

VIRGINIA TECH FOOTBALL

Players



“I think our leadership is good and that always is a big, big plus. It takes a lot of things to end up with a really good football team, but I believe leadership is a key one.”

– *Frank Beamer*

Dressed

For

SUCCESS



Nathaniel Adibi and Browning Wynn



2001 Player Profiles

Nathaniel Adibi

83

Defensive End
6-3 253 r-So. 4VL
Hampton, Va.
Phoebus H.S.



A first-team freshman All-America pick by *The Sporting News* following the 2000 season ... Started every game at end for the Hokies' young defensive unit ... Averaged over 40 defensive plays a game ... Also contributed on special teams ... Tied for the team lead in sacks with five ... Has added both weight and strength, while maintaining his speed and quickness ... Averaged 4.55 seconds in the 40 during Tech's pro timing day ... Performed well during spring practice ... Has become a better pass rusher and a more physical player ... Is intelligent and focused on being successful both on and off the field ... Will bring added experience to the end position this season ... Works hard in practice ... Possesses the qualities needed to be a leader ...

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

bench press and 550-pound squat during spring testing ... Had four sacks during the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Also blocked a field goal ...

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

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

Personal: Nathaniel Barnell Adibi ... Born 1/25/81 in Mississippi ... Son of Abiodun and Leanne Adibi ... Studying residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	28	17	45	3-11	5-33
2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	4	1	5	2-11	1-8
At ECU	1	1	1	2	0-0	0-0
RUTGERS	1	3	0	3	0-0	0-0
At BC	1	3	2	5	0-0	0-0
TEMPLE	1	0	2	2	0-0	0-0
WVU	1	3	2	5	2-14	1-11
At Syr	1	2	3	5	0-0	0-0
PITTSBURGH	1	4	2	6	1-7	1-7
At Miami	1	2	1	3	0-0	0-0
At UCF	1	3	1	4	2-7	2-7
VIRGINIA	1	3	2	5	1-5	0-0

Ryan Angelo

30

Fullback
6-1 230 r-So.
Spring Hill, Fla.
Springstead H.S.



Contributed as a member of the scout team last season ... Also saw playing time in the Hokies' two jayvee games ... Has improved his strength through his work in the strength and conditioning program ... Continued working to develop his overall skills during spring practice ... His summer preparation and preseason work will play a role in his status for 2001 ...

2000: Worked as a fullback on the scout and jayvee teams ... Saw action in jayvee wins against Fork Union and Hargrave ... Scored on an 8-yard run in a 23-15 victory over Hargrave ... Posted a personal-best in the bench press during spring testing with a lift of 400 pounds ... Added a 495-pound back squat ... Suffered a sprained ankle during the spring and did not see action in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Practiced at fullback while being redshirted ... Tied for the second-best bench press among the entering freshmen in August with a lift of 370 pounds ... Increased his body weight through his work in the weight room ...

High School: An all-conference pick as a fullback at Springstead High ... Also played linebacker ... Was a four-year letterman for Coach Pat McCoy ... Rushed for 2,463 yards and scored 26 touchdowns during his career ... Gained 695 yards on the ground as a senior, scoring seven TDs ... Carried 177 times for 862 yards and 10 touchdowns as a junior ... Ranked the No. 90 player in the state of Florida by the *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Helped team to a 21-9 record and a district title during his varsity career ... Excelled in weight lifting competition and set several school records ...

Personal: Ryan C. Angelo ... Born 10/23/80 in Chicago, IL ... Son of Joe and Marca Angelo ... Enrolled in science of food, nutrition and exercise.

Larry Austin

24

Cornerback
5-9 187 lbs. 8VL
Norfolk, Va.
Norview H.S.



Will be looked to for a big year after missing most of the 2000 season with a knee injury ... Made a good recovery from surgery and enjoyed a great spring practice ... Worked at the field corner position after starting the fall at the boundary corner ... Adjusted quickly and is expected to start there this season ... Did a good job in coverage ... A tough, competitive player whose outstanding speed makes him good in the open field ... Took over the boundary cornerback position and started Tech's first four games last season ... Suffered a season-ending knee injury during the first quarter

of the Boston College game ... Underwent surgery to repair a torn ACL in his left knee and missed the Gator Bowl ... Worked hard during his rehab ... Was a Super Iron Hokie during the off-season program ... Will be looked to for leadership in 2001 ...

2000: Earned Iron Hokie honors in preseason testing ... Saw action on 163 defensive plays during Tech's first three games ... Was in on 10 tackles and knocked down two passes during the season opener against Akron ... Posted six tackles and blocked a field goal at East Carolina ... Broke up two more passes and added five tackles against Rutgers ... Played just four plays at BC before his injury ... Totaled 22 tackles and four passes broken up during his injury-shortened season ... Made good progress in winter strength and conditioning workouts ... Bench pressed 340 pounds during spring tests and had a 475-pound back squat ... Showed no ill effects of his injury when spring drills got underway ... Had three tackles in one of the team's scrimmages ...

1999: Played in every game at cornerback ... Led the team in special

teams plays, averaging 17 plays per game ... Was in for a career-high 58 defensive plays against Pittsburgh ... Got 34 snaps in the Rutgers game ... Contributed back-to-back six-tackle performances against Pittsburgh and West Virginia ... Recorded a sack for a 10-yard loss at Temple ... Also returned an interception 31 yards against the Owls for his first collegiate touchdown ... Had a tackle behind the line for a loss of 14 yards in the Syracuse game ... Was in on five tackles in the season opener against James Madison and four versus Miami ... Registered a total of 38 tackles, one sack, one tackle for loss and one interception ... Finished with two passes broken up and forced one fumble ... Saw action in the Sugar Bowl and contributed a tackle ... Won Iron Hokie honors during the fall and was a Super Iron Hokie in the spring ... Turned in Tech position records for a cornerback in the vertical jump (42 1/2 inches) and 40 (4.26) ... His 340-pound bench press was the second-best among the defensive backs ... Contributed three tackles and broke up a pass in one spring scrimmage and added four tackles in another ... Was in on two

A Talk With Larry Austin

What have you done to prepare yourself for this season after sitting out most of last season with a knee injury?

Basically, I've been working on my knee, trying to get it right. I have been working on getting stronger and trying to get back to where I used to be, or at least close to it. I had to prepare myself mentally to get back out there. I had to let myself know that my knee was strong enough, and that I will be fast enough to keep up with other college players.

Your position takes a lot of focus, because one mistake can mean a big play. What do you do to stay focused each time you go out on the field?

I try to take one play at a time. Even if they (opponents) catch a pass, I know that they are scholarship athletes, too. You just have to contain certain players and not let every little play get to you. I'm going to have my days when the person may get totally shut down. And someone might have a day when they get three or four catches, but we still win the game. As long as I contain that athlete from upsetting us and scoring three or four touchdowns, I feel like I did my job.

There have been so many changes in the athletic department and with Tech football since you arrived here as a freshman. What would you say has been the biggest change?

Other than the upgrade in facilities, it seems like we are starting to be well known. It is easier to get recruits to come here. At first it was like, 'Where is Blacksburg?' Now everybody knows where Blacksburg is. They know more about Blacksburg. The only question people still have is, 'What is a Hokie?' Every time we play a game, we show them what a Hokie is.

What is it like to know that 56,000 fans are screaming for you and your team when you are on Worsham Field in Lane Stadium?

It is a great feeling to have the fan support when we are out there. When I first got here, the stands were not as packed as they are now. They have added seating and people sit outside and camp for tickets for days now. It is a great feeling to see people wanting to see us. The majority of our games are televised, so parents do not have to travel four or five hours to come see you. They can sit at home and watch you on TV. It is just a great feeling to walk out there and know that you are going to be in front of a sellout crowd that has come to see what you are going to do.



tackles and knocked down a pass during the annual spring game ... Shared the Frank O. Moseley Award for top defensive hustler in spring practice with Cory Bird ... Ran a leg on the 4x100 relay team that won the Atlantic 10 Outdoor Track Championship ...

1998: Started on Tech's punt return/punt block team and on the kickoff team ... Was a backup on two other units ... Saw action in every game, including the Music City Bowl ... Blocked punts against Pittsburgh and UAB ... His block at UAB was recovered for a Tech touchdown ... Posted two tackles on coverage against Miami and had five tackles during regular-season play ... Got playing time at cornerback against East Carolina, Clemson, Pittsburgh, UAB and Rutgers ... Bench pressed 320 pounds in fall testing and recorded a 500-pound back squat ... Also turned in a 41-inch vertical jump ... Won Iron Hokie honors in both the fall and the spring ... Contributed eight tackles and broke up a pass during one spring scrimmage ... Was in on five tackles during the spring game ... Ran a leg on Tech's winning 4x100-meter relay team at the Atlantic 10 Conference Outdoor Championships ...

1997: Spent a redshirt year working at cornerback ... Began fall practice on the boundary side, then moved to the field side prior to the season ... Competed for Tech's indoor track team during the winter ... Set a school indoor record in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.84 seconds ... Also had the team's best time in the 55-meter dash (6.37) and three of the squad's top 10 times in the 200-meter dash ... Finished sixth in the 200 meters at the Atlantic 10 Conference Indoor Championship ... Performed well during spring strength and conditioning tests, improving in all four major lifts ... Turned in a 40-inch vertical jump ... Contributed a fumble recovery in the spring game ...

High School: A *PrepStar* All-America pick who was selected to the ACC Region Super 26 team and listed as the No. 3 DB in the region ... Lettered four years as a tailback and cornerback for Coach David Heath at Norview High ... Earned all-district honors as a running back his senior year ... Rushed for 940 yards and 15 touchdowns ... Had 214 yards on the ground and four TDs in a game against Wilson High ... Contributed 50 tackles, five fumble recoveries, a pair of quarterback sacks and an interception on defense ... Finished his career with over 1,600 yards rushing ... Helped the school's track team to an Eastern District championship ... Won all-district honors as a sprinter and was voted the team's MVP ...

Personal: Larry Darrell Austin, Jr. ... Born 5/17/79 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Larry and Veronica Austin ... Studying residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1998	11	4	1	5	0- 0	0- 0
1999	11	27	11	38	1- 14	1- 10
2000	4	13	9	22	0- 0	0- 0
Career	26	44	21	65	1- 14	1- 10

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	11	0	0	0.0	0	0
1999	11	1	31	31.0	1	31
2000	4	0	0	0.0	0	0
Career	26	1	31	31.0	1	31

Mikal Baaqee

45

Linebacker
5-10 218 r-Fr.
Columbia, Md.
DeMatha H.S.



One of the Hokies' most promising defensive newcomers ... Got a lot of reps at the backer position during spring practice ... Came on strong during the last two weeks of those drills and showed as much improvement as anyone on defense ... Became a more physical player ... Plays hard ... Possesses good speed and has gotten bigger ... Combines a tremendous work ethic with the desire to be good ... Is still learning, but will challenge for a spot on the two-deep roster if he continues to improve ...

2000: Bench pressed 320 pounds when he reported in August ... Was redshirted while he worked at the backer position ... Was a personal record-breaker during winter workouts ... Improved his bench to 355 pounds ... Also posted a 530-pound back squat ... Got extra work during the spring while starting backer Ben Taylor was rehabing from fall surgery ... Contributed a tackle in the spring game ...

High School: A three-year starter as a linebacker for Coach Bill McGregor at DeMatha ... A *PrepStar* All-American who was rated the No. 3 linebacker and No. 17 overall prospect in the Atlantic Region ... Ranked the No. 17 player in Maryland by *SuperPrep* ... Posted 102 total tackles his senior season, including 65 solos ... Had 11 quarterback sacks and 16 tackles for loss ... Caused six fumbles and recovered two ... Intercepted two passes in 1999 and blocked a punt ... Contributed 12 tackles, two sacks, three passes broken up and two fumbles caused in a game against Paul VI ... Earned all-county, all-

conference and first-team all-state honors ... Was in on 117 solo tackles and 34 assists as a junior ... Caused six fumbles that season and added eight sacks and five interceptions ... Finished his prep career with 274 total tackles, 14 fumbles caused and seven interceptions ... Helped the team to a 33-2-1 record during his three varsity seasons ...

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

Chad Beasley

94

Defensive Tackle
6-5 292 r-Sr. 6VL
Gate City, Va.
Gate City H.S.



A returning starter with all-star ability ... Is solid in all phases of the game ... Brings size, strength, experience and athleticism to the tackle position ... Works hard and plays hard ... Entered the 2000 season as the only returning Tech defensive lineman to have started a collegiate game ... Led the Hokies' defensive linemen in tackles and was fifth among BIG EAST linemen in tackles ... Earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors ... Started the first 10 games at tackle ... Suffered a high ankle sprain during the UCF game and saw only limited action against Virginia ... Returned to start in the Gator Bowl ... Underwent foot surgery following the season ... Participated sparingly in spring practices due to classes and a strained groin muscle ... Comes from an excellent football background ... Won Tech's Ironman competition during the summer of '99 ... Has two career pass interceptions from the tackle position ... Holds Tech's position record for a defensive tackle in the push jerk with a lift of 361 pounds ... Will be looked to for leadership and an outstanding senior season ...

2000: Posted nine tackles in the season opener against Akron ... Intercepted a pass and returned it 15 yards in the East Carolina game ... Also contributed seven tackles against the Pirates ... Registered two tackles behind the line against both Temple and West Virginia ... Turned in back-to-back eight-tackle games against Syracuse and Pittsburgh ... Recorded a sack and broke

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A Talk With Chad Beasley



What effects, if any, do you think your off-season surgery will have on this season?

I had a bone removed from the bottom of my foot — a seismoid bone — that had died. Hopefully it won't have any effect. Maybe it will provide relief from the pain caused by the dead bone. Hopefully, if anything, it will help me run faster.

How has your father's experience playing Virginia Tech football and professional football been an asset to you? What advice does he give you about the game?

It has been a big asset just because I knew what to expect as far as the level of competition coming into college. Some of the guys come in and get shell-shocked. His advice is technique-type things and more the mental aspect of the game than anything. He tries to help me out with some of the stuff. He is one of the guys who sits in the stands and watches and if he sees something that is really important, he will point it out to me. But he isn't going to jump on me for making a bad play or anything.

Have you and your cousin, Jake Houseright, become closer by being members of the same team here at Tech?

Jake and I have really been close for as long as I can remember. We would always spend half the summer with each other. I would spend the first half of the summer with Jake and then he would spend the second half with me, or the other way around. As long as I can remember it was like that. We have more of a friendship than anything. Now he is up here playing ball and we have been able to spend more time together and really develop that friendship.

How did it feel to win the Ironman Competition in 1999, and what was the biggest challenge for you in that event?

I was thrilled to win it, basically because of the competition that I was going up against. Browning Wynn was one of the guys who pushed me hard. I was in a pretty heated competition with those guys. The hardest event for me personally was the stadium run, but I would say the most exhausting event would be the truck push. After I was done with that, I could not find a comfortable position, whether I was sitting down or standing up. I thought my quads were going to cramp up or I was going to have a heart attack.

Beasley, continued

up two passes against Pittsburgh ... Was in for a season-high 52 defensive plays at Syracuse ... Had a tackle for loss, four total tackles and a pass broken up before injuring his ankle at Central Florida ... Did not start against Virginia and saw only limited action ... Was back in the lineup against Clemson in the Toyota Gator Bowl and contributed a sack ... Played on Tech's extra point and field goal units and on the punt team ... Finished with 58 total tackles, including eight behind the line ... Contributed five quarterback hurries and five passes broken up ... Underwent foot surgery following the bowl game ... Saw limited work during the spring and did not play in the spring game ...

1999: Saw action in every game at tackle ... Also added over 100 plays as a starter on special teams ... Had a tackle for loss in the opening game against James Madison ... Posted four tackles against UAB and five versus Clemson ... Got his first collegiate start at Virginia and responded with a quarterback hurry, a sack for a 12-yard loss and four total tackles ... Also drew starts against

Rutgers and Boston College ... Was in on five tackles and broke up a pass against Syracuse ... Added a sack in the Pittsburgh game for minus eight yards ... Played a season-high 45 defensive snaps and 16 special team plays against Miami ... Finished the season with 39 total tackles, including two sacks and four other tackles for loss ... Turned in a 400-pound bench press and 620-pound back squat on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors during fall testing ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Was sidelined early in spring practice by a pulled quadricep muscle in his leg and did not play in the spring game ...

1998: Saw action at tackle in all 11 games during the regular season ... Was in on six tackles against Pittsburgh, including a quarterback sack ... Also registered six tackles versus Syracuse, with one coming behind the line ... Showed his athleticism by intercepting a tipped pass at Boston College ... Added a tackle for loss and four total tackles in that game ... Had 28 tackles on the season ... Started on the punt team, as well as the extra point and field goal units ... Was credited with two tackles in the Music City

Bowl, both behind the line of scrimmage ... Gained Iron Hokie honors during the winter strength and conditioning program ... Set a position record with a 361-pound power clean ... Also had a 383-pound push jerk, the eighth-best showing in team history ... Contributed a sack for a 10-yard loss and four total tackles during the annual spring game ...

1997: Was redshirted while working at defensive tackle ... Bench pressed 340 pounds when he arrived for preseason practice ... Improved to 360 by spring testing ... Turned in the top power clean among the defensive tackles with a lift of 326 pounds ... Missed a large portion of spring practice due to a foot injury ... Was in on four tackles and had a quarterback sack during Tech's last scrimmage of the spring ...

High School: Lettered four seasons as a defensive end and offensive guard for Coach Nick Colobro at Gate City High School ... Earned first-team Group AA all-state honors at both positions ... Named the Group AA Defensive Player of the Year by the high school coaches in 1996 ... Was defensive player of the year in his district and conference and offensive

lineman of the year in his district ... A first-team All-ACC Region pick by *PrepStar* ... Posted 80 tackles and four quarterback sacks his senior year ... Had more than 100 tackles as a junior ... Started on the varsity as a freshman and played in a total of 51 games during his career ... Excelled in track, winning state AA outdoor titles in the shot put and discus as a senior ...

Personal: Thomas Chad Beasley ... Born 11/13/78 in Upper St. Clair, PA ... Son of Tom and Margie Beasley ... His dad was a star defensive lineman for Tech in the mid-1970s and played on two Super Bowl championship teams with the Pittsburgh Steelers ... His sister, Kerri, was a member of the Tech volleyball team, while his cousin, Jake Houseright, is a senior linebacker on the team ... Studying human services.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1998	11	9	19	28	2- 4	1- 2
1999	11	16	23	39	4- 6	2- 19
2000	11	23	35	58	7- 17	1- 6
Career	33	48	77	125	13- 27	4- 27
2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	2	7	9	1- 2	0- 0
At ECU	1	1	6	7	0- 0	0- 0
RUTGERS	1	0	4	4	0- 0	0- 0
At BC	1	3	3	6	1- 1	0- 0
TEMPLE	1	2	2	4	2- 5	0- 0

WVU	1	4	1	5	2- 4	0- 0
At Syr	1	6	2	8	0- 0	0- 0
PITTSBURGH	1	4	4	8	1- 6	1- 6
At Miami	1	1	3	4	1- 5	0- 0
At UCF	1	0	2	2	0- 0	0- 0
VIRGINIA	1	0	1	1	0- 0	0- 0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	11	1	0	0.0	0	0
1999	11	0	0	0.0	0	0
2000	11	1	15	15.0	0	15
Career	33	2	15	7.5	0	15

Wayne Briggs

47

Fullback
5-10 247 r-Sr. 4VL
Windsor, Va.
Windsor H.S.



A walk-on who has become a valuable contributor ... Is expected to compete for the top backup duties at fullback when practice opens in August ... Has made steady improvement during his time at Tech ... Lacks game experience but has been around the offensive system

... Served as the Hokies' No. 3 fullback and a starter on special teams last season ... Was on the travel squad for the last seven games of the 1999 season ... A strong, physical player ... Has earned Super Iron Hokie honors seven times during his Tech career ... Set a Tech position record with a 385-pound push jerk ... Led the running backs with a 425-pound bench press during the spring ... Has the opportunity to earn some playing time as a senior ...

2000: A starter on Tech's kickoff return team ... Saw action in seven games at fullback ... Rushed once for five yards in Tech's win at East Carolina ... Caught a pass for a 17-yard gain against Rutgers ... Carried the football a total of four times during the season for 11 yards ... Played in Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Posted personal bests in the bench press (425) and the back squat (630) on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Turned in two carries for seven yards in the spring game ...

1999: Played in five games, including a career-high 19 snaps in the Temple game ... Was in for nine plays against

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A Talk With Wayne Briggs

With the departure of Cullen Hawkins at fullback, what are your goals as far as playing time at that spot?

My goal is to step up and pick up where Cullen left off. I have one of the best fullbacks in the nation in front of me in Jarrett Ferguson, but I learn from him every day and try to get better so I can help this team when it's my turn to play.

You mentioned Jarrett. What do you learn from him and how does he help you in a system where the No. 2 fullback plays a lot each game?

Jarrett is real consistent and tough, although he is small. He goes in hard and stays on his block. I try to pick up little things from him as far as blocking techniques, because he does them so well.

Tech is going to have one of the best tailback groups in the nation again this year. What kind of satisfaction do you as a fullback get from seeing them prosper?

We get good satisfaction from their success. Fullbacks don't get a lot of credit, so it makes you feel good if the guy you're blocking for goes over 100 yards. Every time he scores a touchdown, you know you helped make it possible.

How was someone from a town as small as Windsor, Va., able to come to a major Division I program and make an impact?

It's been a long road. Windsor is in the middle of nowhere and I left there with the goal of putting it on the map. There's not too many guys who come from my home town who can say they played Division I football. I was fortunate to have great parents and support back home. I went to Hargrave Military Academy and that helped me, but it's been a long, hard road for me.

If you were able to pick any position on the defense and play it, what would it be and why?

I'd have to say I'd be a whip linebacker. It's got the same mentality as the fullback position where you get to line up, run at people and hit them. On defense, I'd be going after the ball carrier instead of trying to help him. So it would be different, but fun.



Briggs, *continued*

Syracuse and eight versus Miami ... Also saw brief duty against Rutgers and Boston College ... Gained two yards against Syracuse in his only varsity carry of the season ... Played in two jayvee games, rushing for 58 yards and a touchdown against Fork Union ... Scored on a 4-yard run in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Had two carries for seven yards in the annual spring game ...

1998: Played on the jayvee and scout teams during the fall ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during both the fall and spring strength and conditioning periods ... Bench pressed 415 pounds during the spring — a team record for the fullback position ... Also set a position record with a 316-pound power clean ... Set the position record for the push jerk during the fall with a lift of 361 pounds ... Caught an 8-yard touchdown pass during one of Tech's spring scrimmages and turned in a 24-yard run in another ...

1997: Did not practice with the team until November because of a knee injury ... Bench pressed 410 pounds when he first arrived at Tech ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during the winter strength and conditioning program ... Got a look at fullback during spring practice ... Caught a 12-yard pass in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages and a 33-yard pass in another ... Carried the football twice for a total of nine yards in the spring game ... Also caught a pass for a 12-yard gain ...

Prep School: Played running back for Coach Joe Freeland at Hargrave Military Academy ... Rushed for 300 yards in the team's first four games before suffering a knee injury ... Underwent reconstructive surgery and missed the rest of the season...

High School: Rushed for over 2,300 yards and 40 touchdowns his senior year at Windsor High ... Also contributed more than 50 tackles and five sacks on defense ... Earned first-team all-district, all-region and all-state honors ... Scored six TDs and ran for 280 yards in a game against Essex County ... Helped Windsor to its first regional championship ... Gained 1,173 yards on the ground his junior year ... Lettered four years as a running back for Coach Joe Jones ... Finished his career with more than 3,800 yards rushing and 60 touchdowns ... Set school career and season marks for scoring and rushing yards ... Played in the state high school all-star game ...

Personal: Wayne Chissell Briggs ... Born 1/24/78 in Suffolk, VA ... Son of Wayne and Sandra Briggs ... Enrolled in interdisciplinary studies.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	5	1	2	2.0	0	2
2000	11	4	11	2.8	0	5
Career	16	5	13	2.6	0	5

Chris Buie

46

Linebacker
6-0 223 r-So. 4VL
Tampa, Fla.
Armwood H.S.



An up-and-coming young player with a lot of physical capabilities ... Is expected to battle for backup duties at the mike linebacker position ... Could earn some playing time if he continues to develop his skills ... Has a good work ethic to go with excellent strength and speed ... Saw his first action with the Hokies as a special teams starter last season ... Gained Super Iron Hokie honors during fall and spring strength and conditioning tests ... Will be watched closely when practice resumes ...

2000: Played in nine games with all of his action coming on special teams ... Started on the kickoff and kickoff return units ... Was in on two tackles on kickoffs against East Carolina ... Also posted tackles against Akron, Rutgers, Temple and Pittsburgh ... Finished with a total of six tackles ... Turned in a 400-pound bench press and 550-pound back squat during preseason testing ... Set personal bests in the clean (304), the push jerk (356) and the 40 (4.54) on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors in spring testing ... Was in on four tackles and broke up a pass during the Hokies' second spring scrimmage ... Also contributed four tackles during the Maroon-White spring game ...

1999: His 370-pound bench press was second-best among the Hokies' new recruits when they reported in August ... Was redshirted while working at inside linebacker ... Spent the first month of the season working at the backer position ... Switched to the mike linebacker spot in October ... Had the second-highest bench press on the scout team in November at 400 pounds ... Turned in a 341-pound push jerk during spring testing on the way to Iron Hokie honors ... Also turned in a 35 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Was in on six tackles, including one behind the line, in the Maroon-White spring game ...

High School: Posted 117 tackles, four fumble recoveries and three sacks to help his school to a 9-2 record in Class 5A in 1998 ... Played linebacker and some fullback for Coach Sean Callahan ... A two-time, first-team all-conference pick ... Also earned second-team all-state honors his final two seasons ... Picked the No. 27

senior prospect in Florida by *The Tampa Tribune* ... Rated the No. 84 player in the state by *SuperPrep* and the No. 89 player in the state by *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Earned a spot on the *PrepStar* All-SEC Region team ... Won his high school team's body building contest ... Posted lifts of 350 pounds in the bench press and 525 in the squat ... Also competed on the track team ...

Personal: Jonathan Christopher Buie ... Born 11/16/79 in Tampa, FL ... Son of Johnny and Barbara Buie ... Enrolled in sociology.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	9	2	4	6	0-0	0-0

Keith Burnell

20

Tailback
6-0 202 r-Jr. 4VL
Chesapeake, Va.
Western Branch H.S.



Put himself in line for playing time with an outstanding spring ... Was named the team's most improved offensive player ... Selected the most valuable offensive player in the spring game after rushing for 182 yards and two touchdowns ... Showed improvement in every phase of his game ... Developed consistency ... Broke tackles and made more big plays ... Played in nine of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games last fall ... Got some work at tailback in six of those games, plus the Gator Bowl ... Also contributed as a member of the punt return team ... Turned in the longest run by a Tech tailback during the season with a 59-yard jaunt against Rutgers ... Enters the fall as the Hokies' No. 2 tailback ... Will have to battle to maintain that spot, but has a chance to make his mark this season if he remains focused ...

2000: Saw action on 10 offensive snaps against Rutgers ... Carried the football six times for 70 yards against the Scarlet Knights ... Scored his first collegiate touchdown on a 1-yard plunge ... Gained 13 yards on three carries against Akron and 12 yards on two rushes in the East Carolina game ... Was in on 10 special team plays in the Temple game ... Finished the season with 17 rushes for 111 yards ... Turned in one carry for a 6-yard gain against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Ran nine sub-4.4 forties during Tech's pro timing day ... Posted personal bests in six categories on the way to

Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Bench pressed 350 pounds ... Scored three touchdowns in the red zone during one spring scrimmage ... Turned in 122 yards rushing in another, capped by an 85-yard TD run ... Had touchdown runs of 57 and 37 yards in the Maroon-White game on the way to 182 yards on 15 carries ...

1999: Played six offensive snaps and one special teams play in the season opener against James Madison ... Carried the football three times for two yards in that game ... Got four carries in the Temple game and picked up 12 yards ... Played in Tech's two jayvee games ... Rushed for 79 yards and scored a touchdown in a win over Fork Union ... Added a pair of TD runs in a victory against Hargrave ... Improved in all four major lifts during spring strength tests ... Had the second-best 20-yard shuttle time among the running backs at 4.06 ... Rushed for 32 yards on five carries during one spring scrimmage and contributed a 1-yard touchdown run in another ... Carried twice for six yards during the Maroon-White game ...

1998: Sat out the season as a redshirt ... Improved in all four major lifts during the offseason strength and conditioning program ... Carried seven times for 53 yards in one spring scrimmage and had eight rushes for 44 yards in another ... Caught passes of 18 and 22 yards ... Rushed nine times for 29 yards in the annual spring game ...

High School: Was a running back and return specialist for Coach Lew Johnston at Western Branch High ... Earned postseason All-America honors from *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Was a preseason A-A pick by *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Listed the No. 26 running back in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 6 player in Virginia ... Named the Metropolitan Male Athlete of the Year by the Norfolk Sports Club ... Selected the Portsmouth Sports Club Most Outstanding Male Athlete of the Year ... A two-time all-city, all-district, all-Tidewater and all-region pick ... Earned second-team all-state honors from the coaches as a senior ... Rushed for 1,224 yards and 25 touchdowns in 1997 despite being slowed by an ankle injury over the last four games of the season ... Led the Tidewater area in touchdowns ... Caught 11 passes for 145 yards ... Rushed for 1,228 yards and 20 TDs on 146 carries as a junior ... Led the area in scoring and was second in rushing that season ... Set school career records for most rushing yards and most touchdowns ... Won team MVP honors as a junior and senior ... Helped team to a district title in '97 ... Was a sprinter on the track team ...

Personal: Keith Tyrone Burnell ... Born 1/8/79 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Janet Burnell ... Nicknamed "Sweet Feet" ... Studying residential property management.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	2	7	14	2.0	0	6
2000	9	17	111	6.5	1	59
Career	11	24	125	5.2	1	59

Vinnie Burns

38

Punter
5-11 475 r-fr.
New Orleans, La.
St. Augustine H.S.



Came out of spring practice as the No. 1 punter ... Showed the consistency needed to win the job during the final two weeks ... Finished with an average hang time of 4.6 seconds and an average distance of over 46 yards per kick ... Has a strong leg but must continue working on his operation time ... A good athlete who was clocked at 4.34 in the 40 during spring testing ... Shared Defensive MVP honors in the spring game after averaging 46.2 yards per punt ... Will have to fend off challenges again in August when practice opens ... His consistency will be the key to maintaining the top spot ...

2000: Traveled with the team briefly during the early going, but was redshirted ... Made strides in the off-season strength and conditioning program ... Punted five times in the Maroon-White game for 231 yards, including punts of 59 and 53 yards ...

High School: Was a four-year letterman as a punter/place-kicker for Coach Anthony Biagas ... Named to the Coaches' Class 5-A all-state team as a punter his senior year at St. Augustine ... Averaged 43 yards per punt ... Punted three times for a 53.3-yard average in one game his senior season ... Twice pinned Airline High inside its own 10 in the bi-district playoffs ... Named all-city, all-district and all-Metro as well as all-state ... Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar*, which listed him as the No. 4 punter in the Southeast Region ... Averaged just under 40 yards per punt his junior year and was an all-city selection ... Captained the football and track teams his senior year ... Helped the track team to a state championship ... Competed in the long jump (23-2) and the 400 meters (50.2) ... Served as the school's student body president ...

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

Lamar Cobb

28

Defensive End
6-2 226 r-fr. 4VL
Hurt, Va.
Gretna H.S.



Voted the top defensive hustler during 2001 spring workouts ... A very active defender who is becoming more physical at the point of attack ... Brings experience, athleticism and play-making ability to the stud end position ... Started every game at that position last season ... Tied for the team lead in quarterback hurries with 10 ... Averaged 41 defensive plays per game ... Also contributed on special teams ... Topped the defensive ends with a 575-pound back squat in preseason testing ... Turned in a personal-best 4.54 clocking in the 40 during the off-season ... Heads into the fall topping the depth chart again at a highly-competitive position ...

2000: Was in on six tackles in the season opener against Akron ... Turned in two tackles behind the line, including a sack, against East Carolina ... Also had three quarterback hurries in that game ... Had a tackle for loss and two hurries against Boston College ... Posted six tackles, a tackle for loss and two hurries at Syracuse ... Added six more tackles in the Pittsburgh game ... Blocked an extra point against West Virginia ... Returned a fumble for a 20-yard gain at UCF ... Finished the regular season with 47 tackles, 10 quarterback hurries, five tackles for loss and two passes broken up ... Contributed four tackles, including a sack, during Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Was in on five tackles, two behind the line, in the team's second spring scrimmage ... Had a tackle for loss among his three total tackles in the Maroon-White spring game ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the top defensive hustler ...

1999: Played six snaps on defense and six on special teams during the opener with James Madison ... Had 12 plays on defense at Rutgers and contributed three tackles ... Also was in

Continued on next page

Cobb, continued

on a tackle in the Syracuse game ... Played in a total of five games ... Got some extra work with the jayvee team ... Contributed 14 total tackles, three tackles for loss, a sack and a fumble recovery in a jayvee win against Fork Union ... Worked hard in the weight room during the winter program ... Turned in a 570-pound back squat during spring testing — tops among the defensive ends ... Contributed three sacks during spring scrimmages ... Was in on one tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

1998: Practiced at the whip linebacker position during the fall while redshirting ... Showed improvement in the strength and conditioning program ... Moved to defensive end for spring practice ... Contributed a tackle in the annual spring game ...

High School: Played a number of positions for Coach Robert Pruntey at Gretna High, including defensive back, receiver and running back ... Selected a postseason All-American by both *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 5 skilled athlete in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Ranked the No. 8 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and No. 23 by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named the *Lynchburg News & Advance* Defensive Player of the Year ... Picked first-team Group AA all-state by The Associated Press ... Also a first-team all-district and all-region pick ... Posted 105 tackles as a senior, along with six interceptions, six fumble recoveries, two sacks and two blocked punts ... Rushed for 675 yards and six touchdowns ... Caught 48 passes for nearly 800 yards and four TDs ... Contributed over 200 yards on punt returns and more than 350 yards on kickoff returns ... Had 15 solo tackles and 23 total tackles in one outing ... Registered three tackles on a goal-line stand in another game ... Received all-district recognition at three positions his junior year — defensive back, wide receiver and return specialist ... Was honorable mention all-state as a defensive back ... Collected 97 tackles and five interceptions that season and scored two touchdowns on kick returns ... Also excelled in basketball and baseball and holds the school record in the 60-meter dash ...

Personal: Lamar Isaac Cobb ... Born 1/11/80 in Boone, NC ... Son of Raymond and Rhonda Cobb ... Studying management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	5	2	2	4	0-0	0-0
2000	11	17	30	47	3-7	1-6
Career	16	19	32	51	3-7	1-6

2000 Tackles Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	2	4	6	0-0	0-0
At ECU	1	3	2	5	2-7	1-6
RUTGERS	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
At BC	1	2	1	3	1-5	0-0
TEMPLE	1	2	3	5	1-1	0-0
WVU	1	0	4	4	0-0	0-0
At Syr	1	3	3	6	0-0	0-0
PITTSBURGH	1	1	5	6	0-0	0-0
At Miami	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
At UCF	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
VIRGINIA	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0

Cols Colas

99

Defensive End
6-0 239 r-So. 4VL
Plantation, Fla.
South Plantation H.S.



Is expected to push Lamar Cobb for the starting job at stud end ... Showed excellent improvement during the spring ... Continues to become a more instinctive player ... Possesses an outstanding combination of speed and power ... Runs a sub-4.5 forty and bench presses 400 pounds ... Complements his athletic skills with a great attitude ... Spent much of his high school career on the offensive side of the ball ... Gained a lot of valuable experience on defense last season ... Underwent hernia surgery in May ... Should be fully recovered for preseason practice ... Could have a big year if he continues to improve ...

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

1999: A redshirt who spent the fall working at outside linebacker ... Earned

Iron Hokie honors during scout team testing in November ... Improved his bench press from 300 pounds to 380 pounds by the time spring testing ended ... Also added more than 20 pounds ... Moved to defensive end when spring practice opened ... Contributed a sack in the Hokies' opening scrimmage ... Also posted a sack in the Maroon-White spring game ...

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

Personal: Cols Colas, Jr. ... Born 5/16/80 in Miami, FL ... Son of Evelyne Colas ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	10	6	14	20	0-0	0-0

Travis Conway

62

Center/Deep Snapper
6-4 269 r-Fr
Richmond, Va.
J.R. Tucker H.S.



A young lineman who is still adjusting to Tech's offensive system and the responsibilities of the center position ... Has added over 20 pounds since arriving, but needs continued exposure to the athletic performance program ... Got some valuable reps at center during the spring ... His opportunity for playing time should increase as he becomes more comfortable at the position ... In the meantime, he could make an impact as a

deep snapper on special teams ...

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

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

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

Chad Cooper

33

Linebacker
6-2 205 r-Fr.
Herndon, Va.
Oakton H.S.



A tall, rangy newcomer who shows good promise for the future ... Is adjusting to inside linebacker after playing free safety in high school ... Showed a lot of improvement during his redshirt year ... Is still learning ... Combines athleticism with good speed ... Has put on nearly 20 pounds through the athletic performance program but must continue to get stronger ... Could get a shot at special teams action during the fall ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ... Exactly

where he figures in for 2001 will be determined when practice opens in August ...

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

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

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

Mark Costen

92

Defensive Tackle
6-3 250 r-So.
Virginia Beach, Va.
Kempsville H.S.



A young defensive lineman who got his share of repetitions during the spring and showed overall improvement in his game ... Must continue to get bigger and stronger to make a move on the current depth chart ... Has the versatility to play either tackle position ... Moves well and possesses toughness ... Joined the team as a walk-on ... His off-season

preparation will be extremely important ...

2000: Played on the scout team and saw action in Tech's two jayvee games ... Saw his only varsity action against Akron in the 2000 season opener ... Played seven defensive downs in that game ... Was in on a pair of tackles during Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Had a tackle for loss in another scrimmage ... Posted two sacks and five tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Worked at defensive tackle while taking a redshirt year ... Improved in six of seven categories during winter workouts ... Contributed four tackles in one spring scrimmage, including two quarterback sacks ... Registered three tackles in another scrimmage and posted a sack in the Maroon-White game ...

High School: Played linebacker and tight end for Coach John Bowles at Kempsville High ... Lettered four seasons, earning all-district and all-region honors at both positions as a senior ... Named all-area as a linebacker ... Helped the team to an 8-2 record and a district title as a sophomore in 1996 ... Posted 116 tackles his senior season, including 19 behind the line of scrimmage ... Contributed eight quarterback sacks and three fumble recoveries ... Registered 17 tackles and caught two passes for 49 yards in a game against Ocean Lakes in '98 ... Collected 98 tackles his junior year, 12 for losses ... Finished with 314 career tackles and 20 pass receptions ...

Personal: John Mark Costen ... Born 3/13/81 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Nelson and Leslie Costen ... Studying finance.

Michael Crawford

21

Rover
5-11 205 r-So. 1VL
Baltimore, Md.
Patterson H.S.



A tremendous effort player who was much improved in the spring ... Became more comfortable at the rover spot ... Has shown the coaches he is willing to go the extra mile to improve ... Lettered as a starter on Tech's kickoff team in 2000 ... Helped give the Hokies solid depth at rover ... Will compete for playing time when practice resumes in August ...

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

Continued on next page



Crawford, *continued*

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

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

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

Personal: Michael Antonio Crawford ... Born 2/20/81 in Baltimore, MD ... Son of Iantha Carrington ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	9	3	3	6	0-0	0-0

Mike Daniels

31

Free Safety
6-0 187 Jr.-Fr.
Fairfax, Va.
Fairfax H.S.



One of the most physical players in the Hokies' secondary ... Attacks people and does a good job finishing the tackle ... Worked at free safety during a redshirt season ... Has done a good job learning the Tech system ... Added some weight and improved his strength through his work in the athletic performance program ... Is still working to get stronger and faster ... A good summer preparation will help determine where he fits in this fall ...

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

High School: Set a school record with 18 career pass interceptions during his four varsity seasons at Fairfax ... Lettered four years as a defensive back and wide receiver for Coach Tom Verbanic ... Was the Liberty District Player of the Year as a senior ... Went on to earn first-team all-district, all-region and all-state honors ... Was a *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* All-American ... An honorable-mention All-USA pick by *USA Today* ... Rated the No. 25 defensive back prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Posted 102 tackles and four interceptions during his senior season ... Also contributed 23 pass receptions for 450 yards and three TDs ... Averaged 25 yards on punt returns and 27 yards on kickoff returns ... Ran for one touchdown, caught a pass for another TD and collected 12 tackles in a game against Madison his senior year ... Picked off seven passes as a junior ... Helped the team to a four-year 31-9 regular-season record and two district titles ... Also excelled in basketball, lettering four years and setting a school scoring mark with 1,250 points ...

Personal: Michael William Daniels ... Born 9/18/81 in Germany ... Son of Fletcher, Jr., and Carolyn Daniels ... Studying management science and information technology.

André Davis

88

Flanker
6-1 194 Jr.-Sr. 6VL
Niskayuna N.Y.
Niskayuna H.S.



Has the potential to be one of the most dangerous players in the collegiate ranks ... Can create big plays as a receiver, runner and return man ... Possesses outstanding speed and athleticism ... Is striving to become the best player he can be ... Will be looked to for a big season after struggling with injuries late last year ... Saw limited work during the spring ... Focused on specific areas for improvement ... Should be quicker at the line versus man coverage this fall ... Has worked on catching the ball in quick underneath routes ... Should be ready to go when preseason practice rolls around ... Has already earned his degree in residential property management ... Saw some action in the 2001 Gator Bowl after being limited by injuries to just 15 plays during Tech's last four regular-season games ... Finished second in the Division I-A ranks in punt returns and earned first-team All-America honors as a return specialist on the 2000 American Football Coaches Association team ... Ranked second on the team in pass receptions despite the missed playing time ... Turned in an incredible scoring flurry against West Virginia by scoring three touchdowns in three different ways on three consecutive Tech possessions ... Tied a Tech season record with three punt returns for touchdowns ... Named second-team All-BIG EAST as a return man ... A three-time pick on the BIG EAST All-Academic Football Team ... Enjoyed a breakthrough season in 1999 when he averaged 27.5 yards per reception ... Has three career touchdowns on reverses ... Ranks seventh at Tech in all-time receiving yardage (1,363) ... Also a record-setting track man for the Hokies ... An extremely important part of Tech's offensive plans for 2001 ...

2000: Prior to the season, he was ranked the sixth-best receiver in Division I-A by *Lindy's* and the eighth-best by *The Sporting News* ... Started Tech's first seven games ... Caught two passes for 41 yards and a touchdown in the opener against Akron ... Contributed four receptions and returned a punt 87 yards for a TD at East Carolina ... It was the

second-longest punt return ever by a Tech player ... Turned in a 71-yard touchdown return at Boston College and added a 76-yard return at home against West Virginia ... Caught six passes in the Temple game ... Had six catches for 127 yards versus WVU ... Showed just how dangerous he can be during the West Virginia game when he struck for three touchdowns in just over six minutes ... Took a reverse 30 yards for the first score, then on Tech's next offensive play after a punt he hauled in a 64-yard TD pass ... When the Mountaineers were forced to punt again, he returned the punt 76 yards for a touchdown ... Was injured at Syracuse ... Missed games against Pittsburgh and UCF and played just 11 snaps at Miami and only four versus Virginia ... Closed out the season with 18 punt returns for 396 yards, an average of 22 yards per return ... Added 24 pass receptions for 318 yards and three rushes for 51 yards ... Caught two passes for 70 yards against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... His 55-yard reception was the longest in the game ... Got limited work in the off-season program ... Grabbed one pass for 13 yards in the Maroon-White spring game ...

1999: Started every game at flanker ... Led the team with 35 catches for 962 yards and nine touchdowns ... His 27.5-yards per catch average was tops in the BIG EAST ... Ran 22 yards for a touchdown on a reverse against James Madison ... Caught his first collegiate touchdown pass in the UAB game on a halfback pass from André Kendrick ... Hauled in two passes for 110 yards at Virginia, including a 60-yard TD reception ... Posted 157 yards on four catches at Rutgers, grabbing a 74-yard TD pass on the game's first play ... Scored on another reverse, this time from 28 yards out, against Syracuse ... Blocked a punt at Pittsburgh ... Recovered a teammate's fumble for a TD in the Miami game ... Had five catches for 138 yards at West Virginia and four for 121 yards at Temple ... Registered touchdown catches of 65 and 30 yards against the Owls ... Turned in two more TD catches (69, 59) in the Boston College game on the way to 172 yards on five catches ... Third on the team in scoring with 72 points ... Caught a 49-yard touchdown pass in the Sugar Bowl game ... Finished that game with seven catches for 108 yards ... Earned Iron Hokie honors in the weight room

during the fall ... Turned in a 500-pound back squat ... Won A-10 Indoor Track titles in the 55- and 200-meter dashes, setting meet records in both events ... Was named the A-10 Outstanding Performer ... Qualified for the NCAA Indoor Championships in the 60 and 200 meters ... Turned in school-record times in both events ... Had a 25-yard TD reception in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Returned a punt 84 yards for a touchdown in the Maroon-White game ... Took the 200 meters in record time (20.95) at the A-10 Outdoor Track Championships ... Also won the 100-meter title and anchored the winning 4x100 relay team ...

1998: Was in for 23 snaps in the season opener against East Carolina and made his first collegiate reception ... Contributed an outstanding 49-yard catch at Clemson ... Injured his thigh against the Tigers ... Saw limited action over Tech's next three games, catching one pass against Pittsburgh ... Earned BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week recognition after blocking a punt and recovering it to set up a key touchdown at Boston College ... Missed games against

Continued on next page

A Talk With André Davis

You have become one of the nation's top receivers over the last two years with Michael Vick and Dave Meyer throwing passes to you. What do you think this year will hold with a new quarterback?

It is going to be a different experience. We don't have the same type of athlete that we had in Mike and Dave. It is a different type of athlete coming in and I think that as long as we get together and we are all on the same page, then we will be able to be as successful as we have in the past.

You have shared that you are a very religious person. What does God mean to you when you are out there playing?

He means everything to me. I am not out there playing for anybody else. I'm out there giving God a thank you performance for the ability that He has given me. I use that as motivation to go out there and work my hardest knowing that when I get out and I'm working for the Lord that I can't go wrong.

What has it been like excelling in both football and track at Tech?

It has just been a blessing to be able to play both sports and I'm having so much fun doing both. A lot of people might think that it is hard to do sports year-round, but I've just had so much fun. Track was my first love before I started playing football and I have always wanted to keep that as part of my life.

You have played a part in this program becoming a national contender. What do you see for Virginia Tech football in the future?

The sky is the limit for us. We've got a lot of renovations going on right now where we are going to be able to recruit a lot of big-time players coming up now. I think that is something we have been able to do in the past couple of years with the success that we have had. We have been able to get a lot of big-time recruits in here, so hopefully this will continue to grow and we will be able to be in the top 10 year-in and year-out.



Davis, *continued*

Temple, UAB and West Virginia ... Returned to action at Syracuse and caught a pass for a 14-yard gain ... Played a season-high 34 snaps against Rutgers and added another catch versus Virginia ... Finished with five catches for 83 yards, an average of 16.6 yards per catch ... Turned in the third-fastest 40 time on record for a Tech player with a clocking of 4.29 seconds during spring testing ... Finished first in the 55 and 200-meter dashes at the Atlantic 10 Indoor Track & Field Championships ... Caught a 38-yard touchdown pass during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Won both the 100 and 200 meters in record times at the A-10 Outdoor Championships ... Also anchored the winning 4x100-meter relay team and was named the meet's Most Outstanding Performer ...

1997: Worked at split end, then flanker during a redshirt season ... Competed for Tech's indoor track team during the winter ... Set a school indoor record in the 200 meters with a clocking of 21.43 seconds ... Finished second in the 55-meter dash and third in the 200 at the Atlantic 10 Conference Indoor Championship ... Turned in the top back squat among Tech's receivers during spring testing with a lift of 480 pounds ... Also turned in a 4.43 clocking in the 40 ... Moved back to split end for spring practice ... Caught a 49-yard touchdown pass in one spring scrimmage and made a 5-yard TD grab in another ... Was on the receiving end of two passes for 31 yards in the spring game ... Joined Tech's outdoor track team after spring football ended ... Practiced for just a week before winning both the 100- and 200-meter dashes at the Atlantic 10 Conference Outdoor Championship ... His winning time of 10.31 seconds in the 100 meters ranked third in the world for competitors 19 years old or younger ... Also ran the last leg for the winning 4x100 relay team that set a meet record ... Was named the A-10 Rookie of the Year for men's outdoor track ... Placed sixth in the 200 meters and seventh in the 100 meters at the United States Junior National Track and Field Championships in June to become a U.S. Junior All-American ...

High School: Played soccer at Niskayuna High School until joining the football team as a junior ... Lettered two years as a wide receiver and safety for Coach John Furey ... Led the team with 10 touchdowns his senior season ... Caught 26 passes for 471 yards and six touchdowns ... Added two rushing touchdowns ... Intercepted three passes

as a free safety, returning one of them 95-yards for a score ... Returned a kickoff 94 yards for a TD ... Earned a first-team spot on the conference all-star team ... Named first-team all-area as a kick returner by the *Albany Times-Union* ... Helped his team to the Section II playoffs for the first time ... Excelled in track, winning the state Class A 200-meter outdoor championship his senior year and finishing second in the 100 ... A National Football Hall of Fame Scholar Athlete ...

Personal: André N. Davis ... Born 6/12/79 ... Son of Clement and Marcia Davis ... Is a cousin of former Tech football player Rich Bowen ... Planning to take graduate courses.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	8	5	83	16.6	0	49
1999	11	35	962	27.5	9	74
2000	9	24	318	13.3	2	64
Career	28	64	1363	21.3	11	74

2000 Game-by-Game

AKRON	1	2	41	20.5	1	34
At ECU	1	4	41	10.3	0	14
RUTGERS	1	3	34	11.3	0	15
At BC	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
TEMPLE	1	6	54	9.0	0	18
WVU	1	6	127	21.2	1	64
At Syr	1	2	21	10.5	0	19
PITTSBURGH				Did not play		
At Miami	1	1	0	0.0	0	0
At UCF				Did not play		
VIRGINIA	1	0	0	0.0	0	0

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	8	0	0	0.0	0	0
1999	11	3	72	24.0	*3	28
2000	9	3	51	17.0	1	30
Career	28	6	123	20.5	*4	30

*one TD on a recovered fumble

Punt Ret	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	8	1	36	36.0	0	36
1999	11	1	3	3.0	0	3
2000	9	18	396	22.0	3	87
Career	28	20	435	21.8	3	87

Anthony Davis

57

Offensive Tackle
6-4 314 # 2VL
Victoria, Va.
Central-Lunenburg H.S.



Is ready to showcase his talent at left tackle after paying his dues as the top backup ... A natural run-blocker who has matured in pass protection ... Possesses outstanding size and good quickness ... Understands what it takes to be successful on the offensive line as a unit and as an individual ... Also a starter on special teams ... Saw some practice time at left guard during the spring to add to his

versatility ... Will play an important role on this year's offensive team ...

2000: Saw action in all 12 games at left tackle ... Played on the extra point and field goal teams ... Played a season-high 29 offensive plays against Central Florida and turned in his best performance of the season ... Also played well in the West Virginia and Pittsburgh games ... Was in for 27 snaps against both Temple and Miami ... Earned a winning grade in seven regular-season games ... Trimmed his weight during the off-season program ... Worked at guard and tackle in the spring ...

1999: Played in 10 of Tech's 11 regular-season games ... Worked a season-high 37 snaps in the opener against James Madison ... Played 20 snaps in games against UAB and Temple ... Earned a spot in Tech's Winner's Circle twice as a reserve ... Improved his strength and quickness during the winter ... Turned in a 30-inch vertical jump and 5.16 in the 40 at 318 pounds ... Made a push at left tackle during the spring and was named the team's most improved offensive player ...

Prep School: Started at offensive tackle for Coach Lonnie Messick at Hargrave in 1998 ...

High School: Originally signed with Tech after his senior year of high school ... An All-ACC Region pick by *PrepStar* magazine following his senior season in 1997 ... Rated the No. 28 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Also a member of the top 35 list chosen by the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* ... A first-team Group A all-state selection as an offensive lineman by the coaches and a second-team choice by AP ... Voted the James River District Defensive Player of the Year as a junior and senior ... Was first-team all-district and all-region on defense as a junior ... Made the first-team all-district team on both offense and defense his senior year and was a first-team all-region choice on offense ... Lettered three years as a two-way tackle for Coach Chippie Chappell ... Started three years on defense and two on offense ... Helped the team to a pair of district titles and a 26-6 record ... Was in on 55 tackles as a senior ... Intercepted a pass and blocked a punt ... Finished with 198 career tackles ... Intercepted a pass against Lakeland his sophomore year to seal a victory ... Lettered three seasons as a center/forward in basketball and also was a shot putter on the track team ...

Personal: Anthony Sherrod Davis ... Born 3/27/80 in Paterson, NJ ... Son of Paul and Dorothy Hite ... Enrolled in physical education.

Jason Davis

15

Quarterback
6-1 194 r-Fr.
Sevierville, Tenn.
Seymour H.S.



One of two returning players at the quarterback position ... Battled for the starting duties last spring after redshirting during the fall ... Had his moments ... Made some good throws in the spring game ... Needs to be more in charge and improve his consistency ... Entered Tech in January 2000, less than two months after finishing his senior football season at Seymour High School ... Went through the winter strength and conditioning program and spring practice ... Was redshirted last fall ... Made good strides in the 2001 off-season program earning Iron Hokie honors ... Took a lot of snaps during spring drills ... Will continue to compete for playing time when practice resumes ...

2000: Was redshirted in the fall ... Set personal highs in five categories during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Bench pressed 340 pounds and turned in a back squat of 430 ... Tossed an 89-yard touchdown pass to Richard Johnson in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Was 6-for-14 passing for 91 yards in the second scrimmage and totaled 85 yards through the air in a third workout ... Completed eight of 17 passes in the Maroon-White spring game for a total of 117 yards, but was intercepted twice ...

1999: Graduated from high school early ... Entered Tech at mid-year following his senior football season ... Went through the winter strength and conditioning program ... Posted a 320-pound bench press and a 425-pound back squat ... Was 0-for-2 passing in the annual Maroon-White spring game ...

High School: Rated the No. 1 quarterback and No. 7 overall prospect in Tennessee by the *Knoxville News Sentinel* following his senior season at Seymour High ... Played quarterback and handled the punting and place-kicking duties for Coach Gary Householder ... Only played 34 quarters his senior year due to a midseason injury ... Connected on 96 of 165 passing attempts for 1,608 yards and 16 touchdowns ... Only threw four interceptions ... Ran for over 300 yards and six TDs ... Had rushing touchdowns of 59 and 37 yards ... Helped his team to a 11-2 record and the state semifinals as a senior ... Quarterbacked

team to a 10-0 mark his junior season ... Averaged 37.2 yards punting as a junior and 39 yards as a senior ... Kicked field goals of 52 and 48 yards as a junior ... Seventy-five percent of his kickoffs were touchbacks ... Was named the most valuable offensive player in his region in 1999 ... Listed as the No. 12 pro-style quarterback prospect in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Made *PrepStar's* All-Southeast Region team and was listed No. 1 quarterback prospect in Tennessee ... Named honorable mention All-USA by *USA Today* ... Also competed in track ... Holds the school triple-jump record ... Attended football camp at Kentucky and won a long-ball throwing contest with a record throw of 76 yards ...

Personal: Jason N. Davis ... Born 2/4/82 in Alcoa, TN ... Son of Jess and Linda Davis ... Enrolled in university studies.

Jim Davis

95

Defensive End
6-4 251 So. 1VL
Highland Springs, Va.
Highland Springs H.S.



An extremely talented young player who has shown he can take over a game ... Was one of only three true freshmen to see action last season ... Worked his way up to the No. 2 spot behind Nathaniel Adibi at end ... Saw action in every game and finished third on the team in sacks ... Showed off his talents in Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Possesses the size, quickness and skills to be an outstanding player ... Can get to the quarterback in a hurry ... Grew as both a person and a player during the course of the year ... Worked during the spring to improve his concentration and develop more consistency ... Scored a touchdown in the spring game ... Needs to get excited about playing every down ... Has the potential to make a major impact on defense this fall ...

2000: Played on 27 snaps against Akron in his first collegiate game and contributed two tackles ... Saw action on a season-high 30 plays at East Carolina ... Posted three tackles, two quarterback hurries and shared a sack in the win over the Pirates ... Knocked down a pass against Rutgers ... Registered a personal-best six tackles in the Temple game, including a pair of sacks for minus 16 yards ... Had two tackles for loss and two

quarterback hurries against Syracuse ... Was in on three tackles at Miami and added another sack in the Virginia game ... Averaged 25 plays per game for the season ... Finished with 28 tackles, including 17 primary hits ... Turned in six tackles behind the line, including 3.5 sacks ... Hurried the quarterback five times ... Contributed four tackles in Tech's win over Clemson in the Gator Bowl, including two quarterback sacks that came on consecutive plays for a total loss of 16 yards ... Ran a 4.68 in the 40 during spring testing ... Posted seven sacks during the Hokies' four spring scrimmages ... Recovered a fumble in the end zone for a TD during the Maroon-White game ... Also registered a sack and three tackles ...

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

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

Personal: James Edward Davis, Jr. ... Born 10/4/81 in Richmond, VA ... Son of James, Sr., and Sandra Davis ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	17	11	28	2- 9	3.5- 23

Steve DeMasi

61

Center
6-3 278 r-Sr. 2VL
Virginia Beach, Va.
Cox H.S.



The only returning starter among Tech's offensive linemen ... Has worked his way up from a walk-on to a starter, handling every job along the way ... Took over the starting center duties last season and did a good job ... Started every game

Continued on next page

A Talk With Steve DeMasi

How does it feel to go from a walk-on to a two-year starter?

It's a great feeling and a sense of accomplishment to come in as a walk-on and then work your way up to become a two-year starter. I wasn't highly recruited in high school, so it offered me a great sense of accomplishment.

What was your reaction when you were called on to start against Syracuse in 1999?

I was nervous at first because it was such a big game for us. I knew I had to just step in there for the team. I hadn't had much playing time up until that point, so I just wanted to have a great week of practice and get ready for the game.

You are the only returning starter on the offensive line. Do the younger linemen look to you for advice?

Definitely. I try to help them and I give them all the advice that I can. But we have a lot of experience even though I am the only returning starter. We are going to have a solid front line and solid back-ups, so I'm really not worrying about them.

You were a big factor in helping Virginia Tech and Lee Suggs lead the nation in touchdowns scored last season. How does that make you feel?

It was a great feeling knowing we had one of the top running backs in the nation running behind us. He helps make the offensive line look really good and he makes himself look good, so it is just an overall good feeling.



DeMasi, *continued*

and averaged 46 plays per outing ... Helped the Hokies to their second straight BIG EAST rushing title and a fifth-place finish nationally among Division I-A teams in rushing offense ... A great competitor who is extremely knowledgeable ... Understands his limitations and gets around them with excellent technique and experience ... Has proven to be a tough, physical inside player ... Did a good job helping the young players around him during spring practice ... Will be counted on to anchor Tech's young line this fall ...

2000: Played over 500 snaps, including a season-high 72 versus Pittsburgh ... Graded a winning percentage in eight of 11 regular-season games ... Posted over 30 knockdown blocks ... Enjoyed his best outings against West Virginia, Pittsburgh and Virginia ... Helped clear the way for five rushing touchdowns against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Tied for tops among the offensive lineman in the push jerk during spring testing with a lift of 360 pounds ...

1999: Opened the season as the No. 3 center ... Played 19 snaps in the opener against James Madison ... Saw action against Virginia and Rutgers ... Moved into the starting lineup against Syracuse and was in for 79 plays — the most by

any Tech offensive player during the '99 season ... Also started and saw action on 64 plays at Pittsburgh ... Graded a winner in both starts ... Played in a total of eight games ... Posted a 380-pound bench press and a 550-pound back squat during spring strength and conditioning tests ...

1998: Joined the Tech dress squad to provide depth at center ... Saw limited action in games against Clemson, Pittsburgh, UAB and Rutgers ... Played a career-high 16 snaps in the win at UAB ... Was in for eight plays against the Scarlet Knights ... Also got a taste of action in the Music City Bowl against Alabama ... Turned in the seventh-best push jerk for a Tech football player during fall testing with a lift of 381 pounds ... Had a 530-pound back squat during spring testing ...

1997: Joined the team as a walk-on ... Contributed as a center on scout team during the fall ... Dressed for the jayvee games but was held out of action and redshirted ... Improved his bench press by 50 pounds and his push jerk by 41 pounds during the winter strength and conditioning program ... His 341-pound push jerk was the fourth best among Tech's offensive linemen ... Continued to work at center during spring practice ...

High School: Was named the top offensive lineman on the football squad at Cox High School as a senior ... Played

center for Coach Reggie Garrett ... Earned second-team All-Beach District honors ... Competed in the weight events for the track team and was named the squad's most valuable field event athlete ... Helped the track team to a regional title his senior year ...

Personal: Steven Francis DeMasi ... Born 11/24/79 in San Diego, CA ... Son of Frank and Beth DeMasi ... Studying finance.

Jon Dunn

52

Offensive Tackle
6-7 420 Fr.
Virginia Beach, Va.
Tallwood H.S.



One of Tech's top newcomers ... Got a lot of attention during the spring after redshirting last fall ... Has pleased the coaches with his progress ... Mixes good work habits with a will to succeed ... Possesses outstanding physical talent ... Is working hard to add more strength to his package and sharpen his pass

blocking skills ... Should reap huge dividends from the Hokies' strength and conditioning program ... Has a chance to become an outstanding player as he gains strength and experience ... Is expected to start collecting plenty of experience this season as the No. 2 right tackle ...

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

High School: Earned All-America honors from *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 35 offensive line prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 9 player in Virginia ... Listed as the No. 20 offensive tackle prospect in the nation by Lemming ... Picked the No. 1 offensive lineman in the state and the No. 7 overall prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Lettered three seasons for Coach Thad Harold at Tallwood ... Saw most of his action as an offensive tackle ... Also got some playing time at defensive tackle and as a long snapper ... Earned all-district honors his junior and senior seasons ... Named All-Eastern Region as a senior ... Had eight tackles and two sacks in limited defensive duty in 1999 ...

Personal: Jonathan Paul Dunn ... Born 12/12/81 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Paula and Willie Heggins ... Enrolled in university studies.

Doug Easlick

43

Fullback
5-11 226 r-So.
Marlton, N.J.
Cherokee H.S.



Is expected to compete for the No. 2 fullback spot behind Jarrett Ferguson when practice begins in August ... A tough, physical player who has a knack for picking up yardage ... Can catch the football coming out of the backfield ... Has worked at both tailback and fullback while at Tech ... Understands leverage and plays smart ... Moved from tailback to fullback prior to the 2000 season ... Made the travel squad and saw limited action in six games ... Started out at fullback for spring practice ... Ended up getting more snaps at tailback because of an injury to Josh Spence ... Will be in the mix for

playing time when preseason practice rolls around ...

2000: Rushed three times for 19 yards against Akron ... Turned in a personal-best 18-yard run in that game ... Played 15 offensive snaps against Rutgers, carrying the football twice for 9 yards ... Rushed once for 3 yards against Temple and had a 2-yard carry in the West Virginia game ... Also saw action against East Carolina and Virginia ... Finished the season with eight carries for 32 yards ... Played for the Tech jayvees against Fork Union Military Academy and ran for three touchdowns ... Registered personal bests in seven of nine categories during off-season strength and conditioning tests ... Bench pressed 385 pounds and lowered his time in the 40 to 4.59 ... Worked at tailback as well as fullback during the spring ... Rushed for 50 yards on 12 carries in one spring scrimmage, scoring twice on short goal-line situations and catching a 9-yard pass ... Posted an 8-yard touchdown run in another scrimmage ... Led the White team in rushing during the spring game with 30 yards on four carries ...

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

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

second-team All-America honors his senior year ...

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

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	6	8	32	4.0	0	18

Sam Fatherly

29



Rover
5-10 203 r-Fr.
Williamsport, Pa.
Williamsport H.S.

A young player who is still adjusting to the Tech system ... Entered school in January 2000 and has already gone through two spring practices and a redshirt year ... Worked at free safety when he first arrived at Tech ... Moved to the rover position last fall ... Has made some progress in the strength and conditioning program but must continue to get stronger ... Got some reps during the spring ... Needs a good off-season preparation to move into contention for a spot on the depth chart ...

2000: Moved to the rover position and was redshirted ... Was clocked at 4.48 in the 40 during Tech's pro timing day in the spring ...

1999: Enrolled at Tech for the second semester ... Worked at free safety during the spring ...

High School: Played wide receiver and safety for Coach Tim Montgomery at Williamsport ... Caught 45 passes for 820 yards and eight touchdowns his senior season ... Contributed 75 tackles, four interceptions and six fumble recoveries on defense ... Earned all-conference honors as both a receiver and a safety ... Broke up 15 passes and intercepted three his junior year ... Caught 31 passes for nearly 800 yards and nine TDs ... Set school career records for receptions (83) and receiving yards (1,575) ... Also had nine career interceptions ... Was named to the school's All-Century team ... Played shooting guard in basketball, helping the team to a 31-2 record and the state 4A championship ... Was rated one of the Top 20 players in the state ...

Personal: Samuel Nathaniel Fatherly ... Born 6/13/81 in Williamsport, PA ... Son of Reginald and Theresa Fatherly ... Enrolled in biology.

Matt Felber

Place-kicker
5-8 182 Jr.
McLean, Va.
Randolph-Macon Acad.



An extremely hard worker who has really improved during his time at Tech ... Joined the team as a walk-on in 1997 ... Has competed for the punting and kicking duties off-and-on over the past four seasons ... Has performed both duties as a member of the jayvee team during his career ... Got a lot of work during 2001 spring practice with starter Carter Warley sidelined ...

2000: Booted an extra point in a jayvee win against Fork Union ... Punted four times for a 38.8-yard average for the JV team in a victory over Hargrave ...

Kicked field goals of 47 and 21 yards during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Contributed a 30-yard field goal and three PATs during the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Was redshirted during the fall ... Competed for the punting duties during spring practice ... Averaged 41.7 yards on three punts during the spring game ...

1998: Kicked a 41-yard field goal and three extra point kicks in a 24-21 jayvee win over Fork Union ... Had two punts for a 32-yard average in the spring game ...

1997: Handled the punting and kicking duties for the jayvee team ... Punted three times for a 38.3-yard average during the Maroon-White spring game ...

High School: Lettered two seasons as a punter and place-kicker for Coach Dick Allanson at Randolph-Macon Academy ... Also lettered three seasons as a wrestler and was a goalie in soccer ...

Personal: Matt Tony Felber ... Born 10/25/79 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Dr. Melvin and Bette Felber ... Majoring in management science.

Jarrett Ferguson

27

Fullback
5-9 222 Jr.
Goodview, Va.
Staunton River H.S.



One of the top fullbacks in the collegiate ranks ... A complete player who excels as a runner, receiver and blocker ... Also chips in on special teams ... Has helped clear the way for record-breaking tailback Lee Suggs ... His six rushing touchdowns last season were the most rushing TDs in a season for a Tech fullback since 1991 ... A Super Iron Hokie in the strength and conditioning program ... Was just the second player to attain the new Elite Level of Performance status in the Tech weight room ... Set a Tech football record with a 351-pound power

A Talk With Jarrett Ferguson

Where do you look for inspiration when you are out on the field?

I look to my mother because I know everything I do is for her and the rest of my family. I want to do things for my mother. We have been through a lot and I go out on the field and work harder just for her.

What does Lee Suggs' 2000 BIG EAST and school touchdown record mean to you knowing you were the man who got him into the endzone on many occasions?

We complement each other. When I go out there, I block for him and it makes me look good when he scores all those touchdowns. It means a lot to me when he goes out there and runs the ball hard every time he touches it. I just have to make sure I do my job to help him out and he will make me look good, too.

What are your goals as Tech's fullback for the 2001 season?

I just want to go out there and play hard every game and block for Lee and try to get him at least 100 yards a game. I want to keep trying to get positive yards every time I get the ball.

What is the one thing you want the most during this, your final season of collegiate football?

I want to go out there and take one game at a time. I want to go undefeated and play better each time I go out there on the field as an offensive unit because I know our defense is going to be good.



clean when he reported for the 2000 season ... Topped that with a 360-pound clean during spring testing ... Won the George Preas Award as Tech's most valuable offensive performer during 2001 spring practice ... Gives 100 percent whenever he hits the field, whether its for practice or a game ... Originally joined the team as a walk-on and went on to earn a scholarship ... Is a leader by example ... Will be looked to for a big senior season ...

2000: Was rated the No. 10 fullback in Division I-A ranks prior to the season by *The Sporting News* ... Turned in a 7-yard touchdown run against East Carolina ... Rushed three times for 34 yards against West Virginia and scored on a 16-yard run ... Carried the football a season-high six times in games against Boston College, Pittsburgh and UCF ... Had a 26-yard run against UCF and finished that game with a season-high 35 yards rushing ... Scored touchdowns on runs of 13 and 1 yard in Tech's regular-season finale against Virginia ... Gained 25 yards on a pass reception against the Cavaliers ... Saw action on 443 offensive snaps and added over 60 plays as a starter on the extra point and field goal teams ... Averaged 5.3 yards per carry for the season ... Rushed for a total of 210 yards on 40 carries ... Added three pass receptions for 40 yards ... Scored on a 23-yard pass on Tech's first offensive play of the 2001 Gator Bowl ... He added a 5-yard touchdown run in third quarter of that 41-20 win over Clemson ... Carried the football six times in the game for 26 yards ... Earned Elite Athlete honors in August and again during the spring ... Posted a 385-pound bench press, 630-pound back squat and a 385-pound push jerk — all personal bests — during spring max tests ... Also ran a personal-best 4.46 time in the 40 ... Rushed for a touchdown in one spring scrimmage and contributed a 33-yard run in another ... Carried twice for 17 yards in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Started at fullback and on special teams in all 12 games ... Hauled in a 24-yard pass against James Madison ... Gained 24 yards rushing on five carries and caught two passes for 12 yards versus UAB ... Had 28 yards on five rushes in the Clemson game ... Scored on a 20-yard run at Rutgers and finished the game with 40 yards on five carries ... Caught two passes for 12 yards against West Virginia ... Closed out the regular season with four carries for 37 yards versus Boston College ... Ranked fourth on the team in rushing with 173 yards on 34 carries, an average of 5.1 yards per carry ... Added five pass receptions for 48 yards ... Carried once for five yards and caught a 6-yard pass during the Sugar Bowl ... Had the best back squat (605)

and power clean (330) among the running backs during fall testing ... Set position records with a 620-pound back squat and a 370-pound push jerk ... Rushed for 30 yards on two carries during one spring scrimmage and scored on a 3-yard run in another ...

1998: Played in every game, the last eight as a starter ... Carried four times for 15 yards in the opener against East Carolina ... Had 14 yards on four carries at Clemson ... Saw action on 45 plays at Miami ... Scored his first collegiate TD on a 26-yard pass against Temple ... Played a season-high 63 downs in that game ... Got Tech started at UAB with first-half touchdown runs of 23 and 6 yards ...

Finished that game with a season-best six carries for 40 yards ... Posted the Hokies' longest run from scrimmage of the season with a 76-yard scoring jaunt at Syracuse, outrunning the Orangemen despite losing a shoe near the line of scrimmage ... Caught three passes for 38 yards against Rutgers and had an 18-yard reception in the Virginia game ... Averaged 5.9 yards per carry for the season ... Gained 199 yards on 34 rushing attempts and scored three TDs on the ground ... Turned in seven pass receptions for 99 yards and another TD ... Caught a 14-yard pass against Alabama in the Music City Bowl ... Met all six of his goals and earned Iron Hokie honors in the weight room during the fall ... Was a Super Iron Hokie in spring testing ... Bench pressed 355 pounds and turned in a 605-pound back squat ... Placed third in the triple jump at the Atlantic 10 Outdoor Championship meet ... Scored a touchdown on a 1-yard run in the annual spring football game ...

1997: Practiced at tailback during the fall while being redshirted ... Gained Iron Hokie status during the winter ... Was tried at fullback during spring practice ... Scored touchdowns on runs of 5 and 6 yards during one spring scrimmage ... Caught two passes for 29 yards in another scrimmage ... Competed for the Tech indoor and outdoor track teams during the course of the year ... Placed third in both the long jump and the triple jump at the Atlantic 10 Conference Indoor Championship ... Won the A-10 long jump championship outdoors with a leap of 23-1 3/4 ... Also finished second in the triple jump ...

High School: A standout in football and track at Staunton River High School ... Lettered three seasons as a running back in football for Coach Bob Gray ... Rushed for 1,571 yards and 20 touchdowns as a senior ... Added 10 pass receptions for 318 yards and four more TDs ... Named district and region player of the year, as well as Lynchburg All-Area Player of the Year ... Earned

second-team Group AA all-state honors from The Associated Press and the coaches ... Closed out his career with 2,682 yards rushing and 29 TDs ... Helped the track team to a state championship ... Played in the state high school all-star football game ...

Personal: Jarrett Thomas Ferguson ... Born 1/23/79 in Portsmouth, VA ... Son of Linda Ferguson ... A cousin of former Tech defensive lineman Bernard Basham ... Majoring in physical education.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	11	34	199	5.9	3	76
1999	11	34	173	5.1	1	33
2000	11	40	210	5.3	6	26
Career	33	108	582	5.4	10	76

2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	2	12	6.0	0	7
At ECU	1	3	18	6.0	1	9
RUTGERS	1	2	1	0.5	0	3
At BC	1	6	18	3.0	1	6
TEMPLE	1	2	24	12.0	0	18
WVU	1	3	34	11.3	1	16
At Syr	1	1	-2	-2.0	0	0
PITTSBURGH	1	6	32	5.3	1	11
At Miami	1	5	20	4.0	0	8
At UCF	1	6	35	5.8	0	26
VIRGINIA	1	4	18	4.5	2	13

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	11	7	99	14.1	1	26
1999	11	5	48	9.6	0	24
2000	11	3	40	13.3	0	25
Career	33	15	187	12.5	1	26

Matt Findley



Offensive Guard
6-1 284 r-So.
Woodbridge, Va.
C.D. Hylton H.S.

Provides versatility along the offensive front with his ability to play center as well as either guard position ... Can always be counted on for great effort ... Got some extra repetitions during spring practice ... Joined the team last fall as a walk-on ... Saw action on the jayvee team and did a great job on the development team ... Must continue working to add strength ... An intelligent player who knows the game and has a real desire to succeed ... Will fill in wherever needed ...

2000: Played on the jayvee and scout teams during the fall ... Made progress in the strength and conditioning program ... Set six personal bests during scout team max tests in November ... Missed testing in the spring due to a strained knee ... Saw action at several

Continued on next page

Findley, *continued*

different positions during the spring ...

1999: Spent time at center during the fall while redshirting ... Practiced at right guard during the spring ...

High School: Earned two letters as a center and defensive tackle for Coach Bill Brown at C.D. Hylton High ... Earned first-team honors as both a center and defensive tackle on the all-district and all-region teams as a senior ... Named all-area at both positions by the *Potomac News* ... Was a first-team Group AAA pick at center ... Helped team to a 14-0 record and the Group AAA Division 6 state championship his senior season ... Contributed 72 total tackles, six quarterback pressures, two sacks and an interception while playing defensive tackle in nine of the 14 games ... Named the MVP in the 1998 Art Monk Football Camp ...

Personal: John Matthew Findley II ... Born 11/11/80 in Ft. Belvoir, VA ... Son of John and Bonnie Findley ... Studying agriculture and applied economics.

Thenus Franklin

77



Offensive Tackle
6-3 285 r-k.
Clewiston, Fla.
Clewiston H.S.

Moved from defensive tackle to the offensive line when practice opened last August ... Spent the year making the adjustment ... Worked almost exclusively at left tackle and is listed third on the depth chart ... Got some extra work during Tech's jayvee games ... Made strides in the weight room during the off-season ... Showed good effort during spring workouts ... Still has some things to learn about his new position ... Should get better with added exposure to the system ... Works hard ... Got a brief taste of action in 1999 while providing depth at defensive tackle ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ...

2000: Opened practice on offense after spending his first two years in the program as a defensive lineman ... Briefly listed at left guard before settling at left tackle ... Gained Iron Hokie status during spring testing ... Posted personal bests in the bench press (380) and back squat (650) ... Continued to work at LT during spring drills ...

1999: Was in for eight plays at tackle against James Madison and contributed two tackles ... Caused and recovered a fumble in that game ... Added another tackle against Rutgers ... Played a personal-best 11 plays at tackle in the Syracuse game ... Saw action in a total of seven games ... Registered two tackles, a quarterback sack and a pass deflection during the Hokies' first spring scrimmage ... Was in on three tackles in another spring scrimmage ...

1998: Redshirted as a true freshman ... Worked at defensive end during the first half of the season ... Spent the second half at tackle ... Ran a 4.81 in the 40 during spring testing ... Continued to work at tackle during spring practice ... Contributed two sacks in a scrimmage on two occasions during the spring ... Had two tackles and an interception in the spring game ...

High School: Played offensive tackle and defensive end for Coach Al Morrell at Clewiston High ... Named to *PrepStar's* All-Southeast Region team ... Was first-team all-district and picked second team on the Class 3A all-state squad ... Registered 70 tackles, six sacks and two blocked punts his senior season ... Helped his team to a 13-2 record and a share of the state championship ... Played center on the basketball team ... A weight man on the track team ... Had a best distance of 147 feet in the discus ...

Personal: Thenus Tirrell Franklin ... Born 2/2/79 in Clewiston, FL ... Son of Sarah Blaine and William Franklin ... Enrolled in sociology.

Vincent Fuller

8



Free Safety
6-2 170 r-Fr.
Baltimore, Md.
Woodlawn H.S.

A talented young player with tons of potential ... Impressed Tech's coaches during a redshirt year ... Put himself in a position for playing time at free safety with an excellent showing in spring practice ... Picked up some extra repetitions while starter Willie Pile sat out the spring with a shoulder injury ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the team's top defensive newcomer ... Has great athletic ability and excellent range ... Mixes smarts with a desire to be good ... Worked some at

corner as well as safety during the year ... Needs to get stronger ... Will push for playing time ... Has a bright future with the Hokies ...

2000: Turned in the second-best 40 time (4.53) and third-best vertical jump (34 inches) among Tech's newcomers ... Got a look at cornerback during the preseason before moving to free safety ... Was redshirted ... Added 12 pounds by the time spring testing rolled around ... Improved his vertical to 36 1/2 and his 40 time to 4.43 ... Got work at corner and safety during spring practice ... Had three tackles and an interception during one spring practice ... Was also in on three tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

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

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

Extra Point

Vincent Fuller and Richard Johnson were two of the Hokies' most impressive young performers in spring practice, but that shouldn't come as a surprise. Both Fuller and Johnson are from Baltimore, Md., and players from Baltimore seem to excel for the Hokies. Former stars Antonio Freeman, Vaughn Hebron, Keion Carpenter and Roger Brown are among the Hokies' top Baltimore products. Freeman, Hebron and Brown have all earned Super Bowl Championship rings since finishing at Tech, and Carpenter is currently making his mark with the Buffalo Bills

Jacob Gibson

60

Offensive Guard
6-4 293 r-So.
Rocky Mount, Va.
Franklin County H.S.



Has a good shot at winning the starting left guard duties if he can stay away from injuries ... Saw only limited action in games last season, but did well enough for the coaches to see his potential ... Benefited from traveling with the varsity team ... Had arthroscopic surgery performed on his left knee after the 2000 season ... Was slowed during the off-season and at the beginning of spring practice ... Got a lot of reps during the final seven or eight workouts and showed improvement ... Possesses good size and quickness ... Is aggressive and physical ... Has a good grasp of pass protection ... Wants to succeed ... It will be important for him to get healthy and ready to play ... Needs to have a great preparation to win playing time at what figures to be a wide open position ...

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

1999: Was redshirted during the fall while practicing at right guard ... Improved in six of seven categories during spring strength and conditioning tests ... His 31 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring testing was the third-best among offensive linemen ... Ran the second-fastest 40 time among the O-linemen at 4.94 ... Broke his leg on the second day of spring practice and missed all contact work ... Broke the leg again in May ...

High School: Played running back, tight end, offensive tackle and linebacker for Coach Jerry Little at Franklin County High during his prep career ... Was first-team all-district and all-region on offense and defense as a senior ... Earned first-team Group AAA honors as a linebacker ... Posted 113 tackles his senior year ... Forced five fumbles ... Named team MVP ... Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar* ... A *USA Today* honorable

mention All-America pick ... Selected the No. 22 offensive lineman in the ACC Region by the *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Ranked the No. 16 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Contributed 122 tackles his junior season on the way to first-team all-district and second-team all-region honors ... Also competed in basketball and indoor track ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

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

Eric Green

1

Cornerback
5-11 477 6o. 4VL
Clewiston, Fla.
Clewiston H.S.



A talented young cornerback whose coverage skills are as good as any on the team ... Has good size and runs well ... Should continue to benefit from Tech's athletic performance program ... Found himself pressed into action last season as a true freshman due to injuries at the cornerback position ... Saw reserve duty during the Hokies' first four games ... Moved into the starting field corner spot for the Temple game ... Ended up starting five games and playing nearly 400 defensive plays ... Led the team in passes broken up with 12 ... Named second-team freshman All-America by *The Sporting News* ... Had some ups and downs, but gained invaluable experience along the way ... Showed signs of becoming more aggressive during the spring ... Finished strong ... Will push senior Larry Austin for the starting field corner spot if he continues to get more physical ...

2000: Played in all 12 games on both defense and special teams ... Worked with several different special team units, including the extra point, field goal and punt block teams ... Registered three tackles against Akron in his first collegiate action ... Earned BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week honors for his play in the Rutgers game ... Set up two first-half touchdowns in that game, one when he tackled RU punter Mike Barr for a 22-yard loss after a bad snap, and the other when he blocked a punt ... Also registered his first collegiate interception in that game and had two tackles ... Made

his first start against Temple and turned in four tackles and two pass interceptions for 41 yards ... Also drew starts against West Virginia, Syracuse, Pittsburgh and Miami ... Was in on a season-best five tackles versus WVU and broke up three passes ... Had three more break ups, plus an interception, in the Pittsburgh game ... Played 68 defensive plays at Syracuse ... Finished the season with 31 total tackles, 19 unassisted ... Ranked third on the team in interceptions with four ... Contributed two tackles and broke up a pass in Tech's Gator Bowl win against Clemson ... Posted a 36 1/2-inch vertical jump and 4.43 time in the 40 during spring testing ... Posted five unassisted tackles and two assists during the spring Maroon-White game ...

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

Personal: Eric Denaud Green ... Born 3/16/82 in Pahokee, FL ... Son of Janice Freeman and Willie Green ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	19	12	31	1-22	0- 0
2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	3	0	3	0- 0	0- 0
At ECU	1	1	2	3	0- 0	0- 0
RUTGERS	1	2	0	2	1-22	0- 0
At BC	1	0	2	2	0- 0	0- 0
TEMPLE	1	2	2	4	0- 0	0- 0
WVU	1	4	1	5	0- 0	0- 0
At Syr	1	1	2	3	0- 0	0- 0
PITTSBURGH	1	2	1	3	0- 0	0- 0
At Miami	1	2	2	4	0- 0	0- 0
At UCF	1	1	0	1	0- 0	0- 0
VIRGINIA	1	1	0	1	0- 0	0- 0
Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	11	4	51	12.8	0	41

Jake Grove

64

Offensive Guard/Center
6-3 272 r-So. 4VL
Forest, Va.
Jefferson Forest H.S.



Will be a key figure on the offensive line this fall if he can stay away from nagging back problems ... Is slated to start at right guard ... Proved during the spring he could fill the void left by the departure of All-BIG EAST performer Matt Lehr ... A fierce competitor who brings a tremendous football mentality to the game ... Combines size with outstanding strength ... Is physical and aggressive ... Plays with great leverage ... Averaged 25 plays a game at center despite having trouble with his back ... Moved to guard during the spring ... Struggled at first, then adapted rapidly ... Will continue to be the Hokies' No. 2 center ... Has a chance to be a major contributor if he stays healthy ...

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

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

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

High School: Lettered two years as a center and defensive tackle for Coach Bob Christmas at Jefferson Forest High ... Played his senior year at guard and defensive tackle for Coach Ed Landis ... A postseason first-team All-America pick by *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 20 player in

Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named the Region III and Seminole District defensive player of the year in 1997 ... Was an all-district and all-region pick on both offense and defense ... Picked first-team all-state as a defensive tackle by both the coaches and AP ... Helped the team to the state Group AA championship game in '97 ... Registered 48 solo tackles and 53 assists for the season ... Added nine sacks and three fumble recoveries ... Had three sacks, caused two fumbles and made 13 tackles in a game against Appomattox ... Grew two inches and added 40 pounds between his junior and senior seasons ...

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

Billy Hardee

25

Rover
5-11 196 r-Jr. 4VL
Winter Haven, Fla.
Winter Haven H.S.



A versatile performer who has been a valuable addition to the secondary ... Is scheduled to work at rover when practice opens in August ... Saw playing time at cornerback and free safety last season ... Started three games, including the Hokies' Gator Bowl game against Clemson ... Likes to play a physical brand of football ... Knows his limitations and overcomes them by out-working people ... Comes from a good football background — his father, Billy, Jr., was a standout for the Hokies in the mid-1970s ... Transferred to Tech from Florida Southern College where he played soccer ... Worked mainly at free safety while sitting out the 1999 season ... Last year, he was hampered by a pulled groin muscle at midseason but played in all but two games ... Underwent surgery to his left toe after spring practice ... Will rehab over the summer ... Should see his share of action again this season ...

2000: Got some work at free safety and cornerback ... Saw action on 24 defensive plays against Akron in the opener ... Contributed seven tackles against Akron in his first Tech game ... Was in on nine tackles, including two behind the line, in the Boston College game ... Was limited to just four plays on special teams against Temple due to a

pulled muscle ... Missed games against West Virginia and Syracuse and saw action on just one play against Pittsburgh ... Returned and got brief playing time against Miami, posting two tackles ... Gained his first start at UCF and recorded five tackles ... Was in on 47 plays before leaving the game with a slight concussion ... Returned to start against Virginia and registered eight tackles ... Finished the season with a total of 34 tackles, two tackles for loss and two passes broken up ... Intercepted passes in each of his last two games, but both were nullified by penalties ... Started against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Led the defensive backs with a 304-pound power clean during spring testing ... Had one of the team's best times in the NFL shuttle run at 4.0 seconds ... Worked mainly at free safety during spring practice ... Had five tackles, including one behind the line, during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Turned in three tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Was redshirted while working at free safety ... Bench pressed 310 pounds and turned in a 450-pound back squat during spring testing ... Posted six tackles in one scrimmage and four in another ... Intercepted a pass and returned it seven yards during the annual Maroon-White game ... Also contributed four tackles, including a quarterback sack in that game ...

Florida Southern College: Attended Florida Southern and played soccer during the 1998-99 school year ...

High School: Excelled in football, soccer and track at Winter Haven High ... Lettered three seasons in football as a strong safety and kicker for Coach Flip Farienalla ... Earned first-team all-county and all-area honors ... Led the team in tackles every game ... Posted two interceptions against Lake Region as a junior ... Was the leading tackler again his junior year ... MVP of the soccer team ... Ranked in the top 16 in the state in the 400 meters ... Finished first in the district and third in the region in that event ... Also a member of one of the state's top 800-meter relay teams ... A member of the National Honor Society ... Vice-president of the Student Council ...

Personal: Abraham Bill Hardee III ... Born 6/30/80 in Christiansburg, VA ... Son of Bill, Jr., and Debi Hardee ... His dad still ranks among Tech's top 10 career leaders in pass interceptions, punt returns and kickoff returns ... Studying science of food, nutrition and exercise.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	9	17	17	34	2- 5	0- 0

Jake Houseright

41



Linebacker
6-3 237 Sr. 6VL
Gate City, Va.
Gate City H.S.

Is ready to return to his starting mike linebacker position after rehabilitation from reconstructive knee surgery in January ... Did not participate in spring drills, but has been completely cleared to work out during the off-season ... Will concentrate on getting back into shape during the summer ... Will be watched closely when practice resumes in August ... Appeared right at home last season in his first year as the starter at mike linebacker ... Saw action on over 70 percent of the Hokies' defensive plays ... Finished second on the team in tackles with 75 ... Also contributed as a starter on the extra point and field goal block teams ... Got better every game and was playing his best football at the end of the year ... Suffered a torn ACL in his left knee during

Tech's Gator Bowl win against Clemson ... A tall, rangy player who is both smart and athletic ... Mixes aggressiveness with a physical style of play ... Is expected to be an important contributor again this season if he returns to form ...

2000: Shared the lead among linebackers with a 331-pound power clean and 341-pound jerk during preseason testing ... Also turned in a 410-pound bench press ... Made his first start against Akron and posted a team-high 11 tackles ... Shared a sack in that game and played a total of 52 defensive snaps ... Played a season-high 66 plays at East Carolina ... Was in on seven tackles in that game, broke up a pass and contributed a quarterback hurry ... Had a tackle for loss among his eight tackles at Boston College ... Broke up a pair of passes against Temple ... Also posted eight tackles in games against Syracuse and Miami ... Returned a fumble 11 yards to help set up Tech's go-ahead touchdown at Syracuse ... Turned in a personal-best 12 tackles during the win over West Virginia ... Finished with 35 primary tackles and 40 assists ... Registered five tackles behind the line, five passes broken up and six hurries ... Posted three tackles and broke up a pass before injuring his knee against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Underwent

reconstructive surgery to his left knee ... Was limited to rehabbing during the winter and did not participate in contact work during the spring ...

1999: Did not play in the opener against James Madison due to a preseason knee injury ... Only played eight defensive snaps and 12 special teams plays over the next three games ... Got a personal-best 31 defensive plays against Rutgers and responded with seven tackles, including four primary hits ... Was in for 25 plays against Syracuse and made three tackles ... Assisted on four tackles at West Virginia and was in on a total of five hits in the Temple game ... Finished the regular season with 22 total tackles ... Turned in a personal-best 380-pound bench press during the fall ... Posted five tackles in one spring scrimmage and finished with four tackles in the annual spring game ...

1998: Had a portion of torn cartilage removed from his right knee before the season ... Saw his first action on the kickoff team at Miami ... Made his first appearance at fullback against Boston College ... Got his first carry in the Temple game for a 1-yard gain ... Turned in 5-yard runs against UAB and West Virginia ... Played a season-high 28 offensive

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A Talk With Jake Houseright

Having had knee injuries and surgeries in the past, how is this going to affect your final season here at Tech?

Hopefully, it won't affect my last season at all. After this last surgery, my knee feels good and I will be 100 percent for the fall.

Being highly recruited from high school, what made you become a Hokie?

I just loved the atmosphere here at Tech. I really liked the players and coaches and it was just the best fit for me both academically and athletically.

Playing on the team as a true freshman, was there one player who you really looked up to?

Not really one particular player, but I watched players like John Engelberger and Corey Moore who were great players with great work ethics. I tried to model my own work ethic to be like theirs after watching them.

What goals have you set for yourself and the team for the upcoming season?

I just want to be the best player I can be every day in practice and help the team out the best that I can. I want to be able to do my share in helping this team to a great season.

Who motivates you the most at practice?

Definitely Coach Foster. He is a good motivator and will let you know if you are slacking. He stays after me and keeps me working hard.



Houseright, *continued*

snaps in the Rutgers game ... Finished regular-season play with a total of seven carries for 16 yards ... Averaged 11 plays a game on special teams ... Led the linebackers with a 341-pound push jerk during spring testing ... Bench pressed 370 pounds ... Posted three tackles and a sack in one of the team's spring scrimmages ... Was in on six tackles during the annual spring game ...

High School: Started all four years in football at Gate City High for Coach Nick Colobro, a former tight end at Tech ... Played safety, outside and inside linebacker, tailback, fullback and tight end during his career ... Also returned punts and kickoffs and handled the punting duties ... Rated the No. 12 strong-side linebacker in the nation by *The National Recruiting Advisor*, the No. 23 inside linebacker in the country by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* and the No. 31 linebacker in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Garnered postseason A-A honors from *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *NRA* ... Rated the No. 4 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and *The Charlottesville Daily Progress* and the No. 5 player in the state by *SuperPrep* ... Voted The Associated Press Group AA Player of the Year in Virginia ... Voted the defensive player of the year in Group AA by the coaches ... The Highlands District Offensive and Defensive Player of the Year ... Also the Region IV Defensive Player of the Year and a first-team pick as a running back and kick returner ... Helped team to four district titles, three regional championships and a state title (1997) ... Compiled 169 tackles, eight sacks, an interception and a fumble recovery from his linebacker spot as a senior ... Rushed for 1,955 yards and 25 touchdowns as a fullback in '97 ... Added 14 pass receptions for 153 yards and three more TDs ... Posted career totals of 425 tackles, 10 interceptions, 19 sacks, 3,112 yards rushing, 37 rushing touchdowns and 35 pass receptions for 408 yards and four TDs ... Excelled in track, setting school records in both the 110- and 300-meter hurdles ... Won the discus and finished fourth in the shot put at the '98 State Group AA outdoor track championship ...

Personal: Jacob Matthew Houseright ... Born 1/4/79 in Blacksburg, VA ... Son of Bill and Jenny Houseright ... His father was a *Parade* All-American in high school and a starting nose guard for the Hokies in the mid-1970s ... His uncle, Tom Beasley, was also a star defensive lineman at Tech and played for the

Pittsburgh Steelers and Washington Redskins ... His older brother, Bill, Jr., lettered for the Hokies in 1995 ... Is studying finance.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	10	6	16	22	0-0	0-0
2000	11	35	40	75	5-13	0.5-2
Career	21	41	56	97	5-13	0.5-2
2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	5	6	11	1-2	0.5-2
At ECU	1	3	4	7	0-0	0-0
RUTGERS	1	2	3	5	0-0	0-0
At BC	1	4	4	8	1-2	0-0
TEMPLE	1	2	0	2	0-0	0-0
WVU	1	5	7	12	1-1	0-0
At Syr	1	5	3	8	1-4	0-0
PITTSBURGH	1	3	3	6	1-4	0-0
At Miami	1	2	6	8	0-0	0-0
At UCF	1	3	1	4	0-0	0-0
VIRGINIA	1	1	3	4	0-0	0-0

Mike Jackson

80

Tight End
6-3 241 r-fr.
Mason, Ohio
Moeller H.S.



A newcomer who will help provide solid depth at tight end this fall ... Could also contribute on special teams ... Got some valuable work during the spring ... Must continue to work in the athletic performance program to increase his strength ... Has a chance to contribute in some fashion in 2001 if he makes a good summer preparation ...

2000: Was redshirted while working at tight end ... Showed improvement during off-season strength and conditioning ... Posted a 316-pound jerk ... Lowered his 40 time to 4.86 ... Caught a 24-yard pass in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ...

High School: Ranked the No. 3 tight end in Ohio by *Ohio Prep Magazine* ... Listed the No. 9 tight end in the Midwest by *PrepStar* ... Lettered four seasons at legendary Moeller High for Coach Steve Klone ... Was all-league, all-Cincinnati and all-Southwest Ohio as a junior and senior ... Named team captain in 1999 ... Contributed 60 career receptions and nine touchdown catches ... Fourteen of his 17 catches as a junior resulted in first downs ... Earned the team's Big Moe award for his toughness ... Was named the team's most improved junior in 1998 ... Was the state runner-up at 209 pounds in Greco Roman wrestling as a sophomore ... Turned in the fastest 800-meter time by a freshman in Cincinnati during the 1996-97 school year ...

Personal: Paul Michael Jackson, Jr. ... Born 4/27/82 in Cincinnati, Ohio ... Son of Mike and Stephanie Jackson ... Enrolled in university studies.

T.J. Jackson

23

Linebacker
6-1 214 r-fr.
Delray Beach, Fla.
Olympic Heights H.S.



Saw his experience pay off during the spring ... Moved into the No. 1 spot at the whip linebacker position ... Missed the spring game with a sprained MCL in his left knee, but will be ready to go when practice opens in August ... Possesses good athletic ability and speed ... Picked up some valuable confidence during his showing in the spring ... Was one of the team's most improved players during the spring up to the point of his injury ... A starter on the kickoff team in 2000 ... Also provided depth at the whip position ... Will be the leading candidate for the starting duties there this fall ...

2000: Saw action in nine of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games, plus the Gator Bowl ... Posted eight tackles on kickoff coverage during the season ... Was in on three tackles against West Virginia and two versus Virginia ... Also had tackles against East Carolina, Syracuse and Central Florida ... Saw his only defensive action in the opening game against Akron ... Played offense and defense in two Tech jayvee games, rushing for 61 yards and contributing an interception ... Had two tackles on kickoff coverage against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Registered two tackles and a fumble recovery in one spring scrimmage and two tackles and a sack in another ... Injured his left knee but did not require surgery ... Did not play in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Remained at the whip linebacker position ... Played seven plays at linebacker and one play on special teams in the season-opener against James Madison ... His only other varsity action of the season came on seven special teams plays against Pittsburgh ... Played in two jayvee games ... Turned in personal bests in three of the four major lifts during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Also turned in a 37-inch vertical jump and a 4.36 clocking in the 40-yard dash ... Posted three tackles, including a pair of quarterback sacks,

during Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Had a tackle for loss and five total tackles in another scrimmage ... Was in on one tackle during the spring Maroon-White game ...

1998: Worked at free safety during the fall while redshirting ... Showed improvement during the winter strength and conditioning program ... Moved to outside linebacker for spring practice ... Contributed four tackles during one spring scrimmage and posted two tackles and a fumble recovery in another ... Was in on four tackles in the annual spring game ...

High School: Played quarterback, wide receiver and safety for Coach Willie Dadaro at Olympic Heights High ... Was named *The Boca Raton News* Offensive Player of the Year ... Listed as the No. 2 strong safety in Florida by *The Jacksonville Times-Union*, which also listed him among the top 75 recruits in the state ... Earned postseason All-America honors from *SuperPrep* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Gained second-team all-state recognition in Class 6A ... A first-team all-area and all-county pick ... Team MVP his senior and junior years ... Accounted for 789 yards rushing and 637 yards passing as a senior ... Ran for 10 touchdowns and passed for seven ... Contributed 91 tackles, seven interceptions, three fumble recoveries and two blocked field goals ... Scored on two kickoff returns and a punt return ... Posted five touchdowns in a game against Spanish River, including one on a 78-yard punt return ... Compiled


94 tackles and eight interceptions his junior season ... Returned two punts and a kickoff for TDs and blocked three field goals and a punt ... Finished his career with 21 interceptions ... As a senior, helped his team advance to the second round of the state playoffs for the first time ever ... Selected for the North-South All-State game, the Outback All-Star game and the Palm Beach County All-Star game ...

Personal: Tavarius Mariques Jackson ... Born 10/10/79 in Delray Beach, FL ... Son of Larry and Charlotte Jackson ... Goes by T.J. ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	9	5	3	8	0-0	0-0

Emmett Johnson

18



Split End
6-3 206 lbs. 4VL
Chesapeake, Va.
Western Branch H.S.

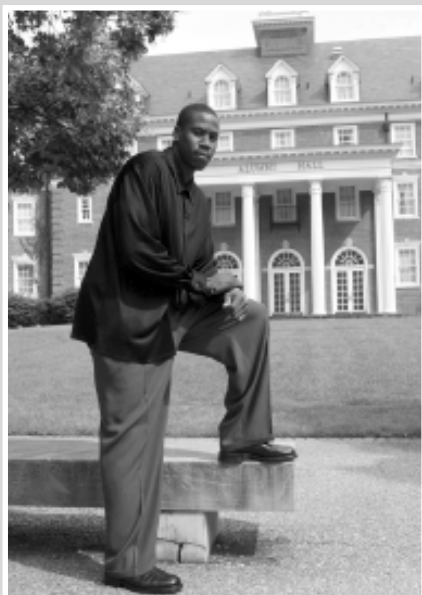
Returns for his second season as the Hokies' starting split end ... Will be looked to for added production following a successful spring ... Concentrated on areas where he needed work and made a conscious effort to improve ... Became a

better student of the game ... Made some tough catches and played full speed ... Combines outstanding size with excellent athletic ability ... Turned in a 41-inch vertical jump during spring athletic performance testing and ran 4.36 in the 40 ... Was Tech's primary pass receiver last season ... Started all 12 games and was the only Tech player to catch a pass in every game ... Led the team in receiving with 34 catches and averaged 16.9 yards per catch for the season ... Ranked eighth in the BIG EAST in receiving yards per game (52.2) ... Needs to pick up where he left off in the spring during his summer preparation and be ready to take on a leadership role this fall ...

2000: Earned Iron Hokie honors in preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Hauled in two passes for 77 yards and ran a reverse for 19 yards in the season opener against Akron ... Scored on a 59-yard pass in that game ... Caught three passes for 46 yards and one touchdown during the Rutgers game ... Posted a career-high seven catches against Pittsburgh for 79 yards ... Turned in a personal-best 69-yard touchdown reception against Miami ... Finished that game with two catches for 97 yards ... Gained 16 yards on a reverse against Temple ... Had six receptions for 71 yards in the Virginia game ... Registered 34 catches on the season for 574 yards and three TDs ... Rushed four times for 29 yards ... Caught a 7-yard pass and ran 5

Continued on next page

A Talk With Emmett Johnson



You had a terrific season last year, how did it feel to be able to step right in when André Davis got hurt?

I didn't want to see André go down, but when he did, all I saw was opportunity and a chance to show what I could do.

Do you have any pregame rituals?

I pray and I hit the Hokie Stone when we come out of the tunnel. That's about it.

How differently do you look at games now than when you were a freshman?

When I was a freshman, I wasn't redshirted, so I was fresh out of high school and it was like, 'Man I am out here playing college football.' It is a whole different feeling. Now I have the chance to show what my abilities are.

What will you miss most about playing for Tech, and what will you miss least?

What I will miss the most is Lane Stadium and the crowds. What I will miss least is 6 a.m., workouts.

What did it feel like to be such a major part of the come-back win over Pittsburgh last year?

That felt good. It was just a chance to show what I could do. It was a big opportunity and I had to cash in on it.

Johnson, *continued*

yards on a reverse during Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Led the receivers with a 500-pound back squat and a 305-pound power clean during spring testing ... Compiled five catches for 69 yards during spring scrimmages ... Hauled in a 30-yard touchdown pass in the annual Maroon-White game ...

1999: Saw action in every game on both offense and special teams ... Earned his first collegiate start against James Madison and caught one pass for nine yards ... Had three catches for 62 yards in the UAB game ... Hauled in a 41-yard pass in that game for his first touchdown at Tech ... Also had three catches against West Virginia for 44 yards ... Played a career-high 38 offensive snaps against the Mountaineers ... Finished third on the squad in receptions with 10 for 147 yards ... Posted personal bests in the vertical jump (37 1/2 inches) and the 40 (4.33 seconds) during the off-season ... Caught a 23-yard pass against Florida State in the Sugar Bowl and gained 12 yards on a reverse ... His 515-pound back squat was tops among the receivers during the spring ... Hauled in a 35-yard TD pass in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Had a 29-yard reception in the annual Maroon-White game ...

1998: Played in nine regular-season games ... Saw action on 16 snaps against East Carolina in his first collegiate game ... Caught two passes for 11 yards during Tech's win at Clemson ... Added another reception against Pittsburgh ... Moved into a starting spot on the punt return team prior to the Boston College game ... Registered a season-high 33 plays at UAB, including 27 snaps on offense ... Finished the season with three catches for 10 yards ... Contributed an 8-yard reception against Alabama in the Music City Bowl ... Saw action in a jayvee game against Fork Union, catching four passes for 117 yards and one touchdown ... Posted a 4.42 time in the 40 during spring testing ... Grabbed three passes for 28 yards during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Was slowed part of the spring by a hamstring injury ... Made an outstanding 22-yard reception during the spring game ...

High School: Only played one year of varsity football at Western Branch ... Elected to concentrate on track as a junior after playing on the jayvee football squad as a sophomore ... Returned to football as a receiver for Coach Lew Johnston in '97 and led the team with 22 catches for 458 yards and six touchdowns ... Earned first-team all-district, all-Tidewater and all-region honors ... Rated the No. 15 player in the state by *The Roanoke Times* and the

No. 16 prospect by *SuperPrep* ... Ranked the No. 9 receiver in the ACC Region by *PrepStar*, which selected him a postseason All-America ... Lettered four years in track ... Won the Group AAA indoor and outdoor triple jump titles as a senior ... Ran a leg on the state championship 4x100-meter relay team as a junior ... Also earned all-state honors that year in the triple jump ... Has run the 100 meters in 10.7 and the 400 meters in 48.9 ...

Personal: Emmett Johnson, Jr. ... Born 3/17/80 in North Carolina ... Son of Emmett, Sr., and Vergie Johnson ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	8	3	10	3.3	0	12
1999	11	10	147	14.7	1	41
2000	11	34	574	16.9	3	69
Career	30	47	731	15.5	4	69

2000 Game-by-Game

AKRON	1	2	77	38.5	1	59
At ECU	1	2	20	10.0	0	13
RUTGERS	1	3	46	15.3	1	17
At BC	1	4	42	10.5	0	13
TEMPLE	1	2	16	8.0	0	14
WVU	1	2	24	12.0	0	17
At Syr	1	3	47	15.7	0	21
PITTSBURGH	1	7	79	11.3	0	29
At Miami	1	2	97	48.5	1	69
At UCF	1	1	55	55.0	0	55
VIRGINIA	1	6	71	11.8	0	19

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	11	4	29	7.3	0	19

Richard Johnson

12

Flanker
5-10 489 r-Fr.
Baltimore, Md.
Milford Mill Academy



An extremely gifted young player with a bright future ... Is still learning how to be a receiver after excelling at quarterback in high school ... An exceptionally quick and elusive runner ... Possesses outstanding hands ... Has confidence handling the football thanks to his experience as a QB ... Knows the game and is mentally tough ... Is starting to learn all the intangibles that go with being a receiver, including how to create space and how to be able to control the game ... Good things will come to him if he's patient ... A leading candidate to return kickoffs ... Has a chance to earn some playing time as a receiver ... How much time depends on how he continues to progress during the summer and preseason ...

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

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

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

Extra Point

Virginia Tech led the BIG EAST Conference with six sellouts last season. The Hokies are riding a school-record string of 13 consecutive sellouts at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field. In 1999, Tech sold out every home football game for the first time in school history. Last season, the Hokies posted another first when every home game sold out prior to the start of the season. Tech expects to duplicate that feat again in 2001.

Ken Keister

55

Deep Snapper
6-1 229 r.k. 4VL
Radford, Va.
Radford H.S.



Returns as the Hokies' deep snapper on special teams ... Could be challenged for a portion of his duties when practice opens ... Won the snapping duties for punts, extra points and field goals prior to the 2000 season ... Did an outstanding job handling all three duties for the entire season ... Underwent arthroscopic knee surgery following the season ... Still snapped during spring practices, but did not play in the Maroon-White game ... Has also seen practice time at both defensive end positions during his time at Tech ... A team player and consistent performer ... Can always be counted on for top effort ... Brings experience and a steady hand to the Hokies' special teams ...

2000: Took over all the snapping duties after serving as a backup in 1999 ... Started every game ... Handled 114 snaps during the regular season ...

1999: Was a member of the travel squad as a backup snapper ... Did not see action and was redshirted ... Bench pressed 330 pounds during fall testing ... Improved his back squat to 500 pounds ... Registered quarterback sacks in two of Tech's spring scrimmages and added three tackles, including one behind the line, in another ...

1998: Joined the team as a walk-on when school started ... Practiced at defensive end ... Recovered a fumble in a jayvee win over Fork Union Military Academy ... Improved in all four major lifts during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Got some work as a deep snapper during the spring ...

High School: Earned three letters as a defensive end, linebacker and running back for Coach Norm Lineburg at Radford High ... Was first-team all-district, all-region and all-state as a defensive end his senior season ... Earned second-team all-district honors as a running back ... Helped team to a region championship in '97 ... Contributed 153 tackles, seven

sacks and three fumble recoveries as a senior ... Missed his junior year due to an injury ... Lettered two years in basketball and soccer ...

Personal: Kenneth Robert Keister ... Born 8/13/80 in Radford, VA ... Son of Robert Keister and Judy Harris ... Studying physical education.

Chris Krebs

37

Rover
6-1 195 r.Sr. 6VL
Burke, Va.
Robinson H.S.



Has been a mainstay on Tech's special teams for three seasons ... Also provides depth at the rover position ... Suffered a broken bone in his forearm during the Virginia game and underwent surgery ... Missed the Gator Bowl game ... An intelligent player who works hard ... Tech's Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year

Continued on next page

A Talk With Chris Krebs



How difficult has it been for you to balance football with excelling academically?

It's been very difficult. I've spent a lot of sleepless nights working, but I always had the goal of graduating at the top of my class while doing well in football. It's been very hard. I think one of my best skills is time management and that has enabled me to excel both on and off the field.

Do you have any rituals, superstitions, or routines you go through before games?

I don't tape my ankles on game day. I taped my ankles twice — once against Florida State, and the second time against Miami. After that, I stopped taping my ankles for games.

With a change at quarterback this season, what are your predictions for the team?

I believe in Grant Noel, and I've been saying that since I came to school here. People would not be on the team if they were not supposed to be here. Grant is an excellent athlete and quarterback. I expect him to become a leader on the field. I think the team will do great.

What is it like being part of a team that has, for the past couple of years, been thrust into the national spotlight?

The reason I came to Tech was because I saw Tech had beaten the University of Texas Longhorns in the Sugar Bowl my junior year of high school. I wanted to be a part of that. Coming in when it was sort of on the ground floor and watching the whole thing get kicked off has been awesome. I think football has been a great way for Tech to get exposure and I think it also helps with enrollment. I think national recognition has helped the university on other levels besides athletics.

Krebs, continued

for the 1999-2000 school year ... A two-time member of the BIG EAST All-Academic Football Team ... Will be looked to for senior leadership ...

2000: Started on the kickoff and kickoff return teams ... Posted eight tackles on kickoff coverage during the season ... Saw special teams action in every game ... Got brief action at rover against Akron and West Virginia ... Posted the third best time among the defensive backs in the NFL shuttle run with a 4.03 clocking during the spring ... Was in on three tackles during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

1999: Played 11 snaps at rover against James Madison in the season opener and was in on one tackle ... Also had 11 plays on defense at Rutgers and contributed two tackles ... Saw brief defensive action against Syracuse and Temple ... Posted 17 plays on special teams against both Rutgers and Boston College ... Collected seven tackles during the season ... Turned in one of the best times on the team in the 20-yard shuttle run during the spring with a timing of 4.07 seconds ... Continued to work at the rover spot in spring practice ...

1998: Contributed as a starter on the kickoff return team and a backup on two other special teams ... Played in a total of 10 games ... Worked at rover, but only saw brief action on defense during the Clemson game ... Got some playing time in Tech's Music City Bowl win against Alabama ... Turned in one of the best back squats among the defensive backs with a 500-pound squat during spring testing ... Was in on a tackle during the annual spring game ...

1997: Redshirted during the fall while working at the rover position ... Tied for the top back squat among the defensive backs during spring testing with a lift of 510 pounds ... Turned in a vertical jump of 36 inches ... Continued to work at rover during spring practice ... Added 12 pounds during the course of the year ...

High School: Earned three letters as a free safety and receiver for Coach Nick Hilgert at James W. Robinson High ... Only played in five games his senior year due to an injury ... Still managed over 50 tackles ... Earned all-district honors his junior year when he posted 59 tackles and a pair of interceptions ... Was named the team's most valuable defensive player ... Earned the nickname "Captain Crunch" for his hard-hitting style ... Played in the Chesapeake Football Classic following his senior year ... A member of the National Honor Society ... Valedictorian of his class ...

Personal: John Christopher Krebs ... Born 1/5/79 in Alexandria, LA ... Son of John and Mitzi Krebs ... Studying management science and information technology.

Jason Lallis

91

Defensive End
6-0 244 r-Fr.
Mitchellville, Md.
DeMatha H.S.



A young player who showed good ability while being redshirted last year ... Impressed Tech's coaches with his determination and style of play ... Has a great motor ... Plays hard and pursues the football ... Got some valuable reps at the stud end position during spring practice and finished third on the depth chart ... Should get better and better as he gains additional experience and strength ... Will be a candidate for special teams duty ... Could contend for some duty at end with a good summer preparation and preseason showing ...

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

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

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

Kevin Lewis

70

Defensive Tackle
6-1 280 So. 1VL
Richmond, Va.
Varina H.S.



Figures to see a good share of the action this season at defensive tackle ... Gained some valuable experience last year as a true freshman ... Was one of the team's most improved players during the spring ... Has shown an outstanding ability to make plays ... A physical, aggressive player who runs well ... Is working to become a better pass rusher ... Has benefited from the athletic performance program ... May not be as big as some defensive tackles, but can hold his own at the point of attack ... Should help make the defensive line one of the Hokies' strong points ...

2000: Was in for 21 plays in Tech's opener against Akron and contributed a pair of tackles ... Had two tackles and two quarterback hurries at East Carolina ... Posted tackles behind the line in back-to-back games against Temple and West Virginia ... Did not play against Boston College, Syracuse and Pittsburgh ... Was in on two tackles during the Miami game ... Played 26 plays at UCF and registered two tackles, including one for loss ... Had a season-best three tackles against Virginia ... Compiled 15 total tackles during the regular season with three coming behind the line ... Contributed a tackle in the Hokies' win over Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Improved his bench press to 390 pounds during the off-season and ran the 40 in 4.86 seconds ... Got a lot of reps during spring practice ... Had three tackles behind the line in Tech's first spring scrimmage and two more in the second scrimmage ... Blocked a field goal during another scrimmage ... Posted five tackles, including a sack, in the Maroon-White game ... Shared the Dr. Richard Bullock Award for the Hokies' most improved defensive player with fellow tackle Channing Reed ...

1999: Enrolled in school for the second semester ... Bench pressed 370 pounds during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Also turned in a 550-pound back squat and a 316-pound power clean ... Got a lot of repetitions in spring practice at tackle when starter Chad Beasley was sidelined by an injury ... Was in on six tackles during the Hokies' first

spring scrimmage ... Posted a sack in another scrimmage ... Turned in four tackles during the annual Maroon-White game, including one for a loss ...

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

Personal: Kevin André Lewis ... Born 4/26/80 in Richmond, VA ... Son of David and Gale Lewis ... His father played football at North Carolina A&T ... Enrolled in history.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	8	7	8	15	3- 8	0- 0

Brandon Manning

48

Linebacker
6-0 211 r-Fr.
Harrisburg, Pa.
Central Dauphin H.S.



Has been a pleasant surprise since joining the team as an invited walk-on last fall ... Got a chance to get some extra reps at the whip linebacker position during the spring and made the most of his opportunity ... Proved to be a quick learner ... Is tough and physical ... Deals well with adversity ... Made strides during the winter strength and conditioning program ... A candidate for special teams action ... Will enter preseason practice No. 3 at whip and is expected to vie for some playing time ...

2000: Redshirted while working at whip linebacker ... Bench pressed 360 pounds during spring testing ... Also had a 34 1/2-inch vertical jump and ran the 40

in 4.47 ... Posted seven tackles in the Maroon-White spring game ... Also intercepted a pass and returned it 31 yards ...

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

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

Personal: Brandon Lee Manning ... Born 5/12/81 in Philadelphia, PA ... Son of Dr. Richard and Linda Manning ... Enrolled in university studies.

Alex Markogiannakis

39

Linebacker
5-9 208 r-Jr.
Chantilly, Va.
Robinson H.S.



Put himself in position to see some playing time with his work during the winter and spring ... Is committed to being a good football player ... Has worked hard to learn the Tech system ... An instinctive player with great vision ... Has a knack of making plays ... Is solid against both the run and the pass ... Helped provide depth at the mike linebacker position last season ... Saw limited action in four games ... Also worked with the kickoff team ... Could figure into Tech's plans this fall ...

2000: Got a taste of action at linebacker against Akron and Virginia ... Was in on a tackle in the opener against the Zips ... Also saw brief special teams action against Rutgers and West Virginia ... Posted three tackles, including a sack and another tackle behind the line, during the annual Maroon-White spring game ... Also broke up a pass in that game ...

1999: Joined the varsity squad for the Rutgers game and saw action on 11 snaps ... Contributed two tackles against the Scarlet Knights ... Also was in on two tackles in games against Syracuse and Temple ... Posted a total of seven tackles in his four appearances ... Showed marked improvement in the strength and

conditioning program during the year ... Had a pair of tackles in two different spring scrimmages ... Also contributed a tackle in the annual spring game ...

1998: Joined the team as a walk-on when school started ... Was sidelined the first part of the fall with hamstring and foot injuries ... Worked at mike linebacker when he returned ... Was redshirted ... Intercepted a pass during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Contributed a pair of tackles during the spring game ...

High School: Helped Robinson High to a 14-0 record and the state Division 6 championship as a senior ... Was a four-year letterman at linebacker for Coach Mark Bendorf ... Named the Northern Region Defensive Player of the Year as a senior ... Also picked first-team all-state ... Picked to *The Washington Post* All-Metro team ... Was in on over 200 tackles as a senior, including 24 in the regional championship game ... Also contributed 12 sacks, three fumble recoveries and two interceptions during the season ... Earned first-team all-district and all-region honors as a junior ... Runner up to Ronald Curry as the top Group AAA defensive player in the state ... Finished his career as Robinson's all-time leading tackler ... Played in the high school all-star game and the Chesapeake Classic All-Star game ...

Personal: Alex Markogiannakis ... Born 1/22/80 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Chris and Helen Markogiannakis ... Enrolled in human services.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	4	3	4	7	0- 0	0- 0
2000	4	0	1	1	0- 0	0- 0
Career	8	3	5	8	0- 0	0- 0

Jared Mazzetta

85

Tight End
6-4 245 r-Fr.
Hemington, N.J.
Hunterdon Central H.S.



Benefited from a redshirt year in 2000 ... Showed good progress at tight end ... Possesses a good frame ... Added some strength and bulk ... Must continue to get stronger ... Got some extra reps during the spring and was a steady performer ... Has a chance to contribute in some fashion this fall ... Needs to make a good summer preparation and come back ready to compete ... Could have a shot at playing time on special teams ...

Continued on next page

Mazzetta, *continued*

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

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

state championships in 1998 and 1999 ...

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

Kevin McCadam

5

Rover

6-1 219 6r 4VL

Lakeside, Calif.

El Capitan H.S.



Moved from free safety to rover during the spring ... Made an excellent transition ... Benefited from adding 10 pounds during the winter off-season program ... Became a more physical player during the spring ... Learned to make quicker decisions ... A solid pass defender with good speed ... Should be a good leader ... Made some valuable contributions on defense and special teams last season after transferring to Tech from Grossmont College in California ... Made a run for the starting free safety duties in 2000 before injuring

his ankle in preseason practice ...

Returned to see action in nine games as the top backup to Willie Pile ... Practiced briefly at corner and saw action at that position in one game

2000: Set free safety position records for the push jerk (316), power clean (294) and vertical jump (37 1/2) during preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Missed the first two games with an ankle injury ... Averaged 20 defensive plays a game after returning to the lineup ... Saw his first action against Rutgers ... Played 32 plays, contributing three assisted tackles and breaking up a pass ... Had three primary tackles in the Boston College game ... Played 22 downs in the secondary and 16 plays on special teams versus Temple ... Turned in a season-high seven tackles, including one for a 4-yard loss, against Miami ... Contributed a quarterback hurry at UCF ... Was in on six tackles in the regular-season finale against Virginia ... Finished with a total of 28 tackles ... Started on the kickoff coverage team ... Registered three tackles during Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Bench pressed 340 during spring testing and posted a 450-pound back squat ... Moved to rover during spring practice ... Returned an interception 90 yards for a touchdown in one of the spring scrimmages ... Also had a sack and

A Talk With Kevin McCadam



You are a long way from your home in California. What brought you to the campus of Virginia Tech?

It was really one of the only scholarship offers I had and it was a great opportunity for me to come play for a national championship contender. I couldn't ask for anything more.

What was the cross-country trip like?

It was a long drive, and it took 40 hours to get here. We drove all day and all night. We rested a little bit, but I didn't take any time to stop.

How is the position change from free safety to rover going to affect the way you approach the game?

I like it. It was a definite adjustment in the spring when I moved to rover, but I am starting to pick it up. I think it suits me a little better than free safety, so I'm looking forward to it.

What lessons have you learned on the football field that you can apply to everyday life?

Just being accountable for things. That's because on the football field, you have to do that all the time. There are 11 guys out there and if you don't do your job, then everything is going to go down hill. So you have to be accountable and trust everybody else.

If you were on Survivor what would be your one luxury item?

I would say my guitar but that would probably get me kicked off because I am not very good.



Kevin McCadam (5)

two tackles in that scrimmage ... Broke up two passes and contributed a pair of tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

Junior College: Earned second-team All-America honors as a defensive back on the *J.C. Grid-Wire* team ... Was an honorable mention A-A pick by the NJCAA ... Played safety for Coach Dave Jordan at Grossmont College in 1999 ... Posted 106 tackles, including 10 for losses ... Broke up 12 passes, caused a fumble and recovered a fumble ... Named team defensive MVP and special teams player of the year ... Won first-team all-conference honors ... Averaged 25.6 yards on 25 kickoff returns ... Carried an 18-yard average on 21 punt returns ... Returned a kickoff 93 yards for a touchdown ... Also had an 89-yard punt return for a TD ... Missed the '98 season because of a collarbone injury ...

Colorado State: Started his college career at Colorado State where he redshirted as a freshman in 1997 ... Suffered a broken collarbone during 1998 spring practice ... Left CSU and enrolled at Grossmont College for the 1998-99 school year ...

High School: Played his high school football at El Capitan, where he lettered two seasons as a quarterback and free safety for Coach Dave Waastad ... Completed 65 of 117 passes for 1,264 yards and 16 touchdowns his senior season ... Added 186 yards and four TDs on the ground ... Saw most of his action on offense, but did contribute 28 tackles as a safety ... Also intercepted a pair of passes, returning one 77 yards for a touchdown ... Passed for four touchdowns and ran for another in a game against West Hills his senior year ... Helped team to a 9-3 season ... Named first-team all-league and all-county ... Made the *San Diego Union-Tribune's* all-area team ...

Personal: Kevin Edward McCadam ... Born 3/6/79 in La Mesa, CA ... Son of Nancy McCadam and the late Dan McCadam ... Studying history.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	9	11	17	28	1- 4	0- 0

James Miller

76



Offensive Guard
6-5 291 Fr.
Pompano Beach, Fla.
Ft. Lauderdale H.S.

A promising newcomer who has made a big impression in a short time ... Entered school last January ... Drew attention during spring practice with his size, foot work and work ethic ... Has a perfect football temperament ... Still lacks strength and experience, but did enough things in spring practice to show he could contribute this fall ... Spent 65 percent of spring practice at right tackle before moving to guard ... Seems most comfortable at guard and has the best opportunity to contribute there at this point ... Is working to improve his pass protection ... Should get better and better as he gains strength and experience ... Could press for playing time with a good summer preparation ...

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

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

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

Jon Mollerup

97



Place-kicker
5-11 202 r-Jr.
Lyndhurst, Va.
Stuarts Draft H.S.

A talented kicker with a strong leg ... Got a lot of opportunities to kick during the spring with starter Carter Warley sidelined ... Was a little inconsistent at times during spring scrimmages but finished well ... Hit a 52-yard field goal in the spring game ... Lost out for the starting place-kicking and kickoff duties last season after a close preseason battle with Warley ... Saw brief action in two varsity games ... Kicked in jayvee games against Fork Union Military Academy and Hargrave ... Has the ability to step in as the kicker or kickoff man if Warley is unable to return to form ...

2000: Was 8 of 13 on field goal attempts during two preseason scrimmages ... Got an opportunity for one kickoff in games against Akron and Central Florida ... Made all six of his extra point kicks in a 49-0 jayvee win over Fork Union ... Made field goals of 46, 37 and 25 yards in another jayvee win against Hargrave ... Topped the specialists with a 425-pound back squat during spring testing ... Booted field goals of 40, 42 and 52 yards during spring scrimmages ... Hit the crossbar on a 58-yard try ... Connected on a 52-yard field goal and made his only PAT attempt during the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Saw action in both jayvee games as kicker ... Booted four extra points in a win over Fork Union ... Added three PATs in a victory against Hargrave ... Made field goals from 19 and 31 yards in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Connected on a 52-yard field goal in another spring outing ... Kicked an extra point in the spring game ... Missed his only field goal attempt in that game from 45 yards out ...

1998: Joined the team as a walk-on ... Went through winter workouts and spring practice ...

High School: Was a punter and place-kicker for Tom Goforth at Stuarts Draft High ... Connected on three of his six field goal tries as a senior and 12 of his 15 extra point kicks ... His longest field goal was from 44 yards out ... Averaged 42 yards per punt ... Won first-team all-district and all-region honors ... Also

Continued on next page

Mollerup, *continued*

earned letters in soccer, golf, tennis and basketball ... Helped the soccer team to the state finals ... A member of the National Honor Society ... Taught English as a second language in Slovakia through a church missions trip ... A registered U.S. soccer referee for community soccer leagues and clubs ... U.S. Army National Scholar Athlete ...

Personal: Jonathan Richard Mollerup ... Born 11/15/79 in Wilmington, DE ... Son of Richard and Donna Mollerup ... Studying civil engineering.

Ronald Moody

82

Split End
6-1 190 r-So.
Chesapeake, Va.
Great Bridge H.S.



Has some ground to make up after missing the second half of spring practice due to a high ankle sprain ... Got some exposure to the split end position in his first varsity year ... Saw most of his action during the second half of the season ... Picked up some valuable experience ... Joined the team as a walk-on and worked his way up the depth chart with steady improvement ... Showed good effort and looked comfortable at split end prior to his injury in the spring ... Needs a good summer preparation and continued effort in preseason practice to get back on track ...

2000: Worked six plays on offense during the season opener against Akron ... Got seven total plays in the Rutgers game ... Turned in his first pass reception against Pittsburgh for a 12-yard gain ... Caught an 8-yard pass at Miami ... Played a season-high 17 snaps against Virginia ... Saw action in a total of seven games, catching three passes for 21 yards ... Worked on several special team units as a backup ... Also played in Tech's two jayvee games ... Caught six passes for 73 yards during the two outings ... Posted a 4.32 time in the 40 during spring testing ... Injured his ankle midway through spring practice and did not play in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Spent a redshirt year working at split end ... Turned in a 450-pound bench press during spring testing ... Improved his 40 time to 4.45 seconds, third best among the receivers ... Gained 21 yards on a pass reception in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Added an 8-yard

catch in another scrimmage ... Did not have a catch in the annual spring game ...

High School: Saw action at seven different positions during three varsity seasons at Great Bridge ... Got some playing time at quarterback, running back, wide receiver and tight end on offense ... Worked at free safety, defensive end and linebacker during his time on defense ... Was named the team's MVP his senior season ... Rushed for over 400 yards and three touchdowns his senior season ...

Also caught nine passes for 200 yards and a TD ... Blocked two punts, including one for a touchdown against Lakeland ... Contributed 42 tackles and three fumble recoveries on defense ... Saw action as a return man, averaging 25 yards on kickoff returns and 15.6 yards on punt returns ... Hauled in 12 passes for 232 yards and three touchdowns his junior season ... Two of those TD catches came in Great Bridge's Homecoming game in 1997 ...

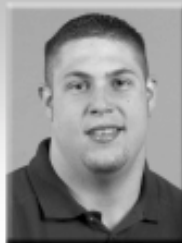
Personal: Ronald Francis Moody, Jr. ... Born 10/26/81 in Portsmouth, VA ... Son of Ronald, Sr., and Barbara Moody ... Enrolled in university studies.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	7	3	21	7.0	0	12

Anthony Nelson

67

Offensive Guard
6-4 313 r-So.
Kingsport, Tenn.
Sullivan South H.S.



Really stood out in pass protection during spring practice ... Has a good center of gravity, strong hands and can lock people out ... His size and tremendous strength also make him solid as a run blocker ... Got a lot of reps during the spring at left guard ... Was one of just four players to reach all six of his goals during 2000 summer strength and conditioning tests ... Saw action in two varsity games last season ... Picked up some extra experience by playing in both of the Hokies' jayvee games ... Has a chance to earn some major playing time this fall if he stays in playing shape and continues working to improve his quickness ...

2000: Turned in a 425-pound bench



Ronald Moody

press, a 610-pound back squat and a 371-pound push jerk on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors prior to the season ... Saw action on nine total plays against Akron ... Played a season-best 15 snaps in the Rutgers game ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors again in the spring when he improved his back squat to 650 pounds and notched a 316-pound power clean ...

1999: Missed almost a month of practice while recovering from a partially-torn Achilles tendon suffered prior to arriving on campus ... Worked at left guard when he was cleared for practice ... Was redshirted ... Earned Iron Hokie honors in the weight room during spring testing ... Bench pressed 420 pounds ... Added a 600-pound back squat — second best among the offensive linemen — and a 351-pound push jerk ... Dropped nearly 20 pounds by the end of the winter off-season program ...

Prep School: Originally signed with Tech out of high school ... Prepped at Hargrave, where he started at offensive tackle for Coach Lonnie Messick ...

High School: Lettered four years as a two-way tackle for Coach Greg Jordan ... Listed as the No. 2 offensive line prospect in Tennessee and the No. 14 player overall by *The Kingsport Times-News* after his senior season at Sullivan South ... Gained prep All-America honors from Max Emfinger ... An honorable mention selection on *USA Today's* All-USA team ... A consensus first-team Class 4A all-state pick on defense as a junior and on offense as a senior ... Earned All-Northeast Tennessee Defensive Player of the Year honors as a junior ... Named the *Bristol Herald Courier* Defensive Lineman of the Year in 1997 ... Had 82 pancake blocks his senior season on offense and over 80 tackles on defense ... Added two sacks, five fumble recoveries, three blocked field goals, two safeties and a blocked punt ... Graded 85 percent blocking on offense ... Registered 18 sacks and over

120 tackles his junior year ... Posted 290 career tackles and 120 pancake blocks ... A weight man and four-year letterman in track ... Played first base and lettered three times in baseball ... Has bench pressed 460 pounds ...

Personal: Anthony Matthew Nelson ... Born 2/18/79 in Kingsport, TN ... Son of Ralph and Sue Nelson ... Studying physical education.

Grant Noel

11



Quarterback
6-1 224 r.l. *RVL*
Ridgeley, WVa.
Frankfort H.S.

Is expected to open the season as the Hokies' starting quarterback after moving into the No. 1 spot at the end of spring practice ... Showed good poise and competitiveness ... A good athlete who can run the option ... Does not have a wealth of game experience, but does have the benefit of three years in the Tech system ... Was in the thick of the battle for the No. 2 quarterback spot each of the last two seasons ... Has shown improvement in his decision making ... Can execute the passing game ... Possesses toughness and a great desire to succeed ... Must continue working during the off-season to improve his passing accuracy ... Played an important role in Tech's win at Central Florida last season ... Worked hard during the winter preparing for the new challenge ... Stepped into a leadership role during the spring and did a lot of good things ... Has enough positives to win football games ...

2000: Saw action in three games ... Took 20 snaps in the opening game against Akron ... Completed 2 of 5 passes for 28 yards ... Had a career-best 21-yard completion to tight end Keith Willis in that game ... Also went 2-for-5 passing in the Rutgers game for 21 yards ... Added one rush for a 5-yard gain ... Took over the quarterbacking duties in the third quarter at UCF after starter Dave Meyer was injured ... Played a career-high 24 snaps in Tech's 44-21 win ... Saw some limited action in Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Started working with the first team for the first time during the spring ... Was 20-for-46 passing in the Hokies' three main scrimmages for 208 yards, two touchdowns and one interception ... Tossed a 30-yard TD pass in the Maroon-White game ... Went 13-for-32 passing for

the winning White team ... Compiled 114 passing yards and did not throw an interception ...

1999: Played 10 snaps against James Madison ... Completed one of his two passing attempts for a 10-yard gain ... Was in for seven snaps at Rutgers, but did not attempt a pass ... Played briefly at Temple ... Registered personal bests in eight areas during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Improved his 40-yard dash time to 4.62 seconds and had the best time among the quarterbacks in the 20-yard shuttle run at 4.21 ... Led the quarterbacks with a 270-pound power clean ... Went 3-for-3 passing in Tech's first spring scrimmage for 34 yards ... Was 2-for-5 passing in another scrimmage for 21 yards ... Ran four yards for a TD in another spring outing ... Completed just 3 of 11 passes in the annual Maroon-White game for 44 yards ... Led the victorious White team in rushing with 27 yards on six carries ... Set up his team's winning touchdown with a 29-yard pass ...

1998: Redshirted as a freshman ... Was slowed briefly by an injured left shoulder during the fall ... Made strides in the winter strength and conditioning program ... Was 4-for-4 passing for 47 yards in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Went 2-for-2 in another scrimmage with a 25-yard touchdown pass ... Did not complete a pass in his two attempts during the annual spring game but picked up 18 yards on the ground on a pair of runs ...

High School: Lettered four seasons for Coach Greg Phillips at Frankfort High ... Played quarterback in a run-oriented offense ... Passed for 597 yards and four touchdowns his senior season ... Added 267 yards and eight TDs on the ground ... Completed 8 of 11 passes for 157 yards and two touchdowns against Moorefield ... Was a preseason and postseason All-America pick by *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 2 quarterback in the Eastern Region by that publication ... Passed for over 1,000 yards and 13 TDs as a junior ... Was only intercepted three times that season ... Connected on 11 of 17 passes for 236 yards and a pair of touchdowns versus Jefferson County High ... Helped the football team to a 29-4 record during his career ... Also lettered in basketball and baseball ...

Personal: David Grant Noel ... Born 6/11/80 in Low Moor, VA ... Son of David and Lori Noel ... Enrolled in communication studies.

Passing	G	Att-Comp	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Int
1999	3	2- 1	50.0	10	0	0
2000	3	10- 4	40.0	49	0	0
Career	6	12- 5	41.7	59	0	0

Luke Owens

74



Offensive Guard
6-3 310 r.l. *RVL*
Grundy, Va.
Grundy H.S.

Is expected to challenge for the starting left guard duties ... Sat out spring practice while recovering from arthroscopic ankle surgery in March ... Has been cleared to resume work during the summer ... Is the Hokies' most experienced player at the guard position ... Was the No. 2 man at right guard last season ... Also served as a starter on special teams ... Saw increased playing time in 2000 despite a sore knee ... Underwent reconstructive knee surgery in January ... Has great balance to go with his knowledge of the game ... Is expected to back up at right guard as well as contribute on the left side ... How much of a contribution he is able to make will be a matter of keeping healthy and staying in good playing shape ...

2000: Got playing time at guard in 10 of 11 games ... Worked a season-high 26 offensive snaps in the Rutgers game ... Also had seven special teams plays against the Scarlet Knights ... Played 18 downs at guard at Miami ... Started every game as a member of the extra point and field goal units ... Saw some action in the Gator Bowl ... Underwent surgery to his right knee after the season and had ankle surgery in March ... Did not participate in spring contact work ...

1999: Was in for 10 offensive plays against James Madison and 12 versus Rutgers ... Also got playing time at guard against Virginia, Syracuse, Miami and Boston College ... Spent most of his time working at right guard ... Moved to the left side the week before the BC game ... Underwent arthroscopic knee surgery prior to the bowl ... Returned to right guard for the bowl game and spring practice ...

1998: Worked at offensive guard while redshirting ... Showed improvement during winter strength and conditioning workouts ... Moved from left guard to right guard for spring practice ...

High School: Earned All-America honors as both a football player and a wrestler at Grundy High School ... The No. 1 ranked heavyweight wrestler in the nation as a junior and senior ... A six-time

Continued on next page

Owens, *continued*

Junior National All-American ... 1997 Junior National Freestyle champion ... Also a *PrepStar* preseason and postseason A-A lineman in football ... Rated the No. 4 offensive lineman in the ACC Region by that publication ... A first-team Group AA pick on offense by both the coaches and the AP ... Also a second-team defensive pick by the state coaches ... Played along the offensive and defensive lines for Coach Greg Rowe ... Even saw action at linebacker during his career ... Posted over 80 tackles on defense as a senior and added two sacks ... Was in on 111 tackles his junior year and contributed four interceptions and three sacks ... Recorded 15 tackles in a state semi-final game against Salem that season ...

Personal: Joshua Luke Owens ... Born 5/12/79 in Pikeville, KY ... Son of Harry and Kim Owens ... Studying physical education.

Terrell Parham

9

Flanker
6-0 196 r-Jr. 4VL
Bartow, Fla.
Bartow H.S.



Is one of the Hokies' most talented receivers ... Possesses outstanding body control and athletic ability ... Played as well as any receiver during early spring practices ... Did what was asked and made a big improvement ... Worked and concentrated on a lot of little things ... Was able to react better ... Saw limited action at split end during the 2000 season ... Earned a spot on the punt return team late in the year ... A Super Iron Hokie in the strength and conditioning program ... Spent his time at the flanker position during the spring ... Developing consistency is his primary goal ... Has a chance to make an impact if he makes a good summer preparation and stays focused ...

2000: Played in five games, but did not have a pass reception ... Worked a season-high nine offensive plays against Rutgers ... Contributed on special teams against Temple, UCF and Virginia ... Got a look on defense while playing in Tech's two jayvee games ... Intercepted three passes during those two games,

returning all three for touchdowns ... Topped the receivers with a 350-pound bench press during the spring ... Added a 480-pound back squat and a 39-inch vertical jump on the way to Super Iron Hokie recognition ... Caught three passes for 31 yards in two different scrimmages during the spring ... Hauled in three passes for 41 yards during the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in fall testing ... Led the receivers with a 330-pound bench press ... Caught his first collegiate pass in the UAB game for a 5-yard gain ... Contributed a personal-best 22-yard reception against Virginia ... Had a 19-yard catch to set up a field goal against Syracuse ... Hauled in three balls for 26 yards in Tech's win over Miami ... Turned in nine catches for 98 yards during the year ... Was a Super Iron Hokie again in the spring ... Moved to split end in the spring ...

1998: Worked at flanker during a redshirt year ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in November ... Bench pressed 320 pounds and had a 450-pound back squat ... Caught two passes for 35 yards in one spring scrimmage, including a 27-yard touchdown pass ... Also hauled in a 19-yard touchdown reception during the Hokies' annual spring game ...

High School: Played running back, wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Kenny Wells at Bartow ... Also returned kicks ... Started on the Bartow team that went 14-1 and won the state Class 4-A championship in 1996 ... Gained 45 yards on the ground in the title game against Jacksonville Bolles, which was ranked No. 1 in the nation by *USA Today* ... Picked up a key first down on a fourth-and-five situation during the final minutes to seal the win ... Helped the team to a district title in '97 ... Rushed for 774 yards on 117 carries ... Caught 16 passes for 261 yards, an average of 16.3 yards per catch ... Ran for 227 yards on 17 carries in a game against Mulberry High ... Hauled in two passes for 103 yards against Lake Wales and added 85 yards on 10 carries ... A standout as a guard in basketball ... Competed in the long jump and on the 400-meter relay team in track ...

Personal: Terrell Antwan Parham ... Born 10/1/79 in Bartow, FL ... Son of Reginald Parham and Phyllis Parham ... Studying residential property management.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	11	9	98	10.9	0	22
2000	5	0	0	0.0	0	0
Career	16	9	98	10.9	0	22

Robert Peaslee

89



Punter
6-0 201 r-Sr. 4VL
Pulaski, Va.
Pulaski County H.S.

Will challenge Vinnie Burns for the punting duties when practice opens in August ... Served as the Hokies' starting punter during the 2000 season ... Showed potential, but struggled at times with his consistency ... Finished behind Burns in competition for the starting job during spring practice ... Is expected to continue his job as the holder on Tech's field goal and extra point teams ... Will get another shot at the punting duties ...

2000: Saw action on over 100 special team plays ... Punted 44 times on the season for 1,555 yards, an average of 35.3 yards per punt ... Put at least one punt inside the opposing team's 20-yard line in 10 of Tech's 11 regular-season games ... Had a total of 14 punts downed inside the 20 ... Suffered one blocked kick at Syracuse ... Averaged 45.7 yards on three punts in the Rutgers game ... Carried a 42.8-yard average on four kicks in the Syracuse game ... Had season-best 51-yard punts against Syracuse and Virginia ... Punted five times for a 40-yard average versus UVa ... Had two punts for a 32-yard average in the Gator Bowl ... One of those punts was downed inside the Clemson 20 ... Posted a 400-pound back squat during the spring athletic performance testing ... Turned in a 51-yard punt during the Maroon-White game ... Finished the game with four punts for a 37-yard average ...

1999: Was redshirted while working as a punter ... Posted a 375-pound back squat during spring testing ... Punted three times for a 38.7-yard average in one spring scrimmage ... Averaged 37.3 yards on four punts in another scrimmage ... Punted four times in the Maroon-White spring game for a 37.3-yard average ... Had a long punt of 49 yards in that game ...

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

all-state ... Also lettered as a pitcher in baseball ...


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

Punting	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	I20
2000	11	44	1555	35.3	51	14
2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	2	69	34.5	0	44
At ECU	1	7	211	30.1	0	36
RUTGERS	1	3	137	45.7	0	50
At BC	1	3	106	35.3	0	39
TEMPLE	1	4	105	26.3	0	44
WVU	1	2	76	38.0	0	45
At Syr	1	4	171	42.8	1	51
PITTSBURGH	1	3	120	40.0	0	49
At Miami	1	8	252	31.5	0	41
At UCF	1	3	108	36.0	0	45
VIRGINIA	1	5	200	40.0	0	51

Willie Pile

35

Free Safety
6-3 197 r-Jr. 4VL
Alexandria, Va.
West Potomac H.S.



A hard-hitting safety with the potential to be as good as he wants to be ... Led the team in interceptions last year during his first season as a starter ... One of the most active players on the defense from his free safety spot ... Tied Tech and BIG EAST Conference records with three interceptions in the Syracuse game ... Played over 500 snaps on defense during the season despite a sore shoulder ... Also contributed on special teams ... Possesses excellent size ... Rates as a good tackler and doesn't shy away from contact ... Underwent shoulder surgery after the season ... Participated in everything but contact work during the spring ... Should be full speed when practice opens in August ... Will be looked to for a big year ...

2000: Earned Iron Hokie status in preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Started all 12 games at free safety ... Also started on the extra point and field goal block teams and practiced with three other special teams units ... Posted 56 total tackles, including two behind the line of scrimmage ... Intercepted six passes and broke up 10 passes ... Caused a fumble and recovered a fumble ... Against Akron, in his first collegiate start, he contributed seven tackles, returned an interception 11 yards for a touchdown and recovered a fumble ... Registered 10 tackles, two for losses, and intercepted

another pass during Tech's win at East Carolina ... Broke up two passes against Rutgers ... Won BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Week honors for his 10-tackle, three-interception performance at Syracuse ... Posted six tackles and an interception in the UCF game ... Contributed five tackles and an interception against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Underwent surgery to his left shoulder in January ... Did not participate in spring contact drills ...

1999: Saw action on 15 defensive snaps and two special teams plays against James Madison ... Contributed three primary tackles and an assist ... Produced a quarterback sack and a another stop behind the line against Rutgers ... Was in on a total of eight tackles against the Scarlet Knights in just 11 plays ... Played in a jayvee game against Fork Union and returned a pair of interceptions 90 and 30 yards for touchdowns ... Did not see action in Tech's last six games ... Had a total of 12 tackles on the season ... Posted a 500-pound back squat during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Improved his 40-yard dash time to 4.44 ... Intercepted a pass in the Hokies' first spring scrimmage ... Was in on seven tackles, including two behind the line, in another scrimmage ... Contributed a sack and three total tackles during the annual Maroon-White game ... Earned the Dr. Richard Bullock Award as the team's most improved defensive player ...

1998: Was redshirted while working at rover during the fall ... Turned in a 35 1/2-inch vertical jump in November ... Tied for the top back squat among the defensive backs during spring testing with a lift of 515 pounds ... Moved to free safety for spring practice ... Contributed a pair of tackles in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Also had two tackles in the annual spring game ...

High School: Lettered three seasons as a quarterback, defensive back and receiver at West Potomac for Coach Dale Eaton ... Ranked the No. 24 player in the state by *SuperPrep* and the No. 31 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... A first-team Group AAA all-state pick on defense by the coaches and The Associated Press ... Named first-team All-Metro by *The Washington Post* ... Picked to George Michael's 'Golden 11' team ... Named the Northeast Region and Patriot District Offensive Player of the Year ... Rushed for 652 yards and passed for 560 his senior season ... Had nine touchdowns rushing and four passing ... Contributed 96 tackles and a school single-season record eight interceptions on defense ... Recovered four fumbles ... Picked off two

passes in games against Wakefield and McLean ... Helped team to Division 5 Northern Region title in '97 ... Returned an interception 86 yards for a TD vs. South Lakes his junior year ... Lettered as a wing player in basketball ...

Personal: Willie Marquis Pile ... Born 5/25/80 in New York City ... Son of Sharon Barber and the late Willie Myers ... Studying management.


Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	3	5	7	12	1- 2	1- 9
2000	11	35	21	56	2- 4	0- 0
Career	14	40	28	68	3- 6	1- 9
2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	4	3	7	0- 0	0- 0
At ECU	1	7	3	10	2- 4	0- 0
RUTGERS	1	1	0	1	0- 0	0- 0
At BC	1	3	1	4	0- 0	0- 0
TEMPLE	1	1	2	3	0- 0	0- 0
WVU	1	1	4	5	0- 0	0- 0
At Syr	1	8	2	10	0- 0	0- 0
PITTSBURGH	1	1	2	3	0- 0	0- 0
At Miami	1	2	1	3	0- 0	0- 0
At UCF	1	4	2	6	0- 0	0- 0
VIRGINIA	1	3	1	4	0- 0	0- 0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	3	0	0	0.0	0	0
2000	11	6	22	3.7	1	11
Career	14	6	22	3.7	1	11

Deon Provitt

3

Linebacker
6-1 209 r-Sr. 4VL
Warren, Ohio
John F. Kennedy H.S.



A young player who is expected to push for the No. 1 job at whip linebacker ... Got a great deal of work at the position during spring practice ... Showed excellent potential ... Is very athletic ... Hits hard and plays with a great motor ... Contributed to Tech's success as a starter on special teams last season ... Worked at wide receiver when he first came to Tech ... Moved to defense during 2000 spring drills and practiced at free safety ... Switched to whip linebacker last fall ... Needs to gain experience ... Should have a chance to gain plenty this fall ...

2000: Played in all 11 games as a starter on the punt return and kickoff teams ... Was in for 16 special teams plays against both Rutgers and West Virginia ... Posted two tackles in games against East Carolina, Rutgers, and Central Florida ... Saw action on over 130 plays ... Finished with eight total tackles ... Also practiced at the whip linebacker position, but did not see game action on

Continued on next page

A Talk With David Pugh

After garnishing first-team All-BIG EAST honors as a junior last fall, what are your goals for this season?

First and foremost is to have a winning season and go back to a BCS bowl. The individual accolades really do not mean a whole lot to me. I just wish for us to have a successful season.

What are your plans after graduating?

I would love to get a shot at the NFL, but if that does not work, I will probably go to graduate school and get my master's in education.

What was your most memorable experience from last year, and since coming to Virginia Tech?

I would have to say the Gator Bowl victory. We went out there and put on a total team effort and showed the country how good we were. As far as the highlight of my career, it would have to be the Nokia Sugar Bowl. You can't beat playing in the national championship game, and although I did not start it was a great experience and something I will never forget.

What attracted you to Virginia Tech?

When I was in high school, Tech had just played in the Sugar Bowl and beat Texas and I just felt like this was a program that was going places. I just happened to jump on board at the right time.

Next to football, what is your favorite pastime?

I enjoy outdoor activities such as fishing and hunting. I especially enjoy the New River in the summertime catching smallmouth bass.



Provitt, *continued*

defense ... Improved in seven of nine categories during spring athletic performance tests ... Combined a 37 1/2-inch vertical jump with a 4.42 time in the 40 ... Registered seven tackles in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages, including one behind the line ... Posted a sack and four tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Began his redshirt season working at flanker ... Was moved to split end in mid-September ... Recorded a 450-pound back squat during spring testing ... Moved to defense for spring practice ... Worked at free safety ... Contributed two tackles during the Maroon-White spring game ...

High School: Rated the No. 75 prospect in the Midwest by *SuperPrep* ... Picked as the No. 89 player on *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* All-Midwest team ... Named to *PrepStar's* All-Midwest Region squad ... A preseason All-America pick by Lemming ... Earned first-team all-county, All-Northeast Ohio and all-state as a defensive back ... Also saw action at quarterback, running back

and receiver for Coach Tony Napolet ... Helped his team to a regional title his senior year ... Caught 21 passes for 396 yards and six touchdowns in 1998 ... Added 125 yards rushing on 11 carries ... Tallied 69 tackles on defense and intercepted two passes, returning one 82 yards for a touchdown ... Returned six kickoffs for 248 yards and had 12 punt returns for 97 yards ... Also earned letters in basketball, track and baseball during his prep career at JFK and Warren Harding high schools ...

Personal: Deon Leonard Provitt ... Born 10/22/80 in Warren, Ohio ... Son of Virginia Hall ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	3	5	8	0-0	0-0

Extra Point

Virginia Tech is one of only seven teams to go to a bowl game each of the last eight years. The other six teams are Florida, Florida State, Kansas State, Michigan, Nebraska and Tennessee.

David Pugh

71

Defensive Tackle
6-3 271 lbs. Sr. BVL
Madison Heights, Va.
Amherst County H.S.



An explosive playmaker who rates among the most productive tackles in the college ranks ... Has great feet and an outstanding work ethic ... Quick and athletic ... Is hard to block ... Gets off the line in a hurry and knows how to get to the quarterback ... Always comes to play on game day ... Earned first-team All-BIG EAST Conference honors last year in his first season as a starter ... Ranked sixth among BIG EAST linemen in tackles ... Tied for the team lead in quarterback sacks (5), tackles for loss (12) and quarterback hurries (10) ... Played the most downs along the



defensive front with over 460 snaps ... Also played on special teams and blocked an extra point against Pittsburgh ... One of the reasons Tech led the BIG EAST in rushing defense ... Underwent ankle surgery during the winter ... Was held out of contact work in the spring due to a sprained knee ... Should be at full strength when practice resumes ... Will be looked to for leadership and a great senior season ...

2000: Rated the No. 16 defensive tackle on the Division I-A level during the preseason by *Lindy's* ... Started all 12 games on defense ... Also a starter on the extra point and field goal block teams ... Got his first start against Akron and was in on eight tackles ... Had four tackles, three quarterback hurries and two passes broken up at East Carolina ... Posted two sacks and three total tackles behind the line against Temple ... Turned in six tackles and a sack versus West Virginia ... Added two more sacks and four total tackles for loss in the Pittsburgh game ... Registered his first collegiate pass interception at UCF ... Closed out the regular season with 57 total tackles ... Had five sacks for minus 35 yards and 12 total tackles behind the line resulting in losses of 63 yards ... Broke up four passes ... Had five tackles, two quarterback hurries and a sack during Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Had surgery on his ankle in January ... Missed spring contact work with a sprained knee ...

1999: Contributed a total of 34 tackles on the season, including four sacks and seven other tackles behind the line ... Forced two fumbles, batted down three passes and hurried the quarterback seven times ... Played a season-high 35 defensive snaps against Miami ... Collected two sacks for a total loss of 18 yards at Pittsburgh ... Had a sack and a tackle for loss among his six tackles against Rutgers ... Also posted a key sack in the West Virginia game ... Registered five tackles in games against Pittsburgh and Temple ... Knocked down two passes and hurried the quarterback twice in the regular-season finale against Boston College ... Contributed a sack against Florida State in the Sugar Bowl ... His 585-pound back squat and 326-pound power clean during spring testing were both personal bests ... Was slowed some by injuries during the spring ... Posted six

tackles, forced a fumble and recovered a fumble during the Maroon-White game ...

1998: Averaged over 20 plays a game in his first collegiate season ... Played in every game ... Contributed two tackles in the opener against East Carolina and three versus Clemson ... Was in on five tackles against Pittsburgh, UAB and Syracuse ... Had two tackles behind the line in the UAB game ... Registered a sack for a 12-yard loss against WVU ... Credited with two quarterback hurries against Pittsburgh ... Saw playing time on a season-high 30



David Pugh

snaps against both Pittsburgh and Syracuse ... Finished with a total of 29 tackles, including one sack and three other tackles behind the line ... Hurried opposing quarterbacks four times ... Bench pressed 390 pounds and ran a 4.69 in the 40 during spring testing ... Missed some time in the spring with an ankle injury ... Was in on a pair of tackles during the spring game ...

1997: Took a redshirt year while working at defensive tackle ... Turned in the best time among the

defensive tackles in the 20-yard shuttle run with a time of 4.41 seconds ... Collected four sacks and two other tackles behind the line during Tech's five spring scrimmages ... Was voted one of the team's top newcomers following spring practice ...

High School: Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar*, which named him to its ACC Region Super 26 team and listed him as the No. 3 OL in the ACC Region ... A three-time all-area, all-district and all-region pick for Coach Mickey Crouch at Amherst County ... Earned first-team Group AAA all-state honors as a guard in '96 ... Was second-team All-Group AA his junior year ... Played offensive guard and defensive tackle ... Played on three district championship teams and two regional title-holders ... Helped team to a Group AA championship as a junior ... Saw team move to AAA level his senior season ... Was in on over 100 tackles in '96, including 16 against Pulaski County ... Had three sacks in that game and 12 for the season ... Posted 95 tackles and 11 sacks as a junior ...

Personal: David Winston Pugh, Jr. ... Born 7/24/79 in Madison Heights, VA ... Son of Dave and Susan Pugh ... Enrolled in human services.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1998	11	17	12	29	3- 9	1-12
1999	11	19	15	34	7-20	4-37
2000	11	30	27	57	7-28	5-35
Career	33	66	54	120	17-57	10-84
2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	4	4	8	1- 1	0- 0
At ECU	1	2	2	4	0- 0	0- 0
RUTGERS	1	1	3	4	0- 0	0- 0
At BC	1	1	2	3	0- 0	0- 0
TEMPLE	1	4	3	7	3-23	2-16
WVU	1	2	4	6	1- 6	1- 6
At Syr	1	3	2	5	0- 0	0- 0
PITTSBURGH	1	5	0	5	4-23	2-13
At Miami	1	2	4	6	2- 6	0- 0
At UCF	1	3	2	5	0- 0	0- 0
VIRGINIA	1	3	1	4	1- 4	0- 0

Robert Ramsey

68

Center
6-2 305 r-Fr.
Coraopolis, Pa.
Montour H.S.



Is working hard to become Tech's backup center ... Showed good mental capacity during the spring when he also worked at guard ... Needs to develop his strength ... Will help give the Hokies some versatility on the line as he continues to make progress ... Needs a great off-season preparation in order to contend for some reserve duty in the fall ...

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

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

Personal: Robert Richard Ramsey III ... Born 4/13/82 in Pittsburgh, PA ... Son of Bob and Ruth Ramsey ... Enrolled in housing, interior design and residential management.

A Talk With Channing Reed

After transferring from Montgomery College, how have you found Division I football different than the junior college level?

The D-I game is much faster and most of the players are bigger and stronger. You can't get away with just being an athlete because it comes down to technique, fundamentals and coaching points.

Did the amount of snaps you saw this past season surprise you?

It kind of did because a lot of people from junior college redshirt or do not get a lot of playing time. So that's why it surprised me, and that's why I was upset when I got hurt early in the season.

Do your teammates ever get on you about your dreadlocks?

All of the time. Them and everyone else on campus. They want me to cut them and I might do it this year.

How did it make you feel to have a big game on national television when Virginia Tech beat East Carolina on ESPN last season?

It felt really good. It was my first time playing on national television and I got to show what I had, so it made me very happy.

You did some kicking in high school. When are Hokie fans going to see you line up for a winning field goal?

Never. Those days are behind me now!



Channing Reed

53

Defensive Tackle
6-2 311 Sr. 4VL
Trenton, N.J.
Trenton Central H.S.



Is coming off a good spring practice ... Was named one of the team's most improved players ... Understands the Tech system more ... A big body who gets a good push inside ... Helped the Hokies lead the BIG EAST in rushing defense ... Also has some pass rush skills ... Will try to drop some weight during the summer to gain more quickness and a chance to play more reps ... Provided solid support along the defensive line in 2000 after transferring to Tech from junior college ... Saw action as the No. 2 man behind David Pugh ... Is expected to be an important contributor along the defensive front again this fall ...

2000: Turned in the best bench press among Tech's newcomers during the preseason with a lift of 360 pounds ... Enjoyed his best performance at East Carolina with six tackles, a quarterback sack for minus-10 yards and a

quarterback hurry ... Was in on three tackles in games against Akron and Miami ... Played a season-best 27 defensive plays against ECU ... Had two tackles and a hurry in the UCF game ... Missed the Temple game ... Finished the season with 21 total tackles ... Played in the Gator Bowl game ... Posted personal bests in all four major lifts during spring testing, including a 340-pound push jerk ... Had three sacks and another tackle for loss in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Turned in a tackle for loss in the Maroon-White game ... Shared the Dr. Richard Bullock Award as Tech's most improved defensive player with Kevin Lewis ...

Junior College: Posted 104 tackles and 12.5 quarterback sacks to help Montgomery College to the junior college playoffs ... Hurried the quarterback six times during the '99 season and forced two fumbles ... Also had two fumble returns for a total of 43 yards ... Was one of the team's captains ... Ranked the No. 46 junior college prospect in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Named second-team All-America by the NJCAA ... An honorable-mention All-America pick by *JC Grid-Wire* ... Voted the team's defensive MVP ...

High School: Played linebacker during his prep career at Trenton Central High ... Also contributed as a kicker ... Lettered three seasons for Coach Lawrence Parker ... Posted 90 tackles

his senior season, including six sacks ... Added three fumble recoveries and two interceptions ... Blocked three kicks ... Registered 16 tackles during one game to go with a blocked field goal, two fumble recoveries and a fumble caused ... Earned first-team all-county and all-area honors as a junior and senior ... Had 65 tackles, nine sacks and six forced fumbles his junior season ... Finished his career with 225 tackles, 21 sacks and six interceptions ...

Personal: Channing Ajaye Reed ... Born 9/19/78 in Trenton, NJ ... Son of Denise Reed ... Studying sociology.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	10	11	10	21	0- 0	1-10

Vegas Robinson

6

Linebacker
6-0 233 Jr.-So.
Chesapeake, Va.
Deep Creek H.S.



A promising young player who could be a valuable contributor this season ... Got his first taste of collegiate action in

2000 ... Provided depth at the backer position ... Saw limited action on special teams ... Got a lot of reps during spring practice and performed well ... With starter Ben Taylor sidelined for the spring, he worked mainly with the first team ... Is still learning, but has lots of potential ... Combines speed with good power and explosiveness ... Steady against both the run and the pass ... Has a chance help the Hokies this fall ...

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

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

High School: Played tailback and linebacker and handled the punting duties for Coach David Cox at Deep Creek ... Named the No. 12 defensive back in the ACC Area by *PrepStar* ... Listed as the No. 15 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Picked the No. 16 prospect in the state by *SuperPrep* ... Played briefly as an offensive guard during his junior year ... Carried 82 times for 564 yards and 13 touchdowns as a senior ... Rushed for 108 yards and three TDs during a game against Group AAA champion Hampton ... Helped team to a 27-7 mark during his varsity career ... Excelled on the track team ... Has run a 10.9 in the 100 meters ...

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

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	6	2	2	4	0-0	0-0

Tim Selmon

65

Offensive Tackle
6-5 287 r-Jr.
Trenton, N.J.
Hamilton West H.S.



Enters preseason practice as the No. 2 man at left tackle ... Has shown he is ready to help the Hokies' O-line ... Lacks game experience, but has logged a lot of practice time in the Tech system ... Finished spring practice with a better understanding of the offense ... Is benefiting from his work in the athletic performance program ... Practiced at defensive tackle when he first came to Tech ... Moved to offense during the spring of 1999 ... Worked at right tackle until switching to the left side during 2001 spring drills ... His off-season preparation will help determine how big a role he plays this fall ...

2000: Worked with the scout and jayvee teams as a right tackle ... Met five of his six goals during preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Had a personal-best 331-pound push jerk during spring testing ... Got work at the left tackle position during spring practice ...

1999: Continued to work at the right tackle position ... Did not see action in a varsity game but did play in both junior varsity contests ... Met five of his six goals during strength and conditioning tests in August ... Made some additional strides during winter workouts and spring practice ...

1998: Was redshirted during the fall while working at defensive tackle ... Made strides in the strength and conditioning program during the winter ... Switched to offense and worked at right tackle during spring practice ...

1997: Entered school in January and went through the winter strength and conditioning program ... Worked at tackle during spring practice ... Registered a sack in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Was in on a tackle in the spring game ...

High School: A first-team all-state prep school pick at defensive end for the Peddie School in Hightstown, NJ ... Helped Coach John Mackey's team to an 8-2 record and the state playoffs ... Set a school record for sacks in a game with three and finished the '96 season with 87 tackles, 10 sacks and four fumble recoveries ... Lettered four seasons for Coach Keith Hartbauer as an offensive tackle and defensive end at Hamilton High

West ... Broke his collarbone his senior season and only played in four games ...

Personal: Timothy Peter Selmon ... Born 8/7/78 in Trenton, NJ ... Son of Peter and Carolyn Selmon ... Majoring in physical education.

Chris Shreve

Split End
5-11 192 r-So.
Mouth of Wilson, Va.
Grayson County H.S.



A hard-working young player who could get a chance to help the Hokies in some capacity this season ... Loves the game and is extremely coachable ... Possesses good speed ... Has made strides learning to run routes ... Got some playing time on the jayvee team ... Has made progress in the athletic performance program ... Needs more exposure to the receiver positions ... Could be a candidate for special teams ...

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

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

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

A Talk With Bob Slowikowski

What was it like sharing playing time with Browning Wynn and Derek Carter at the tight end position?

It was good because it is hard to play an entire game by yourself and knowing that you are splitting time with two guys who are just as good as you helps. The only bad thing is that it is sometimes hard to get into the swing of things when you only play one series a quarter.

How did it feel to make that long touchdown catch against WVU last year?

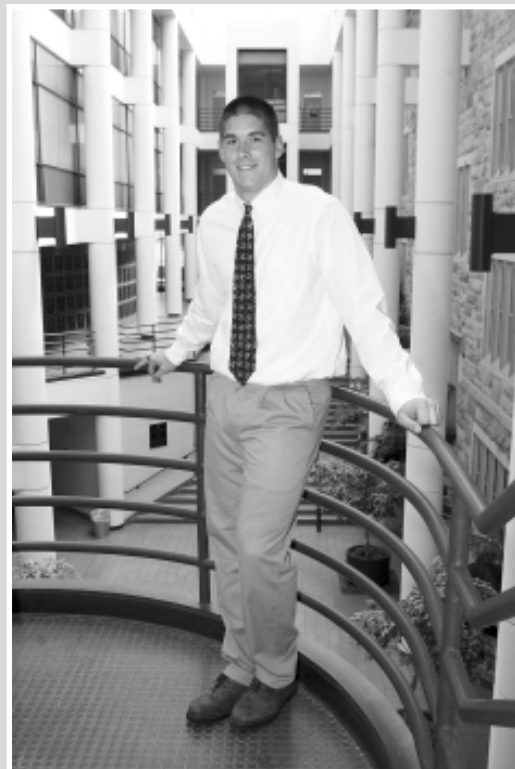
It was really exciting. I just feel fortunate to be in the right place at the right time. Michael made a great pass. I had never caught a pass that long. We were fortunate that it happened at the time it did, because we were losing 14-7 and to tie the game up felt great.

What game are you most looking forward to playing this season?

I would say the Miami game, because last year that was our only loss. It is always a tough game to play against them. The other game that I think of a lot is the Pittsburgh game, because I'm from Pittsburgh and the last two times we played them it was on my birthday. When we played at Pittsburgh two years ago it was on my birthday and after the game our flight got delayed so I got to go home.

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

I really like it because I have coached midget football for 4 or 5 years. Coaching the younger tight ends brings a greater responsibility because you know that they watch everything you do on and off the field.



Bob Slowikowski

87

Tight End
6-5 247 r-Sr: 8VL
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Central Catholic HS.



Has developed into a good all-around player ... Is scheduled to share the starting tight end duties with Browning Wynn for the second straight year ... Saw his share of action last season and performed well ... Made his first collegiate start against West Virginia and caught a 72-yard touchdown pass — the longest on record for a Tech tight end ... Played in every game at tight end and also contributed 150 plays on special teams ... A big target and excellent receiver ... Moves well for his size ... Has made steady improvement as a blocker ... Showed leadership during the spring ... Will be expected to continue a leadership role this fall ...

2000: Played over 300 snaps at tight end during the season ... Started games against WVU and Syracuse ... Was in for a season-best 46 snaps against Boston College ... Hauled in a 19-yard reception in that game ... Contributed 21 special teams plays in Tech's win at East Carolina ... Grabbed two passes for 82 yards in the West Virginia game, scoring his first collegiate touchdown ... Started on the punt team and the extra point and field goal units ... Registered a tackle against UCF ... Hauled in two passes for 20 yards, including an 11-yard TD pass, in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Had a 23-yard reception in another scrimmage ...

1999: Averaged 18 offensive plays in the 10 games in which he played ... Started on the field goal and extra-point teams ... Caught passes against Rutgers, Pittsburgh and Temple ... His 24-yard grab at Temple set up a Tech touchdown ... Played a season-high 31 offensive snaps against the Owls ... Was in on 24 offensive plays against Syracuse and 23 versus James Madison ... Contributed a total of three pass receptions for 47 yards ... Posted personal bests in the bench press (340) and push jerk (300) during the off-season ... Also posted a personal-best

4.61 timing in the 40 during spring testing ... Hauled in a 14-yard reception during the annual Maroon-White spring game ...

1998: Saw action in all 11 regular-season games and graded a winning percentage in seven of those outings ... Was in on a total of 297 offensive snaps during the season, including a season-high 41 against Rutgers ... Caught a 16-yard pass in the Pittsburgh game ... Hauled in a 24-yard reception versus Rutgers ...

1997: Practiced at tight end while redshirting ... Improved on all four major lifts during the winter strength and conditioning program ... Turned in the best times in the 40 (4.78) and 20-yard shuttle run (4.39) among the tight ends during spring testing ... Caught a 5-yard touchdown pass in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

High School: Led Central Catholic High in receptions as a junior and senior while playing for Coach John Fiscetti ... Caught 24 passes for 556 yards and six TDs his senior year as a tight end ... Had 18 catches for 421 yards while playing split end his junior year ... Blocked five kicks as a senior ... Also contributed 85

tackles and four sacks ... Contributed 14 tackles, a blocked kick and four receptions for 150 yards and two touchdowns in a game against Plum ... Had six receptions for 127 yards and two TDs versus Shaler ... Also had 10 tackles and a blocked kick in that game ... Earned first-team Quad A all-conference honors ... Posted 45 catches for 1,091 yards and 12 TDs during his career ... Was nominated for the "Big 33" game ...

Personal: Robert Joseph

Slowikowski ... Born 10/30/79 in Pittsburgh, PA ... Son of Robert and Jean Slowikowski ... Enrolled in finance.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	11	2	40	20.0	0	24
1999	10	3	47	15.7	0	6
2000	11	3	101	33.7	1	72
Career	32	8	188	23.5	1	72

Josh Spence

42

Fullback
6-1 221 r-Fr.
Riner, Va.
Floyd County H.S.



An outstanding runner who will take his tailback skills to the fullback position when practice resumes in August ... Worked at tailback during the fall and early spring ... Put on bulk and increased his strength through the athletic performance program ... Earned Super Iron Hokie status during spring testing ... Injured his elbow in the early stages of spring practice and missed the remainder of contact work ... Is a tough, durable runner with good speed for the fullback position ... Must continue working to become a better receiver out of the backfield ... His summer preparation will be extremely important ... Has a chance to battle for playing time behind senior starter Jarrett Ferguson ...

2000: Worked at tailback during a redshirt season ... Increased his bench press from 320 pounds to 380 between preseason tests and spring testing ... Posted a 550-pound back squat and 37 1/2-inch vertical jump on the way to Super Iron Hokie status in the spring ... Hyper-extended his right elbow early in spring practice ... Did not return to contact drills ...

High School: Enjoyed a record-setting football career for Coach Winfred Beale at Floyd County ... Lettered four

years while seeing action as a running back, fullback and linebacker ... Started on both sides of the ball all four seasons ... Set school career records for rushing yards and tackles ... Posted season records for touchdowns, points scored and rushing yards ... Ran for 2,631 yards and 31 touchdowns during his senior season ... Also contributed 153 tackles on defense, including 17 sacks ... Helped team to the state finals ... Named The Associated Press Group A Player of the Year ... A first-team all-state pick on offense and defense ... Rated the No. 10 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... A *PrepStar* All-American who was ranked the No. 5 linebacker in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... Started at fullback his first three varsity seasons ... Only played in eight games as a junior but still managed to gain 1,329 yards and score 17 touchdowns ... Posted 109 tackles and seven sacks as a junior ... Earned first-team all-district and all-region honors and was a second-team all-state pick ... Finished his career with 4,630 yards rushing and 62 touchdowns ... Compiled 439 career tackles and four interceptions ... Won district individual track titles in the 100, 200, discus, long jump and triple jump his junior year ... Was the region champ in the 200, discus, long jump and triple jump that same season ... Won the Group A discus championship as a sophomore ... Led the track team to the state Group A outdoor championship as a senior ... Won the discus and had top-four finishes in four other events ...

Personal: Joshua Wesley Spence ... Born 12/8/81 in Radford, VA ... Son of Robert and Melissa Spence ... Enrolled in university studies.

Lee Suggs

22

Tailback
6-0 204 r-Fr. 2VL
Roanoke, Va.
William Fleming H.S.



Has rapidly established himself as one of the top running backs in the nation ... Made a real impact last year in his first season as a starter ... Led the Division I-A ranks in scoring and touchdowns with an average of 15.27 points per game and 28 TDs ... Named the co-BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year ... A unanimous pick for first-team All-BIG EAST ... A third-team All-America pick by The Associated Press and *Football News*

... Received all 15 first-place votes in winning the Dudley Award as Virginia's best college football player ... Shattered Tech's single-season records for rushing touchdowns (27), total touchdowns (28) and scoring (168 points) ... Holds six BIG EAST Conference records, including single-season records for rushing touchdowns, total touchdowns and points ... Set BIG EAST single-game marks for rushing touchdowns (5), total touchdowns (5) and points (30) against UCF ... Scored at least one touchdown in every regular-season game ... Added three more TDs that don't count on his total during a Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... His six 100-yard games tied a Tech single-season record ... Led the BIG EAST in rushing at 109.7 yards per game ... Turned in the best single-season rushing mark under Coach Frank Beamer and the third-best in school history with 1,207 yards ... Carried the football 222 times without a fumble ... Is already tied for the Tech career record for total touchdowns with 30 ... Saw some action on special teams and blocked a punt against West Virginia ... A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room ... Spent most of his time in the spring working with Tech's younger players ... Hits the field ready to work hard and compete ... Has power to go with his outstanding speed ... Breaks tackles ... Can catch the ball out of the backfield ... Has become a solid blocker ... Will be looked to for leadership ...

2000: One of four players to make all six of his goals during preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Made his first start against Akron and rushed for 90 yards and two touchdowns ... Posted his longest run of the season on a 56-yard touchdown scamper at East Carolina ... Finished that game with 122 yards rushing ... Set up Tech's first score at ECU when he tackled the Pirates' punter for a 6-yard loss after a bobbled snap ... Rushed for four TDs in the Rutgers game ... Gained 145 yards and scored twice at Boston College ... Posted a career-high 164 yards rushing against Pittsburgh and scored three TDs ... Also caught two passes for 21 yards against the Panthers ... Posted the most rushing yards by an individual against Miami all season with 121 yards ... Ran for 143 yards and five touchdowns at UCF ... Turned in his fourth-straight 100-yard game with 116 versus Virginia ... Ran for three TDs and caught a 23-yard TD pass during that win ... Compiled a total of 1,207 yards on 222 carries, an average of 5.4 yards a carry ... Lost a total of just 17 yards rushing during the course of the season ... Picked up 73 yards on the ground in the Gator Bowl against Clemson and scored three touchdowns ... Improved in all four major

Continued on next page

Suggs, *continued*

lifts during spring testing and won Super Iron Hokie honors ... Posted a 350-pound bench press, 550-pound back squat and 300-pound power clean ... Tied for the top 40 in the spring at 4.28 seconds ... Scored twice on goal-line situations during one spring scrimmage and registered a 39-yard run in another ... Only carried the football twice for 11 yards in the Maroon-White game ... Added two pass receptions for 5 yards ...

1999: Got his first taste of action against James Madison and contributed 22 yards rushing on eight carries ... Scored his first collegiate touchdown on a 1-yard run against UAB ... Missed games against Pittsburgh and West Virginia after undergoing arthroscopic knee surgery ... Returned against Miami and carried eight times for 30 yards ... Played a season-high 12 offensive downs at Temple and rushed for 34 yards on nine carries, including a 2-yard TD run ... Had a total of 44 carries on the season for 136 yards and two touchdowns ... Gained Iron Hokie status in the weight room during spring testing ... Rushed for 69 yards on six carries in one spring scrimmage, turning in a 39-yard TD run ... Added touchdown runs of 5 and 8 yards in another scrimmage ... Led all rushers in the spring game with 72 yards on 12 carries ...

1998: Redshirted while practicing at tailback ... Improved in all four major lifts in the strength and condition winter program ... Turned in the second-best 40 time on the team during spring testing with a clocking of 4.32 seconds ... Missed the majority of spring practice after breaking his hand ...

High School: Rushed for 2,918 yards and 30 touchdowns as a senior for Coach George Miller at William Fleming High ... Earned postseason All-America honors from both *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 4 player in the state and the No. 19 running back in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... An honorable mention choice on the *USA Today* All-USA team ... A first-team Group AAA all-state pick by both the coaches and AP ... Stood fourth on the all-time list of single-season rushers in the state when he graduated ... The Northwest Region Player of the Year and the Timesland Offensive Player of the Year ... Helped team to the state championship game as a senior ... Rushed for 350 yards and three touchdowns in a game against Cave Spring his senior year ... Scored five TDs in a win over G.W. of Danville ... Finished his career with 5,056 yards rushing on 646 carries ... Scored 50 career touchdowns ... Also excelled in track as a

sprinter and jumper ... Ran the anchor leg on Fleming's state championship 4x100 relay team ... Helped that relay team to a fifth-place finish at the National Scholastic Outdoor Track Championships in Raleigh, N.C. ... Was clocked a 10.4 in the 100 meters and a 6.2 in the 55-meter dash ...

Personal: Lee Ernest Suggs, Jr. ... Born 8/11/80 in Roanoke, VA ... Son of Lee, Sr., and Juanita Suggs ... Majoring in residential property management..

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	9	44	136	3.1	2	12
2000	11	222	1207	5.4	27	56
Career	20	266	1343	5.0	29	56

2000 Game-by-Game


AKRON	1	14	90	6.4	2	14
At ECU	1	11	122	11.1	1	56
RUTGERS	1	16	76	4.8	4	11
At BC	1	22	145	6.6	2	24
TEMPLE	1	17	56	3.3	2	9
WVU	1	18	83	4.6	1	16
At Syr	1	21	91	4.3	2	17
PITTSBURGH	1	28	164	5.9	3	28
At Miami	1	23	121	5.3	2	39
At UCF	1	30	143	4.8	5	29
VIRGINIA	1	22	116	5.3	3	30

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	9	1	1	1.0	0	1
2000	11	3	44	14.7	1	23
Career	20	4	45	11.3	1	23

Ben Taylor

40

Linebacker
6-2 235 Sr. 6VL
Bellaire, Ohio
Bellaire H.S.



An outstanding football player ... Has a chance to be one of the top linebackers in the country if he bounces back from ankle surgery ... Is expected to be ready to go when practice opens after missing spring practice ... Took the time away from contact work to improve his upper body strength ... Returned to some drills near the end of spring practice ... Possesses great range and a nose for the football ... Works extremely hard and hits even harder ... Played a leading role on a young defense that led the BIG EAST Conference in rushing defense last season ... Took over the starting backer position prior to the 2000 season and led the team in tackles with 103 ... Saw action on 89 percent of the Hokies' defensive plays ... Also started on the extra point and field goal block teams ... Was called on three times to punt ... Named third-team All-America by The Associated Press ... Earned first-team All-BIG EAST honors and was one of 11 semi-finalists for the

Butkus Award ... Placed sixth overall in the BIG EAST in tackles with an average of 9.4 per game ... Rates as one of the hardest hitters on the squad ... Ranked the No. 18 inside linebacker in the Division I-A ranks prior to the 1999 season by *Lindy's* ... Started every game at outside linebacker in '99 ... Is expected to be a key team leader in 2001 ...

2000: Played 651 plays at linebacker and nearly 100 more on special teams ... Collected 103 total tackles, 59 unassisted ... Posted seven tackles behind the line, including 1.5 sacks ... Hurried the quarterback nine times, broke up five passes and intercepted two ... Registered a career-high 18 tackles during Tech's win at East Carolina ... Added 15 tackles in the Hokies' road win at Syracuse ... Shrugged off an ankle injury to make 13 tackles against Miami ... Was in on 12 tackles versus West Virginia ... Intercepted passes against Rutgers and UCF ... Caused a fumble that was returned for a TD against UCF and set up another touchdown with a 42-yard interception return ... Saw brief action as a punter ... Turned in a 42-yard punt against Temple ... Punted twice at Syracuse ... Was credited with seven tackles, including a sack, against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Underwent reconstructive surgery to his right ankle after the season ... Was held out of spring contact work ... Returned to some individual drills during the final week of practice ...

1999: Made his first collegiate start against James Madison ... Was in on eight tackles against the Dukes ... Had six tackles and a quarterback hurry in the Clemson game ... Posted a personal-best 10 tackles at Virginia ... Registered nine tackles in games against Pittsburgh and Temple ... Had one tackle for loss against the Panthers and two versus the Owls ... Collected a quarterback sack in the Miami game ... Contributed a total of 71 tackles, including one sack and five other tackles for loss ... Hurried the quarterback four times ... Played over 30 defensive plays in every game with a career-high 82 at Pittsburgh ... Added 50 plays on special teams ... Registered seven tackles against Florida State in the Sugar Bowl ... Set a position record for inside linebackers with a 326-pound power clean during spring testing ... Also set a position mark in the 40 with a timing of 4.48 ... Posted five tackles in the Maroon-White spring game ... Won the George Preas Award as Tech's most valuable defensive player of spring practice ...

1998: Reached the most goals among the inside linebackers during preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Posted four tackles, including one

behind the line, in the opening game against East Carolina ... Played a season-high 29 snaps at linebacker against Clemson and had five tackles and a quarterback hurry ... Broke up two passes in the UAB game ... Saw playing time in all 11 games on special teams as a starter on the kickoff, kickoff return and punt return teams ... Got some action on defense in nine games ... Contributed a total of 23 tackles, two passes broken up and one hurry ... Saw action in the Music City Bowl and posted a tackle ... Turned in a 36-inch vertical jump and a 4.54 forty during spring testing ... Worked at the backer position during spring practice ... Had three sacks and three other tackles for losses during spring scrimmages ... Registered five tackles, including a sack in the annual spring game ... Was one of the winners of the Richard Bullock Award for most improved players in the spring ...

1997: Underwent shoulder surgery following his senior season in high school ... Waited until he was fully recovered before entering Tech in January ... Ran the best time among the inside linebackers in the 20-yard shuttle run

during spring testing at 4.30 seconds ... Worked at the backer position during spring practice ...

High School: One of six finalists for 'Mr. Football' honors in Ohio ... Named first-team All-Ohio in Division 4 ... A two-time all-district and all-conference pick for Coach John Magistro at Bellaire High ... Saw action as a free safety, outside linebacker, flanker, quarterback and punter during his career ... Named Eastern District Defensive Player of the Year in 1996 ... Made honorable mention All-USA team named by *USA Today* ... Helped team win three district titles, two regional championships and appear in the state championship game twice on the way to a 35-3 record ... Caught 59 passes for 817 yards and eight touchdowns his senior season ... Also registered 192 tackles and four interceptions ... Posted 23 tackles and an interception in a win over Brooke (W.Va.) High ... Also had nine catches for 90 yards in that game ... Had 70 receptions as a junior for 824 yards ... Intercepted seven passes that season and finished with 85 tackles ... Career totals include 348 tackles, 12

interceptions and 130 receptions for 1,679 yards ... Made 12 career touchdown receptions and grabbed 11 two-point conversion passes ... Set school records for pass receptions in a game (14), season (70) and career (130) ...

Personal: Benjamin Frazier Taylor, Jr. ... Born 8/31/78 in Bellaire, Ohio ... Son of Ben and Jennifer Taylor ... Studying interdisciplinary studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1998	11	15	8	23	1- 1	0- 0
1999	11	37	34	71	5-17	1- 8
2000	11	59	44	103	5-12	1.5-13
Career	33	111	86	197	11-30	2.5-21

2000 Game-by-Game						
AKRON	1	6	2	8	1- 3	0.5- 3
At ECU	1	11	7	18	0- 0	0- 0
RUTGERS	1	2	2	4	0- 0	0- 0
At BC	1	2	4	6	0- 0	0- 0
TEMPLE	1	3	4	7	0- 0	0- 0
WVU	1	5	7	12	1- 1	0- 0
At Syr	1	9	6	15	2- 3	0- 0
PITTSBURGH	1	3	4	7	1- 1	0- 0
At Miami	1	10	3	13	1- 7	0- 0
At UCF	1	3	4	7	1-10	1-10
VIRGINIA	1	5	1	6	0- 0	0-

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	11	2	42	21.0	0	42

A Talk With Ben Taylor



How do you want to be remembered after you leave Virginia Tech?

I'd like to be remembered as one of the toughest players to come through Virginia Tech. It is kind of a Virginia Tech thing that you come in and you work up and earn your spot and then you earn that respect.

What motivates you when you are on the field?

I think competition. I never want to lose. I strive not to lose. Everybody wants to win, but I am the person who doesn't want to lose and I'll do whatever it takes not to lose.

What role do you think you will play this year as a leader on the team?

I'm not your vocal leader. I try to lead by example. I think that if you can do that, and if one of your hardest workers is one of your leaders, then that is the best type of leader you can have for your team.

You were a third-team All-American last year and a semifinalist for the Butkus Award. What are you going to have to do this year to improve on those honors?

You have to go through spring practice and then fall practice and try to get better with each practice. That goes back to film study and getting stronger in the weight room, doing anything you possibly can to get better for the next season.

Dirk Taylor



Linebacker
6-0 197 Sr.
Penn Laird, Va.
Spotswood H.S.

Dressed for several varsity games during the 2000 season ... Worked at the whip linebacker position after spending last season at cornerback ... Also helped provide depth on several special team units ... Played in Tech's two jayvee games ... Is expected to contribute depth at whip and challenge for special teams action again this season ...

2000: Saw brief varsity action in the Rutgers game ... Practiced with the punt return and kickoff teams ... Saw action in jayvee games against Fork Union and Hargrave ... Contributed an interception in both games ... Posted personal bests in the back squat (410 pounds) and vertical jump (36 inches) during spring testing ... Contributed three tackles in the annual Maroon-White game ...

1999: Practiced at the field cornerback position during the fall ... Intercepted a pass and returned it 43 yards in a jayvee win against Hargrave ... Improved in three of the four major lifts during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Moved to outside linebacker for spring practice ... Collected a tackle for loss in one of the spring scrimmages ... Was in on a tackle in the annual spring game ...

1998: Joined the team as a walk-on after school started ... Played on the scout team and jayvee teams during the fall ... Worked at free safety during the fall and spring ...

High School: A four-year football letterman for Coach Eric Baylor at Spotswood High ... Played quarterback and defensive back ... Completed 124 of 220 passes for 1,718 yards and 20 touchdowns his senior season ... Also rushed for over 800 yards and eight TDs ... Contributed 77 tackles, six interceptions and a pair of fumble recoveries ... Earned first-team Group AA All-State honors ... Threw for 2,843 yards and 35 touchdowns during his career ... Set school seasons marks for passing yards in a season, touchdown passes in a season and completion percentage in a season (60.2) ... Had a career-record 15 100-yard passing games ... Also set a season defensive mark with six

interceptions ... Named all-region as a point guard in basketball ...

Personal: Dirk Patrick Taylor ... Born 12/25/79 in Harrisonburg, VA ... Son of Terry and Lorri Taylor ... Majoring in interdisciplinary studies.

Jeff Thompson



Defensive End
6-4 245 Jr-Sr.
Midlothian, Va.
Clover Hill H.S.

A hard worker who is expected to help provide depth at defensive end ... Worked at tight end when he first came to Tech ... Moved to defensive end prior to 2000 spring practice ... Has benefited from his work on the scout and jayvee teams ... Can always be counted on for top effort ...

2000: Worked at the stud end position ... Contributed as a member of the scout team ... Got playing time in Tech's two jayvee games ... Worked at the other end position during the spring ...

1999: Redshirted while working at tight end during the fall ... Turned in a 351-pound hang clean and 340-pound push jerk during scout team testing in November ... Moved to defensive end for spring practice ...

High School: Played two seasons for Coach Ted Salmon at Clover Hill High ... Earned two letters while seeing action at defensive end, tight end and fullback ... Named the team's MVP as a senior ... Won first-team all-district and second-team all-region honors ... Contributed 65 tackles, 10 quarterback sacks, three fumble recoveries and two interceptions on defense ... Caught 15 passes for 400 yards and two touchdowns ... Played fullback for half the season, rushing for 325 yards and four TDs ... Had five sacks and 150 yards rushing in a game against George Wythe ... Caught three passes for 129 yards versus Prince George ... Tipped seven passes in a game his junior season with three being intercepted, including one for a touchdown ... Grabbed two TD passes in a game that year ... Helped wrestling and track teams to district titles ... Made the all-district academic team in all three sports and was all-region in football and track ... Won the Army Scholar Athlete Award for his school ...

Personal: Jeffrey Barrett Thompson ... Born 5/26/80 in Monroe, LA ... Son of Dean and Georgie Thompson ... Enrolled in mechanical engineering.

Marvin Urquhart

36



Fullback
5-11 265 Jr-Sr.
Chesapeake, Va.
Western Branch H.S.

A hard worker who got some extra reps at fullback during the spring ... Showed improvement, but continues to battle weight problems ... Combines strength with good footwork ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Rates as an excellent blocker ... Needs a good summer preparation ... Has the ability to be a contributor at the position if he can trim down ...

2000: Worked on the scout and jayvee teams ... Rushed six times for 25 yards in a jayvee win over Fork Union ... Carried 15 times for 58 yards in a win against Hargrave ... Had a 385-pound bench press and 605-pound back squat on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors in the spring ... Caught two passes for 6 yards and added a 9-yard run in a spring scrimmage ... Added a 14-yard catch and a 6-yard run in another scrimmage ... Had a 10-yard run and a 2-yard pass reception in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: Practiced at fullback during a redshirt year ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during scout team testing in November, turning in a 550-pound back squat and a 351-pound push jerk ... Became a Super Iron Hokie in the spring ... Improved his bench press to 365 pounds ... Competed for Tech in the discus at the Atlantic 10 Outdoor Track and Field Championships and placed fourth ...

High School: Selected the No. 14 running back in the ACC Region by *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 22 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 23 prospect in the state by *SuperPrep* ... Played fullback for Coach Lew Johnston ... Rushed for 350 yards and nine touchdowns his senior season ... Played in parts of just seven games because of injuries ... Named honorable mention all-district ... A three-time state champion in wrestling ... Went undefeated as a heavyweight his senior year ... Won the state Group AAA outdoor discus championship in 1999 and was third in the shot put ...

Personal: Marvin Urquhart IV ... Born 8/16/80 in Chesapeake, VA ... Son of Marvin Urquhart, Sr. ... Enrolled in university studies.

Wayne Ward

32



Tailback

5-11 209 *r-Sr.* 6VL
Plant City, Fla.
Plant City H.S.

A physical running back who doubles as one of the top special teams players in the collegiate ranks ... Contributed in a number of ways last season ... Blocked two punts during the regular season ... Posted 26 tackles on coverage ... Cleared the way for a 76-yard punt return with a block that made the national highlight films ... Won BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week honors twice ... Gained 82 yards on 25 carries and caught four passes for 54 yards when called on as a running back ... Is an Iron Hokie in the weight room with a 620-pound back squat ... May be the hardest back in the Tech stable to bring down ... A good athlete who also has played fullback ... Will have to battle his way back up the depth chart at tailback after missing spring practice and undergoing arthroscopic knee surgery in June ...

2000: Played nearly 200 plays on special teams ... Started on the kickoff and kickoff return teams and the punt and punt return units ... Also worked with the outside prevent unit and the extra point and field goal teams ... Blocked a punt against East Carolina that was scooped up and returned for a touchdown by teammate Cory Bird ... Set up a TD against Temple with another blocked punt ... Contributed three or more tackles on coverage six times ... Posted four tackles against Rutgers ... Returned a kickoff 29 yards at Boston College ... Saw action on offense in six games ... Carried the football five times for 25 yards against Akron ... Added 26 yards on eight carries versus Rutgers ... Caught two passes for 28 yards against the Scarlet Knights ... Also had two receptions for 26 yards in the Miami game ... Rushed for a total of 82 yards on 25 carries and had four pass receptions for 54 yards ... Did not attend school during spring semester ...

1999: Played in four games as a starter on special teams, posting a pair of tackles ... Saw action in three games at fullback ... Rushed for a 2-yard gain against James Madison in his only carry of the season ... Registered a tackle on kickoff coverage against Florida State in the Sugar Bowl ... Moved back to tailback following the season ... Earned Iron Hokie

status in the weight room during spring testing ... Bench pressed 380 pounds ... Set a position record with a 620-pound back squat ... Rushed for 22 yards on seven carries in one of Tech's spring scrimmages and contributed touchdown runs of 8 and 2 yards in another ... Scored the lone offensive touchdown in the Maroon-White spring game on a 1-yard run ... Also caught a pass for a 9-yard gain ...

1998: A starter on three different special teams units during the course of the season ... Played on the kickoff, kickoff return and punt return units ... Saw limited action at tailback in four games ... Carried twice for eight yards at Clemson and four times for 16 yards against UAB ... Scored his first collegiate touchdown on a 20-yard run versus Rutgers ... Rushed 10 times for a total of 52 yards during the season ... Also contributed nine tackles on special teams ... Carried the football twice for four yards against Alabama in the Music City Bowl ... Was switched to fullback for spring practice ... Set a position record with a 615-pound back squat during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Added a 355-pound bench press on the way to Iron Hokie honors ... Received the Richard Bullock Award as one of the team's most improved players during the spring ...

1997: Spent a redshirt year working at tailback ... Turned in a 530-pound back squat during spring strength and conditioning testing ... Carried the football just one time for no gain in the spring game ...

High School: Named the player of the year for the Tampa area ... Earned first-team all-district, all-region and all-state Group 6A honors after rushing for 1,660 yards and 20 touchdowns his senior season at Plant City ... Added 17 pass receptions for 221 yards ... Rushed for 150 yards against Hillsborough High, a team that played in the state 6A championship game ... Gained over 1,100 yards on the ground his junior year ... Played for Coach Todd Long ... Set school records for career rushing yards (3,226) and most yards rushing in a single season (1,660) ... Rated the No. 43 player in Florida by *The Tampa Tribune* ... Turned in times of 10.6 in the 100-meter dash and 22.5 in the 200-meter dash as a sprinter on the track team ...

Personal: Wayne E. Ward ... Born 5/29/79 in Lakeland, FL ... Son of Wayne and Patricia Ward ... Enrolled in residential property management.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	11	10	52	5.2	1	20
1999	4	1	2	2.0	0	2
2000	11	25	82	3.3	0	11
Career	26	36	136	3.8	1	20

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1998	11	4	5	9	0-0	0-0
1999	4	1	1	2	0-0	0-0
2000	11	12	14	26	0-0	0-0
Career	26	17	20	37	0-0	0-0

Carter Warley

49



Place-kicker

5-11 184 *r-Sr.* 4VL
Richmond, Va.
Fork Union H.S.

Was one of the Hokies' most consistent offensive performers in 2000 despite constant back problems that limited his practice time ... Was held out of spring practice to provide extra rest ... Will be watched closely when practice resumes in August ... Won last season's place-kicking duties during the preseason and went on to become the highest scoring freshman in the BIG EAST Conference for the 2000 season ... Finished fifth overall in the league in scoring and second among kickers with a 7.0 points per game average ... Was second in the league in both field goal percentage (77.8) and PAT kicking percentage (98.2) ... Earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors ... Also handled the Hokies' kickoff duties ... Booted a 27-yard field goal with 16 seconds remaining to win the Pittsburgh game ... Tied Tech records for extra points attempted (57) and made (56) in a season ... Should be a key weapon for the Hokies again this season if he is healthy ...

2000: Scored 10 points in his first collegiate game, making a 32-yard field goal and all seven of his extra point kicks against Akron ... Connected on a 46-yard field goal at East Carolina ... Made his first 33 PATs before missing an attempt against West Virginia ... Did not attempt his third field goal until the seventh game of the season when he made good on a 47-yard kick at Syracuse ... Made three of four field goals against Pittsburgh to finish with 13 points ... Won BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week honors for his performance against the Panthers ... Finished the regular season 7-for-9 on field goals and 56-for-57 on extra points ... Was 5-for-6 on PATs in the Gator Bowl ... Did not participate in spring practice ...

1999: Worked with former Tech kicker Shayne Graham during the fall while redshirting ... Made 6 of 9 field attempts during Tech's four spring scrimmages ... Connected on four field

Continued on next page

Warley, *continued*

goals of 40 or more yards with a long of 49 ... His three misses came from 55, 51 and 49 yards ... Booted a 35-yard field goal and an extra point during the Maroon-White game ...

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

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

Scoring	G	EP-A	FGM-A	LG	TP
2000	11	57-56	7-9	47	77
2000 Game-by-Game					
AKRON	1	7-7	1-1	32	10
At ECU	1	6-6	1-1	46	9
RUTGERS	1	7-7	0-0	0	7
At BC	1	6-6	0-0	0	6
TEMPLE	1	5-5	0-0	0	5
WVU	1	6-7	0-0	0	6
At Syr	1	1-1	1-1	47	4
PITTSBURGH	1	4-4	3-4	38	13
At Miami	1	3-3	0-0	0	3
At UCF	1	5-5	1-2	33	8
VIRGINIA	1	6-6	0-0	0	6
Field Goals	10-29 yds	30-39	40-49	50+	
2000	1-1	4-5	2-3	0-0	

Brian Welch

34



Linebacker
6-0 #32 Jr. 2VL
Fairfax, Va.
Oakton H.S.

Is expected to play a key role for the Hokies at the mike linebacker position again this season ... Enjoyed a great spring practice and was named one of the team's top hustlers ... Spent most of his time with the first team while last year's starter Jake Houseright was mending from knee surgery ... Possesses excellent awareness on the field ... Showed improved speed and quickness after dropping some weight ... Strong and physical ... A fierce competitor with a tremendous work ethic ... Returned to action last year after missing all but one game in 1999 due to a knee injury ... Saw action in every game during the 2000 season ... Got off to a slow start but got better every game ... Finished as the defensive unit's most productive player off

the bench with 42 tackles, the 11th-best total on the squad ... Also made important contributions on special teams ... Will be looked to for senior leadership ... Figures to see a lot of playing time ...

2000: Bench pressed 420 pounds during preseason tests ... Contributed eight total tackles and a quarterback hurry in the season opener against Akron ... Posted a sack, a tackle for loss, a hurry and six total tackles in the Hokies' win against Rutgers ... Turned in five tackles in games against East Carolina, Temple and UCF ... Also broke up a pass and hurried the passer while playing a season-best 33 defensive plays at UCF ... Had a tackle for loss and three total hits during the Virginia game ... Started on the punt team and worked with the extra point and field goal block units ... Finished with 42 tackles, three tackles behind the line and three hurries ... Tied for the team lead with seven tackles against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Gained Super Iron Hokie honors in spring testing ... Had a sack and broke up a pass in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Collected four tackles, including one for a loss, during the Maroon-White game ... Shared the Frank O. Moseley Award with end Lamar Cobb as the top defensive hustlers of spring practice ...

1999: Played 19 downs at linebacker and nine on special teams in the season opener against James Madison ... Was in on three tackles before suffering a torn ACL in his right knee ... Underwent reconstructive surgery ... Participated in parts of the off-season strength and conditioning program ... Returned to full contact work during the later stages of spring practice ... Contributed three tackles in the annual Maroon-White game ...

1998: Opened the season with four tackles and a quarterback hurry against both East Carolina and Clemson ... Had three tackles, including a tackle for loss, versus Pittsburgh ... Played a season-high 14 defensive snaps against the Panthers ... Posted a quarterback sack during the Temple game ... Contributed two tackles against both West Virginia and Syracuse ... Made a key fourth-down stop of Amos Zereoue at the 1-yard line during the West Virginia game ... Saw action in 10 regular-season games, while serving as the Hokies' No. 2 mike linebacker ... Finished the season with 20 total tackles, three hurries, one sack and one other tackle for loss ... Registered a tackle in the Music City Bowl ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the weight room during fall testing ... Contributed a pair of quarterback sacks in one of the team's spring scrimmages ... Was in on five tackles in the annual spring game ...

1997: Was redshirted while working at the mike linebacker position ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during the winter ... Topped the inside linebackers with a 300-pound power clean and a 336-pound push jerk during spring testing ... Also had the best time at the position in the 20-yard shuttle run (4.47 seconds) ... Posted six tackles and a sack in one spring scrimmage ... Had a sack and four tackles in another scrimmage ... Contributed four tackles, a tackle for loss and a pass deflection during the spring game ...

High School: Led Oakton High School in tackles three consecutive years while playing for Coach Pete Bendorf ... Compiled a school-record 346 career tackles from his middle linebacker position ... Posted 115 of those tackles as a senior on the way to district defensive player of the year honors ... Had eight tackles for losses, three forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries, an interception and a blocked kick ... Returned a fumble for a touchdown ... Also saw action at fullback in short-yardage situations ... Rushed for 392 yards and three TDs on 52 carries ... Was first-team all-region and honorable mention all-state ... Selected district defensive player of the year ... Earned second-team all-state honors his junior year when he had 91 tackles ... A regional champion and All-Metro pick in wrestling ... Compiled a 23-0 mark as a senior on the way to the state AAA 215-pound championship ...

Personal: Brian Scott Welch ... Born 7/17/78 in Tehran, Iran ... Son of Linda Welch and the late Kenneth Welch ... Majoring in finance.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1998	10	7	13	20	1- 1	1- 5
1999	1	2	1	3	0- 0	0- 0
2000	11	26	16	42	2- 2	1- 4
Career	22	35	30	65	3- 3	2- 9

Jeff Werner



Offensive Guard
6-0 #78 So.
Yardley, Pa.
Pennsbury H.S.

A steady, hard-working young lineman ... Joined the Tech squad as a walk-on last fall ... Contributed as a member of the scout team ... Showed progress in the athletic performance program ... Turned in a good solid

showing during spring practice ... Can play either guard position or center ... Doesn't have ideal size, but has proven to be a tough run-blocker ... Could put himself in the running for some playing time at guard or center with a good preparation over the summer ...

2000: Played on the scout and jayvee teams during the fall ... Practiced at both guard positions during the year ... Bench pressed 380 pounds during spring testing and added a 550-pound back squat ... His 31 1/2-inch vertical jump was the best among Tech's offensive linemen ...

High School: Lettered as a guard and tackle for Coach Mike Elko at Pennsbury High ... Named first-team on the *Bucks County Courier Times* Golden Team ... First team all-area and second-team all-conference ... Led the team in pancake blocks two years in a row ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

Personal: Jeffrey Adam Werner ... Born 5/10/82 in Somerset, NJ ... Son of Mike and Joan Werner ... Studying human nutrition, foods and exercise.

Ronyell Whitaker

2



Cornerback
5-9 192 r-f. 2VL
Norfolk, Va.
Lake Taylor H.S.

A returning starter at the boundary cornerback position ... Named the Hokies' most valuable defensive performer of the spring ... Has the potential to be a dominating corner ... Is tough and physical ... Studies the game and opponents ... Has learned to make good decisions ... Gained added confidence with a strong performance against first-round draft choice Rod Gardner of Clemson at the Gator Bowl ... Was Tech's busiest player last season with over 750 plays to his credit on defense and special teams ... Opened the season as the Hokies' starting field corner ... Moved to the boundary cornerback position when teammate Larry Austin suffered a season-ending injury at Boston College ... Moved back to the field side for the final two games ... Was asked to take over the punt return duties fulltime when André Davis was sidelined at Syracuse in the seventh game of the year ... Responded by finishing third in the BIG EAST and 16th in the nation ... Ranked fourth on the team in tackles, second in interceptions and third in passes broken up ... A

second-team All-BIG EAST selection ... Will be counted on for a big season in 2001 ...

2000: Started seven games at the field corner position and five at boundary corner ... Broke up two passes at East Carolina ... Registered his first interception in the Rutgers game ... Contributed seven tackles in back-to-back games against Boston College and Temple ... Added a 22-yard interception return against the Owls ... Was in on a career-high 11 tackles during the West Virginia game ... Also had two interceptions versus the Mountaineers ... Had 10 total hits during Tech's win over Pittsburgh ... Picked off his fifth pass at UCF ... Posted a 50-yard punt return against UCF and a personal-best 61-yard return in the Virginia game ... Compiled 61 total tackles, including 37 unassisted ... Turned in two tackles behind the line and nine passes broken up ... Averaged 14.4 yards on 17 punt returns ... Intercepted a pass and returned it 27 yards during a Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Added three tackles and broke up a pass ... Ran a personal-best 4.44 in the 40 during spring testing ... Returned an interception 18 yards for a touchdown in one spring scrimmage and posted four tackles and a pick in another scrimmage ... Was in on six tackles and broke up two passes in the Maroon-White game ... Returned three punts for 29 yards ... Won the George Preas Award as the defensive MVP of the spring ...

1999: Saw playing time in all 12 games ... Contributed just two tackles in his first four appearances ... Played 37 defensive downs at Rutgers ... Contributed three tackles and broke up a pass ... Also returned a blocked extra-point kick for a two-point defensive extra point for the Hokies ... Had three tackles in a win over Syracuse, including two on special teams ... Made six defensive stops and one special teams tackle in the Pittsburgh game ... Was called on to play 71 downs at West Virginia ... Responded with six tackles, including one for a loss, and a pass broken up ... Turned in a season-best eight tackles against Miami and another tackle for loss ... Contributed a total of 29 tackles, 22 of which were primary hits ... Broke up four passes ... Met all six goals in the strength and conditioning program during fall testing ... Posted a 500-pound back squat and 35 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Turned in a personal-best bench press of 330 during spring testing ... Returned two punts for 18 yards during the Maroon-White spring game ... Added a tackle and a pass broken up ...

1998: Practiced at the field cornerback position while redshirting ...

Turned in a 475-pound back squat during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Returned a pass interception 53 yards for a touchdown in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Picked off a second pass in another scrimmage ... Posted six tackles in the annual spring game ... Voted the Paul Torgersen Award as the top defensive newcomer on the squad ...

High School: Lettered four years as a running back, defensive back and return man for Coach Dan Newell at Lake Taylor High ... Was the seventh-leading rusher in South Hampton Roads history ... Ran for 3,458 yards during his career and scored 44 touchdowns ... Earned preseason All-America honors from *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Named postseason A-A by *PrepStar*, which listed him the No. 6 running back in the ACC Region ... First-team all-state pick by The Associated Press and second-team by the coaches ... Rated one of the top 5 players in Virginia by *The Charlottesville Daily Progress* ... Ranked the ninth best prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and 10th by *SuperPrep* ... Rushed for 970 yards and scored 17 touchdowns in 1997 ... Eastern District Offensive Player of the Year ... Named the All-Tidewater Player of the Year ... A three-time all-Tidewater selection ... Had 68 tackles and five interceptions for the season ... Contributed 180 yards rushing, a 60-yard punt return for a TD and two interceptions for touchdowns of 45 and 75 yards in a 21-20 win over Western Branch ... Turned in a game-winning 89-yard kickoff return versus Maury ... Posted 84 tackles, three sacks and five interceptions his junior year ... Rushed for over 1,000 yards ... Added two punt returns for touchdowns and one kickoff return ... Had 18 career interceptions and over 35 touchdowns ...

Personal: Ronyell Deshawn Whitaker ... Born 3/19/79 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Sylvonia Whitaker ... Nephew of pro boxer Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker ... Enrolled in physical education.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	11	22	7	29	2- 2	0- 0
2000	11	37	24	61	2- 3	0- 0
Career	22	59	31	90	4- 5	0- 0

2000 Game-by Game						
Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
AKRON	1	0	1	1	0- 0	0- 0
At ECU	1	1	0	1	0- 0	0- 0
RUTGERS	1	3	0	3	0- 0	0- 0
At BC	1	4	3	7	0- 0	0- 0
TEMPLE	1	3	4	7	0- 0	0- 0
WVU	1	7	4	11	1- 1	0- 0
At Syr	1	5	4	9	1- 2	0- 0
PITTSBURGH	1	8	2	10	0- 0	0- 0
At Miami	1	2	3	5	0- 0	0- 0
At UCF	1	4	1	5	0- 0	0- 0
VIRGINIA	1	0	2	2	0- 0	0- 0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	11	0	0	0.0	0	0
2000	11	5	76	15.2	0	32
Career	22	5	76	15.2	0	32

Garnell Wilds

17

Cornerback
5-11 493 r-SO. 4VL
Tampa, Fla.
Hillsborough H.S.



Has come back nicely from a knee injury that sidelined him for much of the 2000 season ... Had a good spring practice ... Concentrated on his coverage skills ... Is working to become a more physical player ... Served as a key backup at both cornerback positions early last season ... Saw action in each of the Hokies' first five games ... Suffered a season-ending knee injury against Temple in the fifth game ... Underwent reconstructive surgery ... Missed the Gator Bowl ... Turned in a personal-best 330-pound bench press during spring athletic performance tests ... Will give the Hokies quality depth behind Ronyell Whitaker at the boundary corner ...

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

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

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

96 player in the Southeast Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Picked the No. 28 defensive back in the ACC Region by *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... A preseason All-America pick by Lemming ... Named to the All-Southeast Region team by *The National Recruiting Advisor* ... Helped the team to a 28-8 record during his varsity career ... Was in on 69 tackles as a senior and intercepted four passes ... Also recovered a pair of fumbles ... Averaged 25 yards on punt returns and set a school record for best kickoff return average for a season at 42.5 yards ... Saw some action as a receiver, contributing 10 pass receptions for 200 yards and one touchdown ... Had 10 tackles, an interception, two punt returns for over 50 yards and five pass receptions for 120 yards in a game against Leto High ... Earned first-team all-conference and second-team All-Suncoast honors ... Finished his junior year with 65 tackles and two interceptions ... Helped team to the state 6A championship game as a sophomore ...

Personal: Garnell Wayman Wilds ... Born 6/8/81 in Tampa, FL ... Son of George and Jacqueline Wilds ... Studying residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	5	3	1	4	0-0	0-0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	5	1	5	5.0	0	5

Ernest Wilford

19

Split End
6-5 211 r-SO. 4VL
Richmond, Va.
Armstrong/Franklin H.S.



Is scheduled to move to split end after seeing playing time at flanker in 2000 ... Made the most strides of any receiver during the fall while working at flanker ... Put together a solid season, but had to sit out spring contact work following surgery for tendonitis in his right knee ... Was very conscientious in the spring despite the injury ... Participated in meetings and limited group work ... Has a passion for the game and is determined to be the best player possible ... Brings outstanding athletic ability and size to the position ... A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room ... Found himself starting Tech's last four games at flanker last season after André Davis developed ankle problems ... Gained some valuable on-

the-job experience ... Saw action on 176 offensive snaps during Tech's first seven games and 213 during the last four ... Finished third on the team in receptions ... Started his Tech career as a defensive end ... Needs a strong summer preparation in order to make up ground and put himself in position to contribute this fall ...

2000: Was one of just four players to meet all six goals during preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Led the receivers with a 500-pound back squat ... Played in every game, averaging 35 snaps ... Saw some brief action on special teams during the first half of the season ... His first collegiate reception was an 11-yard catch at East Carolina ... Grabbed three passes for 35 yards in the Rutgers game ... Moved into the starting lineup against Pittsburgh and played 72 offensive snaps ... Caught two passes for 25 yards in that game ... Added two more receptions at Miami for 21 yards ... Also had two catches in the Virginia game for a total of 33 yards ... Had 12 catches for 141 yards during the regular season ... Posted a 9-yard reception during the Gator Bowl ... Underwent surgery in early February ... Sat out all spring contact work ...

1999: Registered the best vertical jump among the incoming freshmen with a leap of 37 inches ... Began his redshirt year working at defensive end ... Asked to be moved to wide receiver in September ... Spent the rest of the school year at flanker ... Finished first in the triple jump and third in the high jump at the A-10 Indoor Track Championships ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during the spring ... Bench pressed 310 pounds and posted a back squat of 450 pounds ... Suffered an ankle injury during the early stages of spring practice and did not take part in contact work for the remainder of the spring ... Was held out of the annual Maroon-White game ... Bounced back from his injury to set a meet record in winning the A-10 outdoor triple jump title ...

Prep School: Saw action at split end and tight end for Coach John Shuman at Fork Union Military Academy ... Also got a look at defensive end ... Caught 25 passes for 297 yards and seven touchdowns during the 1998 season ...

High School: Grabbed 15 passes for 247 yards and three TDs his senior year at Franklin Military High, where he played wide receiver for Coach Otis Brayboy ... Contributed four sacks on defense ... Has only been playing football for a short time ... Earned all-state honors in track and was named to the All-National team ... Posted a school-record triple jump of 49 feet, 9 inches ... Also had a 23-6 long jump and high jumped 6 feet, 8 inches ...

Personal: Ernest Lee Wilford, Jr. ... Born 1/14/79 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Ernest, Sr., and Janice Wilford ... Enrolled in sociology.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	11	12	141	11.8	0	17

Dan Wilkinson

54



Defensive Tackle
6-1 258 r-Sr. 4VL
West Palm Beach, Fla.
Palm Beach Lakes H.S.

Is expected to contribute again this season as a member of Tech's five-man rotation at defensive tackle ... An extremely hard worker who can make plays ... Is a little undersized for a tackle, but is athletic and strong ... Operates well in space ... Has a knack for finding the

football ... Saw action in every game last season ... Made his first collegiate start against Virginia ... Has already graduated with a degree in residential property management ...

2000: Was in on 23 tackles during the season, including four behind the line ... Posted a personal-best six tackles at East Carolina and shared a quarterback sack ... Batted down a pass against Rutgers ... Recorded a sack during Tech's win over Temple ... Was in on five tackles, including one behind the line, at UCF ... Played a season-high 36 plays in that game ... Got another sack during his start against Virginia ... Was in on three tackles during Tech's Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... Had the top bench press (400) and back squat (600) among the defensive tackles during spring max tests ... Shared defensive MVP honors in the spring game ...

1999: Took part in 11 plays during the season opener against James Madison ... Was in on four tackles against the Dukes ... Registered two tackles at Rutgers, including a quarterback sack for a 7-yard loss ... Had a tackle for loss and three

total tackles against Syracuse ... Contributed a tackle in each of the Hokies' last three games ... Collected a total of 12 tackles for the season ... Met five of his six goals during fall strength and conditioning tests ... Had personal-bests in the back squat (600 pounds) and the push jerk (321) during spring testing ... Contributed two tackles and a tackle for loss during one spring scrimmage and had a sack in another scrimmage ... Was in on three tackles and forced a fumble in the spring game ...

1998: Injured his knee in preseason practice ... Underwent reconstructive surgery and was sidelined for the entire season ... Bench pressed 410 pounds and posted a 535-pound back squat during spring testing ... Returned to the field for spring practice and worked at end ...

1997: Took a redshirt year while working at defensive end ... Bench pressed 385 pounds during spring testing ... Also had a 530-pound back squat ... Registered two sacks and tackle for loss during spring scrimmages ... Added another sack in the spring game ...

Continued on next page

A Talk With Dan Wilkinson



How did having knee surgery three years ago affect your game?

It affected me more mentally than physically. It was hard coming back, but I feel like if you can make it through rehab, that is the hardest part. I knew I could do anything I put my mind to. The surgery slowed me down, but I was able to come back and persevere.

Has there been anyone on or off the field who you have looked up to?

I'd say André Davis, because he illustrates how to keep a spiritual balance with everything that is happening. He always keeps God No. 1, as well as balancing that with everything else that is going on.

Tech has had a great pipeline of recruits from Florida. Why is the talent in that state so good year-in and year-out and why have so many Floridians chosen to play at Virginia Tech?

I think the ties between Virginia Tech and Florida have something to do with the fact that football is No. 1 year-round in Florida. It's what we do. You play football all through school, and that makes for more competition. Also, Tech is a great football institution with a great academic program and people want to come here.

What is your most memorable bowl experience?

The national championship game in New Orleans. How many people can say that they played for a national championship? Especially when I walked out on the field. I stopped and absorbed the atmosphere. It was like 'Wow, I'm here. All that hard work paid off.'

What motivates you on the field?

Knowing that it could be my last opportunity to play. I'm lucky that I wasn't done playing after I got injured. You have to play every snap like it will be your last.

Wilkinson, *continued*

High School: Played defensive end, linebacker and fullback during his three varsity seasons for Coach Bill Bolinder at Palm Beach Lakes High ... Named all-area, all-conference and team MVP his senior year when he posted 89 tackles and 14 sacks ... Rushed for 138 yards and four touchdowns and caught five passes for 247 yards ... Compiled 210 tackles and over 30 sacks while helping the team to a three-year record of 31-7 ... Played in the Outback Steakhouse All-Star game, which included the top 40 players in the Palm Beach area ...

Personal: Daniel Alfred Wilkinson ... Born 11/14/78 in West Palm Beach, FL ... Son of Erwin and Heather Wilkinson ... Has already earned his undergraduate degree.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	7	5	7	12	1- 2	1- 7
2000	11	11	12	23	1- 4	2.5- 8
Career	18	16	19	35	2- 6	3.5- 15

Keith Willis

86

Tight End
6-5 240 4r-So. 4VI
Norfolk, Va.
Norview H.S.



A young player who has shown steady improvement ... Got the majority of snaps at the tight end spot during the spring ... Needs to capitalize on that this coming season ... Has added bulk and improved his speed and quickness ... Gives the Hokies a big, athletic target in the middle ... Possesses solid receiving skills but must continue to become more physical ... Contributed as a reserve tight end and a part-time starter on special teams in 2000 ... Saw action in 10 of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games ... His summer preparation will have a major bearing on his playing time this fall ...

2000: Played on offense in seven games ... Caught a pass for a 21-yard gain in the season opener against Akron ... Was in for a season-high 31 offensive snaps against Rutgers ... Moved into a starting spot on the kickoff return team as the season progressed ... Took time out for one jayvee game, catching a 19-yard touchdown pass in a win over Fork Union ... Saw 23 varsity snaps on offense at UCF ... Led the tight ends with a 350-pound

bench press during spring max testing ... Also had the fastest time in the 40 at 4.58 ... Caught four passes for 30 yards and one touchdown during spring scrimmages ...

1999: Worked at tight end during a redshirt year ... Joined Tech's basketball team in October and split practice time with football ... Played briefly in three regular-season basketball games before returning to football full-time ... Went through the Hokies' winter workouts ... Improved in three of the four major lifts during strength and conditioning tests ...

High School: A two-time all-district, all-region and all-state Group AAA choice at tight end for Coach Carleton Thomas ... Lettered three seasons as a tight end, defensive end and punter ... A prep All-American ... Listed as the No. 7 tight end in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Named the No. 1 TE in the ACC Region by *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 5 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 7 player in the state by *The Roanoke Times* ... Was on the receiving end of 21 passes for 475 yards and four touchdowns as a senior ... Also contributed 60 tackles, 11 sacks and five fumble recoveries on defense ...

Against Bethel his senior year, he contributed three catches for 95 yards and one touchdown, along with two sacks, two pass breakups, a fumble caused and four tackles ... In two seasons as a tight end, he caught 35 passes for 745 yards ... Had 24 career sacks in three seasons as a DE ... A three-time all-district and All-Tidewater pick in basketball ... Also gained all-region honors as a junior and senior ... Averaged 27 points and 12.7 rebounds a game as a forward his senior season ... Finished his career with over 1,000 points and was a first-team AAA all-state pick ... Also competed in track ...

Personal: Keith Tyrone Willis ... Born 12/14/80 in Oceanside, CA ... Son of Keith and Mara Willis ... Lived in Japan for more than three years ... Enrolled in science of food, nutrition and exercise.

Joe Wilson

44

Fullback
6-1 261 4r-So.
Newport News, Va.
Warwick H.S.



A young player who showed progress during spring practice ... Has gotten bigger and stronger through the Hokies' athletic performance program, but may benefit from dropping some of the extra

weight ... Brings a great work ethic and attitude to the field ... Has shown promise in flashes and is currently working to become a more consistent player ...

2000: Contributed as a member of the scout team ... Played for the jayvee team ... Rushed for 56 yards and a touchdown on five carries against Fork Union Military Academy ... Gained 18 yards on three carries in a win over Hargrave ... Reached the Super Iron Hokie level during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Bench pressed 400 pounds ... Added a 570-pound back squat ... Rushed four times for 21 yards during one spring scrimmage ... Had four pass receptions for 12 yards during scrimmages ... Carried eight times for nine yards in the Maroon-White game ...

1999: His 375-pound bench press was the tops among incoming freshmen in August ... Practiced at fullback while redshirting ... Posted a 331-pound push press during scout team testing in November ... Gained 17 yards on three carries and caught a pass for 7 yards in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Contributed an 18-yard touchdown run in another scrimmage ...

High School: Rushed for 722 yards and 11 touchdowns as a senior for Coach Tommy Reamon at Warwick ... Listed as the No. 30 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... First-team All-Peninsula District as a linebacker and second team as a running back ... Added 85 tackles, 11 sacks, two interceptions and two fumble recoveries on defense ... Ran for 132 yards and two TDs and posted 11 tackles and two sacks in a game against Menchville ... Named his team's offensive back of the year ... Finished his career with 2,807 yards rushing on 248 carries ... Scored 29 career touchdowns and registered 183 career tackles and 29 sacks ... Caused 19 fumbles and had three fumble recoveries for TDs ... Also lettered in basketball and track ...

Personal: Joseph Rydell Wilson ... Born 7/22/81 in Hollandale, MS ... Son of Joseph and Joann Wilson ... Spent the early part of his childhood in Guam ... Was president of his high school freshman class ... Enrolled in university studies.

Extra Point

Only five other active Division I-A head coaches have coached more football games than Frank Beamer. Beamer has coached a total of 229 games during his 20 seasons as a head coach. He enters his 15th season at Virginia Tech with the longest tenure among active Division I-A coaches currently at their alma mater. Tech's first victory of the 2001 football season will give Beamer his 100th win as the Hokies' head coach.

Matt Wincek

58

Offensive Tackle
6-5 284 6r: 6VL
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Coughlin H.S.



Is ready to take over the starting right tackle position after paying his dues the past two seasons as the No. 2 man ... Settled into the spot during spring practice and worked hard on technique and fundamentals ... Was named one of the team's top offensive hustlers ... Knows the Tech offense ... Has played in big games ... Combines size with athletic ability and toughness ... Possesses a good approach to the game ... Has worked at both tackle positions in the past ... Concentrated only on the right side last season ... Will be looked to for leadership ... Should help stabilize the Hokies' new-look offensive line ... An important player in Tech's offensive plans for 2001 ...

2000: Played in nine games ... Saw

action on 28 snaps against Rutgers and 25 in the season opener versus Akron ... Chipped in 21 plays in the Miami game ... Did not play against Syracuse and Pittsburgh ... Worked with the extra point and field goal teams and saw limited action ... Had a 380-pound bench press and 331-pound jerk during spring testing ... Shared the Frank O. Mosely Award for top offensive hustler with receiver Shawn Witten ...

1999: Saw action on over 30 snaps in games against James Madison, Syracuse and Temple ... Posted four knockdown blocks against Boston College ... Also graded a season-best 86 percent against the Eagles ... Turned in personal bests in the bench press (370), back squat (505) and push jerk (316) during spring strength and conditioning tests ...

1998: Worked at right tackle during preseason practice ... Played 11 snaps in the season opener against East Carolina ... Moved to the left side prior to the Clemson game ... Was in for a season-high 32 plays in the UAB game ... Saw playing time in nine of the team's 11 regular-season games ... Also got a taste of action against Alabama in the Music City Bowl ... Spent the spring

working at the left tackle position ...

1997: Suffered a broken left ankle during the summer while playing in the Pennsylvania "Big 33" game ... Underwent surgery for appendicitis in December ... Entered Tech for the second semester ... Took part in the winter strength and conditioning program ... Worked at right tackle during spring practice ...

High School: Earned second-team Big School (3A & 4A) all-state honors as a defensive tackle at Coughlin High ... Named to all-star teams selected by *The Citizen's Voice* and *Times Leader* his last two seasons ... Also played guard on the offensive line for Coach John Joseph ... Team won three district titles and a regional championship ... Was in on 71 tackles as a senior, including six quarterback sacks and 16 total tackles behind the line ... Registered 13 tackles in a game against Downingtown ... Lettered as a weight man in track ... Played basketball for the first time his senior year and led the team in rebounds and blocked shots ...

Personal: Matthew Leonard Wincek ... Born 9/12/79 in Wilkes-Barre, PA ... Son of Leonard and Patricia Wincek ... A finance major.

A Talk With Matt Wincek

How do you think the loss of Michael Vick and the signing of some top recruits will affect the 2001 season?

Michael Vick is a great player and will be greatly missed. I haven't heard much about the new recruits except that they are the best ever. I hope a lot of them will be able to come in and contribute to the program. I also hope Grant Noel will be able to step in and help out at the quarterback position.

Who has been your biggest role model?

Derek Smith. When I was a freshman, he was a senior and he taught me the tricks of the trade; everything I know.

In the limited time you have off, what do you most enjoy doing?

We don't have a lot of time off! But when we do, I like going down to the river, going downtown or just hanging out.

Do you have any pregame rituals?

It started the last two seasons with John Engelberger and Anthony Lambo. We draw different faces on the opponent's pictures with a marker. We don't like to get too worked up and get too serious before a game. We try to make others laugh and not get too fired up. We try to just relax.



Shawn Witten

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Flanker
6-0 194 Jr. 2VL
Elizabethton, Tenn.
Elizabethton H.S.



A coach's player ... Responds to challenges and is constantly working to become a better player ... Got quicker during the off-season and is better at getting in and out of breaks ... Was challenged during the spring to become more physical in the running game and to go beyond being a possession receiver ... Worked hard at rising to those challenges ... Was named one of the team's top hustlers of the spring ... Has improved his running ability after a catch and is using the field better ... Must continue to develop his confidence in defeating man-to-man press techniques ... Is capable of playing either receiver position ... Enters the preseason listed No. 2 at flanker ... A real asset on both offense and special teams ... Is generally one of the first players downfield on kick coverage ... Can always be counted on for top effort ... His versatility will make him a valuable man in the receiving corps again this fall ...

2000: Played in all 12 games ... Opened the season playing at split end ... Moved to the No. 2 spot at flanker when André Davis was injured ... Started on the kickoff and kickoff return teams and was a backup on three other special team units ... Caught two passes for 17 yards against Akron ... Added an 11-yard reception in the East Carolina game ... Saw action on 30 offensive snaps and 17 special teams plays against Temple ... Posted two tackles against the Owls and caught a 15-yard pass ... Had two tackles in the Pittsburgh game ... Registered a career-best four catches for 39 yards in Tech's win over Virginia ... Turned in nine catches overall for 88 yards ... Finished with seven total tackles on coverage ... Caught four passes for 38 yards during spring scrimmages ... Contributed a pair of catches in the Maroon-White game for 61 yards ... His 40-yard reception in that game was the longest of the day ... Shared the Frank O. Moseley Award as top offensive hustler during spring practice with tackle Matt Wincek ...



Shawn Witten

1999: Caught three passes for 25 yards against James Madison in his first collegiate game ... Contributed three tackles on kickoff returns during Tech's win at Virginia ... Hauled in three more passes for 30 yards at Rutgers ... Posted two tackles against Syracuse and two versus Miami ... Played on special teams in all 11 games, contributing a total of 10 tackles ... Saw action at receiver in six games, including 24 plays against JMU and 20 at Rutgers ... Caught six passes for 55 yards ... Posted a 450-pound back squat during the off-season ... Collected an 11-yard reception in one spring scrimmage and a 2-yard catch in another ...

High School: Compiled 7,156 all-purpose yards during his high school career while playing quarterback, split end and free safety for Coach Dave Rider ... Was rated the No. 14 prospect in Tennessee by *The Knoxville News*

Sentinel ... Named the state's offensive player of the year by the Tennessee Sports Writers' Association in 1998 ... An honorable mention All-SEC Region pick by *PrepStar* ... Passed for 1,601 yards and 21 touchdowns his senior season ... Also rushed for 512 yards and 19 TDs ... Registered 74 tackles on defense and intercepted 12 passes ... Added 225 yards and a pair of TDs on punt returns ... During one game his senior year, he scored touchdowns on a run, a pass reception, a punt return and an interception ... Finished

his career with 3,839 yards passing, 997 yards rushing, 1,147 yards receiving, 901 yards on kick returns and 273 yards on interception returns ... Returned four interceptions and nine punts for TDs during his career ... Averaged 35.1 yards on punt returns over a three-year period ... Posted a career total of 28 interceptions and 86 touchdowns ... A four-time all-conference pick and a three-time Class 4A all-state selection ... Helped his team to a 40-10 record, four conference titles and a pair of state semifinal appearances during his four varsity seasons ... A four-year letterman and three-time all-conference pick in basketball ... Also lettered three years in baseball ...

Personal: Shawn Edward Witten ... Born 5/18/80 in Johnson City, TN ... Son of Kimberly Witten ... Enrolled in history.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	11	6	55	9.2	0	11
2000	11	9	88	9.8	0	15
Career	22	15	143	9.5	0	15

Browning Wynn

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Tight End
6-3 232 Jr.-Sr. 6VL
Jonesville, Va.
Lee H.S.



One of Tech's real success stories ... Started his career as a walk-on and went on to become the Hokies' starting tight end last season ... Earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors for his play ... Became the first Tech player to earn the Elite Level of Performance award in the strength and conditioning program ... Won Tech's Iron Man competition during the summers of 2000 and 2001 ... His outstanding work ethic and toughness have helped him develop into an outstanding blocker and clutch receiver ... Fifteen of his 16 career receptions have gone for first downs, including seven last season ... Averaged 43 offensive snaps and 14 special teams plays a game during the 2000 season ... Underwent shoulder surgery following the season ... Was given a light work load during the spring ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ... Is expected to share the starting duties with Bob Slowikowski again this fall ...

2000: Played in all 11 games, including nine as a starter ... Started on three special teams and is a backup on two others ... Hauled in two passes for 58 yards in the Akron game ... Caught his first career touchdown pass with a 23-yard grab against East Carolina ... Turned in a 28-yard reception in the Pittsburgh game ... Had a personal-best four catches for 58 yards at Miami ... Finished with eight catches for 167 yards, an average of 20.9 yards per catch ... Caught two passes for 27 yards in the Gator Bowl ...

1999: Played 88 downs at tight end during the Hokies' first three games ... Caught his first pass — good for 14 yards — in game four against Virginia ... His 13-yard reception at Rutgers was his shortest of the season ... Grabbed a key 30-yard pass against Syracuse and made a big 35-yard reception in the Pittsburgh game ... Contributed a 29-yard catch against West Virginia and a 21-yarder in the Boston College game ... Finished with seven receptions for 157 yards, an average of 22.4 yards per catch ... Also posted a 7-yard catch during the Hokies' Sugar Bowl game against Florida State ... Was named Tech's first-ever Elite Hokie during spring testing ... Registered

personal-bests in the back squat (585), power clean (356) and push jerk (361) ... Also turned in a career-best 4.59 timing in the 40 ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the top offensive hustler in spring practice ...

1998: Worked at tight end and on special teams ... Saw playing time in all 11 regular-season games as a member of the kickoff return and punting teams ... Had a tackle against Syracuse ... Played 18 snaps at tight end in the UAB game and six in the Rutgers game ... Caught a pass for a 14-yard gain against the Scarlet Knights ... Set position records for Tech tight ends in the power clean (321 pounds), vertical jump (36 1/2 inches) and the 40 (4.62 seconds) on the way to Iron Hokie status in the spring ...

1997: Worked at defensive end during the fall while being redshirted ... Turned in the best push jerk among the defensive ends during spring testing with a lift of 331 pounds ... Was tried at tight end during spring practice ...

High School: Set a school record with 131 tackles his senior season at Lee High School ... Also posted nine sacks,

three fumble recoveries and an interception on the way to second-team Group AA all-state honors ... Was a first-team all-district and all-region pick as a senior ... Contributed a school single-game record 19 tackles in a game against Grundy ... Lettered four years as a linebacker for Coach Allen Kinser ... Also competed in basketball, baseball and track ... Played in the state high school all-star game ...

Personal: Browning Wynn II ... Born 12/3/78 in Kingsport, TN ... Son of John and Patricia Wynn ... Studying finance.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1998	11	1	14	14.0	0	14
1999	11	7	157	22.4	0	35
2000	11	8	167	20.9	1	33
Career	33	16	338	21.1	1	35

2000 Game-by Game						
AKRON	1	2	58	29.0	0	33
At ECU	1	1	23	23.0	1	23
RUTGERS	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
At BC	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
TEMPLE	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
WVU	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
At Syr	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
PITTSBURGH	1	1	28	28.0	0	28
At Miami	1	4	58	14.5	0	24
At UCF	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
VIRGINIA	1	0	0	0.0	0	0

Pronunciation Guide

Nathaniel ADIBI uh-DEE-bee
 MIKAL BAQUEE Meh-CALL Bah-KEY
 Chris BUIE BOO-eee
 Keith BURNELL burr-NELL
 COLS COLAS coles CO-las
 Steve DEMASI Duh-MASS-eee
 DeANGELO Hall Dee-ANNE-juh-lo
 Ken KEISTER KEES-ter
 Jason LALLIS LAH-liss
 Alex MARKOGIANNAKIS
 marko-gee-an-KNOCK-us
 Jared MAZZETTA Muh-ZEH-ta
 Jon MOLLERUP MAH-ler-up
 Grant NOEL knoll
 Chris PANNELL Puh-NELL
 Robert PEASLEE PEESE-lee
 Deon PROVITT PRO-vit
 Tim SANDIDGE SAND-idge
 Bob SLOWIKOWSKI slow-COW-ski
 Marvin URQUHART IRK-heart
 Carter Warley WOR-lee
 Matt WINCEK win-SECK

A Talk With Browning Wynn



What goals have you set for yourself heading into your senior season?

Obviously, I want to have a good senior year. Not only is it my last year, but you only get one senior season. More importantly, I want the team to have a great year and I think we have the potential to be a great team.

What are your thoughts on winning the prestigious Ironman Competition and becoming the first Tech football player ever to earn the Elite Level of Performance Award in the weight room?

Winning the Ironman Competition and becoming an Elite Athlete were both things I wanted to accomplish before I left Virginia Tech. The Ironman Competition is a very competitive and demanding contest and I like events like that. Becoming an Elite Athlete was really special to me because the criteria needed to become one is pretty tough. You have to really train hard, which I like to do. So it's something I really wanted.

Talk about the tight end rotation between you and Bob Slowikowski.

It's a great rotation and a great relationship, both on and off the field. Bob and I are really good friends. By rotating, I think it helps both of us. I don't know if a lot of guys would like rotating, but I feel like it's a good situation. We can feed off of each other, and if one of us sees something the other doesn't, we let each other know. From that standpoint, I think it's been a good situation.

What are going to be some of the differences this year between the new quarterback and Michael Vick?

I honestly think whoever the new quarterback is going to be, whether it's Grant, Jason or one of the new guys, he is going to have to be a leader right away. Michael was a leader for us, and that's expected from the QB position. Michael was also a great scrambler, so you had to always be ready for the ball. But the new guy is going to be out there trying his best to help the team win ballgames. So, while you're obviously going to miss someone the caliber of Michael, I would expect nothing less from the new guy and I don't think there's going to be too much of a difference.

2001 Recruiting Class

James Anderson

Linebacker, 6-2, 210

Deep Creek H.S., Chesapeake, Va.

A *PrepStar* All-American who was rated the No. 8 linebacker in the Atlantic Region ... Posted 41 tackles, five sacks, four fumble recoveries and an interception as a senior for Coach David Cox ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state as a linebacker by both the coaches and *The Associated Press* ... Also named first-team All-Tidewater by the *Norfolk Virginian-Pilot* ... Ranked the No. 26 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and *The Roanoke Times* ... Also competes in basketball and track ... Has high jumped 6-6 ... Finished sixth in state shot put as a senior ... Attended Virginia Tech's summer football camp in 2000 ...

Personal: James Nathaniel Anderson ... Born 9/26/83 in Roanoke Rapids, NC ... Son of James, Sr., and Brenda Anderson ... His father played basketball at North Carolina A&T ... Has an interest in computer engineering.

Curtis Bradley

Offensive Lineman, 6-3, 285

Summerville H.S., Summerville, S.C.

Was rated one of the top offensive linemen in the Atlantic region following his senior season for Coach John McKissick at Summerville ... Named to the *PrepStar* Dream Team ... Listed by that publication as the No. 7 offensive lineman in the nation, the No. 1 OL in the Atlantic Region and the No. 14 overall prospect in the Atlantic Region ... Also earned All-America honors from *Student Sports* ... Picked the No. 27 player in South Carolina by *SuperPrep* and the No. 20 player in South Carolina by *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Rated by *PrepAtlantic* as the No. 15 recruit in South Carolina ... Listed by *College Football News* as one of the top 100 prospects in the nation ... Rated as the top OL in South Carolina by *South Carolina Prep Football* ... A three-year starter at tackle ... Helped his school to a 15-0 record and a state AAAA championship in 1998 ... Named South Carolina all-state as both a junior and senior ... Honorable-mention All-Southern by *Orlando Sentinel* as a senior ... All-Low Country Offensive Lineman of the Year ...

Was a weight man on the track team ... Was a varsity wrestler as a junior, compiling a 7-1 record ... Won the state JV wrestling championship his sophomore year ... Comes from a school that produced NFL offensive linemen Jamar Nesbit (Carolina Panthers), Kevin Long (Tennessee Titans) and Ian Rafferty (Titans) ... Selected for the North/South All-Star game ...

Personal: Curtis Tremaine Bradley ... Born 7/21/83 in Florence, SC ... Son of George and Tina Bradley ... His dad played outside linebacker at South Carolina State ... Is interested in international business.

Reggie Butler

Offensive Lineman, 6-6, 310

Monticello H.S., Keswick, Va.

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

Personal: Reginald Allan Butler ... Born 8/21/82 in Charlottesville, VA ... Son of Lee Ethel Butler ... Would like to become a teacher.

Chris Clifton

Quarterback, 6-4, 200

Deep Creek H.S., Chesapeake, Va.

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

Princess Anne ... Tossed four touchdown passes during a 28-26 loss to Centreville in the championship game after seeing his team fall behind 28-0 ... Finished that game with 225 yards passing ... Earned *PrepStar* All-Atlantic Region honors as an athlete ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* rated him the No. 70 player in Mid-Atlantic Region ... Picked the No. 23 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 22 in the state by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named All-Southeastern District at QB as a junior and senior ... Gained second-team all-region honors following his senior season ... Also competed in track ... Finished third in the state in the long jump as a junior and second as a senior ... Attended Tech's summer football camp in 2000 ...

Personal: Chris Arron Clifton ... Born 10/27/82 in Portsmouth, VA ... Son of Cheryl Clifton ... May pursue a major in computer science.

Andrew Fleck

Defensive Lineman/Tight End, 6-4, 240

Santa Fe H.S., Edmond, Okla.

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

Personal: Andrew Garrett Fleck ... Born 10/11/82 in Oklahoma City, OK ... Son of Terry and Deanna Fleck ... Is interested in journalism.

Brandon Frye

Defensive Lineman, 6-4, 225
Myrtle Beach H.S., Myrtle Beach, S.C.

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

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

DeAngelo Hall

Defensive Back, 6-0, 190
Deep Creek H.S., Chesapeake, Va.

The first player in the class to commit to Tech ... Had an outstanding senior season for Coach David Cox, helping his team to the state AAA Division 6 championship game ... Scored 30 touchdowns and rushed for over 1,300 yards ... Also intercepted nine passes, posted over 100 tackles and had 16 tackles for loss ... Averaged 10 yards every time he touched the ball ... Was named a *SuperPrep* All-American and ranked the No. 9 defensive back in the nation and No. 2 player in Virginia by that publication ... Also earned All-America honors from *PrepStar* which named him the No. 3 defensive back and No. 12 overall prospect in the Atlantic Region, and from *Student Sports*, which rated him the No. 13 cornerback in the nation ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* listed him the No. 41 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... A first-team Group AAA defensive back pick by The Associated Press ... Selected first-team all-state as a DB and kick returner by the coaches ...

Ranked the No. 2 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Tidewater Player of the Year as a senior ... Also the Norfolk Sports Club Player of the Year ... Earned all-district player of the year honors and was named to the all-district team as a running back, defensive back and return man ... Averaged 9.8 yards a carry during his junior year and added seven picks ... Was the district offensive and defensive player of the year as a junior and a first-team pick as a defensive back on the All-Tidewater team ... Ran a sub 4.4 time in the 40 at Tech's summer football camp in 2000 ... Was a sprinter on the track team ... Placed sixth at the junior nationals in the 60-meter dash as a junior ... Third in state AAA long jump as a senior ...

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

Justin Hamilton

Running Back, 6-3, 210
Clintwood H.S., Clintwood, Va.

Rushed for over 4,000 yards and scored 62 touchdowns during his prep career ... Had 1,153 yards rushing and 19 TDs as a senior, but won first-team Group A all-state honors for his play as a defensive back ... A *SuperPrep* All-American, he was ranked the No. 24 running back in the nation and the No. 6 player in Virginia ... Named *PrepStar* A-A and listed as the No. 3 RB in the Atlantic Region and the No. 26 overall prospect in the region ... Listed the No. 4 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Gained 1,550 yards and tallied 20 TDs in 1999 on the way to first-team all-state honors as a running back ... Was named the district player of the year and earned all-district and all-region honors on both offense and defense ... Added over 800 yards and 19 touchdowns his sophomore season ... A two-time all-state pick in basketball ... Averaged 21 points and 13 rebounds as a senior and 24 points and 12 boards his junior season ... Also excelled in track winning the state title in both the 110- and 300-meter hurdles his junior year ...

Personal: Justin Lee Hamilton ... Born 9/17/82 in Norton, VA ... Son of Beth Stanley.

Kevin Hilton

Defensive Lineman, 6-2, 255
Good Counsel H.S., Silver Spring Md.

A *PrepStar* All-American who was ranked the No. 12 defensive lineman in the Atlantic Region ... Had 82 tackles,

eight sacks, 19 hurries and three forced fumbles as a senior ... A consensus all-state choice in Maryland ... First-team all-county and all-conference ... Second-team *Washington Post* All-Metro ... Named to George Michael's Golden 11 All-Star Team for the Washington Metro area ... Rated the No. 26 player in Mid-Atlantic Region by *SuperPrep* ... Listed as the No. 15 player in Maryland by *ACC Area Sports Journal* ... Lettered three seasons and started two as a defensive lineman and tight end for Coach Tom Kolar ... Registered 67 tackles, seven sacks and 12 hurries his junior season ... Attended Tech's summer football camp in 2000 ...

Personal: Kevin Kennedy Hilton ... Born 10/13/83 in Tacoma Park, MD ... Son of Tom Hilton and Maureen Hilton Kennedy ... Interested in computer science.

Cedric Humes

Running Back, 6-2, 200
Princess Anne H.S., Virginia Beach, Va.

Earned *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* All-America honors after rushing for 1,640 yards and 22 TDs as a senior ... Rated the No. 28 running back in the nation and the No. 8 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... Picked the No. 2 RB in the Atlantic Region and the No. 22 overall player in the region by *PrepStar* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* named him the No. 25 player in the Mid-Atlantic area ... Ranked the No. 9 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... The No. 76 running back in the nation according to *Rivals* ... Played running back and linebacker for Coach Jeff Ballance at Princess Anne ... Contributed 87 tackles on defense his senior year with two sacks and eight fumble recoveries ... Rushed for 197 yards on just nine carries in one contest during his senior season and had 200 yards on 18 attempts in another game ... Named to the All-Tidewater team and also earned all-district and all-region honors as a tailback ... Selected conference offensive player of the year ... Gained 1,300 yards and scored 18 TDs as a junior ... Contributed 80 tackles on defense and intercepted five passes, returning three for touchdowns ... His team posted a 19-5 record in his two years as a starter and made back-to-back appearances in the Group AAA playoffs ... Also contributed in basketball and track ...

Personal: Cedric Akeem Humes ... Born 8/7/83 in Virginia Beach, VA ... Son of Alfred and Sheria Humes ... His interests include computer science.

Will Hunt

Quarterback, 6-1, 205
Springdale H.S., Springdale, Ark.

Posted 2,647 yards passing and 1,594 yards rushing as a quarterback for Coach Jarrell Williams at Springdale, the largest high school in Arkansas ... Passed for 1,484 yards and ran for 816 in leading the team to the Arkansas 5A championship game in 1999 ... Guided his team to an 11-1-1 record and the state 5A semifinals as a senior in 2000 ... Completed 67 of 159 passes for 1,163 yards and nine touchdowns ... Added 778 yards rushing on 117 carries ... Scored 12 rushing touchdowns, including three during a 102-yard rushing game against Jonesboro in the second round of the state playoffs ... Had 160 yards rushing on 12 carries in a game against Fort Smith ... Rushed for 21 touchdowns during his two years as a starter and passed for 21 TDs ... His 94-yard touchdown pass against Fayetteville in 1999 broke a state record ... Earned All-Class 5A honors his last two seasons ... Named *Northwest Arkansas Morning News* Class 4A/5A State Player of the Year as a junior and a senior ... Voted the player of the year as a senior by the *Northwest Arkansas Times* ... Earned All-Southeast Region honors from *PrepStar* ... Listed the No. 11 player in Arkansas by *SuperPrep* ... Named to the All-Arkansas team by *Arkansas Recruiting Report* ... An all-conference pitcher in baseball, he helped Springdale to a state title game as a junior ... President of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter at his school ... Also president of the National Junior Honor Society ...

Personal: William Tredwell Hunt ... Born 6/4/82 in Springdale, AR ... Son of David and BeeGee Hunt ... Considering a business major.

Kevin Jones

Running Back, 6-1, 205
Cardinal O'Hara H.S., Chester, Pa.

The most highly-rated recruit in Virginia Tech history ... Ranked the nation's top high school player in 2000 by *SuperPrep*, *Max Emfinger's Blue Chip Recruiting*, *Rivals* and *Student Sports* ... Named to the *PrepStar* Dream Team as the No. 2 running back in the nation, the No. 1 RB in the East Region and the No. 1 overall player in the East ... Rated the No. 3 player in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Named the nation's No. 1 offensive player

by *G&W Recruiting* ... A member of the *USA Today* All-USA first team ... A Parade All-American and a Reebok ESPN first-team All-American ... Named the player of the year in Pennsylvania by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* ... Listed as the top player in the state by the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* ... A four-time all-county pick and a four-time All-Catholic League selection ... His 5,878 career rushing yards rank second all-time in Philadelphia history and first in Catholic League history ... Scored 84 career touchdowns and stands as the leading scorer in Delaware County history ... Rushed for 1,268 yards and 18 touchdowns as a senior, despite missing two games with an ankle injury ... Helped lead Coach George Stratts' team to the Catholic League championship, scoring four touchdowns in the title game — two on runs, one on a kickoff return and another on a pass reception ... Played in the National High School All-Star game ... Won the first-ever High School Heisman award for the Northeast region ... Ran for 1,896 yards and 26 touchdowns his junior year ... Added 2,082 yards rushing and 26 TDs as a sophomore ... Gained over 600 yards on the ground as a freshman ... Holds the school record for longest run from scrimmage (96 yards) and set a single-game mark for rushing yards in a game with 305 on just 15 carries ... Ranks as a national-caliber sprinter in track with times of 10.2 in the 100 meters, 21.2 in the 200 meters and 6.7 in the 60 ... Was clocked at 4.26 in the 40 at FSU's summer camp ...

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

Jeff King

Tight End/Defensive Lineman, 6-5, 245
Pulaski County H.S., Pulaski, Va.

A *PrepStar* All-American for Coach Joel Hicks ... Was rated the No. 3 tight end in the Atlantic Region ... Named first-team Group AAA all-state as a tight end by The Associated Press and the state coaches ... Ranked the No. 12 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and *SuperPrep* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep FB Report* lists him as the No. 86 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... An honorable-mention All-South pick by the *Orlando Sentinel* ... Led his high school team to the Group AAA, Division 5 state semifinals in 2000 ... Finished his senior season with 278 yards receiving and eight touchdowns ... Also registered eight sacks as a

defensive end ... Set a school record with 101 pancake blocks in a season ... Had 12 pancakes and two receptions for 30 yards and a touchdown in a game last season ... Named All-Timesland as a junior and senior ... An outstanding basketball player who compiled over 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds during his career ... Averaged 25 points and 14 rebounds as a senior on the way to all-district and all-region honors ... Competed in the shot for the track team with a best effort of 54-7 as a junior ... Member of the National Honor Society ...

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

Fred Lee

Wide Receiver, 5-10, 175
Bishop McDevitt H.S., Harrisburg, Pa.

Considered one of the top high school receivers in the country after catching nearly 100 passes over his last two seasons ... Earned All-America honors from both *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 28 wide receiver in the nation and No. 9 player in Pennsylvania by *SuperPrep* ... Named to the *PrepStar* Dream Team as the No. 15 WR in the nation ... Also picked the No. 1 receiver in the East Region and No. 13 overall prospect in the East by *PrepStar* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* listed him as an All-American and rated him as the No. 127 player in the nation ... Ranked the No. 18 receiver in the nation by *Rivals* and the No. 22 WR by *Student Sports* ... Posted 48 catches for 1,080 yards and 16 TDs as a senior ... Turned in six catches for 186 yards and three TDs in a game against Cedar Cliff ... Returned an interception for a touchdown in that game ... Also caught 48 passes as a junior, good for 872 yards and nine TDs ... Played as a defensive back, as well as a receiver, for Coach Jeff Weachter ... Intercepted five passes his senior year and contributed 52 tackles ... Scored three TDs on defense — two on picks and one on a fumble return ... Added 52 tackles and three interceptions as a junior ... Finished his career with 130 catches for 2,767 yards and 35 TDs ... Collected 11 career interceptions, returning five for TDs ... A dangerous kick returner, he scored two touchdowns on kickoff returns and two more on punt returns his junior year ... Started four seasons and helped the team to a 30-12 record ... Earned 4A all-state honors as both a junior and senior and was a three-time all-conference pick ... Started as a guard on

the basketball team ... His high school is the alma mater of Ricky Watters of the Seattle Seahawks ...

Personal: Fred Robert Lee ... Born 3/10/83 in Harrisburg, PA ... Son of Fred and Debra Lee ... His brother, Shawn, was a three-year starter at Penn State ... Is interested in the communications field.

Danny McGrath

Offensive Lineman, 6-2, 270
Herndon H.S., Herndon, Va.

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

Personal: Daniel Patrick McGrath ... Born 3/19/83 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Tim McGrath and Rebecca Krausman ... Hopes to become a teacher.

Jason Murphy

Defensive Lineman, 6-3, 255
Edmondson Westside H.S., Baltimore, Md.

The Baltimore Sun Defensive Player of the Year ... Was in on over 100 tackles, including 17 quarterback sacks, in 2000 ... Recovered seven fumbles and blocked a pair of punts ... Posted an amazing 60 sacks during his four seasons as a starter for Coach Pete Pompey ... Thirty of those sacks came in 1999 when he helped his team to the Maryland 2A championship game ... Rated the No. 46 defensive player in the nation by *G&W Recruiting* ... Listed as the No. 38 DE by *Rivals* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* rated him the No. 35 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region ... Listed as the No. 14 prospect in Maryland by *ACC Area Sports Journal*

and the No. 16 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *SuperPrep* ... A *PrepStar* all-region pick ... A first-team All-Metro and all-state pick as a junior and senior and a second-team All-Metro selection as a sophomore ... Helped the team to three-straight city West Division championships and 28 wins in the last 30 games of his career ... Played his first organized football as a freshman ... Led Edmondson Westside to the state semifinals his senior season ... Spent time at all four defensive line positions during his career and even saw some limited action at linebacker ... Played lacrosse for one season ... Attended Tech's summer football camp after his junior year ... The vice-president of his senior class ...

Personal: Jason G. Murphy ... Born 8/7/82 in Baltimore, MD ... Son of Benjamin and Anna Murphy ... Plans to look into accounting or business management as a major.

Chris Pannell

Defensive Lineman, 6-5, 240
Robert E. Lee H.S., Staunton, Va.

Following the 2000 season, he was named first-team Group AA all-state by The Associated Press and second-team by the state coaches ... Had 38 tackles, 14 assists, nine sacks, four passes broken up, three fumble recoveries and a blocked punt as a senior ... Anchored a defensive unit that held foes to 282 total yards rushing and less than 100 total points for the season ... Helped the team to its first undefeated (10-0) regular season in 35 years ... Posted three sacks in a game against Rockbridge County ... Blocked a punt and deflected three passes against Waynesboro ... Contributed 54 tackles, 11 sacks, two fumble recoveries and an interception his junior year ... Lettered a total of three seasons as a defensive lineman and tight end for Coach David Tibbs ... Caught five passes for 95 yards and three touchdowns during his senior year ... Won *PrepStar* All-America recognition ... Was ranked the No. 6 DL and the No. 30 overall prospect in the All-Atlantic Region by that publication ... An all-region pick by *SuperPrep*, which rated him the No. 17 player in Virginia ... Listed the No. 16 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Played three years of basketball ...

Personal: Christopher William Pannell ... Born 12/27/82 in Jacksonville, FL ... Son of Sarah Crenshaw and Donnie Pannell ... Wants to major in business.

Bryan Randall

Quarterback, 6-2, 205
Bruton H.S., Williamsburg Va.

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

basketball team ... Was named the state Group AA Basketball Player of the Year as a junior after leading his team to a state championship ... Played on an AAU national championship basketball team ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

Personal: Bryan Jemar Randall ... Born 8/16/83 in Charleston, WV ... Son of Edgar and Belinda Randall ... His father played basketball at West Virginia State ... His older brother, Brandon, was a starter on the Hampden-Sydney basketball team in 2000-2001.

Tim Sandidge

Defensive Lineman, 6-2, 275
Amherst County, Madison Heights, Va.

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

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

Jordan Trott

Linebacker/Defensive Lineman, 6-4, 230
Loyola H.S., Torrance, Calif.

The first football player from the state of California to sign with Virginia Tech straight out of high school ... Did not make his final decision until after the national signing day ... Played several positions as a junior for Coach Steve Grady, including defensive tackle, center and offensive tackle ... Turned in 38 tackles, four sacks, and three fumble recoveries on defense that season ... Switched to linebacker as a senior and helped the team to a No. 25 national ranking ... Registered 138 tackles his

senior season with four sacks, three fumbles caused and three recoveries ... Had 15 tackles in the CIF Division I title game versus No. 2 ranked Long Beach Poly ... Named the California Del Rey League, CIF Division I Defensive Player of the Year ... Was selected first-team all-league, all-division and all-region ... Picked the Central City lineman/linebacker of the year by the *L.A. Times* ... Also garnered first-team Central City honors from that publication ... Excelled as a first baseman in baseball ... Invited by the Los Angeles Dodgers to join 200 of the best high school baseball players from the western part of the U.S. for a camp at Dodger Stadium during summer 2000 ... One of 50 participants who made the Dodgers' Elite Team ... Named a National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame scholar athlete ...

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

D.J. Walton

Defensive Back, 5-10, 195
C.D. Hylton H.S., Woodbridge, Va.

A prep All-America pick by *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar*, *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* and *Student Sports* ... Started three seasons as a defensive back and running back for Coach Bill Brown ... Helped his team to a 41-2 record and two Group AAA championships over his three seasons ... During a regional championship win against Potomac in 2000, he posted four interceptions and 10 tackles on defense and piled up over 100 yards rushing and two touchdowns on offense ... Posted two long touchdown runs in the fourth quarter of Hylton's state championship win over Varina in 1998 ... Played in the first-ever National High School All-Star football game in Dallas and posted nine tackles ... A first-team pick on the *Washington Post* All-Metro squad as both a junior and senior ... Named first-team Group AAA all-state as both a defensive back and a running back by the state coaches ... Also selected the co-offensive player of the year in AAA by the coaches ... Picked first-team Group AAA as a defensive back by The Associated Press ... Named to George Michael's Golden 11 All-Star Team for the Washington Metro Area ... Was in on 97 tackles as senior and intercepted six passes ... Rushed for 711 yards and 16 TDs as a senior ... He also scored two touchdowns on pass receptions, two more on punt returns and another on a kickoff

return ... Was listed the No. 19 DB in the nation and No. 10 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 3 athlete in the Atlantic Region and No. 27 overall player in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* listed him the No. 151 player in the nation ... Ranked the No. 10 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named honorable-mention All-South by *Orlando Sentinel* ... Had 104 tackles and five interceptions as a junior ... Rushed for over 3,000 yards during his career, including 1,172 as a sophomore ... Also lettered as a guard on the basketball team ...

Personal: David Lee Walton ... Born 10/19/82 in Macon, GA ... Son of David and Eva Walton ... His father played baseball at Valdosta State.

Blake Warren

Linebacker, 6-2, 205
Centreville H.S., Clifton, Va.

Named the Group AAA Defensive Player of the Year in Virginia by the state coaches ... Helped Centreville post eight shutouts and win the state Division 6 championship in 2000 ... Contributed 14 tackles against Deep Creek in the title game ... For the season, he registered 103 tackles, six interceptions, one sack and one fumble recovery from his free safety position ... Was named first-team AAA all-state by both the high school coaches and The Associated Press ... Selected a first-team defensive back on the *Washington Post* All-Metro team ... An All-Southern pick by *Orlando Sentinel* ... A member of George Michael's Golden 11 All-Star team for the Washington Metro area ... Concorde District and Northern Region Defensive Player of the Year in 2000 ... Rated the No. 15 prospect in the state by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 16 prospect by *SuperPrep* ... A *PrepStar* All-Atlantic Region pick ... Ranked the No. 51 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Contributed 87 tackles and five interceptions as a junior ... Posted 12 tackles against Chantilly in the district championship game ... Finished his career with the most tackles by a defensive back (190) and a school-record 11 interceptions ... Helped Coach Mike Skinner's team to three consecutive district and region titles ... A three-year letterman in baseball ... Won all-district and all-region honors ...

Personal: Blake Davis Warren ... Born 10/10/82 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Don and Irene ... His father played 14 years for the Washington Redskins.

Walk-ons at Virginia Tech

When the San Francisco 49ers selected Virginia Tech defensive end John Engelberger in the second round of the 2000 NFL Draft, it completed another chapter in the success story of Tech's football walk-on program.

Engelberger, who arrived in Blacksburg as a walk-on in 1995, was following in the footsteps of tight end John Burke, who graduated from Tech's walk-on program as a fourth-round draft pick of the New England Patriots in 1994.

Walk-on players are an important part of Virginia Tech football. With scholarship reductions, not all high school football players earn scholarships to compete in college. But that doesn't mean there isn't an opportunity for those individuals, especially at Virginia Tech, where walk-on athletes have a history of contribution.

The walk-ons at Virginia Tech are treated in the same first-class manner – with total respect – as the rest of the squad. Former walk-ons have eventually earned scholarships, earned starting positions, gained All-BIG EAST honors, and some eventually played pro football.

"The important thing for a walk-on, is to know he's going to be given a chance," said Tech head coach Frank Beamer. "The way you track that is to look at programs around the country to see how many scholarships are given to walk-ons. We're one of the top two or three programs in the country in that category. So for a guy who's interested in walking on, there's not a better place than right here at Virginia Tech. We give people a chance and we treat them the same as everybody else."

Engelberger was a recruited walk-on, meaning he was invited to try out for the team. He arrived in Blacksburg in 1995 as a 6-foot-4, 210-pound tight end



John Engelberger arrived at Virginia Tech as a walk-on, earned a scholarship and left as a graduate, an All-American and a second-round draft pick of the San Francisco 49ers.

from Springfield, Va. He got into the weight room and transformed his body into that of a big-time college football player. After a redshirt year, he earned a scholarship for his tireless work ethic. Thanks to endless hours of work on the practice field and in the weight room, Engelberger finished his career as one of the best defensive ends in Tech history. Over his career, he was named an Associated Press All-American, was an All-BIG EAST selection three times, and was one of the best players in the state of Virginia as a senior.

Last year, he started 13 games at defensive end for the 49ers and played in all 16 games. He had 34 total tackles, including nine solo stops, and three sacks. He also contributed \$100,000 back to the Tech football program. He is expected to see plenty of playing time again this year.

"Coach [Frank] Beamer, the football program and Virginia Tech have been good to me," Engelberger said. "They gave me a chance to play football and a chance to get a great college education and my degree. This donation is my way of saying thank you to them."

Burke walked on in 1989 and eventually earned a starting position for the Hokies. He was a four-year letterman at Virginia Tech (1990-93) where he caught 21 passes for 303 yards and two touchdowns. He moved into the starting lineup in 1992 after lettering as a special teams player and backup tight end for two seasons. His longest reception was a 48-yard catch and run versus West Virginia in 1991.

Burke was drafted by the New England Patriots in 1994 and was a member of the Patriots' 1997 Super Bowl

XXXI team. He has seen action with the New York Jets, San Diego Chargers and the Oakland Raiders.

Engelberger and Burke aren't the only Hokies to excel in the walk-on program. Tech had five walk-on players start or see playing time in the 1996 Orange Bowl against Nebraska. Along with Engelberger, end Danny Wheel, tackle Kerwin Hairston and linebacker Steve Tate each made at least six starts for Tech's defensive unit during the regular season. On offense, split end Michael Stuewe made his mark as one of the team's top receivers. All five of those former walk-ons earned scholarships and paid big dividends for Tech in the 1996 season.

None of these players would have lived their dream and reached their potential if Virginia Tech hadn't extended the opportunity they were

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Walk-ons

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seeking. Their eventual success has become a cherished part of the Hokie football tradition and heritage.

"Our walk-on program is so successful for two reasons," said John Ballein, who directs the walk-on program. "First, our coaches work at it. When they're out on the road, they're looking for players who can fit into our program. Secondly, we have a head coach in coach Beamer who is loyal to each player in this program."

Tech's walk-on program has provided countless young men a chance to play collegiate football and prove that the evaluation and recruiting process is far from flawless. It allows a young man to mature physically, improve his football skills, and contribute to the success of Virginia Tech football.

"No one really knows the difference between a walk-on and a scholarship player because each person is treated exactly the same," Ballein said. "Players know they have an opportunity to earn a scholarship and that they'll be in the best weight program in the country. Combine all those factors and you have the reason why Tech's walk-on program has been successful."

There are two types of walk-ons at Virginia Tech: the invited walk-on and the true walk-on. The invited walk-ons are players recruited by coaches to come into the Tech program. The true walk-ons are students already enrolled at Tech who try to earn a spot in the program. Tech has two workouts (one in the spring and one in the fall) for these players. From there, some are invited back to try and earn a spot on the team.

Hokie walk-ons not only get the chance to play in one of the best programs in the nation, they get a chance to play for one of the best coaches in college football, as well.

In 1998, *The Sporting News* listed the top coaches in terms of getting the most out of their talent year in and year out. Beamer was ranked No. 9 in Division I-A. Three of the past four years, TSN rated Beamer first among BIG EAST coaches. The last four years it has ranked the Hokies' football coaching staff as the best in the conference.

In 1994, TSN surveyed newsmen across the country and then rated the coaches in the various conferences in a number of categories. Coach Beamer was voted "Best on Game Day," "Best Game Preparation," "Best Motivator," "Best Teacher," "Best in Big Games," and "Best Overall."

Looking at this year's group of walk-ons, there are seven former walk-ons who have already earned scholarships and that number could increase. Five of those walk-ons who are already in the program are either slated to be a starter or should see plenty of action in the upcoming season.

Two of the more recent success stories are seniors Jarrett Ferguson and Browning Wynn. The duo both earned the program's first Elite Level of Performance distinction in 2000, based on tests in both strength and performance. Ferguson repeated that feat this past spring, becoming the first to accomplish that.

Three years ago, an injury to Cullen Hawkins placed Ferguson into the starting lineup. He started the



Former walk-on Jarrett Ferguson has started 33 straight games and is listed the No. 7 fullback in the Division I-A ranks by *The Sporting News*.

final eight games and was third on the team in rushing and fifth in scoring. He has started every game at fullback since then and is considered one of the best blocking fullbacks in the country.

Wynn earned All-BIG EAST second team honors a year ago at his tight end position. He combines with Bob Slowikowski to form a lethal punch at that position.

Steve DeMasi, Carter Warley, Billy Hardee and Ken Keister have all made valuable contributions to the

program and now are scholarship players.

Other walk-ons have stepped up and are headed in the same direction as well. Brandon Manning and Chris Shreve are two who could see action this season.

The success of the Tech walk-on program continues to grow right along with the success of the football program. This year the Hokies will welcome another class of walk-ons who are each anxious to prove they could be the next John Engelberger.