

# 2011 Virginia Tech Cross Country

## Meet Notes #2



### Meet #2

## Virginia Tech at The Clemson Invitational

September 16, 2011

Women's Race: 6k - 6:15 p.m. • Men's Race: 8k - 6:45 p.m.

Musser Farms • Clemson, S.C.

### PREVIEWING THE MEET..

- The Virginia Tech cross country team will get a look at this year's ACC Championship course when it travels to Clemson, S.C. for the Clemson Invitational at Musser Farms. The women's race starts at 6:15 p.m. with a 6k while the men will run an 8k at 6:45 p.m.

### LAST TIME OUT..

- The Virginia Tech men's and women's cross country teams opened their 2011 seasons on Sept. 2 at the VT Alumni Invitational at the Tech Cross Country Course. The meet was not scored. Leading the way for the Tech men were four freshmen who all competed as unattached runners. Ryan Kuhns led the way as he was fourth for the 6k in 19:51.14 and Brayden Burleigh was fifth in 19:57.00. They were followed by classmates George Carter in sixth (20:04.86) and Pat Woodford in seventh (20:07.88). Liberty's Josh MacDonald won the men's race in 19:26.94. For the women, freshman Ginny Jones ran unattached and registered a fifth place finish (15:43.41). Sophomore Erika Weidman competed for Tech and was eighth, coming in at 16:27.21.

### 2011 Cross Country Schedule

Date	Meet	Site	Time/Result
<b>Sept. 2</b>	<b>Virginia Tech Alumni Invitational</b>	<b>Blacksburg, Va.</b>	<b>No Team Score</b>
Sept. 16	at Clemson Invitational	Clemson, S.C.	6:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	at UNC Charlotte Invitational	Charlotte, N.C.	4:00 p.m.
<b>Sept. 30</b>	<b>Virginia Tech Open</b>	<b>Blacksburg, Va.</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
Oct. 14	at Appalachian State Invitational	Boone, N.C.	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 16	at Indiana State Pre-National Invitational	Terre Haute, Ind.	10:00 a.m.
Oct. 29	at ACC Championship	Clemson, S.C.	11:00 a.m.
<b>Nov. 4</b>	<b>Hokie Open</b>	<b>Blacksburg, Va.</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>
Nov. 12	at NCAA Southeast Regional	Louisville, Ky.	11:00 a.m.
Nov. 21	at NCAA Championship	Terre Haute, Ind.	12:00 p.m.

\*Home Meets in **Bold**

### MEDIA INFORMATION

M & W Cross Country/Track & Field Contact..... Jim Rodriguez  
Office Phone ..... (540) 231-6892  
Cell Phone ..... (440) 623-2970  
Fax ..... (540) 231-6894  
E-Mail..... jmrodrig@vt.edu  
Mailing Address:.....

Jamerson Athletics Center, Rm. 460  
675 Washington St. SW  
Blacksburg, VA 24061



## Virginia Tech Quick Facts

### GENERAL

Location..... Blacksburg, Va.  
 Enrollment..... 31,000  
 Founded..... 1872  
 Colors..... Chicago maroon and burnt orange  
 Nickname..... Hokies  
 Conference..... Atlantic Coast  
 President..... Charles W. Steger  
 Director of Athletics..... Jim Weaver  
 Home Course..... Tech Cross Country Course  
 Athletics Website..... www.hokiesports.com  
 Cross Country Website..... www.hokiesports.com/cc  
 Cross Country Twitter .... www.twitter.com/VT\_Track  
 Athletics Facebook ..www.facebook.com/hokiesports

### COACHING STAFF

Director of Track & Field/XC..... Dave Cianelli  
 Alma Mater, Yr. ....Bowling Green, 1977  
 Overall Year..... 27th  
 Year at Virginia Tech..... 11th  
 Cianelli Office Phone..... (540) 231-3094  
 Cianelli E-mail..... dcianell@vt.edu  
 Head XC/Distance Coach..... Ben Thomas  
 Alma Mater, Yr. ....Virginia Tech, 1992  
 Overall Year..... 17th  
 Year at Virginia Tech..... 11th  
 Thomas Office Phone..... (540) 231-9978  
 Thomas E-mail..... bethoma1@vt.edu  
 Assistant XC/Distance Coach.....  
     Jen McGranahan (Florida, 2002)  
 Technical Director.....  
     Stacey Vidt (Virginia Tech, 2003)

### HISTORY

All-Americans..... 9 (4 Men, 5 Women)  
 All-Region Performances..... 41 (20 Men, 21 Women)  
 All-ACC Performances..... 10 (5 Men, 5 Women)  
 Men's Team NCAA Appearances..... 4  
 Best Finish..... 4th, 1987  
 Women's Team NCAA Appearances..... 1  
 Best Finish..... 18th, 2006  
 Last All-American..... Tasmin Fanning (2008, 3rd)  
 Men's Best Regional Finish..... 1st, 1987  
 Women's Best Regional Finish..... 3rd, 2006

### 2010 REVIEW

Men's ACC Finish..... 7th  
 Women's ACC Finish..... 8th  
 Men's NCAA Regional Finish..... 14th  
 Women's NCAA Regional Finish..... 5th  
 All-Conference Runner Returning.....  
     Will Mulherin (2009, 7th)  
 All-Regional Runner Returning.....  
     Paige Kwartunas (2010, 18th)

## Hokie Notes

### WELCOME BACK...

- The Hokies welcome back four men's runners who redshirted the 2010 season. Head Coach Ben Thomas is happy to have track All-Americans Michael Hammond and Will Mulherin returning with Jared Berman and Brian Welch also back. Hammond, Mulherin and Welch are all redshirt juniors, while Berman will be a redshirt sophomore this season.  
 - The Hokies also welcome Leoule Degfae onto the team for his first season of cross country at Tech. Leoule, who is the twin brother of teammate Tihut, is a transfer from the University of Tennessee.

### CHAMPIONSHIP COURSES...

- This season, Virginia Tech will have the opportunity to preview two championship courses in tune-ups before the big races.  
 - This Saturday, the Hokies will travel to Clemson, S.C. and Musser Farms, site of this year's ACC Championship on Oct. 29, for the Clemson Invitational.  
 - On Oct. 16, Tech will get a look at the NCAA National Meet course when they visit Terre Haute, Ind. for the Indiana State Pre-National Invite. The NCAA Championship Meet is Nov. 21.

### REGIONAL RANKINGS...

- In the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association's (USTFCCCA) NCAA Regional Cross Country rankings, the Hokie men and women are each ranked eighth in the Southeast Region.

### STELLAR SOPHOMORES...

- Last season, Head Coach Ben Thomas' women's regional line-up of seven consisted of five freshmen. This year, Taylor Crosson, Courtney Dobbs, Paige Kwartunas, Madalyn Nuckols and Alex Watt are back with a year of college racing experience. Thomas also returns senior Sammy Dow from last year's fifth place regional team, giving him all of his top six runners back.

### SIBLINGS...

- Tihut and Leoule Degfae are twins. Both attended Thomas A. Edison High School in Alexandria, Va.  
 - Kevin and Frances Dowd are brother and sister and are graduates of Fairfax High School in Fairfax, Va.  
 - Pat Woodford's sister, Natalie, runs sprints for the Tech track & field team. They attended Patrick Henry High School in Roanoke, Va.

### TEAMMATES...

- Freshman Darren Barlow, freshman Brayden Burleigh, r-junior Michael Hammond, senior Sammy Dow and senior Erin Stehle (Midlothian High School; Midlothian, Va.)  
 - R-sophomore Jared Berman and sophomore Taylor Crosson (James W. Robinson High School; Fairfax, Va.)  
 - Sophomore Grant Pollock and r-junior Brian Welch (Mills Godwin High School; Richmond, Va.)  
 - Sophomores Courtney Dobbs and Madalyn Nuckols (Deep Run High School; Glen Allen, Va.)  
 - Sophomores Paige Kwartunas and Alex Watt (West Springfield High School; Springfield, Va.)



## Coaching Staff

### THE THOMAS FILE

#### Virginia Tech (2001-Present)

- 10 NCAA All-Americans (cross country, 2003, 2007, 2008; 1,500m, 2004, 2011; DMR, 2007; 5,000m, 2008, 2010; mile, 2009, 2011)
- 18th-place women's team finish at 2006 NCAA Cross Country Championships
- Eleven NCAA Championships cross country participants
- Twenty NCAA All-Region cross country runners
- One NCAA Southeast Region cross country champion
- Eight All-ACC cross country runners
- One All-BIG EAST cross country runner
- Fourteen ACC Champions (track)
- One BIG EAST Champion (track)
- Twenty-nine school records (track)

#### Brevard College (1999-01)

- One three-time NAIA National Champion
- One two-time Olympian
- Two Cross Country World Championship qualifiers
- 2000 NAIA Region XII men's and women's team champions
- 1999 NAIA Region XII Coach of the Year
- 1999 NAIA Region XII men's team champion

#### Appalachian State (1995-99)

- One two-time NCAA National Champion
- 1996, 98 & 99 North Carolina Collegiate team champion
- 1996 Southern Conference champion
- 1996 Southern Conference Coach of the Year

### HEAD CROSS COUNTRY/DISTANCE COACH BEN THOMAS

Ben Thomas has been Virginia Tech's head cross country coach and distance coach since 2001 and now has 16 years of collegiate coaching experience. During 10 seasons coaching at Tech, the Hokies have emerged as contenders in not only the Atlantic Coast Conference and the NCAA Southeast Region, but the entire nation. Thomas is extremely familiar with the Hokie program, having competed in cross country and middle distance for Tech from 1987 to 1992.



On the track, Thomas has coached a distance crew that has broken school track records in the outdoor 800m, 1,500m, 3,000m steeplechase, indoor 1,000m, mile, 3000m and 5,000m as well as the outdoor 4x800m, the 4x1,500m and the distance medley relays. Last season alone, Thomas' distance unit broke six Tech records. Michael Hammond won his second straight ACC title and earned All-American honors in the indoor mile and also garnered All-America accolades in the outdoor 1,500-meter run. Hammond then went on to finish 13th in the 1,500-meter at the USA Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Eugene, Ore. Sammy Dow and Jason Cusack each broke school-records in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. In 2010, Will Mulherin earned All-America honors at the NCAA Outdoor Championships and set the school record in the 5,000-meter event at 13:50.76.

In cross country, Paige Kwartunas capped her 2010 season by earning NCAA All-Region honors for the first time in her career leading the women to a fifth place team finish. Kwartunas became the first Tech woman to earn All-Region honors since 2008 and the Hokie's fifth place at Regionals was their highest since 2007. In addition, the 2010 women's team earned USTFCCCA All-Academic accolades with a 3.19 team grade point average. Devin Cornwall achieved all-region status for the first time in his cross country career in 2009. In 2008, Tasmin Fanning placed ninth at the U.S. Olympic Trials in the 5000-meter event, setting a new school record of 15:37.73. Thomas also guided Fanning to two All-America performances at the NCAA Cross Country Championships. She placed third in 2008, the highest finish ever by a Virginia Tech athlete, and 12th out of 255 runners in 2007. Thomas led the women's squad to the best season in program history in 2006 by posting an 18th-place finish in their first-ever appearance at the NCAA Championships. The Hokie women reached the national meet following a third-place effort at the NCAA Southeast Regional behind an unprecedented five all-region performers. The men captured their best-ever point total at the ACC Outdoor Championships and had their best performance in the NCAA Southeast Regional since 1995. Paul LaPenna became the first Hokie to earn all-region honors since 2003, while Cornwall was named the ACC Freshman of the Year.

Thomas served as the men's and women's distance coach at the University of Georgia for six months before arriving in Blacksburg, and prior to that he was the head track and field and cross country coach at Brevard College. At Brevard, Thomas was named 1999 NAIA Region XII Coach of the Year after leading the men's cross country team to the NAIA Region XII title. Before Brevard, Thomas was the women's cross country coach and assistant track coach at Appalachian State University from 1995-1999.

A native of Lynchburg, Va., Thomas earned a B.A. in English from Virginia Tech in 1992 before completing coursework for an M.A. in education from Lynchburg College in 1999. Thomas began his coaching career with the track & field team at E.C. Glass High School (1992-94) in Lynchburg and coaching cross country at Blacksburg High School (1994-95).

Thomas, his wife, Ann McGranahan, and their daughter, Reily Kathleen Thomas, reside in Blacksburg.

## ASSISTANT COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF



Jen McGranahan  
Assistant  
Distance Coach



Stacey Vidt  
Technical  
Director



## Coaching Staff

### THE CIANELLI FILE

#### Virginia Tech (2001-Present)

- 10 NCAA individual champions, the first in Virginia Tech history
- 100 All-Americans
- Two NCAA East Region team championships
- Five ACC team championships
- Eighty-nine ACC individual champions
- Twelve BIG EAST Conference champions
- Had 20 athletes earn All-America performances in 2011, the most in his coaching tenure
- 2011 USTFCAA Men's Indoor and Outdoor Southeast Region Coach of the Year
- 2011 ACC Men's Indoor Coach of the Year
- 2010 ACC Men's Outdoor Coach of the Year
- 2007 and 2008 ACC Women's Indoor, Outdoor and East Region Coach of the Year

#### Southern Methodist University (1988-2001)

- Eight top-10 finishes at the women's NCAA Track & Field Championships
- Seven top-10 finishes at the men's NCAA Track & Field Championships
- 1995 men's and women's Southwest Conference cross country champions
- Individual achievements included 19 Olympic and World Championships competitors, 27 NCAA champions, 123 All-Americans, 95 conference champions

#### Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo (1985-1988)

- 1985-87 NCAA Division II women's cross country champion
- 1985-87 NCAA Division II women's outdoor track runner-up
- 1985-87 CCAA women's cross country conference champion
- 1985-88 CCAA women's outdoor track conference champion
- Individual achievements include one NCAA Division II Champion and 13 All-Americans

#### By The Numbers

236 All-Americans • 184 Conference champions • 98 Percent graduation rate at Virginia Tech • 38 NCAA champions • 139 School records at Virginia Tech • 23 Olympic and World championship qualifiers • 20 Top-10 women's NCAA finishes • 14 Top-10 men's NCAA finishes • 3 NCAA Division II cross country national championships • 3 NCAA Division II outdoor track runners-up

### DIRECTOR OF TRACK & FIELD and CROSS COUNTRY DAVE CIANELLI

Entering his 11th year as Director of Virginia Tech Track & Field and Cross Country, Dave Cianelli has built the Hokie program into one of the elite programs in the Atlantic Coast Conference and the nation. Since Cianelli's arrival in the fall of 2001, Virginia Tech athletes have produced 10 NCAA individual titles, 100 NCAA All-America performances and 89 conference titles. In addition, Hokie teams have finished in the national top-10 five times and the national top-20 17 times since 2005.

#### NCAA, REGIONAL AND ACC SUCCESS

The 2011 Hokies continued to demonstrate why they are one of the nation's elite track & field programs. The men's team fifth-place finish at the NCAA Outdoor Championships was the highest in program history and matched the finish of the 2010 women's outdoor squad. The men also placed 15th at the NCAA Indoor Championships, won their first-ever ACC Indoor crown and placed second in the conference outdoors. The women finished 20th at the NCAA Outdoor Championships and were third at the indoor conference championship. Alexander Ziegler and Dorotea Habazin each won national titles in the hammer throw and Marcel Lomnický (hammer) and Matthias Treff (javelin) both earned national runner-up finishes. Ziegler also placed second nationally in the indoor weight throw. In all, 14 different Hokies earned a total of 20 All-American performances.

#### USA AND INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS

In the summer of 2011, the Hokies were well represented at the United States Senior and Junior Outdoor Track & Field National Championships. Michael Hammond qualified for the final of the senior 1,500-meter run and finished 13th, while teammates Taylor Crosson and Courtney Dobbs finished second and third, respectively in the 5,000-meters at the USA Junior Outdoor Track & Field Championships. In 2010, Jared Berman placed second in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the USA Junior Championships and advanced to the IAAF World Junior Championships and where he made the final, placing ninth.

In 2008, Queen Harrison made history when she earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic team, by finishing second in the 400-meter hurdles at the U.S. Olympic Trials to qualify in the event. Harrison was the first Tech track and field athlete to represent any country in the Olympics and only the second Hokie to become an American Olympian in any sport, following Bimbo Coles who represented the United States in basketball in 1988.

#### COACH OF THE YEAR HONORS

Cianelli's illustrious career is proven by the awards he has collected throughout his career. This past season, he was awarded both the Men's Indoor and Outdoor Southeast Region Coach of the Year award by the USTFCCA. Cianelli was also named the Men's ACC Indoor Coach of the Year for leading the Hokies to their first-ever ACC Indoor title.

Last year, he was named the 2010 ACC Men's Outdoor Coach of the Year. In 2008, he won the ACC Women's Indoor, ACC Women's Outdoor and East Region Women's Coach of the Year honors for the second straight year. Cianelli also won his second consecutive USTFCCA Women's Indoor Southeast Region Coach of the Year honor in 2008.

Cianelli has assembled one of the most accomplished coaching staffs in America. Associate head men's and women's track & field coach Greg Jack was named the USTFCCA's Men's Outdoor Regional Coach of the Year for the second year in a row in 2011. Jack was also named Men's Indoor Regional Coach of the Year in 2010 and National Throws Coach of the Year in 2006. Former Hokie and NAIA Region XII Coach of the Year Ben Thomas is the cross country coach and distance coach and has produced 10 All-Americans in cross country and track during his tenure at Tech. Thomas is assisted by former All-SEC runner Jen McGranahan. Long-time assistant Bob Phillips, a former All-American for the Hokies, coaches the pole vaulters. Phillips earned recognition in 2011 as the USTFCCA's Men's Indoor Regional Assistant Coach of the Year. Tech introduced Charles Foster as the sprints, hurdles and jumps coach in the fall of 2009. Foster quickly made a reputation for himself, earning USTFCCA Regional Coach of the Year honors for the women's sprints and hurdles. Foster is a former world record holder in the 110-meter hurdles and a U.S. Olympian in 1976. Under Foster's coaching, Queen Harrison won three NCAA national titles in the hurdles in 2010 and was selected by Track and Field News as the collegiate athlete of the year and received the 2010 Bowerman Award as the most outstanding female collegiate track and field athlete. Foster was honored in 2008 by the USTFCCA as Men's National Coach of the Year for sprints and hurdles.

#### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Virginia Tech track & field and cross country programs continue to achieve at a high level in the classroom. Kelly Phillips became a two-time Capital One Academic All-American in 2011 with her selection to the first team. She also won the NCAA Elite 88 Award, which recognizes the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in his or her sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among his or her peers. For the 2011 track season, 16 total individuals were named to the All-ACC Academic team. In addition, the women's cross country team earned USTFCCA All-Academic accolades for the seventh season in a row. In 2010, both Matej Muza and Kristi Castlin were honored as the ACC scholar-athletes of the year for track and field.

#### PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE

Prior to Tech, Cianelli gained plenty of experience in 13 seasons as an assistant coach at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. With the Mustangs, Cianelli worked with 19 Olympic and World Championship competitors, 27 NCAA individual champions, 123 All-Americans and 95 individual conference champions. Cameron Taylor of New Zealand was a quarterfinalist in the 200m at the 1992 Olympics, and Tytti Reho won the 2000 NCAA championship in the 800m. In cross country, both the men's and women's teams captured the 1995 Southwest Conference titles and earned a spot in the NCAA Championships. During 13 years at SMU, the track & field teams finished in the top-10 nationally 15 separate times.

Cianelli served as the assistant women's track & field and cross country coach at Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo from 1985-88, where he helped the cross country team to the NCAA Division II National Championship three consecutive seasons; and the outdoor track & field teams finished as the runner-up at the NCAA Division II Championships three years in a row. Individual honors during his four years included 13 All-Americans and one NCAA champion.

Cianelli started his coaching career at San Marcos High School in Santa Barbara, Calif., as the head track & field coach from 1982-84. In three seasons, he coached seven junior national qualifiers in the heptathlon and decathlon.





## Women's Roster

Name	Class	Hometown	High School	Major
Stephanie Cario	So.	Mechanicsville, Va.	Lee Davis	Psychology
Taylor Crosson	So.	Fairfax Station, Va.	James W. Robinson	Business
Courtney Dobbs	So.	Glen Allen, Va.	Deep Run	Accounting
Sammy Dow	Sr.	Midlothian, Va.	Midlothian	Biology/HNFE
Frances Dowd	r-So.	Fairfax, Va.	Fairfax	Environmental Policy and Planning
Ginny Jones	Fr.	Chalfont, Pa.	Central Bucks East	Architecture
Paige Kwartunas	So.	Springfield, Va.	West Springfield	Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise
Lauren Lemieux	Jr.	Huntsville, Ala.	Virgil I. Grissom	Engineering Science and Mechanics
Ally Masoero	Fr.	Marlton, N.J.	Cherokee	Mathematics Education
Madalyn Nuckols	So.	Glen Allen, Va.	Deep Run	Undecided
Lauren Pinkston	Sr.	Herndon, Va.	Herndon	Accounting
Sarah Rapp	Fr.	Raleigh, N.C.	Cardinal Gibbons	Psychology
Katarina Smiljanec	Fr.	Karlovac, Croatia	General Secondary	Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise
Amanda Smith	Fr.	Chesapeake, Va.	Grassfield	Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise
Erin Stehle	Sr.	Midlothian, Va.	Midlothian	Psychology
Alex Watt	So.	Springfield, Va.	West Springfield	Interior Design
Erika Weidman	So.	Alexandria, Va.	T.C. Williams	Biochemistry

### HOKIES BY CLASS

Seniors (3)  
 Sammy Dow, Lauren Pinkston, Erin Stehle

Juniors (1)  
 Lauren Lemieux

Sophomores (8)  
 Stephanie Cario, Taylor Crosson, Courtney Dobbs, Frances Dowd, Paige Kwartunas, Madalyn Nuckols, Alex Watt, Erika Weidman

Freshmen (5)  
 Ginny Jones, Ally Masoero, Sarah Rapp, Katarina Smiljanec, Amanda Smith

### HOKIES BY STATE/COUNTRY

Alabama (1)  
 Huntsville.....Lauren Lemieux

Croatia (1)  
 Karlovac.....Katarina Smiljanec

New Jersey (1)  
 Marlton.....Ally Masoero

North Carolina (1)  
 Raleigh.....Sarah Rapp

Pennsylvania (1)  
 Chalfont.....Ginny Jones

Virginia (12)  
 Alexandria.....Erika Weidman  
 Chesapeake.....Amanda Smith  
 Fairfax.....Frances Dowd  
 Fairfax Station.....Taylor Crosson  
 Glen Allen.....Courtney Dobbs,  
 Madalyn Nuckols  
 Herndon.....Lauren Pinkston

Midlothian.....Sammy Dow,  
 Erin Stehle  
 Mechanicsville.....Stephanie Cario  
 Springfield.....Paige Kwartunas, Alex Watt



## Men's Roster

Name	Class	Hometown	High School	Major
Darren Barlow	Fr.	Midlothian, Va.	Midlothian	Engineering
Jared Berman	r-So.	Fairfax, Va.	James W. Robinson	Civil and Environmental Engineering
Brayden Burleigh	Fr.	Midlothian, Va.	Midlothian	University Studies
George Carter	Fr.	Blacksburg, Va.	Blacksburg	Computer Science
Thomas Curtin	Fr.	Leesburg, Va.	Loudoun County	University Studies
Jason Cusack	Jr.	Griswold, Conn.	Griswold	Industrial Design
Leoule Degfae	So.	Alexandria, Va.	Thomas A. Edison	Consumer Studies
Tihut Degfae	Jr.	Alexandria, Va.	Thomas A. Edison	Industrial Systems Engineering
Kevin Dowd	So.	Fairfax, Va.	Fairfax	Environmental Policy and Planning
Ryan Hagen	Jr.	Sterling, Va.	Potomac Falls	Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise
Michael Hammond	r-Jr.	Midlothian, Va.	Midlothian	Economics
Ryan Kuhns	Fr.	Fredericksburg, Va.	Riverbend	University Studies
Will Mulherin	r-Jr.	Yorktown, Va.	Tabb	Mechanical Engineering
Joseph Murray	Jr.	Fredericksburg, Va.	Stafford	Geology
Grant Pollock	So.	Richmond, Va.	Mills Godwin	Human Development
Chris Walizer	Sr.	Hershey, Pa.	Hershey	Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise
Brian Welch	r-Jr.	Richmond, Va.	Mills Godwin	Civil Engineering
Pat Woodford	Fr.	Roanoke, Va.	Patrick Henry	University Studies

### HOKIES BY CLASS

#### Seniors (1)

Chris Walizer

#### Juniors (7)

Jason Cusack, Tihut Degfae, Ryan Hagen, Michael Hammond, Will Mulherin, Joseph Murray, Brian Welch

#### Sophomores (4)

Jared Berman, Leoule Degfae, Kevin Dowd, Grant Pollock

#### Freshmen (6)

Darren Barlow, Brayden Burleigh, George Carter, Thomas Curtin, Ryan Kuhns, Pat Woodford

### HOKIES BY STATE

#### Connecticut (1)

Griswold..... Jason Cusack

#### Pennsylvania (1)

Hershey ..... Chris Walizer

#### Virginia (16)

Alexandria.....Leoule Degfae,

..... Tihut Degfae

Blacksburg ..... George Carter

Fairfax ..... Jared Berman, Kevin Dowd

Fredericksburg.....Joseph Murray

Leesburg ..... Thomas Curtin

Midlothian.....Michael Hammond

..... Darren Barlow, Brayden Burleigh

Richmond ..... Grant Pollock,

..... Brian Welch

Roanoke..... Pat Woodford

Spotsylvania ..... Ryan Kuhns

Sterling ..... Ryan Hagen

Yorktown ..... Will Mulherin



## Meet Recaps

### Meet #1 | The VT Alumni Invite | Sept. 2 | No Team Score

**BLACKSBURG, Va.** -- The Virginia Tech men's and women's cross country teams opened their 2011 seasons on Sept. 2 at the VT Alumni Invitational at the Tech Cross Country Course. The meet was not scored as it was utilized as a tune-up for many Tech competitors who ran unattached. Liberty University's men and women joined the Hokies and several Tech alumni.

Both the men (six kilometers) and women (four kilometers) raced distances shorter than the traditional college lengths of eight kilometers and six kilometers, respectively.

Leading the way for the Tech men were four freshmen who all competed as unattached runners. Ryan Kuhns led the way as he was fourth in 19:51.14 and Brayden Burleigh was fifth in 19:57.00. They were followed by classmates George Carter in sixth (20:04.86) and Pat Woodford in seventh (20:07.88). Liberty's Josh MacDonald won the men's race in 19:26.94.

For the women, sophomore Mary Catherine Sowder ran for Tech and finished third overall in 15:27.98. Freshman Ginny Jones ran unattached and registered a fifth place finish (15:43.41). Sophomore Erika Weidman also ran for the Hokies and was eighth, coming in at 16:27.21. Natalie Hall won the race in 14:52.72 running unattached.

60 total runners competed between the two races, including 28 women and 32 men.



## Individual Meet-by-Meet Results

### Men

	VT ALUMNI INVITE	CLEMSON INVITE	CHARLOTTE INVITE	VT OPEN	APP. ST. INVITE	IND. ST. PRE-NATL.	ACC CHAMP.	HOKIE OPEN	NCAA SE REGIONAL	NCAA CHAMP.
DISTANCE	6k	8k								
DATE	9/2/11	9/16/11	9/30/11	9/30/11	10/14/11	10/16/11	10/29/11	11/4/11	11/12/11	11/21/11
FIELD	32 runners									
Darren Barlow	DNC									
Jared Berman	DNC									
Brayden Burleigh	<i>19:57.00 (5)</i>									
George Carter	<i>20:04.86 (6)</i>									
Thomas Curtin	DNC									
Jason Cusack	DNC									
Leoule Degfae	DNC									
Tihut Degfae	DNC									
Kevin Dowd	DNC									
Ryan Hagen	DNC									
Michael Hammond	DNC									
Ryan Kuhns	<i>19:51.14 (4)</i>									
Will Mulherin	DNC									
Joseph Murray	DNC									
Grant Pollock	DNC									
Chris Walizer	DNC									
Brian Welch	DNC									
Pat Woodford	<i>20:07.88 (7)</i>									
Team Finish	No Team Score									

*italics* denote unattached runner

### Women

	VT ALUMNI INVITE	CLEMSON INVITE	CHARLOTTE INVITE	VT OPEN	APP. ST. INVITE	IND. ST. PRE-NATL.	ACC CHAMP.	HOKIE OPEN	NCAA SE REGIONAL	NCAA CHAMP.
DISTANCE	4k	6k								
DATE	9/2/11	9/16/11	9/30/11	9/30/11	10/14/11	10/16/11	10/29/11	11/4/11	11/12/11	11/21/11
FIELD	28 runners									
Stephanie Cario	DNC									
Taylor Crosson	DNC									
Courtney Dobbs	DNC									
Sammy Dow	DNC									
Frances Dowd	DNC									
Ginny Jones	<i>15:43.51 (4)</i>									
Paige Kwartunas	DNC									
Lauren Lemieux	DNC									
Ally Masoero	DNC									
Madalyn Nuckols	DNC									
Lauren Pinkston	DNC									
Sarah Rapp	DNC									
Katarina Smiljanec	DNC									
Amanda Smith	DNC									
Erin Stehle	DNC									
Alex Watt	DNC									
Erica Weidman	<i>16:27.27 (8)</i>									
Team Finish	No Team Score									

*italics* denote unattached runner





## Season Results

### Women's Individual Results:

September 2; VT Alumni Invitational; Blacksburg, Va.; 4K Race

*Ginny Jones (5th)*..... 15:43.51  
*Erika Weidman (8th)*..... 16:27.27

Team Finish: No Team Score

Field: 28 total runners

### Men's Individual Results

September 2; VT Alumni Invitational; Blacksburg, Va.; 6K Race

*Ryan Kuhns (4th)*..... 19:51.14  
*Brayden Burleigh (5th)*..... 19:57.00  
*George Carter (6th)*..... 20:04.86  
*Pat Woodford (7th)*..... 20:07.88

Team Finish: No Team Score

Field: 32 total runners

*italics* denote unattached runner

