

# 2001 VIRGINIA TECH FOOTBALL Outlook



“A strong running game and an emerging defense are building on the stability of a rock-solid program...”

– *The Sporting News*

# Sneak Preview

## The Hokies in Preseason Publications

• Despite the loss of quarterback Michael Vick, *Athlon Sports* picked Virginia Tech No. 3 in its preseason Top 25. Four Tech players were named to the second team of the magazine's All-America squad. Junior tailback Lee Suggs was named to the second-team offensive unit, while senior tackle David Pugh and senior linebacker Ben Taylor were named to the second-team defense. Senior André Davis was the second-team punt returner. *Athlon* picked Tech to win the BIG EAST Conference and rated the Hokies as having the league's best tight ends and wide receivers, best defensive line and best linebackers.

• *The Sporting News* ranked the Hokies No. 6 in the nation heading into the season and also ranked several players and groups among the best in the nation. Tech's defensive line was rated the fourth-best in Division I-A, while the receiving corps was picked ninth-best. Tailback Lee Suggs was selected as a second-team All-American and named the publication's preseason choice for BIG EAST offensive player of the year. Following is a list of the Hokies who *TSN* ranked nationally:

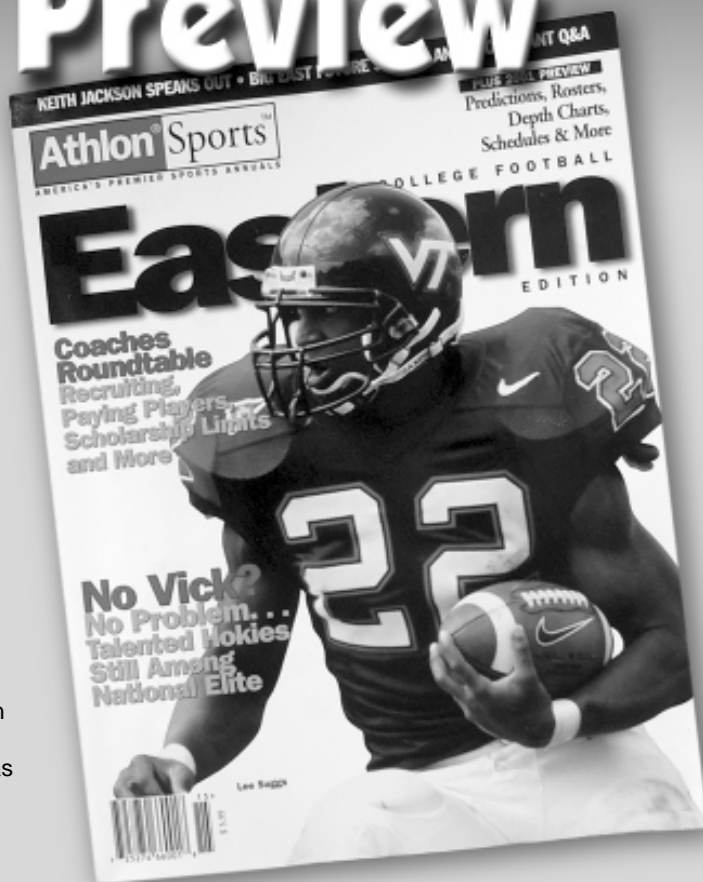
| Player           | Pos. | Rank |                            |
|------------------|------|------|----------------------------|
| Lee Suggs        | RB   | 4    | (10th in Heisman Trophy)   |
| Willie Pile      | FS   | 5    |                            |
| André Davis      | WR   | 6    | (6th in Biletnikoff Award) |
| David Pugh       | DT   | 6    |                            |
| Jarrett Ferguson | FB   | 7    |                            |
| Carter Warley    | PK   | 7    | (7th in Groza Award)       |
| Ronyell Whitaker | CB   | 9    |                            |
| Ben Taylor       | ILB  | 10   |                            |
| André Davis      | KR   | 11   |                            |
| Browning Wynn    | TE   | 15   |                            |
| Chad Beasley     | DT   | 19   |                            |

• *The Sporting News* ranked the Virginia Tech coaching staff the best in the BIG EAST for the fourth-straight year. *TSN* also rated the Hokies tops in the league in overall defense and special teams and second overall in offense. Tech's wide receivers were ranked No. 1 in the conference along with its defensive line and linebackers.

• *Lindy's* listed Tech 14th nationally in its preseason publication. Four Hokies – Lee Suggs, André Davis, David Pugh and Ben Taylor — were named second-team All-America by the magazine. Meanwhile, the Tech receiving corps was rated 10th-best in Division I-A. Individually, the following Tech players were ranked nationally:

| Player          | Pos. | Rank |  |
|-----------------|------|------|--|
| Lee Suggs       | RB   | 3    | (4th in Doak Walker Award)                             |
| André Davis     | WR   | 3    | (also #3 all-purpose player; 3rd in Biletnikoff Award) |
| David Pugh      | DT   | 4    |  |
| Ben Taylor      | ILB  | 5    |  |
| Nathaniel Adibi | DE   | 14   |  |

To keep up with Lee Suggs' accomplishments throughout the season, visit [www.hokiesportsinfo.com/suggs](http://www.hokiesportsinfo.com/suggs)



“Suggs is as modest as he is talented, and as humble as he is strong.”

– *Athlon Sports College Football 2001*



# 2001 Outlook

## *Hokies Working Hard to Stay in the National Spotlight*

The Virginia Tech football team may have lost its leading man, but there is certainly a good enough cast remaining to help the Hokies maintain a spot in the national spotlight.

After helping Tech to back-to-back 11-1 seasons and a pair of Top 10 finishes, sensational sophomore quarterback Michael Vick declared himself eligible for the National Football League Draft and eventually became the No. 1 overall pick by the Atlanta Falcons. Vick is one of five offensive starters from last year's Gator Bowl

championship team that Tech has to replace. The other four are all offensive linemen.

"We went into spring practice with two major areas where we needed some answers," head coach Frank Beamer said. "First, we needed to see how our offensive line was going to stack up. We've got the makeup to be good. We're not quite there right now, but I think we will be there when the season rolls around.

"The other key thing was the quarterback situation," Beamer added. "Any time you've got a question mark at your quarterback position, that is a critical issue."

During the spring, all the attention at quarterback went to the Hokies' two returnees, redshirt junior Grant Noel and redshirt freshman Jason Davis. Noel moved into the No. 1 spot with a solid performance and is expected to open the season as the Hokies' starting quarterback. Three incoming freshmen — Bryan Randall, Chris Clifton and Will Hunt — will join Noel and Davis when practice

resumes in August and will be given an opportunity to compete for playing time.

Beamer believes the Hokies have a good situation for a new quarterback.

"I think the good thing for us is we are going to have a good team around our quarterback," he said. "Even though there are a lot of new names on the offensive line, I believe it is going to be a good, athletic line. We have good wide receivers and tight ends. And I'm not sure there's a better tailback-fullback combination in the country than Lee Suggs and Jarrett Ferguson."

Another plus will be the Tech defensive unit which returns nine starters from a year ago and figures to be one of the Hokies' fastest groups to date. The Hokies have four All-BIG EAST defensive picks back, along with a pair of freshman All-Americans.

The main emphasis on defense during the spring was filling the rover and whip linebacker positions. One of the few significant position changes of the spring found senior Kevin McCadam moving from free safety, where he was the No. 2 man last season, to the rover position vacated by All-BIG EAST selection Cory Bird.

Some of the biggest names on defense, including starting linebackers Ben Taylor and Jake Houseright, missed all or portions of the spring due to injuries. All of those players are expected back for preseason practice.

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**Talented senior linebackers Jake Houseright (41) and Ben Taylor (40) return to help anchor an experienced Tech defense after missing spring practice with injuries.**

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Their absence during the spring opened the door for many of the Hokies' younger players to get added attention.

"Even if they weren't hurt, the veteran guys who had already proven themselves were only going to get so many reps," Beamer said. "I think a large part of spring is seeing where a lot of your younger players are in relation to your program and finding out which ones are going to step up and play for you. I think we accomplished that."

Beamer feels strongly that the 2001 team will continue

the string of successes that has carried the Hokies to eight straight bowl games. That feeling isn't based solely on the team's talent level, it goes more to the heart of Tech's lunch pail tradition.

"I think the best thing about this football team so far has been its work habits," Beamer said. "In early-morning workouts, during winter lifting and throughout the spring our kids worked really hard. When you finish up your bowl game and go right back to work, and you're working even harder than before, I think that's a pretty good sign."



**Center Steve DeMasi is the lone returning starter on the offensive line.**

# The 2001 OFFENSE

The loss of quarterback Michael Vick and four veteran offensive linemen hasn't taken all of the bite out of the Virginia Tech offense. Among the six returning starters are record-setting running back Lee Suggs and big-play receivers André Davis and Emmett Johnson.

Tech's offense also returns Jarrett Ferguson, one of the top fullbacks in the BIG EAST, and Browning Wynn and Bob Slowikowski, perhaps the best tight end duo in the league.

The job of rebuilding the offensive line has been facilitated by the return of center Steve DeMasi and the presence of talented tackles Anthony Davis and Matt Wincek. DeMasi started all 12 games last year for the Hokies while Davis and Wincek have seen valuable playing time as top reserves.

Behind center, the Hokies know there is only one Michael Vick and won't be expecting the same from their next quarterback. During the spring, offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Rickey Bustle looked for consistency and play-making ability from returnees Grant Noel and Jason Davis.

Overall, Bustle felt one of the most important goals of the spring was to determine the chemistry of the new players and mesh it with the chemistry of the team.

"We got an opportunity to develop our new players," Bustle said. "As an offense, we determined our strengths and weaknesses and began finding the chemistry that works best for us. We'll continue to build from there when practice resumes in August."

## Offensive Line

The departure of four veteran starters and a top reserve gives offensive line coach Bryan Stinespring good reason to be concerned. But

don't expect the young Tech assistant head coach to panic. Stinespring and his players have always met challenges head on.

Gone are starting offensive tackles Dave Kadela and Anthony Lambo who had 35 and 24 consecutive starts, respectively. Graduation also claimed starting guards Matt Lehr and Josh Redding, along with backup Joe Marchant. Lehr had 27 straight starts to his credit and Redding 24. Marchant started six games during the 1998 season and saw action in 11 games last year.

"We lost good players, as well as experience, but the cupboard isn't bare," Stinespring said. "We have a good nucleus coming back that mixes some proven players with some talented young players who haven't had the opportunity to prove themselves yet."

"I felt we had a productive spring," he added. "Our primary goal was to get our younger guys some quality work against our defensive unit and see how they reacted. We were able to do that. We also got people in their best positions and gained some versatility."

The Hokies' lone returning starter is rising senior Steve DeMasi, who will once again anchor the center position. DeMasi is a real competitor who has developed into a tough, physical player. His experience and knowledge of the system will make him a valuable leader along the offensive front.

Last year's backup at center, Jake Grove, is still available for duty, but will concentrate most of his efforts at guard this season. Redshirt freshmen Bob Ramsey and Travis Conway are other candidates at the position. Ramsey, who can also play guard, showed promise at center during the spring and could work his way into the backup duties.

Despite the loss of Kadela and Lambo, the tackle spots will be in good hands.

Stinespring feels strongly about returnees Anthony Davis and Matt Wincek.

"Anthony and Matt are more than ready to step in and take over the tackle spots," he said. "Having them has been like having additional starters."

Davis, a 6-4, 314-pound junior, will start at left tackle. He possesses excellent strength and size, and moves extremely well. Wincek, a 6-5, 284-pound senior, is slated to start on the right side, but has the versatility to play either tackle spot. He is tough, experienced and athletic.

One player who got plenty of attention in the spring is redshirt freshman Jon Dunn. At 6-7, 320, Dunn has a chance to make an impact in the fall. He could challenge Wincek at right tackle as he gains experience.

Working behind Davis on the left side will be a pair of redshirt juniors, 6-5, 287-pound Tim Selmon and 6-3, 285-pound Thenus Franklin.

The picture at guard revolves around the health of potential starters Grove, Luke Owens and Jacob Gibson, who missed part or all of spring workouts.

One of the key issues will be the status of Grove, who performed extremely well at the right guard position during the spring. If he can stay away from the back problems that have nagged him in the past, it will be a big plus for the Hokies. The 6-3, 272-pound redshirt sophomore brings outstanding strength and aggressiveness to the line.

One of the backups for Grove will be newcomer James Miller, who entered school in January. The 6-5, 291-pound freshman put himself in position for playing time with his strong work ethic and attitude during the spring.

Owens, a 6-3, 310-pound redshirt junior, missed the entire spring after undergoing surgery to repair a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his knee. He is the most experienced player at the guard positions and has been

cleared to return to action. He is expected to compete for the starting job at left guard and could also serve as the backup on the right side.

Gibson, a highly-promising 6-4, 293-pound redshirt sophomore, underwent arthroscopic knee surgery during the off-season but returned for the second half of spring practice. He has shown good potential and possesses the ability to win the battle at left guard.

Another player battling for playing time will be Anthony Nelson, who is coming off his best spring yet at Tech. The 6-4, 313-pounder could join in the battle with Owens and Gibson for the starting job with a good summer of preparation.

Sophomore walk-ons Matt Findley and Jeff Werner will help provide solid depth at the guard positions, as well as center.

"We have enough talent to be successful," said Stinespring. "Our off-season goal is to get stronger to make sure we're physically and mentally ready to take on whatever faces us this season."

## Tight Ends

The Hokies have a good mix at tight end where two experienced veterans are joined by three promising underclassmen. The veterans – seniors Bob Slowikowski and Browning Wynn – are considered co-starters at the position, and give the Hokies one of the best tight end combos in the BIG EAST.

Slowikowski has made steady improvement throughout his Tech career. He played in every game last fall, including starts against West Virginia and Syracuse. During the WVU game, the 6-5, 247-pounder hauled in a 72-yard touchdown pass, the longest on record for a Tech tight end.

Wynn, who originally joined the Tech squad as an invited walk-on, earned second-team All-BIG EAST



**Bob Slowikowski (87) is one of the Hokies' experienced veterans at tight end.**

honors last season. He started 10 games and caught eight passes for 167 yards and one touchdown. Wynn was the first Tech player to reach the Elite Athlete level in the strength and conditioning program. His work ethic and toughness have helped him develop into an outstanding blocker and clutch receiver.

"I have a tremendous amount of confidence in both Bob and Browning," said tight ends coach Danny Pearman. "They have done everything we have asked them to do to improve as players. Now, we need them to take on leadership roles."

Pearman couldn't ask for better examples for his younger players, redshirt sophomore Keith Willis and redshirt freshmen Jared Mazzetta and Mike Jackson.

Pearman is expecting big things from the 6-5, 240-pound Willis, who lettered last season while seeing reserve action in 10 of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games. Willis gained Pearman's attention during Tech's practice sessions at the Gator Bowl and kept it during winter and spring workouts.

"I've been impressed by Keith's attitude and steady improvement," Pearman said. "He has a great opportunity to shine and make some inroads at the position."

Mazzetta and Jackson also will get a good opportunity to show what they can do. Pearman was pleased with the progress both players made during their redshirt year.

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**Junior Grant Noel heads into the season as Tech's No. 1 quarterback.**

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## Quarterbacks

The process of picking the successor to Michael Vick began with spring practice. All the snaps during the spring went to redshirt junior Grant Noel and redshirt freshman Jason Davis with Noel moving into the top spot. When practice resumes in August, Noel and Davis will be joined at the position by incoming recruits Bryan Randall, Will Hunt and Chris Clifton.

Noel, the only player at the position with any actual game experience, is expected to open the season as the Hokies' No. 1 quarterback. He has played in a total of six varsity games completing 5 of 12 passes for 59 yards with no interceptions or touchdowns. The 6-1, 224-pounder played a career-high 24 snaps during the second half of the Hokies' win at Central Florida in 2000.

"Grant did a lot of the good things you're looking for from a quarterback during spring practice," said Rickey Bustle,

the Hokies' quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator. "He is still working to improve his passing accuracy, but he showed maturity and toughness and did a good job in our offense.

"Grant doesn't have a lot of experience from the standpoint of playing time," Bustle added, "but he does have plenty of wisdom from being around our offensive system for three years. He's a guy who has shown he can make plays when things break down."

Things have been happening fast for Davis, who entered Tech in January 2000, just a month after completing his final high school season. He went through spring practice a year ago and worked with the scout squad while redshirting in the fall.

"This has been a new experience for Jason," Bustle said. "With Michael leaving early, Jason's timetable was accelerated. He made some good throws during the spring and performed well in the spring game. He just needs to become more consistent, play

within his abilities and make plays.

Davis will continue to compete for playing time when preseason camp opens in August. He will be joined in that competition by the incoming freshmen.

## Running Backs

With starters Lee Suggs and Jarrett Ferguson returning at tailback and fullback, respectively, the Hokies can concentrate much of their focus on developing depth at both positions.

"I feel very good about both positions with Lee and Jarrett back," running backs coach Billy Hite said. "Basically, spring practice came down to getting a lot of young players some repetitions and finding backups."

Suggs is coming off a record-setting sophomore season. The 6-0, 204-pounder was the leading scorer in the Division I-A ranks with an average of 15.27 points per game. He was named the Co-BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year and shattered Tech season records for rushing touchdowns (27), total touchdowns (28) and points (168). Suggs led the BIG EAST in rushing with 109.7 yards per game and turned in the third-best single-season rushing mark in school history with 1,207 yards on 222 carries.

Ferguson is a complete player who entered the Tech program as a walk-on and figures to leave as a four-year starter. He has averaged 5.4 yards per carry and 12.5 yards per reception during his career. Ferguson also rates as a formidable blocker who has helped the Hokies establish new BIG EAST season rushing totals each of the past two seasons.

Hite knows what Suggs and Ferguson can do, but he expects both of them to continue striving to get better. During the spring, Suggs worked to improve his blocking skills and passing routes while Ferguson took on more of a leadership role.

With the starting spots set, and Hite on the lookout for players to fill the No. 2 spots at both positions, there should be plenty of competition.

One player who staked a claim to the No. 2 spot during the spring was redshirt junior Keith Burnell. Burnell had a break-out spring, earning Most Improved Offensive Player honors in the spring. He was named the offensive MVP for the spring game after rushing for 182 yards and two TDs. During 2001 winter workouts, Burnell tied Suggs for the fastest 40 time on the squad at 4.28 seconds.

One of the other top candidates for playing time in the backfield, senior Wayne Ward, did not participate in spring practice. Ward has worked at both tailback and fullback during his Tech career.

Competition for the tailback position should be even more interesting in August with the arrival of a stellar recruiting class that includes prep All-America backs Kevin Jones, Justin Hamilton and Cedric Humes. Jones, from Chester, Pa., was rated the No. 1 high school prospect in the nation by numerous recruiting services.

The leaders for the No. 2 spot at fullback are senior Wayne Briggs and redshirt sophomore Doug Easlick.

Briggs has shown steady improvement during his time at Tech and appears ready to step up. He tied for the team lead in the bench press during the off-season at 425 pounds and has earned Super Iron Hokie honors seven times. Briggs lettered this past season as the No. 3 fullback and a starter on special teams.

Easlick, a converted tailback, has shown the potential to be an outstanding player. He brings competitiveness and an aggressive style to the position.

Hite has high expectations for Josh Spence, a redshirt freshman with a great work ethic. Spence proved to be a

powerful runner last fall as a tailback on the scout team. He moved to fullback for spring practice, but was sidelined early by an elbow injury. At 6-1, 221, he has already added 16 pounds to his frame since last August and has a chance to figure into the fullback race.

Hite also will take a close look at three players who are redshirt sophomores — Marvin Urquhart, Joe Wilson and Ryan Angelo. All three have good athletic ability and will get a chance to show what they can do.

As a group, the running backs should be one of Tech's strongest positions, literally as well as figuratively. Seven of Hite's players — Briggs, Burnell, Ferguson, Spence, Suggs, Urquhart and Wilson — earned Super Iron Hokie honors during the spring.

## Wide Receivers

With everyone returning from last year's three-deep roster, receivers coach Tony Ball will have plenty of experience and talent to work with.

"Our experience should give us a chance to expand," Ball said. "We want to create competition at both positions and develop our depth at the flanker position."

Ball gave each player individual goals to focus on during the spring. The players also set individual goals of their own. Those goals ranged from improving fundamentals and running routes to learning how to participate and handle themselves off the field in meetings and film study.

"As a group, our goal has been to get better at running with the football after the catch, improving our drive blocking techniques and continuing to get better in man-to-man combat at the line of scrimmage," said Ball.

Last year's leading receiver, Emmett Johnson, returns at the split end position. The 6-3, 206-pound rising senior, grabbed 34 passes last fall for 574 yards and three touchdowns. He

has the speed, size and athletic ability to impact a game.

The Hokies have a definite impact player at the starting flanker spot in senior André Davis, who has averaged 21.3 yards a catch during his Tech career. Davis was slowed by ankle problems late last season, but still managed 24 catches. He showed his versatility when he finished second nationally in punt returns with an average of 22 yards per return. His combination of speed and experience make him a big-play threat.

Redshirt junior Shawn Witten, who moved into the No. 2 spot behind Davis, combines experience with good instincts and sure hands. He has been one of the Hokies' most dependable receivers the past two seasons and has worked extremely hard to become more than a possession receiver.

Another talented receiver, redshirt sophomore Ernest Wilford sat out spring workouts following surgery for tendonitis in his right knee. Wilford, whose 6-5, 211-pound frame makes him a formidable target, is expected to work at the No. 2 split end spot behind Johnson. He started four games at flanker last season and caught 12 passes for 141 yards.

Ball will take a close look at four players to see where they fit in the rotation. The group consists of redshirt sophomore

Ron Moody, redshirt freshman Richard Johnson, redshirt junior Terrell Parham and walk-on redshirt sophomore Chris Shreve.

Parham showed big improvement in the spring and has a chance to make an impact in the fall if he remains focused. Moody, who saw limited action in seven games last season, enjoyed a good off-season program but suffered a setback in the spring when he missed time with an ankle injury.

The newcomer of the group, Richard Johnson, has created excitement in the Tech camp with his talent and quickness. Johnson, a former high school quarterback, has gotten stronger both physically and mentally, but is still learning how to be a receiver.

"We will keep a close eye on how these players perform," said Ball. "We want to see if they can develop into players who can give us quality minutes week-in and week-out."



**Emmett Johnson will be one of the Hokies' main receiving targets in 2001.**

# The 2001 DEFENSE

Considered one of the best year in and year out, Virginia Tech's defense should again be among the nation's best in 2001. Just don't expect the defensive unit you saw on the field in spring practice to be what you'll see when the Hokies line up to face Connecticut on Sept. 1.

The big story in spring practice was the absence of some of the defense's top players, including All-American linebacker Ben Taylor, who missed spring ball to recover from off-season ankle surgery. Other notables who missed spring practice were linebacker Jake Houseright (knee) and safety Willie Pile (shoulder). Cornerback Larry Austin (knee), lineman Chad Beasley (foot), tackle David Pugh (ankles) and cornerback Garnell Wilds (knee) all had surgeries in the past year.

Despite what seemed to be bleak news on the injury front, defensive coordinator Bud Foster could have one of his best defenses if everyone returns, as expected, for fall practice. Scheduled to return are nine starters, including All-BIG EAST picks Taylor, Pugh, Beasley and cornerback Ronyell Whitaker. In addition, defensive end Nathaniel Adibi and cornerback Eric Green were both named to *The Sporting News* Freshman All-America team.

If the replacements for Cory Bird at rover and Phillip Summers and Nick Sorensen at whip linebacker can come through, the Hokies have the depth and experience to once again be a defensive force on the national level.

"We had a very productive spring," Foster said. "We improved in areas we needed to in order to create depth.

"I feel good about this group and like their attitude. We're athletic, bigger and

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## Outlook

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stronger and the experience we gained last year will be a plus. This defense is going to play faster because we know what to do. We have a tradition and high expectations here and I think these guys want to uphold those."

## Defensive Line

Two seasons ago, defensive line coach Charley Wiles joked he could sit on the porch in a rocking chair and let the quartet of Corey Moore, John Engelberger, Nathaniel Williams and Carl Bradley make him look good.

He should be in a similar position this year as all four starters along the defensive front return, along with some solid depth at each position.

"We return just about everybody and that's exciting," Wiles said. "We have some experience, but we're still a way from being where we want to be. We got stronger and bigger in the off-season and hopefully that will pay off this fall. The effort is there and we play hard and that's half the battle."

Last year, no one expected Tech's defensive line to be very good. This year, people are expecting big things.

"The expectations don't change year to year for us," Wiles said. "We want to play at a certain level. We were young last year and you have to take that into account, but there's a certain level all coaches expect their kids to play at whether you're a senior or freshman. Hopefully with a year under our belt and the experience coming back, we'll be able to have a great year."

Leading the way up front will be first-team All-BIG EAST selection David Pugh. The senior ranked sixth in the conference among linemen in tackles with 57 and led the team in quarterback sacks with five. He had off-season ankle surgery, then hurt his knee during the spring and missed contact work.

Joining him up front on the line will be second-team all-

conference pick, Chad Beasley. The senior led Tech's defensive linemen in tackles and was fifth in the conference among linemen in tackles with 58. He had surgery on his foot during the off-season and also saw limited work this spring. Both Beasley and Pugh should be ready to go by fall.

"David and Chad are two of the best tackles in the country," Wiles said. "They are the core for us up front and they are playmakers. They're two big kids who are athletic and make plays and that's huge on this level."

Channing Reed, Kevin Lewis and Dan Wilkinson all battled it out in spring practice for a spot on the depth chart. All three enjoyed success during the spring. Reed and Lewis were named the team's most improved defensive players and Wilkinson was named one of the most valuable defensive players in the annual Maroon-White game.

Reed saw action in 10 regular season games in 2000, posting 21 total tackles and a sack. Lewis, who was a true freshman last year, played in eight games, recording 15 tackles. Wilkinson played in every game, recording 23 tackles, one tackle for loss and 2.5 sacks.

"Those three are all coming along and pushing each other," Wiles said. "We have a real battle with them."

Both starters at the end spots return, as do both backups. Nathaniel Adibi and Lamar Cobb combined for 92 tackles, seven tackles for loss and six sacks. Adibi was named a first-team freshman All-American by *The Sporting News* after posting 45 tackles and five sacks. He will team with Cobb to once again form a great tandem on the ends.

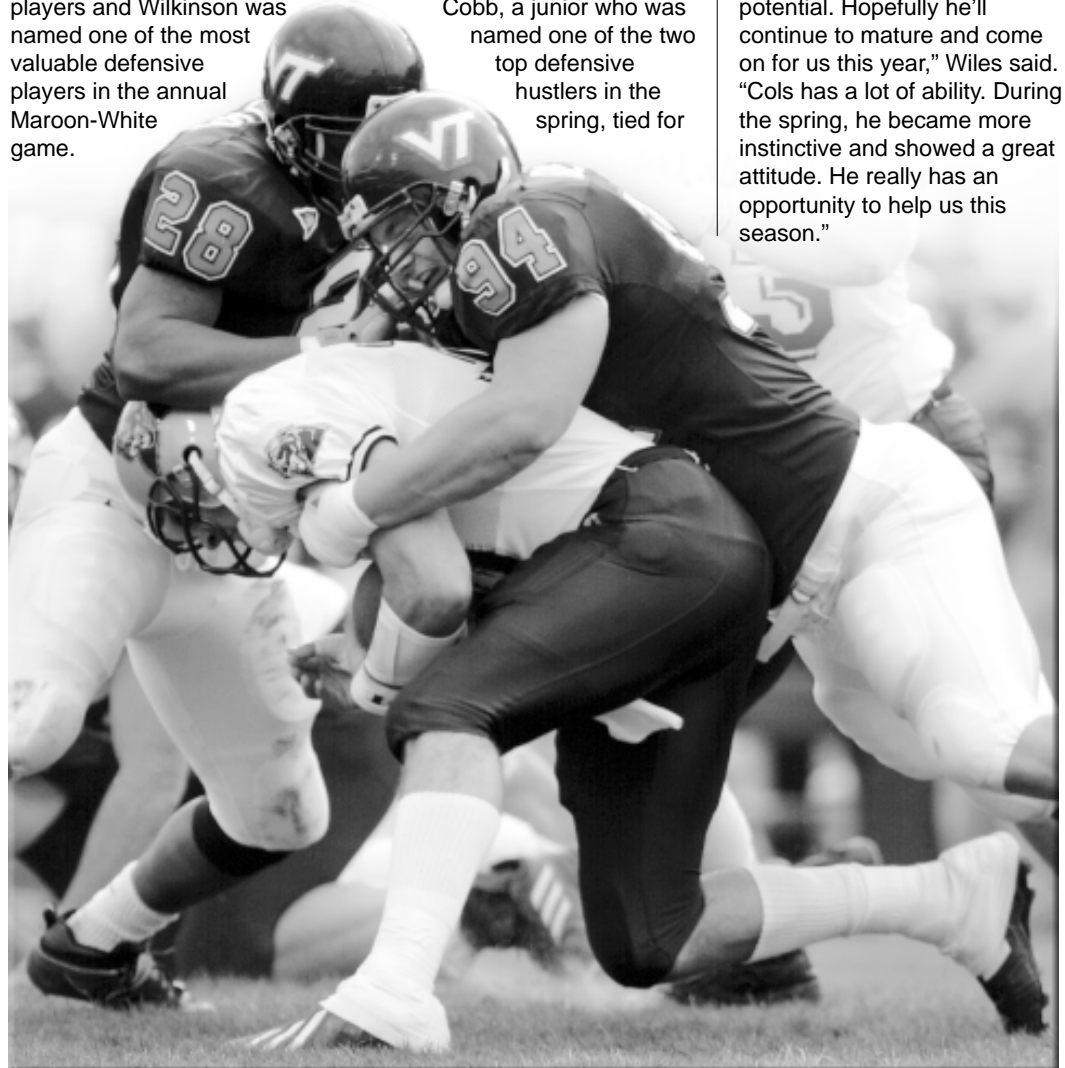
Cobb, a junior who was named one of the two top defensive hustlers in the spring, tied for

the team lead with 10 quarterback hurries and had 47 tackles last year.

"We expect them to make more big plays this year," Wiles said. "I think we held up and got a lot of ties, but we need to win more one-on-one situations and have more of a presence in the passing game."

Joining them on the end will be Jim Davis and Cols Colas. Davis was one of three true freshmen to play last season and responded with 28 tackles and 3.5 sacks. He also had sacks on consecutive plays in the Toyota Gator Bowl. Colas, who had an outstanding spring session, possesses blazing speed for the position and had 20 tackles in 2000.

"Jim probably made the most big plays for us at end last year and he has great potential. Hopefully he'll continue to mature and come on for us this year," Wiles said. "Cols has a lot of ability. During the spring, he became more instinctive and showed a great attitude. He really has an opportunity to help us this season."



**Tackle Chad Beasley (94) and end Lamar Cobb (28) are expected to help form one of the top defensive lines in the country.**



## Linebackers

Between injuries and graduation, the Tech linebacker corps was completely different for spring practice. Ben Taylor and Jake Houseright missed the spring session, but are scheduled to return in the fall. Taylor, who was a semifinalist for the Butkus Award a year ago, had surgery on his ankle. Houseright tore his ACL in the Gator Bowl, but has been cleared to return to practice and participated in summer workouts.

"Both were out of contact work all spring and we missed them, but we're excited about getting them back this fall," said Bud Foster, who handles the Hokies' inside linebackers. "Ben's a guy who I thought improved as the season went along. He's an exceptional football player and we have high expectations for him. It's disappointing that he was hurt, but it allowed him to spend more time in the weightroom.

"Last year was the first year Jake's been healthy. He showed steady improvement and played his best game in the Gator Bowl. I look for both him and Ben to be leaders for us and we're expecting big things from them."

Taylor, who was a third-team All-American last year, led the Hokies in tackles and earned first-team All-BIG EAST honors. He is an outstanding football player with great range and a nose for the football. He is expected to play a key leadership role for the Hokies this season at his backer position.

Vegas Robinson, Mikal Baaqee, and Chad Cooper saw the most action at backer during the spring in Taylor's absence. Robinson played mostly on special teams in 2000, but had two tackles from his linebacker spot against Akron last year. Baaqee had a great second half of spring practice and will battle Robinson for playing time.

"Vegas had a good spring and is a very promising young player. He combines good

speed and power and has a chance to be a valuable contributor this year.

"The last two weeks of spring, Mikal showed as much improvement as anyone. He has a tremendous work ethic and attitude. He's become a more physical player and if he continues to improve, he'll battle for a spot on the two-deep."

Cooper, who is still making the transition from a high school safety to the backer position at Tech, has shown good athletic ability and improvement, but still has some learning to do. The prep All-America redshirted last year.

Houseright handles the mike linebacker duties. He finished second behind Taylor in tackles and enjoyed his best season since coming to Tech. Houseright started every game and finished the season with 75 tackles. The senior gives the Hokies another physical player in the middle.

Competing with Houseright at mike linebacker is senior Brian Welch. He filled in for Houseright in the spring and was named one of the top defensive hustlers of spring practice. He is a very capable player who saw action last year at linebacker and is expected to be in the thick of things this season. Welch rated as one of the most productive reserves last year, registering 42 tackles.

Alex Markogiannakis and Chris Buie used the spring to jockey for position on the depth chart. Markogiannakis spent his time on the special teams last season, but has put himself in position for playing time on the defense with a good showing during the spring. Buie, a sophomore, saw all of his playing time last season on special teams. He is a strong athlete who brings good speed to the position.

"Brian had a great spring and we expect him to be a valuable contributor," Foster said. "He has great awareness and instincts inside the tackle box. I consider Brian and Jake both starters and it's going to

be a battle between Chris and Alex for the third spot."

Last year's co-starters at whip linebacker, Phillip Summers and Nick Sorensen, are both gone, leaving the position wide open. T.J. Jackson, Deon Provitt, Brandon Manning and Dirk Taylor all had repetitions at the position in the spring.

Jackson's experience paid off, helping him come out of spring ball as the No. 1 man, but he was followed closely by Provitt. Jackson was a starter on the kickoff team and saw action in nine games last year. He had eight tackles on the year. Provitt, who was a starter on the special teams last season, brings good size and speed to the spot. He saw action on over 130 plays a year ago, registering eight tackles.

Manning got a lot of reps during spring practice and made the most of his opportunities. He will have a chance to compete for playing time.

Taylor's only varsity action came against Rutgers last season, but he contributed an interception in both jayvee games.

## Defensive Secondary

With the return of senior Larry Austin and sophomore Garnell Wilds from knee injuries, secondary coach Lorenzo Ward will have four corners who could play at any time in a secondary which should be among the tops in the conference.

"Our depth will be a big plus for us because now we have some kids playing for us with game experience," Ward said.

Leading the way at cornerback is Ronyell Whitaker, who was a second-team All-BIG EAST pick last year. The junior had 61 tackles and five interceptions on the year as he saw action in over 750 plays. Whitaker is slated to start the

season at the boundary corner position.

Wilds will back up Whitaker at the boundary spot. The redshirt sophomore returned from knee surgery to enjoy a good spring practice and should be a solid performer for the Hokies this fall.

"Ronyell knows he can play with anybody," Ward said. "He had a tough assignment in the bowl game [Clemson's Rod Gardner] and he did a great job against him. There was a great size disadvantage and Ronyell held his own."

Austin, like Wilds, injured his knee during the season but came back strong for spring practice. Austin will start the season as the No. 1 man at the field corner position.

Joining Austin at the field position will be sophomore Eric Green, who was forced into action last year as a true freshman and responded with four interceptions and a team-high 12 passes broken up. He was named a second-team freshman All-American by *The Sporting News*.

*Continued on next page*



**Cornerback Ronyell Whitaker was a second-team All-BIG EAST pick in 2000.**

## Outlook

Continued from page 27

At safety, starter Willie Pile returns after sitting out contact work in spring practice while recovering from shoulder surgery. Pile led the team in interceptions with five and added another pick in the Gator Bowl.

Pile's absence opened the door for young redshirt freshmen Vincent Fuller and Mike Daniels to get plenty of exposure to the position. Fuller, a great athlete with tons of potential made a strong push for playing time behind Pile and also spent some time at corner in the spring. Daniels also enjoyed a good spring and impressed the coaches with his physical style of play.

"The good thing about this is Willie got all the footwork [of spring practice], but none of the contact," Ward said. "As far as tackling, he got better as the season went along and he should be fine once fall practice comes around.

"I was very pleased with Vincent. Right now, he's got more range than anyone we've got. He can run with anyone."

The rover spot was the biggest question mark of the

secondary heading into the spring, but senior Kevin McCadam eased the coaches' worries with a great spring.

"I thought Kevin enjoyed a very good transition," said position coach Jim Cavanaugh. "He has learned to make decisions more quickly. He's tough and has good coverage skills. I expect him to be a good leader for us."

McCadam, who played at safety last year, moved to the rover spot this spring and came out of the session as the No. 1 man. The rising senior made a run at the starting job last year before suffering a high ankle sprain in a preseason scrimmage. He ended up making 28 tackles on the season as the No. 2 man at safety.

Billy Hardee, who practiced at safety and cornerback last year, will move to the rover spot when practice opens in August. He started Tech's last three games on the corner last year and finished the season with 34 tackles, two tackles for loss and two passes broken up. Hardee is a hard-working, physical player who understands the game.

Also competing for the playing time at rover will be Michael Crawford, Chris Krebs and Sam Fatherly. Crawford saw brief action at rover last season on the way to lettering as a special teams player. He showed outstanding effort during the spring and became more comfortable at the position. Krebs has been a mainstay on Tech's special teams the past three years and posted eight tackles on the year. Fatherly was redshirted last year and is still learning the rover position.



**Willie Pile posted a team-high six interceptions from his free safety spot last season.**

# The 2001 SPECIAL TEAMS

Spring practice produced plenty of competition on special teams despite the fact everyone was back but kickoff return man André Kendrick.

The competition was especially tight for the punting duties with last year's starter Robert Peaslee and redshirt freshman Vinnie Burns leading the way. Peaslee started every game last season and ended up with a 35.3-yard average. He also doubled as the Hokies' holder for field goals and extra points. Burns, however, emerged out of spring ball as the No. 1 man after averaging over 46 yards per punt with an average hang time of 4.6 seconds.

"We're going to continue to do a lot of punting during preseason practice," says head coach Frank Beamer, whose involvement with special teams has made the Hokies' special team units among the nation's best. "Vinnie Burns really punted well over the last two weeks of spring and showed good consistency. He will need to maintain that consistency in August in order to hold on to the No. 1 spot.

"We need to punt the ball better this season and our players are aware of that. There's still going to be plenty of competition."

The competition won't stop with the punters. Beamer also expects competition for the snapping duties and even for the place-kicking job.

Last season, Ken Keister handled the snaps for both placements and punts. This year, he will be challenged for one or both of those duties by redshirt freshman Travis Conway.

One of the biggest questions for the Hokies heading into the season is the health of place-kicker Carter Warley, who has been plagued



**Place-kicker Carter Warley**

by back problems. Warley was second-team All-BIG EAST last season as a freshman when he was the fifth-leading scorer in the league with 77 points. Warley kicked with back pain throughout the 2000 season before taking the spring off to rest. Warley's absence during the spring provided a golden opportunity for Jon Mollerup who was the No. 2 kicker last season. Mollerup impressed the coaches with his strong leg, kicking a 52-yarder in the spring game.

The Hokies return two Top 20 punt return men from last year's team, which finished first nationally in punt returns as a unit. André Davis ranked second in the nation with an average of 22 yards per return, while Ronyell Whitaker was 16th with an average of 14.4 yards.

Redshirt freshman Richard Johnson appears to be the leading candidate for kickoff return duties. Davis, tailback Lee Suggs and rover Michael Crawford also are among the pool of candidates.

After blocking more kicks than any other Division I-A team during the 1990s, Tech carried the tradition over to the new millennium with eight blocks during the 2000 season. Six of the seven players who blocked kicks for the Hokies last season are slated to return.

# Depth Chart

(Depth chart is subject to change)

| OFFENSE (Multiple) |   | DEFENSE (4-3) |   |
|--------------------|---|---------------|---|
| SE                 | 18 Emmett Johnson (6-3, 206, Sr.)*<br>19 Ernest Wilford (6-5, 211, r-So.)   | DE            | 28 Lamar Cobb (6-2, 226, r-Jr.)*<br>99 Cols Colas (6-0, 239, r-So.)   |
| LT                 | 57 Anthony Davis (6-4, 314, Jr.)<br>65 Tim Selmon (6-5, 287, r-Jr.)   | DT            | 94 Chad Beasley (6-5, 292, r-Sr.)*<br>70 Kevin Lewis (6-1, 280, So.)  |
| LG                 | 60 Jacob Gibson (6-4, 293, r-So.)<br>or 74 Luke Owens (6-3, 310, r-Jr.)<br>67 Anthony Nelson (6-3, 313, r-So.)        | DT            | 71 David Pugh (6-3, 271, r-Sr.)*<br>53 Channing Reed (6-2, 311, Sr.)<br>or 54 Dan Wilkinson (6-1, 258, r-Sr.) |
| C                  | 61 Steve DeMasi (6-3, 278, r-Sr.)*<br>64 Jake Grove (6-3, 272, r-So.)   | DE            | 83 Nathaniel Adibi (6-3, 253, r-So.)*<br>95 Jim Davis (6-4, 251, So.)   |
| RG                 | 64 Jake Grove (6-3, 272, r-So.)<br>74 Luke Owens (6-3, 310, r-Jr.)<br>or 76 James Miller (6-5, 291, Fr.)              | OLB           | 23 T.J. Jackson (6-1, 214, r-Jr.)<br>3 Deon Provitt (6-1, 209, r-So.)   |
| RT                 | 58 Matt Wincek (6-5, 284, Sr.)<br>79 Jon Dunn (6-7, 320, r-Fr.)   | ILB           | 41 Jake Houseright (6-3, 237, Sr.)*<br>or 34 Brian Welch (6-0, 232, r-Sr.)                                    |
| TE                 | 93 Browning Wynn (6-3, 232, r-Sr.)*<br>or 87 Bob Slowikowski (6-5, 247, r-Sr.)  | ILB           | 40 Ben Taylor (6-2, 235, Sr.)*<br>6 Vegas Robinson (6-0, 233, r-So.)<br>or 45 Mikal Baaqee (5-10, 218, r-Fr.) |
| QB                 | 11 Grant Noel (6-1, 224, r-Jr.)<br>15 Jason Davis (6-1, 196, r-Fr.)   | FC            | 24 Larry Austin (5-9, 187, r-Sr.)*<br>1 Eric Green (5-11, 177, So.)   |
| FB                 | 27 Jarrett Ferguson (5-9, 222, r-Sr.)*<br>43 Doug Easlick (5-11, 226, r-So.)<br>or 47 Wayne Briggs (5-10, 247, r-Sr.) | FS            | 35 Willie Pile (6-3, 197, r-Jr.)*<br>8 Vincent Fuller (6-1, 178, r-Fr.)                                       |
| TB                 | 22 Lee Suggs (6-0, 204, r-Jr.)*<br>20 Keith Burnell (6-0, 202, r-Jr.)   | ROV           | 5 Kevin McCadam (6-1, 219, Sr.)<br>25 Billy Hardee (5-11, 196, r-Jr.)   |
| FL                 | 88 André Davis (6-1, 194, r-Sr.)*<br>26 Shawn Witten (6-0, 194, Jr.)  | BC            | 2 Ronyell Whitaker (5-9, 192, r-Jr.)*<br>17 Garnell Wilds (5-11, 193, r-So.)                                  |
| PK                 | 49 Carter Warley (5-11, 184, r-So.)*<br>or 97 Jon Mollerup (5-11, 202, r-Jr.)   | P             | 38 Vinnie Burns (5-11, 177, r-Fr.)<br>89 Robert Peaslee (6-0, 192, r-So.)*                                    |

\*Returning starter



Virginia Tech's highly-successful special teams make use of players who also start on offense or defense, such as tailback Lee Suggs (22) and safety Kevin McCadam (5).

## 2000 Lettermen & Returning Starters

Total Lettermen: 63; Lost 19/Returning 44  
(Starters in CAPS)

### Offense

| Lost (13)  | Returning (17)   |
|--|--|
| Derek Carter   | SE EMMETT JOHNSON,<br>TE BROWNING WYNN,<br>*Bob Slowikowski,<br>Keith Willis |
| DAVE KADELA,<br>ANTHONY LAMBO<br>Jeff Hartzog<br>JOSH REDDING,<br>MATT LEHR,<br>Joe Marchant | OT Anthony Davis,<br>Matt Wincek   |
|  | OG Luke Owens  |
|  | C STEVE DeMASI<br>†Jake Grove  |
| MICHAEL VICK,<br>*Dave Meyer<br>Cullen Hawkins   | QB   |
| André Kendrick   | FB JARRETT FERGUSON,<br>Wayne Briggs   |
|  | TB LEE SUGGS,<br>Keith Burnell,<br>#Wayne Ward                               |
| Anthony Thibodeau,<br>Mike Donahue   | FL ANDRÉ DAVIS,<br>*†Ernest Wilford,<br>Shawn Witten                         |

### Defense

| Lost (6)   | Returning (24)  |
|--|---|
| Franklin Bowser  | E LAMAR COBB,<br>NATHANIEL ADIBI,<br>Jim Davis, Cols Colas                                |
|  | T CHAD BEASLEY,<br>DAVID PUGH,<br>*Dan Wilkinson,<br>Channing Reed,<br>Kevin Lewis        |
| PHILLIP SUMMERS,<br>*Nick Sorensen,<br>Tee Butler<br>Benny Wolfe | OLB #T.J. Jackson<br>*Deon Provitt  |
|  | ILB BEN TAYLOR,<br>JAKE HOUSERIGHT,<br>Brian Welch,<br>#Chris Buie                        |
|  | CB RONYELL WHITAKER,<br>LARRY AUSTIN,<br>*Eric Green,<br>*†Billy Hardee,<br>Garnell Wilds |
| CORY BIRD  | ROV #Chris Krebs,<br>#Michael Crawford  |
|  | S WILLIE PILE,<br>†Kevin McCadam  |

### Specialists

| Lost(0) | Returning (3)    |
|---------|------------------|
|         | PK CARTER WARLEY |
|         | P ROBERT PEASLEE |
|         | H ROBERT PEASLEE |
|         | DS KEN KEISTER   |

\*Also saw starting time in 2000

#Lettered mainly for play on special teams

†Has moved to another position for 2001 season

# Hokie Preseason Rosters

| No. | Name             | vl | Pos   | B'date   | Ht.  | Wt. | Cl.   | Hometown              | High School          | H.S. Coach       |
|-----|------------------|----|-------|----------|------|-----|-------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 83  | Nathaniel Adibi  | 1  | DE    | 1/25/81  | 6-3  | 253 | r-So. | Hampton, Va.          | Phoebus              | Bill Dee         |
| 30  | Ryan Angelo      | -  | FB    | 10/23/80 | 6-1  | 230 | r-So. | Spring Hill, Fla.     | Springstead          | Pat McCoy        |
| 24  | Larry Austin     | 3  | CB    | 5/17/79  | 5-9  | 187 | r-Sr. | Norfolk, Va.          | Norview              | David Heath      |
| 45  | Mikal Baaqee     | -  | LB    | 12/20/81 | 5-10 | 218 | r-Fr. | Columbia, Md.         | DeMatha              | Bill McGregor    |
| 94  | Chad Beasley     | 3  | DT    | 11/13/78 | 6-5  | 292 | r-Sr. | Gate City, Va.        | Gate City            | Nick Colobro     |
| 47  | Wayne Briggs\$   | 1  | FB    | 1/24/78  | 5-10 | 247 | r-Sr. | Windsor, Va.          | Windsor              | Joe Jones        |
| 46  | Chris Buie       | 1  | LB    | 11/16/79 | 6-0  | 223 | r-So. | Tampa, Fla.           | Armwood              | Sean Callahan    |
| 20  | Keith Burnell    | 1  | TB    | 1/8/79   | 6-0  | 202 | r-Jr. | Chesapeake, Va.       | Western Branch       | Lew Johnston     |
| 38  | Vinnie Burns     | -  | P     | 2/2/82   | 5-11 | 177 | r-Fr. | New Orleans, La.      | St. Augustine        | Anthony Biagas   |
| 28  | Lamar Cobb       | 1  | DE    | 1/11/80  | 6-2  | 226 | r-Jr. | Hurt, Va.             | Gretna               | Robert Prunty    |
| 99  | Cols Colas       | 1  | DE    | 5/16/80  | 6-0  | 239 | r-So. | Plantation, Fla.      | South Plantation     | Dan Margurit     |
| 62  | Travis Conway    | -  | C/DS  | 6/3/82   | 6-4  | 269 | r-Fr. | Richmond, Va.         | J.R. Tucker          | Rusty Curle      |
| 33  | Chad Cooper      | -  | LB    | 6/10/81  | 6-2  | 205 | r-Fr. | Herndon, Va.          | Oakton               | Pete Bendorf     |
| 92  | Mark Costen      | -  | DT    | 3/13/81  | 6-3  | 250 | r-So. | Virginia Beach, Va.   | Kempsville           | John Bowles      |
| 21  | Michael Crawford | 1  | ROV   | 2/20/81  | 5-11 | 205 | r-So. | Baltimore, Md.        | Patterson            | Roger Wrenn      |
| 31  | Mike Daniels     | -  | FS    | 9/18/81  | 6-0  | 187 | r-Fr. | Fairfax, Va.          | Fairfax              | Tom Verbanic     |
| 88  | André Davis      | 3  | FL    | 6/12/79  | 6-1  | 194 | r-Sr. | Niskayuna, N.Y.       | Niskayuna            | John Furey       |
| 57  | Anthony Davis\$  | 2  | OT    | 3/27/80  | 6-4  | 314 | Jr.   | Victoria, Va.         | Central-Lunenburg    | Chippie Chappell |
| 15  | Jason Davis      | -  | QB    | 2/4/82   | 6-1  | 194 | r-Fr. | Sevierville, Tenn.    | Seymour              | Gary Householder |
| 95  | Jim Davis@       | 1  | DE    | 10/4/81  | 6-4  | 251 | So.   | Highland Springs, Va. | Highland Springs     | Randy Stokes     |
| 61  | Steve DeMasi     | 2  | C     | 11/24/79 | 6-3  | 278 | r-Sr. | Virginia Beach, Va.   | Cox                  | Reggie Garrett   |
| 52  | Jon Dunn         | -  | OT    | 12/12/81 | 6-7  | 320 | r-Fr. | Virginia Beach, Va.   | Tallwood             | Thad Harold      |
| 43  | Doug Easlick     | -  | FB    | 12/4/80  | 5-11 | 226 | r-So. | Marlton, N.J.         | Cherokee             | John Scott       |
| 29  | Sam Fatherly     | -  | ROV   | 6/13/81  | 5-10 | 203 | r-Fr. | Williamsport, Pa.     | Williamsport         | Tim Montgomery   |
|     | Matt Felber      | -  | PK    | 10/25/79 | 5-8  | 182 | r-Sr. | McLean, Va.           | Randolph-Macon       | Dick Allansen    |
| 27  | Jarrett Ferguson | 3  | FB    | 1/23/79  | 5-9  | 222 | r-Sr. | Goodview, Va.         | Staunton River       | Bob Gray         |
|     | Matt Findley     | -  | OG    | 11/11/80 | 6-1  | 284 | r-So. | Woodbridge, Va.       | C.D. Hylton          | Bill Brown       |
| 77  | Thenus Franklin  | -  | OT    | 2/2/79   | 6-3  | 285 | r-Jr. | Clewiston, Fla.       | Clewiston            | Al Morrell       |
| 8   | Vincent Fuller   | -  | FS    | 8/3/82   | 6-1  | 178 | r-Fr. | Baltimore, Md.        | Woodlawn             | Reggie White     |
| 60  | Jacob Gibson     | -  | OG    | 1/29/81  | 6-4  | 293 | r-So. | Rocky Mount, Va.      | Franklin County      | Jerry Little     |
| 1   | Eric Green       | 1  | CB    | 3/16/82  | 5-11 | 177 | So.   | Clewiston, Fla.       | Clewiston            | Al Morrell       |
| 64  | Jake Grove       | 1  | OG/C  | 1/22/80  | 6-3  | 272 | r-So. | Forest, Va.           | Jefferson Forest     | Ed Landis        |
| 25  | Billy Hardee†    | 1  | ROV   | 6/30/80  | 5-11 | 196 | r-Jr. | Winter Haven, Fla.    | Winter Haven         | Maxie Hunter     |
| 41  | Jake Houseright  | 3  | LB    | 1/4/79   | 6-3  | 237 | Sr.   | Gate City, Va.        | Gate City            | Nick Colobro     |
| 80  | Mike Jackson     | -  | TE    | 4/27/82  | 6-3  | 241 | r-Fr. | Mason, Ohio           | Archbishop Moeller   | Steve Klonne     |
| 23  | T.J. Jackson     | 1  | LB    | 10/10/79 | 6-1  | 214 | r-Jr. | Delray Beach, Fla.    | Olympic Heights      | Willie Dadaro    |
| 18  | Emmett Johnson   | 3  | SE    | 3/17/80  | 6-3  | 206 | Sr.   | Chesapeake, Va.       | Western Branch       | Lew Johnston     |
| 12  | Richard Johnson  | -  | FL    | 6/17/82  | 5-10 | 189 | r-Fr. | Baltimore, Md.        | Milford Mill Academy | Reggie Brooks    |
| 55  | Ken Keister      | 1  | DE/DS | 8/13/80  | 6-1  | 229 | r-Jr. | Radford, Va.          | Radford              | Norm Lineburg    |
| 37  | Chris Krebs      | 3  | ROV   | 1/5/79   | 6-1  | 195 | r-Sr. | Burke, Va.            | Robinson             | Nick Hilgert     |

## Virginia Tech's 2001 Football Recruiting Class

| Name            | Pos. | Ht. | Wt.   | Hometown             | High School        |
|-----------------|------|-----|-------|----------------------|--------------------|
| James Anderson  | 6-2  | 210 | LB    | Chesapeake, Va.      | Deep Creek         |
| Curtis Bradley  | 6-3  | 285 | OL    | Summerville, S.C.    | Summerville        |
| Reggie Butler   | 6-6  | 310 | OL    | Keswick, Va.         | Monticello         |
| Chris Clifton   | 6-4  | 200 | QB    | Chesapeake, Va.      | Deep Creek         |
| Andrew Fleck    | 6-4  | 240 | DL/TE | Edmond, Okla.        | Santa Fe           |
| Brandon Frye    | 6-4  | 225 | DL    | Myrtle Beach, S.C.   | Myrtle Beach       |
| DeAngelo Hall   | 6-0  | 190 | DB    | Chesapeake, Va.      | Deep Creek         |
| Justin Hamilton | 6-3  | 210 | RB    | Clintwood, Va.       | Clintwood          |
| Kevin Hilton    | 6-2  | 255 | DL    | Silver Spring, Md.   | Good Counsel       |
| Cedric Humes    | 6-2  | 200 | RB    | Virginia Beach, Va.  | Princess Anne      |
| Will Hunt       | 6-1  | 205 | QB    | Springdale, Ark.     | Springdale         |
| Kevin Jones     | 6-1  | 205 | RB    | Chester, Pa.         | Cardinal O'Hara    |
| Jeff King       | 6-5  | 245 | TE/DL | Pulaski, Va.         | Pulaski County     |
| Fred Lee        | 5-10 | 175 | WR    | Harrisburg, Pa.      | Bishop McDevitt    |
| Danny McGrath   | 6-2  | 270 | OL    | Herndon, Va.         | Herndon            |
| Jason Murphy    | 6-3  | 255 | DL    | Baltimore, Md.       | Edmondson Westside |
| Chris Pannell   | 6-5  | 240 | DL    | Staunton, Va.        | Robert E. Lee      |
| Bryan Randall   | 6-2  | 205 | QB    | Williamsburg, Va.    | Bruton             |
| Tim Sandidge    | 6-2  | 275 | DL    | Madison Heights, Va. | Amherst County     |
| Jordan Trott    | 6-4  | 230 | LB    | Torrance, Calif.     | Loyola             |
| D.J. Walton     | 5-10 | 195 | DB    | Woodbridge, Va.      | C.D. Hylton        |
| Blake Warren    | 6-2  | 205 | LB    | Clifton, Va.         | Centreville        |

## 2001 Numerical Roster

|                               |                                 |                             |                             |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Eric Green ..... CB         | 26 Shawn Witten ..... FL        | 45 Mikal Baaqee ..... LB    | 71 David Pugh ..... DT      |
| 2 Ronyell Whitaker ..... CB   | 27 Jarrett Ferguson ..... FB    | 46 Chris Buie ..... LB      | 74 Luke Owens ..... OG      |
| 3 Deon Provitt ..... LB       | 28 Lamar Cobb ..... DE          | 47 Wayne Briggs ..... FB    | 76 James Miller ..... OG    |
| 5 Kevin McCadam ..... ROV     | 29 Sam Fatherly ..... ROV       | 48 Brandon Manning ..... LB | 77 Thenus Franklin ..... OT |
| 6 Vegas Robinson ..... LB     | 30 Ryan Angelo ..... FB         | 49 Carter Warley ..... PK   | 80 Mike Jackson ..... TE    |
| 8 Vincent Fuller ..... FS     | 31 Mike Daniels ..... FS        | 52 Jon Dunn ..... OT        | 82 Ronald Moody ..... SE    |
| 9 Terrell Parham ..... FL     | 32 Wayne Ward ..... TB          | 53 Channing Reed ..... DT   | 83 Nathaniel Adibi ..... DE |
| 11 Grant Noel ..... QB        | 33 Chad Cooper ..... LB         | 54 Dan Wilkinson ..... DT   | 85 Jared Mazzetta ..... TE  |
| 12 Richard Johnson ..... FL   | 34 Brian Welch ..... LB         | 55 Ken Keister ..... DE/DS  | 86 Keith Willis ..... TE    |
| 15 Jason Davis ..... QB       | 35 Willie Pile ..... FS         | 57 Anthony Davis ..... OT   | 87 Bob Slowikowski ..... TE |
| 17 Garnell Wilds ..... CB     | 36 Marvin Urquhart ..... FB     | 58 Matt Wincek ..... OT     | 88 André Davis ..... FL     |
| 18 Emmett Johnson ..... SE    | 37 Chris Krebs ..... ROV        | 60 Jacob Gibson ..... OG    | 89 Robert Peaslee ..... P   |
| 19 Ernest Wilford ..... SE    | 38 Vinnie Burns ..... P         | 61 Steve DeMasi ..... C     | 91 Jason Lallis ..... DE    |
| 20 Keith Burnell ..... TB     | 39 Alex Markogiannakis ..... LB | 62 Travis Conway ..... C/DS | 92 Mark Costen ..... DT     |
| 21 Michael Crawford ..... ROV | 40 Ben Taylor ..... LB          | 64 Jake Grove ..... OG/C    | 93 Browning Wynn ..... TE   |
| 22 Lee Suggs ..... TB         | 41 Jake Houseright ..... LB     | 65 Tim Selmon ..... OT      | 94 Chad Beasley ..... DT    |
| 23 T.J. Jackson ..... LB      | 42 Josh Spence ..... FB         | 67 Anthony Nelson ..... OG  | 95 Jim Davis ..... DE       |
| 24 Larry Austin ..... CB      | 43 Doug Easlick ..... FB        | 68 Robert Ramsey ..... C    | 97 Jon Mollerup ..... PK    |
| 25 Billy Hardee ..... ROV     | 44 Joe Wilson ..... FB          | 70 Kevin Lewis ..... DT     | 99 Cols Colas ..... DE      |

| No. | Name                | vl | Pos | B'date   | Ht.  | Wt. | Cl.   | Hometown             | High School        | H.S. Coach       |
|-----|---------------------|----|-----|----------|------|-----|-------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 91  | Jason Lallis        | -  | DE  | 2/4/82   | 6-0  | 244 | r-Fr. | Mitchellville, Md.   | DeMatha            | Bill McGregor    |
| 70  | Kevin Lewis         | 1  | DT  | 4/26/80  | 6-1  | 280 | So.   | Richmond, Va.        | Varina             | Ed Bulheller     |
| 48  | Brandon Manning+    | -  | LB  | 5/12/81  | 6-0  | 211 | r-Fr. | Harrisburg, Pa.      | Central Dauphin    | George Chaump    |
| 39  | Alex Markogiannakis | -  | LB  | 1/22/80  | 5-9  | 208 | r-Jr. | Chantilly, Va.       | Robinson           | Mark Bendorf     |
| 85  | Jared Mazzetta      | -  | TE  | 6/4/81   | 6-4  | 245 | r-Fr. | Flemington, N.J.     | Hunterdon Central  | Jim Meert        |
| 5   | Kevin McCadam^      | 1  | ROV | 3/6/79   | 6-1  | 219 | Sr.   | Lakeside, Calif.     | El Capitan         | Dave Waastad     |
| 76  | James Miller        | -  | OG  | 8/13/81  | 6-5  | 291 | Fr.   | Pompano Beach, Fla.  | Ft. Lauderdale     | John Timmons     |
| 97  | Jon Mollerup        | -  | PK  | 11/15/79 | 5-11 | 202 | r-Jr. | Lyndhurst, Va.       | Stuarts Draft      | Tom Goforth      |
| 82  | Ronald Moody        | -  | SE  | 10/26/81 | 6-1  | 190 | r-So. | Chesapeake, Va.      | Great Bridge       | Noble Palmer     |
| 67  | Anthony Nelson\$    | -  | OG  | 2/18/79  | 6-4  | 313 | r-So. | Kingsport, Tenn.     | Sullivan South     | Lonnie Messick   |
| 11  | Grant Noel          | -  | QB  | 6/11/80  | 6-1  | 224 | r-Jr. | Ridgeley, W.Va.      | Frankfort          | Greg Phillips    |
| 74  | Luke Owens          | 2  | OG  | 5/12/79  | 6-3  | 310 | r-Jr. | Grundy, Va.          | Grundy             | Greg Rowe        |
| 9   | Terrell Parham      | 1  | FL  | 10/1/79  | 6-0  | 196 | r-Jr. | Bartow, Fla.         | Bartow             | Kenny Wells      |
| 89  | Robert Peaslee      | 1  | P   | 6/28/81  | 6-0  | 201 | r-So. | Pulaski, Va.         | Pulaski County     | Joel Hicks       |
| 35  | Willie Pile         | 1  | FS  | 5/25/80  | 6-3  | 197 | r-Jr. | Alexandria, Va.      | West Potomac       | Dale Eaton       |
| 3   | Deon Provitt        | 1  | LB  | 10/22/80 | 6-1  | 209 | r-So. | Warren, Ohio         | John F. Kennedy    | Tony Napolet     |
| 71  | David Pugh          | 3  | DT  | 7/24/79  | 6-3  | 271 | r-Sr. | Madison Heights, Va. | Amherst County     | Mickey Crouch    |
| 68  | Robert Ramsey       | -  | C   | 4/13/82  | 6-2  | 305 | r-Fr. | Coraopolis, Pa.      | Montour            | Don Morgan       |
| 53  | Channing Reed^^     | 1  | DT  | 9/19/78  | 6-2  | 311 | Sr.   | Trenton, N.J.        | Trenton Central    | Lawrence Parker  |
| 6   | Vegas Robinson      | -  | LB  | 5/19/81  | 6-0  | 233 | r-So. | Chesapeake, Va.      | Deep Creek         | David Cox        |
| 65  | Tim Selmon++        | -  | OT  | 8/7/78   | 6-5  | 287 | r-Jr. | Trenton, N.J.        | Hamilton West      | Keith Hartbauer  |
|     | Chris Shreve        | -  | SE  | 7/15/81  | 5-11 | 192 | r-So. | Mouth of Wilson, Va. | Grayson County     | Bill Strong      |
| 87  | Bob Slowikowski     | 3  | TE  | 10/30/79 | 6-5  | 247 | r-Sr. | Pittsburgh, Pa.      | Central Catholic   | John Fiscetti    |
| 42  | Josh Spence         | -  | FB  | 12/8/81  | 6-1  | 221 | r-Fr. | Riner, Va.           | Floyd County       | Winfred Beale    |
| 22  | Lee Suggs           | 2  | TB  | 8/11/80  | 6-0  | 204 | r-Jr. | Roanoke, Va.         | William Fleming    | George Miller    |
| 40  | Ben Taylor          | 3  | LB  | 8/31/78  | 6-2  | 235 | Sr.   | Bellaire, Ohio       | Bellaire           | John Magistro    |
|     | Dirk Taylor         | -  | LB  | 12/25/79 | 6-0  | 197 | Sr.   | Penn Laird, Va.      | Spotswood          | Eric Baylor      |
|     | Jeff Thompson       | -  | DE  | 5/26/80  | 6-4  | 245 | r-So. | Midlothian, Va.      | Clover Hill        | Ted Salmon       |
| 36  | Marvin Urquhart     | -  | FB  | 8/16/80  | 5-11 | 265 | r-So. | Chesapeake, Va.      | Western Branch     | Lew Johnston     |
| 32  | Wayne Ward          | 3  | TB  | 5/29/79  | 5-11 | 209 | r-Sr. | Plant City, Fla.     | Plant City         | Todd Long        |
| 49  | Carter Warley       | 1  | PK  | 2/14/80  | 5-11 | 184 | r-So. | Richmond, Va.        | Fork Union         | Mickey Sullivan  |
| 34  | Brian Welch         | 2  | LB  | 7/17/78  | 6-0  | 232 | r-Sr. | Fairfax, Va.         | Oakton             | Pete Bendorf     |
|     | Jeff Werner         | -  | OG  | 5/10/82  | 6-0  | 278 | So.   | Yardley, Pa.         | Pennsbury          | Mike Elko        |
| 2   | Ronyell Whitaker    | 2  | CB  | 3/19/79  | 5-9  | 192 | r-Jr. | Norfolk, Va.         | Lake Taylor        | Dan Newell       |
| 17  | Garnell Wilds       | 1  | CB  | 6/8/81   | 5-11 | 193 | r-So. | Tampa, Fla.          | Hillsborough       | Earl Garcia, Jr. |
| 19  | Ernest Wilford@     | 1  | SE  | 1/14/79  | 6-5  | 211 | r-So. | Richmond, Va.        | Armstrong/Franklin | Otis Brayboy     |
| 54  | Dan Wilkinson       | 1  | DT  | 11/14/78 | 6-1  | 258 | r-Sr. | W. Palm Beach, Fla.  | Palm Beach Lakes   | Bill Bolinder    |
| 86  | Keith Willis        | 1  | TE  | 12/14/80 | 6-5  | 240 | r-So. | Norfolk, Va.         | Norview            | Carleton Thomas  |
| 44  | Joe Wilson          | -  | FB  | 7/22/81  | 6-1  | 261 | r-So. | Newport News, Va.    | Warwick            | Tommy Reamon     |
| 58  | Matt Wincek         | 3  | OT  | 9/12/79  | 6-5  | 284 | Sr.   | Wilkes-Barre, Pa.    | Coughlin           | John Joseph      |
| 26  | Shawn Witten        | 2  | FL  | 5/18/80  | 6-0  | 194 | Jr.   | Elizabethton, Tenn.  | Elizabethton       | Dave Rider       |
| 93  | Browning Wynn       | 3  | TE  | 12/3/78  | 6-3  | 232 | r-Sr. | Jonesville, Va.      | Lee                | Allen Kinsler    |

\$ also attended Hargrave Military Academy (Va.); @ also attended Fork Union Military Academy (Va.); † also attended Florida Southern College; ^ also attended Grossmont [Calif.] CC; ^^ Montgomery [Md.] College; + attended the U.S. Air Force Academy Prep School; ++ also attended Peddie School (N.J.)

# The Hokies by States



**Arkansas**  
Springdale  
Will Hunt

**California**  
Lakeside  
Kevin McCadam  
Torrance  
Jordan Trott

**Florida**  
Bartow  
Terrell Parham  
Clewiston  
Thenus Franklin  
Eric Green

**Delray Beach**  
T.J. Jackson

**Plantation**  
Cols Colas

**Plant City**  
Wayne Ward

**Pompano Beach**  
James Miller

**Spring Hill**  
Ryan Angelo

**Tampa**  
Chris Buie  
Garnell Wilds

**West Palm Beach**  
Dan Wilkinson

**Winter Haven**  
Billy Hardee

**Louisiana**  
New Orleans  
Vinnie Burns

**Maryland**  
Columbia  
Mikal Baaqee  
Baltimore  
Michael Crawford  
Vincent Fuller  
Richard Johnson  
Jason Murphy  
Mitchellville  
Jason Lallis  
Silver Spring  
Kevin Hilton

**New Jersey**  
Flemington  
Jared Mazzetta  
Marlton  
Doug Easlick  
Trenton  
Channing Reed  
Tim Selmon

**New York**  
Niskayuna  
André Davis

**Ohio**  
Bellaire  
Ben Taylor  
Mason  
Mike Jackson  
Warren  
Deon Provitt

**Oklahoma**  
Edmond  
Andrew Fleck

**Pennsylvania**  
Coraopolis  
Robert Ramsey  
Chester  
Kevin Jones  
Harrisburg  
Fred Lee  
Brandon Manning  
Pittsburgh  
Bob Slowikowski  
Yardley  
Jeff Werner  
Wilkes-Barre  
Matt Wincek  
Williamsport  
Sam Fatherly

**South Carolina**  
Myrtle Beach  
Brandon Frye  
Summerville  
Curtis Bradley

**Tennessee**  
Elizabethton  
Shawn Witten  
Kingsport  
Anthony Nelson  
Sevierville  
Jason Davis

**West Virginia**  
Ridgeley  
Grant Noel

## Hometowns of Hokies From Virginia

**Alexandria**  
Willie Pile

**Burke**  
Chris Krebs

**Chantilly**  
Alex Markogiannakis

**Chesapeake**  
James Anderson  
Keith Burnell  
Chris Clifton  
DeAngelo Hall  
Emmett Johnson  
Ronald Moody  
Vegas Robinson  
Marvin Urquhart

**Clifton**  
Blake Warren

**Clintwood**  
Justin Hamilton

**Fairfax**  
Mike Daniels  
Brian Welch

**Forest**  
Jake Grove

**Gate City**  
Jake Houseright  
Chad Beasley

**Goodview**  
Jarrett Ferguson

**Grundy**  
Luke Owens

**Hampton**  
Nathaniel Adibi

**Herndon**  
Chad Cooper  
Danny McGrath

**Highland Springs**  
Jim Davis

**Hurt**  
Lamar Cobb

**Jonesville**  
Browning Wynn

**Keswick**  
Reggie Butler

**Lyndhurst**  
Jon Mollerup

**McLean**  
Matt Felber

**Madison Heights**  
David Pugh  
Tim Sandidge

**Midlothian**  
Jeff Thompson

**Mouth of Wilson**  
Chris Shreve

**Newport News**  
Joe Wilson

**Norfolk**  
Larry Austin  
Ronyell Whitaker  
Keith Willis

**Penn Laird**  
Dirk Taylor

**Pulaski**  
Jeff King  
Robert Peaslee

**Radford**  
Ken Keister

**Richmond**  
Travis Conway  
Kevin Lewis  
Carter Warley  
Ernest Wilford

**Riner**  
Josh Spence

**Roanoke**  
Lee Suggs

**Rocky Mount**  
Jacob Gibson

**Staunton**  
Chris Pannell

**Victoria**  
Anthony Davis

**Virginia Beach**  
Mark Costen  
Steve DeMasi  
Jon Dunn  
Cedric Humes

**Williamsburg**  
Bryan Randall

**Windsor**  
Wayne Briggs

**Woodbridge**  
Matt Findley  
D.J. Walton

