip Recruiting*, *Rivals* and *Student Sports* ... Named to the *PrepStar* Dream Team as the No. 2 running back in the nation, the No. 1 RB in the East Region and the No. 1 overall player in the East ... Rated the No. 3 player in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Named the nation's No. 1 offensive player by *G&W Recruiting* ... A member of the *USA Today* All-USA first team ... A *Parade* All-American and a Reebok ESPN first-team All-American ... Named the player of the year in Pennsylvania by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* ... Listed as the top player in the state by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* ... A four-time all-county pick and a four-time All-Catholic League selection ... His 5,878 career rushing yards rank second all-time in Philadelphia history and first in Catholic League history ... Scored 84 career touchdowns and stands as the leading scorer in Delaware County history ... Rushed for 1,268 yards and 18 touchdowns as a senior, despite missing two games with an ankle injury ... Helped lead Coach George Stratts' team to the Catholic League championship, scoring four touchdowns in the title game — two on runs, one on a kickoff return and another on a pass reception ... Played in the National High School All-Star game ... Won the first-ever High School Heisman award for the Northeast region ... Ran for 1,896 yards and 26 touchdowns his junior year ... Added 2,082 yards rushing and 26 TDs as a sophomore ... Gained over 600 yards on the ground as a freshman ... Holds the school record for longest run from scrimmage (96 yards) and set a single-game mark for rushing yards with 305 on just 15 carries ... Ranks as a national-caliber sprinter in track with times of 10.2 in the 100-meters, 21.2 in the 200-meters and 6.7 in the 60 ... Was clocked at 4.26 in the forty at FSU's summer camp ...

**Personal:** Kevin S. Jones ... Born 8/21/82 in Chester, PA ... Son of Thomas and Tracey Jones ... His father was a high school All-America basketball player ... Is studying business.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	175	957	5.5	5	87
2002	13	160	871	5.4	9	67
Career	24	335	1828	5.5	14	87

2002 Rushing Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	4	31	7.8	1	19
LSU	1	14	70	5.0	1	34
MU	1	24	171	7.1	3	25
at TAM	1	15	48	3.2	0	15
at WMU	1	14	36	2.6	1	9
at BC	1	18	144	8.0	1	67
RU	1	13	132	10.2	1	58
TU	1	17	72	4.2	0	9
PITT	1	2	4	2.0	1	3
at SU			Did not play			
WVU	1	9	36	4.0	0	15
UVa	1	15	91	6.1	0	20
at UM	1	4	1	0.3	0	3
vs AF	1	11	35	3.2	0	8

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	6	47	7.8	0	21
2002	13	4	21	5.2	0	10
Career	24	10	68	6.8	0	21

## GREG KEZMARSKY



**Defensive End • 6-3 • 236 • So.**  
**Voorhees, N.J. • Eastern H.S.**

An invited walk-on who contributed as a member of the scout and jayvee teams last year ... Brings a super attitude and good work ethic to the field ... Has a good frame, but must continue working in the strength and conditioning program to get bigger and stronger ... Should continue to help in a reserve role this fall while playing behind a number of more experience players ...

**2002:** Worked at defensive end ... Saw action on both sides of the ball during Tech's two jayvee games ... Had three tackles in a jayvee game against Hargrave ... Contributed tackles in two spring scrimmages ...

**High School:** Lettered two seasons as a defensive end and offensive tackle for Coach Dan Spittal at Eastern High ... Earned second-team all-conference honors as a senior ... Won the school's sportsmanship and dedication award ... Played in the Adam Taliaferro All-Star Classic ... Also lettered in track ...

**Personal:** Dennis Gregory Kezmarsky ... Born 10/1/83 in Joliet, IL ... Son of Dennis and Susan Kezmarsky ... Enrolled in business.

## JEFF KING



**Tight End/Fullback • 6-5 • 258 • r-So. • 1VL**  
**Pulaski, Va. • Pulaski County H.S.**

Is slated to see action at tight end and fullback this fall ... Practiced at the fullback position during the spring ... Made a good adjustment in a short period of time ... Will bring a new dimension to the Tech offense when he is in the game ... Combines outstanding size with good athleticism ... Is tough and smart ... Excels as a blocker and has outstanding hands ... Is working on his skills as a ball carrier ... Will create some mismatches as the lead blocker in the backfield ... Saw action in all 14 games last year at tight end, including six games as a starter ... Was named Tech's top offensive hustler during 2003 off-season and spring workouts ... Is expected to see the bulk of his playing time at tight end, but promises to be an important addition at fullback ...

**2002:** Had one catch on the season, a 19-yard touchdown reception in the opener against Arkansas State ... Played 33 snaps and had three knockdown blocks against LSU ... Had a season-high five knockdowns in 51 plays against Marshall ... Was in for 37 offensive snaps at Texas A&M ... Also played eight plays on special teams against the Aggies ... Played 21 snaps on offense and nine on special teams at Western Michigan ... Blocked a field goal in that game, the first of his career ... Played 41 snaps on offense in the win at Boston College ... Was in for 30 plays on offense and 11 on special teams against Rutgers ... Played 44 snaps on offense and 11 on special teams against Temple ... Got his first start against Pittsburgh, playing 36 snaps on offense and 21 on special teams ... Earned the start against Syracuse, playing 27 snaps on offense and 29 on special teams ... Started against West Virginia, playing 45 snaps on offense and 14 on special teams ... Graded a season-high 89 percent in the win over Virginia ... Played 16 snaps on offense at Miami ... Started in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... Led the tight ends with a 500-pound back squat during spring max testing ... Mixed in some work at fullback during spring



practice ... Had a 4-yard run in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Caught two passes for three yards during the Maroon-White game ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the top offensive hustler during off-season and spring workouts ...

**2001:** Worked at tight end while redshirting as a true freshman ... Posted a 360-pound back squat during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Also ran a 4.8 forty ...

**High School:** A *PrepStar* All-American for Coach Joel Hicks at Pulaski County ... Was rated the No. 3 tight end in the Atlantic Region ... Named first-team Group AAA all-state as a tight end by The Associated Press and the state coaches ... Ranked the No. 12 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and *SuperPrep* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep FB Report* lists him as the No. 86 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... An honorable-mention All-South pick by the *Orlando Sentinel* ... Led his high school team to the Group AAA, Division 5 state semifinals in 2000 ... Finished his senior season with 278 yards receiving and eight touchdowns ... Also registered eight sacks as a defensive end ... Set a school record with 101 pancake blocks in a season ... Had 12 pancakes and two receptions for 30 yards and a touchdown in a game his senior year ... Named All-Timesland as a junior and senior ... An outstanding basketball player who compiled over 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds during his career ... Averaged 25 points and 14 rebounds as a senior on the way to all-district and all-region honors ... Competed in the shot for the track team with a best effort of 54-7 as a junior ... Member of the National Honor Society ...

**Personal:** Jeffrey W. King ... Born 2/19/83 in Pulaski, VA ... Son of Jerry and Lynn King ... Majoring in finance.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	14	1	19	19.0	1	19



**Defensive Tackle • 6-0 • 250 • r-Jr. • 2VL  
Mitchellville, Md. • DeMatha H.S.**

Only had limited experience before earning the starting job at nose tackle last season ... Started the first 11 games of the season before suffering a shoulder injury that sidelined him for Tech's final two regular-season games ... Returned a fumble 59 yards for a touchdown against Arkansas State in his first collegiate start ... Led the defensive tackles with seven quarterback hurries ... Was ranked sixth on the team in tackles when he was sidelined ... Returned to see some reserve action in the San Francisco Bowl ... Showed few ill effects of the injury during a solid spring practice ... Offsets his smaller stature by playing with determination, quickness and a great motor ... Was primarily an end until playing a few downs at tackle during the late stages of the 2001 season ... Will be challenged for the starting role in the fall and figures to see his share of playing time ...

**2002:** Recorded 24 solo tackles and 24 assists in 12 games ... Included in that total were four tackles for loss and two sacks ... Also had seven quarterback hurries, a fumble recovery for a touchdown, a forced fumble and a blocked punt ... Made his first career start against Arkansas State ... Had three tackles and returned a fumble 59 yards for a touchdown ... Recorded three solo stops, three assists and a quarterback hurry against LSU ... Had a solo stop and three assists in the win over Marshall ... Had three solo stops, an assist and a tackle for loss at Texas A&M ... Had three solo tackles, six assists, two quarterback hurries and a caused fumble at Western Michigan ... Had two solo tackles in the win at Boston College ... Posted three solo stops, a quarterback hurry and two sacks versus Rutgers ... Had a solo stop, three assists and two quarterback hurries in the win over Temple ... Tallied four solo tackles, an assist and a tackle for loss against Pittsburgh ... Recorded two solo stops, four assists and a quarterback hurry while playing a season-high 60 plays at Syracuse ... Played 13 snaps on defense

against West Virginia before sustaining a dislocated shoulder ... Missed the last two regular season games of the year ... Returned to play in the San Francisco Bowl, recording a solo stop and an assist ... Registered a personal-best back squat (605) during spring max tests ... Had two sacks and four total tackles during Tech's second spring scrimmage ...

**2001:** Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in preseason testing ... Turned in a 550-pound back squat, a 300-pound clean and a 320-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Met all six of his preseason goals ... Played in all 11 games, recording 15 total tackles ... Registered seven solo tackles, eight assists and a sack ... Had one assist on nine defensive plays against Connecticut ... Did not play against Western Michigan ... Played 11 defensive snaps at Rutgers, recording two solo stops and two assists ... Played three snaps on defense against UCF ... Played 10 defensive snaps at West Virginia, recording an assist ... Saw brief action on special teams in the win over Boston College ... Also saw action on special teams against Syracuse and at Pittsburgh ... Played on 13 defensive snaps and seven on special teams against Temple ... Had a solo tackle on special teams ... Was credited with two solo tackles on special teams coverage at Virginia ... Against No. 1 Miami, had a solo tackle, four assists and a sack ... Posted a 565-pound back squat during spring testing and ran a 4.66 forty ... Turned in four tackles during one spring scrimmage and added two tackles during the annual Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Practiced at the end position while redshirting in the fall ... Posted a 530-pound back squat during spring testing ... Finished spring practice at the stud end position ...

**High School:** Helped DeMatha to a 33-2-1 record during his varsity career ... Played tight end and defensive end for Coach Bill McGregor ... Caught six passes for 76 yards and one touchdown ... Also grabbed a two-point conversion pass ... Posted 105 tackles on defense, including 82 solos ... Recorded 12 quarterback sacks, three fumble recoveries and an interception ... Had four sacks in a game against McNamara ... Voted the team's MVP by his teammates ... Named first-team on *The Washington Post* All-Metro squad ... Also earned all-county, all-conference and consensus all-state honors ... Named to George Michael's Golden 11 team ... A *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* All-American ... Ranked the No. 2 tight end and No. 16 player in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Listed the No. 43 defensive lineman in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... An honorable-mention All-USA pick by USA

## LALLIS CONTINUED

Today ... Listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* ...

**Personal:** Jason Christopher Lallis ... Born 2/4/82 in Washington, DC ... Son of Everett, Jr., and Martha Lallis ... Studying marketing management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	7	8	15	1- 3	1- 3
2002	12	24	24	48	4- 32	2- 27
Career	23	31	32	63	5- 35	3- 30

## FRED LEE



**Flanker • 5-8 • 186 • r-Fr.**  
Harrisburg, Pa. • Bishop McDevitt H.S.

Another young receiver with potential ... Brings good speed and quickness to the flanker position ... Made some strides during a redshirt season, but is still learning ... Should continue to get better with added exposure to the athletic performance program and the Tech system ... Has the ability to be a contributor ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ... His performance during preseason practice will also be important to getting in the mix for playing time ...

**2002:** Practiced at flanker while redshirting in the fall ... Posted a 425-pound back squat during winter workouts ... Also turned in a 4.45 clocking in the forty ... Contributed two catches for 22 yards during one spring scrimmage ... Hauled in a 35-yard reception in the spring game ...

**Prep School:** Attended Milford (Conn.) Academy during the fall of 2001 ... Originally signed with Tech following the 2000 season and re-affirmed his commitment to Tech in January 2002 ... Caught nine touchdown passes for Milford ... Helped the team to an 8-2 record ...

**High School:** Was rated one of the top high school receivers in the country in 2000 after catching nearly 100 passes over his last two seasons at Bishop McDevitt ... Hauled in 48 passes for 1,080 yards and 16 touchdowns as a senior ... Turned in six catches for 186 yards and three TDs against Cedar Cliff ... Also returned an interception for a touchdown in

that game ... Played defensive back, as well as receiver, for Coach Jeff Weachter ... Finished his senior year with five interceptions and 52 tackles on defense ... Scored three TDs on defense that year — two on interceptions and one on a fumble-return ... Earned All-America honors from numerous publications following his senior season in 2000, including *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Named to *PrepStar's* Dream Team and rated the No. 15 wide receiver in the country that year ... Ranked the No. 28 receiver in the nation and the No. 9 player in Pennsylvania by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 18 receiver in the nation by *Rivals* and the No. 22 WR by *Student Sports* ... Finished his career with 130 receptions for 2,767 yards and 35 TDs ... Registered 11 career interceptions, returning five for touchdowns ... A dangerous return man, he scored two touchdowns on kickoff returns and two more on punt returns as a junior ... Earned 4A all-state honors as a junior and senior and was a three-time all-conference pick ...

**Personal:** Fred Robert Lee ... Born 3/10/83 in Harrisburg, PA ... Son of Fred and Debra Lee ... His brother, Shawn, was a three-year starter at Penn State ... Enrolled in university studies.

## NICK LEESON



**Deep Snapper/Linebacker • 6-1 • 235 • r-Fr.**  
Abingdon, Va. • Abingdon H.S.

Will be a candidate for some of the Hokies' deep snapping duties this fall ... Also works with the inside linebackers where he will compete for a backup spot at the mike position ... Combines intelligence with a tough, physical style of play ... Has worked hard in the athletic performance program ... Joined the team as a walk-on in January 2002 ... Served as a reserve snapper but did not see action and was redshirted ... His showing in preseason practice will help determine his playing status for 2003 ...

**2002:** Practiced at the backer position during the fall and served as a reserve deep snapper ... Did not see action and

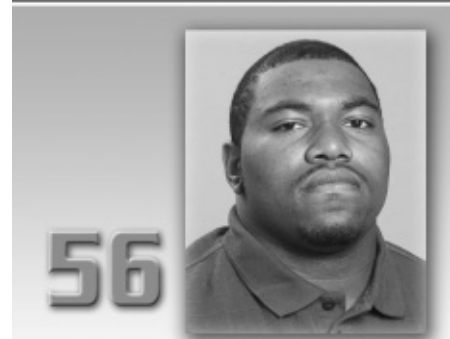
was redshirted ... Had a 340-pound bench press and a 475 back squat during spring testing ... Was in on three tackles during one spring scrimmage ...

**2001:** Entered school for the second semester ... Had a 420-pound back squat during spring athletic performance testing ... Practiced at linebacker and as a deep snapper during spring practice ... Contributed a tackle during the annual Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Played linebacker and handled the deep snapping duties for Coach Scott Allen at Abingdon High ... Was a four-year letterman and two-year team captain ... Also lettered in basketball and baseball ... Was a high jumper in track ...

**Personal:** Nicholas Brooke Leeson ... Born 10/29/82 in Clarksburg, WV ... Son of Billy and Cathy Leeson ... His dad was an offensive lineman at Tech (1982-84) ... Enrolled in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

## JONATHAN LEWIS



**Defensive Tackle • 6-1 • 292 • So. • 1VL**  
Richmond, Va. • Varina H.S.

A talented young player who stepped in right away last year as a true freshman ... Was named a fourth-team Freshman All-American by *The Sporting News* ... Moved up the depth chart quickly and ended up playing in all 14 games ... Led Tech's defensive linemen in total tackles with 56 ... Is a big player who moves well for his size ... Has explosiveness and power at the point of attack ... Fills the holes, but also sheds blockers well ... Played extremely well at times last season ... Teamed up with his older brother, Kevin, on occasion to form a formidable front ... Continued to make progress during the spring, but needs to concentrate on conditioning during the off-season to improve his stamina this fall ... Has the potential to become a special player ...

**2002:** A true freshman who saw action right away ... Started the last two games of the regular season and the bowl game ... Had 33 solo tackles and 23 assists this season ... Included in those 56 stops were seven tackles for loss and two sacks ...

Also had five quarterback hurries ... Had three solo stops, two assists and a tackle for loss in the opener against Arkansas State ... Recorded two solo stops in the win over LSU ... Had two assists and a quarterback hurry in the win over Marshall ... Recorded a solo tackle and three assists at Texas A&M ... Also had a tackle for loss and two quarterback hurries ... Recorded two solo stops, two assists and a quarterback hurry at Western Michigan ... Recorded a solo tackle and an assist at Boston College ... Talled two solo stops, along with a tackle for loss, a sack and a quarterback hurry against Rutgers ... Had three solo tackles, two assists and a sack against Temple ... Had three solo tackles and two assists against Pittsburgh ... Two of those tackles were for a loss ... Registered three total tackles at Syracuse ... Had six solo tackles and two assists, including a tackle for loss, against West Virginia ... Got his first collegiate start against Virginia ... Recorded four solo tackles and two assists in the win ... Had two solo tackles and an assist at top-ranked Miami ... Registered two solo tackles and three assists in Tech's win over Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Turned in a 550-pound back squat during spring testing ... Ran a 4.9 forty ... Registered five tackles, including a quarterback sack during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Contributed a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** A prep All-America pick by *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... The only player in Varina history to earn all-Metro, all-region and all-state honors three years in a row ... Ranked the No. 17 defensive line prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the nation's No. 3 defensive lineman by Max Emfinger of *USA Today* and the No. 112 player overall by Tom Lemming ... A member of the *PrepStar* Dream Team ... Ranked the No. 6 defensive lineman in the nation by *PrepStar* and the No. 1 DL in the Atlantic Region ... Listed as the No. 26 defensive player in the nation by *G&W Recruiting Report* and the No. 15 DT by *Student Sports* ... Listed as the No. 4 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Played in the prestigious U.S. Army All-American Bowl ... Posted 107 tackles and 10 quarterback sacks as a senior ... Had 15 tackles and a pair of sacks in a game against Armstrong High ... Was in on 12 tackles versus Highland Springs ... Named first-team Group AAA by the AP and the state coaches ... Was the Metro, district and region player of the year as a junior when he had 96 tackles and 11 sacks ... Registered over 300 career tackles and 46 sacks ... Helped Coach Gary Chilcoat's team to a 46-7 record and three region championships during his

varsity career ... Also played center on the basketball team ...

**Personal:** Jonathan M. Lewis ... Born 7/12/84 in Richmond, VA ... Son of David and Gale Lewis ... His brother, Kevin, is a redshirt-junior defensive tackle on the Tech squad ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	14	33	23	56	7- 23	2- 12



**Defensive Tackle • 6-1 • 292 • r-Jr. • 2VL  
Richmond, Va. • Varina H.S.**

Developed into a key performer on Tech's defensive line last year before being injured late in the season ... Entered the 2002 season with only limited experience ... Played 125 downs as a true freshman in 2000, before being redshirted in 2001 ... Won a starting job during the preseason and helped solidify the Hokies' young defense early in the year ... Ranked fifth on the team in tackles when he was sidelined for the final three games by a torn pectoral muscle ... Did not participate in contact work during the spring but sustained a calf injury during some light

drills ... Will be full speed when preseason practice rolls around ... Has been rated the No. 9 defensive tackle in the nation by *The Sporting News* heading into the 2003 season ... A playmaker who is physical and aggressive ... Holds his own at the point of attack ... Has worked hard to improve his game ... Saw action in eight games in 2000 ... Started the Hokies' first 11 games last fall ... Is expected to make a strong bid to reclaim his starting job when practice opens ...

**2002:** Recorded 25 solo tackles and 24 assisted stops in 11 games ... Included in that total were five tackles for loss and a sack ... Also had six quarterback hurries, a fumble recovery, a pass broken up and a forced fumble ... Played just 14 snaps on defense against Arkansas State ... Had a solo stop and two assists, and caused a fumble that was returned for a touchdown by Jason Lallis ... Had five tackles and two quarterback hurries in the win over LSU ... Played 45 snaps against Marshall, recording a solo stop, an assist and a quarterback hurry ... Also broke up a pass against the Herd ... Had three solo stops, including one for a loss, and an assist in the win at Texas A&M ... Had two solo tackles, two assists and a quarterback hurry at Western Michigan ... Had a big game in the win at Boston College, registering four solo tackles, three assists and a quarterback hurry ... Had an assist and a quarterback hurry in the win against Rutgers ... Recorded two solo tackles and three assists against Temple ... Talled eight total tackles — three solo — against Pittsburgh ... Also had a tackle for loss and recovered a fumble ... Had five tackles, including one for loss, at Syracuse ... Tore his pectoral muscle in that game, but still played against West Virginia

... Played 23 snaps against the Mountaineers, recording two solo tackles ... Opted for surgery on Nov. 29, ending his season ... Participated in some light work during the spring until aggravating a calf muscle ...

**2001:** Took a redshirt season ... Met five of his six goals in preseason testing, turning in a 400-pound bench press and 575 back squat ... Posted a personal-best 31 1/2-inch vertical jump during the fall ... Ran a 4.89 forty during spring testing



*Kevin and Jonathan Lewis*

## KEVIN LEWIS CONTINUED

... Contributed four tackles and two sacks in one spring scrimmage and three tackles and a pass broken up in another ... Registered a sack and a quarterback hurry in a third scrimmage ...

**2000:** Was in for 21 plays in Tech's opener against Akron and contributed a pair of tackles ... Had two tackles and two quarterback hurries at East Carolina ... Posted tackles behind the line in back-to-back games against Temple and West Virginia ... Did not play against Boston College, Syracuse and Pittsburgh ... Was in on two tackles during the Miami game ... Played 26 plays at UCF and registered two tackles, including one for loss ... Had a season-best three tackles against Virginia ... Compiled 15 total tackles during the regular season with three coming behind the line ... Contributed a tackle in the Hokies' win over Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Improved his bench press to 390 pounds during the off-season and ran the forty in 4.86 seconds ... Got a lot of reps during spring practice ... Had three tackles behind the line in Tech's first spring scrimmage and two more in the second scrimmage ... Blocked a field goal during another scrimmage ... Posted five tackles, including a sack, in the Maroon-White game ... Shared the Dr. Richard Bullock Award for the Hokies' most improved defensive player with fellow tackle Channing Reed ...

**1999:** Enrolled in school for the second semester ... Bench pressed 370 pounds during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Also turned in a 550-pound back squat and a 316-pound power clean ... Got a lot of repetitions in spring practice at tackle when starter Chad Beasley was sidelined by an injury ... Was in on six tackles during the Hokies' first spring scrimmage ... Posted a sack in another scrimmage ... Turned in four tackles during the annual Maroon-White game, including one for a loss ...

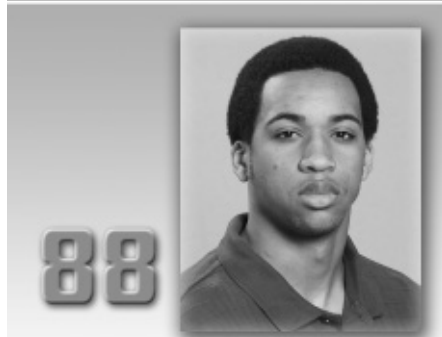
**High School:** A four-year starter at fullback and defensive end for Coach Ed Bulheller ... Earned first-team Group AAA all-state honors as a defensive lineman ... Named the No. 20 prospect in the state by *The Roanoke Times* and was rated No. 22 by *SuperPrep* ... Picked the No. 11 linebacker in the ACC Region by *PrepStar* ... Shared *Richmond Times-Dispatch* Player of the Year honors for the Richmond area with Matt Farrior ... Carried the football 138 times his senior year for 989 yards and 14 touchdowns ... Contributed 123 tackles on defense, including 11 sacks and 25 total tackles behind the line ... Collected 13 tackles in a game against Hopewell ... Was a first-team all-district and all-region selection ... Turned in 64 tackles and five sacks as a junior ... Helped the team to 41 wins and three

region championships ... Threw the shot put for the track team and also played basketball ...

**Personal:** Kevin André Lewis ... Born 4/26/80 in Richmond, VA ... Son of David and Gale Lewis ... His father played football at North Carolina A&T ... His brother, Jonathan, is a sophomore defensive tackle on the Tech squad ... Enrolled in history.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	8	7	8	15	3- 8	0- 0
2002	11	25	24	49	5- 15	1- 8
Career	19	32	32	64	8- 23	1- 8

## MICHAEL MALONE



**Split End • 6-3 • 202 • r-Fr.**  
**Friendswood, Texas • Friendswood H.S.**

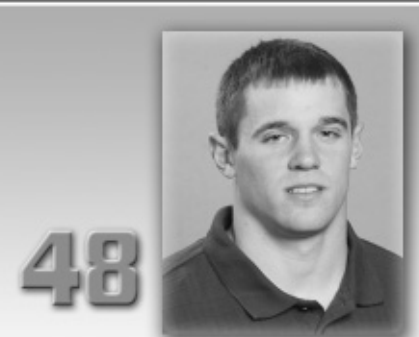
A promising young receiver who should get better and better as he gains more exposure to the Tech system ... Made strides during a redshirt season ... Brings excellent size and athletic ability to the split end position ... Combines a good work ethic with a desire to succeed ... Should benefit from the Hokies' athletic performance program ... Must continue working to develop consistency and confidence in order to move into contention for playing time ... Comes from an athletic background ... His father, Moses Malone, is a member of the NBA Hall of Fame ... Has a chance to become a contributor if he continues to make progress ...

**2002:** Redshirted while working at the split end position ... Posted a 36-inch vertical jump during spring max testing ...

**High School:** Played wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Steve Vanmeter at Friendswood High ... Caught 68 passes for 1,200 yards and 12 touchdowns as a senior ... Was named first-team all-district, All-Greater Houston and All-Galveston County ... An honorable mention pick on the all-state team ... Helped team to a 12-1 record as a senior ... Contributed four catches for 111 yards and two touchdowns in one game ...

**Personal:** Michael Earl Malone ... Born 3/9/84 in Houston, TX ... Son of Moses and Alfreda Malone ... Enrolled in university studies.

## BRANDON MANNING



**Linebacker • 6-0 • 216 • r-Jr. • 2VL**  
**Harrisburg, Pa. • Central Dauphin H.S.**

Returns as the No. 1 man at whip linebacker, where he started 13 of 14 games a year ago ... Maintained the top spot with a solid spring performance ... Brings experience and an excellent knowledge of the Tech defense to the position ... Knows what is expected of him and plays with toughness and purpose ... A good tackler who is a Super Iron Hokie in the strength and conditioning program ... Joined the Tech squad as a walk-on and earned a scholarship with hard work and steady play ... Made a name for himself on special teams in 2001, blocking a punt for a safety against UCF and returning a blocked punt for a touchdown against No. 1 Miami ... Finished third on the team in tackles last season with 70 ... Continued to start on two special teams units ... Picks things up quickly and doesn't shy away from contact ... Will help solidify Tech's defense ...

**2002:** Got the start in the first two games ... Ended up starting 13 games and playing in all 14 ... Was third on the team in tackles with 75 ... Had 37 solo stops and 38 assists ... Included in that total were five tackles for loss and a sack ... Also had two passes broken up, a QB hurry and a fumble recovery ... Recorded two solo stops, including one for a loss, and four assists in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had nine tackles — four solo — in the win over LSU ... Also recovered a fumble in that game ... Came off the bench against Marshall to record two solo stops and two assists ... Got the start and registered four solo stops and two assists in the win at Texas A&M ... Played 34 defensive snaps at Western Michigan, recording two solo stops ... Registered two solo stops, two assists and a quarterback hurry in the win at Boston College ... Talled three solo stops and five assists against Rutgers ... Had two solo stops and four assists in the win over Temple ... Recorded five solo tackles and three assists against Pittsburgh ... Also had a tackle for loss, a sack and a pass broken up ... Had three solo tackles and

four assists at Syracuse ... Tallied three solo tackles and a assist, including a tackle for loss, against West Virginia ... Also had a pass broken up ... Had three solo tackles against Virginia ... Had two solo stops and an assist at Miami ... Recorded two solo stops and three assists in the San Francisco Bowl ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in both the fall and the spring ... Set personal bests in the bench press (360), back squat (500), clean (316) and vertical jump (36) during spring testing ... His 316-pound power clean was a position record for Tech whip linebackers ... Registered a tackle in the Maroon-White spring game ...

**2001:** Played in 11 regular-season games, mostly on special teams ... Had seven solo tackles, five assists and a blocked punt in 2001 ... Saw action on six special teams plays against UConn ... Played on four defensive plays against Western Michigan, recording two solo stops and an assist ... Had an assist on 20 total plays at Rutgers ... Played 19 total plays, 15 on special teams against UCF ... Had a solo stop and an assist in that game ... Blocked his first career punt near the end of the first half against UCF ... That block resulted in a safety ... Played 13 plays on defense and 30 total at West Virginia ... Had a solo stop in that game ... Saw action on 23 special teams plays against Boston College ... Was in for 15 special teams plays against Syracuse ... Played 14 plays on special teams against Pittsburgh, recording an assist ... Had a solo tackle on special teams against Temple ... Scored his first career touchdown against top-ranked Miami, returning a blocked punt 22 yards for the score ... Earned Iron Hokie honors in the 2001 preseason testing session and was a Super Iron Hokie in the spring ... Posted a 485-pound back squat and a 314-pound clean ... Was in on three tackles during the spring Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Redshirted while working at whip linebacker ... Bench pressed 360 pounds during spring testing ... Also had a 34 1/2-inch vertical jump and ran the forty in 4.47 ... Posted seven tackles in the Maroon-White spring game ... Also intercepted a pass and returned it 31 yards ...

**Prep School:** Attended the U.S. Air Force Academy Prep School in Colorado Springs for one year ... Was the defensive captain on the football team ...

**High School:** A three-year letterman for Coach George Chaump at Central Dauphin ... Saw action as a defensive back, wide receiver and running back ... Was the Mid-Penn Conference Offensive Player of the Year as a senior ... Also named District III Player of the Year ... Named second-team 4A all-state ... Helped the team to a 30-7 record and two district titles ... Added a conference

championship his senior season ... Also lettered in basketball and track ...

**Personal:** Brandon Lee Manning ... Born 5/12/81 in Philadelphia, PA ... Son of Dr. Richard and Linda Manning ... Enrolled in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	7	5	12	0- 0	0- 0
2002	14	37	38	75	5- 14	1- 6
Career	25	44	43	87	5- 14	1- 6
2002 Tackles Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	2	4	6	0- 0	0- 0
LSU	1	4	5	9	0- 0	0- 0
MU	1	2	2	4	0- 0	0- 0
at TAM	1	4	2	6	0- 0	0- 0
at WMU	1	0	2	2	0- 0	0- 0
at BC	1	2	2	4	0- 0	0- 0
RU	1	3	5	8	1- 1	0- 0
TU	1	2	4	6	0- 0	0- 0
PITT	1	5	3	8	2- 9	1- 6
at SU	1	3	4	7	0- 0	0- 0
WVU	1	3	1	4	1- 3	0- 0
UVa	1	3	0	3	0- 0	0- 0
at UM	1	2	1	3	0- 0	0- 0
vs AF	1	2	3	5	0- 0	0- 0



**Offensive Tackle • 6-5 • 283 • So. • 1VL  
Fairfax, Va. • Chantilly H.S.**

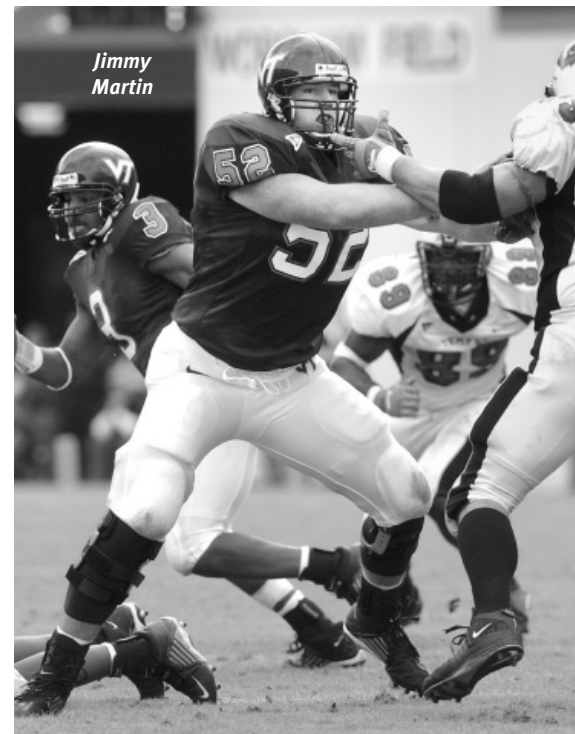
A young player who ended up starting Tech's last seven games at right tackle last season ... Entered school in January 2002 and participated in spring drills ... Started the season at No. 2 on the depth chart, but moved into the starting lineup for the Temple game ... Gives away some size to bigger players, but makes up for it with quick feet and solid fundamentals ... Started out the spring at left tackle and struggled ... Was switched back to the right side and was much more comfortable ... Ranks as one of the best athletes on the offensive line, but must continue working to increase his weight and strength ... Is expected to maintain his starting job at right tackle ... Has the potential to become an outstanding player ...

**2002:** Started the last seven games of the season ... Ended up playing 409 regular-season offensive snaps ... Graded out at 83.1 percent for the season with nine knockdown blocks ... Played 34 snaps on offense in the opener against Arkansas State ... Played briefly in wins over Marshall and at Western Michigan ...

Came in to play 20 snaps against Rutgers, grading out at 80 percent with a knockdown block ... Earned his first career start against Temple ... Played 58 snaps and had a knockdown block against the Owls ... Played 43 snaps on offense against Pittsburgh, grading out at 83 percent with a knockdown block ... Played 60 snaps on offense at Syracuse, grading out at 83 percent with a knockdown block ... Played 69 snaps on offense against West Virginia, recording a knockdown block ... Had his best game as a starter against Virginia, playing 62 snaps and grading out at 91 percent with three knockdown blocks ... Played 54 snaps at Miami, grading out at 81 percent with a knockdown block ... His 360-pound power clean set a record for Tech offensive tackles ... His 32 1/2-inch vertical jump was the third-best for the O-line ... Began spring practice working at left tackle, but ended up moving back to the right side ...

**Prep School:** Was a standout offensive lineman for Coach John Shuman at Fork Union in 2001 ... Also saw action along the defensive line in six games for FUMA and posted a pair of quarterback sacks ...

**High School:** Was a two-way lineman for Coach Bob Herb at Chantilly High ... Recorded nine sacks and a pair of fumble recoveries on defense as a senior ... Earned first-team All-Concorde District honors on offense and defense in 2000 ... Gained first-team all-region recognition on defense and was an honorable mention Group AAA all-state pick ... Also lettered as a first baseman on the baseball team and earned first-team all-district honors as a senior ...



**MARTIN** CONTINUED

**Personal:** James Mercer Martin III ... Born 10/19/82 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Susan Martin and Jim Martin ... Enrolled in university studies.

**JARED MAZZETTA**



**Tight End • 6-4 • 260 • r-Jr. • 2VL  
Flemington, N.J. • Hunterdon Central H.S.**

Will be in the rotation for playing time at tight end ... Benefited from extra reps at the position during the spring while Jeff King worked at fullback ... Has good size and athletic ability ... Continues to work hard in the strength and conditioning program ... Was slowed early last season by an ankle injury ... Ended up seeing much of his action on special teams ... Underwent shoulder surgery after spring practice ... Was expected to be back to 100 percent by early summer ... Has a chance to see added playing time with a good showing during preseason practice ...

**2002:** Met five of his six strength and conditioning goals during the preseason ... Played in 11 games, recording one catch for 19 yards ... Missed the opener with a sprained ankle ... Played just two snaps on offense against LSU, but played 15 snaps on special teams ... Saw extended action in the win over Marshall, playing 32 snaps on offense and 10 on special teams ... Played sparingly on offense and on 14 snaps on special teams in the win at Texas A&M ... Played 15 plays on offense and 13 on special teams at Western Michigan ... Was in for six snaps on offense and 14 on special teams in the win at Boston College ... Played seven snaps on offense and 11 on special teams against Rutgers ... Caught a 19-yard pass in the fourth quarter of that game ... Did not dress for the Temple game ... Returned for the Pittsburgh game and played three snaps on offense and 16 on special teams ... Played five snaps on offense and 15 on special teams at Syracuse ... Was in for 10 plays on offense and 14 on special teams against West Virginia ... Played 17 snaps on offense and 15 on special teams against Virginia ... Saw action on special teams at Miami, recording an assisted

tackle ... Contributed three tackles on special teams during the San Francisco Bowl ... Had the second-fastest time among the tight ends in the NFL shuttle during the spring at 4.3 seconds ... Caught a 15-yard pass in one spring scrimmage and had receptions of four and eight yards in two other scrimmages ... Grabbed two passes for 18 yards in the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Turned in a 360-pound bench press in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Played in all 11 games, mostly on special teams ... Played 147 plays on special teams, recording nine tackles ... Also played 44 snaps on offense ... Saw action on 10 offensive plays and 15 special teams plays in the opener against Connecticut ... Played a personal-best 11 offensive snaps in the Rutgers game ... Also had 16 special teams plays in that game ... Was in on a season-high 19 special teams plays against both Boston College and Pittsburgh ... Had a solo stop and an assist on special teams at Virginia ... Registered a personal-best 460-pound back squat during spring testing ... Caught passes covering 19 and 13 yards during spring scrimmages ...

**2000:** Worked at tight end and was redshirted ... Added 10 pounds and increased his bench press by 60 pounds during the fall ... Caught an 18-yard pass in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

**High School:** Rated the No. 11 tight end in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Earned All-America honors from *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Selected the No. 2 tight end in the East by *PrepStar* ... Listed the No. 8 prospect in New Jersey by *SuperPrep* ... A three-year letterman as a tight end and defensive lineman for Coach Jim Meert ... Hauled in 21 passes for 300 yards and three TDs as a senior ... Contributed over 70 tackles and seven quarterback sacks on defense ... Blocked two punts and a field goal ... Returned his blocked field goal for a touchdown to give Hunterdon Central a victory in the state semifinals ... Was all-county, all-area and all-state ... Caught 27 passes for more than 400 yards during his junior season ... Added 50 tackles, six sacks, an interception and a blocked punt ... Posted career totals of 67 receptions for 1,019 yards and nine TDs ... Compiled 17 sacks and over 200 tackles ... Set a school career mark for most receptions by a tight end ... Helped his team to back-to-back state championships in 1998 and 1999 ...

**Personal:** Jared Albert Mazzetta ... Born 6/4/81 in Plainfield, NJ ... Son of Mary Mazzetta and Anthony Mazzetta ... Enrolled in secondary education.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	0	0	0.0	0	0
2002	11	1	19	19.0	0	19
Career	22	1	19	19.0	0	19

**DANNY McGRATH**



**Center • 6-2 • 297 • So.  
Herndon, Va. • Herndon H.S.**

Helps provide solid depth at the center position ... A strong player who has been working in the athletic performance program to improve his quickness ... Brings a good work ethic and toughness to the position ... Enrolled in school during January 2002 ... Got a taste of action during the 2002 season ... Took a limited number of plays during the spring because of the large number of players working at the center position ... Will compete for the backup duties behind starter Jake Grove during preseason practice ...

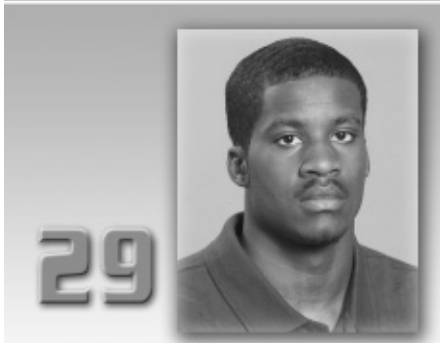
**2002:** Played in two games ... Was in for 25 offensive snaps on the season ... Saw action on 22 offensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had a knockdown block in that game ... Played three snaps on offense at Western Michigan ...

**2001:** Entered school in January ... Registered a 420-pound bench press during spring testing ... Also turned in a 500-pound back squat ... Worked at the center position during spring practice ...

**High School:** A three-year letterman as an offensive guard and defensive lineman for Coach Tom Meier at Herndon High ... Led the team in snaps played his senior year ... Set a school record for pancake blocks ... Made first-team all-district and all-region ... Named to the All-Northern Virginia first-team selected by *The Fairfax Journal* ... An honorable-mention pick on *The Washington Post* All-Metro team and the state All-Group AAA squad ... Earned *PrepStar* All-American honors as the No. 5 offensive lineman in the Atlantic Region ... Rated the No. 20 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 24 player by *SuperPrep* ... Listed No. 17 in Virginia by *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Started at offensive guard as a sophomore ... Began playing on both sides of the football his junior season ... Also lettered in wrestling and baseball ... Attended Tech's summer football camp after his junior year ...

**Personal:** Daniel Patrick McGrath ... Born 3/19/83 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Tim McGrath and Rebecca Krausman ... Enrolled in secondary education.

## BRIAN MCPHERSON



**Cornerback • 5-10 • 190 • r-Fr.**  
**Madison Heights, Va. • Amherst H.S.**

A young cornerback who is still adjusting to the college game ... Worked at the boundary corner during the fall ... Got a brief trial at field corner during the spring before returning to the boundary ... Has good athletic ability and great feet, but has yet to fully dedicate himself to the game ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ... His status for the 2003 season will be determined by his showing during preseason practice ...

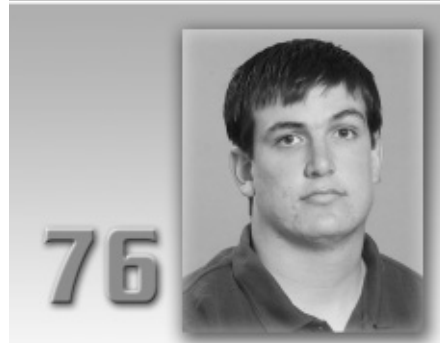
**2002:** Practiced at the boundary cornerback position while redshirting in the fall ... Improved in all four major lifts during off-season strength and conditioning work ... Was tried briefly at field corner during spring practice ... Posted two tackles during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

**High School:** Played cornerback, wide receiver and running back during his three varsity seasons for Coach Mickey Crouch at Amherst ... Rushed for over 1,300 yards as a senior and scored nine touchdowns ... Contributed 245 yards and two touchdowns rushing against Staunton River ... Carried 17 times for 243 yards and three TDs in a win over William Fleming ... Earned *PrepStar* All-America honors ... Ranked the No. 6 defensive back in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Rated the nation's 57th-best athlete by *Rivals* ... Listed the No. 20 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and No. 23 by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named the No. 30 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by Tom Lemming ... Selected the offensive player of the year in his area by *The Lynchburg News & Advance* ... Seminole District and Region III Offensive Player of the Year his senior year ... A first-team all-district and all-region selection ... A second-team Group AA all-state pick by the coaches ... Won all-district and all-region honors as a wide receiver his junior season ... Rushed for over 700 yards and caught 17 passes for 435 yards and three touchdowns that year ... Rushed for 2,616 yards during his career ... Also contributed 28 pass receptions for 576 yards and scored 27

career touchdowns ... Helped football team to district title in 1999 ... Also ran track, helping team to district title as a sophomore ... Finished third in the 100-meters at the 2002 state outdoor track meet ... Was clocked at 6.45 seconds in the 60 meters ...

**Personal:** Brian Keith McPherson ... Born 5/11/84 in Camden, NJ ... Son of Kerry and Barbara McPherson ... His older brother, Kevin, played football at Hampton University ... Great uncle Vincent Johnson was an offensive lineman at Tech in the late 1970s ... Studying business.

## JAMES MILLER



**Offensive Guard • 6-6 • 304 • Jr. • 2VL**  
**Pompano Beach, Fla. • Ft. Lauderdale H.S.**

An offensive lineman who the Hokies are counting on heavily in 2003 ... Is moving from a key backup role to a key starting role ... Showed signs of the consistency Tech coaches have been looking for during 2003 spring drills ... Has outstanding size and excellent lower body strength ... Needs to bring his upper body strength to the same level ... A coachable player with good work habits ... Possesses a great desire to be successful ... One of four true freshmen to see action in 2001 ... Was a solid No. 2 man behind Jake Grove at right guard that season ... Gained valuable experience while averaging nearly 18 plays per game ... Was named one of the team's most improved players during 2002 spring practice ... Saw action at both guard spots during the 2002 season, including a pair of starts on the left side ... Got a lot of reps at right guard this past spring ... Will be looked to for a big year at that position this fall ...

**2002:** Got the start in the Hokies' first two games at left guard ... Also saw action at the right guard spot ... Played 274 regular-season offensive snaps with nine knockdown blocks ... Played just 24 snaps in the win over Arkansas State in the opener ... Saw action on 32 offensive plays in the win over LSU ... Came off the bench to play 38 snaps against Marshall ... Graded out at 84 percent with a

knockdown block ... Played 30 snaps on offense at Western Michigan, grading out at 87 percent with three knockdown blocks ... Played 10 snaps at Boston College, grading out at 90 percent with a knockdown block ... Played 14 snaps in the win over Rutgers ... Came in to play 25 snaps against Temple ... Played 23 snaps on offense against Pittsburgh ... Graded out at 83 percent with two knockdown blocks ... Played nine snaps on offense at Syracuse ... Played 21 snaps on offense against West Virginia ... Saw brief action on offense in the win over Virginia ... Played 20 offensive snaps at Miami ... His 331-pound clean was the third-best among Tech's offensive linemen during spring testing ... Worked at right guard during the spring ...

**2001:** His 351-pound push jerk was the fourth-best among the offensive linemen during preseason testing ... Saw action in 10 of the Hokies' 11 regular season games, plus the Gator Bowl ... Played on 160 offensive snaps on the year ... Got his first taste of collegiate action in the opener against Connecticut ... Played 30 offensive snaps versus the Huskies ... Played 29 offensive plays against Western Michigan and 19 at Rutgers ... Had three knockdown blocks at West Virginia ... Graded 83 percent in the Boston College game ... Posted a 500-pound back squat during spring testing ... Moved to left guard during the spring ... Shared the Dr. Richard Bullock Award as the team's most improved offensive player with quarterback Bryan Randall ...

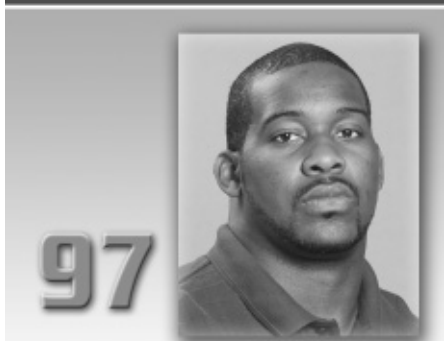
**2000:** Enrolled at Tech for the second semester in January ... Went through the winter strength and conditioning program ... Opened spring practice working at right tackle, then moved to right guard ...

**High School:** Ranked the No. 59 player in Florida by *SuperPrep* and listed as the No. 3 defensive end on *The Florida Times-Union Super 75* team ... Lettered three seasons as a tight end, defensive end and long snapper for Coach John Timmons at Ft. Lauderdale High ... Contributed 21 solo tackles and 26 assists his senior season ... Also posted four quarterback sacks, six hurries and two pass deflections ... Graded out a team-high 87.6 percent for his work on the offensive line ... Was second-team all-state ... Voted the team's offensive MVP in '99 and served as the team's captain his last two seasons ... Played in the conference all-star game and was nominated for the Georgia-Florida All-Star Game ... Caught a game-winning touchdown pass against Boca Raton High during his junior season ... Also competed in basketball, baseball and track ... A Brian Piccolo Scholar-Athlete who was active as a community service volunteer ...

## MILLER CONTINUED

**Personal:** James Miller ... Born 8/13/81 in Sylva, NC ... Son of Rick and Sherry Miller ... His dad was the head basketball coach at Western Carolina from 1972-83 ... Enrolled in residential property management.

## ISAAC MONTGOMERY



**Defensive Tackle • 6-4 • 297 • r-Jr.**  
Princeton, W.Va. • Princeton H.S.

A big, strong defensive tackle with a lot of raw ability ... Sat out the 2002 season after transferring to Tech from North Carolina ... Suffered a setback when he was injured after just six practices in the spring ... Had to sit out six weeks with a strained MCL in his left knee ... Was back to full speed by the end of the school year ... Has seen only a limited amount of playing time on the collegiate level ... Was redshirted his first year at UNC and just saw brief action as a reserve during the 2001 season ... Showed flashes of his ability while practicing with the Hokies ... Must concentrate on improving his fundamentals and his ability to get off blocks ... Combines a good work ethic with a desire to succeed ... May need a little more time to get where he needs to be ... Has a chance to be a real plus for the Hokies when he gets there ...

**2002:** Transferred to Tech and began classes in the fall ... Practiced with the team but could not participate in games ... Bench pressed 420 pounds during the fall ... Turned in a 600-pound back squat during spring max testing and earned Iron Hokie honors ... Recorded three tackles in the team's first spring scrimmage ... Was injured on the seventh day of practice and was forced to sit out the remainder of spring practice ...

**UNC:** Attended the University of North Carolina for two years before transferring ... Was redshirted as a true freshman ... Saw limited action at defensive tackle his second year ...

**High School:** Saw action at defensive end, offensive tackle and fullback during his varsity career at Princeton Senior ...

Played for Coach Ted Spadaro ... Saw his senior season shorted by a knee injury ... Scored five short-yardage touchdowns ... Earned second-team all-state and first-team all-area honors on defense ... Was selected honorable mention All-America by *USA Today* ...

**Personal:** Isaac Stephen Montgomery ... Born 3/3/82 in Princeton, WV ... Son of James and Elizabeth Montgomery ... Enrolled in sociology.

## WILL MONTGOMERY



**Offensive Guard • 6-3 • 298 • r-So.**  
Clifton, Va. • Centreville, H.S.

One of the Hokies' most improved offensive linemen ... Has worked hard and made the most of his abilities ... Saw only limited playing time last season but figures to change that this year ... Takes an aggressive, no-nonsense approach to football ... Got a look at both guard positions during the fall ... Settled in at the No. 2 left guard spot during the spring ... Improved across the board during the 15 spring practices ... Is fundamentally sound and uses good technique ... Originally joined the team as a walk-on defensive tackle and earned a scholarship ... Has made his mark in the weight room, posting a position record for Tech guards with a 360-pound power clean ... Figures to see his share of action this fall ...

**2002:** Played in four games at guard ... Was in for 52 offensive snaps this season, recording two knockdown blocks ... Saw action on 34 offensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State and registered a knockdown block ... Saw brief action in the win over Marshall and at Western Michigan ... Played six snaps against Rutgers, registering a knockdown block ... Set a position record for offensive guards at Tech with a 360-pound power clean during spring max testing ... Also had personal-bests in the bench press (430) and back squat (600) on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors ... Earned the Richard Bullock Award as the Hokies' most improved offensive player during spring practice ...

**2001:** Began preseason practice working as a defensive tackle ... Was moved to offense before the season and redshirted ... Practiced at right guard ... Improved his bench press to 385 pounds during fall scout team testing ... Continued to work at the right guard position during the spring ...

**High School:** Lettered three seasons as a two-way lineman for Coach Mike Skinner at Centreville ... Was named first-team Group AAA all-state as a defensive lineman by both The Associated Press and the coaches' association as a senior ... Posted 85 tackles, including eight sacks, that season and blocked a punt ... Turned in three sacks and 11 tackles in the state semifinal game against Varina ... Helped team win the state title ... Was first-team all-district and all-region and second-team All-Metro ... Named the Centreville Athlete of the Year in 2001 ... Was second-team all-district on offense and defense his junior year ... Finished the season with 65 tackles and seven sacks ... Also lettered in basketball and track ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

**Personal:** William Michael Montgomery ... Born 2/13/83 in Brunswick, ME ... Son of Mike and Rose Montgomery ... Enrolled in business information technology.

## JASON MURPHY



**Offensive Guard • 6-2 • 296 • r-So. • 1VL**  
Baltimore, Md. • Edmondson Westside H.S.

Finds himself on the opposite side of the football this season after switching from defense to offense during the spring ... Brings outstanding athleticism and footwork to the offensive guard position ... A physical player who plays hard ... Must learn more about picking up stunts and twists, and become more comfortable at his new position ... Is focused on being successful and willing to learn ... Continues to improve his strength through the athletic performance program ... Began his Tech career as a defensive tackle ... Saw action on defense in 11 games last fall and earned a letter ... A good summer preparation will be



extremely important ... Could help out at the right guard spot if he continues to make progress during the preseason ...

**2002:** Played in 10 games at defensive tackle ... Tallied two solo tackles and 13 assists ... Also had a QB hurry ... Played 24 snaps against Arkansas State ... Had three assisted tackles and a quarterback hurry ... Played seven defensive snaps against LSU ... Played 20 snaps against Marshall, registering a "big hit" ... Had a solo stop and five assists at Texas A&M ... Had an assisted stop at Western Michigan ... Played six snaps on defense at Boston College ... Saw brief action on defense against Rutgers ... Played 12 snaps against West Virginia, recording a solo stop and an assist ... Played 15 snaps on defense against Virginia, recording an assisted tackle ... Had an assisted tackle at Miami ... Played in a jayvee game against Hargrave for extra experience and registered nine tackles ... Recorded an assisted tackle in Tech's bowl win ... Turned in a personal-best 370-pound bench press during off-season testing ... Moved to the offensive line prior to spring practice ... Worked at right guard ...

**2001:** Worked at defensive tackle while being redshirted in the fall ... Turned in a 340-pound bench press and 470-pound back squat during spring testing ... Also ran a 4.97 in the 40 ... Had three tackles in one of Tech's spring scrimmages and two tackles and a pass broken up in another ...

**High School:** *The Baltimore Sun* Defensive Player of the Year ... Was in on over 100 tackles, including 17 quarterback sacks, in 2000 ... Recovered seven fumbles and blocked a pair of punts ... Posted an amazing 60 sacks during his four seasons as a starter for Coach Pete Pompey ... Thirty of those sacks came in 1999 when he helped his team to the Maryland 2A championship game ... Rated the No. 46 defensive player in the nation by *G&W Recruiting* ... Listed as the No. 38 DE by *Rivals* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* rated him the No. 35 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... Listed as the No. 14 prospect in Maryland by *ACC Area Sports Journal* and the No. 16 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *SuperPrep* ... A *PrepStar* all-region pick ... A first-team All-Metro and all-state pick as a junior and senior and a second-team All-Metro selection as a sophomore ... Helped the team to three-straight city West Division championships and 28 wins in the last 30 games of his career ... Played his first organized football as a freshman ... Led Edmondson Westside to the state semifinals his senior season ... Spent time at all four defensive line positions during his career and even saw some limited action at linebacker ... Played lacrosse for one season ... Attended Tech's summer

football camp after his junior year ... The vice-president of his senior class ...

**Personal:** Jason G. Murphy ... Born 8/7/82 in Baltimore, MD ... Son of Benjamin and Anna Murphy ... Enrolled in university studies.

## BRANDON PACE



**Place-kicker • 5-10 • 193 • r-Fr.  
Virginia Beach, Va. • Kellam H.S.**

A talented newcomer who battled for the starting kicking duties during 2002 preseason practice ... Was considered for the duties once again when starter Carter Warley began experiencing back problems during the season ... Ended up taking a redshirt year ... Resumed competing for the place-kicking and kickoff duties when spring practice opened ... Still needs to develop a little more consistency, but has a lot of ability ... Will have the opportunity to earn a job when preseason practice opens ...

**2002:** Joined the team as an invited walk-on ... Competed for the place-kicking, kickoff and punting duties during the preseason ... Went through additional competition for the place-kicking duties when Carter Warley was sidelined during the season ... Coaches decided to hold him out of action and redshirt him ... Booted an extra point and a 35-yard field goal during one spring scrimmage ... Added another PAT kick during the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Was a four-year letterman as a kicker and punter for Coach Mike Dewitt at Kellam High ... Set school record for career scoring by a kicker ... Made 18 field goals during his career, including a game-winning 37-yarder that earned Kellam its first-ever victory in a playoff game ... Had three games with more than 10 points kicking during his senior season ... Was named the first-team Group AAA kicker that year ... Also earned all-area, all-conference and all-region honors ... Was team MVP and played in the state high school all-star game during the summer of 2002 ... Lettered as a wrestler his freshman and sophomore years ...

**Personal:** Brandon Kyle Pace ... Born 11/11/83 in Virginia Beach, VA ... Son of Fred and Donna Pace ... Enrolled in university studies.

## CHRIS PANNELL



**Offensive Tackle • 6-4 • 274 • r-So.  
Staunton, Va. • Robert E. Lee H.S.**

Another former defensive lineman who is making a switch to offense ... Worked at the right offensive tackle position during the spring ... Brings athleticism to the position, but needs to get bigger and stronger ... Has good football instincts ... Still has a lot to learn about the expectations of his new position ... Should make more progress as he gets more reps ... Needs a good summer preparation ... Will get a shot at the backup duties behind starter Jimmy Martin when practice opens ...

**2002:** Began the year working at defensive tackle ... Saw action in three varsity games ... Was in for 16 defensive plays against both Arkansas State and Western Michigan ... Collected a solo tackle and three assists in the ASU game ... Saw action on four plays at Miami ... Picked up some extra experience in Tech's two jayvee games ... Contributed eight tackles, including a quarterback sack and another tackle for loss, and recovered a fumble in a jayvee win over Fork Union ... Was switched to offense before spring practice opened ... Practiced at right tackle ...

**2001:** Redshirted while working at end during the fall ... Moved to tackle during the spring ... Missed some time due to a sprained right ankle ... Returned to play in the annual Maroon-White game and contributed two tackles ...

**High School:** Lettered a total of three seasons as a defensive lineman and tight end for Coach David Tibbs ... Following the 2000 season, he was named first-team Group AA all-state by The Associated Press and second-team by the state coaches ... Had 38 tackles, 14 assists, nine sacks, four passes broken up, three fumble recoveries and a blocked punt as a senior ... Anchored a defensive unit that held foes to 282 total yards rushing and

## PANNELL CONTINUED

less than 100 total points for the season ... Helped the team to its first undefeated (10-0) regular season in 35 years ... Posted three sacks in a game against Rockbridge County ... Blocked a punt and deflected three passes against Waynesboro ... Contributed 54 tackles, 11 sacks, two fumble recoveries and an interception his junior year ... Won *PrepStar* All-America recognition ... Was ranked the No. 6 DL and the No. 30 overall prospect in the All-Atlantic Region by that publication ... An all-region pick by *SuperPrep*, which rated him the No. 17 player in Virginia ... Listed the No. 16 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Played three years of basketball ...

**Personal:** Christopher William Pannell ... Born 12/27/82 in Jacksonville, FL ... Son of Sarah Crenshaw and Donnie Pannell ... Enrolled in hospitality and tourism management.

## MIKE PARHAM



**Center • 6-0 • 274 • r-Fr.**  
Petersburg, Va. • Petersburg H.S.

A versatile lineman who joined the team as an invited walk-on ... Worked hard to learn the Tech system while redshirting last season ... Worked at both guard positions and center during the course of the year ... Should benefit from the strength and conditioning program ... Brings a good attitude and a desire to succeed to the field ... Still has some adjustments to make ... Is expected to become a contributor along the line in the future ...

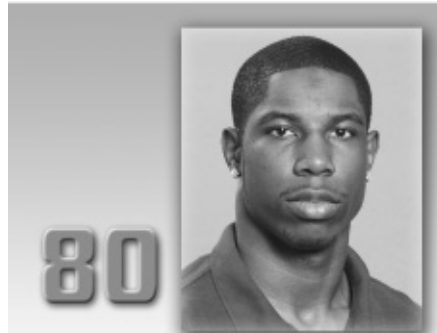
**2002:** Redshirted while gaining experience on the scout team ...

**High School:** Lettered four seasons as an offensive lineman and deep snapper for Coach Remus James at Petersburg High ... Helped clear the way for a rushing attack that picked up 2,800 yards his senior year, including over 900 yards on his side ... Earned second-team all-district honors and honorable mention all-Metro recognition ... Named the team's best offensive player and top offensive lineman

as a senior ... Also named to the all-academic team ... Was president of the student council ... Also lettered in track and wrestling ...

**Personal:** Michael Nathaniel Parham, Jr. ... Born 9/13/84 in Petersburg, VA ... Son of Michael Parham, Sr. ... Enrolled in university studies.

## ROBERT PARKER



**Flanker • 6-1 • 207 • r-Fr.**  
Chesapeake, Va. • Oscar Smith H.S.

A young receiver with potential ... Benefited from a redshirt year, but is still adjusting to the system ... Possesses both good size and excellent speed ... Has made progress in the strength and conditioning program and should continue to benefit ... Will also benefit from added exposure to the position ... Must continue to concentrate on fundamentals and the little things as he heads into preseason practice ... Is expected to help add depth at flanker ... Could work his way into the mix for playing time with consistent performances ...

**2002:** Was redshirted while working at split end ... Registered a 450-pound back squat during the spring, tying for the second-best lift among the receivers ... Posted a time of 4.48 in the forty ... Worked at the flanker position during the spring ... Caught two passes for 19 yards during the Hokies' final spring scrimmage ...

**High School:** Excelled as a receiver and return man for Coach Bill Lyons at Oscar Smith ... Named the Sleeper of the Year in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Caught 25 passes for 384 yards and five touchdowns as a senior ... Returned three punts for 95 yards, including one for a touchdown ... Also had six kickoff returns for 245 yards, an average of 40.8 yards per return ... Scored on an 87-yard kickoff return against Deep Creek ... Posted seven catches for 101 yards and a touchdown in one game and five receptions for 108 yards and two TDs in another game ... Was second-team All-Southeastern District as a receiver and return man as a senior ... Named the team MVP and the top receiver ... Saw action as

a tight end his junior year ... Finished with 33 receptions for 517 yards and seven touchdowns during his two varsity seasons ... A sprinter in track ... Ran a leg on the school's 4x100-meter relay team that finished fifth in the 2001 Group AAA track meet ... Also lettered as a forward on the basketball team ...

**Personal:** Robert Darnell Parker ... Born 3/10/84 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of George and Gina Blanchard ... Enrolled in university studies.

## ROBERT PEASLEE



**Holder/Punter • 6-1 • 210 • r-Sr. • 3VL**  
Pulaski, Va. • Pulaski County H.S.

Returns as Tech's holder for extra points and field goals ... Could also be the Hokies' No. 2 punter ... Had to make the adjustment to holding for both a right-footed and left-footed kicker last year ... Handled the punting duties during the 2000 season, averaging 35.3 yards per kick ...

**2002:** Played in all 14 games, holding for all 76 kick attempts ... Made a big adjustment for the Boston College game, flipping around to hold for left-footed kicker Nic Schmitt ... Switched back to the right side to hold for eight Carter Warley kicks at Syracuse ... Held for three field goals and both extra points in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... Turned in a personal-best 420-pound back squat during spring max testing ...

**2001:** Saw action in all 11 regular-season games, holding for 65 kicking attempts ... Didn't have a miscue all season ... Turned in a personal-best 400-pound back squat during spring athletic performance tests ...

**2000:** Saw action on over 100 special team plays ... Punted 44 times on the season for 1,555 yards, an average of 35.3 yards per punt ... Put at least one punt inside the opposing team's 20-yard line in 10 of Tech's 11 regular-season games ... Had a total of 14 punts downed inside the 20 ... Suffered one blocked kick at Syracuse ... Averaged 45.7 yards on three punts in the Rutgers game ... Carried a 42.8-yard average on four kicks in the

# talk with Robert

## What is your favorite bowl memory at Virginia Tech?

My favorite bowl memory would have to be my first bowl, the 2001 Gator Bowl. It was my first year punting and being able to play with Michael Vick was very special.

## A lot of people take the holder position for granted, but the position is actually very important. How do you maintain focus and deal with that kind of pressure?

I maintain my focus and deal with pressure by taking the game snap-by-snap. I have been a holder for so long it has become second nature to me. I am always nervous on the first snap, though, but once it is out of the way, I'm good to go.

## If you could have any profession and be incredibly successful at it, what would you do?

If I could be any profession and be good at it, I would be a professional golfer because I would be getting paid for something I like to do and receiving the latest equipment. I think that it would be incredible to be able to play all the prestigious courses around the world with the world's best golfers.

## Who was your idol growing up?

My idol growing up was Michael Jordan. I think that he is an incredible athlete who can do anything he puts his mind to. The guy quit the sport he was best at to try to make it as a professional baseball player and he did it. Plus, he is a scratch golfer. He came from being cut from his high school basketball team to being the best basketball player ever.

## If you could trade positions with anyone on the field for one game, what position would you play and why?

If I could trade positions with anyone, it would be Coach Beamer. I think that it would be cool to be in charge of a college football team, especially a team that is good year in and year out. Coach doesn't get paid too poorly, either.

Syracuse game ... Had season-best 51-yard punts against Syracuse and Virginia ... Punted five times for a 40-yard average versus UVa ... Had two punts for a 32-yard average in the Gator Bowl ... One of those punts was downed inside the Clemson 20 ... Posted a 400-pound back squat during the spring athletic performance testing ... Turned in a 51-yard punt during the

Maroon-White game ... Finished the game with four punts for a 37-yard average ...

**1999:** Was redshirted while working as a punter ... Posted a 375-pound back squat during spring testing ... Punted three times for a 38.7-yard average in one spring scrimmage ... Averaged 37.3 yards on four punts in another scrimmage ... Punted four times in the Maroon-White spring game for

a 37.3-yard average ... Had a long punt of 49 yards in that game ...

**High School:** Lettered three seasons as a punter for Coach Joel Hicks at Pulaski Country ... Earned first-team all-state honors as a senior ... Averaged 42.8 yards per punt for the season ... Punted five times for a 46.3-yard average in one game ... Carried a 41.9-yard average his junior year ... Was named first-team all-district and all-region and second-team all-state ... Also lettered as a pitcher in baseball ...

**Personal:** Robert Brandon Peaslee ... Born 6/28/81 in Beckley, WV ... Son of Bob and Melanie Peaslee ... Enrolled in secondary education.

Punting	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	I20
2000	11	44	1555	35.3	51	14

## ROBERT RAMSEY



Center • 6-2 • 307 • r-So.  
Coraopolis, Pa. • Montour H.S.

Seems to have put things together during the spring after battling weight problems and inconsistency his first two years ... Started playing more to his potential toward the end of the 2002 season and carried it over into the spring ... Got a lot of work with the first team during 2003 spring drills ... His progress should allow him to see more playing time this fall and give the Hokies a chance to rest starter Jake Grove more ...

**2002:** Played in four games ... Was in for 49 total offensive snaps, recording one knockdown block ... Played 34 snaps on offense in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had a knockdown block ... Saw brief action in the wins over Marshall and at Western Michigan ... Played six snaps on offense against Rutgers ... Got some extra duty in Tech's two jayvee games ... Improved his bench press to 370 pounds during off-season workouts ... Also had a 575-pound back squat and a 316-pound clean ...

**2001:** Saw action on 86 plays as a backup center ... Played in eight of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games ... Got his first career action in the opener against Connecticut, playing 27 snaps ... Saw action on 15 offensive snaps versus

## RAMSEY CONTINUED

Western Michigan, grading 86 percent and posting a knockdown block ... Graded out at 81 percent and had another knockdown at Rutgers ... Graded 88 percent in brief action against UCF ... Posted two knockdowns at West Virginia ... Saw action on a pair of offensive snaps in the win over Boston College and at Pittsburgh ... Was in for six plays on offense against Temple ... Continued to work at center during spring practice ...

**2000:** Worked at left guard while being redshirted in the fall ... Showed progress in the winter strength and conditioning program ... Got reps at center and guard in the spring ...

**High School:** Played practically every offensive line position during his varsity career at Montour ... Earned all-conference honors at guard his senior year ... Also saw action at tackle and had a brief stint at the center position ... Played both the left and right guard and tackle positions at one time or another for Coach Don Morgan, while earning three letters ... Saw limited action on defense, posting 69 tackles during his senior season ... Named the team's MVP as a junior after winning all-conference recognition on offense and defense ... Ranked the No. 25 prospect in Pennsylvania by *SuperPrep* ... Selected the No. 73 player in the East Region in *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Named to the *Pittsburgh Press* 'Fabulous 22' team ... Listed as an All-East Region offensive lineman by *PrepStar* ...

**Personal:** Robert Richard Ramsey III ... Born 4/13/82 in Pittsburgh, PA ... Son of Bob and Ruth Ramsey ... Enrolled in history.

## BRYAN RANDALL



**Quarterback • 6-0 • 222 • Jr. • 2VL  
Williamsburg, Va. • Bruton H.S.**

Was thrust into the lineup when starting quarterback Grant Noel was injured in the first quarter of the LSU game ... Guided the Hokies to victory against the Tigers and went on to start Tech's last 12 games ... Met the challenge head-on ... Quarterbacked the team to wins in his first



six starts ... Kept his head up when the Hokies suffered some tough losses late in the year ... Capped the season by earning MVP honors during Tech's win over Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Learned from both his successes and his mistakes ... Showed poise throughout the season ... Set a BIG EAST Conference single-game record with 504 yards passing at Syracuse ... Established a Tech mark and tied a BIG EAST record with five touchdown passes in that game ... Completed 63.7 percent of his passes for the season to set a new school record ... His 2,641 yards of total offense were the most for a Tech player since 1972 and marked the second-highest season figure ever for the Hokies ... A mobile quarterback who can make plays when things break down ... Combines intelligence with a good work ethic ... Did not have a single turnover during spring scrimmages after committing a series of turnovers during the second half of the 2002 season ... Ended 2003 spring practice a much better player than he was at the bowl game against Air Force ... Will be expected to establish himself as one of the Hokies' leaders this fall ...

**2002:** Played in all 14 games, starting the last 12 ... Finished the season with 2,134 yards passing and 507 net rushing yards ... Was 158 for 248 on the year with 12 touchdown passes and 11 interceptions ... Had an efficiency rating of 143.09, 10th-best in the nation ... Carried the ball 171 times, second-most on the team ... Had three touchdowns on the ground ... Came off the bench in the opener against Arkansas State to play 25 snaps ... Completed 6-of-8 passes for 66 yards and a touchdown ... Completed a 19-yard pass to Mike Imoh for his first collegiate touchdown pass ... Ran five times for 36 net yards ... Had touchdown runs of 12 and 5 yards ... Played all but the opening two series in the win over LSU ...

Completed 5-of-9 passes for 47 yards ... Also ran 14 times for 33 yards, but finished with just six net yards ... Got his first collegiate start in the win over Marshall ... Threw the ball just 12 times, completing five passes for 101 yards ... Had a long of 38 yards to Ernest Wilford ... Ran seven times for 36 net yards ... Directed six touchdown drives and two that resulted in field goals ... Completed 10-of-11 passes in the win at Texas A&M, his first road start ... Missed on his first pass, but completed the last 10 to end the game ... Threw for 119 yards in the game with a long of 52 yards ... The long came on a pass to Ernest Wilford, which led to the lone touchdown of the game

... Also ran for 49 yards, but was sacked four times, giving him 14 net rushing yards ... Threw for 194 yards at Western Michigan ... Completed 13-of-19 passes with a touchdown ... Suffered his first two interceptions of the season in that game ... Also ran eight times for 40 net yards ... Directed four long scoring drives in the win at Boston College ... Connected with Ernest Wilford for a 44-yard touchdown pass on the game's opening drive ... Completed 4-of-7 passes for 86 yards and that score ... Made several key runs to keep drives alive ... Finished with 37 net rushing yards against the Eagles ... Completed 11-of-15 passes against Rutgers ... Threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Ernest Wilford in that game, but also threw an interception ... Completed 13-of-20 passes for 146 yards against Temple ... Connected with Doug Easlick for a 30-yard touchdown play ... Tossed two interceptions in the game ... Also rushed nine times for 47 yards ... Suffered his first loss as a starter against Pittsburgh ... Completed 12-of-22 passes in that game for 145 yards with an interception ... Broke a BIG EAST record and a school record in the triple overtime loss at Syracuse ... Completed 23-of-35 passes for a BIG EAST record 504 yards ... The yardage was the second-most in school history ... Set a new school mark with five touchdown passes ... Was picked off three times in that game ... Twice completed passes of 87 yards, the third-longest in school history ... Connected with Ernest Wilford four times (75, 34, 87, 6) and Lee Suggs once (15) to account for his passing touchdowns ... Also rushed for a touchdown in the second overtime ... Ran for 125 yards against West Virginia ... Also threw for 168 yards and a touchdown on 18-of-31 passing ... Completed a 6-yard touchdown pass to Keith Willis ... Threw a late interception ... Led the Hokies to a big win over in-state rival Virginia ...

Completed just 5-of-11 passes for 85 yards with an interception in windy conditions ... Helped the team with his running, collecting 67 yards on the ground on 14 carries ... Led the Hokies in rushing with a career-high 132 yards on 25 carries at Miami ... Had a long run of 26 yards ... Also had a good day throwing the ball, completing 15 of 26 passes for 165 yards and a score ... Connected with Shawn Witten for a 4-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter ... Was named the Offensive MVP of the Diamond Walnut San Francisco Bowl for his performance ... Was 18 for 23 for 177 yards ... Didn't commit any turnovers and led the Hokies on four scoring drives ... Gained Super Iron Hokie honors in both the fall and the spring ... Was named one of the team's MVPs following spring practice ... Completed 71.7 percent of his passes during spring scrimmages without an interception ... Hit 11 of 18 passes for 187 yards and three touchdowns in one of the four scrimmages ... Went 18-for-24 in another scrimmage for 210 yards and a pair of TDs ... Completed 12 of 21 passes in the Maroon-White game for 149 yards ... Was sacked twice, but did not have an interception ...

**2001:** One of four true freshmen to see action ... Won the No. 2 quarterback job during the preseason ... Saw action in all but three games ... Completed 12 passes on 34 attempts with no touchdowns and an interception on the year ... Also rushed 20 times for 104 yards in eight games ... Was 5-for-10 passing in his first career action against Connecticut ... Threw for 56 yards and had 30 yards rushing against the Huskies ... Completed a 12-yard pass in his only attempt against Western Michigan ... Was 2-for-5 against Rutgers for 11 yards ... Also ran for 39 yards in that contest ... Ran for 24 yards against UCF ... Was 2-for-4 at West Virginia for 17 yards ... Threw his first career interception in the Boston College game ... Was 2-for-7 at Pittsburgh for 18 yards ... Directed three drives at the end of the Temple game ... Was intercepted in his only passing attempt in the Gator Bowl ... Won Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Led the quarterbacks with a 320-pound bench press and 570-pound back squat ... Turned in a 33 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.54 clocking in the 40 ... Completed 3 of 8 passes for 23 yards in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Completed six passes in 11 attempts for 47 yards and a touchdown during the second scrimmage and added a touchdown run in the third ... Passed for 103 yards and a TD in the final scrimmage ... Played every offensive snap for both teams in the spring game and finished with a combined total of 211 yards passing ... Completed 21 of 38 passes with one interception ... Scored the only touchdown of the game on an 8-yard run ... Shared

the Dr. Richard Bullock Award for the most improved offensive player with guard James Miller ...

**High School:** Rated the top player in Virginia for the 2000 season ... Finished his senior season rated the No. 2 athlete in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 4 quarterback in the country by *PrepStar* ... As a junior, he became the first player in Virginia high school football history to rush for 1,000 yards and pass for 1,000 yards in the same season ... As a senior, he became the first state player to duplicate the feat in back-to-back seasons ... A prep All-America pick by *Parade*, *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar*, *Blue Chip Recruiting*, *G&W Recruiting* and *Student Sports* ... Rated the No. 15 player in the nation, the Mid-Atlantic Offensive Player of the Year and the No. 1 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... Was a Dream Team pick by *PrepStar*, which listed him as the No. 1 player in the Atlantic Region ... Ranked as the No. 41 player in the nation by *Max Emfinger's Blue Chip Recruiting* ... *G&W Recruiting's* No. 46 offensive player in nation ... Picked the No. 20 QB in the nation by *Student Sports* ... Named the No. 1 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* No. 21 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... Named the Gatorade Player of the Year for the state of Virginia ... An All-Southern pick by *Orlando Sentinel* ... Selected the state Group AA Player of Year by The Associated Press and the AA Offensive Player of the Year by the state coaches ... First-team Group AA all-state as a QB and DB by coaches ... First-team Group AA as DB, second-team as QB by AP ... Accounted for 58 TDs, 2,826 yards passing and 2,169 yards rushing during his final two years ... Passed for 1,301 yards and 14 TDs as a senior ... Completed 94 of 171 passes ... Added 1,012 yards rushing with 16 TDs ... Ran for 214 yards and three touchdowns and passed for 184 yards and two TDs in a win over Tabb ... Posted over 150 tackles and intercepted eight passes on defense as a senior ... Contributed 22 tackles, 134 yards and three touchdowns rushing and a pair of passing touchdowns during a win over Poquoson his junior year ... Rushed for 1,157 yards and passed for 1,525 as a junior ... Played quarterback, receiver, safety and returned kicks during his four-year career for Coach Kyle Neve ... Named the district and region offense and defensive player of the year as a senior ... Compiled a district record 7,481 all-purpose yards during his career ... A four-year letterman as a guard on the basketball team ... Was named the state Group AA Basketball Player of the Year as a junior after leading his team to a state championship ... Played on an AAU national championship basketball team ...

A member of the National Honor Society ...

**Personal:** Bryan Jemar Randall ...

Born 8/16/83 in Charleston, WV ... Son of Edgar and Belinda Randall ... His father played basketball at West Virginia State ... Brother, Brandon, plays basketball at Hampden-Sydney ... Enrolled in sociology.

Passing	G	Att-Comp	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Int
2001	8	34-12	35.3	114	0	1
2002	14	248-158	63.7	2134	12	11
Career	22	282-170	60.3	2248	12	12

2002 Passing Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	8-	6	75.0	66	1 0
LSU	1	9-	5	55.5	47	0 0
MU	1	12-	5	41.7	101	0 0
at TAM	1	11-	10	90.9	119	0 0
at WMU	1	19-	13	68.4	194	1 2
at BC	1	7-	4	57.1	86	1 0
RU	1	15-	11	73.3	131	1 1
TU	1	20-	13	65.0	146	1 2
PITT	1	22-	12	54.5	145	0 1
at SU	1	35-	23	65.7	504	5 3
WVU	1	18-	30	60.0	168	1 1
UVa	1	11-	5	45.4	85	0 1
at UM	1	26-	15	57.7	165	1 0
vs AF	1	23-	18	78.3	177	0 0

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	8	20	104	5.2	0	24
2002	14	171	507	3.0	3	34
Career	22	191	611	3.2	3	34

2002 Rushing Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	5	36	7.2	2	19
LSU	1	14	6	0.4	0	8
MU	1	7	36	5.1	0	16
at TAM	1	17	14	0.8	0	22
at WMU	1	8	40	5.0	0	19
at BC	1	15	37	2.5	0	25
RU	1	10	0	0.0	0	11
TU	1	9	47	5.2	0	8
PITT	1	16	-4	0.0	0	11
at SU	1	5	-9	0.0	1	8
WVU	1	18	125	6.9	0	34
UVa	1	14	67	4.8	0	15
at UM	1	25	132	5.3	0	26
vs AF	1	8	-20	-2.5	0	8

## MATT ROAN



**Tight End • 6-4 • 243 • Fr.**  
**Dublin, Va. • Pulaski County H.S.**

Entered school in January and went through off-season workouts and spring practice ... Showed ability during the spring, but still has some adjustments to make ... Must continue adding strength and size through the athletic performance program ... Needs more exposure to the system before moving into contention for playing time ...

**ROAN** CONTINUED

**2002:** Enrolled in school for the second semester ... Worked at tight end during the spring ...

**Prep School:** Played for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave during the fall of 2002 ... Had an 18-yard reception in a game against the Virginia Tech jayvee team ... Helped Hargrave to a 9-1 record ...

**High School:** Lettered two seasons as a tight end and outside linebacker for Coach Joel Hicks at Pulaski County High ... Helped the team to a pair of district and regional titles ... Caught nine passes for 158 yards and two touchdowns ... Hauled in three passes for 48 yards and a touchdown against William Byrd ...

Grabbed two passes for 33 yards and a TD versus William Fleming ... Contributed 52 tackles and an interception on defense ... Also lettered three years in basketball ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

**Personal:** Kenneth Matthew Roan ... Born 3/13/84 in Radford, VA ... Son of Kenneth and Debbie Roan ... Enrolled in university studies.

**VEGAS ROBINSON**



**Linebacker • 6-0 • 244 • r-Sr. • 2VL  
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.**

Is listed as the No. 10 inside linebacker in the nation by *The Sporting News* heading into the 2003 season ... Should be full strength after undergoing ankle surgery during the spring ... Proved to be an integral part of Tech's defense last year in his first season as a starter ... Left a big void when he missed games against Temple, Pittsburgh and Syracuse with a sprained ankle ... A physical player with outstanding strength and speed ... Knows the Tech system ... Is productive against both the run and the pass ... Finished fourth on the team in tackles in 2002 despite missing the three games ... Also contributed three pass interceptions ... Has worked hard to improve his game ... Attained Elite Athlete status in the spring of 2002 ... Set a Tech position record for inside linebackers with a 40 1/2-inch vertical jump during the fall ... Tech's

talk with **Vegas**



**What are your expectations for your senior season?**

My expectations for my senior season are to come out, be healthy, play hard, and basically improve on what I did well last year. I expect the team to take it to the show.

**Who is your personal hero?**

My mom, because she was a single mother and it was hard, but she made it happen. She sent me off to college, and now, I'm going to make her proud.

**You're one of several players at Tech who played at Deep Creek High School. What has it been like to play with some of your former teammates?**

It's been good. We grew up together, and it's good to see a familiar face when you leave home.

**Who has been the toughest player that you've had to defend?**

That would have to be [Tech center] Jake Grove. [On the opposing teams], I treat them all the same, I don't know any of their names.

**What is the toughest thing about your position, and what is your favorite thing?**

The toughest thing is the mental aspect, because you have to know a lot of things. You have to know certain defenses, especially the mental part. My favorite thing is just getting the freedom to run around and hit people.

**Do you have any nicknames?**

No nicknames. People think my name, Vegas, is a nickname, so we just let it ride with that.

coaches have high expectations for him this fall as both a playmaker and a leader ...

**2002:** Played in 11 games, starting all of them ... Recorded 54 solo stops and 17 assisted tackles on the season ... Included in those 71 stops were three tackles for loss ... Also had three interceptions, three QB hurries, two fumble recoveries and a forced fumble ... Made his first career start in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had two assists in that game ... Recorded five solo stops, four assists and two quarterback hurries against LSU ... Also had an interception in that game ... Had five solo tackles and two assists in the win over Marshall ... Also had a tackle for loss and recovered a fumble while recording a solo stop on special teams ... Registered five solo stops, including one for a loss, and an assist in the win at Texas A&M ... Recorded seven solo tackles and recovered a fumble at Western Michigan

... Registered seven solo tackles in the win at Boston College ... Had three solo tackles before leaving the Rutgers game early with a sprained ankle and shin contusions ... Missed the next three games with the injury ... Returned for the West Virginia game and didn't miss a beat ... Tallied nine solo tackles and three assists, including a solo stop, as well as a forced fumble ... Recorded four solo tackles and two assists in the win over Virginia ... Had a solo tackle on special teams at Miami ... Registered 10 total tackles, including seven solo, in Tech's bowl win ... Also recorded an interception ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in both the fall and spring testing periods ... Underwent ankle surgery prior to spring practice and did not participate in any drills ...

**2001:** Played in all 11 regular-season games, recording 14 tackles ... Had three

solo stops and 11 assists ... Saw action on 78 defensive plays and 44 special teams plays ... Finished with a tackle and three assists in the opener against UConn ... Saw action on seven defensive plays versus Western Michigan, recording a solo tackle and an assist ... Had two assists on 19 defensive plays at Rutgers ... Played eight total plays against UCF, recording an assist and 14 total plays at West Virginia, with one assist ... Saw limited work on special teams against Syracuse, Virginia and Miami ... Had a solo stop and two assists on 14 plays against Temple ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during both preseason and spring testing ... Registered six tackles, including two behind the line, during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Had three tackles in another scrimmage ... Was in on a tackle during the Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Turned in personal bests in all four major lifts during preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Saw his only action at linebacker during the season opener with Akron ... Contributed two tackles in that game ... Appeared in five other games, all on special teams ... Worked with the kickoff and kickoff return teams ... Played a season-best eight plays in the Boston College and Pittsburgh games ... Was in on two tackles at BC ... Finished with four total tackles ... Saw action in the Gator Bowl ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Led the inside linebackers with a 570-pound back squat and a 38-inch vertical jump ... Set a new position record with a 4.46 40-yard dash ... Posted five tackles, including two behind the line, during the annual Maroon-White game ...

**1999:** Got a brief look at outside linebacker before moving inside to the backer position ... Turned in the best time among the incoming freshmen in the 20-yard shuttle run (4.13 seconds) ... Posted three tackles in one spring scrimmage ... Contributed a sack in another spring outing ...

**High School:** Played tailback and linebacker and handled the punting duties for Coach David Cox at Deep Creek ... Named the No. 12 defensive back in the ACC Area by *PrepStar* ... Listed as the No. 15 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Picked the No. 16 prospect in the state by *SuperPrep* ... Played briefly as an offensive guard during his junior year ... Carried 82 times for 564 yards and 13 touchdowns as a senior ... Rushed for 108 yards and three TDs during a game against Group AAA champion Hampton ... Helped team to a 27-7 mark during his varsity career

... Excelled on the track team ... Has run a 10.9 in the 100-meters ...

**Personal:** Vegas Ferragamo Robinson ... Born 5/19/81 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Sandra Robinson ... Studying residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	6	2	2	4	0-0	0-0
2001	11	3	11	14	0-0	0-0
2002	11	54	17	71	0-0	0-0
Career	28	59	30	89	0-0	0-0

2002 Tackles Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	0	2	2	0-0	0-0
LSU	1	5	4	9	0-0	0-0
MU	1	6	2	8	1-2	0-0
at TAM	1	5	1	6	1-2	0-0
at WMU	1	7	0	7	0-0	0-0
at BC	1	7	0	7	0-0	0-0
RU	1	3	0	3	0-0	0-0
TU					Did not play	
PITT					Did not play	
at SU					Did not play	
WVU	1	9	3	12	0-0	0-0
UVa	1	4	2	6	1-1	0-0
at UM	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
vs AF	1	7	3	10	0-0	0-0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	11	3	16	5.3	0	8

## WINSTON ROETT



**Quarterback • 6-2 • 200 • So.**  
Vienna, Va. • Bishop O'Connell H.S.

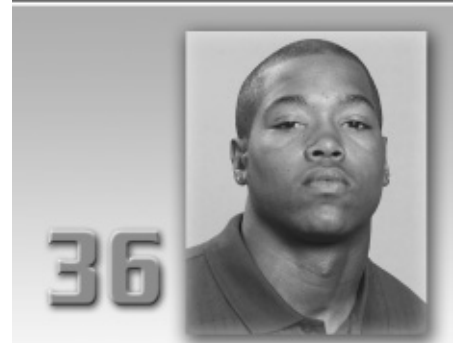
Is scheduled to serve as the Hokies' scout team quarterback ... Handled those duties during spring practice ... Joined the team last fall after school started ... Made improvement during the winter strength and conditioning workouts ...

**2002:** Joined the team as a walk-on ... Practiced at quarterback ... Played in Tech's jayvee games as a receiver and defensive back ... Helped quarterback the scout team in the spring ...

**High School:** Played quarterback for Coach Darrell Snyder at Bishop O'Connell High School ... Earned honorable mention All-WCAC honors his senior year ... Also played in the WCAC football all-star game ... Threw for 289 yards and three touchdowns, including two in the final minutes, to complete a comeback win over Bishop Ireton his senior season ...

**Personal:** Winston Underwood Roett ... Born 3/30/84 in Houston, TX ... Son of Bruce and Diane Roett ... Enrolled in university studies.

## AARON ROUSE



**Linebacker • 6-3 • 203 • r-Fr.**  
Virginia Beach, Va. • First Colonial H.S.

A talented young player who should be a factor at the whip linebacker position before the season is over ... Showed flashes of his ability during the spring and is working to become more familiar with the defense ... Possesses all the physical skills needed to be successful ... Still needs to get stronger, but brings speed, athleticism and good instincts to the position ... Plays with a good motor ... Will work his way into playing time as he becomes more accomplished at the position ... The carry over from spring to fall will be extremely important to him ... Will be watched closely when practice resumes in August ... Has an extremely bright future with the Hokies ...

**2002:** Spent the fall working at whip linebacker while taking a redshirt year ... Had a 400-pound back squat during spring max testing ... Turned in a 4.44 clocking in the forty ... Was in on four tackles in one spring scrimmage and three in another ... Contributed a quarterback sack and three total tackles during the Maroon-White game ... Also broke up a pass ...

**High School:** A *PrepStar* All-American who was named the defensive player of the year in the Beach District as a senior ... Saw action as a wide receiver, safety, linebacker, running back and cornerback during his varsity career for coaches Sam Scarborough and Frank Webster at First Colonial ... Posted 85 tackles in 2001, including a pair of sacks ... Intercepted five passes, recovered three fumbles and blocked three kicks ... Caught 13 passes for 390 yards and four TDs as a receiver ... Registered 11 solo tackles and scored a touchdown against Princess Anne his senior year ... Was first-team all-district, all-Tidewater and all-region as a senior ... Named first-team Group AAA by The Associated Press and second-team by the state coaches as a defensive back ... Ranked the No. 32 safety in the nation by *Rivals* ... Rated the No. 9 defensive back in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Listed as the No. 79 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep*

## ROUSE CONTINUED

*Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 24 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 24 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... Finished his junior season with 71 tackles, eight sacks and three interceptions ... Posted a game-saving interception against Ocean Lakes ... Named first-team all-district and second-team all-Tidewater ... Blocked a school-record eight kicks during his career ... Had 176 career tackles and nine interceptions ... Also lettered in basketball ...

**Personal:** Aaron Roosevelt Rouse ... Born 1/8/84 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Nadine Rouse ... Enrolled in university studies.

## BOB RUFF



**Defensive End • 6-1 • 231 • Jr.**  
**McMurray, Pa. • Peters Township H.S.**

Has put himself in a position to contribute either on special teams or as a backup at end ... A dependable performer who could play any of the defensive line positions if asked ... Works hard and always gives top effort ... Got some valuable reps during spring practice ... Joined the team as an invited walk-on in 2001 ... Has contributed as a member of the scout and jayvee teams his first two seasons ... Will get a chance to earn a different role when practice opens in August ...

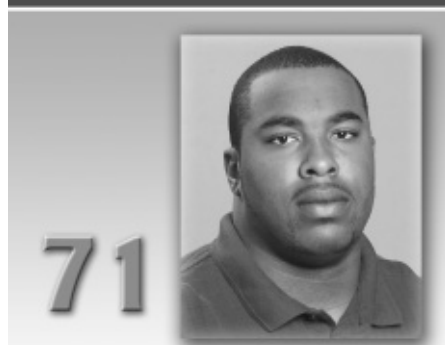
**2002:** Played in one varsity game and both jayvee games ... Was in the lineup for 30 plays in the season opener against Arkansas State ... Registered one solo tackle and two assists ... Had three tackles, a tackle for loss and a fumble recovery in a jayvee win against Fork Union ... Posted a quarterback sack against Hargrave ... Contributed a sack in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages and a tackle for loss in another ... Registered a solo tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Worked at defensive end ... Played in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave and contributed a tackle ... Registered a 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Was in on two tackles during one spring scrimmage and one in another ...

**High School:** Lettered three seasons as a linebacker and quarterback for Coach Garry Cathell at Peters Township ... Named Quad A first-team as a linebacker and earned honorable mention all-state honors ... Was team MVP as a junior and senior ... Contributed two interceptions and a pair of fumble recoveries as a senior ... Was moved from offensive tackle to quarterback in the third quarter of a game against Laurel Highlands and guided his team to a win ... Went on to pass for over 500 yards and seven TDs during the season ... Threw a game-winning TD pass with 53 seconds showing to beat the previously undefeated conference leader ... Had 36 solo tackles and 54 assists his junior year ... Also lettered in basketball and baseball ...

**Personal:** Robert Ryan Ruff ... Born 9/23/82 in Bryn Mawr, PA ... Son of Robert and Christine Ruff ... Enrolled in university studies.

## TIM SANDIDGE



**Defensive Tackle • 6-1 • 283 • r-So. • 1VL**  
**Madison Heights, Va. • Amherst County H.S.**

Stepped in and started three games when injuries hit late last season ... Led the defensive tackles in quarterback sacks with four and finished fourth on the team ... Is expected to play a key role again this season ... Could get a shot at a starting role if he makes a good showing in summer preparation and during preseason practice ... Is a relative newcomer to football ... Only played two seasons in high school, but has shown steady improvement and good ability during his time at Tech ... Has good athleticism and quickness for his size, but must continue working on his fundamentals and strength ... Came on midway through the spring and showed a little more consistency ... Will be expected to carry that over to the preseason and play with a little more intensity ... Should benefit from his playing time last season to contribute even more in 2003 ...

**2002:** Played in 13 games, starting the last three ... Recorded 13 solo tackles and 17 assists ... Included in those 30 stops were five tackles for loss and four sacks ...

Also had three quarterback hurries, two passes broken up and a fumble recovery ... Played 19 snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Recorded a solo stop and two assists ... Also broke up a pass and recovered a fumble ... Had a solo stop and an assist against LSU ... Played just nine snaps against Marshall before spraining an ankle ... Had a sack and a pass broken up in that short amount of time ... Had an assisted tackle at Texas A&M ... Did not travel to Western Michigan due to a sprained ankle ... Had a solo tackle, an assist and a sack in the win at Boston College ... Played 13 snaps on defense against Rutgers, recording two solo tackles, an assist, a quarterback hurry and a sack ... Made an assisted tackle in the win over Temple ... Was in for eight snaps against Pittsburgh, registering an assisted tackle ... Played 39 snaps on defense at Syracuse, registering five tackles, including a sack, and a quarterback hurry ... Recorded a solo tackle and an assist against West Virginia ... Made his first career start against Virginia, recording four solo stops and two assists ... Had a solo stop and an assist, including one for a loss, at Miami ... Also had a quarterback hurry ... Had an assisted tackle in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... Ran a 4.79 forty during spring max testing and added a 31-inch vertical jump ... Also had a personal-best 605-pound back squat ... Posted three sacks during spring scrimmages ... Added another sack during the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Practiced at the nose tackle position while redshirting as a freshman ... Registered the fastest 40 time among the defensive tackles with a 4.85 clocking during spring testing ... Also turned in a





550-pound back squat ... Had three tackles in one of Tech's spring scrimmages and intercepted a tipped pass ... Added three more tackles in another scrimmage ...

**High School:** Only played football his final two years at Amherst County ... Participated in baseball and basketball during his freshman and sophomore years ... Had 35 tackles, seven sacks and two blocked punts in his first season of play for Coach Mickey Crouch ... Earned all-district and all-region honors ... Was in on 55 tackles as a senior, posting eight sacks, three fumble recoveries and three blocked punts ... Garnered second-team Group AA all-state honors from the state coaches ... Also named all-district and all-region ... Played defensive tackle, offensive line and tight end during his two seasons ... Scored a touchdown on a pass reception against Rustburg during his junior year ... Rated the No. 23 player in the state by *The Roanoke Times* ... *SuperPrep* ranked him the No. 22 player in Virginia, while *Prep Star* named him All-Atlantic Region ... Attended Tech's summer football camp in 2000 ...

**Personal:** Timothy Allan Sandidge ... Born 6/12/83 in Lynchburg, VA ... Son of Robert and Dorothy Sandidge ... Enrolled in business.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	13	13	17	30	5- 28	4- 25

## NIC SCHMITT



**Place-kicker • 6-1 • 242 • So.**  
Salem, Va. • Salem H.S.

A young kicker with a strong leg ... Was slated to redshirt last fall, but was forced into action when starter Carter Warley was sidelined with back problems ... Was perfect on extra points, but experienced some ups and downs with his field goals ... Continued to be inconsistent at times during the spring ... A left-footed kicker with the talent to be a top-notch performer ... Will be a candidate for the kicking, punting and kickoff duties when practice resumes ... Could win one or a combination of those jobs if he shows more consistency ...

**2002:** Dressed for the first three games, but did not play ... Was forced into

action for the Boston College game when Carter Warley was sidelined with a back problem ... Kicked off twice in the first half against the Eagles ... Was successful on his four extra points, but barely missed his lone field goal attempt, a 41-yarder ... Was successful on all five extra points against Rutgers, but missed his lone field goal attempt, a 36-yarder ... Connected on his first collegiate field goal against Temple, a 21-yard attempt ... Later made a 22-yard kick ... Missed from 42 yards out, but made both of his extra points ... Was 3-for-3 on PATs against Pittsburgh, but missed a 42-yard field goal in the fourth quarter ... Kicked two long field goals (46, 47 yards) in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave ... Also punted six times for a 42-yard average in that game ... Saw brief action at Miami, kicking off after Tech's last score ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during the off-season with a 340-pound bench press and 530-pound back squat ... Kicked an extra point in the Maroon-White game and punted three times for a 34.3-yard average ...

**High School:** An all-state kicker who scored 223 points during his three varsity seasons for Coach Willis White at Salem High ... Connected on 8-of-12 field goals as a senior and made all 30 of his extra point attempts ... Was 40-of-41 on extra points his junior season ... Also made 15-of-19 field goals that season ... Kicked the game-winning extra point in the 1999 Group AA championship game ... Made 127 of 128 PAT kicks during his career and was 32-for-43 on field goal attempts ... His longest field goal in a game was 48 yards ... Averaged 39 yards as a punter his senior season and 38 as a junior ... Set school records for most points, most extra points and most field goals ... Also saw action as a defensive back and a receiver ... Intercepted three passes his senior season and six his junior year ... Selected second-team all-state as a kicker by both The Associated Press and the state coaches his senior year ... Was also an all-state pick as a junior ... Named All-Blue Ridge District and All-Region III ... An All-Timesland pick by *The Roanoke Times* ... Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar*, which ranked him the No. 2 kicker/punter in the Atlantic Region ... Listed the No. 29 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 34 player in the state by *SuperPrep* ... Lettered three years in soccer, winning honorable mention all-state recognition ...

**Personal:** Nicolas James Schmitt ... Born 1/5/84 in Springfield, MO ... Son of Rick and Bonnie Schmitt ... Studying management.

Scoring	G	EP-A	FGM-A	LG	TP
2002	5	14-14	2-6	22	20
Field Goals	10-29 yds	30-39	40-49	50+	
2002	2-2	0-1	0-3	0-0	

## CHRIS SHREVE



**Flanker • 6-0 • 188 • r-Sr. • 1VL**  
Mouth of Wilson, Va. • Grayson County H.S.

A knowledgeable player who will be competing for playing time when preseason practice opens ... Has a good grasp of the Tech system ... Can handle any of the positions when the Hokies go to a four-wide set ... Combines good speed with the ability to catch the football ... Works extremely hard and plays with determination ... Has seen some action on offense and special teams the past two seasons ... Also named to the BIG EAST All-Academic Football Team both of those years ... Put himself in a position for more playing time at receiver with a good showing during the spring ... Has a chance to make a strong contribution if he makes a good summer preparation and continues to perform consistently during the preseason ...

**2002:** Played in 10 games, mostly on special teams ... Caught two passes for 26 yards ... Saw action on 18 offensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Played briefly on special teams against LSU, Marshall, Temple, Pittsburgh and Syracuse ... Played three snaps on offense at Western Michigan ... Caught a 26-yard pass in the Hokies' jayvee win over Fork Union ... Was in for one play on special teams at Boston College, the inside kick recovery team ... Was in for six plays on offense against Rutgers ... Caught a 7-yard pass late in the West Virginia game ... Had a catch for 19 yards at top-ranked Miami ... Bench pressed 320 pounds during spring max tests ... Led the receivers with a 4.33 time in the forty ... Spent most of his time at flanker during the spring ... Caught two passes for 16 yards, including a 7-yard touchdown pass, during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Posted an 8-yard reception in the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Played in six games, mostly on special teams ... Made his first career reception, and only catch of the season, in the opener against Connecticut, resulting in a 13-yard gain ... Saw action on 22 plays in that game, including a personal-best 11 on offense ... Contributed two

# talk with Chris



**When your football career at Virginia Tech is finished, how would you like people to remember you?**

I would like to be remembered as a person who overcame whatever obstacles came my way. Playing football here has taught me so much about determination and perseverance, which are lessons that I will use throughout my life.

**You have been a part of the bowl game tradition at Tech. What is your favorite bowl memory?**

My favorite memory is the first bowl I ever went to as a Tech player, which was the 1999 Sugar Bowl. Even though I was redshirting at the time, it was just so special to be at the big dance with all of our fans. I think it has served as motivation for everyone in our class because we have been there once and we want to get back to the National Championship.

**Who has been the biggest influence on your life?**

My mother has definitely had the most influence on me as a person. She has taught me so much about life, both by teaching me how to be a good person and by being a good example. I admire her so much for the way she has lived her life and for the way she raised me.

**You clocked in as the fastest senior during spring testing, running a 4.3 forty. How would you like to turn that speed into success on the field?**

I want to run right by every defensive back than lines up in front of me. The name of the game is speed and the more of it you have, the better off you are out there when the pressure is on.

**A lot of underclassmen look up to seniors throughout their football careers. Now you have players looking to you for guidance. How does that make you feel?**

I really like it. I'm not a very vocal leader, I try to lead by example. I think the younger players see that and look to me as someone who they can follow. Also, having the underclassmen look up to you keeps you accountable every day and consequently forces you to be a more consistent player, day in and day out.

**If you were stranded on a desert island, what three things would you want to have with you and why?**

I would definitely want to have my dog, Zoe, with me because she'd never let me feel lonely. I would also want a Frisbee because it's her favorite game to play. We could play that every hour of the day and she'd never get tired of it. Lastly, I'd want to have a hammock so that I could lay back and relax in the nice ocean breeze. I figure I might as well enjoy it while I'm there.

## SHREVE CONTINUED

knockdown blocks against Western Michigan ... Also saw action on offense and special teams against Rutgers and West Virginia before missing the Boston College game due to an ankle injury ... Was in for five special teams plays against Syracuse and six offensive snaps at Temple ... Posted a 405-pound back squat, a 304-pound push jerk, a 36-inch vertical jump and a 4.37-second time in the 40 during spring testing ... Had a catch for a 9-yard gain in one spring scrimmage ... Added an 8-yard reception during the Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Joined the team as a walk-on and worked at split end during the fall ... Played on both sides of the ball in the jayvee games ... Intercepted a pass in a win over Hargrave ... Registered personal bests in seven areas during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Posted a 35 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Turned in a 17-yard reception in one spring scrimmage and a 3-yard catch in another ... Contributed a 6-yard reception during the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Saw action at five different positions as a three-year letterman for Coach Bill Strong at Grayson County ... Caught 27 passes for 543 yards and six touchdowns as a senior ... Posted 42 tackles, eight interceptions and a pair of sacks on defense ... Was a first-team all-district pick on both offense and defense ... Earned first-team all-region and all-state Group A honors as a DB ... Had an 80-yard, game-winning punt return against Carroll County ... Set school records for interceptions in a game and a season ... Helped team to three district titles ... A two-year starter in basketball and played No. 1 in singles and doubles on the tennis team ... Graduated ninth in his class ...

**Personal:** Christopher Scott Shreve ... Born 7/15/81 in Galax, VA ... Son of Barbara Brown and Barry Shreve ... Studying human nutrition, foods and exercise.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	7	1	13	13.0	0	13
2002	10	2	26	13.0	0	19
Career	17	3	39	13.0	0	19

## DARRYL TAPP



**Defensive End • 6-1 • 246 • So. • 1VL  
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.**

A young player with a lot of ability who stepped in and played in all 14 games as a true freshman ... Was one of the busiest players on special teams, starting on five different units and logging nearly 300 snaps ... Also provided solid depth at the defensive end spot ... Picked up some valuable experience ... Proved to be extremely coachable and enthusiastic ... Plays extremely hard and extremely fast ...

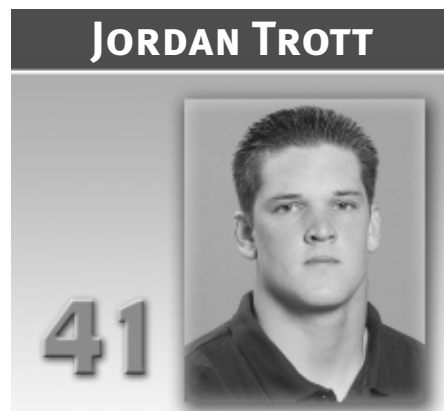
Is taking full advantage of Tech's strength and conditioning program, adding both weight and strength ... Has already earned Super Iron Hokie honors ... Positioned himself to be a candidate for starting duties with his play during the spring ... Will be a player to watch this fall ...

**2002:** A true freshman who saw his fair share of playing time on both defense and special teams ... Saw action in all 14 games ... Recorded nine solo tackles and 12 assists this season ... Also had three quarterback hurries and a pass broken up ... Played 38 defensive snaps and 23 on special teams in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had three solo stops, two assists and a quarterback hurry in that game ... Had an assisted tackle against LSU ... Played 26 total snaps in that game ... Recorded a solo stop on special teams against Marshall ... Played four snaps on defense and 20 on special teams against the Herd ... Saw limited action on defense at Texas A&M, but played 23 snaps on special teams, recording two assisted tackles ... Played 21 snaps on defense at Western Michigan, recording three tackles and two quarterback hurries ... Also played 21 snaps on special teams in that game ... Was in for 21 plays on special teams in the win at Boston College ... Played three snaps on defense against Rutgers, recording a solo tackle ... Was also in for 23 plays on special teams against the Scarlet Knights ... Played nine plays on defense against Temple, recording an assisted tackle and a pass broken up ... Also had a solo stop and two assists on special teams against the Owls ... Played 25 snaps on special teams against Pittsburgh, recording an assisted tackle ... Saw brief action on defense and 27 plays on special teams at Syracuse ... Recorded a solo tackle on special teams in that game ... Played 16 snaps on special teams against West Virginia ... Scored the game's first touchdown against Virginia, scooping up a blocked punt and returning it 11 yards for the score ... Played 20 plays on special teams in that game ... Had a solo tackle on special teams at Miami ... Recorded an assisted tackle against Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the strength and conditioning program during off-season workouts ... Posted a 380-pound bench press and 530-pound back squat ... Added a 32 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.71 time in the forty ... Was in on five tackles and broke up a pass during one spring scrimmage and had quarterback sacks in two others ... Suffered an ankle injury in Tech's last scrimmage, but came back to register a sack in the Maroon-White game ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the team's top defensive hustler in off-season workouts and spring practice ...

**High School:** Recorded 22 career sacks while helping Deep Creek to a 34-4 record during his three varsity seasons ... Excelled as a defensive end for Coach David Cox ... Earned first-team All-Group AAA honors from the state coaches following the 2001 season ... Was a second-team pick by The Associated Press ... Named first-team All-Southeastern District, All-Tidewater and All-Eastern Region ... Was in on 89 tackles his senior season, including a school-record 15 sacks ... Recovered five fumbles ... Posted three sacks against both Hickory High and Booker T. Washington ... Earned preseason All-America honors from *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Reports* ... Selected an All-American and rated the No. 2 defensive lineman in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* following his senior season ... Ranked the No. 38 weak-side end by *Rivals* ... Rated the No. 14 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 15 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... One of just three juniors to start on offense and defense for Deep Creek in 2000 ... Played in all 14 games and posted eight quarterback sacks ... Earned first-team all-district honors ... Helped team to the state championship game as a junior and to a regional championship in 2001 ... Lettered three seasons in basketball ... Also lettered as a weight man in track ...

**Personal:** Darryl Anthony Tapp ... Born 9/13/84 in Portsmouth, VA ... Son of Charles, Sr., and Ruth Tapp ... Studying marketing management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	14	9	12	21	0-0	0-0



**Linebacker • 6-4 • 245 • r-So. • 1VL  
Torrance, Calif. • Loyola H.S.**

Will battle for the No. 2 spot at the mike linebacker position when practice opens ... Only saw brief action on defense last season, but gained some important experience ... An intelligent, physical player ... Has an outstanding frame that helps him at the point of attack ... Is starting to show some benefits from the Hokies' strength and conditioning program

... Possesses a good understanding of Tech's defensive scheme ... Reads his keys well and has good football savvy ... Excelled as a starter on three special teams units last fall ... Led the team in special teams tackles ... The first football player from the state of California to sign with Virginia Tech straight out of high school ... Has a chance to see more playing time on defense this fall ...

**2002:** Played in 13 games, mostly on special teams ... Recorded 11 solo tackles and eight assists this season ... Also had a quarterback hurry on defense ... Played 17 snaps on defense and 16 on special teams in the opener against Arkansas State ... Registered a solo stop and two assists in that game ... Played five plays on special teams in the win over LSU ... Had a solo tackle on eight special teams plays against Marshall ... Played four snaps on special teams at Texas A&M ... Played 26 snaps on defense at Western Michigan, recording three solo stops, two assists and a quarterback hurry ... Recorded a solo tackle on special teams in the win at Boston College ... Played 14 snaps on special teams, recording three solo tackles, against Rutgers ... Was in for 13 plays on special teams against Temple, recording an assisted tackle ... Saw action on six special teams plays against Pittsburgh, logging an assisted tackle ... Was in for 17 special teams plays, recording a solo tackle, at Syracuse ... Was in for 11 special teams plays against West Virginia and 12 against Virginia ... Recorded a solo stop and two assists in the bowl win over Air Force ... Turned in a personal-best 350-pound bench press during off-season testing ... Had a sack and five tackles during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Was the leading tackler in the Maroon-White game with four solo tackles and two assists ...

**2001:** Was redshirted while working at mike linebacker ... Turned in a 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Was in on five tackles during one of the team's spring scrimmages ... Contributed two tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Played several positions as a junior for Coach Steve Grady, including defensive tackle, center and offensive tackle ... Turned in 38 tackles, four sacks, and three fumble recoveries on defense that season ... Switched to linebacker as a senior and helped the team to a No. 25 national ranking ... Registered 138 tackles his senior season with four sacks, three fumbles caused and three recoveries ... Had 15 tackles in the CIF Division I title game versus No. 2 ranked Long Beach Poly ... Named the California Del Rey League, CIF Division I Defensive Player of the Year ... Was selected first-team all-league, all-division and all-region ... Picked the Central City

## TROTT CONTINUED

lineman/linebacker of the year by the *L.A. Times* ... Excelled as a first baseman in baseball ... Invited by the Los Angeles Dodgers to join 200 of the best high school baseball players from the western part of the U.S. for a camp at Dodger Stadium during summer 2000 ... One of 50 participants who made the Dodgers' Elite Team ... Named a National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame scholar athlete ...

**Personal:** Jordan Richard Trott ... Born 6/26/83 in Torrance, CA ... Son of Richard and Rita Trott ... Is studying business.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	13	11	8	19	0-0	0-0

## MARCUS VICK



**Quarterback • 6-0 • 203 • r-Fr.**  
Newport News, Va. • Warwick H.S.

A gifted young quarterback who is ahead of the learning curve after a productive redshirt year ... Possesses all the right ingredients ... Can make plays throwing the football and running the football ... Is an accurate passer with a great pocket presence ... Combines outstanding athletic ability with football savvy ... The only thing missing is experience ... Has worked hard to learn the system and the expectations of the position ... Dressed for every game last season while redshirting to get a feel for the routine and the atmosphere of game days ... Has already taken advantage of the athletic performance program to add nearly 20 pounds of muscle ... Was named the team's top offensive newcomer following spring practice ... Will carry his learning process and the quarterback competition into the preseason ... His first appearance is likely to be as highly anticipated by fans as that of his older brother, Michael, in 1999 ... Has already established himself as a good player ... The question remaining is how dynamic a player can he be ...

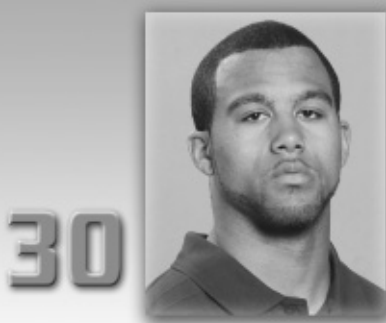
**2002:** Was redshirted while working on his fundamentals ... Used the season to get stronger and gain a better grasp of the

college game ... Could have played if needed ... Was a member of the dress squad for every game ... Ran a 4.48 forty and posted a 36-inch vertical jump during spring max testing ... Threw five touchdown passes during spring scrimmages and added another in the Maroon-White game ... Was 6-for-7 passing for 95 yards and one TD during one scrimmage ... Turned in a 57-yard run in another scrimmage ... Hit 10 of 15 passes for 92 yards and a TD in the Maroon-White game ... Earned the Paul Torgersen Award for the top offensive newcomer ...

**High School:** Compiled over 5,000 yards of total offense during his final two seasons under Coach Tommy Reamon ... Earned prep All-America honors from *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Rated the No. 6 quarterback in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 10 QB by *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 7 combination (running/passing) quarterback by Tom Lemming ... Named to *PrepStar's* Dream Team and rated the No. 1 quarterback in the Atlantic Region by that publication ... Selected as the No. 24 overall player in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 50 player by *Prep Football Report* ... Passed for 1,746 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior ... Added 702 yards and 13 TDs on the ground ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state by The Associated Press ... Rated the No. 2 player in the state by both *SuperPrep* and *The Roanoke Times* ... Threw for 2,180 yards and 19 TDs as a junior ...

**Personal:** Marcus Deon Vick ... Born 3/20/84 in Newport News, VA ... Son of Brenda and Michael Boddie ... Younger brother of former Tech All-America quarterback, Michael Vick ... Studying business.

## CARY WADE



**Rover • 5-10 • 173 • So. • 1VL**  
Fairfax, Va. • Robinson H.S.

A young defensive back who played mostly on special teams as a true freshman ... Was on the kickoff coverage team ... Also saw some brief action at

cornerback ... Went through spring practice at the boundary cornerback position, but will move to rover when practice resumes in August ... Must continue working to add strength ... His adjustment to the new position during the preseason will determine his playing status ...

**2002:** Played in 13 games ... Had nine solo tackles and two assists ... Played 25 snaps on defense and 13 on special teams in the opener against Arkansas, registering two solo stops ... Also had two tackles on special teams in that game ... Played five plays on special teams against LSU ... Was on the field for seven special teams plays in the win over Marshall ... Had two solo tackles on special teams at Texas A&M ... Saw action on 12 defensive snaps at Western Michigan ... Was in for five special teams plays at Boston College and nine against Rutgers ... Was in for five plays on special teams against both Temple and Pittsburgh ... Got six special teams plays at Syracuse, recording an assisted tackle ... Played four snaps on special teams against West Virginia and three against Virginia ... Had an assisted tackle on special teams at Miami ... Had a solo tackle in the San Francisco Bowl ... Contributed three tackles during one spring scrimmage and two in another ... Posted three tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** A *PrepStar* All-American who was listed as the No. 10 defensive back in the Atlantic Region ... Started three seasons as a defensive back and wide receiver for Coach Mark Bendorf at Robinson ... Finished with 180 tackles and eight interceptions for his career ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state by both The Associated Press and the state coaches following his senior season ... Earned all-district and all-region honors ... Registered 64 tackles, four interceptions and recovered two fumbles ... Blocked a punt ... Also had a 43-yard punt return ... Helped the team to a state championship in 2001 and a 33-3 overall record over three seasons ... Ranked the No. 27 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 28 player by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 94 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Garnered all-district honors as a junior ... Had 11 tackles, a fumble recovery and an interception against Centreville in the regional finals ... Also lettered in lacrosse and track ...

**Personal:** Cary Dupree Wade ... Born 5/12/84 in Minneapolis, MN ... Son of Clifton and Beatrice Wade ... Enrolled in communication.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	13	9	2	11	0-0	0-0

**CARTER WARLEY**

49



**Place-kicker • 5-11 • 198 • r-Sr. • 3VL  
Richmond, Va. • Fork Union H.S.**

Fought off several challengers during the preseason to retain his starting duties in 2002 ... Was having a great season until back problems sidelined him for four games ... Made five of his first seven field goals before being slowed and still managed to finish second on the team in scoring with 63 points ... Is an excellent

kicker when he is healthy and able to practice ... Did not experience any problems during the spring ... Scored 77 points in each of his first two seasons at Tech and currently ranks sixth all-time in scoring for the Hokies ... Finished fifth overall in the BIG EAST Conference in scoring both seasons ... Has missed just two extra points during his Tech career ... Was one of the Hokies' most consistent offensive performers as a redshirt freshman in 2000 when he was the highest scoring freshman in the BIG EAST Conference ... Was second in the league in both field goal percentage (77.8) and PAT kicking percentage (98.2) that year ... Earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors ... Also handled the Hokies' kickoff duties ... Booted a 27-yard field goal with 16 seconds remaining to win the Pittsburgh game in 2000 ... Tied Tech records for extra points attempted (57) and made (56) in a season ... Could be used for kickoffs again this season ... Is being looked to for an outstanding senior season ...

**2002:** Scored 63 points in 10 games ... Was 36-for-37 on PATs for the year ... Went 9-for-15 on field goals ... Had a long of 43 yards ... Connected on all nine extra point attempts in the opener against Arkansas State ... Hit a 41-yard field goal against LSU ... Also hit on all three PAT attempts ... Hit on all six extra point attempts in the win over Marshall ... Hit 2-of-3 field goals in that game ... Connected on kicks of 42 and 43 yards, but missed a 40-yarder to the left ... Hit two field goals at Texas A&M (22 and 26 yards) but also missed two short field goals ... Made his lone extra point attempt in that game ... Sat out the first half of the Western Michigan game due to back pain ... Returned in the second half to kick two extra points ... Missed the next four games due to back problems ... Returned for the Syracuse game, connecting on all six extra points ... Missed two field goals, both of which came at crucial points of the game ... Missed a 46-yarder with 10 seconds left in regulation ... Pushed his second kick, a 36-yard attempt, wide right at the end of the first overtime ... Kicked a 34-yard field goal and made his lone extra point against West Virginia ... Made all three extra points against Virginia ... Kicked a 20-yard field goal at Miami ... Went 4-for-5 on PATs in that game ... Only miss of the season came when his 35-yard extra point attempt was blocked ... Made both extra points in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... Was also 2-for-3 on field goals, connecting from 23 and 37 yards ... Booted two field goals and an extra point in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Made his only field goal try of the Maroon-White game from 34 yards out ...

**2001:** Scored 77 points in 11 games, tops on the team ... Was a perfect 44-for-44 on extra point kicks ... Made 11 of his 21 field goal attempts ... Connected on all seven extra point attempts versus UConn and made a 39-yard field goal ... Was 6-for-6 on PATs and 2-for-4 on field goals at Rutgers ... Made all five of his PATs and was 3-for-3 on field goals against UCF ... Made field goals from 19 and 39 yards against Boston College ... Kicked a 27-yard attempt against top-ranked Miami ... Made his only field goal attempt in the Gator Bowl from 36 yards out ... Converted his first seven field goal tries in spring scrimmages before coming up just short on a 56-yarder ... Kicked field goals of 39 and 22 yards in the Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Scored 10 points in his first collegiate game, making a 32-yard field goal and all seven of his extra point kicks against Akron ... Connected on a 46-yard field goal at East Carolina ... Made his first 33 PATs before missing an attempt against West Virginia ... Did not attempt his third field goal until the seventh game of the season when he made good on a 47-yard

## talk with Carter

### What is your favorite memory as a player at Virginia Tech?

My favorite memory at Tech would have to be the game against JMU in 1999 because it was my first collegiate football game.

### What will you miss the most and the least after you graduate?

I will miss the games the most. The things I will miss the least are suicides, half gassers, full gassers, perfect 40s, winter workouts, Sunday lifts, hash sprints, bowl practice, curfew and Wednesday mornings.

### Kickers are known as a superstitious

#### group. What, if any, superstitions do you have?

I take a garden gnome with me to every game.

#### What goals do you have for this, your senior year?

My goals are to stay healthy and to get to the Sugar Bowl.

#### If you could play any position, other than kicker, what position would you play and why?

The truth is, I can't play any other position, which is why I'm a kicker.

#### If you could have dinner with any two people, living or dead, who would they be and why?

I would have dinner with Bill Gates and *The Man Show* boy. I could get my fill while being entertained by *The Man Show* boy, and I'm betting we could stick the tab on Bill.

## WARLEY CONTINUED

kick at Syracuse ... Made three of four field goals against Pittsburgh to finish with 13 points ... Won BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week honors for his performance against the Panthers ... Finished the regular season 7-for-9 on field goals and 56-for-57 on extra points ... Was 5-for-6 on PATs in the Gator Bowl ... Did not participate in spring practice ...

**1999:** Worked with former Tech kicker Shayne Graham during the fall while redshirting ... Made 6-of-9 field goal attempts during Tech's four spring scrimmages ... Connected on four field goals of 40 or more yards with a long of 49 ... His three misses came from 55, 51 and 49 yards ... Booted a 35-yard field goal and an extra point during the Maroon-White game ...

**High School:** Kicked for Coach Mickey Sullivan at Fork Union Prep ... Established a school single-season record for points by kicking with 72 ... Was named to the prep league all-state team ... Helped his team to a state championship in 1998 ... Also an all-state soccer player while at Fork Union ...

**Personal:** Carter Warley ... Born 2/14/80 in Newport News, VA ... Son of John and Barbara Warley ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Scoring	G	EP-A	FGM-A	LG	TP
2000	11	56- 57	7- 9	47	77
2001	11	44- 44	11-21	39	77
2002	10	36- 37	9-15	43	63
Career	32	136-138	27-45	47	217

Field Goals	10-29 yds	30-39	40-49	50+
2000	1-1	4- 5	2- 3	0-0
2001	6-7	5-10	0-4	0-0
2002	4-6	2-3	3-6	0-0
Career	11-14	11-18	5-13	0-0

## BLAKE WARREN



**Linebacker • 6-3 • 232 • r-So. • 1VL  
Clifton, Va. • Centreville H.S.**

Worked with the first-unit defense all spring while starter Vegas Robinson was recovering from ankle surgery ... Showed excellent progress during the team's 15 spring sessions ... Is a heady, intelligent football player with good instincts ... Sees the field ... Combines toughness with an aggressive style of play ... Brings size and

athletic ability to the backer position and is working hard to gain additional strength ... Has made a good adjustment to linebacker after playing safety in high school ... Is good in coverage and is becoming more physical against the running game ... Was named the team's top defensive newcomer after 2002 spring practice, but saw limited playing time during the 2002 season due to nagging injuries ... Appears ready to fulfill his promise this fall ... Comes from a good football background ... His father, Don, played 14 years for the Washington Redskins ...

**2002:** Played in nine games ... Recorded five solo tackles and seven assists on the season ... Also had an interception ... Had an assisted tackle in the opener against Arkansas State ... Played five snaps on defense and four on special teams in that game ... Saw action on eight defensive and eight special teams snaps in the win over Marshall ... Did not travel to Texas A&M, Western Michigan or Boston College due to a strained back ... Returned to the dress squad roster for the Rutgers game, but did not see any action ... Was in for five special teams plays against Temple ... Saw action on five plays on defense against Pittsburgh ... Was also in for all four kickoffs ... Played four snaps on defense at Syracuse, recording an assisted tackle ... Recorded a solo tackle on special teams and intercepted a pass on defense against West Virginia ... Played in a jayvee game against Hargrave late in the season to gain extra playing experience ... Contributed 12 total tackles and three tackles for loss in that game ... Saw action on nine special teams plays in the win over Virginia ... Tallied three solo tackles on special teams at top-ranked Miami ... Had an assisted tackle against Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Improved his back squat to 450 pounds during the spring and ran a 4.56 forty ... Registered four tackles and a sack in one of the spring scrimmages ... Had three tackles during the annual Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Was redshirted as a freshman ... Worked at the backer position the entire year ... Turned in a 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Posted four tackles in one spring scrimmage and contributed a sack in another scrimmage ... Was in on five tackles during the Maroon-White game, including one behind the line ... Also broke up a pass ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the top defensive newcomer of the spring ...

**High School:** Named the Group AAA Defensive Player of the Year in Virginia by the state coaches ... Helped Centreville post eight shutouts and win the state Division 6 championship in 2000 ... Contributed 14 tackles against Deep Creek in the title game ... For the season, he registered 103 tackles, six interceptions, one sack and one fumble recovery from

his free safety position ... Was named first-team AAA all-state by both the high school coaches and The Associated Press ... Selected a first-team defensive back on *The Washington Post* All-Metro team ... An All-Southern pick by *Orlando Sentinel* ... A member of George Michael's Golden 11 All-Star team for the Washington Metro area ... Concorde District and Northern Region Defensive Player of the Year in 2000 ... Rated the No. 15 prospect in the state by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 16 prospect by *SuperPrep* ... A *PrepStar* All-Atlantic Region pick ... Ranked the No. 51 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Contributed 87 tackles and five interceptions as a junior ... Posted 12 tackles against Chantilly in the district championship game ... Finished his career with the most tackles by a defensive back (190) and a school-record 11 interceptions ... Helped Coach Mike Skinner's team to three consecutive district and region titles ... A three-year letterman in baseball ... Won all-district and all-region honors ...

**Personal:** Blake Davis Warren ... Born 10/10/82 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Don and Irene Warren ... Brother, Brett, has signed to play football at Tech ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	9	5	7	12	0- 0	0- 0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2002	9	1	0	0.0	0	0

## GARNELL WILDS



**Cornerback • 5-11 • 196 • r-Sr. • 3VL  
Tampa, Fla. • Hillsborough H.S.**

An experienced player who knows what it takes to be successful ... Led the BIG EAST Conference in interceptions last season with five ... Selected preseason second-team All-BIG EAST by *Athlon Sports* magazine ... His eight career interceptions are the most for a returning player ... Will likely be the No. 2 man at the boundary corner, but has the ability to play either cornerback position ... Has shown constant improvement as a player during his Tech career ... Came back nicely from a knee injury that sidelined him for much of the 2000 season ... Succeeds by working hard at every aspect of the position and

playing with the best technique in the secondary ... Seldom gives up a big play ... Will help solidify the secondary and allow DeAngelo Hall the opportunity to spend some time at wide receiver ... Plays a vital role in Tech's hopes for success in 2003 ...

**2002:** Led the BIG EAST Conference in interceptions with five ... Played in all 14 games, starting four ... Recorded 27 solo tackles and 17 assists on the season ... Also had six passes broken up and a fumble recovery ... Had a solo stop on defense in the opener against Arkansas State ... Also had two assisted tackles on special teams ... Had a solo stop, three assists and two passes broken up in the win over LSU ... Played 20 downs on defense against Marshall, registering two solo tackles, an assist and two passes broken up ... Had a solo tackle and an assist on special teams in that game ... Recorded a solo stop and an assist at Texas A&M ... Had three solo tackles on defense and two more solo stops on special teams at Western Michigan ... Recorded two solo tackles in the win at Boston College

... Recovered a key fumble in the end zone which prevented an Eagle touchdown ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams in that game ... Played 17 snaps on defense against Rutgers, recording a pass break up ... Got the start at boundary corner for the Temple game ... Played 28 snaps on defense, recording three solo tackles ... Came off the bench against Pittsburgh to play 30 snaps on defense ... Recorded two solo stops and two assists on defense, along with a solo tackle on special teams ... Earned the start against Syracuse and came up with a big game ... Tied the BIG EAST and school record with three interceptions ... Also had five tackles and two passes broken up ... Recorded four solo tackles and two assists against West Virginia ... Came up with a key interception in the third quarter of Tech's win over Virginia ... Had an assist and a pass broken up at Miami ... Recorded a solo tackle and an interception in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... Posted a personal-best time of 4.43 in the forty during spring testing ... His 3.91 clocking

in the NFL shuttle was the second-best time among the defensive backs ... Registered four tackles in the "red zone" during one spring scrimmage ... Had three tackles and a pass broken up in another scrimmage ... Contributed two solo tackles during the Maroon-White game ...

**2001:** Played in all 11 regular-season games, starting one ... Had 27 tackles on the year with 16 of them solo stops ... Also had four PBU and two interceptions ... Had a tackle and an assist on 14 defensive plays against UConn ... Had a solo stop at Rutgers and an assist on 20 total plays against UCF ... Also caught a 33-yard pass from punter Vinnie Burns on a fake punt against the Golden Knights ... Played 24 plays on defense and 10 on special teams at West Virginia, collecting one assist ... Had two solo tackles on 22 plays in the win over Boston College ... Was in for 33 plays at Pittsburgh, recording five solo stops and three assists ... Made his first career start against Temple and responded with two interceptions ... Also had three solo tackles and four assists ... Had a solo tackle at Virginia ... Had two passes broken up against No. 1 Miami ... Contributed a tackle against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Posted four tackles in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages and intercepted a pass in another ... Also had a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Played 10 downs on defense against Akron and was in on a tackle ... Intercepted a pass and returned it five yards in the Hokies' win at East Carolina ... Was in on a season-high 15 defensive plays against Rutgers ... Got some brief special teams duty in the Boston College and Temple games ... Posted four total tackles in his five games ... Had surgery to repair a torn ACL in his left knee ... Returned to competition in the spring ... Contributed three tackles and an interception during the spring game ...

**1999:** Turned in a 35-inch vertical jump when he reported in August ... Worked briefly at the field cornerback position ... Switched to the boundary corner and was redshirted ... Improved his vertical jump to 37 1/2 inches by November scout team testing and to 40 inches during spring testing ... Had a personal-best 475-pound back squat during the spring and bench pressed 300 pounds ... Moved back to field corner for spring practice ... Contributed two tackles, including one for a loss, during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Was in on a tackle during the Maroon-White spring game ...

**High School:** Lettered three seasons as a defensive back for Coach Earl Garcia, Jr., at Hillsborough ... Rated the No. 12 prospect in Florida and No. 48 nationally by *The Tampa Tribune* ... Picked as the No. 48 player in Florida by *SuperPrep* ... A postseason All-America selection by *PrepStar* ... Listed as the No. 96 player in the Southeast Region by *Tom Lemming's*

## talk with Garnell

### What is it that you like most about your position?

My position, especially here at Virginia Tech, you play a lot of man-to-man coverage, a lot of one-on-one. Basically, it's you against whoever's in front of you. You gotta win every play.

### What is the toughest thing about being a defensive back?

The toughest part of being a defensive back is that at any moment you can get beat for a touchdown. At other positions, if you get beat, there's usually someone behind you. If you get beat at defensive back, there's no one behind you.

### Who has been the toughest player that you've had to defend?

I would say the whole group of Miami receivers, just because they bring so much to the table in that, at any time, they can catch the ball and take it to the house.

### What has been your most memorable moment on the field?

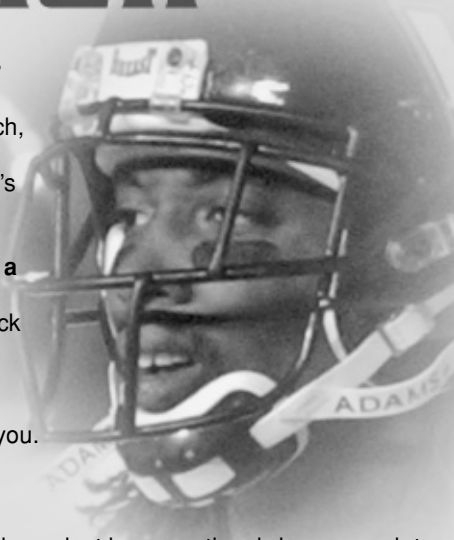
My most memorable moment was actually my redshirt-freshman year, when I just stepped out of the tunnel the first time to see the fans cheering for us.

### You have seen a lot of action on special teams. Why do you think players at Tech are so enthusiastic about contributing on special teams?

We take pride in special teams. A lot of people don't understand how important special teams are to winning the game. Also, Coach Beamer coaches special teams, so whenever you're doing something for the head coach, you have to take pride in it. If you impress him, that's going to look very good.

### Who is your personal inspiration?

My personal inspiration, I would have to say, is my parents, just because I've been through a lot and they've always helped me to focus and keep my head up, just keep my mind on my goals and keep going forward.



## WILDS CONTINUED

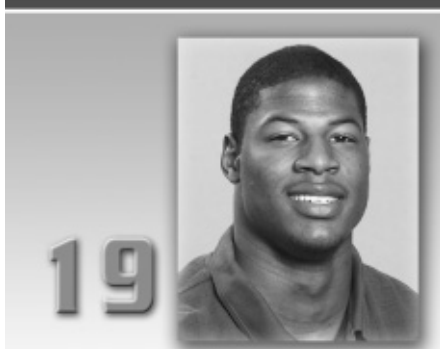
*Prep Football Report* ... Picked the No. 28 defensive back in the ACC Region by *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... A preseason All-America pick by Lemming ... Named to the All-Southeast Region team by *The National Recruiting Advisor* ... Helped the team to a 28-8 record during his varsity career ... Was in on 69 tackles as a senior and intercepted four passes ... Also recovered a pair of fumbles ... Averaged 25 yards on punt returns and set a school record for best kickoff return average for a season at 42.5 yards ... Saw some action as a receiver, contributing 10 pass receptions for 200 yards and one touchdown ... Had 10 tackles, an interception, two punt returns for over 50 yards and five pass receptions for 120 yards in a game against Leto High ... Earned first-team all-conference and second-team All-Suncoast honors ... Finished his junior year with 65 tackles and two interceptions ... Helped team to the state 6A championship game as a sophomore ...

**Personal:** Garnell Wayman Wilds ... Born 6/8/81 in Tampa, FL ... Son of George and Jacqueline Wilds ... Studying residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	5	3	1	4	0-0	0-0
2001	11	16	11	27	0-0	0-0
2002	14	27	17	44	0-0	0-0
Career	30	46	29	75	0-0	0-0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	5	1	5	5.0	0	5
2001	11	2	16	8.0	0	16
2002	14	5	8	1.6	0	8
Career	30	8	29	3.6	0	16

## ERNEST WILFORD



**Split End • 6-4 • 221 • r-Sr. • 3VL**  
**Richmond, Va. • Armstrong/Franklin H.S.**

Has come a long way since starting his Tech career as a defensive end ... Enters his senior season as one of the nation's top wide receivers ... Is coming off a record-setting junior season ... Finished the 2002 season with a school record 51 pass receptions ... Set school and BIG EAST Conference single-game marks with 279 yards receiving against Syracuse ... Also set a Tech record for touchdown

receptions in that game with four ... Worked hard to fine-tune his game during the spring ... Took on a more vocal leadership role ... Has the potential to become a more dangerous receiver with a good summer preparation ... Provides the Hokies with a big target with good leaping ability and speed ... Can catch the football in a crowd ... Must continue to concentrate on being consistent ... Combines a great work ethic with a desire to succeed ... Has taken advantage of the Hokies' strength and conditioning program ... Finished third in the BIG EAST last year in receiving yards with 925 — an average of 66.1 per game ... Had the fourth-most total receptions in the league and ranked seventh in receptions per game (3.64) ... Started every game and earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors ... Found himself starting Tech's last four games at flanker in 2000 after André Davis developed ankle problems ... Gained some valuable on-the-job experience ... Saw action on 176 offensive snaps during Tech's first seven games in 2000 and 213 during the last four ... Finished third on the team in receptions with 12 ... Battled a nagging knee injury during the early part of the 2001 season ... Never really developed consistency ... Selected a 2003 preseason All-BIG East receiver by *Athlon Sports* magazine ... Can expect to see added attention from opposing defenses ... Has worked hard to prepare for the challenge ...

**2002:** Started all 14 games at split end ... Set a new school record for receptions in a season with 51 ... Led the team in receptions, receiving yards and receiving touchdowns ... Had 925 receiving yards and seven touchdowns ... Played 26 snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Caught a pass for 15 yards in the win ... Played 48 offensive snaps against LSU, catching an 11-yard pass ... Had two receptions, including a 38-yarder, for 49 yards in the win over Marshall ... Had the biggest play of the game in the win at Texas A&M, catching a pass and racing 52 yards to set up the lone touchdown of the game ... Finished the game with two catches for 63 yards ... Didn't start against Western Michigan due to a pulled hamstring, but came in to catch two passes for 38 yards, including a 24-yarder ... Caught two passes at Boston College for 71 yards ... The first went for 27 yards while the second covered 44 yards for a touchdown ... Had seven catches for a then career-high 99 yards in the win over Rutgers ... Caught a 16-yard pass for a touchdown in the first quarter of that game ... Caught two passes for 11 yards against Temple ... Led the Hokies with six catches for 80

yards against Pittsburgh ... Had a 30-yard reception in that game ... Had the best day receiving in league history at Syracuse ... Caught a career-high eight passes for a BIG EAST and school-record 279 yards ... Also caught a school-record four touchdown passes ... Had touchdown receptions of 75, 34, 87 and six yards ... Performance earned him BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Week honors ... Caught five passes for 58 yards against West Virginia ... Also blocked a punt, which led to a field goal ... Had two receptions for 33 yards in the win over Virginia ... Caught six passes for 68 yards and a touchdown at Miami ... Made a nice leaping catch over a Hurricane defender for a 7-yard score ... Caught five passes for 50 yards in Tech's bowl win over Air Force ... A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room during both the fall and spring ... Set position records during the spring with a 555-pound back squat and a 346-pound push jerk ... Also had a personal-best 340-pound bench press ... Shared the George Preas Award as one of the most valuable performers of the spring ... Caught a 19-yard touchdown pass in the Maroon-White game ... Finished the day with four receptions for 38 yards ...

**2001:** Met all six of his goals in the weight room in preseason testing ... Had eight receptions for 100 yards and a touchdown in 11 games ... Saw action on nine special teams plays against Connecticut ... Played a season-high 28 offensive snaps at Rutgers, catching two passes for 28 yards ... Had two catches for 23 yards against Syracuse ... Caught a 7-yard pass at Pittsburgh ... Recorded his first career touchdown in the fourth quarter of the Temple game on a 34-yard reception ... Started Tech's Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Had a touchdown catch nullified by a penalty in that contest ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in both preseason and spring testing ... Ran a 4.43 40-yard dash during the spring ... Caught two passes for 25 yards during Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Had two catches for 33 yards in the second scrimmage and three grabs for 45 yards in the final full scrimmage ... Hauled in two passes for 44 yards in the Maroon-White game ...

**2000:** Was one of just four players to meet all six goals during preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Led the receivers with a 500-pound back squat ... Played in every game, averaging 35 snaps ... Saw some brief action on special teams during the first half of the season ... His first collegiate reception was an 11-yard catch at East Carolina ... Grabbed three passes for 35 yards in the Rutgers game ... Moved into



the starting lineup against Pittsburgh and played 72 offensive snaps ... Caught two passes for 25 yards in that game ... Added two more receptions at Miami for 21 yards ... Also had two catches in the Virginia game for a total of 33 yards ... Had 12 catches for 141 yards during the regular season ... Posted a 9-yard reception during the Gator Bowl ... Underwent surgery in early February for tendonitis in his right knee ... Sat out all spring contact work ...

**1999:** Registered the best vertical jump among the incoming freshmen with a leap of 37 inches ... Began his redshirt year working at defensive end ... Asked to be moved to wide receiver in September ... Spent the rest of the school year at flanker ... Finished first in the triple jump and third in the high jump at the A-10 Indoor Track Championships ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during the spring ... Bench pressed 310 pounds and posted a back squat of 450 pounds ... Suffered an ankle injury during the early stages of spring practice and did not take part in contact work for the remainder of the spring ... Was held out of the annual Maroon-White game ... Bounced back from his injury to set a meet record in winning the A-10 outdoor triple jump title ...

**Prep School:** Saw action at split end and tight end for Coach John Shuman at Fork Union Military Academy ... Also got a look at defensive end ... Caught 25 passes for 297 yards and seven touchdowns during the 1998 season ...

**High School:** Grabbed 15 passes for 247 yards and three TDs his senior year at Franklin Military High, where he played wide receiver for Coach Otis Brayboy ... Contributed four sacks on defense ... Earned all-state honors in track and was named to the All-National team ... Posted a school-record triple jump of 49 feet, 9 inches ... Also had a 23-6 long jump and high jumped 6 feet, 8 inches ...

**Personal:** Ernest Lee Wilford, Jr. ... Born 1/14/79 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Ernest, Sr., and Janice Wilford ... Enrolled in sociology.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	11	12	141	11.8	0	17
2001	11	8	100	12.5	1	34
2002	14	51	925	18.1	7	87
Career	36	71	1166	16.4	8	87

2002 Receiving Game-by-Game						
ASU	1	1	15	15.0	0	15
LSU	1	1	11	11.0	0	11
MU	1	2	49	24.5	0	38
at TAM	1	2	63	31.5	0	52
at WMU	1	2	38	18.0	0	24
at BC	1	2	71	35.5	1	44
RU	1	7	99	14.1	1	20
TU	1	2	11	5.5	0	11
PITT	1	6	80	13.3	0	33
at SU	1	8	279	34.9	4	87
WVU	1	5	58	11.6	0	21
UVa	1	2	33	16.5	0	20
at UM	1	6	68	11.3	1	21
vs AF	1	5	50	10.0	0	16

# talk with Ernest

## When your football career at Virginia Tech is finished, how do you want people to remember you?

I want people to remember me as a person who never gave up and a person who was very determined to be the best athlete on the field. When they think back I want their image of me to be that of a person who just loved the game and was willing to do whatever it took to help Virginia Tech succeed.

## You have been part of the bowl game tradition at Tech. What is your favorite bowl memory?

My favorite memory came when we played Florida State in the Gator Bowl and I saw André Davis in his last opportunity to play receiver at Tech. I learned a whole lot from him because he never gave up and was never willing to be complacent in the offense. In that game he did everything he could to put us in the position to win, and that is just a great bowl memory for me.

## What are your long-term goals, football and career-wise?

I would love to get married and have children while playing in the NFL for four or five years. After my playing days are over, I would like to become an agent for the FBI.

## You have been involved in numerous service projects through your fraternity, Omega Psi Phi. How has that helped you on and off the field?

It helps me to know that the young teenagers that we work with are watching us out there on the field because I want to set an example for them and show them that they can do anything they put their minds to. But, actually going out there and doing the service projects and knowing that we're doing it for a good cause makes me feel excited about helping people in a hands-on way outside of football.

## You really had a "breakout" year last year in 2002. How would you like to build on that success during your final season at Tech?

I want to take my "breakout year" and double it. I just want to continue to get better with each and every game. I'm setting high goals for myself, like 70-80 catches and 1,000 yards receiving. A lot of people may say that those goals are too lofty, but I think I'm a hard worker who is very determined to reach all of the goals that I have set for myself. I think if I keep working hard, 2002 will be just a fraction of my year in 2003.

## If you could take one personality trait from someone in the Tech football program, who would you take it from, what would it be and why would you want that trait?

I would want to mimic the intensity that Coach Foster has on the field during a game. He has a devilish look in his eyes that makes you understand how he is serious about what is going on. If I can make people see it in my eyes when I'm on the field, it is just going to help my game even more. I want to let people know I'm going to attack them in the running game and attack them in the passing game whether its through blocking or catching the ball, and I want to show them that through my intensity.

**JIMMY WILLIAMS**

2



**Free Safety • 6-3 • 213 • So. • 1VL  
Hampton, Va. • Bethel, H.S.**

An extremely talented young player who could make a major impact this fall ... Spent his freshman season learning the free safety position under veteran Willie Pile ... Saw increased playing time as the season progressed and led the team in tackles during the Hokies' San Francisco Bowl win over Air Force ... Is a big, physical safety with cornerback skills ... Has confidence in his abilities and is not afraid to challenge a receiver ... Benefited from his game experience in the fall ... Picked up things quickly during the spring and settled into the position ... Plays aggressively and always seems to be around the football ... Needs to get stronger, but has good speed and athleticism ... Should continue to get better with additional playing time ... Has the ability to become one of the top young players in the country if he stays healthy ...

**2002:** Played in all 14 games, mostly on special teams ... Registered 29 solo tackles and 17 assists this season ... Also had a pass broken up, a tackle for loss and an interception ... In his first college action, against Arkansas State, recorded five solo stops, five assists and a pass broken up ... Played 37 defensive snaps and 13 on special teams in that game ... Played 14 plays on special teams in the win over LSU ... Played eight plays on defense and 11 on special teams against Marshall, recording a solo tackle on special teams against the Herd ... Saw action on nine special teams plays in the win at Texas A&M ... Had a solo tackle and two assists at Western Michigan ... Played two snaps on defense and seven on special teams in the win at Boston College, registering a solo tackle on special teams ... Stepped in on defense against Rutgers when Willie Pile went down with an injury ... Recorded a solo tackle and his first career interception while in the game ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams ... Played five snaps on defense against Temple, recording an assisted tackle ... Also saw action on 11 special teams plays and recorded two solo tackles ... Played two snaps on defense

and 10 on special teams against Pittsburgh ... Registered a solo tackle on special teams ... Was in for 17 special teams plays at Syracuse ... Played five snaps on defense against West Virginia, recording a solo tackle and an assist ... Played 17 snaps on special teams against Virginia ... Saw extensive action on defense at Miami, recording seven solo tackles and four assists ... Also had an assisted stop on special teams ... Made several big plays in Tech's win over Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Recorded seven solo stops and three assists, including a tackle for loss, against the Falcons ... Showed improvement in the strength and conditioning program during off-season workouts ... Ran a 4.4 forty during spring testing ... Collected six tackles in two different spring scrimmages ... Finished the spring game with three tackles ... Was named the team's most improved player on defense ...

**High School:** A versatile athlete who played quarterback, safety, wide receiver and outside linebacker during his prep career ... Played at Hampton High until transferring to Bethel prior to his senior season ... Was coached by Mike Smith at Hampton and Tracy Parker at Bethel ... Named All-Peninsula District as a junior and senior, earning first-team honors in 2001 ... Was in on over 100 tackles as a safety and OLB at Bethel ... Intercepted seven passes, returning two for touchdowns ... Also contributed a pair of quarterback sacks ... Compiled over 1,000 yards of total offense as a quarterback, passing for five touchdowns and rushing for six ... Completed 7 of 11 passes in one outing for over 200 yards and a pair of touchdowns ... Rushed for 112 yards on 12 carries in another contest ... Returned punts and kickoffs ... Posted 86 tackles his junior year and picked off four passes ... Had eight pass receptions that season for 217 yards and three TDs ... Registered over 200 tackles and 13 interceptions during his career ... Played on a state championship team while at Hampton ... Ranked the No. 17 safety in the nation by *Rivals* and the No. 21 free safety in the nation by *Student Sports* ... Rated the No. 51 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... An All-Atlantic Region pick by *PrepStar* ... Listed as the No. 26 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 27 prospect by *SuperPrep* ... Selected to the *Newport News Daily Press* All-Star team as a senior ... Also a two-time all-district selection in basketball ...

**Personal:** James Franklin Williams, Jr. ... Born 3/8/84 in Hampton, VA ... Son of James, Sr., and Elizabeth Williams ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2002	14	29	17	46	1- 1	0- 0

**KEITH WILLIS**

86



**Tight End • 6-5 • 264 • r-Sr. • 3VL  
Norfolk, Va. • Norview H.S.**

A tall, mobile tight end who is looking to have a big senior season ... Has committed himself to the weight room and is doing all the little things that can give him an edge on the field ... Started eight games last season and rates as the Hokies' most experienced tight end ... Is coming off a good spring ... Has become a better blocker, especially at the point of attack ... Combines good pass receiving skills with the ability to pick up yardage after the catch ... Became the first Tech tight end to compile over 100 yards receiving in a game since 1982 after registering 113 yards at Syracuse last season ... His 87-yard catch against the Orangemen was the longest ever for a Tech tight end ... Contributed as a reserve tight end and a starter on special teams his first two seasons ... Could be a key performer for the Hokies this fall ...

**2002:** Was one of just three players to meet all six of his goals in the strength and conditioning program when he returned for practice ... Played in all 14 games, starting eight ... Caught seven passes for 168 yards and a touchdown ... Played 31 snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Caught one pass for 15 yards in that game ... Caught a pass for seven yards in the win over LSU ... Played 38 offensive snaps against Marshall ... Caught two passes for 27 yards at Western Michigan ... Played 41 snaps on offense at Boston College ... Recorded an assisted tackle on special teams in that game ... Played 31 snaps on offense and two on special teams in the win over Rutgers ... Was in for 54 plays on offense and nine on special teams against Temple ... Did not start against Pittsburgh due to an abdominal injury, but still played 24 snaps on offense and seven on special teams ... Came off the bench at Syracuse to post one of the best receiving days in school history for a tight end ... Caught two passes for 113 yards, including an 87-yarder that was the longest ever for a Tech tight end ... The total marked the first time in 20 years a Tech tight end totaled 100 yards or more ... Also had a solo tackle on special teams ... Caught a 6-yard

touchdown pass against West Virginia, his second of the year ... Played 25 snaps on offense and five on special teams against Virginia ... Hauled in a 20-yard reception against Air Force in the San Francisco Bowl ... Was an Iron Hokie in both fall and spring testing ... Recorded a personal-best 400-pound bench press during the spring ... Also had his best back squat at 490 pounds ... Contributed three catches for

53 yards and one touchdown during one of the spring scrimmages ...

**2001:** Played in all 11 regular-season games, compiling 102 snaps on offense and 46 on special teams ... Had two receptions for 38 yards and a score ... Opened the season with a reception for 31 yards against UConn ... Played a season-high 25 offensive snaps against the Huskies ... Caught his first career

touchdown pass at Rutgers, a 7-yarder ... Started on the kickoff return team and worked on two other special teams units ... Caught a 19-yard touchdown pass in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Added a 13-yard reception in another scrimmage ...

**2000:** Played on offense in seven games ... Caught a pass for a 21-yard gain in the season opener against Akron ... Was in for a season-high 31 offensive snaps against Rutgers ... Moved into a starting spot on the kickoff return team as the season progressed ... Took time out for one jayvee game, catching a 19-yard touchdown pass in a win over Fork Union ... Saw 23 varsity snaps on offense at UCF ... Led the tight ends with a 350-pound bench press during spring max testing ... Also had the fastest time in the forty at 4.58 ... Caught four passes for 30 yards and one touchdown during spring scrimmages ...

**1999:** Worked at tight end during a redshirt year ... Joined Tech's basketball team in October and split practice time with football ... Played briefly in three regular-season basketball games before returning to football full-time ... Went through the Hokies' winter workouts ... Improved in three of the four major lifts during strength and conditioning tests ...

**High School:** A two-time all-district, all-region and all-state Group AAA choice at tight end for Coach Carleton Thomas ... Lettered three seasons as a tight end, defensive end and punter ... A prep All-American ... Listed as the No. 7 tight end in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Named the No. 1 TE in the ACC Region by *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 5 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 7 player in the state by *The Roanoke Times* ... Was on the receiving end of 21 passes for 475 yards and four touchdowns as a senior ... Also contributed 60 tackles, 11 sacks and five fumble recoveries on defense ... Against Bethel his senior year, he contributed three catches for 95 yards and one touchdown, along with two sacks, two pass breakups, a fumble caused and four tackles ... In two seasons as a tight end, he caught 35 passes for 745 yards ... Had 24 career sacks in three seasons as a DE ... A three-time all-district and All-Tidewater pick in basketball ... Also gained all-region honors as a junior and senior ... Averaged 27 points and 12.7 rebounds a game as a forward his senior season ... Finished his career with over 1,000 points and was a first-team AAA all-state pick ... Also competed in track ...

**Personal:** Keith Tyrone Willis ... Born 12/14/80 in Oceanside, CA ... Son of Keith and Mara Willis ... Lived in Japan for more than three years ... Enrolled in science of food, nutrition and exercise.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	10	1	21	21.0	0	21
2001	11	2	38	19.0	1	31
2002	14	7	168	24.0	1	87
Career	35	10	227	22.7	2	87

## talk with Keith

### What are your goals for the offensive unit this year?

I want to see the offense become more diverse and unpredictable, making defenses react to us instead of us reacting to the defense. I want any position on the offensive side to be able to make plays and for us to be able to use all of our offensive weapons.

### When your football career at Virginia Tech is finished, how do you want people to remember you?

I want people to remember me as someone who came in and was not quite ready to play physically, but that worked hard in the weight room and worked hard to

mature so I could be a good person. I also want to be remembered as someone who could step up to make big plays in big situations.

### You have been part of the bowl game tradition at Tech. What is your favorite bowl memory?

My favorite bowl memory is coming down the escalator of the hotel the year we played in the Sugar Bowl for the national championship. As we came down, it seemed like there were thousands of screaming Hokie fans. Fans were screaming my name and I couldn't believe that they knew who I was at that time. Just seeing all the support of the Hokie fans is my favorite memory.

### You have been involved in numerous service activities through your fraternity, Omega Phi Psi. How has that helped you on and off the field?

On the field, it's helped me a lot to realize how privileged I am to be playing football. A lot of the work we do is with underprivileged kids, and seeing how lucky I am makes me try even harder at practice and during games. Off the field, it has helped me with my people skills, and has taught me how to socialize with all different types of people, from babies to the elderly. I can relate to people of all different races, religions and economic backgrounds because of the community service I have done.

### Tech tight ends have a history of making big plays in clutch situations. What do you see yourself doing at the position during your final season?

I want to make a whole lot of big catches in a whole lot of clutch situations. Basically, I just want to make big plays every time I'm on the field.

### If you could have traded places with one of your teammates for one specific play that occurred over your time at Tech, what play would it be and why would you want to experience that particular play?

If I could experience any play, I would want to experience Ernest Wilford's two-point conversion play against Miami in 2001. He dropped a pass that put him out there in front of the world, and it has literally made him the player he is today. After that, he stepped up his passion, his practicing and his play on the field. He felt like he had to prove something to the world and a lot of it stemmed from that play. I would have liked to experience that type of life-changing event.

## 2003 RECRUITING CLASS

## XAVIER ADIBI

**Linebacker • 6-3 • 215**  
**Hampton, Va. • Phoebus H.S.**

Named an All-American by *PrepStar* as a defensive lineman and an All-American by *SuperPrep* as a linebacker ... Played for Coach Bill Dee at Phoebus High ... Helped his team to back-to-back Group AAA championships ... Was a 2002 AAA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman ... A first-team and defensive player of the year selection to the 2002 AAA Coaches all-state team at the defensive end position ... Named to the VHSCA All-Eastern Region first team as a defensive end ... Named to the first-team *Newport News Daily Press* All-Star Team as a defensive lineman ... A three-time *Daily Press* All-Star ... Was the leader of a Phantoms' defense that held opponents to fewer than five points a game ... Finished with a team-best 13.5 sacks and 100-plus tackles, including 31 for loss ... Also rushed for 575 yards and 11 TDs at fullback ... A first-team all-region selection at end ... A preseason All-Atlantic region selection by *PrepStar* ... Named a first-team All-ACC Area athlete by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... A first-team selection to the 2001 AAA Coaches and Associated Press all-state teams at a defensive lineman spot as a junior ... Rated the No. 96 prospect nationally, the No. 12 player in the Mid-Atlantic region and the No. 1 prospect in the state of Virginia by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 1 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Rated the No. 4 linebacker in the nation and the No. 1 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 4 inside linebacker in the nation and the No. 96 player overall in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... A preseason *SuperPrep* All-American, rated the No. 1 player in Virginia and the No. 11 linebacker in the nation ...

**Personal:** Xavier Oyekola Adibi ... Born 10/18/84 ... Son of Abiodun and Leanne Adibi ... Brother of senior defensive end Nathaniel Adibi.

## BARRY BOOKER

**Defensive End • 6-4 • 270**  
**Amherst, Va. • Amherst H.S.**

Played a number of positions for Coach Scott Abell at Amherst, including tight end, fullback and defensive tackle ... Named an

all-region selection for the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* as a defensive lineman ... Was a 2002 AA second-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman ... A first-team selection to the 2002 AA Coaches all-state team at the defensive end position ... Notched 68 tackles and 13 sacks on defense while rushing for 250 yards and catching nine passes for three touchdowns on offense his senior season ... A preseason All-Atlantic region selection by *PrepStar* ... Registered 10 sacks and was named to the all-district team as a junior ... Rated the No. 26 prospect in the Mid-Atlantic region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Rated the No. 24 defensive tackle in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... The No. 17 player in Virginia as ranked by *SuperPrep* magazine ... Rated the No. 18 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Picked as the No. 12 player in Virginia during the preseason by *SuperPrep* ... One of the top 40 linebackers/defensive ends in the ACC area as ranked by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... From the same high school as former Hokie David Pugh and the same high school as current Hokies Tim Sandidge and Brian McPherson ...

**Personal:** Barry Nathaniel Booker, Jr. ... Born 11/13/85 in Fort Campbell, KY ... Son of Barry and Patsy Booker.

## DUANE BROWN

**Tight End • 6-6 • 248**  
**Richmond, Va. • Hermitage H.S.**

A two-year letterman at tight end and defensive end for Coach Patrick Kane at Hermitage ... Played in the Panthers' first three games his senior year before suffering a broken leg ... Returned for the Central Region semifinal game ... Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* as a tight end ... Caught seven passes for just under 100 yards in his limited playing time ... Added 15 tackles on defense along with a pair of sacks ... Named second-team all-district on offense and defense ... A preseason All-Atlantic region selection by *PrepStar* ... Registered 10 catches for 115 yards and two scores, while contributing six sacks on defense as a junior ... Rated the No. 13 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Ranked the No. 49 tight end in the nation by Rivals100.com ... Ranked the No. 13 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... No. 37 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid Atlantic team ... Played basketball and averaged 15 points and 12 rebounds a game ...

Finished 4th in the Group AAA outdoor shot put competition ...

**Personal:** Duane Anthony Brown ... Born 8/30/85 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Dennis and Myra Brown.

## MIKE BROWN

**Linebacker • 6-3 • 218**  
**Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.**  
**Palm Beach Gardens H.S.**

Was named the area co-defensive player of the year by *The Palm Beach Post* as a senior for Coach Tim Tharp ... Registered 85 tackles, seven forced fumbles, five sacks and one interception during his senior season as an inside linebacker ... Earned all-conference and all-area honors ... Was selected all-state 5A as a sophomore and a senior ... Recorded 115 tackles and 22 sacks as a junior defensive end ... Had five sacks in a game that year against Dwyer High School ... Rated the No. 10 inside linebacker in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... Rated the No. 64 prospect in the Southeast region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 76 prospect in Florida by *SuperPrep* ... Picked as the No. 73 player in Florida during the preseason by *SuperPrep* ... One of the top 50 linebackers/defensive ends in the SEC area as ranked by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... Ranked the No. 54 player in the state of Florida by *The Orlando Sentinel* ...

**Personal:** Michael Bernard Brown ... Born 6/16/84 in Orlando, FL ... Son of Bernard and Sylvia Brown.

## DAVID CLOWNEY

**Wide Receiver • 6-1 • 175**  
**Delray Beach, Fla. • Atlantic H.S.**

A honorable mention Class 5A all-state selection as a senior ... Lettered four seasons as a receiver and safety for Coach Chris Bean at Atlantic High ... Named to the All-Palm Beach County Team as published by *The Palm Beach Post Sun-Sentinel* ... Made one of the season's biggest plays, a 95-yard touchdown catch against Ely in the regional finals ... Totaled 25 catches for 576 yards and a county-best 10 touchdowns ... Returned three kicks for 245 yards and two touchdowns ... Caught three passes for 120 yards and two touchdowns in a game against Wellington

High ... Led his team to an undefeated regular season ... Hauled in 39 passes his junior season ... A sprinter on the track team ... Was a state finalist in the 200 meters and a regional finalist in the 100 meters ... Also lettered two years as a guard in basketball ...

**Personal:** David Cortez Clowney IV ... Born 7/8/85 in Long Island, NY ... Son of Maria and Tracy Bean.

## CHRIS ELLIS

**Defensive End • 6-4 • 245  
Hampton, Va. • Bethel H.S.**

Was ranked 66th on *SuperPrep's* Elite 100 list following his senior season ... Led Bethel with 50 tackles — seven for loss — and 10 sacks ... Named an All-American by both *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* as a defensive lineman ... Named to the VHSCA All-Eastern Region honorable mention squad as a defensive end ... Named to the first-team *Newport News Daily Press* All-Star Team as a defensive lineman ... A first-team Peninsula District selection at end ... A preseason *PrepStar* All-American ... Rated the No. 21 defensive end in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... Rated the No. 157 prospect nationally and the No. 20 player in the Mid-Atlantic region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 4 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Ranked the No. 13 defensive end in the country and the No. 3 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... A preseason *SuperPrep* All-American, rated the No. 6 player in Virginia and the No. 37 defensive lineman in the country ... One of the top 40 linebackers/defensive ends in the ACC area as ranked by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... Posted 75 tackles and 15 sacks as a junior ... Played end and outside linebacker for Coach Tracy Parker ... From the same high school as current Hokie free safety Jimmy Williams ...

**Personal:** Christopher James Ellis ... Born 2/11/84 in Hawaii ... Son of Eric and Laurie Ellis.

## VINCE HALL

**Linebacker • 6-1 • 240  
Chesapeake, Va. • Western Branch H.S.**

The 2002 Gatorade State Football Player of the Year ... Lettered four seasons as a linebacker and tight end for Coach Lew Johnston at Western Branch ... Named an All-American by both *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* as a linebacker following his senior season ... Recorded over 120 tackles, 23 tackles for loss and 10 sacks his senior season ... Also had

three interceptions ... Listed 63rd on *SuperPrep's* Elite 100 rankings of top prospects ... Was a 2002 AAA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a linebacker ... A first-team selection to the 2002 AAA Coaches all-state team at the linebacker spot while earning second-team honors as a tight end ... Named to the VHSCA All-Eastern Region first team as both a linebacker and a tight end ... Named to the first-team All-Tidewater squad as a senior, earning the Abe Goldblatt Player of the Year award ... Named the Eastern Region and Southeastern District Defensive Player of the Year as both a junior and senior ... Earned first-team All-Southeastern District honors as a sophomore, junior and senior ... A preseason *PrepStar* All-American ... Named a first-team All-ACC Area linebacker by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... A first-team selection to the 2001 AAA Coaches and Associated Press all-state teams at the linebacker spot as a junior ... A first-team All-Tidewater selection as a junior and a second-team selection as a sophomore ... Rated the No. 133 prospect nationally and the No. 14 player in the Mid Atlantic region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 3 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Rated the No. 5 inside linebacker in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... Rated the No. 5 linebacker in the country and the No. 2 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* magazine ... A preseason *SuperPrep* All-American, rated the No. 2 player in Virginia and No. 12 linebacker in the country ... Named the Norfolk Sports Club Athlete of the Year ... Also selected the Ace Parker Sportsman of the Year ...

**Personal:** Vincent Larry Hall ... Born 12/3/84 in Kingsville, TX ... Son of Wilbert and Cathy Hall.

## MICHAEL HINTON

**Athlete • 6-3 • 200  
Burlington, N.C. • Hargrave Academy**

Comes to Tech from Hargrave, where he played his senior season ... Posted 20 tackles, an interception and two fumble recoveries as a defensive back ... Also blocked two kicks ... Was named the defensive back most likely to succeed ... Ranked the No. 7 wide receiver in the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 14 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... Lettered three years as a defensive back and receiver for Coach Steve Johnson at Burlington (N.C.) Cummings High School ... Began playing on the varsity as an eighth grader ... Was too old to play his senior season in North Carolina, so he transferred to Hargrave ... Caught 39 passes for 928 yards and 14 touchdowns as a junior at Cummings ... Added 98

tackles, nine interceptions and two sacks on defense ... Named the North State Conference defensive player of the year ... Had five catches for 189 yards and three TDs to go with 14 tackles and two interceptions in a game against Eastern Alamance in 2001 ... Was all-conference, all-region and all-state ... Had 19 career interceptions and 24 career receiving touchdowns ... Was a record-breaker in track ... Named the MVP of the state track meet his last two years at Cummings ... Set a state record in the 300 intermediate hurdles and a conference mark in the 110 high hurdles ... Earned all-state honors four years and was an All-American in the spring of 2002 ...

**Personal:** Michael Christopher Hinton ... Born 6/30/83 in Rocky Mount, NC ... Son of Cathy Williams and Will Staton.

## CORY HOLT

**Quarterback • 6-4 • 205  
Lexington, N.C. • Lexington H.S.**

Accounted for more than 6,000 yards of total offense during his career at Lexington High ... Lettered four years as a quarterback for Coach Billy Hunt ... Passed for 1,738 yards and 21 touchdowns as a senior ... Added 953 yards on the ground and scored 17 rushing touchdowns ... Had two games during his senior season where he rushed and threw for at least 150 yards in the same game ... Was named the Offensive Player of the Year in Central Carolina 2A ... Also named to the All-Northwest football team by *The Winston-Salem Journal* ... Named an all-region selection by *PrepStar* for the Atlantic region ... Threw for over 2,000 yards as a junior ... Set a state record as a junior by throwing eight touchdown passes in one game ... Was named all-conference, all-county and all-area as a junior ... For his career, threw for 4,872 yards and 58 TDs while rushing for 1,619 yards and 27 scores ... Set school season and career marks for passing yards, passing touchdowns and completions ... Ranked the No. 49 player in the Atlantic East region by Rivals100.com ... Ranked the No. 26 player in North Carolina by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 9 quarterback in the Atlantic region by the *PrepStar* preseason edition ... Ranked the No. 21 athlete in North Carolina in *SuperPrep's* preseason edition ... Rated one of the top athletes in North Carolina by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... Lettered three seasons as a center in basketball ... Played on a 17-and-under AAU basketball team that won a national title ... Is expected to attend prep school in the fall ...

**Personal:** Cory Lamont Holt ... Born 6/17/85 in Lexington, NC ... Son of Danny and Laura Fuller.

RECRUITING CLASS CONTINUED**JOSH HYMAN**

**Wide Receiver • 6-0 • 180**  
**Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.**  
**Fork Union Military Academy**

Spent last year at Fork Union Military Academy ... Played wide receiver and defensive back for Coach John Shuman at FUMA ... Had a 97-yard interception return for a touchdown in a game against Gettysburg (Pa.) ... Had a 9-yard reception in a game against the Tech jayvee squad ... Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* as a wide receiver ... Played wide receiver and free safety for Coach David Cox at Deep Creek High ... Caught 44 passes for over 700 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior ... Added over 50 tackles and four interceptions on defense ... Had over 300 yards on kickoff returns ... Named to the All-Eastern Region first team in 2001 as a wide receiver and defensive back ... A second-team All-Eastern Region selection as a kick returner ... Was a AAA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a wide receiver ... A first-team selection to the AAA Coaches all-state team at the wide receiver position ... Returned two kickoffs for touchdowns his junior year ... Earned All-America honors as a sprinter in track as a junior ... From the same high school as current Hokies DeAngelo Hall, Vegas Robinson, Chris Clifton, Darryl Tapp and James Anderson ...

**Personal:** Joshua Leonard Hyman ... Born 4/18/83 in Chesapeake, VA ... Son of Delphia Hughes.

**JOHN KINZER**

**Tight End • 6-5 • 255**  
**Fairfax, Va. • Robinson H.S.**

A *SuperPrep* All-America tight end ... Ranked the No. 5 tight end in the country and the No. 6 prospect in Virginia by that publication ... Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* as a tight end ... Graded out at over 85 percent in his blocking assignments as a senior at Robinson ... Played tight end and defensive end for Coach Mark Bendorf and handled the punting and kicking duties ... Had 31 catches for 457 yards and eight touchdowns as a senior ... Caught six passes for 92 yards and a TD in a game against Annandale ... Was a 2002 AAA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a tight end ... Also a first-team selection to the AAA Coaches

all-state team at the tight end spot ... Second-team *Washington Post* All-Metro ... A preseason All-Atlantic region selection by *PrepStar* ... Named a first-team All-ACC Area tight end by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... Caught 13 passes for 190 yards and two scores, while contributing over 10 sacks on defense as a junior ... Helped team to a Group AAA state championship ... Scored over 100 points during his last two seasons ... Had a school-record 62-yard punt ... A first-team selection to the 2001 AAA Coaches all-state team at the tight end position his junior year ... Rated the No. 8 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... No. 42 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid-Atlantic team ... A preseason *SuperPrep* All-American, rated No. 7 in Virginia and No. 10 at the tight end position nationally ... Also lettered four years in lacrosse and one year as a wrestler ... From the same high school as current Hokies Mike Imoh and Cary Wade ...

**Personal:** John Joseph Kinzer ... Born 8/23/84 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of John and Virginia Kinzer.

**KENNY LEWIS**

**Running Back • 5-9 • 185**  
**Danville, Va. • George Washington H.S.**

A speedy two-sport standout who could opt for pro baseball after being drafted in the fourth round of the 2003 Major League Baseball Amateur Draft ... Rushed for 1,040 yards and 13 touchdowns during his senior season for Coach Everett Woods at GW ... Caught 10 passes for 64 yards ... Returned four kickoffs and two punts for touchdowns in 2002 ... Rushed for 184 yards and three touchdowns on 18 carries against E.C. Glass ... Also added an 89-yard kickoff return in the game ... Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* following his senior season ... Was a 2002 AAA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a kick returner ... Named the co-offensive player of the year in his district ... Ranked the No. 26 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... No. 49 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid Atlantic team ... One of the top 20 running backs in the ACC area as ranked by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... Ran for 410 yards and five touchdowns as a junior when he only played in five games due to an injury ... Returned a kickoff 100 yards for a touchdown ... Finished his career with 2,114 yards rushing and 40 total touchdowns ... A sprinter on the track team who has run the 55 meters in 6.15 seconds ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

**Personal:** Kenneth E. Lewis, Jr. ... Born 10/13/84 in Manhasset, NY ... Son of Kenny and Theresa Lewis ... His father played football at Tech in the late 1970s and still holds the Tech single-game record for rushing yards.

**NICK MARSHMAN**

**Offensive Line • 6-5 • 270**  
**Harrisonburg, Va. • Turner Ashby H.S.**

Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* as an offensive lineman ... Was a 2002 AA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman ... A second-team selection to the 2002 AA Coaches all-state team at the defensive tackle position ... Also played tight end and offensive tackle for Coach Joe Taylor at Turner Ashby ... Caught eight passes as a senior, including two for touchdowns ... Finished with 85 tackles on defense with 15 tackles for loss, 11 quarterback hurries, 6.5 sacks, five tipped passes and three fumbles caused ... Posted three sacks in a game against Potomac ... Rated the No. 23 tight end in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... Ranked the No. 23 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Ranked No. 33 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid Atlantic team ... Picked as the No. 14 player in Virginia during the preseason by *SuperPrep* magazine ... Caught 10 passes his junior year and posted 94 tackles and five sacks ... Scored more than 1,000 career points as a center on the basketball team ... Owns the school career and single-game rebounding marks ...

**Personal:** Nicholas Chase Marshman ... Born 2/13/85 in Roanoke, VA ... Son of Frank and Janet Marshman.

**ROLAND MINOR**

**Defensive Back • 6-1 • 175**  
**Washington, D.C. • H.D. Woodson H.S.**

Earned first-team All-Metro honors from *The Washington Post* as a senior ... Was a wide receiver, defensive back and kick returner for Coach Greg Fuller at H.D. Woodson ... Registered 53 tackles and seven interceptions, including three for touchdowns, during his senior season ... Also caught 30 passes for 609 yards and eight touchdowns ... Blocked five punts, returning one for a score ... Had 158 yards and three TDs on punt returns and 253 yards and two TDs on kickoff returns ... Caught six passes for 250 yards and two touchdowns in one game during his senior season ... Also contributed an interception, 10 tackles and a fumble

recovery in the same game ... Named to the Pigskin Club All-Metro team and was a member of the George Michael Golden 11 team ... Ranked the No. 13 player in the D.C. and Maryland area by *SuperPrep* ... Named a 2002 honorable mention all-region selection by *PrepStar* as a defensive back ... Earned first-team All-Washington D.C. honors as a junior ... Finished his career with 13 interceptions and over 1,100 yards receiving ... Excelled as a sprinter in track ... Ran a 21.8 in the 200 meters ...

**Personal:** Roland Lawrence Minor ... Born 8/1/84 in Washington, DC ... Son of Theresa Minor.

## D.J. PARKER

**Defensive Back • 6-0 • 180**  
Hampton, Va. • Phoebus H.S.

Saw action at quarterback, wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Bill Dee during his career at Phoebus ... Helped the team to back-to-back state Group AAA championships in 2002 and 2001 ... Completed 45 of 94 passes for 707 yards and 13 touchdowns ... Only threw two interceptions ... Added 400 yards and nine TDs rushing ... Contributed five interceptions on defense ... His game-saving interception against Kecoughtan helped preserve the team's undefeated season in 2002 ... A first-team selection to the 2002 AAA Coaches all-state team ... Named to the first-team *Newport News Daily Press* All-Star Team as a defensive back ... One of the top 15 wide receivers in the ACC area as ranked by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ...

**Personal:** Dorian James Parker ... Born 4/18/85 ... Son of Angela Parker.

## CARLTON POWELL

**Defensive Tackle • 6-3 • 290**  
Chesapeake, Va. • Great Bridge H.S.

Played inside linebacker for three years at Great Bridge before moving to defensive tackle as a senior ... Also played along the offensive line for Coach Noble Palmer ... Suffered through some nagging injuries his senior year, but still managed to post 60 tackles, five sacks and five fumble recoveries ... Blocked a punt ... Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by *PrepStar* as a defensive lineman ... Made the honorable mention All-Eastern Region football team as a lineman ... Rated the No. 24 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Picked as the No. 15 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... No. 54 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid Atlantic team ... Picked as the No. 29 player in Virginia

during the preseason by *SuperPrep* ... Finished his junior year with over 80 tackles and 15 tackles for loss ... A weight man on the track team ... Finished seventh in the Group AAA outdoor shot put competition as a senior ...

**Personal:** Carlton Eugene Powell, Jr. ... Born 8/14/85 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Carlton and Jay Powell.

## KORY ROBERTSON

**Defensive Line • 6-3 • 295**  
Martinsville, Va. • Magna Vista H.S.

A first-team selection to the Group AA Coaches all-state team at the defensive tackle position and a second-team selection as an offensive lineman ... Was also a 2002 AA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman ... Named a 2002 honorable mention all-region selection by *PrepStar* as a defensive lineman ... Recorded 75 tackles, 11 sacks and two fumble recoveries during his senior season for Coach Joe Beckelheimer at Magna Vista ... Played several positions along both the offensive and defensive lines during his career ... Named first-team all-district on both offense and defense as a senior ... Won the 2002 Lee Cook Lineman of the Year Award ... Registered 62 tackles and seven sacks as a junior ... Had four tackles behind the line in an upset win over Martinsville in the 2001 Region IV semifinals ... Ranked the No. 16 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Ranked the No. 11 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... No. 50 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid Atlantic team ... Picked as the No. 20 player in Virginia during the preseason by *SuperPrep* ... Also lettered in basketball and track ...

**Personal:** Kory Waurez Robertson ... Born 12/12/84 in Atlanta, GA ... Son of John Robertson and Sharon Pittman ... Has lived with his grandparents, John and Mary Robertson, since the age of 5.

## BRETT WARREN

**Linebacker • 6-1 • 212**  
Clifton, Va. • Centreville H.S.

Was a 2002 AAA second-team all-state selection by The Associated Press at the linebacker spot for Coach Mike Skinner at Centreville ... Registered a school-record 149 tackles as a senior ... Added four sacks, four fumble recoveries, two interceptions and a blocked punt ... Posted 23 tackles in a game against Chantilly for another

school record ... Selected to the second-team All-Metro team picked by *The Washington Post* ... Earned first-team all-district and all-region honors ... Voted team MVP ... Named a 2002 honorable mention all-region selection by *PrepStar* as a linebacker ... Named to the 2002 All-Times first-team defensive squad ... Named a first-team All-ACC Area linebacker by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... The No. 19 prospect in Virginia as ranked by *SuperPrep* magazine ... Ranked the No. 17 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Ranked the No. 56 player in the Mid Atlantic region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Picked as the No. 19 player in Virginia during the preseason by *SuperPrep* ... His 250 tackles during his junior and senior seasons were a school mark for a two-year period ... Blocked a punt for a touchdown and led the district in sacks with eight his junior year ... Helped team to a state Group AAA title in 2000 and a 31-5 record during his career ...

**Personal:** Brett Paul Warren ... Born 3/7/85 in Huntington Beach, CA ... Son of Don and Irene Warren ... His father, Don, played 14 seasons with the Washington Redskins ... Brother of current Hokie linebacker Blake Warren.

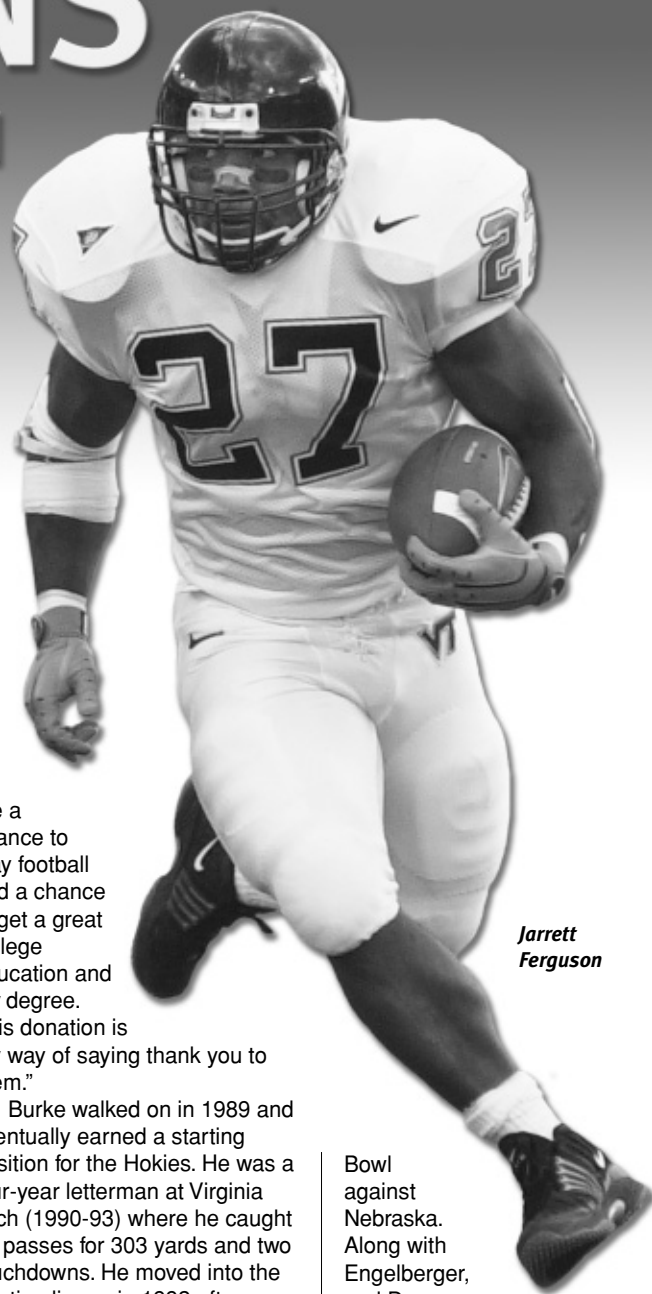
## MATT WELSH

**Offensive Line • 6-5 • 280**  
Clifton, Va. • Centreville H.S.

Named an All-American by *PrepStar* as an offensive lineman ... Injured his knee four games into his senior season and was sidelined until returning for the last two games ... A preseason *PrepStar* All-American ... Named a first-team All-ACC Area offensive lineman by the preseason *G&W Recruiting Report* ... Coach Mike Skinner tried playing him on both offense and defense, but ended up putting him at offensive tackle ... A first-team selection to the 2001 AAA Coaches all-state team at the offensive tackle position as a junior ... Had 17 pancake blocks in his first game in 2001 ... Ranked the No. 17 offensive guard in the nation by Rivals100.com ... Rated the No. 10 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Rated the No. 12 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... Ranked the No. 39 player in the Mid Atlantic region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... A preseason *SuperPrep* All-American, rated the No. 9 player in Virginia and the No. 38 offensive lineman in the country ... Went to the same high school as current Hokies Will Montgomery and Blake Warren ...

**Personal:** Matthew Edward Welsh ... Born 9/12/84 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Ed and Maryann Welsh.

# WALK-ONS AT VIRGINIA TECH



Jarrett  
Ferguson

Jarrett Ferguson was driving down Interstate 81 on April 21, 2002 when he got the most important phone call of his life. It was the Buffalo Bills, telling him they were going to draft him.

Several minutes later, the announcement was made on television that the Bills had taken the fullback in the seventh round of the 2002 NFL Draft, completing another chapter in the success story of Tech's football walk-on program.

The same can be said about the San Francisco 49ers selecting Virginia Tech defensive end John Engelberger in the second round of the 2000 NFL Draft.

Engelberger, who arrived in Blacksburg as a walk-on in 1995, was following in the footsteps of tight end John Burke, who graduated from Tech's walk-on program as a fourth-round draft pick of the New England Patriots in 1994.

Walk-on players are an important part of Virginia Tech football. With scholarship reductions, not all high school football players earn scholarships to compete in college. But that doesn't mean there isn't an opportunity for those individuals, especially at Virginia Tech, where walk-on athletes have a history of contributions.

The walk-ons at Virginia Tech are treated in the same first-class manner — with total respect — as the rest of the squad. Former walk-ons have eventually earned scholarships, earned starting positions, gained All-BIG EAST honors, and some eventually played pro football.

"The important thing for a walk-on, is to know he's going to be given a chance," said Tech head coach Frank Beamer. "The

way you track that is to look at programs around the country to see how many scholarships are given to walk-ons.

"We're one of the top two or three programs in the country in that category. So for a guy who's interested in walking on, there's not a better place than right here at Virginia Tech. We give people a chance and we treat them the same as everybody else."

Engelberger was a recruited walk-on, meaning he was invited to try out for the team. He arrived in Blacksburg in 1995 as a 6-foot-4, 210-pound tight end from Springfield, Va. He got into the weight room and transformed his body into that of a big-time college football player. After a redshirt year, he earned a scholarship for his tireless work ethic. Thanks to endless hours of work on the practice field and in the weight room, Engelberger finished his career as one of the best defensive ends in Tech history. Over his career, he was named an Associated Press All-American, was an All-BIG EAST selection three times, and was one of the best players in the state of Virginia as a senior.

In 2001, he started 14 games at defensive end for the 49ers, who made the NFL playoffs, and played in 15 games. In three years, he has started 27 games and played in 51. He has 65 total tackles, including a career-high five solo stops against Detroit in 2001, and seven sacks. He also contributed \$100,000 back to the Tech football program. He is expected to see plenty of playing time again this year.

"Coach [Frank] Beamer, the football program and Virginia Tech have been good to me," Engelberger said. "They gave

me a chance to play football and a chance to get a great college education and my degree. This donation is my way of saying thank you to them."

Burke walked on in 1989 and eventually earned a starting position for the Hokies. He was a four-year letterman at Virginia Tech (1990-93) where he caught 21 passes for 303 yards and two touchdowns. He moved into the starting lineup in 1992 after lettering as a special teams player and backup tight end for two seasons. His longest reception was a 48-yard catch and run versus West Virginia in 1991.

Burke was drafted by the New England Patriots in 1994 and was a member of the Patriots' 1997 Super Bowl XXXI team. He saw action with the New York Jets, San Diego Chargers and the Oakland Raiders.

Engelberger and Burke aren't the only Hokies to excel in the walk-on program. Tech had five walk-on players start or see playing time in the 1996 Orange

Bowl against Nebraska. Along with Engelberger, end Danny Wheel, tackle Kerwin Hairston and linebacker Steve Tate each made at least six starts for Tech's defensive unit during the regular season. On offense, split end Michael Stuewe made his mark as one of the team's top receivers. All five of those former walk-ons earned scholarships and paid big dividends for Tech in the 1996 season.

None of these players would have lived their dream and reached their potential if Virginia Tech hadn't extended the opportunity they were seeking. Their eventual success has become a cherished part of the



Hokie football tradition and heritage.

"Our walk-on program is so successful for two reasons," said John Ballein, who directs the program. "First, our coaches work at it. When they're out on the road, they're looking for players who can fit into our program. Secondly, we have a head coach in Coach Beamer who is loyal to each player in this program."

Tech's walk-on program has provided countless young men a chance to play collegiate football and prove that the evaluation and recruiting process is far from flawless. It allows a young man to mature physically, improve his football skills, and contribute to the success of Virginia Tech football.

"No one really knows the difference between a walk-on and a scholarship player because each person is treated exactly the same," Ballein said. "Players know they have an opportunity to earn a scholarship and that they'll be in the best weight program in the country. Combine all those factors and you have the reason why Tech's walk-on program has been successful."

There are two types of walk-ons at Virginia Tech: the invited walk-on and the true walk-on. The invited walk-ons are players recruited by coaches to come into the Tech program. The true walk-ons are students already enrolled at Tech who try to earn a spot in the program. Tech has two workouts (one in the spring and one in the fall) for these players. From there, some are invited back to try and earn a spot on the team.

Hokie walk-ons not only get the chance to play in one of the best programs in the nation, they get a chance to play for one of the best coaches in college football, as well.

In 1998, *The Sporting News* listed the top coaches in terms of getting the most out of their talent year in and year out. Beamer was ranked No. 9 in Division I-A. Three of the past five years, TSN rated Beamer first among BIG EAST coaches. Four of the last five years it has ranked the Hokies' football coaching staff as the best in the conference.



*John Engelberger started his Tech career as a walk-on and currently plays in the NFL.*

In 1994, TSN surveyed newsmen across the country and then rated the coaches in the various conferences in a number of categories. Coach Beamer was voted "Best on Game Day," "Best Game Preparation," "Best Motivator," "Best Teacher," "Best in Big Games," and "Best Overall."

Two of the more recent success stories are Ferguson and Browning Wynn, who wrapped up their careers following the 2001 season. The duo both earned the program's first Elite Level of Performance distinction in 2000, based on tests in both strength and performance. Ferguson repeated that feat in 2001, becoming the first to accomplish that.

An injury to Cullen Hawkins placed Ferguson into the starting lineup his freshman season. He started the final eight games and was third on the team in rushing and fifth in scoring. He started every game at fullback for the rest of his career, a streak of 44 games, and was considered one of the

best blocking fullbacks in the country.

Wynn earned All-BIG EAST second-team honors in 2001 at his tight end position and took the coveted Iron Man Competition title two years ago. The tight end signed a free agent contract with the Indianapolis Colts just hours after the draft was completed.

"I think our walk-on program is successful because we work at it," Beamer says. "We work at it in recruiting guys who will have a chance to be a player in our program. We evaluate them very carefully. We only have so many spots for walk-ons now and so it is very important that we get kids who have a chance to earn a scholarship."

"I've always liked walk-ons because a lot of them have something to prove and they work harder and they go right by some scholarship guys as far as playing time."

Looking at this year's group of walk-ons, there are four former walk-ons who have already earned scholarships and that number could increase.

Doug Easlick, Brandon

Manning, Carter Warley and Will Montgomery have all made valuable contributions to the program and now are scholarship players.

Easlick was one of the biggest surprises a year ago, becoming an effective blocker at the fullback position. He led the way for Lee Suggs and Kevin Jones, who combined to rush for over 2,000 yards. Manning was the starter at linebacker for 13 games and was third on the team with 75 tackles.

Warley has been a consistent field goal kicker and Montgomery is fighting for a starting job on the offensive line.

Other walk-ons have stepped up and are headed in the same direction as well. Robert Peaslee, Steve Canter, Brandon Pace and Chris Shreve are four who will likely see action this season.

The success of the Tech walk-on program continues to grow right along with the success of the football program. This year the Hokies will welcome another class of walk-ons who are each anxious to prove they could be the next Jarrett Ferguson or John Engelberger.

# HOKIES BY STATES



**CALIFORNIA**

Torrance  
Jordan Trott

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Roland Minor

**FLORIDA**

**Clewiston**  
Eric Green  
**Delray Beach**  
Chris Ceasar  
David Clowney  
**Gainesville**  
Corey Gordon  
**Palm Beach Gardens**  
Michael Brown  
**Plantation**  
Cols Colas  
**Pompano Beach**  
James Miller  
**Tampa**  
Garnell Wilds

**LOUISIANA**

New Orleans  
Vinnie Burns

**MARYLAND**

**Baltimore**  
Michael Crawford  
Vincent Fuller  
Richard Johnson  
Jason Murphy  
**Columbia**  
Mikal Baaqee  
**Mitchellville**  
Jason Lallis

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Monson  
Jesse Allen

**NEW JERSEY**

**Flemington**  
Jared Mazetta  
**Marlton**  
Doug Easlick  
**Voorhees**  
Greg Kezmarsky

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**Burlington**  
Michael Hinton  
**Charlotte**  
Tripp Carroll  
**Lexington**  
Cory Holt

**OKLAHOMA**

Edmond  
Andrew Fleck

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Chester**  
Kevin Jones  
**Coraopolis**  
Robert Ramsey  
**Harrisburg**  
Fred Lee  
Brandon Manning  
**McMurray**  
Bob Ruff

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

Myrtle Beach  
Brandon Frye

**TENNESSEE**

Memphis  
James Griffin

**TEXAS**

Friendswood  
Michael Malone

**VIRGINIA**

**Abingdon**  
Nick Leeson  
**Amherst**  
Barry Booker  
**Blacksburg**  
John Candelas  
**Chesapeake**  
James Anderson  
Chris Clifton  
DeAngelo Hall  
Vince Hall  
Josh Hyman  
Robert Parker  
Carlton Powell  
Vegas Robinson  
Darryl Tapp  
**Clifton**  
Will Montgomery  
Blake Warren  
Brett Warren  
Matt Welsh  
**Clintwood**  
Justin Hamilton  
**Danville**  
Kenny Lewis  
**Dublin**  
Matt Roan  
**Fairfax**  
Mike Daniels  
Mike Imoh  
John Kinzer  
Jimmy Martin  
Cary Wade  
**Forest**  
Jake Grove  
**Hampton**  
Nathaniel Adibi  
Xavier Adibi  
Chris Ellis  
D.J. Parker  
Jimmy Williams  
**Harrisonburg**  
Nick Marshman  
**Herndon**  
Chad Cooper  
Danny McGrath  
**Highland Springs**  
Jim Davis  
**Keswick**  
Reggie Butler  
**Madison Heights**  
Brian McPherson  
Tim Sandidge  
**Martinsville**  
Kory Robertson  
**Mouth of Wilson**  
Chris Shreve

**Newport News**

Brenden Hill  
Marcus Vick

**Norfolk**

Rashad Ferebee  
Keith Willis

**Petersburg**

Mike Parham

**Pulaski**

Jeff King  
Robert Peaslee

**Richmond**

Duane Brown  
Noland Burchette  
Travis Conway  
Jonathan Lewis  
Kevin Lewis  
Carter Warley  
Ernest Wilford

**Rocky Mount**

Jacob Gibson

**Salem**

Nic Schmitt

**Staunton**

Chris Pannell

**Vienna**

Winston Roett

**Virginia Beach**

Steve Canter  
Jon Dunn  
Cedric Humes  
Brandon Pace  
Aaron Rouse

**Warrenton**

Brandon Gore

**Williamsburg**

Bryan Randall

**Wytheville**

Lance Goff

**WEST VIRGINIA**

Princeton  
Isaac Montgomery