



the PLAYERS

The Hokies have a host of talented players, led by senior All-American tailback Lee Suggs, who led the nation in scoring in 2000 and returns to the Tech lineup after missing all but one game in 2001 with a knee injury.

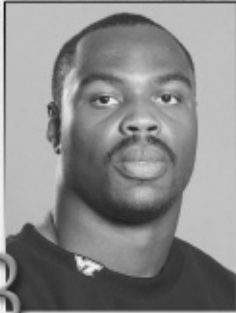
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James Miller and Jim Davis

2002 Player Profiles



83

Nathaniel Adibi

**Defensive End • 6-3 • 254 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Hampton, Va. • Phoebus H.S.**

An experienced defender with plenty of ability ... Has started 21 games at defensive end over the past two seasons, including two bowl games ... Moved to the stud end position during the spring ... Won the President's Award for outstanding leadership at the conclusion of spring practice ... Has gotten bigger, stronger and more physical during his time at Tech ... Continues to maintain good speed to go with his size ... Is expected to see a lot of playing time again this fall ... Possesses an excellent work ethic ... Is intelligent and focused on being successful both on and off the field ... Was a first-team Freshman All-America pick by *The Sporting News* following the 2000 season ... Tied for the team lead in sacks with five that season ... Needs to take a leadership role on this year's defense ...

2001: Recorded 18 solo stops, 23 assists, two tackles for loss and a sack in 11 games ... Also had 15 quarterback hurries and broke up two passes ... Started eight games during the regular season, plus the Gator Bowl ... Registered one assist and a hurry in the opener against Connecticut ... Had three total tackles and a hurry versus Western Michigan ... Recorded four solo stops, including one behind the line, broke up a pass and caused an interception at Rutgers ... Had two solo tackles, two assists and three hurries against UCF ... Registered a solo stop and three assists at West Virginia ... Recorded three assists and four quarterback hurries against Boston College ... Was in on six tackles during the Syracuse game and

four at Pittsburgh ... Was credited with two solo stops, an assist and his first sack of the season against Temple ... Had three assists at Virginia ... Contributed six tackles and three QB hurries against No. 1 Miami ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during both preseason testing session and during 2002 spring max testing ... Bench pressed 410 pounds and squatted 560 pounds during the fall ... Turned in a personal-best 321-pound clean during the off-season ... His 4.28 time in the NFL shuttle run ranked second-best among the defensive ends ... Posted three tackles in the Maroon-White game, including two behind the line ... Also blocked a field goal during that game ...

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 ... Went on to start every game and averaged over 40 defensive plays a game ... 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



Nathaniel Adibi

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

Continued ...

Virginia Tech Pronunciation Guide

Nathaniel ADIBI	uh-DEE-bee
MIKAL BAAQEE	meh-CALL Bah-KEY
Chris BUIE	BOO-eee
Noland BURCHETTE	bur-CHET
John CANDELAS	can-DELL-us
COLS COLAS	coles CO-las
DeANGELO Hall	dee-ANNE-juh-lo
Billy HARDEE	har-DEE
Mike IMOH	EEE-moh
Ken KEISTER	KEE-ster
Jason LALLIS	LAH-liss
Alex MARKOGIANNAKIS	mark-o-gee-uh-KNOCK-us
Jared MAZZETTA	muh-ZEH-tah
Jon MOLLERUP	MAH-ler-up
Grant NOEL	knoll
Chris PANNELL	puh-NELL
Robert PEASLEE	PEESE-lee
Tim SANDIDGE	SAN-didge
Chris SHREVE	shreev
Lamar VENEY	VIN-eee
Carter WARLEY	WOR-lee

Adibi *Continued*

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 ... Averaged 4.55 seconds in the 40 during Tech's pro timing day ... 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 ...

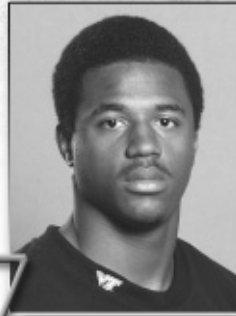
High School: Played running back and defensive end for Coach Bill Dee at Phoebus High ... Listed as the No. 10 defensive lineman in the country by *PrepStar* and picked to its Dream Team ... Listed as the No. 4 jumbo athlete in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 8 athlete by *The National Recruiting 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 ... Majoring in residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	28	17	45	8-44	5-33
2001	11	18	23	41	2-11	1-10
Career	22	46	40	86	10-55	6-43

2001 Tackles Game-by-Game

UCONN	1	0	1	1	0-0	0-0
WMICH	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
at Rutgers	1	4	0	4	1-1	0-0
UCF	1	2	2	4	0-0	0-0
at WVU	1	1	3	4	0-0	0-0
BC	1	0	3	3	0-0	0-0
SYR	1	3	3	6	0-0	0-0
at Pittsburgh	1	2	2	4	0-0	0-0
at Temple	1	2	1	3	1-10	1-10
at Virginia	1	0	3	3	0-0	0-0
MIAMI	1	3	3	6	0-0	0-0



47
James Anderson

Linebacker • 6-3 • 218 • r-Fr.
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.

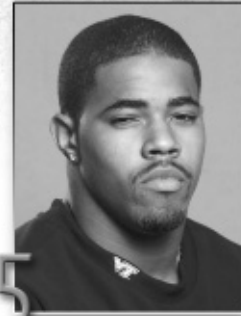
A young linebacker with good athletic ability ... Has worked hard and made good strides in the athletic performance program ... Got his share of work at the backer position during spring practice ... Has shown real potential at the position, but is still adjusting ... Should become more comfortable as he gains experience ... Has a chance to earn some playing time with a good showing when practice resumes in August ... Will also be a candidate for special teams duty ...

2001: Redshirted while working at the backer position ... His 36 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring testing was the second-best among the Hokies' inside linebackers ... Also turned in the second-best hang clean (305 pounds) in the group and the third-best back squat (500 pounds) ... Continued to work at backer during spring practice ... Contributed a pair of tackles and broke up a pass during one spring scrimmage ... Was in on two tackles during the spring game ...

High School: Posted 41 tackles, five sacks, four fumble recoveries and an interception as a senior for Coach David Cox at Deep Creek High ... A *PrepStar* All-American who was rated the No. 8 linebacker in the Atlantic Region ... 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 competed in basketball and track ... High jumped 6-6 ... Finished sixth in the state shot put as a senior ...

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 ... Is enrolled in art.



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Mikal Baaqee

Linebacker • 5-10 • 223 • r-So. • 1VL
Columbia, Md. • DeMatha H.S.

Moved into the starting mike linebacker spot during the spring after serving as a special teams starter in 2001 ... Has worked hard to make himself a better player ... Combines the ability to make plays with a motor that runs nonstop ... Lacks height but showed he could handle the position during the spring ... Possesses good strength and athletic ability ... Has played equally well against the run and the pass ... Should continue to improve as he gains experience ... Will be a key figure in Tech's defensive plans ...

2001: Recorded a 500-pound squat and 326-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning tests ... Played in all 11 games as a starter on special teams ... Worked as a backup at the backer position but did not see game action ... Recorded seven total tackles and a forced fumble ... Had an assist against Western Michigan ... Turned in a solo stop and an assist on seven special teams plays at Rutgers ... Had two tackles on special teams at Pittsburgh ... Registered a solo tackle on special teams against Temple ... Forced a fumble on kickoff coverage that was recovered by the Hokies at Virginia ... Played a season-high 12 special teams plays against Miami ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Turned in a time of 4.03 seconds in the NFL shuttle run and bench pressed 370 pounds ... Switched to the mike linebacker spot during the spring ... Was in on seven tackles during one spring scrimmage and four during another ...

Posted three tackles in the annual Maroon-White game ...

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 rehabbing 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.



Kofi Boateng

Flanker • 5-8 • 170 • So.
Knoxville, Tenn. • Austin East H.S.

Played on the jayvee and scout teams last fall after joining the Hokies as a walk-on ... Worked at the flanker position ... Showed improvement in the athletic performance program but must continue working to add strength ...

2001: Practiced at flanker in the fall and spring ... Played in the Hokies' jayvee game against Hargrave ...

High School: Lettered three seasons as a running back and defensive end for Coach Stanton Stevens at Austin East ... Named all-league, all-region and all-East Tennessee following his senior season ... Posted 64 tackles, 14 quarterback sacks and 22 tackles for loss ... Helped his team to a 10-2 record ... Was class president for four years ... Was a Naval Academic All-American ...

Personal: Kofi A. Boateng ... Born 7/19/83 in Knoxville, TN ... Son of Juanita Boateng ... Enrolled in university studies.



59 Curtis Bradley

Offensive Tackle • 6-2 • 299 • r-Fr.
Summerville S.C. • Summerville, H.S.

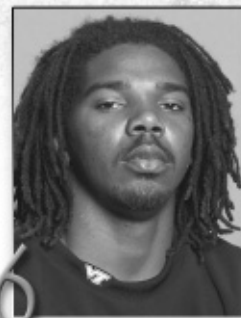
A young lineman with potential ... Showed toughness during middle drills in the fall ... Tech's coaches considered playing him during the season before deciding on a redshirt year ... Got some work at both tackle positions over the course of the year ... Also got a brief stint at guard ... Was inconsistent during the spring ... Needs continued exposure to the strength and conditioning program ... Is slated to work at right tackle when practice opens, but can move to guard if needed ... His summer preparation and preseason performance will determine his status on the depth chart ...

2001: Worked mainly at left tackle while redshirting ... His 331-pound push jerk was the second-best on the scout team during fall testing and his 320-pound hang clean was third-best ... Opened spring practice working at left guard ... Ended up spending most of his time at right tackle ...

High School: 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 ... Lettered as a weight man on the track team ... Was also 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 ... Enrolled in public and urban affairs.



40 Chris Buie

Linebacker • 6-0 • 225 • r-Jr. • 1VL
Tampa, Fla. • Armwood H.S.

Has contributed to the Hokies' success as a special teams player the past two seasons ... Is expected to continue that role in 2002 ... Also provides backup at the mike linebacker position ... Has shown potential at linebacker but has yet to develop consistency ... Possesses excellent strength and speed ... A Super Iron Hokie in the athletic performance program ...

Continued ...

Buie *Continued*

His summer preparation and showing during the preseason will help determine his role at linebacker ...

2001: Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the preseason testing session ... Recorded a 400-pound bench press, 530-pound squat, 300-pound power clean and a 351-pound squat in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Played in eight games on special teams, registering three total tackles ... Recorded an assisted tackle at Rutgers ... Had a solo tackle while playing a season-high nine plays against UCF ... Played six snaps on special teams at West Virginia and three against Syracuse ... Saw brief action on special teams at Pittsburgh, recording a solo tackle ... Worked at mike linebacker during the spring ...

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
2001	8	1	2	3	0- 0	0- 0
Career	17	3	6	9	0- 0	0- 0



Greg Burnop

Tight End • 6-1 • 241 • r-Fr.
Blacksburg, Va. • Blacksburg H.S.

Will help add depth at the tight end spot this fall ... Joined the team last year as an invited walk-on ... Made progress in the strength and conditioning program, but must continue working to get stronger ... Only saw limited work during the spring due to a sprained right knee ... Has some ground to make up, but has the work ethic to be successful ... Will be ready to go when practice opens ... Comes from a good football background ... His dad, Mike, was a record-setting tight end for the Hokies and currently handles the color commentary on the Tech ISP Sports Radio Network ...

2001: Took a redshirt year while working as a tight end ... Improved on three of his four lifts between fall and spring athletic performance testing ...

High School: Was a three-year letterman as a two-way lineman, linebacker and tight end for Coach Dave Crist at Blacksburg ... Named the team's most valuable lineman as a junior and senior ... Earned honorable mention all-district honors as a sophomore and was second-team his junior and senior years ... Helped the team to the regional semifinals his final season ... Also lettered in tennis and basketball ... Helped the tennis team finish second in the state his junior year ...

Personal: Greg Michael Burnop ... Born 11/25/82 in Roanoke, VA ... Son of

Mike and Ellen Burnop ... His father still holds the Tech single-season record for pass receptions with 46, set in 1971 ... Enrolled in university studies.



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Vinnie Burns

Punter • 5-11 • 190 • r-So. • 1VL
New Orleans, La. • St. Augustine H.S.

Handled all the punting duties for the Hokies during the 2001 season ... Showed potential and a strong leg, but lacked the overall consistency Tech's coaches were hoping for ... Started to display some of that consistency during



Vinnie Burns

the spring ... A good athlete who turned in a 400-pound back squat during strength and conditioning testing ... Must continue working to improve his operation time ...

2001: Punted 59 times in 11 regular-season games for 2,233 yards, an average of 37.8 yards per punt ... Averaged 42 yards per punt on two punts in his first collegiate action against Connecticut ... Had a long kick of 52 yards against the Huskies ... Averaged 41 yards on three punts versus Western Michigan ... Placed two kicks inside the 20-yard line against the Broncos ... Completed a 33-yard pass to Garnell Wilds on a fake punt against UCF ... Also had three punts downed inside the 20-yard line in that game ... Punted eight times at West Virginia with three punts ending up inside the 20-yard line ... Averaged 40.2 yards on four punts against Boston College ... Suffered a blocked punt in the Syracuse game ... Had his best game of the year against Temple, averaging 43.4 yards on eight punts ... His 63-yard punt in that game was a season best ... Had a 53-yard punt at Virginia ... Punted six times for an average of 42 yards against top-ranked Miami ... Put three punts inside the 20 in the Gator Bowl but had a kick blocked ... Handled all the punting in the spring game ... Punted five times for an overall average of 46.4 yards ... Posted punts of 57, 48, 45, 41 and 41 yards ...

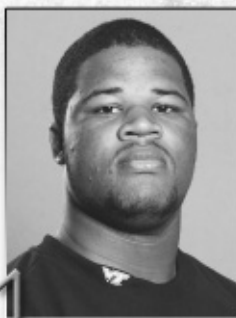
2000: Traveled with the team briefly during the early going, but was redshirted ... Made strides in the off-season strength and conditioning program ... Came out of spring practice as the No. 1 punter ... Showed the consistency needed to win the job during the final two weeks ... Finished with an average hang time of 4.6 seconds and an average distance of over 46 yards per kick ... Punted five times in the Maroon-White game for 231 yards, including punts of 59 and 53 yards ... Shared Defensive MVP honors after averaging 46.2 yards per punt ...

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 ... Is studying sociology.

Punting	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	I20
2001	11	59	2233	37.8	63	20
2001 Punting Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	2	84	42.0	52	0
WMICH	1	3	123	41.0	42	2
at Rutgers	1	4	131	32.8	39	2
UCF	1	4	134	33.5	38	3
at WVU	1	8	293	36.6	59	3
BC	1	4	161	40.2	47	2
SYR	1	7	228	32.6	45	3
at Pittsburgh	1	8	302	37.8	46	1
at Temple	1	8	347	43.4	63	3
at Virginia	1	5	178	35.6	53	1
MIAMI	1	6	252	42.0	51	0



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Reggie Butler

Offensive Tackle • 6-5 • 324 • Fr.
Keswip, Va. • Monticello H.S.

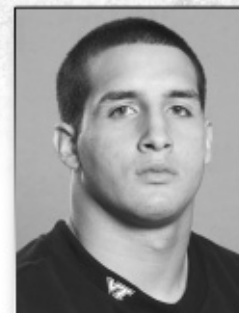
Things are still new to him after entering school at mid-year ... Needs to get more comfortable with the offense ... Has a lot of size and a lot of desire ... Showed some progress during the spring, but still has a lot to learn ... Is working to improve in pass protection ... Will benefit greatly from the Hokies' athletic performance program ... Has only played three years of organized football ... Should make steady progress as he gets more reps at the position ... Will get a shot at the No. 2 spot at left tackle when preseason practice opens in August ...

2001: Did not enter school until January ... Posted a 500-pound back squat and a 316-pound push jerk during spring athletic performance testing ... Bench pressed 370 pounds ... Worked at left tackle during spring practice ...

High School: Lettered two seasons as a tackle for Coach Brud Bicknell at Monticello High ... 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 ... Enrolled in biology.



John Candelas

Tailback • 6-0 • 197 • Fr.
Blacksburg, Va. • Blacksburg H.S.

Was a pleasant surprise during the spring ... Impressed the coaches with his effort and work ethic ... Entered school in January and worked at tailback ... Did a good job picking up the Tech system ... Has good speed ... Catches the ball well out of the backfield ... Is making strides in the athletic performance program ... May have put himself in position to help on special teams as a freshman ...

2001: Entered school at mid-year and went through spring practice ... Worked at tailback ... Had a 410-pound back squat during spring workouts ... Rushed for 23 yards and had a 6-yard pass reception during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Ran for 18 yards and had a 4-yard catch in another scrimmage ... Carried twice for four yards in the Maroon-White game ...

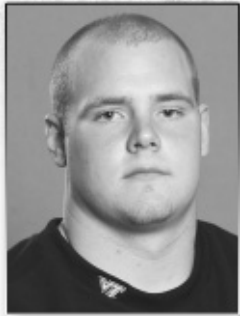
High School: Lettered two seasons as a running back and linebacker for Coach Dave Crist at Blacksburg High ... Rushed for over 1,000 yards and seven touchdowns as a senior ... Added 54 tackles on defense ... Carried the football 24 times for 172 yards during a win over Christiansburg in 2000 ... Earned first team All-Blue Ridge District his senior season ... Was an honorable mention all-district pick as a junior when he rushed for 321 yards and seven TDs ... Also a sprinter on the track team ... Placed

Continued ...

Candelas *Continued*

seventh in the 55-meter hurdles at the 2001 Group AA state indoor track championship ...

Personal: John Edwin Candelas ... Born 4/21/83 in Miami, FL ... Son of Teresa Candelas and the late José Candelas ... Enrolled in interdisciplinary studies.



Steve Canter

Linebacker • 6-0 • 241 • r-Jr.
Virginia Beach, Va. • Kempsville H.S.

A transfer from Concord College in West Virginia ... Worked at the backer position, but may be better suited for the mike linebacker spot ... Spent the year adjusting to the Tech defensive system ... Is working in the athletic performance program to get stronger and faster ... Is tough and smart ... Will help provide depth this fall ...

2001: Practiced at the backer position while sitting out a season ... Turned in a 360-pound bench press during fall testing ... Added a 410-pound back squat during the spring ... Was in on three tackles during one spring scrimmage and contributed a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

Concord College: Played two seasons at Division II Concord College ... Had 83 tackles, three sacks, 13 tackles for loss and an interception in 2000 ... Was named second-team All-WVIAC ... Posted 61 tackles and a sack as a freshman ...

High School: Played fullback and linebacker for Coach John Bowles at Kempsville High ... Earned three letters ... Was the team defensive MVP and a second-team all-district pick as a senior ... Compiled 112 tackles, including nine sacks ... Contributed 22 carries for 97 yards and a TD as a fullback ... Also caught nine passes for 83 yards ... Registered 17 tackles in a game against Bayside ... Posted 75 tackles his junior season ...

Personal: Steven Christopher Canter ... Born 2/15/81 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Judy and Ron Turner ... Enrolled in interdisciplinary studies.



Chris Ceasar

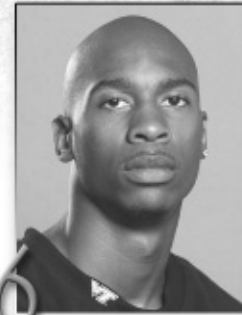
Flanker • 5-10 • 160 • Fr.
Delray Beach, Fla. • Spanish River H.S.

Is still adjusting to the Tech system after enrolling in school at mid-year ... Got a look as a receiver during spring practice after playing quarterback in high school ... Showed promise, but needs more exposure to the position ... Has good speed and athletic ability ... Will benefit from the Hokies' athletic performance program ... Needs to get more reps under his belt before seeing playing time ...

2001: Entered school in January ... Ran a 4.53 in the 40 during spring testing ... Practiced at flanker during spring workouts ...

High School: Played quarterback for Coach Bill Bretherick at Spanish River ... Became the first quarterback to guide the team to back-to-back playoff berths ... Passed for 1,300 yards and 18 touchdowns as a senior ... Rushed for over 400 yards and five more TDs ... Named to the Palm Beach County all-star team and earned first-team all-district honors ... Voted the team's offensive MVP ... Passed for four touchdowns during the win that earned his team a playoff spot his final season ... Threw for six TDs and ran for two in just six games during his junior year ... Had his season cut short by a shoulder injury ... Lettered as a sprinter in track ... Was clocked at 10.8 seconds in the 100-meters and 21.8 seconds in the 200 ...

Personal: Christopher Anthony Ceasar ... Born 12/20/82 ... Son of Willie and Dorothy Ceasar ... Enrolled in physical education.



10

Chris Clifton

Split End • 6-4 • 201 • r-Fr.
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.

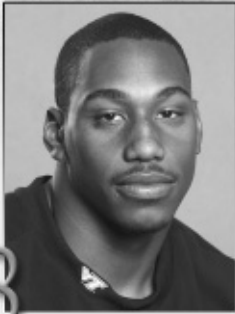
A gifted athlete who made a run at the Hokies' quarterbacking duties before moving to receiver ... The coaching staff is looking for the best and quickest way to utilize his size and athleticism ... Finished spring practice in the mix for playing time at split end ... A hard worker who needs to get stronger ... Still has a lot to learn about his new position ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ... Will be watched closely when practice resumes ...

2001: Practiced at quarterback when preseason workouts opened in August ... Spent some time as a receiver on the scout team while redshirting during the fall ... His 34 1/2-inch vertical jump tied for second-best among incoming freshmen ... Posted a 400-pound back squat during spring testing and ran a 4.54 40 ... Opened spring practice at quarterback before switching to receiver ... Had a 17-yard reception in one spring scrimmage and a 6-yard catch in another ... Hauled in two passes for 18 yards during the Maroon-White game ...

High School: 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 ...

Personal: Chris Arron Clifton ... Born 10/27/82 in Portsmouth, VA ... Son of Cheryl Clifton ... Enrolled in university studies.



28

Lamar Cobb

**Defensive End • 6-2 • 223 • r-Sr. • 2VL
Hurt, Va. • Gretna H.S.**

The lone senior among Tech's defensive linemen ... Has 20 career starts under his belt and the ability to play either end position ... Spent most of his time at the stud end position before switching during the spring ... Pursues the ball and makes plays ... Will play an important role in the Hokies' defensive end rotation again this fall ... A very active defender who has become more physical at the point of attack ... Will be looked to for senior leadership ... Started eight games at stud end in 2001 and averaged 33.3 defensive plays per game ... Averaged 41 defensive plays in 2000 when he started every game ... Should see plenty of action again this season ...

2001: Started eight of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games at stud end ... Also started on the extra point and field goal block team ... Met all six of his strength and conditioning goals during preseason testing, earning Super Iron Hokie honors ... Went on to post 46 total tackles for the season, including 21 solo stops ... Also contributed 11 QB hurries, five tackles for loss and two sacks ... Recovered a fumble, broke up a pass and blocked a kick ... Finished with one tackle and one hurry in the opener against Connecticut ... Had two solo stops, including one for a loss, one QB hurry, three assists and a PBU against Western Michigan ... Finished with two solo stops, a tackle for loss and four assists against UCF ... Had three total tackles, a sack and four

Continued ...

talk with LAMAR

Your high school team had a record 44 consecutive losses, then you came to Tech and played for a National Championship. What's it like to be on opposite ends of the spectrum like that?

Well, my school lost a lot of those games before I even got to high school. I have always hated to lose. My teammates and I turned that program into a playoff contender my sophomore year. I also ended up being a high school All-American. Tech had a winning tradition even before I came here. My class just took the team to the next level, and it is up to the players behind us to take Hokie football even further. I am proud to have had a chance to play big-time college football coming from a small Southside Virginia school. Through football, I have been places and seen things that I would never have been able to see. It has been a blessing.

You started your career behind All-American Corey Moore. What did you gain from that?

Corey was a great player. He, as well as the rest of the '99 squad, showed us younger players what it was like to perform at a high level every day. It made me realize that Tech football is special and it is the duty of every member of our defense to make sure we continue to be one of the top defenses in the country, year-in and year-out.

You do well in the classroom and on the field. How do you balance academics and athletics?

It's hard to find enough hours in the day to excel as a student and an athlete. Late-night studying, followed by early-morning workouts, is a bear. The key is to set your priorities and do whatever it takes to reach your goals. There is no magical formula for success. I just take one thing at a time and do my best.

Who's your inspiration and why?

Other than God, I would have to say my father. He has always been there for me and supported me. I did not realize how much of an asset he is until I came to Virginia Tech. My father provides guidance to me, but I can also just hang out with him on a friendship level like I would someone my age. He does so much for me, my family, and the community, and never even asks for a thank you. That is how I strive to be.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three things would you want to have with you?

I am an only child and enjoy being away from people from time to time, but I would have to have my pit bull, Bud, on the island for companionship. Next, I would want an endless supply of good food because a man has got to eat, so he might as well eat well. And last, a cell phone so I could call all my friends over for a wild beach party at least twice a month.



Cobb *Continued*

quarterback hurries at West Virginia ... Was in on six tackles and had two hurries against Boston College ... Recorded five solo stops, along with three assists, a tackle for loss and a QB hurry against Syracuse ... Was also in on eight tackles, along with a sack, at Pittsburgh ... Was in on a season-high 47 plays against the Panthers and blocked a field goal in that game ... Contributed three tackles at Virginia ... Registered a solo tackle and four assists against No. 1 Miami ... Posted a personal-best 35-inch vertical jump during spring testing ... Moved to the end position for spring practice ... Turned in seven tackles, including two sacks, in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Picked off a pass during the Maroon-White spring game ...

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 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 ...

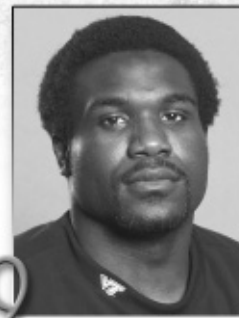
1998: Practiced at the whip linebacker position during the fall while redshirting ... Showed improvement in the strength and conditioning program ... Moved to defensive end for spring practice ... Contributed a tackle in the annual spring game ...

High School: Played a number of positions for Coach Robert Prunty 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	5-15	1-6
2001	11	21	25	46	5-23	2-16
Career	27	40	57	97	10-38	3-22

2001 Tackles Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
WMICH	1	2	3	5	1-1	0-0
at Rutgers	1	1	1	2	0-0	0-0
UCF	1	1	4	5	1-4	0-0
at WVU	1	1	2	3	1-12	1-12
BC	1	3	3	6	0-0	0-0
SYR	1	5	3	8	1-2	0-0
at Pittsburgh	1	5	3	8	1-4	1-4
at Temple	1	0	0	0	0-0	0-0
at Virginia	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
MIAMI	1	1	4	5	0-0	0-0



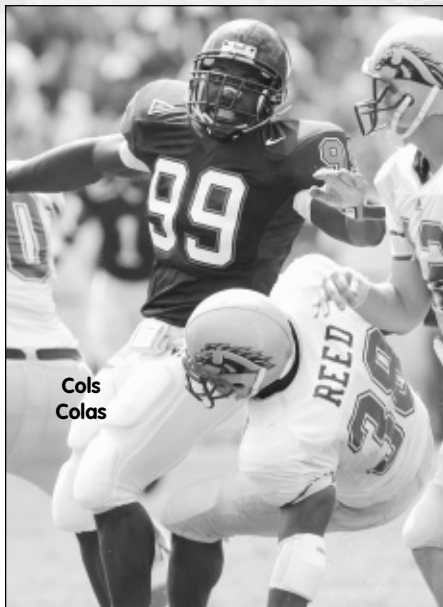
99

Colas Colas

**Defensive End • 6-0 • 239 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Plantation, Fla. • South Plantation H.S.**

A player to keep an eye on in 2002 ... Possesses an impressive combination of speed and power reminiscent of former Tech All-American Corey Moore ... Has shown continued improvement during his first two seasons ... Moved into the starting lineup for Tech's last three regular-season games in 2001 and started in the Hokies' Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Can put pressure on the quarterback ... Has the ability to make big plays ... Appears ready to become more of a force ... Runs a sub-4.5 40 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 ...

2001: Saw action in every game ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the preseason testing session ... Finished the season with 22 solo stops and 15 assists ... Posted 10 tackles for loss, including 3.5 sacks ... Registered a team-high 17 QB hurries, along with a pass broken up and a forced fumble ... Recorded three tackles, two assists and a hurry in the opener against UConn ... Saw action on 20 defensive plays, recording a tackle, against Western Michigan ... Finished with two tackles, an assist, a forced fumble and a sack at Rutgers ... Had two solo stops, two assists and two hurries against UCF ... Had two assists and a hurry against Boston College ... Was in on five tackles against Syracuse ... Played a great game at Pittsburgh, recording six solo stops, three tackles for loss, two QB hurries and a sack ... Got his first career start at Temple and played a season-high 37 defensive snaps ... Compiled three tackles and three QB hurries in that game ... Recorded four solo stops, three TFL, two QB hurries and 1.5 sacks at Virginia ... Had two solo stops, an assist, a tackle behind the line and three QB hurries against No. 1 Miami ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors again during spring testing ... Set personal bests with a 600-pound



Colson Colas

back squat and a 360-pound push jerk ... Posted three sacks in one spring scrimmage and two in another ... Added a sack and three tackles in the annual Maroon-White game ...

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 ... Underwent hernia surgery in May ...

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 ...

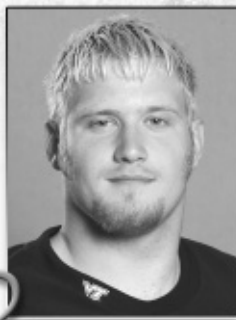
High School: Played several different positions for Coach Dan Margurit at South Plantation, including fullback and

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: Colson 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
2001	11	22	15	37	10-58	3.5-42
Career	21	28	29	57	10-58	3.5-42

	2001 Tackles Game-by-Game					
UCONN	1	3	2	5	0-0	0-0
WMICH	1	0	0	0	0-0	0-0
at Rutgers	1	2	1	3	1-13	1-13
UCF	1	2	2	4	1-3	0-0
at WVU	1	1	1	2	0-0	0-0
BC	1	0	2	2	0-0	0-0
SYR	1	1	4	5	0-0	0-0
at Pittsburgh	1	6	0	6	4-18	1-10
at Temple	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
at Virginia	1	4	0	4	3-23	1.5-19
MIAMI	1	2	1	3	1-1	0-0



62

Travis Conway

Deep Snapper • 6-5 • 260 • r-So. • 1VL
Richmond, Va. • J.R. Tucker H.S.

Handled the snapping duties on punts for most of the 2001 season ... Is expected to compete for those duties again this fall ... Must continue working in the strength and conditioning program ... Is expected to concentrate mainly on

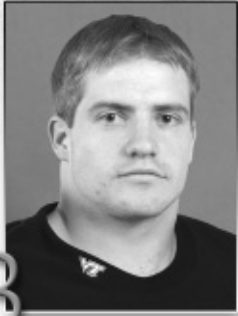
snapping this season after spending some time working along the offensive line in the past ... Developing consistency will be the key factor to regaining his duties ...

2001: Turned in a 390-pound bench press and a 300-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Saw action in nine games, snapping for 50 punts ... Had two tackles on special teams ... Saw action on two plays on offense and snapped for both punts in the opener against Connecticut ... Was in for eight special teams plays at West Virginia ... Snapped on all four punts and saw action on six special teams plays against Boston College ... Snapped seven times on punts against Syracuse and eight at Pittsburgh ... Had a solo tackle on punt coverage against the Panthers ... Was in to snap for nine punts against Temple ...

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 consumer studies.



33

Chad Cooper

Linebacker • 6-2 • 214 • r-So. • 1VL
Herndon, Va. • Oakton H.S.

Will be a welcome addition when he takes the field for preseason practice ... Was one of the Hokies' most improved players during the 2001 season ... Had to leave the team in December when he contracted Guillain-Barré syndrome, a serious disorder of the nervous system ... Has made a full recovery but will have some ground to make up after missing the winter program and spring practice ... Has a chance to make an impact at linebacker if he regains his strength and stamina ... Saw most of his action on special teams during the 2001 season ... Started on the kickoff team and the kickoff and punt return teams ... Combines athleticism with good speed ... An extremely hard worker ... Returned to Blacksburg for the summer to prepare for the upcoming season ... Will be moved from the backer position to mike linebacker when practice opens ... Could be a factor at the new position before the season is over ...

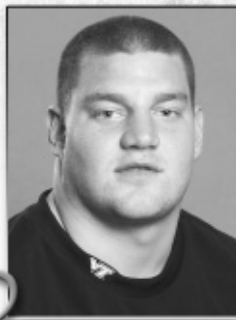
2001: Played in all 11 games as a starter on special teams ... Worked at the backer position, but did not see action on defense ... Had two solo tackles and nine assists on the year in a special teams role ... Also had a fumble recovery ... Saw action on a season-high 14 plays on special teams at Pittsburgh ... Had three assisted tackles on special teams against Temple ... Recovered a fumble and had an assist on special teams at Virginia ... Was stricken with Guillain-Barré syndrome in December ... Was unable to attend school for the second semester ... Stayed home and made a full recovery ...

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.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	2	7	9	0-0	0-0

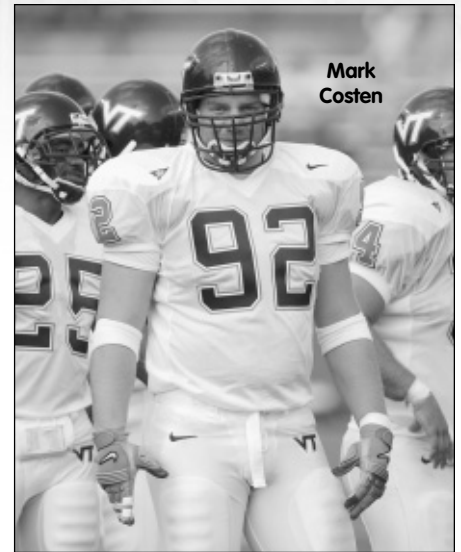


92

Mark Costen

Defensive Tackle • 6-3 • 275 • r-Jr.
Virginia Beach, Va. • Kempsville H.S.

Finished the spring No. 1 at one of the tackle spots, but can expect renewed challenges when practice resumes ... Has shown steady progress while at Tech ... Doesn't have a lot of experience, but is a tough competitor ... Is versatile enough to play either tackle position ... Has added some much-needed bulk ... Still moves well ... Is working to get off blocks better and make more plays ... Joined the team



Mark Costen

as a walk-on and earned a scholarship ... Holds Tech's position record for a defensive tackle in the push jerk with a lift of 370 pounds ... Should be in the thick of the battle for playing time this fall ...

2001: Turned in a 360-pound bench press, a 515-pound squat and a 341-pound power clean in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Played in six games, recording 11 total tackles ... Had two tackles for loss and half a sack on the year ... Also registered two quarterback hurries ... Saw action on a season-high 25 plays in the opener against Connecticut ... Recorded one solo stop, three assists and a QB hurry in that game ... Finished with two solo stops on 17 plays against Western Michigan ... Had a TFL, an assist and shared a sack at Rutgers ... Saw brief action on defense against UCF ... Had three solo tackles on 10 snaps at West Virginia ... Recorded four solo stops and two sacks in a jayvee game against Hargrave Military Academy ... Played 11 defensive snaps against Temple, recording an assist and a QB hurry ... His 4.34-second clocking in the NFL shuttle run tied for the best among Tech's tackles during spring athletic performance testing ... Was in on three tackles during one spring scrimmage ... Posted two tackles and a sack during the annual Maroon-White game ...

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 residential property management.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	1	0	0	0	0- 0	0- 0
2001	6	5	6	11	2- 7	0.5- 6
Career	7	5	6	11	2- 7	0.5- 6



21
Michael Crawford

**Rover • 5-11 • 210 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Baltimore, Md. • Patterson H.S.**

Heads into preseason practice as the No. 2 man at the rover position ... Played extremely well during the spring before being sidelined by an ankle injury ... Missed a lot of valuable work ... Is maturing at the position and beginning to react ... Can always be counted on for top effort ... Has made strides in the athletic performance program and continues working to get stronger ... Was fifth on the team in special teams plays last season with 139 ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ... His progress will be watched closely when practice resumes ...

2001: Met all six of his strength and

conditioning goals during preseason testing ... Recorded a 300-pound bench press and a 455-pound squat ... Played in all 11 regular-season games on special teams and in six games at rover ... Recorded 14 total tackles ... Was credited with five solo stops, nine assists, two tackles for loss and a sack ... Had an assist on 13 total plays against Connecticut ... Recorded an assist on special teams versus Western Michigan ... Had a solo stop and an assist at Rutgers ... Played 18 total plays against UCF, registering an assist ... Played season highs of 13 snaps on defense and 16 on special teams at West Virginia ... Posted two solo tackles and a sack in that game ... Contributed two assists at Virginia ... Had an assisted tackle on special teams against No. 1 Miami ... Played in the Hokies' Gator Bowl game against Florida State and was in on one tackle ... Had personal bests in the bench press (310), back squat (470) and clean (285) during spring testing ... Was slowed during part of spring practice by an ankle injury ... Returned to action in the Maroon-White game and posted a tackle ...

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 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 ...

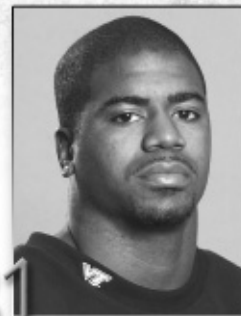
1999: Practiced at the rover position while redshirting ... Showed improved speed and quickness during spring testing ... Broke up a pass in the Maroon-White spring game ...

High School: An All-Baltimore City/County running back-linebacker for Coach Roger Wrenn at Patterson High ... Scored 22 touchdowns to help the 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 consumer studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	9	3	3	6	0- 0	0- 0
2001	11	5	9	14	2- 14	1- 13
Career	20	8	12	20	2- 14	1- 13



31
Mike Daniels

**Linebacker • 6-0 • 197 • r-So. • 1VL
Fairfax, Va. • Fairfax H.S.**

Was moved from free safety to the whip linebacker spot during the season ... Ended up starting the final three regular-season games plus the Gator Bowl game versus FSU ... Is always around the football ... Attacks people and does a good job finishing the tackle ... Plays hard ... Must continue working to gain strength through the athletic performance program ... Saw most of his action on special teams over the first seven games of the season ... Was in for two plays at free safety at Rutgers ... Got his first taste of action at linebacker in the Pittsburgh game ... Worked at free safety during a redshirt season in 2000 ... Has done a good job learning the Tech system ... Should continue to improve with additional playing time ... Is being counted on for a big season ...

2001: Played in every game ... Recorded 12 solo tackles, 16 assists and broke up a pass during the year ... Started on the kickoff team and the kickoff and punt return teams ... Saw action on 17 special teams plays against Connecticut ... Saw brief action on special teams versus Western Michigan ... Had an assist on 11 plays at Rutgers ... Saw action on a season-high 24 special teams

Continued ...

Daniels *Continued*

plays against Boston College ... Played 18 snaps on defense and 14 on special teams at Pittsburgh, recording a solo tackle and an assist ... Earned his first career start at Temple ... Had two solo tackles, an assist and broke up a pass in that win ... Was credited with four solo tackles and four assists at Virginia ... On a personal-best 87 plays, had four solo tackles and nine assists against No. 1 Miami ... Led the Hokies with seven tackles in the Gator Bowl ... Had two sacks in that game for minus-14 yards ... Also recovered a fumble ... Met all six of his goals in the weight room prior to the season ... Turned in a personal-best 450-pound back squat during spring testing ... Posted four tackles and broke up a pass in one spring scrimmage ... Added four tackles in another spring scrimmage and contributed a pair of tackles during the Maroon-White game ...

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 sociology.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	12	16	28	0- 0	0- 0



57

Anthony Davis

Offensive Tackle • 6-4 • 320 • Sr. • 3VL
Victoria, Va. • Central-Lunenburg H.S.

Has the ability to be one of the best offensive linemen in the BIG EAST Conference ... Rated the No. 21 offensive tackle in the Division I-A ranks by *The Sporting News*, which also lists him first-team on its All-BIG EAST team ...

Possesses the size, strength and skills to separate himself from other offensive linemen, but must play at a higher pace and a more consistent level to do so ... Started every game at left tackle in 2001 and play well at times ... Drew a lot of attention from the coaches during the spring ... Performed much better ... A natural run-blocker who has matured in pass protection ... Has good quickness and athletic ability ... Also a starter on the extra point and field goal teams ... Will be looked to for leadership and pushed to play to his full ability ...

2001: Led the offensive line in total plays in 2001 ... Played 656 snaps on offense and 52 on special teams for a total of 708 plays ... Averaged 59.6 snaps per game on offense ... Graded out at 80.6 percent for the year with 29 knockdown blocks ... Saw action on 50 snaps and posted six knockdown blocks in his first career start against Connecticut ... Was in on 68 total plays at Rutgers ... Graded out at 85 percent on 75 plays against UCF ... Graded 87 percent with four knockdowns on 70 plays at West Virginia ... Played a career-high 75 offensive snaps and 84 total plays in a win over Boston College ... Had perhaps his best game against Syracuse, playing 68 offensive snaps against one of the nation's top pass rushers in Dwight Freeney ... Was in for 44 total snaps against Temple, grading 91 percent ... Played 72 offensive snaps, grading out at 82 percent at Virginia ... Had two knockdown blocks and graded out at 83 percent against No. 1 Miami ... Posted career-bests in the vertical jump (30 inches) and 40 (5.07) during spring testing ...

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.

talk with ANTHONY

What was it like coming from such a small town to a big-time football program like Virginia Tech?

I was just very excited about getting the opportunity to play for such a successful program. I think I have dealt with the pressure for the most part, and Tech has given me a larger stage to perform on and hopefully I have lived up to the expectations.

The offense's success hinges on the performance of the offensive line. As a lineman, you have to be ready to compete every down. What motivates you?

I play every down as hard as I can because I know that my mom is watching from the stands and I never want to let her or any of my teammates down.

The offensive line in general does not get a lot of respect for what they have to do on the football field. Does that ever bother you?

It does not bother me at all. As long as we do our job and open up holes for our running backs and protect the quarterback, then everything is fine. Winning is all the praise that I need.

As an offensive lineman, you can never take a play off. Each play you have to go to war with someone on the defensive side of the ball. What do you do before a game to prepare yourself for that?

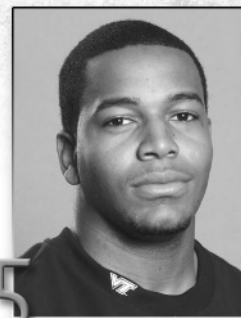
I have this one song named "Triumph" that I play in my walkman on the ride over on the bus before the game. After we come back from our pregame drills on the field, I put my headphones on one more time and listen to the song while I sit facing my locker. That just gets me ready mentally.

How much has the strength and conditioning program helped you get to that next level?

The program has helped me tremendously and I have so much respect for Coach Gentry. I feel like as soon as I set foot in the weight room it is all business, and Coach Gentry helps instill that in every player. I would have to say that his program has helped transform me from a boy to a man.

What are you going to miss most when you leave Tech?

I would have to say the family atmosphere. I am an only child and I never had a brother when I was growing up. When I came here I felt like I had 100 brothers. It is good to be surrounded by people who you don't just play football with, but have fun with off the field as well.



95

Jim Davis

**Defensive End • 6-3 • 251 • Jr. • 2VL
Highland Springs, Va.
Highland Springs H.S.**

A play-making defensive end who the Hokies are counting on for a big year ... Leads all of Tech's returning players with eight career quarterback sacks ... Has developed more consistency and become a more mature player ... Combines size and quickness with outstanding skills ... Can get to the quarterback in a hurry ... Makes things happen ... Intercepted a pass and returned it for a touchdown in the West Virginia game ... Forced fumbles that were returned for touchdowns against Rutgers and Boston College ... Saw action in all but one game in 2001 and finished tied for the team lead in sacks with 4.5 ... Started the last three regular-season games ... Solidified the No. 1 spot at the end position with a good spring ... Shared the George Preas Award for the most valuable defensive performer of spring practice ... Was one of three true freshmen to start in 2000 ... Saw action in every game and finished third on the team in sacks with 3.5 ... Will be a player to watch this fall ...

2001: Played in 10 games, starting three ... Had 17 solo tackles, 21 assists and eight tackles for loss ... Also had 4.5 sacks, six QB hurries, two forced fumbles, a PBU and an interception ... Finished with one tackle, one assist and a hurry in the opening game against UConn ... Did not dress against Western Michigan due to a bulging disc in his back ... Returned to action against Rutgers, recording three stops, two assists, a forced fumble and a shared sack ... Had two solo stops, an assist, a sack and a pass broken up against UCF ... Recorded two tackles and a sack at West Virginia ... Also collected his first career interception in that game, which he returned for a touchdown ... Was in on five tackles and had a QB hurry against Boston College ... Caused a fumble in the BC game that teammate Kevin McCadam returned for a score ...

Continued ...

Davis, Jim *Continued*

Had three solo tackles and two sacks against Syracuse ... Posted seven tackles against Pittsburgh ... Got his first career start at Temple ... Was credited with five assists and a QB hurry in that win ... Had three solo tackles, two assists, a sack and three tackles for loss at Virginia ... Tore his right pectoralis muscle against No. 1 Miami and was limited in the Hokies' Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Returned to full action in the spring ... Contributed four tackles in one spring scrimmage and three tackles and a sack in another ...

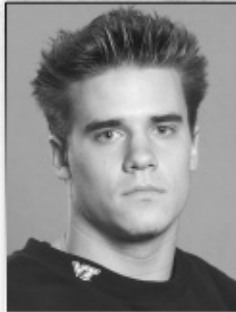
2000: Was one of only three true freshmen to see action ... Played on 27 snaps against Akron in his first collegiate game and contributed two tackles ... Saw action on a season-high 30 plays at East Carolina ... Posted three tackles, two quarterback hurries and shared a sack in the win over the Pirates ... 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	6-32	3.5-23
2001	10	17	21	38	8-44	4.5-27
Career	21	34	32	66	14-76	8.0-50



Jackson Dismukes

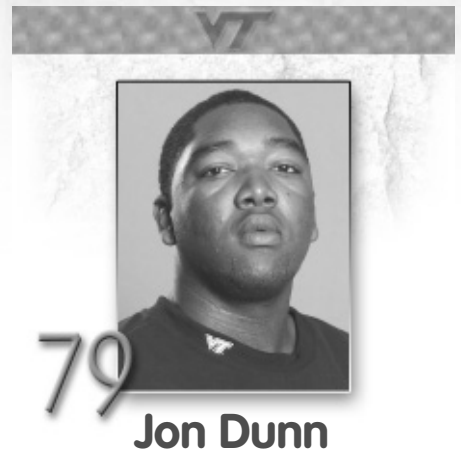
Free Safety • 6-0 • 198 • So.
Vienna, Va. • Marshall H.S.

Joined the team as a walk-on and worked at free safety ... Played on the scout and jayvee teams ... Is still learning the Tech system, but has shown progress ... Must continue working in the athletic performance program to improve his strength and speed ... Could compete for a spot on special teams if he continues to improve ... Needs to keep developing as a safety ...

2001: Joined the team when school started ... Played on the scout team ... Saw action in the Hokies' jayvee game against Hargrave ... Posted a 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Registered three tackles in one of Tech's spring scrimmages and was in on five tackles during the annual Maroon-White games ...

High School: Played tight end and free safety for Coach Peter Salvano at George Marshall High ... Earned three varsity letters and was co-captain his senior year ... Earned all-district honors at both positions as a senior ... Named second-team all-region as a safety ... Earned the coach's award as the team's most outstanding player ... Selected the male athlete of the year at Marshall his senior year ... A four-year scholar-athlete award winner ... Also lettered in basketball ... Member of the National Honor Society ...

Personal: James Jackson Dismukes ... Born 2/18/83 in Arlington, VA ... Son of Philip Dismukes and Paula Dwyer ... Enrolled in biochemistry.

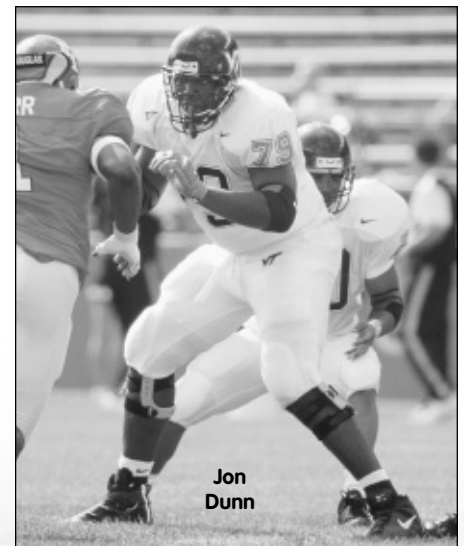


Jon Dunn

Offensive Tackle • 6-7 • 324 • r-So. • 1VL
Virginia Beach, Va. • Tallwood H.S.

Is just what coaches are looking for at the tackle position — a mixture of outstanding size and physical ability ... Still needs to be more consistent in his play and become more physical at the point of attack ... Should become a force as he continues to increase his strength ... Moved into the starting lineup at right tackle during the spring ... Picked up some valuable playing time in 2001 ... A hard worker with a will to succeed ... Will be a key performer along the offensive front this fall ...

2001: Averaged nearly 26 snaps per game on offense ... Played a total of 231 offensive snaps ... Saw action in 10 games, including nine on offense ... Worked on the extra point and field goal team in six games ... Got his first collegiate action in the opener against UConn ... Was in on a season-high 44 offensive snaps in that game ... Played 34 offensive downs against both Western Michigan and Rutgers ... Had knock down blocks against West Virginia and Virginia ... Played 27 plays on offense against Temple, grading out at 86 percent ...



Jon
Dunn

Posted a 351-pound clean during spring testing ... Turned in one of the best times among the offensive linemen in the NFL shuttle run at 4.46 ...

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 residential property management.



Doug Easlick

championship wrestler ... Moved from tailback to fullback prior to the 2000 season ... Made the travel squad and saw limited action in six games ... Served most of the 2001 season as the No. 2 fullback behind Jarrett Ferguson ... Will get a chance to increase his playing time this fall ...

2001: Saw action in nine regular-season games ... Rushed four times for five yards and caught four passes for 54 yards and a touchdown ... Caught his first career touchdown pass when he took a shovel pass and went 22 yards for a score against Western Michigan ... Also rushed once for three yards versus WMU ... Had one carry for a yard against Rutgers ... Had a 17-yard reception in the UCF game ... Played a career-high 31 offensive plays and five special teams plays during a win over Boston College ... Carried the ball twice against Temple ... Caught two passes for 15 yards at Virginia ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the strength and conditioning program during the off-season ... Posted a personal-best 550-pound back squat ... Turned in a 20-yard run during one spring scrimmage and caught a pass for a 6-yard gain ... Hauled in three passes for 23 yards during the annual Maroon-White game ...

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 jayvee

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 ...

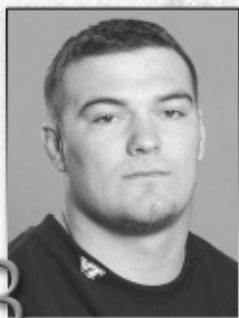
1999: Was redshirted while working as a tailback ... Joined the wrestling team following the football season and compiled an 11-17 record as a heavyweight ... Won the heavyweight title at the Virginia State Intercollegiate Wrestling Championships ... Carried seven times for 32 yards in one of Tech's 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
2001	9	4	5	1.2	0	3
Career	15	12	37	3.1	0	18

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	6	0	0	0.0	0	0
2001	9	4	54	13.5	1	22
Career	15	4	54	13.5	1	22

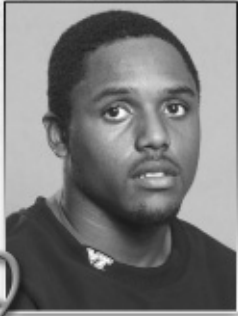


43

Doug Easlick

Fullback • 5-11 • 230 • r-Jr. • 1VL
Marlton, N.J. • Cherokee H.S.

Moved into the top spot at fullback during the spring ... Will be challenged for that spot by redshirt freshman Cedric Humes when practice begins in August ... A physical player who combines toughness with good athleticism ... Plays smart and knows the Tech system ... A former tailback who has a knack for picking up yardage ... Has developed as a blocker and can catch the football coming out of the backfield ... Understands leverage from his high school days as a



29

Sam Faterly

Rover • 5-10 • 209 • r-So.
Williamsport, Pa. • Williamsport H.S.

A good athlete who has shown improvement over the past year ... Possesses good speed, but must continue working to add strength ... Could figure in on special teams ... Finished spring practice No. 3 on the depth chart at rover ... Entered school in January 2000 ... Worked at free safety when he first arrived ... Moved to the rover position that fall ...

2001: Worked at the rover position ... Saw his only varsity action on special teams against UCF and West Virginia ... Played nine plays on special teams against UCF, registering a tackle ... Returned a blocked punt for a touchdown to give Tech a 19-15 jayvee win over Hargrave ... Also contributed six tackles, a tackle for loss and a pass broken up in that game ... Turned in a personal-best 410-pound back squat during spring testing ... Posted a 34-inch vertical jump and ran a 4.39 40 ... Returned an interception 16 yards for a TD in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Contributed a sack in another scrimmage ... Was in on a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

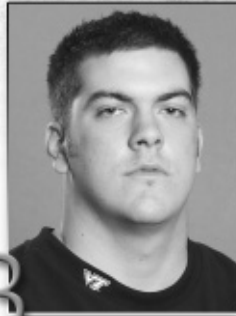
2000: Moved to the rover position and was redshirted ... Was clocked at 4.48 in the 40 during Tech's pro timing day in the spring ...

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 Faterly ... Born 6/13/81 in Williamsport, PA ... Son of Reginald and Theresa Faterly ... Enrolled in physical education.



93

Andrew Fleck

Defensive Tackle • 6-3 • 258 • Fr.
Edmond, Okla. • Santa Fe H.S.

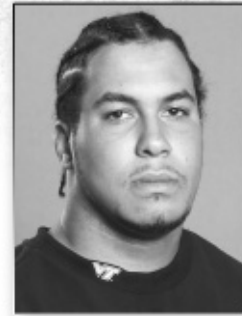
Worked at defensive tackle after entering school in January ... Has the size and ability to help out at a number of positions ... Has good work habits ... Should benefit from the athletic performance program ... Needs continued improvement in his strength and quickness ... Got some reps at tackle during spring practice ... Is still learning the system ... Will get a chance to battle for a spot on the depth chart when preseason practice opens ...

2001: Underwent back surgery during the summer and fall ... Joined the team in January ... Was limited during the winter off-season program ... Worked at defensive tackle during the spring ... Posted a tackle in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

High School: 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.



Brandon Frye

Defensive End • 6-4 • 257 • Fr.
Myrtle Beach, S.C. • Myrtle Beach H.S.

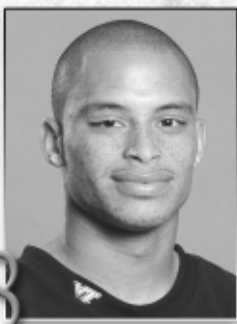
Another January addition with promise for the future ... Has a good frame to build on ... Worked at defensive end during spring practice ... Is still adjusting to the Tech system ... Should show continued improvement as he gets more reps at the position ... Works hard and has a desire to succeed ... Will have an opportunity to learn from a veteran group of ends this season ...

2001: Enrolled in school for the second semester ... Bench pressed 355 during spring testing ... Also posted a 500-pound back squat and a 304-pound push jerk that ranked second among the defensive ends ... Practiced at the stud end position during the spring ... Turned in three tackles during one of Tech's spring scrimmages ...

High School: Posted 14 quarterback sacks and 18 tackles for loss in 2000 as a defensive end for Coach Scott Early ... Saw most of his action at tight end until his senior season — his first year as a starter on defense ... 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 ... Was 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 ... Enrolled in business information technology.

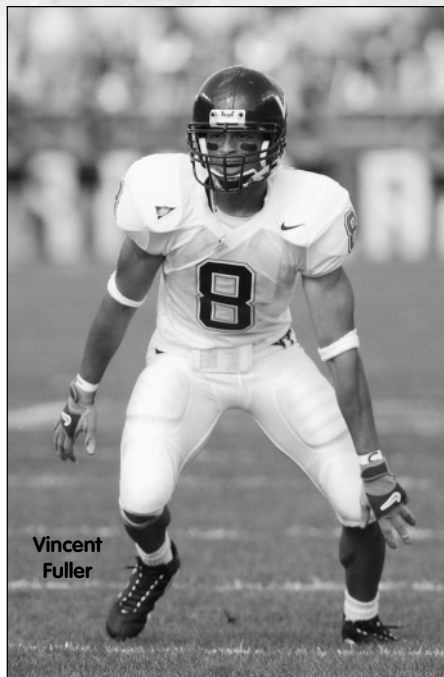


Vincent Fuller

**Free Safety • 6-1 • 184 • r-So. • 1VL
Baltimore, Md. • Woodlawn H.S.**

A skilled performer who continues to get better ... Served as the No. 2 free safety behind Willie Pile in 2001 ... Got the majority of snaps during spring scrimmages while Pile was sidelined with a shoulder injury ... Has the speed and athleticism to play sideline to sideline ... Won't back down from contact, but must improve his strength to become a real force ... Ran a 4.33 40 during spring athletic performance tests ... Has a bright future with the Hokies ...

2001: Played in 10 games, recording 12 total tackles ... Registered five solo stops, seven assists and a QB hurry ... Broke up two passes ... Saw some special teams duty on the kick blocking teams ... Had a solo stop and an assist on 16 defensive plays in the opener against UConn ... Had a solo tackle on nine defensive plays versus Western Michigan ... Had four assists at Rutgers ... Recorded two solo tackles on 12 plays against UCF ... Played a season-high 25 snaps on defense against Temple, recording a solo tackle, two assists, a QB hurry and two PBU ... Played 13 plays at Virginia ... Saw brief action on defense against No. 1 Miami ... Registered a



Vincent Fuller

personal-best 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Was in on four tackles during one spring scrimmage ... Broke up a pass and had two tackles in another scrimmage ... Posted five solo hits and an assist during the annual spring game ...

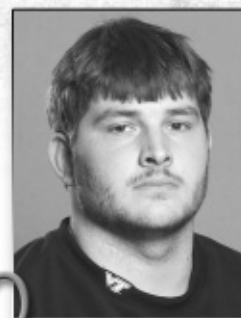
2000: Turned in the second-best 40 time (4.53) and third-best vertical jump (34 inches) among Tech's newcomers ... Got a look at cornerback during the preseason before moving to free safety ... Was redshirted ... Added 12 pounds by the time spring testing rolled around ... Improved his vertical to 36 1/2 and his 40 time to 4.43 ... Picked up some extra repetitions while starter Willie Pile sat out the spring with a shoulder injury ... 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 ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the team's top defensive newcomer ...

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 business information technology.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	10	5	7	12	0-0	0-0



Jacob Gibson

**Offensive Tackle • 6-4 • 288 • r-Jr. • 1VL
Rocky Mount, Va. • Franklin County H.S.**

Will play an important role along the offensive line this fall ... Has the versatility to play either tackle position as well as guard ... Shared time with Luke Owens at the starting left guard position in 2001 ... Started four games ... Got some work at both tackle spots during the spring ... Enters the fall as the No. 2 man at right tackle and right guard ... Combines good athleticism with an aggressive, physical style of play ... Is solid in pass protection ... Saw only limited action during the 2000 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 ... Is being counted on to provide the Hokies security along the offensive line in 2002 ...

2001: Played in nine games, averaging 31 offensive plays per outing ... Saw action on a total of 286 offensive plays during the season with 17 knockdown blocks ... Turned in a 530-pound squat, a 331-pound clean and a

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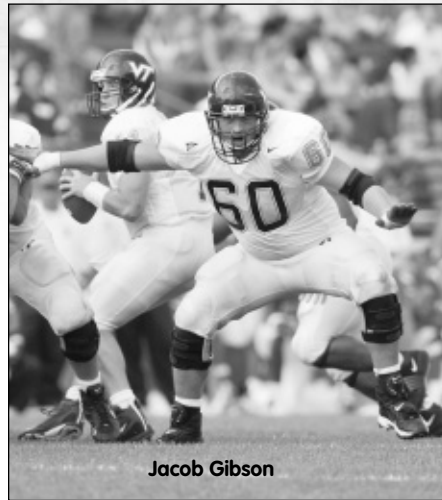
Gibson *Continued*

331-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Made his first career start against Connecticut ... Played 39 offensive snaps against the Huskies and had a personal-best seven knockdowns ... Saw action on 50 offensive snaps against Western Michigan ... Was in for 44 offensive snaps at Rutgers ... Played a season-high 63 snaps and led the team with four knockdowns against UCF ... Had three knockdown blocks on 48 plays at West Virginia ... Came off the bench against Boston College ... Saw limited action over the final five games ... Missed games against Syracuse and Virginia ... Also sat out the Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Moved to tackle during spring practice ...

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 got a lot of reps during the final seven or eight practices and showed improvement ...

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 ...

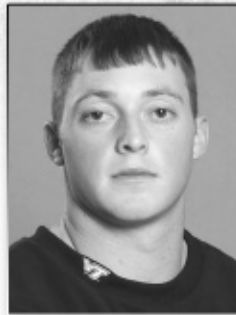
High School: Played running back, tight end, offensive tackle and linebacker for Coach Jerry Little at Franklin County High during his prep career ... Was first-team all-district and all-region on offense and defense as a senior ... Earned first-team Group AAA honors as a linebacker ... Posted 113 tackles 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-



Jacob Gibson

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 ... Is studying history.



Lance Goff

Split End • 5-11 • 195 • r-So.
Wytheville, Va. • George Wythe H.S.

A hard worker who has spent time as a punter, kicker and receiver during his time at Tech ... Joined the team as a walk-on in 2000 and competed for the punting duties ... Played on the Hokies' jayvee team last fall ... Has shown progress in the athletic performance program ... Is still adjusting to the receiver position ...

2001: Worked at split end throughout the year ... Played on the scout and jayvee teams ... Caught two passes for 12 yards in a jayvee win over Hargrave ... Improved in all four major lifts during spring strength and conditioning tests ...

2000: Got a look as a punter during the fall ... Worked some as a place-kicker during the spring ...

High School: A four-year varsity letterman for Coach Larry Russell at

George Wythe ... Saw action as a linebacker, punter, place-kicker, defensive back, running back and quarterback ... Was first-team Group A all-state as a linebacker and punter his senior year ... Was also the all-state punter his sophomore and junior years ... Won numerous all-district and all-region honors ... Registered over 500 tackles during his career ... First-team all-state in basketball as a senior and second-team all-state in baseball ...

Personal: Lance Gwynn Goff ... Born 3/29/82 in Radford, VA ... Son of Dennis and Judy Goff ... Is studying management.



Eric Green

Cornerback • 6-0 • 186 • Jr. • 2VL
Clewiston, Fla. • Clewiston H.S.

Is expected to see his share of action in the secondary during the 2002 season ... Will also be counted on as one of the Hokies' key special teams contributors ... Has picked up valuable experience while seeing action on defense in 23 of his 24 games at Tech ... Combines good size with excellent speed and quickness ... Posted a 4.39 time in the 40 during spring testing and had the second-fastest time on the team in the NFL shuttle at 3.81 seconds ... Possesses good coverage skills, but must continue working to become a more physical player ... Shared time with Larry Austin at the field corner spot last season and got a start against Syracuse ... Shared the starting spot with Ronyell Whitaker during 2002 spring practice ... Found himself pressed into action as a true freshman in 2000 due to injuries at the cornerback position ... Ended up starting five games and playing nearly 400 defensive plays ... Named second-team Freshman All-America by *The Sporting News* ... Will play an important role for the Hokies again this season ...

2001: Played in 10 games, recording 18 total tackles ... Had 11 solo tackles, seven assists, two passes broken up, two

blocked kicks, a forced fumble and a tackle for loss ... Recorded a tackle and broke up a pass in the win over Connecticut ... Had four solo tackles, including three on special teams versus Western Michigan ... Played 28 total plays at Rutgers, 15 on defense ... Also blocked a punt that led to a safety in that game ... Played 47 total plays against UCF, recording a solo stop and two assists ... Got a start against Syracuse, recording an assist ... Did not travel with the team to Pittsburgh due to tonsillitis ... Played 42 snaps on defense against Temple and had a solo tackle ... Had a solo stop and two assists at Virginia ... Blocked a punt that was returned for a touchdown against top-ranked Miami ... Had two solo tackles and an assist against the Hurricanes ... Contributed two tackles against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Also intercepted a pass in that game and returned it nine yards ... Registered a pair of tackles and a fumble recovery during the spring Maroon-White game ...

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 ... Led the team in passes broken up with 12 ... 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 residential property management.

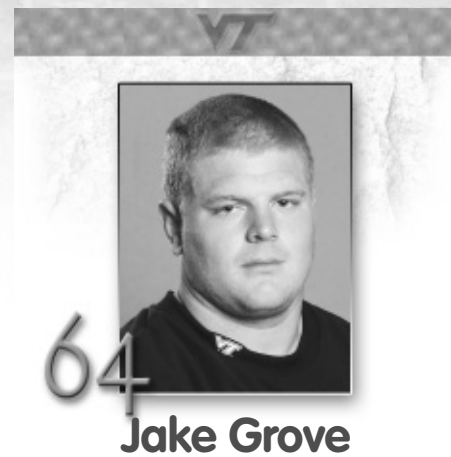
Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2000	11	19	12	31	1-22	0-0
2001	10	11	7	18	1-10	0-0
Career	21	30	19	49	2-32	0-0

2001 Tackles Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
WMICH	1	4	0	4	1-10	0-0
at Rutgers	1	0	0	0	0-0	0-0
UCF	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
at WVU	1	0	0	0	0-0	0-0
BC	1	0	1	1	0-0	0-0
SYR	1	1	1	2	0-0	0-0
at Pittsburgh					Did not play	
at Temple	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
at Virginia	1	1	2	3	0-0	0-0
MIAMI	1	2	1	3	0-0	0-0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	11	4	51	12.8	0	41
2001	10	0	0	0.0	0	0
Career	21	4	51	12.8	0	41



Jake Grove



Jake Grove

Center • 6-3 • 286 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Forest, Va. • Jefferson Forest H.S.

Will return to center this season after starting 10 games at right guard in 2001 ... Is rated the No. 6 center in the nation by *The Sporting News* ... Picked preseason All-BIG EAST by *Athlon* Magazine ... A warrior on the field ... Mixes outstanding strength with good athleticism ... Plays with great leverage ... Is tough, aggressive and relentless ... Saw action on 565 snaps at guard last season and graded 80 percent or better in eight of 11 regular-season games ... Played the last eight games of the season, including the Gator Bowl, with a broken hand ... Still managed to lead the team in knockdown blocks with 48 ... Averaged 25 plays a game at center as a redshirt freshman despite having trouble with his back ... Moved to guard during 2001 spring practice ... Struggled at first, then adapted rapidly ... Helped solidify an inexperienced offensive line last fall ... Turned in a team-best 440-pound bench press during preseason strength and conditioning testing, then topped it with a 445-pound press in the spring ... Returned to center for spring workouts and was named the team's most valuable offensive performer ... Will be a prominent figure for the Hokies in 2002 ...

2001: Played in all 11 games, averaging 51 offensive snaps per game ... Graded out at 84.9 percent for the year with a team-high 48 knockdown blocks ... Recorded a team-high 10 knockdowns on 37 snaps in the opener against UConn ... Graded out at 86 percent with four knockdowns at Rutgers ... Did not start against West Virginia due to a broken hand, but played 20 snaps ... Came back to get the start at right guard against Boston College ... Saw action on 68 snaps and graded out at 92 percent in that game ... Saw action on all 68 offensive snaps against Syracuse ... Played 53 offensive snaps and had six

Continued ...

Grove *Continued*

knockdowns at Pittsburgh ... Graded out at 93 percent with a team-high three knockdown blocks at Virginia ... Graded 85 percent against No. 1 Miami on 48 plays with four knockdown blocks ... Switched back to center during the spring ... Earned the George Preas Award as the most valuable offensive performer during the spring ...

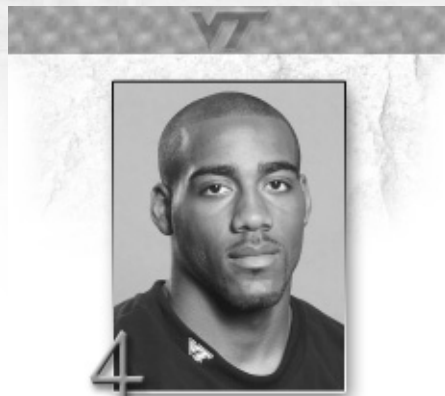
2000: Saw action in every game ... Worked a season-high 46 snaps against Temple and played 35 downs in the Miami game ... Earned a winning grade in seven of the 11 regular season games ... Also played against Clemson in the Gator Bowl ... Moved from center to guard during the spring ... Finished spring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



DeAngelo Hall

**Cornerback • 5-11 • 200 • So. • 1VL
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.**

A major talent with the potential to become one of the nation's top young players this fall ... Moved into the top spot at the boundary cornerback position during the spring ... Performed well in all phases of the game ... Has excellent coverage skills and can defend the run ... Ranks as the Hokies' best athlete ... Combines good size with tremendous speed and quickness ... Ran a 4.31 40 during the spring and turned in the fastest NFL shuttle time on the team at 3.78 seconds ... Has a 37-inch vertical jump ... Selected second-team on the preseason 2002 All-BIG EAST squad picked by *The Sporting News* ... Was one of four true freshmen to see action last year ... Became an immediate contributor ... Provided quality relief for Ronyell Whitaker at the boundary corner spot ... Saw action in every game and got a start at Temple ... Averaged 20.2 snaps per game on defense ... Also played special teams ... Tied for second on the team in interceptions with three ... A fourth-team Freshman All-America selection by *The Sporting News* ... Has an extremely bright future if he continues to work hard ...

2001: Turned in the fastest 40-yard dash among the freshmen at 4.37 in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Also bench pressed 300 pounds ... Played in all 11 games, starting one ... Had 42 tackles on the year ... Recorded 24 solo stops, 18 assists, three pass breakups and three interceptions ... Got his first collegiate action in the opener against Connecticut ... Had three tackles, two assists and also recorded an interception against the Huskies ... Had a solo tackle on 10 defensive plays versus Western Michigan ... Was in on three tackles at Rutgers ... Broke a bone in his hand during that game, forcing him to play with a cast against UCF ... Had two solo tackles and an assist against the Golden

Knights ... Played 25 snaps on defense at West Virginia, recording three solo stops ... Saw action on nine defensive snaps against Boston College, collecting two solo tackles and an assist ... Collected his second interception of the year at Pittsburgh, returning it 35 yards ... Also had seven tackles in that game ... Made his first career start at Temple ... Played a season-high 78 total snaps, recording six solo tackles, five assists, two passes broken up and an interception ... Recorded one solo tackle, four assists and a PBU at Virginia ... Had an assisted tackle against No. 1 Miami ... Was in on four tackles, including one for a 3-yard loss, during Tech's Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Shared the George Preas Award as the most valuable defensive performer during spring practice ... Posted four tackles and broke up a pass during the Maroon-White game ...

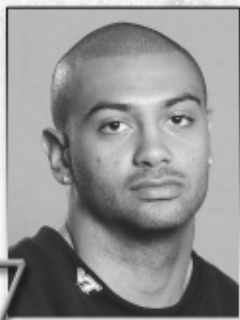
High School: Had an outstanding senior season for Coach David Cox, helping Deep Creek to the state AAA Division 6 championship game ... Scored 30 touchdowns and rushed for over 1,300 yards ... Also intercepted nine passes, posted over 100 tackles and had 16 tackles for loss ... Averaged 10 yards every 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	24	18	42	0-0	0-0
2001 Tackles Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	3	2	5	0-0	0-0
WMICH	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
at Rutgers	1	2	1	3	0-0	0-0
UCF	1	2	1	3	0-0	0-0
at WVU	1	3	0	3	0-0	0-0
BC	1	2	1	3	0-0	0-0
SYR	1	0	0	0	0-0	0-0
at Pittsburgh	1	4	3	7	0-0	0-0
at Temple	1	6	5	11	0-0	0-0
at Virginia	1	1	4	5	0-0	0-0
MIAMI	1	0	1	1	0-0	0-0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	3	37	12.3	0	35



27

Justin Hamilton

Flanker • 6-3 • 217 • r-Fr.
Clintwood, Va. • Clintwood H.S.

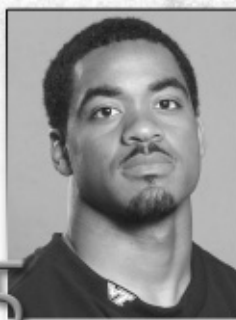
Named Tech's top offensive newcomer at the conclusion of 2002 spring practice ... Will help give the Hokies a big, physical presence at flanker after moving over from tailback during the spring ... Was the top receiver in the spring game with four catches for 44 yards ... Showed excellent skills at tailback, but the coaches felt he could get on the field quicker and be of greater value to the team this season as a receiver ... A smart player with a real feel for the game ... Has size, strength and good speed ... Should continue to get better with added exposure to the athletic performance program and the Tech system ... Possesses a real desire to succeed ... Has put in a lot of extra time studying his new position ... Still has a way to go, but has a bright future ...

2001: Worked at tailback and receiver while redshirting ... Bench pressed 330 pounds and ran a 4.53 40 during spring testing ... Moved to flanker during the early stages of spring practice ... Caught

two passes for 26 yards during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Had four catches for 44 yards in the Maroon-White game ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as Tech's top offensive newcomer ...

High School: Rushed for over 4,000 yards and scored 62 touchdowns for Coach Bob Meade 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.



25

Billy Hardee

Rover • 5-11 • 191 • r-Sr. • 2VL
Winter Haven, Fla. • Winter Haven H.S.

Moved into the lead for the starting duties at rover with a good showing during the spring ... Has also seen playing time at cornerback and free safety during his Tech career ... Was making great strides at rover last season when he hurt his knee against Rutgers ... The injury did not require surgery but he was sidelined for six of Tech's last eight regular-season games ... Bounced back

in the spring with solid, consistent play and was named the Hokies' top defensive hustler ... A tough, physical player who has a knack for being around the football ... Combines smarts with a strong work ethic ... Saw playing time at cornerback and free safety in 2000 ... Joined the team as a walk-on and earned a scholarship ... Named to the 2001 BIG EAST All-Academic Football Team ... Transferred to Tech from Florida Southern College where he played soccer ... Comes from a good football background - his father, Billy, Jr., was a standout for the Hokies in the mid-1970s ... Is expected to play an important role on the Hokies' defense this fall ...

2001: Played in five games, recording eight tackles ... Had six solo tackles, two assists and an interception ... Finished with two solo stops and an assist in the opener against UConn ... Saw limited action against Western Michigan ... Made his first career interception against Rutgers but stretched the PCL in his knee making the play ... Missed the UCF, West Virginia and Boston College games ... Returned to dress for the Syracuse game, but did not play ... Played 16 plays at Pittsburgh, recording two solo stops ... Had a solo tackle against Temple on 13 snaps ... Sat out the Virginia and Miami games and did not play in the Gator Bowl ... Posted the second-best push jerk among the defensive backs during spring testing with a lift of 300 pounds ... Had two tackles and a sack in one spring scrimmage ... Contributed a tackle in the Maroon-White game ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the top defensive hustler of the spring ...

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

Continued ...

talk with BILLY

Did your dad having a successful career here have any effect on you deciding to come to Tech?

At first, I was still a little hesitant. After making my decision, all I wanted to do was come here and try and make the team. After that I knew, with a lot of hard work, I could earn a scholarship.

Not being as highly recruited as some of the other players on the defense, how does this motivate you to show your capabilities and worthiness as a player?

On paper — I am not supposed to be here. I think it actually benefits me because I don't feel that I have to prove anything to anyone because nobody expects that much from me. I know what I am capable of, however, and so I expect a lot from myself.

You've had the unique opportunity to play two different sports at two different colleges. How does playing football here at Tech compare to your soccer days at Florida Southern?

Soccer has always been my first love. However, God blessed me to play football instead of soccer and so that is the direction in which I went. I still really care for soccer but I think football is starting to catch up.

Who was your idol growing up?

I would have to say my grandmother. With everything she has gone through and experienced, all the trials and tribulations, she has definitely been a role model and someone I have always looked up to. Ever since I was a kid, she taught me that there was always something bigger out there and to be grateful for what I have.

Having been a major contributor on the Hokies' special teams the last couple of years, what does it feel like knowing you're a part of one the best special teams units in the country?

It's obviously a good feeling, but I don't really look at it like that. Special teams is all about adrenaline and getting the crowd pumped up. If we do that, then we have succeeded.

How did it feel to get your first career interception?

It hurt. I got it at Rutgers last season on a diving catch with my body fully extended. When I came down I landed on my leg in a funny way and actually partially tore the PCL in my knee. So I guess you could say the feeling was bittersweet.

Hardee *Continued*

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 ... Underwent surgery to his left toe after spring practice ...

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:

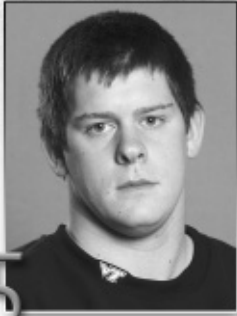
Attended Florida Southern and played soccer during the 1998-99 school year ...

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 his senior year ... 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
2001	5	6	2	8	0- 0	0- 0
Career	14	23	19	42	2- 5	0- 0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	9	0	0	0	0	0
2001	5	1	0	0	0	0
Career	14	1	0	0	0	0



75

Kevin Hilton

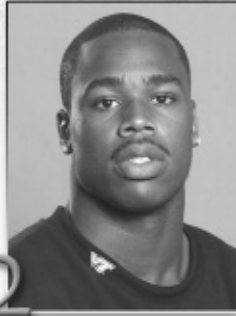
Defensive Tackle • 6-1 • 272 • r-Fr.
Silver Spring, Md. • Good Counsel H.S.

A good young prospect who was sidelined by foot surgery while redshirting last fall ... Missed some valuable practice time ... Got some exposure to the nose tackle position during the spring ... Should continue to make progress as he gets additional reps at the position ... His summer preparation and showing during pre-season will determine his status for the 2002 season ...

2001: Was redshirted while working at the nose tackle position ... His 350-pound bench press was the second-best among incoming freshmen in August ... Suffered a foot injury in mid-September ... Missed the remainder of Tech's contact work during the fall ... Returned to action in the spring and had two tackles in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages before missing two weeks with a dislocated elbow ...

High School: Lettered three seasons and started two as a defensive lineman and tight end for Coach Tom Kolar at Good Counsel ... 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* ... 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 ... Enrolled in computer science.



32

Cedric Humes

Fullback • 6-1 • 218 • r-Fr.
Virginia Beach, Va. • Princess Anne H.S.

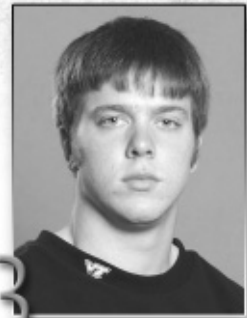
A newcomer with big-time ability ... Turned a lot of heads last fall while redshirting at the tailback position ... Will move to fullback when preseason practice opens so his talents can be utilized more this season ... Will likely return to tailback in the future ... Got some brief work at the new position near the end of spring practice ... Should make an easy transition ... An outstanding runner with breakaway speed ... Is big and athletic ... Must continue to work on his blocking ... Should give the Hokies another threat in the backfield ... Has a chance to become a special player as he continues to develop his skills and work in the athletic performance program ...

2001: Was redshirted as a true freshman ... Worked at tailback during the fall ... Earned Iron Hokie status during the off-season ... Turned in a 320-pound bench press and 500-pound back squat ... Ran a 4.43 40 and posted a 34 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Rushed for two touchdowns during one spring scrimmage on runs of 1 and 25 yards ... Gained 36 yards on nine carries ... Ran for 29 yards and one TD in another scrimmage ... Finished the Maroon-White game with 28 yards on five carries, an average of 5.6 yards a carry ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the top offensive hustler of spring practice ...

High School: Played running back and linebacker for Coach Jeff Ballance at Princess Anne ... 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* ... 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.



13

Will Hunt

Quarterback • 6-0 • 212 • r-Fr.
Springdale, Ark. • Springdale H.S.

A smart young player who is expected to hold down the No. 3 quarterback spot ... Directed the scout team while redshirting last season ... Combines a good work ethic with toughness ... Is smart and athletic ... Is learning the Tech system ... Has improved as a passer after playing in a run-oriented offense in high school ... Missed the end of spring practice with a shoulder injury ... Should be ready to go when practice opens ...

2001: His 34 1/2-inch vertical jump tied for second-best among the incoming freshmen in August ... Also turned in a 4.65 40 ... Quarterbacked the scout team while redshirting during the fall ... His 285-pound hang clean was tops among Tech's quarterbacks during spring testing ... Completed a quick slant pass for an 88-yard touchdown during one spring scrimmage ... Went 7-for-12 passing in

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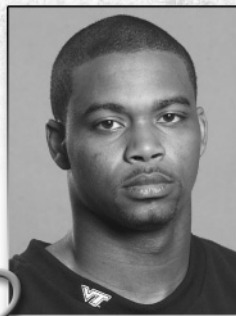
Hunt *Continued*

another scrimmage for 56 yards ... Sat out the last few spring practices with a sprained left shoulder ... Did not play in the spring game ...

High School: 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 ... Is studying business.



12 Richard Johnson

Flanker • 5-10 • 191 • r-So. • 1VL
Baltimore, Md.
Milford Mill Academy

Has the potential to be a big-play man for the Hokies ... Will battle for playing time at the flanker position ... Seemed poised for a good season in 2001 but was slowed by a nagging hamstring injury for most of the year ... Only played seven offensive snaps over the Hokies' last eight regular-season games ... Showed off some of his ability in the 2002 Gator Bowl when he set a Tech bowl record for kickoff return yards with 118 ... Closed out the spring with his five best practices ... An exceptionally quick and elusive runner who excels in the open field ... Makes catches and adjusts to the ball extremely well ... Possesses a good knowledge of the game thanks to his experience as a high school QB ... Has worked hard to make the transition ... Should get better and better as he gets some experience ... Can have an impact if he stays healthy and makes a good summer preparation ...

2001: Caught four passes for

34 yards on the season ... Rushed twice for seven yards and averaged 22.2 yards per kickoff return ... Opened the season with two receptions for 29 yards against Connecticut ... Averaged 24.5 yards on two kickoff returns in that game ... Returned a kickoff 26 yards against Western Michigan ... Had a catch for four yards against Rutgers ... Averaged 23 yards on three returns against UCF ... Did not dress for the West Virginia and Boston College games due to a hamstring injury ... Played in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave ... Came in at quarterback in that game with Tech down 15-2 and led the team to a 19-15 win ... Threw a 36-yard touchdown pass, caught a pass and rushed four times ... Registered three solo tackles and two tackles for loss as a cornerback in that jayvee game ... Returned to varsity action against Syracuse ... Had a 9-yard rush on a reverse in that game ... Returned three kickoffs for 50 yards with a long of 21 yards at Pittsburgh ... Caught one pass and had a 40-yard kickoff return against top-ranked Miami ... Set a Tech bowl record when he had 118 yards on five kickoff returns against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Caught three passes for 69 yards and a touchdown during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Blocked a punt in another scrimmage ... Hauled in a 10-yard pass during the Maroon-White game ...

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 ...

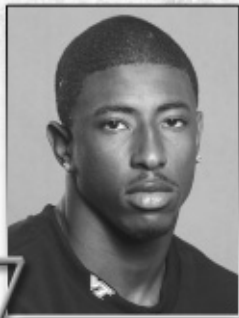
High School: A prep All-American who was listed the No. 5 wide receiver and the No. 28 overall prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Saw action at quarterback, running back, wide receiver, free safety, strong safety and cornerback for Coach Reggie Brooks during his varsity career at Milford Mill ... 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 physical education.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	7	4	34	8.5	0	20



Kevin Jones

**Tailback • 6-0 • 211 • So. • 1VL
Chester, Pa. • Cardinal O'Hara H.S.**

Came to Tech as the nation's top recruit and didn't disappoint ... Played in every game ... Worked his way up to the No. 2 tailback spot by the second game and was starting by the ninth game ... Led the Hokies in rushing with 957 yards ... His rushing total set a Tech freshman record ... Finished the season fifth in the BIG EAST in rushing, tops among freshmen ... Was fifth among all Division I-A freshmen in rushing for the season and third among true freshmen ... Voted the BIG EAST Rookie of the Year and was a second-team Freshman All-America selection by *The Sporting News* ... Named to the 2001 Virginia Division I All-State team by the state sports information directors ... A tough, physical runner who is hard to bring down ... Has blazing speed and is good in the open field ... Is

an Iron Hokie in the weight room ... Continues to work on all phases of his game ... Showed improvement as a blocker and pass receiver during the spring ... Is rated the No. 18 running back in the nation by *The Sporting News* heading into the 2002 season ... Ranked the nation's No. 12 running back by *Lindy's* ... A third-team preseason All-America pick by collegefootballnews.com ... Selected as a second-team All-BIG EAST pick by *TSN* ... Joins with senior Lee Suggs to form perhaps the best one-two tailback combination in the college ranks ... The sky is the limit if he continues to work hard ...

2001: Played in every game as a true freshman, starting the last three regular-season games and the Gator Bowl ... Finished with 957 yards rushing and five touchdowns on 175 carries ... His rushing total set a new Tech record for freshmen ... Averaged 5.5 yards per rush ... Caught six passes for 47 yards ... Rushed 11 times for 63 yards in the first action of his career against UConn ... Ran for 75 yards on 10 carries against Western Michigan ... Recorded 76 yards on 18 rushes at Rutgers ... Scored his first career touchdown against UCF, a 7-yard run ... Finished with 90 yards on 11 carries in that game ... Also had a 21-yard reception ... Put up 67 yards and a score on 16 carries at West Virginia ... His touchdown against WVU came on a 44-yard burst ... Ran for 60 yards on 17 carries in the win over Boston College ... Put on a show at Temple in his first career start ... Rushed for 155 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries in that game ... Had an 87-yard scoring run, the fourth-longest on record at Tech since 1950 and the longest on record by a freshman ... Was the workhorse in Tech's win at Virginia ... Carried the ball 37 times for 181 yards and a touchdown ... The 37 carries were the most ever for a Tech freshman and the 181 yards were the second-most for a Hokie under Coach Frank Beamer ... Ran for 160 yards on 24 carries against top-ranked Miami ... Got 23 carries against FSU in the Gator Bowl, gaining 55 yards and scoring on a 5-yard run ... Ran a 4.38 40 during spring testing and posted a 37 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Bench pressed 340 pounds and added a 505-pound back squat ... Contributed a 69-yard touchdown run in Tech's first scrimmage of the spring ... Finished that scrimmage with 94 yards on five carries ... Had two 4-yard TD runs and 44 total yards rushing in another scrimmage ... Rushed eight times for 35 yards and caught a 3-yard pass during the annual Maroon-White game ...

High School: 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 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 studying business.

Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	175	957	5.5	5	87

2001 Rushing Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	11	63	5.7	0	23
WMICH	1	10	75	7.5	0	29
at Rutgers	1	18	76	4.2	0	18
UCF	1	11	90	8.2	1	33
at WVU	1	16	67	4.2	1	44
BC	1	17	60	3.5	0	15
SYR	1	6	29	4.8	0	18
at Pittsburgh	1	4	1	0.3	0	2
at Temple	1	21	155	7.4	2	87
at Virginia	1	37	181	4.9	1	18
MIAMI	1	24	160	6.7	0	56

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2001	11	6	47	7.8	0	21

talk with KEN

A lot of people take the deep snapper position for granted, but the position is actually very important. How do you maintain focus and deal with that kind of pressure?

With any sport I have played over the years, I thrive off of being put into a high-pressure situation. The exhilaration of being placed in these situations makes it easier to perform well because all the work goes into practice. When game time roles around, it is all up to muscle memory repeating a motion I have performed a million times.

You went from being a walk-on to a starter, how does that make you feel?

It gives me a great deal of self-confidence and lets me know that I can do a lot of things if I set my mind to it. I am

also proud knowing that I came from a small single-A high school to compete for a top Division I program.

You do well in the classroom and on the field. How do you balance academics and athletics?

People have to enjoy what they do in life. I enjoy what I do both on the football field and in the classroom, which helps me to get my work done and to stay focused and positive on the task set before me.

If you could have any profession and be incredibly successful at it, what would you do?

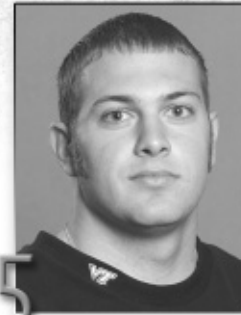
I think being a NASCAR driver would be a good profession to be in. They have the thrill of going fast. They are basically their own coach, and the money they make is a nice attraction also.

What song would you consider your "theme song" and why?

One that sticks in my mind is "Simple Man" by Lynrd Skynyrd. The name speaks for itself. I try to keep everything as simple as possible and live life as it comes.

If you could have dinner with any two people, living or deceased, who would they be and why?

The first person I would like to have dinner with would be Dale Earnhardt, Sr., because he was a legend in his profession. A second person would have to be Michael Jordan because he is also an icon in his sport and I think both he and Dale Earnhardt would share a lot of useful information on how they were so successful at their profession.



55

Ken Keister

**Deep Snapper • 6-1 • 238 • r-Sr. • 2VL
Radford, Va. • Radford H.S.**

Has been a key contributor to Tech's special teams the past two seasons ... Handled all the snaps for Tech's punts, field goals and extra points during the 2000 season ... Concentrated on snapping for field goals and extra points at the beginning of last year, before taking over all the duties again late in the season ... Will be the leading candidate for both duties again this fall ... Brings a good work ethic and a team-first attitude to the field ... A consistent performer who can always be counted on ... Has also seen practice time at both defensive end positions during his time at Tech ... A former walk-on who earned a scholarship ... Named to the 2001 BIG EAST All-Academic Football Team ... Brings experience and a steady hand to the Hokies' special teams ...

2001: Played in all 12 games, handling snaps without a miscue ... Registered one solo tackle on the year ... Saw action as the snapper for field goals and PATs during the first nine games ... Added the role of punt snapper at Virginia ... Was in for five punt snaps, four PAT snaps and three field goal snaps in that game ... Also had a solo tackle on punt coverage against the Cavaliers ... Handled all the special teams snaps against Miami and Florida State ...

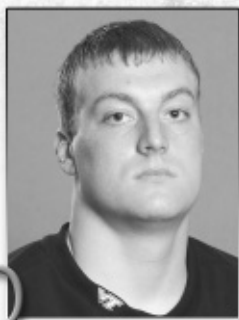
2000: Took over all the snapping duties after serving as a backup in 1999 ... Started every game ... Handled 114 snaps during the regular season ... Underwent arthroscopic knee surgery following the season ... Still snapped during spring practices, but did not play in the Maroon-White game ...

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.



90

Jeff King

Tight End • 6-5 • 258 • r-Fr.
Pulaski, Va. • Pulaski County H.S.

A promising young player who will be in the battle for playing time at tight end when practice opens ... Made excellent progress while redshirting last fall ... Has excellent size and athletic ability ... Made progress in the Hokies' athletic performance program ... A tough, smart player who can block and catch the football ... Should get better and better as he picks up more reps at the position ... Will be right in the thick of things this fall with a good summer preparation and preseason showing ...

2001: Worked at tight end while redshirting as a true freshman ... Posted a 360-pound back squat during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Also ran a 4.8 40 ...

High School: A *PrepStar* All-American for Coach Joel Hicks at Pulaski County ... 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 his senior year ... 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.



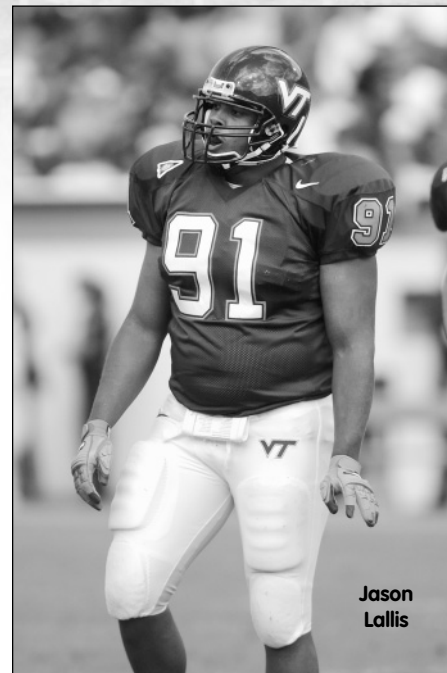
91

Jason Lallis

Defensive Tackle/End
6-0 • 250 • r-So. • 1VL
Mitchellville, Md. • DeMatha H.S.

Is slated to get some work at defensive tackle when practice opens after spending his first two years at Tech working primarily at end ... Plays with determination and a great motor ... Runs well and has excellent skills ... Pursues the football ... Also plays special teams ... Is benefiting from the strength and conditioning program ...

2001: Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in preseason testing ... Turned in a 550-pound back squat, a 300-pound clean and a 320-pound push jerk in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Met



Jason Lallis

all six of his preseason goals ... Played in all 11 games, recording 15 total tackles ... Registered seven solo tackles, eight assists and a sack ... Had one assist on nine defensive plays against Connecticut ... Did not play against Western Michigan ... Played 11 defensive snaps at Rutgers, recording two solo stops and two assists ... Played three snaps on defense against UCF ... Played 10 defensive snaps at West Virginia, recording an assist ... Saw brief action on special teams in the win over Boston College ... Also saw action on special teams against Syracuse and at Pittsburgh ... Played on 13 defensive snaps and seven on special teams against Temple ... Had a solo tackle on special teams ... Was credited with two solo tackles on special teams coverage at Virginia ... Against No. 1 Miami, had a solo tackle, four assists and a sack ... Posted a personal-best 565-pound back squat during spring testing and ran a 4.66 40 ... Turned in four tackles during one spring scrimmage and added two tackles during the annual Maroon-White game ...

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

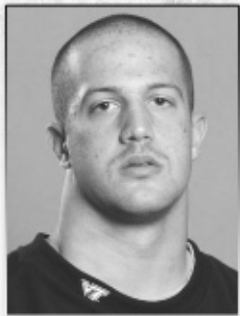
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Lallis *Continued*

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.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	7	8	15	1- 3	1- 3



Nick Leeson

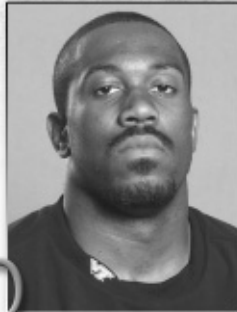
Deep Snapper • 6-1 • 229 • Fr.
Abingdon, Va. • Abingdon H.S.

A tough, intelligent newcomer who joined the team in January ... Worked at the mike linebacker position during the spring, but gained more attention as a deep snapper ... Developed his snapping skills enough to earn a shot at playing time when practice opens in August ...

2001: Entered school for the second semester ... Had a 420-pound back squat during spring athletic performance testing ... Practiced at linebacker and as a deep snapper during spring practice ... Contributed a tackle during the annual Maroon-White game ...

High School: Played linebacker and handled the deep snapping duties for Coach Scott Allen at Abingdon High ... Was a four-year letterman and two-year team captain ... Also lettered in basketball and baseball ... Was a high jumper in track ...

Personal: Nicholas Brooke Leeson ... Born 10/29/82 in Clarksburg, WV ... Son of Billy and Cathy Leeson ... His dad was an offensive lineman at Tech (1982-84) ... Enrolled in human nutrition, foods and exercise.



70

Kevin Lewis

Defensive Tackle • 6-1 • 281 • r-So. • 1VL
Richmond, Va. • Varina H.S.

Heads into the fall as the No. 1 man at the nose tackle position ... Took full advantage of a redshirt year in 2001 to get bigger and stronger ... Is the only returning defensive tackle with any appreciable playing experience ... Saw action in eight games as a true freshman in 2000 ... Was one of the team's most improved players during 2001 spring practice ... Solidified his hold on a starting spot during 2002 spring drills, but will have to face another round of challenges when preseason practice opens ... An active player who is both physical and aggressive ... Runs well and has shown an outstanding ability to make plays ... Has worked to become a better pass rusher ... Can hold his own at the point of attack, but must continue to improve his fundamentals ... Is being counted on to help anchor the Hokies' defensive line ...

2001: Took a redshirt season ... Met five of his six goals in preseason testing, turning in a 400-pound bench press and 575 back squat ... Posted a personal-best 31 1/2-inch vertical jump during the fall ... Ran a 4.89 40 during spring testing ... Contributed four tackles and two sacks in one spring scrimmage and three tackles and a pass broken up in another ... Registered a sack and a quarterback hurry in a third scrimmage ...

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*

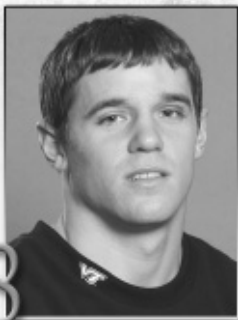


Kevin Lewis

... Shared *Richmond Times-Dispatch* Player of the Year honors for the Richmond area with Matt Farrior ... 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



48

Brandon Manning

Linebacker • 6-0 • 214 • r-So. • 1VL
Harrisburg, Pa. • Central Dauphin H.S.

A former walk-on who earned a scholarship with his contributions last year ... Made a name for himself on special teams in 2001, blocking a punt for a safety against UCF and returning a blocked punt for a touchdown against No. 1 Miami ... Is expected to see more action at the whip linebacker spot this fall ... Heads into preseason practice No. 2 at the position ... Combines toughness with a great work ethic ... Has proved to be a quick learner ... Won't shy away from contact ... Excels in the strength and conditioning program ... Another success story for Tech's walk-on program ...

2001: Played in all 11 games, mostly on special teams ... Had seven solo tackles, five assists and a blocked punt in 2001 ... Saw action on six special teams plays against UConn ... Played on four defensive plays against Western Michigan, recording two solo stops and an assist ... Had an assist on 20 total plays



Alex Markogiannakis

at Rutgers ... Played 19 total plays, 15 on special teams against UCF ... Had a solo stop and an assist in that game ... Blocked his first career punt near the end of the first half against UCF ... That block resulted in a safety ... Played 13 plays on defense and 30 total at West Virginia ... Had a solo stop in that game ... Saw action on 23 special teams plays against Boston College ... Was in for 15 special teams plays against Syracuse ... Played 14 plays on special teams against Pittsburgh, recording an assist ... Had a solo tackle on special teams against Temple ... Scored his first career touchdown against top-ranked Miami, returning a blocked punt 22 yards for the score ... Earned Iron Hokie honors in the 2001 preseason testing session and was a Super Iron Hokie in the spring ... Posted a 485-pound back squat and a 314-pound clean ... Was in on three tackles during the spring Maroon-White game ...

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 ...

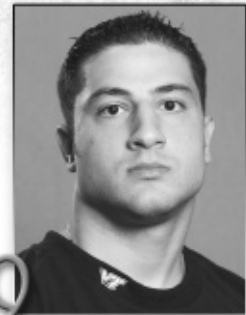
Prep School: Attended the U.S. Air Force Academy Prep School in Colorado Springs for one year ... Was the defensive captain on the football team ...

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.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	7	5	12	0- 0	0- 0



39

Alex Markogiannakis

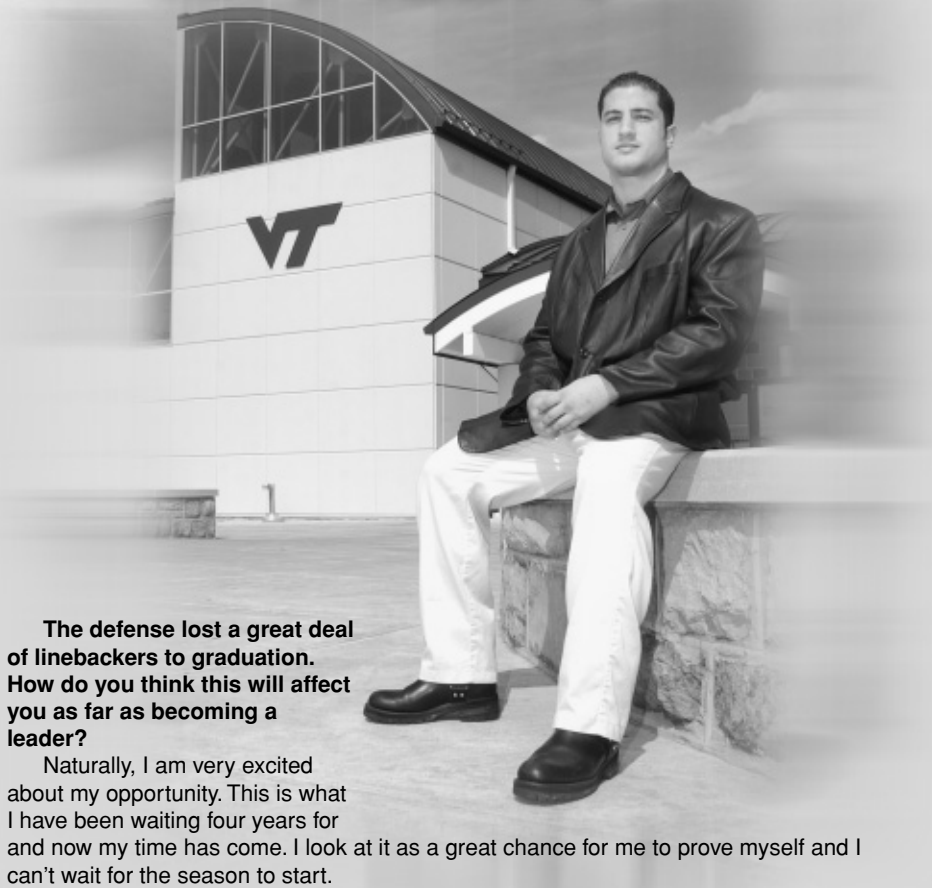
Linebacker • 5-9 • 209 • r-Sr.
Chantilly, Va. • Robinson H.S.

A coach's kind of player ... Works extremely hard and provides good leadership ... Gives it his all every day ... Combines great vision with a nose for the football ... Has a knack of making plays ... Rates as a solid performer against both the run and the pass ... Is the only returning player with game experience at the mike linebacker position ... Knows the Tech system ... Came out of spring practice No. 2 on the depth chart ...

2001: Played in five games, recording eight tackles ... Had a solo stop and seven assists on the year ... Finished with two assists in a win over Connecticut ... Saw brief action on defense versus Western Michigan ... Saw action on six defensive plays, recording two assists at Rutgers ... Was in for four defensive plays against UCF ... Had two assists in that game ... Had an assist on 10 defensive plays at West Virginia ... Blocked a punt that resulted in a touchdown in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave Military Academy ... Also had four solo stops in that game ... Did not see action over the last half of the season ... Recorded five tackles, a sack and a tackle for loss in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ...

Continued ...

talk with ALEX



The defense lost a great deal of linebackers to graduation. How do you think this will affect you as far as becoming a leader?

Naturally, I am very excited about my opportunity. This is what I have been waiting four years for and now my time has come. I look at it as a great chance for me to prove myself and I can't wait for the season to start.

Tech's football team has a strong reputation as being a program where walk-on athletes contribute heavily to the Hokies' gridiron success. What is it that makes you and other walk-ons here so successful?

The coaches here treat everyone equally and with respect. There is an atmosphere here where no one wants to quit and the coaches seem to get the best out of everyone. We are a very close-knit group, and you can't tell the walk-ons from the highly-recruited players because everyone thinks of themselves equally on this team.

If there was any other position that you could play, other than linebacker, what would it be and why?

I would have to say fullback. I played a little of that growing up and it's like a linebacker on offense. You still get to hit people, plus you get the bonus of carrying the ball every now and then.

Many skeptics feel the defense will be the weak link on this year's team after losing so many starters from last year. What is your response to those who think that way?

I just use it as motivation. Guys who have been waiting their turn, just like me, are obviously going to take offense to that and feel that they have something that they must prove. We don't feel like we have to prove anything to ourselves, but we know we must prove to others that we, too, can play.

What is your outlook for this upcoming season?

This year might be different from the past, where many teams have looked at us as their big game. So aside from being the hunter, we have been the hunted. This year, I think it will be back to the way it used to be with us being the hunter again. I love the role as the underdog and maybe we can sneak up on people.

Markogiannakis *Continued*

Added three tackles in another scrimmage ...

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 ...

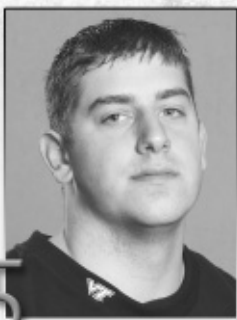
1999: Joined the varsity squad for the Rutgers game and saw action on 11 snaps ... Contributed two tackles against the Scarlet Knights ... Also was in on two tackles in games against Syracuse and Temple ... Posted a total of seven tackles in his four appearances ... Showed marked improvement in the strength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

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
2001	5	1	7	8	0- 0	0- 0
Career	13	4	12	16	0- 0	0- 0



85

Jared Mazzetta

**Tight End • 6-4 • 254 • r-So. • 1VL
Flemington, N.J. • Hunterdon Central H.S.**

Figures to be one of the leading candidates when the competition for the starting tight end duties reopens in August ... Doesn't have a lot of experience (44 plays in 2001) but possesses good athletic ability and plays hard ... Brings a physical presence to the position ... Made strides during the spring ... Needs to continue working to improve his blocking at the point of attack and his route running ... Lettered for his play on the punt and kickoff teams in 2001 ... Was usually one of the first guys downfield on coverage ... Has a shot to earn his share of playing time if he makes a good off-season preparation ...

2001: Turned in a 360-pound bench press in preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Played in all 11 games, mostly on special teams ... Played 147 plays on special teams, recording nine tackles ... Also played 44 snaps on offense ... Saw action on 10 offensive plays and 15 special teams plays in the opener against Connecticut ... Played a personal-best 11 offensive snaps in the Rutgers game ... Also had 16 special teams plays in that game ... Was in on a season-high 19 special teams plays against both Boston College and Pittsburgh ... Had a solo stop and an assist on special teams at Virginia ... Registered a personal-best 460-pound back squat during spring testing ... Caught passes covering 19 and 13 yards during spring scrimmages ...

2000: Worked at tight end and was redshirted ... Added 10 pounds and increased his bench press by 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 physical education.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
2001	11	5	4	9	0-0	0-0



69

Danny McGrath

**Center • 6-2 • 293 • Fr.
Herndon, Va. • Herndon H.S.**

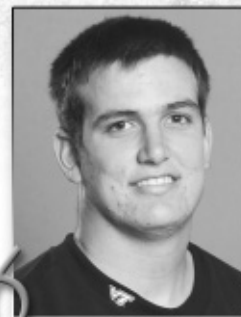
A raw young player with good potential ... Did not enroll in school until January ... Went through the off-season program and spring practice ... Worked at center and made a positive impression ... Showed maturity and played hard ... Is still adjusting to the Tech system ... Has good strength, but must continue working in the athletic performance program to improve his quickness ... Will compete with Robert Ramsey for the backup center duties ...

2001: Entered school in January ... Registered a 420-pound bench press during spring testing ... Also turned in a 500-pound back squat ... Worked at the center position during spring practice ...

High School: A three-year letterman as an offensive guard and defensive

lineman for Coach Tom Meier at Herndon High ... 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.



76

James Miller

**Offensive Guard • 6-6 • 310 • So. • 1VL
Pompano Beach, Fla. • Ft. Lauderdale H.S.**

Is scheduled to start at the left guard position this fall ... One of four true freshmen to see action last season ... Was a solid No. 2 man behind Jake Grove at right guard ... Gained valuable experience while averaging nearly 18 plays per game ... Was named one of the team's most improved players during 2002 spring practice ... Works extremely hard and possesses good size and footwork ... Has gained a good understanding of the Tech system, but still needs to get better as a pass protector ... Should continue to benefit from Tech's athletic performance program ... Has a perfect football temperament ... Should have a bright future with the Hokies ...

2001: His 351-pound push jerk was the fourth-best among the offensive linemen during preseason testing ... Saw

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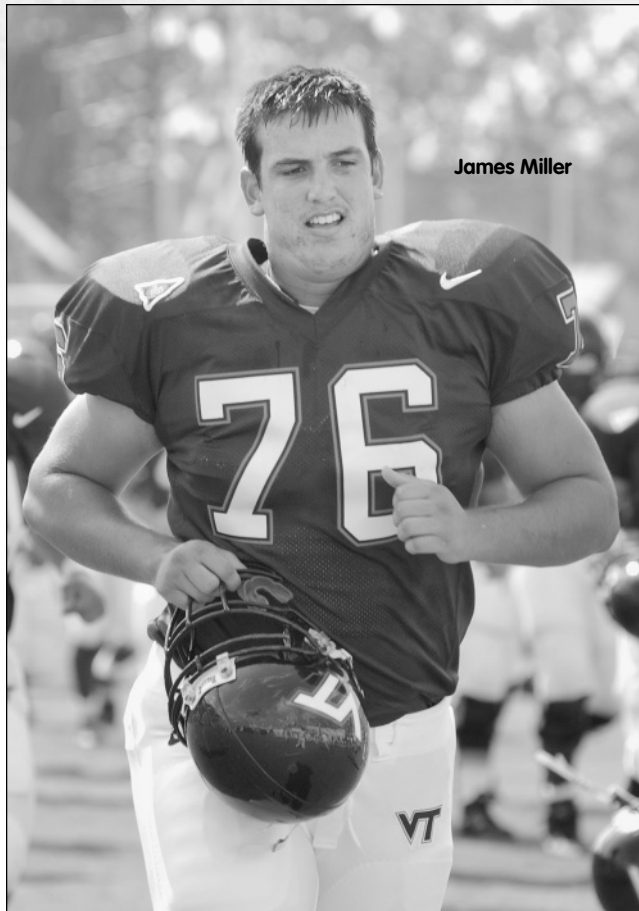
Miller *Continued*

action in 10 of the Hokies' 11 regular season games, plus the Gator Bowl ... Played on 160 offensive snaps on the year ... Got his first taste of collegiate action in the opener against Connecticut ... Played 30 offensive snaps versus the Huskies ... Played 29 offensive plays against Western Michigan and 19 at Rutgers ... Had three knockdown blocks at West Virginia ... Graded 83 percent in the Boston College game ... Posted a 500-pound back squat during spring testing ... Moved to left guard during the spring ... Shared the Dr. Richard Bullock Award as the team's most improved offensive player with quarterback Bryan Randall ...

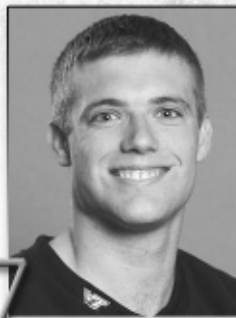
2000: Enrolled at Tech for the second semester in January ... Went through the winter strength and conditioning program ... Opened spring practice working at right tackle, then moved to right guard ...

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.



James Miller



Jon Mollerup

Place-kicker • 5-11 • 205 • r-Sr. • 1VL
Lyndhurst, Va. • Stuarts Draft H.S.

Handled all Tech's kickoff duties last season ... Is expected to resume those duties again in 2002 ... Possesses a strong leg and has good range ... Missed 2002 spring practice following arthroscopic surgery on his left knee ... Will be ready to go when practice opens in August ... Lost out for the starting place-kicking and kickoff duties in 2000 after a close preseason battle with Carter Warley ... Saw brief action in two varsity games that season ... Has the ability to step in as the kicker if needed ...

2001: Had 68 kickoffs on the year with 29 touchbacks ... Also had a solo tackle ... Had six touchbacks on nine kickoffs at Rutgers ... Posted another strong game against UCF, recording five touchbacks ... Had four kickoffs against Syracuse, two of which were touchbacks ... Recorded three touchbacks on seven kickoffs against Temple ... Had a touchback on five kickoffs at Virginia ... Had five kickoffs against top-ranked Miami, putting two into the end zone ... Registered a 450-pound back squat during strength and conditioning testing ... Was sidelined by a knee injury during the spring ...

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 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.

talk with JON



Joining this team as a walk-on, what goals did you set for yourself?

Ultimately, my goal was to be a starter on the team, but you have to work your way up. I was redshirted first, then became the JV kicker, then I got to dress for games, then I eventually became a starter.

What goes through your head at the beginning of the games before the first kick with 50,000 fans watching you on Worsham Field?

There is definitely the hype and adrenaline of it all before a game. At the first game I ever kicked off in, I was really nervous. After that, I would just block it all out and the rush of adrenaline now really helps me rather than hurts me.

In the limited time you have off, what do you most enjoy doing?

Off the field, I enjoy doing anything that is not school-related. I like going out with friends, going hiking and playing other sports. I also like long walks and going to feed the ducks at the Duck Pond here on campus.

How difficult has it been for you to balance football with excelling academically and in your other activities?

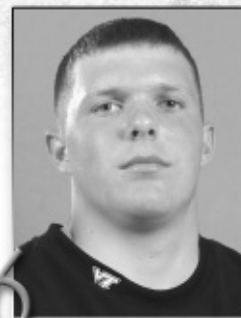
It has been very difficult. I think learning time management is a key to doing well in college. Between practice and studying, and also doing things with my fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha, I keep pretty busy. I feel that if you don't have good time management skills, then you might as well not try doing more than one thing.

What personal goals have you set for this upcoming season?

Every fall and spring they bring in new kickers to compete. Each season you have to keep improving or else you might lose your spot. So I have to keep working hard. Another goal for me is to not have any kicks go out of bounds this season.

How much has the Virginia Tech football program changed since you were a freshman?

In my first year, Virginia Tech football was just becoming known to the nation. Our facilities were nice, but not as great as they are now. Just four years later, the program here has grown so much. The stadium expansion and the new top-of-the-line facilities are a big part of us becoming recognized as a top football program.



Will Montgomery

**Offensive Guard • 6-3 • 286 • r-Fr.
Clifton, Va. • Centreville, H.S.**

A strong young newcomer with the potential to help bolster the Hokies' offensive line ... Came to Tech as an invited walk-on at defensive tackle and earned a scholarship ... Moved to offense before the season and brought his aggressive defensive mentality with him ... Still has a lot to learn about the system, but shows real promise ... Understands leverage ... Possesses good footwork, athleticism and toughness ... Turned in the top bench press among the incoming freshmen in August with a lift of 370 pounds ... Also posted the top hang clean on the team in November at 350 pounds ... Needs to get bigger ... Has the work ethic needed to succeed ... Will compete for playing time at right guard if he continues to make progress ...

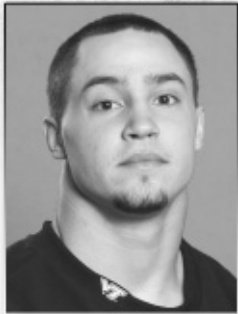
2001: Began preseason practice working as a defensive tackle ... Was moved to offense before the season and redshirted ... Practiced at right guard ... Improved his bench press to 385 pounds during fall scout team testing ... Continued to work at the right guard position during the spring ...

High School: Lettered three seasons as a two-way lineman for Coach Mike Skinner at Centreville ... Was named first-team Group AAA all-state as a defensive lineman by both The Associated Press and the coaches' association as a senior ... Posted 85 tackles, including eight sacks, that season and blocked a punt ... Turned in three sacks and 11 tackles in the state semifinal game against Varina ... Helped team win the state title ... Was first-team all-district and all-region and second-team All-Metro ... Named the Centreville Athlete of the Year in 2001 ... Was second-team all-district on offense and defense his junior year ... Finished the season with 65 tackles and seven sacks ... Also lettered in basketball and track ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

Continued ...

Montgomery *Continued*

Personal: William Michael Montgomery ... Born 2/13/83 in Brunswick, ME ... Son of Mike and Rose Montgomery ... Enrolled in business information technology.



Tommy Morgan

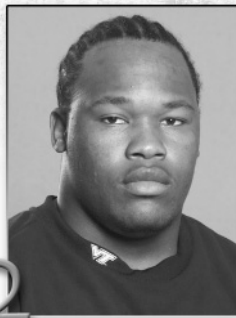
**Linebacker • 6-0 • 206 • r-Fr.
Roanoke, Va. • Northside H.S.**

Worked at the whip linebacker position while redshirting last season ... Joined the team as an invited walk-on ... A hard-nosed football player with good football instincts ... Brings a good work ethic to the field ... Must continue working to get stronger ...

2001: Was redshirted while working at outside linebacker ... Returned a fumble 79 yards for a touchdown in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Contributed a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

High School: Lettered four seasons as a quarterback and defensive back for Coach Jim Hickam at Northside ... Compiled over 1,600 yards rushing and 1,300 yards passing during his prep career ... Earned first-team all-state honors as a DB from The Associated Press and the state coaches following his senior season ... Was named the Group AA Defensive Player of the Year by the coaches ... Posted 56 tackles, five interceptions and two sacks ... Rushed for 928 yards and 13 touchdowns as a senior ... Added 723 yards and six TDs passing ... Also returned a punt for a touchdown ... Rushed for 200 yards in a game against Lord Botetourt ... Named the team's MVP on offense ... Posted seven interceptions as a junior and finished with 15 for his career ... Was a four-time All-Timesland pick by *The Roanoke Times* ... Earned all-district honors three years and all-region recognition as a junior and senior ... Also lettered in basketball, baseball and track ... A member of the National Honor Society ...

Personal: George Thomas Morgan ... Born 3/17/83 in Princeton, WV ... Son of George and Vicki Morgan ... Enrolled in management.



72 Jason Murphy

**Defensive Tackle • 6-2 • 285 • r-Fr.
Baltimore, Md.
Edmondson Westside H.S.**

Changed his body dramatically during his first year at Tech ... Added nearly 30 pounds through the athletic performance program ... A physical player who plays hard ... Runs well and is athletic ... Made progress fundamentally while redshirting last year but still needs to work on his technique ... Has the ability to be an early contributor if he keeps working ... Showed flashes of that ability during the final week of spring practice ... Has a bright future ... A good summer preparation could help put him in the thick of the battle for playing time when preseason practice opens ...

2001: Worked at defensive tackle while being redshirted last fall ... Turned in a 340-pound bench press and 470-pound back squat during spring testing ... Also ran a 4.97 in the 40 ... Had three tackles in one of Tech's spring scrimmages and two tackles and a pass broken up in another ...

High School: *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 ... Enrolled in university studies.



67 Anthony Nelson

**Offensive Guard • 6-4 • 334 • r-Jr. • 1VL
Kingsport, Tenn. • Sullivan South H.S.**

One of the Hokies' strongest players ... Helps provide depth at left guard ... Picked up some playing time last season ... His size and tremendous strength help make him a solid run blocker ... Has worked hard to improve in pass protection ... Benefits from having a good center of gravity and strong hands ... Needs to drop his weight to be more effective ... Could see added playing time if he's successful ...

2001: Saw action on offense in seven games ... Played 52 snaps on special teams and 41 on offense ... Was in on 21 total plays in the season opener against Connecticut ... Was in for 11 offensive snaps against Western Michigan ... Also played on six special teams plays versus the Broncos ... Played 18 total plays at West Virginia and had a knockdown block ... Also had a knockdown against Boston College ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during both the preseason and winter testing sessions ... Turned in a 440-pound bench press, 700-pound back squat and 360-pound push jerk ... Stayed

at left guard for spring workouts ...

2000: Turned in a 425-pound bench 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

Quarterback • 6-2 • 221 • r-Sr. • 1VL
Ridgeley, W.Va. • Frankfort H.S.

Will enter preseason practice wearing a knee brace to protect a torn ACL in his left knee ... Injured the knee during the final week of spring practice ... Tests showed there was not a significant amount of looseness in the knee ... A decision was made to use conservative treatment involving a brace and rehabilitation ... Has his sights set on retaining his starting job in 2002 ... Took over the reins as the Hokies' starting quarterback prior to the 2001 season ... Started all 12 games ... Improved in his decision making as he gained experience ... Suffered through the typical ups and downs of a first-year quarterback ... Showed toughness and a great desire to succeed ... Became a good leader ... Didn't throw his first interception until the fifth game ... Went a span of 108 passes without an interception, three shy of the school record ... His 16 touchdown passes were the most ever at Tech for a

first-year starter ... The Hokies' only quarterback with significant experience ... Brings a lot of intangibles to the position ... Showed poise and confidence during the spring ... His status may not be determined until practice has resumed ...

2001: Threw for 1,826 yards on 146-of-254 passing in 11 contests ... Also rushed for minus-14 net yards and two TDs on 61 carries ... Made his first career start against Connecticut ... Threw for 267 yards and three scores on 16-of-20 passing ... Connected with André Davis on the Hokies' first offensive play for a 47-yard score on a screen pass ... Completed 13-of-25 passes for 144 yards and a touchdown against Western Michigan ... Tossed four touchdown passes against Rutgers, tying the school record for TD passes in a game ... Finished with 164 yards through the air on 17-of-22 passing ... That performance earned him BIG EAST Co-Offensive Player of the Week honors ... Completed 15-of-25 passes for 170 yards against UCF ... Didn't throw any interceptions, but had two fumbles ... Threw his first interceptions of the year against West Virginia ... Completed 12-of-20 passes for 171 yards against the Mountaineers ... Threw for 225 yards and two touchdowns in the win over Boston College ... Was 16-for-28 in that game ... Directed three long drives in the second half against Syracuse ... Finished the game with 162 yards passing and a TD pass ... Threw for 188 yards at Pittsburgh ... Also had two interceptions and a fumble versus the Panthers ... Threw for two touchdowns in the win over Temple ... Had three touchdowns passes at Virginia, including a 58-yarder to Davis in the first quarter ... Struggled against top-ranked Miami, throwing four interceptions and losing a fumble ... Bounced back to complete 15 of 27 passes in the Gator Bowl for a Tech bowl record 269 yards ... Completed a 55-yard scoring pass to Davis ... Earned Iron Hokies honors during spring athletic performance tests ... Completed 7 of 12 passes for 56 yards in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Ran for a TD in the Hokies' third scrimmage and had touchdown passes of 19 and 71 yards in the fourth scrimmage ... Suffered the non-contact injury to his knee just three days before the spring game ...

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

Continued ...

talk with GRANT

How will this year be different for you with a year as a starting quarterback under your belt?

Well, I've gained a year of experience, so that always helps. I'm concentrating on doing the little things better this year and helping this team out. After 12 games as the starter, I know what to expect from different teams and in certain situations, and that will only help for this year.

How is your knee and how do you think it will affect you this fall?

That injury was just a minor setback for me. I practiced all spring and the coaches know what I can do. The off-season rehab has gone exceptionally well and I know I'll be ready to go this fall. In my mind, I'll be the starting quarterback for 13 games this year.

What are your goals for this, your senior year?

I have several personal goals, but ultimately I want to help this team win a BIG EAST title and get this team back to a BCS bowl.

With a schedule featuring Thursday, Sunday, Saturday and even a Wednesday game, do you think it will affect the team's preparation for each game?

There's no doubt that this schedule is tough and there are some odd dates, but I think it's a very good schedule. The way this team prepares, we will be ready, no matter what day we play. I'm excited about the teams we are playing and some of the places we're going. What more could you ask for in a schedule for your final year?

Being from West Virginia, how was the experience of playing in front of your home state last year?

Playing back in West Virginia was one of the most exciting games for me last year. To be able to play in front of people I grew up with was a dream come true. I waited a long time to do that. I loved the atmosphere and the way their fans were on me. I thrive in those situations and I was glad we could come out of there with such a convincing win.

Tech lost a lot of receivers from last year. How will having such a great running back tandem help you out until the receivers can come along?

I have confidence in the receivers we have this year. We have a good mix of experience and athleticism. I think they're going to surprise a lot of people this year. It will be nice to be able to turn around and hand the ball off to two great running backs like Lee and Kevin. I'm excited to have Lee back in the huddle this year because I think he's going to help this team tremendously.

Noel *Continued*

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 ... Has already earned a degree in communication studies ... Is currently studying health promotion in the graduate program.

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
2001	11	254- 146	57.5	1826	16	11
Career	17	266- 151	56.8	1885	16	11
2001 Passing Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	20- 16	.800	267	3	0
WMICH	1	25- 13	.520	144	1	0
at Rutgers	1	22- 17	.773	164	4	0
UCF	1	25- 15	.600	170	0	0
at WVU	1	20- 12	.600	171	0	2
BC	1	28- 16	.571	225	2	1
SYR	1	32- 15	.469	162	1	0
at Pittsburgh	1	29- 15	.517	118	0	2
at Temple	1	15- 11	.733	134	2	1
at Virginia	1	22- 12	.545	190	3	1
MIAMI	1	16- 4	.250	81	0	4



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Luke Owens

**Offensive Guard • 6-3 • 312 • r-Sr. • 3VL
Grundy, Va. • Grundy H.S.**

Is expected to take over the starting duties at right guard in 2002 ... Rated the No. 23 guard in the Division I-A ranks by *The Sporting News* ... Came on strong midway through last season to become a productive lineman ... Got his first start against West Virginia and never let go of the position ... Started seven games at left guard and one on the right side ... Ranked second on the team in knockdown blocks ... Also contributes on special teams ... Combines excellent balance with toughness and a good knowledge of the Tech system ... Has battled a series of injuries during his career but managed to stay healthy last fall, which was a big key ... Had a great spring practice but did not play in the Maroon-White game ... Was picked

Continued ...

talk with LUKE



What has contributed to your success on the field?

When I first got here it was a lot of the older guys like Derek Smith, Dwight Vick, Josh Redding and Matt Lehr kind of showing me the way. Then having Coach Gentry around and all of the hard work I put in helped me get to where I'm at now.

What do you think leads to the success of the team?

Coach Beamer. Bottom line. He's a no-nonsense guy and he wants the best for us and the best for his football team. I think the biggest reason for the Hokies' success is him.

What has helped you the most in your move from a part-time player to a starter?

Probably being in better shape, having to take more reps, working harder in the weight room and working harder in practice.

How has the strength and conditioning program here at Virginia Tech contributed to your success?

I think the strength and conditioning program here is the best in the country. I think it really shows in the fourth quarter because a lot of times, we're just in better shape than our opponents are.



Luke Owens

Owens *Continued*

second-team on the All-BIG EAST team named by *The Sporting News* ... Will be counted on for good senior leadership along the offensive front ...

2001: Played in all 12 games, starting eight ... Averaged 46.5 snaps per game on offense and 6.2 on special teams ... Ended up playing 511 offensive plays and 579 altogether ... Graded out at 81.0 percent for the year with 37 knockdown blocks, second on the team ... Saw action on 20 offensive snaps and 10 on special teams versus Connecticut ... Graded 87 percent and had three knockdown blocks at Rutgers ... Played 47 total plays, 37 on offense, against UCF ... Earned his first career start against West Virginia ... Started that game at right guard and posted 11 knockdowns and a grade of 90 percent ... Moved over to start at left guard against Boston College ... Had four knockdowns on 72 total plays against the Eagles ... Played all 68 offensive snaps as the starter against Syracuse and collected six knockdown blocks ... Graded out at 85 percent on 74 snaps at Virginia ... Had a team-high six knockdown blocks against No. 1 Miami ... Bench pressed 380 pounds during spring testing ... Underwent off-season elbow surgery ... Moved to right guard for spring practice ...

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 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 semifinal game against Salem that season ...

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



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Chris Pannell

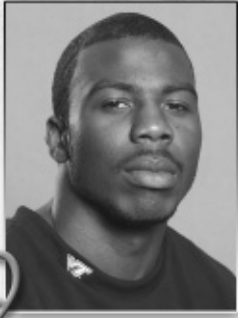
Defensive Tackle • 6-3 • 256 • r-Fr.
Staunton, Va. • Robert E. Lee H.S.

Impressed the coaches with his solid fundamentals and football instincts while redshirting last fall ... Started off working at defensive end, but moved to nose tackle during the spring ... Showed good flexibility and natural leverage ... Has a good frame, but will need to add bulk and strength to succeed in the middle of the line ... Needs to make a good summer preparation ... Will get a shot at a spot on the depth chart when preseason practice opens ...

2001: Redshirted while working at end during the fall ... Moved to tackle during the spring ... Missed some time due to a sprained right ankle ... Returned to play in the annual Maroon-White game and contributed two tackles ...

High School: Lettered a total of three seasons as a defensive lineman and tight end for Coach David Tibbs ... 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 ... 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 ... Enrolled in accounting.



Terrell Parham

Split End • 6-0 • 187 • r-Sr. • 2VL
Bartow, Fla. • Bartow H.S.

An experienced receiver who could help solidify the Hokies' wide receiver positions ... Has the ability it takes to be successful, just needs to be consistent at doing the little things on the field that he is asked to do ... Knows how to get open ... Catches the ball extremely well ... Possesses outstanding body control and athletic ability ... Served as a quality backup to André Davis last season and saw action in every game ... Also started on the punt return team ... Can play either receiver position ... Earned Iron Hokie honors in the athletic performance program during the spring ... Will be in the mix for playing time when practice opens ... Needs to step up and have a big senior season ...

2001: Caught 14 passes for 155 yards, plus a two-point conversion pass in 11 regular-season games ... Opened the season with two receptions for 25 yards against Connecticut ... Caught his first career touchdown pass against Rutgers ... Had two catches for 10 yards in that game ... Caught three passes for 51 yards in a win at West Virginia ... Saw action on 27 offensive snaps against Boston College ... Responded with a catch for 24 yards in that game ... Had two receptions for 15 yards at Pittsburgh ... Caught three passes for 18 yards against Temple ... Caught one pass for 12 yards at Virginia ... Caught one pass against top-ranked Miami for a key two-point conversion ... Hauled in a 22-yard reception against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during spring testing, while registering a personal-best time of 4.46 in the 40 ... Caught three passes for 27 yards in a spring scrimmage and added a 23-yard reception during the Maroon-White game ...

2000: Played in five games, but did not have a pass reception ... Worked a season-high nine offensive plays against
Continued ...

talk with TERRELL



What has contributed to your success on the field?

The main thing is that I have worked hard at is trying to be a trusted player — one that you know will make that “for-sure” catch or block. My teammates know that I won’t let them down on the field.

What has been your most memorable moment so far playing at Virginia Tech?

It was third and 10 and we were playing West Virginia in 1999. We were down late in the game and we needed a first down to get into field goal range. Mike Vick and I hooked up for a big play and Shayne Graham kicked that memorable field goal to help us get the last-second win.

What do you think leads to the Hokies' success?

Everybody working hard and just being prepared and listening to what the coaches say. Plus believing in the system implemented for the upcoming opponents. Everybody has to be on the same page and not be surprised.

Do you have any pregame rituals?

I like to play the whole game in my head the night before, envisioning myself making all kinds of big catches and big blocks. Also, if I drop any balls during warm-ups, I have to go and change my gloves.

Parham *Continued*

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 ...

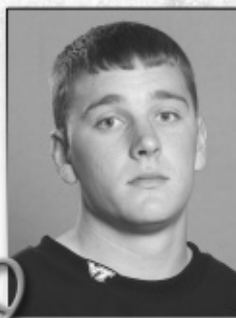
Personal: Terrell Antwan Parham ... Born 10/1/79 in Bartow, FL ... Son of Reginald Parham and Phyllis Parham ... Studying residential property management.



Terrell Parham

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	11	9	98	10.9	0	22
2000	5	0	0	0.0	0	0
2001	11	14	155	11.1	1	24
Career	27	23	253	11.0	1	24

2001 Receiving Game-by-Game	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
UCONN	1	2	25	12.5	0	18
WMICH	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
at Rutgers	1	2	10	5.0	1	6
UCF	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
at WVU	1	3	51	17.0	0	19
BC	1	1	24	24.0	0	24
SYR	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
at Pittsburgh	1	2	15	7.5	0	10
at Temple	1	3	18	6.0	0	13
at Virginia	1	1	12	12.0	0	12
MIAMI	1	0	0	0.0	0	0



89

Robert Peaslee

Punter • 6-1 • 199 • r-Jr. • 2VL
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 ... Did an outstanding job as the holder on all PATs and field goals ... Also served as the reserve punter ...

2001: Saw action in all 11 regular-season games, holding for 65 kicking attempts ... Didn't have a miscue all season ... Turned in a personal-best 400-pound back squat during spring athletic performance tests ...

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



35

Willie Pile

Free Safety • 6-3 • 205 • r-Sr. • 2VL
Alexandria, Va. • West Potomac H.S.

Rated one of the nation's top free safeties ... Picked the No. 10 free safety by *The Sporting News* ... Listed No. 13 by *Lindy's* ... Selected the No. 12 player overall in the BIG EAST Conference by collegefootballnews.com ... Named to All-BIG EAST teams picked by *Athlon* and *The Sporting News* ... Was inconsistent at times last season, but has made a lot of plays for the Hokies during his two seasons as a starter ... Is being challenged to make and finish more plays in 2002 ... Missed most of spring contact work with a shoulder injury ... Will be full speed when practice opens in August ... Has gained a reputation as a hard hitter ... Was named the No. 4 'assassin' in the Division I-A ranks by ESPN's Kirk Herbstreit prior to the 2001 season and was listed one of the top five hardest hitters by *The Sporting News* ... Was second on the team in tackles last season with 94 ... Has led the team in interceptions each of the last two seasons ... Played over 600 snaps on defense during the 2001 season and more than 500 snaps in 2000 ... Possesses excellent size ... Tied Tech and BIG EAST Conference records with three interceptions in the 2000 Syracuse game ... Named to the 2001 Virginia Division I All-State team by the state sports information directors ... Will be expected to fill a prominent leadership role on this year's team ...

2001: Started every game, finishing second on the team in tackles with 94 ... Was credited with 53 solo stops, 41 assists and six passes broken up ... Also had four interceptions, two fumble recoveries, two tackles for loss and a QB hurry ... Recorded a tackle and three assists versus UConn ... Registered three tackles and two assists, as well as two passes broken up and a forced fumble in the Western Michigan game ... Had five

Continued ...

talk with WILLIE



You graduated in four years. How do you balance academics and athletics?

I dedicated myself to the goal of completing my business management degree in four years and stuck to it. I made sure that I would not look back and say "What do I have to show for my five years at Tech besides a couple of scars and some bowl rings?" I needed a little more proof of my college experience and it doesn't get any more valid than walking away with a degree.

You've had a great career at Tech, from your first game when you ran back an interception for a touchdown and recovered a fumble, to last year when you passed Coach Beamer on Tech's all-time interceptions list. Do you feel satisfied with your accomplishments?

The competitor in me won't allow me to be satisfied with the things I've done on the field since I've been here at Tech. Although I feel blessed to be able to do the things I have so far here at Tech, the best is yet to come. I still want to win the national championship this season. I still want to be remembered as one of, if not the best, overall DB to ever play at Tech. I still want to break the school record for interceptions in a career. So to say that I am satisfied with my accomplishments would be selling myself short on the great things yet to come.

Did Coach Beamer say anything to you after you passed him on the interception list?

All Coach said was that I "passed one heckuva player on that list!"

What do you think has been your greatest accomplishment so far?

Off the field, my greatest accomplishment will be graduating in four years from an outstanding university such as Virginia Tech and developing relationships with teammates that will last a lifetime. On the field, my greatest accomplishment so far has been the three-interception game versus Syracuse in the Carrier Dome.

Do you have any pregame superstitions or rituals?

After every pregame meal, I hurry back to my hotel room, listen to one of my favorite CD's, Mary Mary, and sit in the bathroom ironing all of the clothes that I will wear to the stadium, down to the underwear and socks. I then take a shower and get freshened up as if I was going on a date. After that, I get on the bus and listen to Fred Hammond's "No Weapon" and visualize myself being the most dominant player on the field. Once I get to the stadium, I try to be the first one taped by [former student trainer] Chad Hyatt.

Pile *Continued*

tackles, three assists and a fumble recovery at Rutgers ... Had three solo tackles, three assists and an interception against UCF ... Finished with five solo tackles and two assists at West Virginia ... Recorded five solo tackles, including one for a loss, and four assists against Boston College ... Also recovered a fumble in that game ... Recorded 13 total tackles against Syracuse ... Turned in 14 total tackles at Pittsburgh, with eight solo and six assists ... Recorded his second interception of the year at Temple ... Also had four tackles, a tackle for loss and a PBU against the Owls ... Picked off two passes at Virginia, ending two long Cavalier drives near the goal line ... Added six tackles and broke up two passes ... Tied for the highest grade on defense against No. 1 Miami ... Broke up three passes and was credited with 11 solo tackles and seven assists against the 'Canes ... Was in on six tackles against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Earned Iron Hokie status during spring testing, registering a personal-best 520-pound back squat in the process ... Was in on two tackles and broke up a pass in one of the Hokies' first spring scrimmages ... Missed most of the spring scrimmages and the Maroon-White game with a sprained left shoulder ...

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 ...

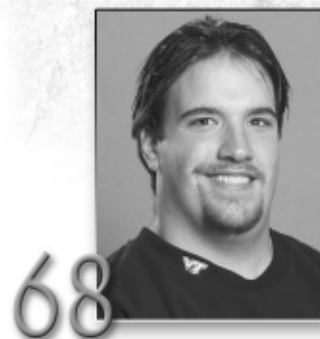
High School: Lettered three seasons as a quarterback, defensive back and receiver at West Potomac for Coach Dale Eaton ... Ranked the No. 24 player in the state by *SuperPrep* and the No. 31 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... A first-team Group AAA all-state pick on defense by the coaches and The Associated 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 versus 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 ... Has earned a degree in management and is currently pursuing a second undergraduate degree.

Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	3	5	7	12	2-11	1- 9
2000	11	35	21	56	2- 4	0- 0
2001	11	53	41	94	2- 3	0- 0
Career	25	93	69	162	6-18	1- 9

2001 Tackles Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	1	3	4	0- 0	0- 0
WMICH	1	3	2	5	0- 0	0- 0
at Rutgers	1	5	3	8	0- 0	0- 0
UCF	1	3	3	6	0- 0	0- 0
at WVU	1	5	2	7	0- 0	0- 0
BC	1	5	4	9	1- 1	0- 0
SYR	1	7	6	13	0- 0	0- 0
at Pittsburgh	1	8	6	14	0- 0	0- 0
at Temple	1	2	2	4	1- 2	0- 0
at Virginia	1	3	3	6	0- 0	0- 0
MIAMI	1	11	7	18	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
2001	11	4	77	19.3	0	53
Career	25	10	99	9.9	1	53



Robert Ramsey

Center • 6-2 • 306 • r-Fr.
Coraopolis, Pa. • Montour H.S.

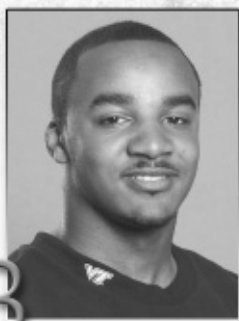
Will compete for the No. 2 center spot when practice opens ... Has only seen limited playing time in the past, but showed a solid grasp of the Tech offense during 2002 spring workouts ... Could also play guard if needed ... Possesses good size but needs to dedicate himself in the weight room and in the area of conditioning to reach his potential ... Has a chance to earn some playing time with a good showing in preseason ...

2001: Saw action on 86 plays as a backup center ... Played in eight of the Hokies' 11 regular-season games ... Got his first career action in the opener against Connecticut, playing 27 snaps ... Saw action on 15 offensive snaps versus Western Michigan, grading 86 percent and posting a knockdown block ... Graded out at 81 percent and had another knockdown at Rutgers ... Graded 88 percent in brief action against UCF ... Posted two knockdowns at West Virginia ... Saw action on a pair of offensive snaps in the win over Boston College and at Pittsburgh ... Was in for six plays on offense against Temple ... Posted personal bests in the back squat (575) and push jerk (305) during spring athletic performance tests ... Continued to work at center during spring practice ...

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 history.



Bryan Randall

**Quarterback • 6-0 • 213 • So. • 1VL
Williamsburg, Va. • Bruton H.S.**

A key figure for the Hokies in 2002 ... Could be thrust into the starting quarterback job if starter Grant Noel is unable to play on his injured knee ... Served as the No. 2 quarterback last season as a true freshman ... Experienced his share of ups and downs, but gained some much-needed experience ... Excelled during off-season athletic performance testing ... Made significant progress during spring practice and was named one of the Hokies' most improved players ... Threw the ball well and exhibited better arm strength ... Played with poise and confidence ... Showed improved technique ... An

intelligent player who works hard ... A mobile, athletic signal-caller who can make plays when things break down ... Handled all the quarterbacking duties for both teams during Tech's Maroon-White spring game ... Needs to build on his spring success and carry it over to the summer and preseason ... Appears to be ready to handle the challenge ...

2001: One of four true freshmen to see action ... Won the No. 2 quarterback job during the preseason ... Saw action in all but three games ... Completed 12 passes on 34 attempts with no touchdowns and an interception on the year ... Also rushed 20 times for 104 yards in eight games ... Was 5-for-10 passing in his first career action against Connecticut ... Threw for 56 yards and had 30 yards rushing against the Huskies ... Completed a 12-yard pass in his only attempt against Western Michigan ... Was 2-for-5 against Rutgers for 11 yards ... Also ran for 39 yards in that contest ... Ran for 24 yards against UCF ... Was 2-for-4 at West Virginia for 17 yards ... Threw his first career interception in the Boston College game ... Was 2-for-7 at Pittsburgh for 18 yards ... Directed three drives at the end of the Temple game ... Was intercepted in his only passing attempt in the Gator Bowl ... Won Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Led the quarterbacks with a 320-pound bench press and 570-pound back squat ... Turned in a 33 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.54 clocking in the 40 ... Completed 3 of 8 passes for 23 yards in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Completed six passes in 11 attempts for 47 yards and a touchdown during the second scrimmage and added a touchdown run in the third ... Passed for 103 yards and a TD in the final scrimmage ... Played every offensive snap for both teams in the spring game and finished with a combined total of 211 yards passing ... Completed 21 of 38 passes with one interception ... Scored the only touchdown of the game on an 8-yard run ... Shared the Dr. Richard Bullock Award for the most improved offensive player with guard James Miller ...

High School: 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 ... 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 the 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 his final 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.

Passing	G	Att	Comp	Pct.	Yds.	TD	Int
2001	8	34	12	35.3	114	0	1
Rushing	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG	
2001	8	20	104	5.2	0	24	



Vegas Robinson

**Linebacker • 6-0 • 239 • r-Jr. • 1VL
Chesapeake, Va. • Deep Creek H.S.**

A physical player who has a chance to become a real playmaker for the Hokies ... Moved into the starting backer position during the spring and played outstanding football ... Kept his mental mistakes to a minimum ... Played faster as he became more confident ... Is steady against both the run and the pass ... Possesses all the physical tools, including outstanding strength and speed ... Attained Elite Athlete status in the spring when he posted a 370-pound bench press, a 600-pound back squat, a 321-pound clean, a 341-pound push jerk, a 39 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.47 40 ... Needs experience and should get plenty this fall ... An important player in Tech's defensive plans for 2002 ...

2001: Played in all 11 games, recording 14 tackles ... Had three solo stops and 11 assists ... Saw action on 78 defensive plays and 44 special teams plays ... Finished with a tackle and three



Vegas Robinson

assists in the opener against UConn ... Saw action on seven defensive plays versus Western Michigan, recording a solo tackle and an assist ... Had two assists on 19 defensive plays at Rutgers ... Played eight total plays against UCF, recording an assist and 14 total plays at West Virginia, with one assist ... Saw limited work on special teams against Syracuse, Virginia and Miami ... Had a solo stop and two assists on 14 plays against Temple ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during both preseason and spring testing ... Registered six tackles, including two behind the line, during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages ... Had three tackles in another scrimmage ... Was in on a tackle during the Maroon-White game ...

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 and a 38-inch vertical jump ... Set a new position record with a 4.46 40-yard dash ... Posted five tackles, including two behind the line, during the annual Maroon-White game ...

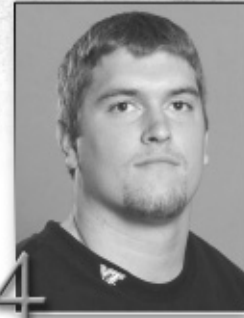
1999: Got a brief look at outside linebacker before moving inside to the backer position ... Turned in the best time among the incoming freshmen in the 20-yard shuttle run (4.13 seconds) ... Posted three tackles in one spring scrimmage ... Contributed a sack in another spring outing ...

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
2001	11	3	11	14	0- 0	0- 0
Career	17	5	13	18	0- 0	0- 0



54

Bob Ruff

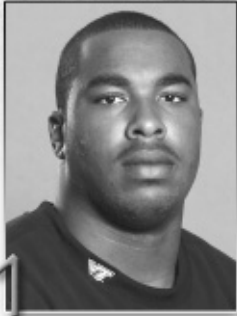
**Defensive End • 6-1 • 229 • So.
McMurray, Pa. • Peters Township H.S.**

Joined the team as an invited walk-on last fall and worked at the stud end position ... Played on the scout and jayvee teams ... Has a good work ethic ... Should benefit from the athletic performance program ... Will help provide depth at a position with a number of more experienced players ...

2001: Worked at defensive end ... Played in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave and contributed a tackle ... Registered a 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Was in on two tackles during one spring scrimmage and one in another ...

High School: Lettered three seasons as a linebacker and quarterback for Coach Garry Cathell at Peters Township ... Named Quad A first-team as a linebacker and earned honorable mention all-state honors ... Was team MVP as a junior and senior ... Contributed two interceptions and a pair of fumble recoveries as a senior ... Was moved from offensive tackle to quarterback in the third quarter of a game against Laurel Highlands and guided his team to a win ... Went on to pass for over 500 yards and seven TDs during the season ... Threw a game-winning TD pass with 53 seconds showing to beat previously unbeaten conference leaders ... Had 36 solo tackles and 54 assists his junior year ... Also lettered in basketball and baseball ...

Personal: Robert Ryan Ruff ... Born 9/23/82 in Bryn Mawr, PA ... Son of Robert and Christine Ruff ... Enrolled in university studies.



71

Tim Sandidge

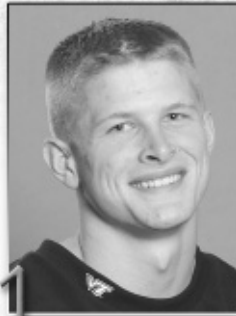
Defensive Tackle • 6-1 • 272 • r-Fr.
Madison Heights, Va.
Amherst County H.S.

A relative newcomer to football who showed plenty of promise while redshirting last season ... Only played two years of football in high school ... Showed the most improvement among the tackles during spring practice ... Dropped some weight and improved his quickness while working in the athletic performance program ... Is still learning the system ... Should continue to get better with more reps at the position ... Is expected to compete for playing time when practice resumes ...

2001: Practiced at the nose tackle position while redshirting as a freshman ... Registered the fastest 40 time among the defensive tackles with a 4.85 clocking during spring testing ... Also turned in a 550-pound back squat ... Had three tackles in one of Tech's spring scrimmages and intercepted a tipped pass ... Added three more tackles in another scrimmage ...

High School: 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 ... Enrolled in business.



81

Chris Shreve

Split End • 6-0 • 184 • r-Jr.
Mouth of Wilson, Va. • Grayson County H.S.

A solid receiver who has worked at both wide receiver positions ... Is slated to open practice at split end ... Is among the hardest workers on the Tech squad ... Can always be counted on to give his top effort ... Was seeing action on both offense and special teams last season before being slowed by an ankle injury ... Possesses good speed and a real desire to play the game ... Catches the football ... Has worked to improve in all phases of the game ... Named to the 2001 BIG EAST All-Academic Football Team ... Will be a candidate for special teams duty again this fall ... Also could earn some more playing time on offense with a good preseason showing ...

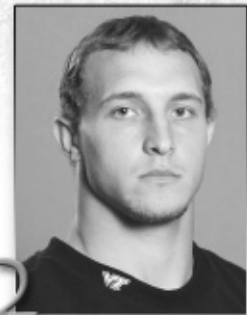
2001: Played in six games, mostly on special teams ... Made his first career reception, and only catch of the season, in the opener against Connecticut, resulting in a 13-yard gain ... Saw action on 22 plays in that game, including a personal-best 11 on offense ... Contributed two knockdown blocks against Western Michigan ... Also saw action on offense and special teams against Rutgers and West Virginia before missing the Boston College game due to an ankle injury ... Was in for five special teams plays against Syracuse and six offensive snaps at Temple ... Posted a 405-pound back squat, a 304-pound push jerk, a 36-inch vertical jump and a 4.37-second time in the 40 during spring testing ... Had a catch for a 9-yard gain in one spring scrimmage ... Added an 8-yard reception during the Maroon-White game ...

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 Country ... 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.



42

Josh Spence

Fullback • 6-0 • 233 • r-So.
Riner, Va. • Floyd County H.S.

Is adjusting to the fullback position after moving there permanently last year ... Has all the physical tools to be successful at the position, just needs to develop consistency ... That consistency should come as he gets more reps ... A big strong back who came to Tech as a tailback ... Spent some time at tailback and linebacker before moving to fullback ... His only playing time on offense to date has been at tailback ... Has increased his bulk and strength through the athletic performance program ... Is working hard to make the adjustment ... Will get a

Continued ...

Spence *Continued*

chance to compete for playing time in August ...

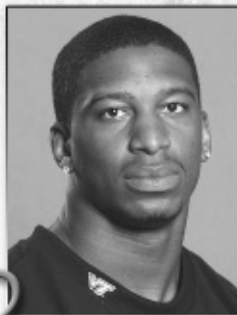
2001: Saw brief action in the first two games of the season ... Was in on seven special teams plays in the opener against UConn ... Played six offensive snaps at tailback and six special teams plays versus Western Michigan ... Also played in Tech's jayvee game against Hargrave ... Rushed for 98 yards on 23 carries in that game ... Earned Elite Athlete status during spring athletic performance testing ... Registered a 390-pound bench press, a 625-pound back squat, a 346-pound clean, a 320-pound push jerk, a 40-inch vertical jump and a 4.51 time in the 40 ... Rushed for 18 yards and caught a 4-yard pass in one spring scrimmage ... Had a 10-yard reception in another scrimmage ... Contributed two catches for 6 yards and a 4-yard run during the Maroon-White game ...

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 ... Hyperextended 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.



22

Lee Suggs

**Tailback • 6-0 • 201 • r-Sr. • 2VL
Roanoke, Va. • William Fleming H.S.**

Is set to return to action after missing all but one game of the 2001 season with a torn ACL ... Will try to recapture the form that earned him All-America honors in 2000 when he led Division I-A in scoring ... Appears up to the task ... Worked extremely hard during his rehab from the injury ... Returned for the off-

season program and earned Super Iron Hokie honors ... Ran hard all spring, participating in all the drills and non-contact workouts ... Played five snaps in the first full spring scrimmage to give him a feel for contact, but did not see action in any other contact work ... Was named to the *Playboy* All-America team over the summer and has been listed as the No. 5 running back in the nation for the upcoming season by *The Sporting News* ... Picked preseason All-BIG EAST by *TSN* and *Athlon* ... Suffered the injury to his left knee during the third quarter of Tech's season opener against UConn ... Had rushed for 99 yards and two touchdowns up to that point, making him Tech's all-time leader in rushing touchdowns (31) and total touchdowns (32) ... Underwent reconstructive surgery in September ... Had rapidly established himself as one of the top running backs in the nation prior to the 2001 season ... Made a real impact during 2000 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 ... Was named the co-BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year and was a unanimous pick for first-team All-BIG EAST ... Also 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, total touchdowns and scoring ... Set six BIG EAST Conference records, including single-season records for rushing touchdowns,



Lee Suggs

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 that season ... Added three more TDs that don't count on his total during a Gator Bowl win over Clemson ... His six 100-yard games in 2000 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 ... Saw some action on special teams and blocked a punt against West Virginia ... 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 help give the Hokies one of the most potent rushing attacks in the nation if he returns to form ...

2001: Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in preseason testing session ... Saw his lone action of the year against Connecticut ... Tore his ACL and medial meniscus in the third quarter ... Left the game with 99 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 12 carries ... Set the school record for career touchdowns (32) and career rushing touchdowns (31) before suffering the injury ... Underwent reconstructive surgery and missed the remainder of the season ... Returned for spring athletic performance testing and earned Super Iron Hokie honors once again ... Participated in spring practice ... Went through all the drills, but made just one brief appearance in a contact scrimmage ...

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

Continued ...

talk with LEE



What did you learn from sitting out last year with your knee injury?

I learned that everything does not always turn out the way you expect it to. I also learned that you never know what is going to happen and you have to take it as it comes.

Was it hard to sit out and watch your team play knowing that you could not go out and compete?

Yes, that was the hardest part. It is hard to sit on the sidelines and not be able to do much of anything, especially to be on the sidelines and see your team lose and struggle against an opponent.

Do you think you will be able to get back to your 2000 form?

I know I will. It is going to take a little time, but I am getting back into form right now. I know I will be ready August 25th.

How do you see yourself co-existing with Kevin Jones in the backfield next season?

At Tech, we always have two backs. This year is just going to be like any other year. My sophomore year I was with André Kendrick, so it is not going to be anything different.

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

As a guy who came back from disappointment my junior year. A player who came back from a big injury and just rose to the occasion.

How does it feel being a part of arguably the greatest years in Tech football history and helping the program ascend to national prominence?

It has been fun. My redshirt freshman year we went to the Sugar Bowl, and ever since then we have been trying to get back to the national championship game. Every year we have been in the top 25 and it has been really fun and challenging to stay up there.

Suggs *Continued*

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 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 ...

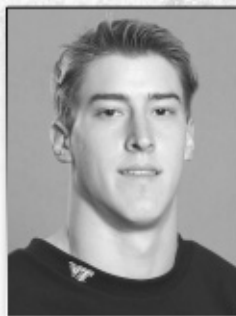
High School: Rushed for 2,918 yards and 30 touchdowns as a senior for Coach George Miller at William Fleming High ... Earned postseason All-America honors from both *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 4 player in the state and the No. 19 running back in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... An honorable 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, NC ... 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
2001	1	12	99	8.2	2	49
Career	21	278	1442	5.2	31	56

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
1999	9	1	1	1.0	0	1
2000	11	3	44	14.7	1	23
2001	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
Career	21	4	45	11.3	1	23



John Thibodeau

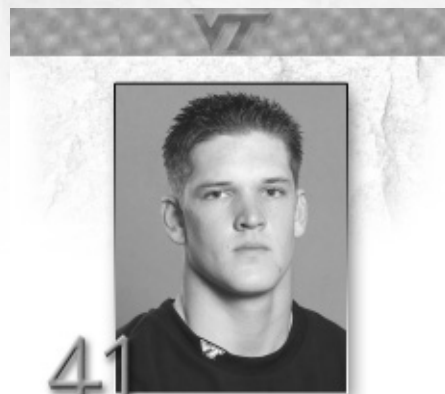
Split End • 6-0 • 171 • r-Fr.
Springfield, Va. • Hayfield H.S.

Worked at split end last season after joining the team as a walk-on ... Did not play football in high school ... Contributed as a member of the scout team ... Needs to add strength and get more exposure to the Tech system ...

2001: Practiced at split end ... Played on the scout team ...

High School: Lettered four years as a wrestler at Hayfield ... Represented the state of Virginia in the nationals for Greco-Roman wrestling ...

Personal: John Robert Thibodeau ... Born 9/7/82 in Montgomery, AL ... Son of David and Betty Thibodeau ... Brother, Anthony, played football at Tech ... Enrolled in general engineering.



Jordan Trott

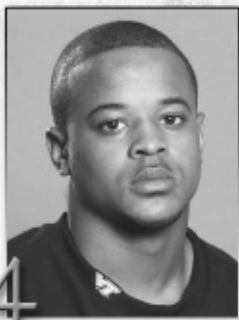
Linebacker • 6-4 • 233 • r-Fr.
Torrance, Calif. • Loyola H.S.

A big, rangy freshman with a lot of potential ... Made good progress while being redshirted last year ... Worked at the mike linebacker position ... Has good football savvy and athletic ability ... Needs continued exposure to the athletic performance program ... Should get better and better as he adds strength and gets more reps at the position ... Could be in the mix for playing time if he continues to make progress during the preseason ... The first football player from the state of California to sign with Virginia Tech straight out of high school ...

2001: Was redshirted while working at mike linebacker ... Turned in a 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Was in on five tackles during one of the team's spring scrimmages ... Contributed two tackles in the Maroon-White game ...

High School: 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* ... 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 studying business.



24

D.J. Walton

Cornerback • 5-9 • 197 • r-Fr.
Woodbridge, Va. • C.D. Hylton H.S.

A smart young player who made steady progress while redshirting last fall ... Got a look at both cornerback positions ... Showed improvement in the athletic performance program throughout the year ... Possesses a good work ethic ... His summer preparation and performance in preseason practice will determine his status for the upcoming season ...

2001: Practiced at the field corner position while redshirting in the fall ... Posted a 475-pound back squat during spring athletic performance testing ... Moved to boundary corner for spring practice ... Contributed a tackle in the annual Maroon-White game ...

High School: 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 at Hylton ... 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 ... Enrolled in university studies.



49

Carter Warley

Place-Kicker • 6-0 • 190 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Richmond, Va. • Fork Union H.S.

Struggled with back problems during the 2001 season, but still managed to lead the team in scoring with 77 points ... Lacked the consistency he exhibited in 2000 when he also contributed 77 points ... Finished fifth overall in the BIG EAST Conference in scoring both seasons ... Returned to form during the spring and kicked extremely well ... Made his first seven field goals during 2002 spring scrimmages ... Made all of his extra point attempts last season but hit just 52.4 percent of his field goals (11-for-21) ... Was one of the Hokies' most consistent offensive performers as a redshirt freshman in 2000 when he was the highest scoring freshman in the BIG EAST Conference ... Was second in the league in both field goal percentage (77.8) and PAT kicking percentage (98.2) that year ... 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 in 2000 ... Tied Tech records for extra points

attempted (57) and made (56) in a season ... Is scheduled to handle the place-kicking chores again this fall, but could get some competition when preseason practice opens ...

2001: Scored 77 points in 11 games, tops on the team ... Was a perfect 44-for-44 on extra point kicks ... Made 11 of his 21 field goal attempts ... Connected on all seven extra point attempts versus UConn and made a 39-yard field goal ... Was 6-for-6 on PATs and 2-for-4 on field goals at Rutgers ... Made all five of his PATs and was 3-for-3 on field goals against UCF ... Made field goals from 19 and 39 yards against Boston College ... Kicked a 27-yard attempt against top-ranked Miami ... Made his only field goal attempt in the Gator Bowl from 36 yards out ... Converted his first seven field goal tries in spring scrimmages before coming up just short on a 56-yarder ... Kicked field goals of 39 and 22 yards in the Maroon-White game ...

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 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	56- 57	7- 9	47	77
2001	11	44- 44	11-21	39	77
Career	22	100-101	18-30	47	154

Field Goals	10-29 yds	30-39	40-49	50+
2000	1-1	4- 5	2-3	0-0
2001	6-7	5-10	0-4	0-0
Career	7-8	9-15	2-7	0-0

40



Blake Warren

Linebacker • 6-3 • 221 • r-Fr.
Clifton, Va. • Centreville H.S.

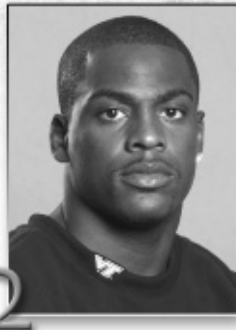
Will battle for the No. 2 spot at the backer position when preseason practice opens ... Put himself in position for playing time with a strong finish during 2002 spring practice ... Was named the team's top defensive newcomer ... Has a big, rangy frame ... Has already added over 15 pounds through the athletic performance program ... Still needs to get stronger, but has good football instincts ... Is tough, physical and aggressive ... Has shown the ability to see things developing from the linebacker position ... Continues to adjust to the position after playing safety in high school ... Comes from a good football background ... His father, Don, played 14 years for the Washington Redskins ... Has a bright future in Tech's defensive scheme ...

2001: Was redshirted as a freshman ... Worked at the backer position the entire year ... Turned in a 400-pound back squat during spring testing ... Posted four tackles in one spring scrimmage and contributed a sack in another scrimmage ... Was in on five tackles during the Maroon-White game, including one behind the line ... Also broke up a pass ... Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the top defensive newcomer of the spring ...

High School: 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 Warren ... Enrolled in university studies.



Ronyell Whitaker

Cornerback • 5-9 • 197 • r-Sr. • 3VL
Norfolk, Va. • Lake Taylor H.S.

One of the nation's top cornerbacks ... Was a first-team All-BIG EAST Conference performer and a third-team Associated Press All-America pick last season ... Has been named first team on *Athlon's* 2002 preseason All-America team ... Rated the No. 8 cornerback in the nation by *The Sporting News* ... Ranked the No. 10 cornerback by *Lindy's* ... A preseason All-BIG EAST pick by *Athlon*, *TSN* and *collegefootballnews.com* ... Heads into 2002 season at the field corner spot after starting the past two years at boundary corner ... Frequently draws an opponent's top receiver ... Is tough and physical ... Studies the game and opponents ... Has the potential to be a dominating corner, but needs to concentrate on every play ... Has seen action on over 1,375 plays during his last 21 regular-season games ... Was Tech's busiest player in 2000 with over 750 plays

to his credit on defense and special teams ... Opened that 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 full-time in 2000 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 ... A second-team All-BIG EAST selection in 2000 ... Named to the 2001 Virginia Division I All-State team by the state sports information directors ...

2001: Played in 10 games, recording 53 tackles ... Had 27 solo stops, 26 assists and broke up a team-high 10 passes ... Also had two tackles for loss, an interception and a fumble recovery ... Was in on six tackles in the opener against UConn ... Registered three solo stops and broke up a pass against Western Michigan ... Finished with a tackle and four assists at Rutgers ... Also had an interception and broke up a pass ... Had two solo tackles, recovered a fumble and broke up a pass against UCF ... Registered a solo tackle, an assist and three pass deflections at West Virginia ... Was in on seven tackles, one for a loss, and broke up two passes against Syracuse ... Returned a blocked field goal 71 yards for a touchdown at Pittsburgh ... Also had a solo tackle, three assists and a PBU in that game ... Was suspended for the Temple game for violating team rules ... Was credited with eight solo tackles, five assists, a tackle for loss and a pass breakup against No. 1 Miami ... Earned Iron Hokie honors in both the preseason and spring testing periods ... Registered a personal-best 555-pound back squat in the spring ... Moved to field corner for spring practice ... Posted four tackles in one spring scrimmage ... Finished with two tackles, a tackle for loss, a pass broken up and an interception in another scrimmage ... Contributed a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

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

Continued ...

talk with RONYELL

What are your goals for this, your senior season?

I have several goals, but just a couple of main ones. Personally, I want to knock down everything and everyone that comes at or near me. I had a good junior year and want to go out on top this year. As far as team goals, I want to do everything in my power to help this team get back to the national championship game.

You were named an All-American last year. Do you feel any additional pressure going into this season with all of the expectations on you?

Not really because I have those same expectations for myself. I've been playing this position and football for so long that I should be good. This game has always come naturally to me and with hard work and a good summer of preparation, I know that I can have another great season and help this team out.

The defense lost a lot up the middle last year in the line and linebackers. What are the defensive backs going to have to do early until the new guys can come along?

We have to be flawless back there and I think we have the talent to do that. If we play well early, we can help the new guys in the middle. We're going to have to pull them along and bring them up to our level. They have to learn early that we can't wait on them and they need to raise their level of play quickly.

What are the strengths of this defensive backfield?

We're a good group because we've all played and we bring a lot of flexibility to the table. Any player can play at any position, and that's big. It doesn't have to be just the starters out there for us to be successful. We have enough experience, depth, talent and speed to make any combination work.

Who was the toughest receiver you played against in college and why?

I'd have to say it's a toss-up between [Florida State's] Peter Warrick and [Pittsburgh's] Antonio Bryant. Warrick had a lot of experience and was a superb route runner. His knowledge of the game made it tough to defend him. Antonio was good and let you know it. He had great speed and size, which made it tough to defend. And both are now playing on Sunday, so that says something.

How do you want Virginia Tech fans to remember you when your playing days are over here?

I want to be known as a dependable guy. I want people to want to go to war with me and want me in a fox hole with them. I'm going to fight, scrap and claw to get the job done and I hope people realize that. Now, I'm going to talk some trash along the way, but I want people to remember me as someone who would do anything to help this team be successful.

Whitaker *Continued*

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.

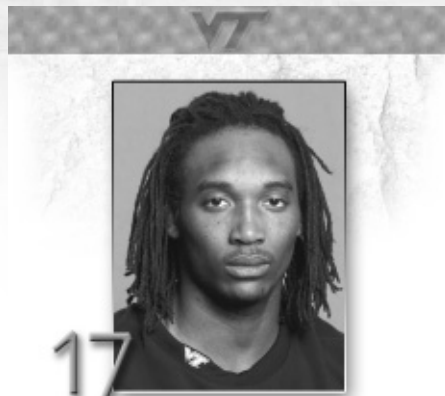
Tackles	G	UT	AT	Tot.	Loss	Sacks
1999	11	22	7	29	2- 2	0- 0
2000	11	37	24	61	2- 3	0- 0
2001	10	27	26	53	2- 4	0- 0
Career	32	86	57	143	6- 9	0- 0

2001 Tackles Game-by-Game						
UCONN	1	3	3	6	0- 0	0- 0
WMICH	1	3	1	4	0- 0	0- 0
at Rutgers	1	1	4	5	0- 0	0- 0
UCF	1	2	0	2	0- 0	0- 0
at WVU	1	1	1	2	0- 0	0- 0
BC	1	2	4	6	0- 0	0- 0
SYR	1	3	4	7	1- 3	0- 0
at Pittsburgh	1	1	3	4	0- 0	0- 0
at Temple				Did not play		
at Virginia	1	3	1	4	0- 0	0- 0
MIAMI	1	8	5	13	1- 1	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
2001	10	1	0	0.0	0	0
Career	32	6	76	12.7	0	32



Garnell Wilds



Garnell Wilds

Cornerback • 5-11 • 194 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Tampa, Fla. • Hillsborough H.S.

Plays with the best technique in the secondary ... Knows how to play both cornerback positions ... Understands his limitations and rarely gives up a big play ... Doesn't have the speed that some of the Hokies' other corners possess, but works the hardest on the little things it takes to be successful ... Improved more than anyone in the secondary in 2001 ... Came back nicely from a knee injury that sidelined him for much of the 2000 season ... Enters the preseason listed No. 2 at boundary corner ... Will also be an important contributor on special teams ...

2001: Played in all 11 games, starting one ... Had 27 tackles on the year with 16 of them solo stops ... Also had four PBU and two interceptions ... Had a tackle and an assist on 14 defensive plays against UConn ... Had a solo stop at Rutgers and an assist on 20 total plays against UCF ... Also caught a 33-yard pass from punter Vinnie Burns on a fake punt against the Golden Knights ... Played 24 plays on defense and 10 on special teams at West Virginia, collecting one assist ... Had two solo tackles on 22 plays in the win over Boston College ... Was in for 33 plays at Pittsburgh, recording five solo stops and three assists ... Made his first career start against Temple and responded with two interceptions ... Also had three solo tackles and four assists ... Had a solo tackle at Virginia ... Had two passes broken up against No. 1 Miami ... Contributed a tackle against Florida State in the Gator Bowl ... Posted four tackles in one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages and intercepted a pass in another ... Also had a tackle in the Maroon-White game ...

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
2001	11	16	11	27	0- 0	0- 0
Career	16	19	12	31	0- 0	0- 0

2001 Tackles Game-by-Game

UCONN	1	1	1	2	0-0	0-0
WMICH	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
at Rutgers	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
UCF	1	0	1	1	0-0	0-0
at WVU	1	0	1	1	0-0	0-0
BC	1	3	0	3	0-0	0-0
SYR	1	0	1	1	0-0	0-0
at Pittsburgh	1	5	3	8	0-0	0-0
at Temple	1	3	4	7	0-0	0-0
at Virginia	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0
MIAMI	1	1	0	1	0-0	0-0

Interceptions	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	5	1	5	5.0	0	5
2001	11	2	16	8.0	0	16
Career	16	3	21	7.0	0	16



19

Ernest Wilford

**Split End • 6-4 • 216 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Richmond, Va. • Armstrong/Franklin H.S.**

A big target with great leaping ability and speed ... Battled a nagging knee injury during the early part of the 2001 season ... Never really develop consistency ... Has plenty of potential but has yet to reach it ... Needs to step up his game this fall and play with confidence ... Possesses the work ethic and desire to be successful ... Can play either receiver position ... Will battle for the starting split end job when practice opens ... A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room ... Found himself starting Tech's last four games at flanker in 2000 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 in 2000 and 213 during the last four ... Finished third on the team in receptions with 12 ... Started his Tech career as a defensive end ... Could be a key weapon for the Hokies if he plays up to his ability ...

2001: Met all six of his goals in the weight room in preseason testing ... Had eight receptions for 100 yards and a touchdown in 11 games ... Saw action on nine special teams plays against Connecticut ... Played a season-high 28 offensive snaps at Rutgers, catching two passes for 28 yards ... Had two catches for 23 yards against Syracuse ... Caught

a 7-yard pass at Pittsburgh ... Recorded his first career touchdown in the fourth quarter of the Temple game on a 34-yard reception ... Started Tech's Gator Bowl game against Florida State ... Had a touchdown catch nullified by a penalty in that contest ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in both preseason and spring testing ... Ran a 4.43 40-yard dash during the spring ... Caught two passes for 25 yards during Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Had two catches for 33 yards in the second scrimmage and three grabs for 45 yards in the final full scrimmage ... Hauled in two passes for 44 yards in the Maroon-White game ...

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 for tendonitis in his right knee ... 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 ...

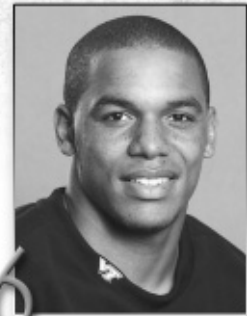
Prep School: Saw action at split end and tight end for Coach John Shuman at Fork Union Military Academy ... Also got a look at defensive end ... Caught 25 passes for 297 yards and seven touchdowns during the 1998 season ...

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
2001	11	8	100	12.5	1	34
Career	22	20	241	12.1	1	34



86

Keith Willis

**Tight End • 6-5 • 241 • r-Jr. • 2VL
Norfolk, Va. • Norview H.S.**

Will compete for the starting tight end job when practice opens ... The most experienced of the Hokies' candidates at the position ... Tall and athletic ... Bench presses 360 pounds and runs the 40 in 4.59 seconds ... Made improvement in blocking at the point of attack during spring practice ... Possesses solid receiving skills but must continue to become more physical ... Contributed as a reserve tight end and a starter on special teams the past two seasons ... Has seen action in 21 of the Hokies' 22 regular-season games during his time at Tech ... Needs to have a good summer preparation ... Will be given the opportunity to become a factor in the upcoming season ...

2001: Played in all 11 games, compiling 102 snaps on offense and 46 on special teams ... Had two receptions for 38 yards and a score ... Opened the season with a reception for 31 yards against UConn ... Played a season-high 25 offensive snaps against the Huskies ... Caught his first career touchdown pass at Rutgers, a 7-yarder ... Started on the kickoff return team and worked on two other special teams units ... Caught a 19-yard touchdown pass in one of Tech's spring scrimmages ... Added a 13-yard

Continued ...

Willis *Continued*

reception in another scrimmage ...

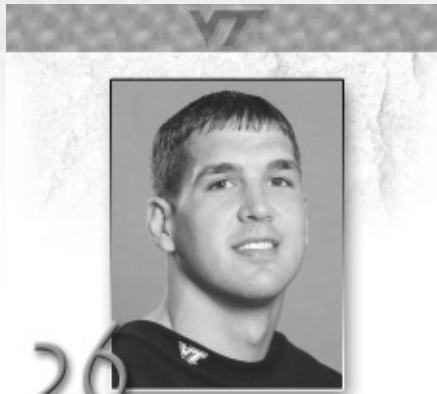
2000: Played on offense in seven games ... Caught a pass for a 21-yard gain in the season opener against Akron ... Was in for a season-high 31 offensive snaps against Rutgers ... Moved into a starting spot on the kickoff return team as the season progressed ... Took time out for one jayvee game, catching 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.

Receiving	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
2000	10	1	21	21.0	0	21
2001	11	2	38	19.0	1	31
Career	21	3	59	19.7	1	31



Shawn Witten

Flanker • 6-0 • 197 • Sr. • 3VL
 Elizabethton, Tenn. • Elizabethton H.S.

An experienced, dependable receiver who started seven of Tech's first eight games at split end last season before suffering a broken leg at Pittsburgh ... Missed the Hokies' last three regular-season games and the Gator Bowl ... Returned to action in the spring ... Heads into 2002 preseason practice competing for the starting job at flanker ... Was having a great year until the injury cut his season short ... Has perhaps the best hands of any Tech receiver ... Earned the starting job in preseason ... A competitor who comes from a good football background ... Works hard to improve his game ... Concentrated on getting off the line of scrimmage and creating space in his route running during spring practice ... Is also a standout on special teams ... Is generally one of the first players downfield on kick coverage ... Will be looked to for leadership and stability ...

2001: Met all six of his goals in the weight room and recorded a 460-pound back squat during preseason strength and conditioning testing ... Played in eight games before sustaining a season-ending injury ... Caught 16 passes for 161 yards and one touchdown on the season ... Made his first career start against Connecticut ... Opened the season with three catches for 43 yards against the Huskies ... Had one catch against Western Michigan ... Caught three passes for 15 yards at Rutgers ... Grabbed two passes for nine yards in the win over UCF ... Had three receptions for 48 yards against Boston College ... Posted perhaps his best game of the year against Syracuse, catching four passes for 45 yards and his first career touchdown ... Was lost for the season when he broke his right fibula on the third offensive play at Pittsburgh ... Had surgery to repair the bone the next week ... Worked at flanker during spring practice ... Caught a 71-yard touchdown pass in one of the Hokies' spring

scrimmages ... Had two catches for 15 yards in another scrimmage and hauled in a reception for 13 yards during the Maroon-White game ...

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 ... Contributed a pair of catches in the Maroon-White game for 61 yards ... Shared the Frank O. Moseley Award as top offensive hustler during spring practice with tackle Matt Wincek ...

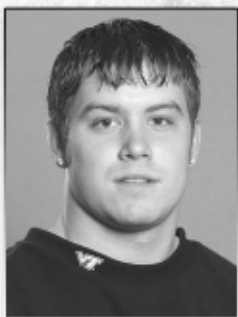
1999: Caught three passes for 25 yards against James Madison in his first collegiate game ... Contributed three tackles on kickoff returns during Tech's win at Virginia ... Hauled in three more passes for 30 yards at Rutgers ... Posted two tackles against Syracuse and two versus Miami ... Played on special 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 ...

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 ...

Personal: Shawn Edward Witten ... Born 5/18/80 in Johnson City, TN ... Son of Kimberly Witten ... Brother, Jason, is the starting tight end for the University of Tennessee ... 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
2001	8	16	161	10.1	1	29
Career	30	31	304	9.8	1	29



J.D. Zeigler

**Linebacker • 6-2 • 219 • r-Fr.
Oakton, Va. • Oakton H.S.**

Practiced at both inside linebacker positions while redshirting ... Joined the team as an invited walk-on ... Played on the scout team ... Works hard and has a nose for the football ... Must continue working to increase his strength ... Did some good things during limited work in the spring ... Will help provide depth this fall ...

2001: Worked at the mike linebacker position while redshirting ... Switched to the backer position for spring practice ... Contributed a tackle during the Maroon-White game ...

High School: Lettered three seasons as a linebacker and fullback for Coach Pete Bendorf ... Was in on 102 tackles as a senior ... Contributed three sacks, three fumble recoveries, two blocked punts and an interception ... Also had over 100 tackles as a junior ... Intercepted three passes that season and had four sacks ... Earned all-district honors as a junior and senior ... Helped team to a district title as a sophomore ...

Personal: James Dawson Zeigler ... Born 11/13/82 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Steve and Nancy Zeigler ... Enrolled in university studies.

talk with SHAWN

Your uncle played football at Tech and your grandfather played football at WVU. What's it like to come from a family with such a strong college football tradition?

Football is a great sport. It has taught our family many valuable life lessons. Growing up, football was, and still is, a way of life. By coming from a strong football tradition, that knowledge has helped me to reach many goals. I feel privileged to come from a family that loves football. I couldn't imagine it being any other way!

Why did you choose Tech over other schools?

Virginia Tech was the first Division I-A school to show interest in me. While I was waiting to hear from other schools, Tech kept in contact and invited me to come visit. The campus was very energetic and seemed like a place where I could be successful. I really thought Coach Beamer was on the same page as his players. He had a great coaching staff and team that went out and gave everything they had and I wanted to be a part of that.

Between high school and college, you have played many positions, which did you enjoy most and why?

Quarterback, by far, is the best position I have played. I love playing receiver and other positions, but all the excitement is being under the center. Whether the team wins or loses, everyone looks to see how well the quarterback played. There are only a select few who can handle this position with all the pressures and responsibilities.

What will you miss the most and the least after you graduate?

I don't think there is a thing I will miss the least. I love everything there is about Virginia Tech football. The thing I will miss most is the family atmosphere — the coaches, fans, and most importantly my teammates. I love the preparation it takes before the season begins ... the hard work and dedication each player provides, knowing we have the same goal in mind.

What are your goals for your senior season?

My primary goal is to help this team have the perfect season — go undefeated, win the BIG EAST and win the national championship. As far as personal goals, I want to be known as a person who strives for excellence every day, every game. Also it would be nice to face my brother and the Tennessee Volunteers.

What's your favorite movie and why?

My favorite movie is Remember the Titans. It is a great reflection of what life was like growing up. Football was a way of life for me and others in the small town. The small town school overcame many obstacles and triumphs even though ours were different. We competed against schools that doubled our size and had more talent. People lived for the football season. If you worked on Friday night, you either closed up or took off early so you wouldn't miss the game. The movie is also a great example of how teamwork is the key to success.



2002 Recruiting Class

Noland Burchette

DE, 6-3, 225, Richmond, Va.,
Highland Springs H.S.

Lettered three seasons as a defensive end and tight end for Coach Scott Burton at Highland Springs ... Posted 21 tackles for loss his senior season, including 12.5 sacks ... Finished with 61 total tackles, 21 quarterback hurries and five passes broken up ... Caused four fumbles and recovered two ... Had 11 pass receptions at tight end for 175 yards and three touchdowns ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state by both The Associated Press and the state coaches ... Saw some action as an H-back, rushing for 225 yards and five TDs ... Contributed 58 tackles as a junior ... Registered 11 sacks and nine additional tackles for loss that season ... Turned in 32 catches for 416 yards and three touchdowns on offense ... Averaged 40.5 yards as the team's punter ... Was a two-time all-district and all-region pick ... Named to the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* All-Metro first team his senior season ... Helped his team to the Group AAA Division 5 regional division title game ... Starred on a defense that held opponents to 148 total yards per game ... Listed as the No. 56 weak-side defensive end in the nation by *Rivals* ... Rated the No. 96 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 16 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 19 player in the state by *SuperPrep* ... Competed in the 100 meters and on relay teams as a member of the track team ... Also lettered two seasons as a forward in basketball ...

Personal: Noland Duke Burchette II ... Born 3/23/83 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Noland and Pollie Burchette.

Chris Burnett

DL, 6-2, 267, Blue Ridge, Va.,
Liberty-Bedford H.S.

Was named to preseason All-America teams by Tom Lemming, *PrepStar*, and *SuperPrep* prior to his senior season ... Played fullback and defensive tackle ... Rushed for over 900 yards and scored seven touchdowns as a senior ... Added 89 tackles and 15 sacks on defense ...

Rushed for 127 yards against Staunton River ... Finished his junior year with 65 tackles and over 200 yards rushing ... Posted four sacks in a game against Brookville ... Earned first-team Group AA all-state honors from the state coaches ... Was a second-team selection by The Associated Press ... Rated the No. 50 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Picked the No. 20 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 21 player by *SuperPrep* ... A two-time all-district pick ... Named first-team All-Region III as a senior ... Lettered four seasons for Coach Scott Abell ... Also lettered as a pitcher in baseball and a weight man in track ...

Personal: Christopher William Burnett ... Born 11/2/83 in Roanoke, VA ... Son of Dennis and Wanda Burnett.

Brandon Gore

OL, 6-5, 310, Warrenton, Va.,
Liberty-Bealeton H.S.

A prep All-American offensive lineman for Coach Joe Trabucco ... Helped clear the way for an offensive attack that rushed for more than 4,100 yards in 2001 ... Also played on defense, collecting 43 tackles, including 16 behind the line of scrimmage ... Turned in eight tackles, three tackles for loss and two sacks in a game against Loudon Valley ... Team finished with a 12-1 record and advanced to the region championship game ... Named to All-America teams selected by *SuperPrep* and *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 18 offensive guard in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Football Report* ... Listed the No. 28 offensive guard by *Rivals* and the No. 35 offensive lineman in the country by *SuperPrep* ... Picked the No. 4 offensive lineman in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Rated the No. 11 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and No. 13 by *The Roanoke Times* ... A first-team All-Metro pick by *The Washington Post* ... Named the player of the year in his district and region as a senior ... Earned all-region honors on offense and defense ... Was a first-team all-state pick as a senior and a second-team selection his junior year ... Lettered three seasons in football and two years in track ...

Personal: Brandon Lee Gore ... Born 11/7/83 in Warrenton, VA ... Son of Tom and Nadine Gore.

Brenden Hill

WR, 6-3, 195, Newport News, Va.,
Warwick H.S.

Led Warwick High and the Peninsula District in receiving as a junior and senior ... Was a first-team all-district pick as a senior and earned second-team district honors on both offense and defense his junior year ... Lettered two seasons as wide receiver and outside linebacker for Coach Tommy Reamon ... Caught 41 passes for 567 yards and six touchdowns in 2001 ... Grabbed five passes for 115 yards and a touchdown against Gloucester ... Contributed 46 tackles and four quarterback sacks on defense ... Finished with 39 catches as a junior, gaining 534 yards and scoring eight TDs ... Hauled in seven passes for 110 yards and two TDs against eventual state champ Heritage ... Scored a touchdown on a pass interception his junior season and posted 33 tackles ... Averaged 13.7 yards per catch during his two seasons ... Earned the team's Michael Vick Award for the most potential in 2000 ... Named a preseason All-American by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Was a preseason All-Atlantic Region pick by *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 38 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast region by Lemming following his senior year ... Rated the No. 36 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 37 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... Played basketball and competed in track ... Was named the basketball team's top defensive player as a junior ... Set a school track mark in the 400 meters with a time of 47.8 ... Also participated in the 4x400 relay and the 300-meter hurdles as a sophomore ...

Personal: Brenden Dee Hill ... Born 7/7/84 in Newport News, VA ... Son of Ms. Shawn Hill.

Mike Imoh

TB, 5-8, 180, Fairfax, Va., Robinson H.S.

Named the Virginia Group AAA Player of the Year by The Associated Press in 2001 ... Rushed for 5,280 yards and scored 68 touchdowns during his varsity career for Coach Mark Bendorf ... A *SuperPrep* All-American who was rated the No. 41 running back in the nation ...

Helped his team to the state AAA Division 6 championship as a senior ... Ran for 2,077 yards and 28 touchdowns ... Added over 400 yards and three TDs on pass receptions ... Had 292 yards rushing and four touchdowns on just eight carries in a game against Langley High ... Scored four TDs and rushed for 210 yards in state championship game ... Earned all-district, all-region and all-state honors ... Named to *Washington Post* All-Metro team ... Picked up 1,760 yards on the ground his junior season, scoring 16 touchdowns ... Set over 20 school records during his prep career, including career and season marks for rushing yards and touchdowns ... Contributed over 1,000 yards receiving ... Team was 31-5 during his career ... A three-time varsity captain in football and basketball ... Won a region power lifting championship ... Rated the No. 11 player in the state by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named to *PrepStar* All-Atlantic Region team ... Rated the No. 13 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* ...

Personal: Michael U. Imoh ... Born 7/21/84 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of James and Alice Imoh.

Fred Lee

WR, 5-9, 180, Harrisburg, Pa., Bishop McDevitt H.S./Milford (Conn.) Academy

Attended Milford Academy during the fall of 2001 ... Originally signed with Tech following the 2000 season and re-affirmed his commitment to Tech last January ... Caught nine touchdown passes last season for Milford ... Helped the team to an 8-2 record ... Was rated one of the top high school receivers in the country in 2000 after catching nearly 100 passes over his last two seasons at Bishop McDevitt ... Hauled in 48 passes for 1,080 yards and 16 touchdowns as a senior ... Turned in six catches for 186 yards and three TDs against Cedar Cliff ... Also returned an interception for a touchdown in that game ... Played defensive back, as well as receiver, for Coach Jeff Weachter ... Finished his senior year with five interceptions and 52 tackles on defense ... Scored three TDs on defense that year — two on interceptions and one on a fumble return ... Earned All-America honors from numerous publications following his senior season in 2000, including *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Named to *PrepStar's* Dream Team and rated the No. 15 wide receiver in the country that year ... Ranked the No. 28 receiver in the nation and the No. 9 player in Pennsylvania by *SuperPrep* ... Listed as the No. 127 player in the nation by Tom Lemming ... Rated the No. 18 receiver in the nation by *Rivals* and the No. 22 WR by *Student Sports* ... Finished his career with 130 receptions for 2,767 yards and 35 TDs ... Registered 11

career interceptions, returning five for touchdowns ... A dangerous return man, he scored two touchdowns on kickoff returns and two more on punt returns as a junior ... Earned 4A all-state honors as a junior and senior and was a three-time all-conference pick ...

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.

Jonathan Lewis

DT, 6-2, 290, Richmond, Va., Varina H.S.

A prep All-America pick by *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... The only player in Varina history to earn all-Metro, all-region and all-state honors three years in a row ... Is expected to team up with his older brother Kevin at defensive tackle at Tech ... Ranked the No. 17 defensive line prospect in the nation by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the nation's No. 3 defensive lineman by Max Emfinger of *USA Today* and the No. 112 player overall by Tom Lemming ... A member of the *PrepStar* Dream Team ... Ranked the No. 6 defensive lineman in the nation by *PrepStar* and the No. 1 DL in the Atlantic Region ... Listed as the No. 26 defensive player in the nation by *G&W Recruiting Report* and the No. 15 DT by *Student Sports* ... Listed as the No. 4 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Played in the prestigious U.S. Army All-American Bowl ... Posted 107 tackles and 10 quarterback sacks as a senior ... Had 15 tackles and a pair of sacks in a game against Armstrong High ... Was in on 12 tackles versus Highland Springs ... Named first-team Group AAA by the AP and the state coaches ... Was the Metro, district and region player of the year as a junior when he had 96 tackles and 11 sacks ... Registered over 300 career tackles and 46 sacks ... Helped Coach Gary Chilcoat's team to a 46-7 record and three region championships during his varsity career ... Also played center on the basketball team ...

Personal: Jonathan M. Lewis ... Born 7/12/84 in Richmond, VA ... Son of David and Gale Lewis ... His brother Kevin is a redshirt sophomore defensive tackle on the Tech squad.

Jimmy Martin

OL, 6-5, 275, Fairfax, Va., Chantilly H.S./Fork Union Military Academy

Was a standout offensive lineman for Coach John Shuman at Fork Union in 2001 ... Also saw action along the defensive line in six games for FUMA and posted a pair of quarterback sacks ... Was

a two-way lineman for Coach Bob Herb at Chantilly High ... Recorded nine sacks and a pair of fumble recoveries on defense as a senior ... Earned first-team All-Concorde District honors on offense and defense in 2000 ... Gained first-team all-region recognition on defense and was an honorable mention Group AAA all-state pick ... Also lettered as a first baseman on the baseball team and earned first-team all-district honors as a senior ...

Personal: James Mercer Martin III ... Born 10/19/82 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Susan Martin and Jim Martin.

Brian McPherson

DB, 5-11, 200, Madison Heights, Va., Amherst H.S.

Played cornerback, wide receiver and running back during his three varsity seasons for Coach Mickey Crouch at Amherst ... Rushed for over 1,300 yards as a senior and scored nine touchdowns ... Contributed 245 yards and two touchdowns rushing against Staunton River ... Carried 17 times for 243 yards and three TDs in a win over William Fleming ... Earned *PrepStar* All-America honors ... Ranked the No. 6 defensive back in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Rated the nation's 57th-best athlete by *Rivals* ... Listed the No. 20 prospect in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and No. 23 by *The Roanoke Times* ... Named the No. 30 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by Tom Lemming ... Selected the offensive player of the year in his area by *The Lynchburg News & Advance* ... Seminole District and Region III Offensive Player of the Year his senior year ... A first-team all-district and all-region selection ... A second-team Group AA all-state pick by the coaches ... Won all-district and all-region honors as a wide receiver his junior season ... Rushed for over 700 yards and caught 17 passes for 435 yards and three touchdowns that year ... Rushed for 2,616 yards during his career ... Also contributed 28 pass receptions for 576 yards and scored 27 career touchdowns ... Helped football team to district title in 1999 ... Also ran track, helping team to district title as a sophomore ... Finished third in the 100-meters at the 2002 state outdoor track meet ... Was clocked at 6.45 seconds in the 60 meters ...

Personal: Brian Keith McPherson ... Born 5/11/84 in Camden, NJ ... Son of Kerry and Barbara McPherson ... His older brother, Kevin, played football at Hampton University ... Great uncle Vincent Johnson was an offensive lineman at Tech in the late 1970s.

Robert Parker

WR, 6-1, 200, Chesapeake, Va.,
Oscar Smith H.S.

Excelled as a receiver and return man for Coach Bill Lyons at Oscar Smith ... Named the Sleeper of the Year in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* ... Caught 25 passes for 384 yards and five touchdowns as a senior ... Returned three punts for 95 yards, including one for a touchdown ... Also had six kickoff returns for 245 yards, an average of 40.8 yards per return ... Scored on an 87-yard kickoff return against Deep Creek ... Posted seven catches for 101 yards and a touchdown in one game and five receptions for 108 yards and two TDs in another game ... Was second-team All-Southeastern District as a receiver and return man as a senior ... Named the team MVP and the top receiver ... Saw action as a tight end his junior year ... Finished with 33 receptions for 517 yards and seven touchdowns during his two varsity seasons ... A sprinter in track ... Ran a leg on the school's 4x100-meter relay team that finished fifth in the 2001 Group AAA track meet ... Also lettered as a forward on the basketball team ...

Personal: Robert Darnell Parker ...
Born 3/10/84 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of
George and Gina Blanchard.

Aaron Rouse

LB, 6-4, 200, Virginia Beach, Va.,
First Colonial H.S.

A *PrepStar* All-American who was named the defensive player of the year in the Beach District as a senior ... Saw action as a wide receiver, safety, linebacker, running back and corner back during varsity career for coaches Sam Scarborough and Frank Webster at First Colonial ... Posted 85 tackles in 2001, including a pair of sacks ... Intercepted five passes, recovered three fumbles and blocked three kicks ... Caught 13 passes for 390 yards and four TDs as a receiver ... Registered 11 solo tackles and scored a touchdown against Princess Anne his senior year ... Was first-team all-district, all-Tidewater and all-region as a senior ... Named first-team Group AAA by The Associated Press and second-team by the state coaches as a defensive back ... Ranked the No. 32 safety in the nation by *Rivals* ... Rated the No. 9 defensive back in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Listed as the No. 79 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 24

player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 24 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... Finished his junior season with 71 tackles, eight sacks and three interceptions ... Posted a game-saving interception against Ocean Lakes ... Named first-team all-district and second-team all-Tidewater ... Blocked a school-record eight kicks during his career ... Had 176 career tackles and nine interceptions ... Also lettered in basketball ...

Personal: Aaron Roosevelt Rouse ...
Born 1/8/84 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of
Nadine Rouse.

Antoine Rutherford

DB, 5-9, 181, Miramar, Fla.,
Chaminade Madonna Prep

Earned first-team Class 2A all-state honors as a defensive back following his senior season ... Also saw playing time as a running back, receiver, safety and return man for Coach Mark Guandolo ... Named to the All-Broward County team in 2001 and was an all-region selection ... Rushed for 760 yards and three touchdowns as a senior ... Also caught eight passes for nearly 200 yards ... Contributed 50 tackles and three interceptions on defense ... Had over 400 combined return yards on punts and kickoffs ... Ran eight times for 98 yards and one TD in a game against Sarasota Riverview ... Also had an interception, five tackles and 62 return yards in that game ... Rushed for 55 yards, broke up three passes and posted five tackles in a game against Carol City ... Named All-Southeast Region by *PrepStar* ... Suffered a knee injury in his team's final regular-season game ... Was in on 40 tackles during his junior season ...

Intercepted two passes and broke up 10 ... Accumulated 342 yards rushing on 33 carries ... Scored three touchdowns on the ground, two receiving and one on a kick return ... Had 582 total return yards ... Compiled 228 all-purpose yards in one game as a junior, scoring twice on passes and once on a return ... Named first-team All-Broward County and was a third-team all-state pick ... Finished his career with 1,562 yards rushing and over 2,500 all-purpose yards ... Contributed over 100 career tackles, including five sacks ... Picked off a total of 10 passes ... Helped team to two district championships ... A major contributor in track competing in the 200-meters, long jump, triple jump and the 4x100 and 4x400 meter relays ... Has run a 22.4 in the 200 and posted jumps of 22-3 in the long jump and 42-5 in the triple jump ... Track team won district title in 2000 ...

Personal: Antoine D. Rutherford ...
Born 10/1/83 in Miami, FL ... Son of Susie
Lee Rutherford.

Nic Schmitt

PK, 6-1, 230, Salem, Va., Salem H.S.

An all-state kicker who scored 223 points during his three varsity seasons for Coach Willis White at Salem High ... Connected on 8 of 12 field goals as a senior and made all 30 of his extra point attempts ... Was 40 of 41 on extra points his junior season ... Also made 15 of 19 field goals that season ... Kicked the game-winning extra point in the 1999 Group AA championship game ... Made 127 of 128 PAT kicks during his career and was 32-for-43 on field goal attempts ... His longest field goal in a game was 48 yards ... Averaged 39 yards as a punter his senior season and 38 as a junior ... Set school records for most points, most extra points and most field goals ... Also saw action as a defensive back and a receiver ... Intercepted three passes his senior season and six his junior year ... Selected second-team all-state as a kicker by both The Associated Press and the state coaches his senior year ... Was also an all-state pick as a junior ... Named All-Blue Ridge District and All-Region III ... An All-Timesland pick by *The Roanoke Times* ... Earned All-America honors from *PrepStar*, which ranked him the No. 2 kicker/punter in the Atlantic Region ... Listed the No. 29 prospect in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 34 player in the state by *SuperPrep* ... Lettered three years in soccer, winning honorable mention all-state recognition ...

Personal: Nicolas James Schmitt ...
Born 1/5/84 in Springfield, MO ... Son of
Rick and Bonnie Schmitt.

Darryl Tapp

DL, 6-2 225, Chesapeake, Va.,
Deep Creek H.S.

Recorded 22 career sacks while helping Deep Creek to a 34-4 record during his three varsity seasons ... Excelled as a defensive end for Coach David Cox ... Earned first-team all-Group AAA honors from the state coaches following the 2001 season ... Was a second-team pick by The Associated Press ... Named first-team All-Southeastern District, All-Tidewater and All-Eastern Region ... Was in on 89 tackles his senior season, including a school-record 15 sacks ... Recovered five fumbles ... Posted three sacks against both Hickory High and Booker T. Washington ... Earned preseason All-America honors from *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Reports* ... Selected an All-American and rated the

No. 2 defensive lineman in the Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* following his senior season ... Ranked the No. 38 weak-side end by *Rivals* ... Rated the No. 14 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 15 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... One of just three juniors to start on offense and defense for Deep Creek in 2000 ... Played in all 14 games and posted eight quarterback sacks ... Earned first-team all-district honors ... Helped team to the state championship game as a junior and to a regional championship in 2001 ... Lettered three seasons in basketball ... Also lettered as a weight man in track ...

Personal: Darryl Anthony Tapp ... Born 9/13/84 in Portsmouth, VA ... Son of Charles, Sr., and Ruth Tapp.

Lamar Veney

DL, 6-4, 270, Stuarts Draft, Va.,
Stuarts Draft H.S.

Recorded over 100 total tackles in 2001 as a defensive lineman for Coach Tom Goforth at Stuarts Draft ... Earned all-city, all-county and All-Valley District honors ... Posted 10 quarterback sacks and seven additional tackles for loss ... Recovered four fumbles and broke up seven passes ... Registered 12 tackles and 2.5 sacks in a game against Lee High during his junior year ... Finished that season with 78 tackles and 13 sacks ... Ranked the No. 29 player in Virginia by *SuperPrep* and the No. 30 player by *The Roanoke Times* ... Listed as the No. 42 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast area in *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Ranked the No. 51 defensive end in the nation by *Rivals* ... Named All-Atlantic Region by *PrepStar* ... Also lettered in basketball and track ... Gained all-city and all-county recognition as a basketball player ...

Personal: Lamar Lynn Veney ... Born 12/24/83 in Charlottesville, VA ... Son of Daniel and Sally Richardson.

Marcus Vick

QB, 6-0, 180, Newport News, Va.,
Warwick H.S.

Compiled over 5,000 yards of total offense during his final two seasons under Coach Tommy Reamon ... Earned prep All-America honors from *SuperPrep*, *PrepStar* and *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Rated the No. 6 quarterback in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 10 QB by *PrepStar* ... Ranked the No. 7 combination (running/passing) quarterback by Tom Lemming ... Named to *PrepStar's* Dream Team and rated the No.

1 quarterback in the Atlantic Region by that publication ... Selected as the No. 24 overall player in the nation by *SuperPrep* and the No. 50 player by *Prep Football Report* ... Passed for 1,746 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior ... Added 702 yards and 13 TDs on the ground ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state by The Associated Press ... Rated the No. 2 player in the state by both *SuperPrep* and *The Roanoke Times* ... Threw for 2,180 yards and 19 TDs as a junior ...

Personal: Marcus Deon Vick ... Born 3/20/84 in Newport News, VA ... Son of Brenda and Michael Boddie ... Younger brother of former Tech All-America quarterback, Michael Vick.

Cary Wade

DB, 5-11, 180, Fairfax, Va.,
Robinson H.S.

A *PrepStar* All-American who was listed as the No. 10 defensive back in the Atlantic Region ... Started three seasons as a defensive back and wide receiver for Coach Mark Bendorf at Robinson ... Finished with 180 tackles and eight interceptions for his career ... Named second-team Group AAA all-state by both The Associated Press and the state coaches following his senior season ... Earned all-district and all-region honors ... Registered 64 tackles, four interceptions and recovered two fumbles ... Blocked a punt ... Also had a 43-yard punt return ... Helped the team to a state championship in 2001 and a 33-3 overall record over three seasons ... Ranked the No. 27 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 28 player by *SuperPrep* ... Rated the No. 94 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Garnered all-district honors as a junior ... Had 11 tackles, a fumble recovery and an interception against Centreville in the regional finals ... Also lettered in lacrosse and track ...

Personal: Cary Dupree Wade ... Born 5/12/84 in Minneapolis, MN ... Son of Clifton Wade and Beatrice Wade.

Jimmy E. Williams

DT, 6-3, 305, Memphis, Tenn., East H.S./
Pasadena (Calif.) City College

Listed as the preseason BIG EAST Conference Newcomer of the Year by *The Sporting News* ... Ranked the No. 5 junior college player in the nation by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... Also listed as the nation's No. 2 JUCO

defensive lineman by Lemming ... Rated the No. 53 junior college player overall by *SuperPrep* ... Earned JUCO All-America honors as a defensive tackle for Coach Tom Maher at Pasadena City College ... Posted 41 tackles in 2001, including eight quarterback sacks ... Also broke up eight passes and recovered a fumble ... Played high school football for Coach Wayne Randall at Memphis East ... Helped the team to the Tennessee 4-A state championship in 1999 and a 37-5 record over three seasons ...

Personal: Jimmy E. Williams ... Born 1/13/82 in Memphis, TN ... Son of Peggy Williams.

Jimmy F. Williams

FS, 6-3, 195, Hampton, Va., Bethel, H.S.

A versatile athlete who played quarterback, safety, wide receiver and outside linebacker during his prep career ... Played at Hampton High until transferring to Bethel prior to his senior season ... Was coached by Mike Smith at Hampton and Tracy Parker at Bethel ... Named All-Peninsula District as a junior and senior, earning first-team honors in 2001 ... Was in on over 100 tackles as a safety and OLB at Bethel ... Intercepted seven passes, returning two for touchdowns ... Also contributed a pair of quarterback sacks ... Compiled over 1,000 yards of total offense as a quarterback, passing for five touchdowns and rushing for six ... Completed 7 of 11 passes in one outing for over 200 yards and a pair of touchdowns ... Rushed for 112 yards on 12 carries in another contest ... Returned punts and kickoffs ... Posted 86 tackles his junior year and picked off four passes ... Had eight pass receptions that season for 217 yards and three TDs ... Registered over 200 tackles and 13 interceptions during his career ... Played on a state championship team while at Hampton ... Ranked the No. 17 safety in the nation by *Rivals* and the No. 21 free safety in the nation by *Student Sports* ... Rated the No. 51 player in the Mid-Atlantic Region by *Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report* ... An All-Atlantic Region pick by *PrepStar* ... Listed as the No. 26 player in Virginia by *The Roanoke Times* and the No. 27 prospect by *SuperPrep* ... Selected to the *Newport News Daily Press* All-Star team as a senior ... Also a two-time all-district selection in basketball ...

Personal: James Franklin Williams, Jr. ... Born 3/8/84 in Hampton, VA ... Son of James, Sr., and Elizabeth Williams.

Walk-ons at Virginia Tech

Jarrett Ferguson was driving down Interstate 81 on April 21, 2002 when he got the most important phone call of his life. It was the Buffalo Bills, telling him they were going to draft him.

Several minutes later, the announcement was made on television that the Bills had taken the fullback in the seventh round of the 2002 NFL Draft, completing another chapter in the success story of Tech's football walk-on program.

The same can be said about the San Francisco 49ers selecting Virginia Tech defensive end John Engelberger in the second round of the 2000 NFL Draft.

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 contributions.

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 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 14 games at defensive end for the 49ers, who made the NFL Playoffs, and played in 15 games. In two years, he has started 27 games and played in 31. He has 54 total tackles, including a career-high five solo stops against Detroit last season, and seven sacks. He also contributed \$100,000 to



Jarrett Ferguson

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 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 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



John Engelberger went from a walk-on at Virginia Tech to a starter in the NFL.

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."

Two of the more recent success stories are Ferguson and Browning Wynn, who used up their eligibility last season. 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 in 2001, becoming the first to accomplish that.

An injury to Cullen Hawkins placed Ferguson into the starting lineup his freshman season. He started the final eight games and was third on the team in rushing and fifth in scoring. He started every game at fullback for the rest of his career, a streak of 44 games and was 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 and took the coveted IronMan Competition title last year. The tight end signed a free agent contract with the Indianapolis Colts just hours after the draft was completed.

"I think our walk-on program is successful because we work at it," Beamer says. "We work at it in recruiting guys who will have a chance to be a player in our program. We evaluate them very carefully. We only have so many spots for walk-ons now and so it is very important that we get kids who have a chance to earn a scholarship."

"I've always liked walk-ons because a lot of them have something to prove and they work harder and they go right by some scholarship guys as far as playing time."

Looking at this year's group of walk-ons, there are six former walk-ons who have already earned scholarships and that number could increase.

Doug Easlick, Brandon Manning, Carter Warley, Mark Costen, Billy Hardee, Will Montgomery and Ken Keister have all made valuable contributions to the program and now are scholarship players.

Hardee is slated to be a defensive starter this year and Keister has been the long snapper for field goals and punts the past two years. Warley has been a consistent field goal kicker and Costen, Easlick and Montgomery are fighting for playing time this season. Manning recovered a blocked punt against top-ranked Miami and took it back for a touchdown last season.

Other walk-ons have stepped up and are headed in the same direction as well. Jon Mollerup and Chris Shreve are two who will likely 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 Jarrett Ferguson or John Engelberger.

Hokies By States



ARKANSAS

Springdale
Will Hunt

CALIFORNIA

Torrance
Jordan Trott

FLORIDA

Bartow
Terrell Parham
Clewiston
Eric Green
Delray Beach
Chris Ceasar
Miramar
Antoine Rutherford
Tampa
Chris Buie
Garnell Wilds
Plantation
Cols Colas
Pompano Beach
James Miller
Winter Haven
Billy Hardee

LOUISIANA

New Orleans
Vinnie Burns

MARYLAND

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

NEW JERSEY

Flemington
Jared Mazzetta
Marlton
Doug Easlick

OKLAHOMA

Edmond
Andrew Fleck

PENNSYLVANIA

Chester
Kevin Jones
Coraopolis
Robert Ramsey
Harrisburg
Brandon Manning
Fred Lee
McMurray
Bob Ruff
Williamsport
Sam Fatherly

SOUTH CAROLINA

Myrtle Beach
Brandon Frye
Summerville
Curtis Bradley

TENNESSEE

Elizabethton
Shawn Witten
Kingsport
Anthony Nelson
Knoxville
Kofi Boateng
Memphis
Jimmy E. Williams

WEST VIRGINIA

Ridgeley
Grant Noel

Hometowns of Hokies from Virginia

Abingdon

Nick Leeson

Alexandria

Willie Pile

Blacksburg

Greg Burnop
John Candelas

Blue Ridge

Chris Burnett

Chantilly

Alex Markogiannakis

Chesapeake

James Anderson
Chris Clifton
DeAngelo Hall
Robert Parker
Vegas Robinson
Darryl Tapp

Clifton

Will Montgomery
Blake Warren

Clintwood

Justin Hamilton

Fairfax

Mike Daniels
Mike Imoh
Jimmy Martin
Cary Wade

Forest

Jake Grove

Grundy

Luke Owens

Hampton

Nathaniel Adibi
Jimmy F. Williams

Herndon

Chad Cooper
Danny McGrath

Highland Springs

Jim Davis

Hurt

Lamar Cobb

Keswick

Reggie Butler

Lyndhurst

Jon Mollerup

Madison Heights

Brian McPherson
Tim Sandidge

Mouth of Wilson

Chris Shreve

Newport News

Brenden Hill
Marcus Vick

Norfolk

Ronyell Whitaker
Keith Willis

Oakton

J.D. Zeigler

Pulaski

Jeff King
Robert Peaslee

Radford

Ken Keister

Richmond

Noland Burchette
Travis Conway
Jonathan Lewis
Kevin Lewis
Carter Warley
Ernest Wilford

Riner

Josh Spence

Roanoke

Tommy Morgan
Lee Suggs

Rocky Mount

Jacob Gibson

Salem

Nic Schmitt

Springfield

John Thibodeau

Staunton

Chris Pannell

Stuarts Draft

Lamar Veney

Victoria

Anthony Davis

Vienna

Jackson Dismukes

Virginia Beach

Steve Canter
Mark Costen
Jon Dunn
Cedric Humes
Aaron Rouse

Warrenton

Brandon Gore

Williamsburg

Bryan Randall

Woodbridge

D.J. Walton

Wytheville

Lance Goff