# VIGA ECHOURA Facilias



"There's always something going on. The minute you think you've arrived, you're going backwards. You always have to make progress in terms of facilities to compete in the upper echelon of college athletics."

- Jim Weaver, Director of Athletics

# Hokies' Turf a First

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

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.

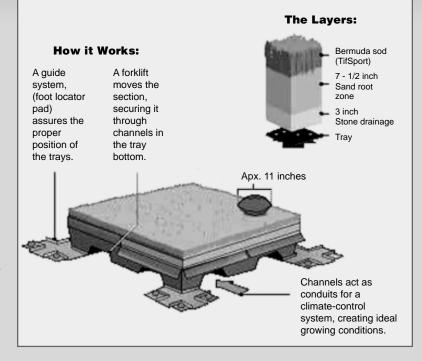
"The ideal surface for our football team is Bermuda grass since it is a faster surface," Tech Associate Athletic Director for Internal Affairs Tom Gabbard points out. "This faster surface will give our football team an added advantage and, along with our new practice field, gives our football team the best practice and playing surfaces in the nation."

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.

Placing the field on mobile trays gives Tech the ability to move sections of the field. That will be especially important as the Hokies begin their planned stadium expansion project. It also gives Tech the possibility of hosting events such as concerts in Lane Stadium without damaging the field.

The playing surface for Worsham Field is sodded (right) on the tray system at the Virginia Tech airport, about a mile from Lane Stadium. The turf was to be nurtured at the airport then placed in the stadium by the end of July.



"Virginia Tech has a smart community, a smart highway, a smart football coach, and now a smart football field."

— Chris Scott, CEO of GreenTech, Inc.







### One of the Best Keeps Getting Better!

Frank Loria. Tom Beasley. Bruce Smith. Cyrus Lawrence. Antonio Freeman. Corey Moore. Michael Vick. Lee Suggs. From the old to the new, some of the greatest names in Virginia Tech football history have played in Lane Stadium/Worsham Field home of the Hokies.

Now entering its 37th 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.

This season will be one that will be played in the midst of a major renovation project, thus dropping the capacity to 51,220. Lane Stadium/ Worsham Field is in the second stage of what Virginia Tech hopes to be a threephase expansion project. Given the process of capital funding approval, the athletics department has set forth a tentative schedule for the project.

By the 2002 season, Tech will add 11,000-12,000 seats in the south end zone. The double-deck structure will be similar to the Cleveland Browns' "Dog Pound" section and will have bleacher, benchback and club seats. The structure will enclose the south end of the stadium, but will have gaps between the existing structure and the new

one. The gaps will help the new addition meet building codes and bring the fans closer to the field.

Below the south end zone stands will be several new features. There will be a new football visitor's locker room which can be divided and used for other sports' visiting teams in the winter and spring. Plans also call for a new press room, a press conference area, two radio rooms, a dark room and several storage rooms.

The outside of the facility will have a new look, making the entrance more inviting. New walkways and landscaping will give the south and west sides a more appealing entrance for fans and teams. Barring bad

weather or any major delays, the project will be completed for the 2002 home opener against Marshall. The construction process will take place throughout this season, thus eliminating the old seats in that end zone.

Last year, approximately 3,000 permanent bleacher seats were added in the north end zone where 2,100 permanent seats were built in 1999. Due to the increased demand for tickets, even more seats have been added around the existing structure.

This past spring, 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

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#### **Lane Stadium**

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what the new south end zone will look like. This is where Tech's two marching bands will sit.

Following the south end zone expansion project, plans call for the press box to be fully renovated, adding luxury boxes and a president's suite, bringing the total capacity to approximately 66,000. The press box tower will include four new elevators and a dining area with televisions and ample eating space.

Another new addition to the facility is a state-of-the-art turf and drainage system that was put in place this past summer. This new system can be found in just two other stadiums in the world and will make Worsham Field one of the finest playing fields around.

This season, Tech hopes to continue its home stadium tradition as it hosts BIG EAST rivals Miami, Boston College and Syracuse along with nonconference foes Connecticut, Western Michigan and Central Florida. The Hokies will take a 12-game home-winning streak into the 2001 season.

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 BIG EAST rival West Virginia.

Tech's overall record at Lane Stadium is 134 wins, 57 losses and six ties in 36 years of play. The Hokies are 60-20-1 at home during Coach Frank Beamer's tenure at Virginia Tech and more impressively, are 42-6 in Blacksburg the last eight seasons. Tech has an alltime record of 26-4 in BIG EAST games played at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field and has won 19 of its last 20 conference games at home.

Last season, Tech posted its ninth perfect season in Lane Stadium/Worsham Field, going 6-0 on its way to its secondstraight 11-1 season. It also

marked the first time that every home game was sold out before the season began.

On Sept. 5, 1992, the playing 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



The addition of approximately 600 new seats in the north end zone was completed early this summer, while construction on the new field and drainage system was still taking place.

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.

Original construction of Lane Stadium began 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.

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, the stadium has seen several changes and renovations. In 1982, a modern 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 nationallytelevised 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. This season, with the new field-level addition to the north end zone stands, the retired jerseys will be displayed on large banners that will be hung above the north end zone area.

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 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 south end zone bleachers.

**BIG EAST Conference** affiliation has benefited Hokie football and 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 single-season attendance record in 2000 by averaging 56,272 spectators per contest.

With the new additions and renovations, as well as one of the top teams in the country, hopefully, the 2001 home schedule will be just as successful in drawing big crowds to Lane Stadium/ Worsham Field - home of the Hokies.

#### They've Been to Hokieland — Lane Stadium Series Records

Following is a list of the 50 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	Т		W	L	Т
Akron	4	0	0	Navy	1	0	0
Alabama	0	1	0	North Carolina State	1	0	1
Alabama-Birmingham	2	0	0	Ohio University	1	0	0
Appalachian State	3	0	0	Oklahoma State	1	0	0
Arkansas State	2	0	0	Pittsburgh	4	0	0
Auburn	0	1	0	Richmond	8	1	0
Boston College	2	1	0	Rhode Island	1	0	0
Bowling Green	2	0	0	Rutgers	5	0	0
Buffalo	1	0	0	South Carolina	1	4	1
Cincinnati	2	2	0	SMU	1	0	0
Clemson	1	5	0	Southern Mississippi	3	2	0
Duke	2	0	0	Southwestern Louisiana	1	0	0
East Carolina	4	2	0	Syracuse	5	1	0
East Tennessee State	2	0	0	Temple	5	1	0
Florida State	3	4	1	Texas A&M	0	1	0
George Washington	1	0	0	Tulane	2	0	0
Houston	0	1	1	Tulsa	1	2	0
James Madison	5	0	0	Vanderbilt	3	0	0
Kansas State	0	1	0	Villanova	3	0	0
Kent State	1	0	0	Virginia	9	6	1
Kentucky	2	3	0	VMI	5	2	0
Louisville	3	0	0	Wake Forest	4	4	0
Maryland	1	0	0	West Virginia	10	5	1
Memphis State	2	1	0	William & Mary	11	2	0
Miami (Fla.)	3	3	0				
Miami (Ohio)	0	1	0	Totals	134	57	6

### Lane Stadium Records

Top Single Performances

(1965-2000)

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 Haselback 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, Don Strock vs. Houston, 1972; Opponent — 54, Dean May of Louisville, 1983

Most Passing Attempts by a Team: Tech — 53, vs. Houston, 1972; Opponent — 57, Appalachian State, 1982 & Maryland, 1993

Most Pass Completions by an Individual: Tech — 34, Don Strock vs. Houston, 1972; Opponent — 30, Danny McCoin of Cincinnati, 1986

Most Pass Completions by a Team: Tech — 34, vs. Houston, 1972; Opponent — 34, William & Mary, 1982

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, Maurice DeShazo vs. Maryland & Temple, 1993;

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, Antonio Bryant of Pittsburgh, 2000

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); Opponents — 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, three times (most recent: John Gutter of James Madison, 1988)

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 — 6, West Virginia, 1966

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

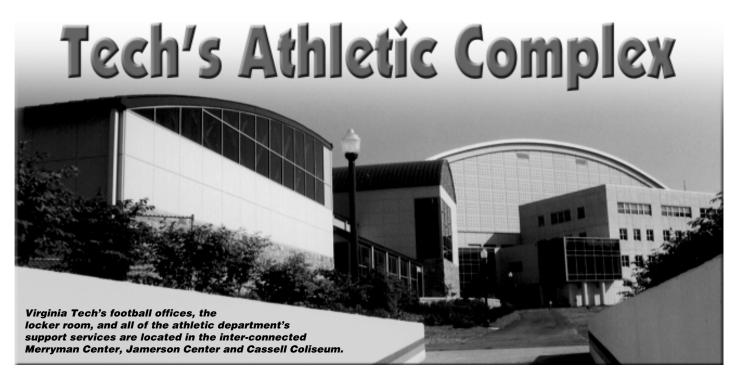
Most Combined Fumbles Lost: 10, Tech (5) vs. Tulsa (5), 1976

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

Largest Crowd: 56,272, six times (most recent: vs. Virginia, 2000)

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

#### **Top 15 Lane Stadium Crowds**



# The Merryman Athletic Center Is the Centerpiece of the Hokies' Outstanding Sports Facilities

The Merryman Center, the centerpiece for Virginia Tech athletics, is a \$10.6 million allpurpose building that ranks as one of the finest facilities of its kind in college athletics — and it's only getting better.

Located just a good punt from Lane Stadium/Worsham Field, Merryman opened its doors to athletes last fall and officially was dedicated Sept. 26, 1998 in a university ceremony.

The facility is named for the F.W. (Sonny) Merryman family of Rustburg, Va., which presented the university with a major gift, kicking off a fundraising campaign that saw Tech supporters dig deep into their pockets.

The result is a streamlined 40,000-square-foot facility that includes:

On the first floor: A sports medicine complex complete with training rooms and doctors' offices; a strength and conditioning complex that is magnificent; a speed and agility gym; and a football coaches' locker room.

And on the second floor: A 130-seat auditorium and nine

position meeting rooms for use by the football team; the new Legends Hall, which will be completed by summer's end; spacious offices for Coach Frank Beamer and his top assistant, John Ballein; and a video department,

complete with brand new, state-of-the-art equipment.

Legends Hall, the new entranceway to the athletic department, will provide visitors with a brilliant display of Hokie football memorabilia.

"The memorabilia area will be the showcase for Virginia Tech football," says Tech Director of Athletics Jim Weaver," and we want it to be one of the best of its kind."

Continued on next page



The strength and conditioning facilities in the Merryman Center — including the spacious weight room and a speed and agility room - are among the nation's best.

#### **Merryman Center**

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The area will highlight memorabilia from past Virginia Tech football squads with special emphasis on Tech's retired numbers and All-Americans.

Also highlighted will be Tech's bowl appearances, including the 2000 Nokia Sugar Bowl national championship game.

An interactive video kiosk system will allow visitors to access information about the Hokies' football program.

A new conference room as well as expanded video department offices will also be finished this summer.

The exterior of the building is streamlined, too, and has a definite Hokie motif. Even the roof, the only maroon one on the Virginia Tech campus, adds a touch of school spirit. The outside walls of the Merryman Center are a combination of Hokie stone and a more simplified white stone that matches that on Cassell Coliseum, the building next door.

"This is a facility that is really special in every way," says Weaver. "When



The hallway in the Merryman Center that contains the football meeting rooms and auditorium, is decorated with photos from the Hokies' recent bowl games as well as informative displays of Tech players in the NFL and awards and honors that Hokies have earned.

everything is in place, there is no doubt in my mind that the Merryman Center will rank right at the very top among the great buildings in college athletics."

Beamer, too, is ecstatic over the facility. "The building, to me, represents a commitment on behalf of the university," the coach says. "The construction of

Merryman clearly demonstrates the university's determination to maintain a top athletic program year in and year out. All of us connected with football are extremely proud of that."

Another area of interest is Tech's first-rate video area, something assistant athletic director for football

operations John Ballein is especially proud of.

"The complex has more coaching stations than any other facility of its kind in college football or in the National Football League," he said.

Beamer's office is special, too. The 22-by-30-foot room is enclosed by glass on two sides, providing a beautiful

view of Lane
Stadium/
Worsham Field
and also other
parts of the
Merryman Center.
Beamer also has
a great view of the
new practice field
installed this past
spring. The new
fields are less
than 100 feet from
the football locker
room.

"The office was designed to provide us with an ideal place for individual meetings with football prospects and their parents," Ballein said. "In our opinion, it is quite a showplace for recruiting."



Coach Beamer's beautiful office looks out over the Merryman Center, Lane Stadium, and the new football practice fields, which are located between the Merryman Center and the stadium.

### Tech Football Players Enjoy Excellent Facilities



## **Touring Tech's Venues**

A Look at the Hokies' Other Athletic Facilities



Hokie fans heading into Lane Stadium/Worsham Field pass the Merryman Center (right) and Cassell Coliseum, with its distinctive flying buttresses. Cassell Coliseum, (pictured above during a basketball game) is the site of Tech's men's and women's hoops contests as well as wrestling and women's volleyball matches.



