Virginia Tech

FACILITIES

Lane Stadium is the crown jewel of the Hokies' athletic complex

Lane Stadium/ Worsham Field

The Virginia Tech football team has enjoyed over a decade of success, going to 14 straight bowl games. A big part of that success is the home-field advantage the Hokies enjoy at Lane Stadium/ Worsham Field.

Billed as the toughest place in college football for opponents to play by Rivals.com, the Hokies play on not only one of the best playing surfaces in the nation, but with the new south end zone and west side additions, the Hokies compete in one of the best stadiums in the nation.

Now entering its 43rd season as an arena of collegiate football competition, Lane Stadium/ Worsham Field has gone through numerous changes, renovations and additions. But through it all, it has always been regarded as one of the finest places to watch — and toughest places for opponents to play — a college football game.

A Towering New Look

The third in a series of upgrades was completed at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field prior to the 2006 season, finishing off a magnificent project on the west side of the stadium.

Ground was broken in November of 2004 for the project and crews began building around the former press box, laying the above and below ground settings, as well as removing the two light towers on that side of the stadium.

At the conclusion of the 2004 season, the old press box was removed and the structure was filled in to match what was built up during the 2004 season.

A new press area on the west side, toward the south end zone with a dining area and improved overall facilities is just the tip of the iceberg.

Additional new luxury suites, a new President's area, four private club seating areas, new concession stands, a new ticket office, new athletic fund offices, an athletics memorabilia area and a new student academic services area were also included in this project.

In addition, the fencing that surrounded the stadium was removed and the area on the west side exterior of the newly renovated stadium was landscaped with walkways and a weekday parking lot for ticket patrons as well as memorabilia area and Hokie Club visitors.

In the summer of 2003, $1.9 million was raised to fund the ongoing planning of the west side expansion. That money allowed for the ground breaking of the west side project.

In 2005, the inside of the stadium was also given a new look as Hokie Stone was added to the walls in each of the end zones so there's no question as to where the game is being played for fans watching on television.

New kicking nets were installed in both end zones and a new video board — 1/3 larger — replaced the old one on the existing scoreboard. New lights that doubled the candlepower and reduced shadows on the field were added as part of the renovation.

With all of these additions and improvements, Lane Stadium has kept up its reputation as one of the best places for college football.

The new west side expansion is an imposing facility and provides outstanding areas for patrons and the media.

The South End Zone

Last season was the fifth played by the Hokies with the intimidating South End Zone facility capturing the noise at Lane Stadium. This past season was marked by tough competition and record-setting crowds as fans filled all 66,233 seats for all eight games.

Prior to the 2002 season, Tech added 11,120 seats in the south end zone to enclose that end of the stadium. The double-deck structure is similar to the Cleveland Browns' "Dawg Pound" section and has bleacher, bench-back and club seats. The structure is enclosed, but has gaps between the existing structure and the new one. This is because of new building codes and a desire to get fans closer to the field.

Below the south end zone stands are several features. There is a football visitor's locker room which can be divided and used for other sports' visiting teams in the winter and spring.

There is also the June Oblinger Shott Media Center, which houses a press room, two press conference areas, three radio rooms, a dark room and several storage rooms.

The outside of the facility also received a new look, making the entrance more inviting. Walkways and landscaping give the south and west sides a more appealing entrance for fans and teams.

Another recent addition to the facility is the turf and drainage system that was replaced in the summer of 2001. In the winter of 2003-04, a heating system was installed to keep the Bermuda grass at an optimum temperature during the winter months.

This innovative system is in place in just a handful of other stadiums in the world and makes Worsham Field one of the finest playing fields around.

A Winning Tradition

On Sept. 22, 1994, Tech won its 100th game in Lane Stadium in memorable fashion before a national television audience on ESPN with a 34-6 win over rival West Virginia.

On Nov. 1, 2003, Tech upset No. 2 Miami 31-7 to pick up its 150th win all-time at Lane Stadium, marking the highest-ranked opponent the Hokies have ever defeated.

Tech's overall record at Lane Stadium is 168 wins, 65 losses and six ties in 42 years of play. The Hokies are 94-28-1 at home during Coach Frank Beamer's tenure at Virginia Tech and more impressively, are 76-14 in Blacksburg the last 14 seasons.

Tech finished with an all-time record of 32-9 in BIG EAST games played at Lane Stadium/ Worsham Field and won 25 of its last 31 conference games at home.

LANE STADIUM
Historic Milestones

	Date	Opponent	Result	Score
First Win at Lane Stadium	Oct. 2, 1965	William & Mary	W	9-7
First Television Game	Oct. 29, 1966	Florida State	W	23-21
25th Win at Lane Stadium	Oct. 11, 1975	Florida State	W	13-10
50th Win at Lane Stadium	Oct. 3, 1981	Memphis State	W	17-13
First CBS Game	Sept. 18, 1982	Miami (Fla.)	L	8-14
First Night Game	Nov. 25, 1982	Virginia	W	21-14
First TBS Game	Nov. 25, 1982	Virginia	W	21-14
First Game Under Coach Beamer	Sept. 12, 1987	Clemson	L	10-22
First Win Under Coach Beamer	Oct. 3, 1987	Navy	W	31-11
75th Win at Lane Stadium	Oct. 3, 1987	Navy	W	31-11
First ESPN Game	Nov. 24, 1990	Virginia	W	38-13
First BIG EAST Game	Sept. 26, 1992	West Virginia	L	7-16
First BIG EAST Win	Oct. 16, 1993	Temple	W	55-7
100th Win at Lane Stadium	Sept. 22, 1994	West Virginia	W	34-6
First Thursday Night Game	Sept. 22, 1994	West Virginia	W	34-6
Program's 1,000th Game	Sept. 4, 1999	James Madison	W	47-0
125th Win at Lane Stadium	Sept. 23, 1999	Clemson	W	31-11
First ESPN GameDay Appearance	Oct. 16, 1999	Syracuse	W	62-0
Frank Beamer's 100th Win at Tech	Sept. 1, 2001	Connecticut	W	52-10
Tech's 600th win	Sept. 6, 2003	James Madison	W	43-0
150th win at Lane Stadium	Nov. 1, 2003	Miami	W	31-7
First ACC Game and Win	Sept. 18, 2004	Duke	W	41-17

Virginia Tech's all-time record at Lane Stadium: 168-65-6 (42 years)
Longest Winning Streak at Lane Stadium: 16 games
(first, 47-0, James Madison, 1999 - last, 34-20, Boston College, 2001)

Heading toward the South End Zone can be intimidating for visiting teams.

Last season, Tech went 7-1 at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field, on its way to a 10-3 season and a berth in the Chick-fil-A Bowl. Highlights included a 24-7 win over No. 10 Clemson on a Thursday night ESPN broadcast and Tech shutting out Virginia on Senior Day.

This season, Tech hopes to continue its home stadium tradition as a tough group of foes make the trip to Blacksburg.

Miami, Florida State, North Carolina and Boston College will be the four Atlantic Coast Conference home games for Tech. Non-conference opponents East Carolina, Ohio and William & Mary also visit Lane Stadium, providing fans with seven great games this season.

Lane and Worsham

On Sept. 5, 1992, Worsham Field was officially dedicated in honor of Wes and Janet Worsham, longtime Hokie supporters from Kilmarnock, Va. The Worshams pledged $1 million to the university's Second Century Campaign. The Campaign raised over $18.6 million, almost $1.7 million more than the original goal, thanks to the support of people like the Worshams.

The stadium is named for the late Edward H. Lane, a graduate of the university and a former member of the Board of Visitors. Lane headed an educational foundation project which raised more than $3 million for the original construction. Lane's personal donation was the first received by the fund.

The original cost was $3.5 million, compared with $3.2 million spent for the addition on top of the east stands. The stadium's original capacity was 40,000, but the addition, completed in 1980, raised that number to 52,500. The relocation of bleacher seats dropped the total capacity to under 50,000.

Lane Stadium, featuring a modern lighting system and a seating capacity of 66,233 for this season, ranks as one of the nation's finest collegiate football facilities.

Before moving to Lane Stadium, Tech played its home games in Miles Stadium, which had a seating capacity of 17,000. The late Stuart K. Cassell proposed the new stadium as a part of a general plan for a number of new facilities for the university.

Through the Years

Original construction of Lane Stadium began in April, 1964, and was completed four years later. The Hokies did not wait for completion, playing their first game in the stadium on Oct. 2, 1965. Tech defeated William and Mary, 9-7 that day with only the west stands and the center section of the east bleachers completed. Official dedication ceremonies took place Oct. 23 before a 22-14 win over Virginia.

Through the years, the stadium has seen several changes and renovations. In 1982, the lighting system was added to the facility. The system was first used in Tech's nationally televised 21-14 Thanksgiving Day victory over Virginia that season. The game was broadcast on WTBS and was the first-ever nationally televised game from Lane Stadium.

Prior to the 1989 season, Lane Stadium underwent further improvements. Tech received a donation of 16 flags with the "VT" logo for the stadium. Lane Stadium also received a new paint job which included the addition of maroon and orange stripes around the inner walls of the facility.

In 1991, a new scoreboard bearing BIG EAST Conference logos replaced the old scoreboard at the south end of the stadium while a new auxiliary scoreboard was placed at the north end. In the spring of 1994, renovations were completed on seven lower sections of the east stands. Renovations included replacing concrete risers and the addition of wheelchair seating.

Before the 1994 season, plaques bearing retired jerseys of Tech heroes Bruce Smith, Carroll Dale, the late Frank Loria and Jim Pyne were added to the wall in the north end zone. With the addition of the north end zone seats, the four retired numbers now fly on flag poles above those stands.

In 2002, three more flags — those bearing the names and numbers of Frank Beamer, Michael Vick and Cornell Brown — were added, retiring their jerseys, but not their numbers. Last year, a banner for center Jake Grove was added to that collection.

Prior to the 1998 season, the oldest bleachers were replaced with new locust wood and the stands were waterproofed and top coated. On the east side, the roof on the former visitors' locker room was replaced along with the wooden bleachers in the three sections above the dressing room. Also, additional handicapped seating was added.

In addition to the seats in the north end zone constructed before the 1999 season, the interior block walls and concourse tunnels were seal-coated to match the exterior of Cassell Coliseum and the Merryman Center.

Before the 2000 season, a new scoreboard, complete with "Hokievision" was installed behind the north end zone bleachers.

The south end zone construction project eliminated the old wooden bleachers in that area. But the north end zone bleachers were expanded down to the field, adding close to 600 new, permanent seats to make the north end zone look similar to the new south end zone. This is where The Marching Virginians — one of Tech's two marching bands — sit. These moves cut the capacity to 53,662.

Prior to the 2000 season, approximately 3,000 permanent bleacher seats were added in the north end zone and prior to the 1999 season, 2,100 permanent seats were added in the same end zone. And in 2003, permacaps were installed over all the wooden seats to enhance fan comfort.

The past three years, fans saw new conference logos around the stadium as the Hokies made the move to the ACC prior to the 2005 season.

Record Crowds

Enthusiastic crowds at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field have helped the Hokies to some big wins during their resurgence under Coach Frank Beamer. Tech set a new single-season attendance record last season by averaging 66,233 spectators per contest over eight games.

With the new additions, renovations and conference affiliation, as well as goals of being one of the top teams in the country, hopefully, the 2007 home schedule will be just as successful in drawing record-setting crowds to Lane Stadium/Worsham Field — home of the Hokies.

LANE
Series Records

Following is a list of the 59 schools that Virginia Tech has faced in Lane Stadium and a breakdown of the Hokies' home record against those teams since the stadium opened in 1965.

	W	L	T
Akron	4	0	0
Alabama	0	1	0
Alabama-Birmingham	2	0	0
Appalachian State	3	0	0
Arkansas State	3	0	0
Auburn	0	1	0
Boston College	4	2	0
Bowling Green	2	0	0
Buffalo	1	0	0
Central Florida	2	0	0
Cincinnati	3	2	0
Clemson	2	5	0
Connecticut	2	0	0
Duke	4	0	0
East Carolina	4	2	0
East Tennessee State	2	0	0
Florida A&M	1	0	0
Florida State	3	4	1
George Washington	1	0	0
Georgia Tech	1	1	0
Houston	0	1	1
James Madison	6	0	0
Kansas State	0	1	0
Kent State	2	0	0
Kentucky	2	3	0
Louisville	3	0	0
LSU	1	0	0
Marshall	2	0	0
Maryland	2	0	0
Memphis State	2	1	0
Miami (Fla.)	4	5	0
Miami (Ohio)	0	1	0
Navy	1	0	0
Northeastern	1	0	0
North Carolina	1	0	0
North Carolina State	1	1	1
Ohio University	2	0	0
Oklahoma State	1	0	0
Pittsburgh	4	1	0
Richmond	8	1	0
Rhode Island	1	0	0
Rutgers	6	0	0
South Carolina	1	4	1
SMU	1	0	0
Southern Miss	4	2	0
SW Louisiana	1	0	0
Syracuse	6	2	0
Temple	6	1	0
Texas A&M	1	1	0
Tulane	2	0	0
Tulsa	1	2	0
Vanderbilt	3	0	0
Villanova	3	0	0
Virginia	12	6	1
VMI	5	2	0
Wake Forest	4	4	0
West Virginia	11	6	1
Western Michigan	2	0	0
William & Mary	11	2	0
Totals	**168**	**65**	**6**

Hokies' Turf a First for a College Stadium

Virginia Tech's continuing efforts to compete at the highest level produced another first for the Hokies. Five seasons ago, Tech became the first collegiate football team to have a new state-of-the-art GreenTech ITM natural grass sports field system. Lane Stadium was just the third playing venue to possess this type of playing surface, joining Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Wales and Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands.

That system got its greatest test on national television in 2003 when Tech took on Texas A&M in the midst of Hurricane Isabel. Despite pouring rain and high winds, the field held up magnificently, drawing rave reviews from players, coaches and media members covering the game

GreenTech, Inc. of Richmond, Va., began installing the highly-sophisticated system shortly after Tech's 2001 commencement ceremonies. The modular turf system features 4,600 4-by-4 foot trays sodded with a Bermuda grass surface and placed on pedestals two-to-three inches above an asphalt base.

The system also provides excellent drainage. Irrigation lines run through pockets underneath the trays and 22 air vents under the field are connected to a vacuum system which will draw water from the trays onto the asphalt. The water then flows into large drains on either side of Worsham Field. The trays, in combination with the vacuum system, can handle up to 16 inches of rain an hour.

Lane Stadium Records

Top Performances (1965-2006)

Best Record: 7-0, 1996

Worst Record: 0-3-1, 1969

Most Points Scored: *Tech* — 77 vs. Akron, 1995; *Opponent* — 49, Houston, 1974

Highest Combined Score: 104 pts., 77-27 win against Akron, 1995

Lowest Combined Score: 3 pts., 3-0 win against Villanova, 1967

Longest Run from Scrimmage: *Tech* — 82 yds., Phil Rogers vs. VMI, 1975; *Opponent* — 89 yds., Wes McFadden of Clemson, 1987

Longest Pass Completion: *Tech* — 91 yds., qb Steve Casey to wb Sidney Snell vs. VMI, 1979;
   Opponent — 97 yards, qb Tim Hasselbeck to wr Dedrick Dewalt, Boston College, 1999

Longest Interception Return: *Tech* — 98 yds., ilb Jamel Smith vs. Rutgers, 1998; *Opponent* — 99 yds., db Marcus Mauney of West Virginia, 1974

Longest Kickoff Return: *Tech* — 99 yds., Eddie Hunter vs. South Carolina, 1986; *Opponent* — 100 yds., Jimmy Stewart of Tulsa, 1976

Longest Punt Return: *Tech* — 95 yds., Frank Loria vs. Miami (Fla.), 1967; *Opponent* — 88 yds., Larry Carter of Kentucky, 1978

Longest Field Goal: *Tech* — 61 yds., Wayne Latimer vs. Florida State, 1975; *Opponent* — 56 yds., Kenny Stadlin of Virginia, 1984

Most Yards Rushing by an Individual: *Tech* — 223, Kenny Lewis vs. VMI, 1978; *Opponent* — 226, Wes McFadden of Clemson, 1987

Most Yards Rushing by a Team: *Tech* — 467, vs. William & Mary, 1985; *Opponent* — 441, Kentucky, 1974

Fewest Yards Rushing by a Team: *Tech* — minus 1, vs. Syracuse, 1987; *Opponent* — minus 28, Arkansas St., 1997

Most Yards Passing by an Individual: *Tech* — 527, Don Strock vs. Houston, 1972; *Opponent* — 498, Scott Milanovich of Maryland, 1993

Most Yards Passing by a Team: *Tech* — 527, vs. Houston, 1972; *Opponent* — 498, Maryland, 1993

Fewest Yards Passing by a Team: *Tech* — 11, vs. Richmond, 1975; *Opponent* — 15, Kentucky, 1974

Most Passing Attempts by an Individual: *Tech* — **53, Sean Glennon vs. Georgia Tech, 2006** and Don Strock vs. Houston, 1972;
   Opponent — 54, Dean May of Louisville, 1983

Most Passing Attempts by a Team: *Tech* — **54, vs. Georgia Tech, 2006**; *Opponent* — 57, Appalachian State, 1982 & Maryland, 1993

Most Pass Completions by an Individual: *Tech* — 34, Don Strock vs. Houston, 1972; *Opponent* — 31, Byron Leftwich of Marshall, 2002

Most Pass Completions by a Team: *Tech* — 34, vs. Houston, 1972; *Opponent* — 36, Marshall, 2002

Most Pass Receptions by an Individual: *Tech* — 13, Nick Cullen vs. Southern Miss, 1990; *Opponent* — 13, Ron Sellers of Florida State, 1966

Most Yards on Pass Receptions by an Individual: *Tech* — 194, Antonio Freeman vs. Temple, 1993; *Opponent* — 180, Herman Moore of Virginia, 1990

Most Total Offense by an Individual: *Tech* — 516 yds., Don Strock vs. Houston, 1972; *Opponent* — 516 yds., Scott Milanovich of Maryland, 1993

Most Total Offense by a Team: *Tech* — 641 yds., vs. Maryland, 1993; *Opponent* — 649 yds., Maryland, 1993

Most Combined Total Offense: 1,290 yds., Tech (641 yds.) vs. Maryland (649 yds.), 1993

Most Touchdowns by a Team: *Tech* — 11, vs. Akron, 1995; *Opponent* — 7, Houston, 1974

Most Points Scored by an Individual: *Tech* — 26, fb George Constantinides vs. Richmond, 1967; *Opponent* — 24, rb Mike Dingle of South Carolina, 1990

Most Rushing Touchdowns by an Individual: *Tech* — 4, four times (most recent: tb Lee Suggs vs. Rutgers, 2000);
   Opponent — 3, three times (most recent: rb Terrell Willis of Rutgers, 1993)

Most Rushing Touchdowns by a Team: *Tech* — 8, vs. Akron, 1995; *Opponent* — 5, Kentucky, 1974

Most Touchdown Passes by an Individual: *Tech* — 4, three times (most recent: Bryan Randall vs. Florida A&M, 2004)
   Opponent — 4, three times (most recent: John Turman of Pittsburgh, 2000)

Most Touchdown Passes by a Team: *Tech* — 5, vs. Temple, 1993; *Opponent* — 4, four times (most recent: Pittsburgh, 2000)

Most Touchdown Receptions by an Individual: *Tech* — 3, Antonio Freeman vs. Maryland, 1993;
   Opponent — 3, two times (most recent: Larry Fitzgerald of Pittsburgh, 2002)

Most Field Goals Made by an Individual: *Tech* — 6, Mickey Thomas vs. Vanderbilt, 1989; *Opponent* — 5, Rafael Garcia of Virginia, 1994

Most Points Kicking by an Individual: *Tech* — 18, Mickey Thomas vs. Vanderbilt, 1989; *Opponent* — 18, Rafael Garcia of Virginia, 1994

Most Interceptions by an Individual: *Tech* — 3, seven times (most recent: cb Anthony Midget vs. Miami, 1999);
   Opponent — 3, Aaron Beasley of West Virginia, 1994

Most Interceptions by a Team: *Tech* — 6, vs. Rutgers, 1998; *Opponent* — 5, Virginia, 1992 & 1994

Most Interception Yardage by an Individual: *Tech* — 182, fs Ashley Lee vs. Vanderbilt, 1983; *Opponent* — 99, db Marcus Mauney of West Virginia, 1974

Most Interception Yardage by a Team: *Tech* — 182, vs. Vanderbilt, 1983; *Opponent* — 107, by East Carolina, 1991

Most Punts by an Individual: *Tech* — 12, two times (most recent: Gene Fisher vs. Miami, 1967); *Opponent* — 13, Bill Rudison of Akron, 1989

Most Punt Returns by an Individual: *Tech* — 10, two times (most recent: Bo Campbell vs. Akron, 1989); *Opponent* — 7, Rahsaan Vanterpool of West Virginia, 1994

Most Punt Returns by a Team: *Tech* — 10, two times (most recent: vs. Akron, 1989);
   Opponent — 8, Houston, 1974

Most Punt Return Yardage by an Individual: *Tech* — 164, Antonio Freeman vs. Pittsburgh, 1994;
   Opponent — 127, Larry Carter of Kentucky, 1978

Most Punt Return Yardage by a Team: *Tech* — 154, vs. Richmond, 1967;
   Opponent — 127, Kentucky, 1978

Most Kickoff Returns by an Individual: *Tech* — 6, Marcus Mickel vs. Clemson, 1989;
   Opponent — 6, four times (most recent: Tyrone Walker of Western Michigan, 2004)

Most Kickoff Returns by a Team: *Tech* — 8, vs. Houston, 1974 & vs. Virginia, 1994;
   Opponent — 9, George Washington, 1966 & Maryland, 1993

Most Kickoff Return Yardage by an Individual: *Tech* — 214, Marcus Mickel vs. Clemson, 1989;
   Opponent — 142, Phil Mosser of William & Mary, 1971

Most Kickoff Return Yardage by a Team: *Tech* — 245, vs. South Carolina, 1973;
   Opponent — 189, Rutgers, 1993

Most First Downs: *Tech* — 34, vs. Akron, 1991; *Opponent* — 34, William & Mary, 1971

Fewest First Downs: *Tech* — 3, vs. Miami (Fla.), 1967; *Opponent* — **5, Virginia, 2006**

Most Fumbles: *Tech* — 11, vs. Tulsa, 1976; *Opponent* — 8, Richmond, 1975

Most Fumbles Lost: *Tech* — 5 vs. Tulsa, 1976;
   Opponent — 5, two times (most recent: Clemson, 1985)

Most Combined Fumbles: 17, Tech (11) vs. Tulsa (6), 1976

Most Combined Fumbles Lost: 10, Tech (5) vs. Tulsa (5), 1976

Most Yards Penalized: *Tech* — 163 vs. Wake Forest, 1983; *Opponent* — 160, Miami (Fla.), 1992

Largest Crowd: 66,233, eight times (most recent: vs. Virginia, 2006)

Smallest Crowd: 10,000, vs. VMI, 1977

Antonio Freeman holds several Lane Stadium records.

Athletic Complex

The "Home of the Hokies," Lane Stadium/Worsham Field is one of the premiere college football arenas in the country. With the completion of the west side expansion, one of the toughest places in the country for opposing teams to play has become one of the nicest venues for fans to experience a game.
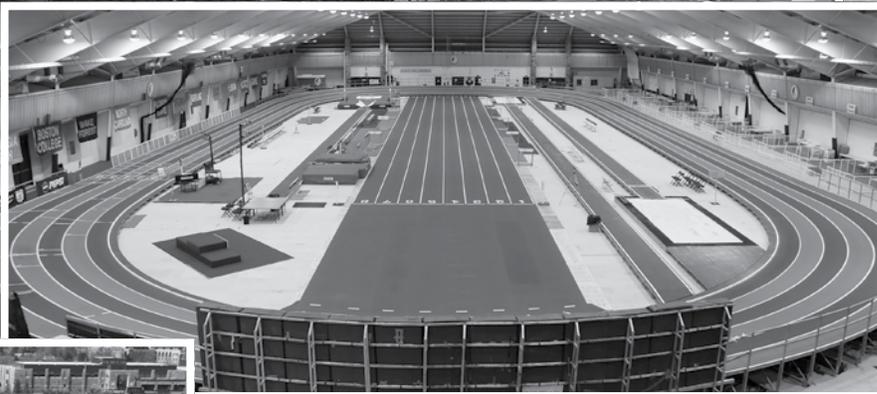
Rector Field House (right) boasts one of the most impressive indoor tracks in the country. With six lanes, eight dash lanes and various other areas for jumping and throwing, the facility plays host to exciting meets for Virginia Tech's indoor track and field team. The field house also serves as the indoor practice field for football.

One of the benefits of the Virginia Tech athletics complex is its centrality — all the facilities are near one another while still being on campus. Situated just across the street from Lane Stadium/Worsham Field, the Tech Softball Park is the home of the 2007 ACC Champion softball team.

Meets for the Virginia Tech men's and women's swimming and diving teams take place in War Memorial Pool, located in War Memorial Gym. Plans for a new pool facility are in place, and the project is currently under construction.
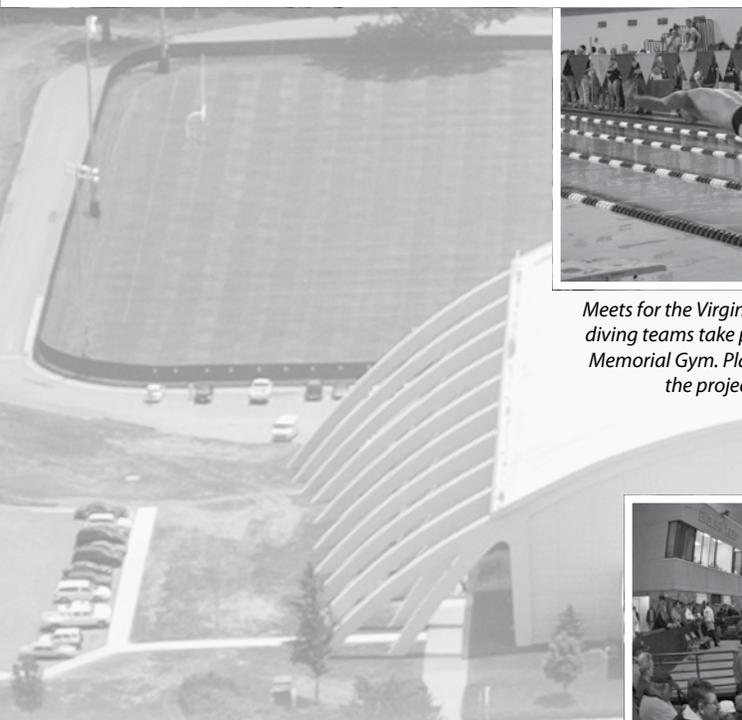
Located just behind Rector Field House and adjacent to the Johnson-Miller Outdoor track is English Field, home of the Hokies' baseball team.
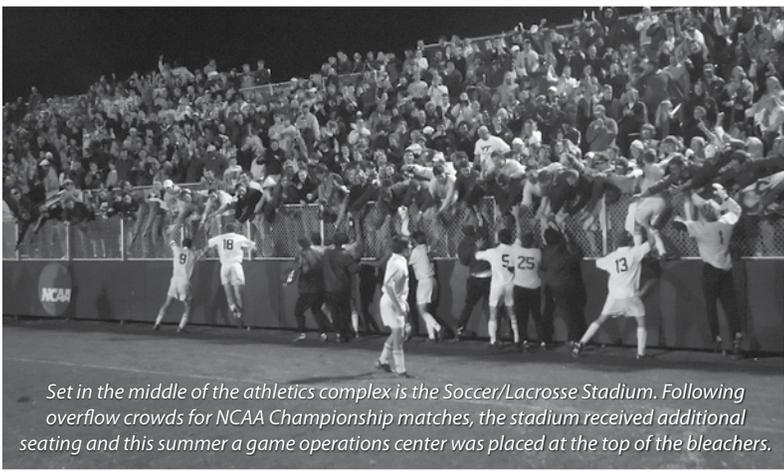
Set in the middle of the athletics complex is the Soccer/Lacrosse Stadium. Following overflow crowds for NCAA Championship matches, the stadium received additional seating and this summer a game operations center was placed at the top of the bleachers.

The Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech, where the Hokies' ACC champion golf team practices and plays, was voted the fourth-best course among the "Best New Remodels" by Golf Digest in 2006.

Cassell Coliseum is one of the most recognizable athletic structures on campus. Not only is it the site of games for the men's and women's basketball teams, but it also hold matches for men's wrestling and women's volleyball.

The Burrows-Burleson Tennis Center offers six indoor courts and six hard outdoor courts for the use of the Virginia Tech men's and women's tennis teams.

VIRGINIA TECH
Facility Managers

Casey Underwood
Facilities
Manager
Lane Stadium

Jason Bowers
Sports Turf and
Athletic Grounds
Manager

Denie Marie
Facilities
Manager
Rector Field House

**Kent Sheets**
Facilities Manager
Cassell, Merryman
and Jamerson

Building Boom

Virginia Tech is Always Moving Ahead with Facilities

There are always facility projects in various stages as Virginia Tech strives to have an athletic complex second to none.
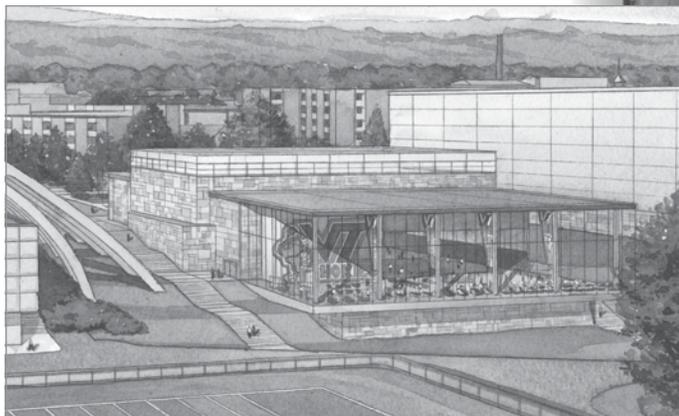
When it comes to athletic facilities, Virginia Tech Director of Athletics Jim Weaver has a simple philosophy — "as soon as you sit still in terms of facilities, you have taken a step backward."

It has become clear that Virginia Tech has no intention of sitting still on the facilities front. There is a continuous stream of improvements underway or in the planning process in the athletics complex. A number of projects have recently concluded, while several larger endeavors loom on the horizon.

The Virginia Tech athletics department is living up to Jim Weaver's challenge to constantly enhance its facilities. Here are a few examples:

• The remodeling of Lane Stadium's west side was completed in time for Tech's 2006 home opener. It involved the removal of fencing that surrounded the stadium which was replaced by several entrances, the construction of additional new luxury suites, a new President's area, four private club seating areas, a new ticket office, new athletic fund offices, an Athletics memorabilia area and a new student academic services area. In addition, a new satellite truck staging area was constructed on the west side for local television stations to use.

• A memorabilia room *(top, above)* was added to the lower level of the west side of Lane Stadium, which will house items from all the athletic programs at Virginia Tech. Included in the space is a timeline for the program and various mementos that are significant in each team's history.

• A new $20 million basketball practice facility *(left, above)* has been approved by the Board of Visitors. It will boast two practice gyms, a 10,000 square-foot Olympic Sport weight room, a 3,000 square-foot basketball weight room, coach's offices, film rooms and locker rooms. Groundbreaking is projected for summer 2008 so as to be finished in time for the 2009 basketball season.

• Tech Softball Park *(right, above)* underwent an upgrade that began during summer. The park is set to receive an additional 700 seats, sunken dugouts and lights around the field. Completion of the project is scheduled for February, prior to the beginning of the 2008 softball season.

• A new video board was installed on the existing scoreboard prior to the 2005 season, enhancing the fans' experience at Lane Stadium. The new board is one-third larger and makes HokieVision one of the best video experiences around.
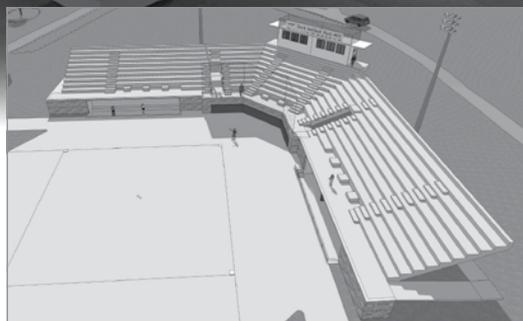
• The upper deck of the South End Zone was resealed over the summer. In addition, the department has also begun to phase in the renovations of the restrooms. New lighting, paint, walls, and fixtures will be added until all the restrooms have been upgraded.

• Cassell Coliseum underwent a facelift prior to the 2002-2003 basketball season. The walkways and concession areas were redone, the ceiling raised, wood paneling and Hokie Stone added, as well as new lights and carpets installed. Phase two of the renovation saw all the bathroom fixtures replaced, and was completed before the 2005 season. Phase three was finished last fall, and emphasized blending the north and south concourses with the new look of the east and west concourses.

• An additional 1,000 permanent bleachers were added to the soccer/lacrosse stadium, bringing the capacity up to 2,028. Two new practice fields — one synthetic field and one natural grass field — were redone to give the three teams a great practice facility. This summer, extra lights were installed at both the Moseley practice field and the playing field to aid in practice and games. The playing field also received a state-of-the-art game operations center atop the stands.

• Computer upgrades have been installed in Cassell Coliseum to allow for improved wireless connectivity. The goal is to make the coliseum and Jamerson Athletic Center completely wireless.

• Tech has plans for a new field house that will be wider and longer than Rector Field House and will be used primarily for football, but other sports as well.

• With a new field house in place, Rector Field House would become a permanent indoor facility for the track and field teams.

• Soccer, lacrosse and volleyball all received new offices on the third floor of Cassell Coliseum this past summer. The offices were renovated from the space that was vacated when several groups moved to the west side of Lane Stadium last fall.