June Oblinger Shott and Director of Development for Intercollegiate Athletics Lu Merritt unveil a plaque at a ceremony dedicating the June Oblinger Shott Media Center in Lane Stadium's new South End Zone facility in 2002.
The Press Box
The press box at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field comprises five levels. Newspaper and television reporters, the radio network crews and statisticians work on the eighth level. Space in other areas is assigned as follows: Sixth level-University President’s box; Seventh level-Athletic Fund Box; Ninth level-Public address announcer, scoreboard operators, Tech coaches’ phones, private boxes; Roof-Television broadcast booth, team coaches’ show and film crews, phones for visiting team’s coaches and overflow area for media or pro scouts. The press box is accessible by an elevator which is centrally located underneath the west stands and runs to levels six through nine. Steps from the ninth level provide access to the roof area. Admission to the press box is by credential only. Smoking is not allowed in the press box and rest rooms.

Press Credentials
Requests for press credentials are screened with care due to the demand for credentials and to ensure a working press box. Traditional print, television and radio (media agency) regularly assigned to cover Virginia Tech and the visiting school will receive first priority, as well as national news-gathering agencies. Credentials for on-line Internet sites will be granted to Virginia Tech operated Web sites, the visiting team’s official athletics department Web site and the BIG EAST Conference’s official Web site.

Requests should be made in writing on company letterhead at least 10 days prior to the game to guarantee consideration. Requests should be directed to Dave Smith, sports information director. Requests the week of the game will be honored on a space-available basis and will be left at the Will Call window at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field if they cannot be mailed.

Spouses, dates, equipment carriers and non-workers are restricted from the press box, sidelines and locker rooms. Any abuse of a working credential will result in the media agency losing credential privileges. In some instances due to space limitations meeting the criteria identified below does not guarantee credentials for every game.

Accreditation Guidelines
• Only full-time, salaried employees intending to provide actual game coverage may receive a credential.
• A requesting media agency must represent a collective, organizational editorial voice, not simply the offerings of a single individual.

• Membership in a writer’s association does not automatically qualify an agency for credentials.
• A media agency may assign one of its credentials to its on-line entity.
• An on-line entity, not associated with a traditional media agency, may qualify for one credential, subject to the following conditions:
  An on-line entity may receive a credential only if its own full-time staff writes a majority percentage of that site’s own material.
  On-line entities that focus primarily on Virginia Tech Athletics and also sponsor message boards or chat rooms, may receive credentials provided they adhere to a policy that requires that a posted message or opinion is identified with the actual name and city of the individual.
  Any on-line service that is recognized as an outlet intended primarily for the purpose of delivering news related to the recruitment of student-athletes will not qualify for credentials.
  On-line entities will not receive photography credentials.
  On-line entities (other than those identified above) registering 20,000 legitimate unique users per month in each of the past 12 months will be given first consideration.
  “Real-time” transmission of digital images, audio and data, including live game play-by-play and statistics, of any home game is the exclusive property of Virginia Tech and/or its rights holder(s). “Real-time” is defined as “live continual coverage or description of an event.”

Media Will Call
In most cases, credentials will be mailed. Credentials may be picked up through Friday on a game week from secretary Donna Smith at the Sports Information Office. Credentials not mailed or picked up will be held at the Will Call window located a few steps from the main entrance to the west stands of Lane Stadium/Worsham Field.

Photo Credentials
The NCAA has established a control policy to keep the field free from congestion. Only photographers on assignment and members of the television media are given photo credentials. Freelance or amateur photographers will not be issued credentials. All photographers must work outside the 30-yard lines as prescribed by the NCAA. Photographers and TV crews are not permitted in the bench area.

Rights Restriction
Virginia Tech is and shall be the sole owner of any and all copyrights, intellectual property rights and proprietary rights for Virginia Tech Sports Information Directory

Dave Smith
Sports Information Director
Anne Panella
Associate SID
Bill Dyer
Assistant SID
Torye Hurst
Assistant SID
Bryan Johnston
Assistant SID
David Knochel
Assistant SID
Donna Smith
Secretary

Virginia Tech Sports Information
460 Jamerson Athletic Center (0502)
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Office Phone: (540) 231-6726
Office Fax: (540) 231-6984
Smith at Home: (540) 951-8024
Web Site: www.hokiesports.com
images, sounds and data arising from or during Virginia Tech home athletics contests.

The use of photographs, video and/or audio for purposes other than traditional news coverage is forbidden. No redistribution is permitted.

**Ethernet Access**

When a new computer or any other network-enabled equipment is brought into Athletics, the user of that equipment must register the MAC (Media Access Control) address with Brad Tilley (231-7539, rtilley@vt.edu) before they can access the network the first time. (This does not apply to computers that are operating over analog phone lines via modem.) Call the sports information office at (540) 231-6726 for details.

**Phone Lines/Ethernet**

Long distance telephones will be located on the working press tables in the eighth level of press box. These phones require collect calls or a credit card for billing and are designated for pool use.

For photographers who need to transmit electronically, a photo work room, with two pool phone lines, will be available in the June Oblinger Shott Media Center, on the ground level beneath the south end zone.

Newsmen or photographers desiring their own phone line or ethernet portal should submit installation requests to Virginia Tech Communications Network Services (Shannon Hall at (540) 231-4350 or 6460, ehall@vt.edu). Charges apply.

If you request your own line, please notify the sports information office (231-6726, sidsec@vt.edu) so we can give CNS the proper location. Make your requests well in advance of the game.

Wireless users must also register their MAC addresses with CNS before they can access the wireless system in the press box area in Lane Stadium.

**Parking**

Game day media parking is available on a limited basis in a media-designated lot near the Burrows-Burleson Tennis Center. The entrance to this lot is on Tech Center Drive off of Southgate Drive. Requests for parking credentials should be submitted to Dave Smith, sports information director. If you plan to visit the Tech campus during the week, parking information is available on page 327.

**Press Box Services**

Complete team and individual statistics, a play-by-play, drive chart, defensive stats and postgame coaches’ quotes will be provided. An inside public address announcer keeps the media abreast of play-by-play, records that are broken and game notes. A pregame meal is served, starting approximately one and one-half hours before kickoff and refreshments are available throughout the game. Postgame stats will be faxed upon request.

**Postgame Interviews**

With the construction of the south end zone, all postgame interviews take place in the June Oblinger Shott Media Center, located on the ground level, beneath the new edifice. After a short cool-down period, Coach Frank Beamer and selected players will meet with the news media after each home game. A separate room, located directly across the hall from the Tech interview room, is available for interviews with the coaches and players from the visiting team. Directions to both interview areas will be available in the press box or through the SID Office. Media access to visiting players will be determined by the visiting SID.

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**Opponents’ Sports Information Directory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Primary Football Contact</th>
<th>Office Phone</th>
<th>Home Phone</th>
<th>E-mail Address</th>
<th>Sid Fax</th>
<th>Athletics Web Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UCF</strong></td>
<td>Primary Football Contact: Jason Baum</td>
<td>(407) 829-0994</td>
<td>(407) 996-4359</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbaum@mail.ucf.edu">jbaum@mail.ucf.edu</a></td>
<td>(407) 823-5266</td>
<td><a href="http://www.UCFathletics.com">www.UCFathletics.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>James Madison</strong></td>
<td>Primary Football Contact: Gary Michael</td>
<td>(540) 568-6154</td>
<td>(540) 337-7310</td>
<td><a href="mailto:michaelg@jmu.edu">michaelg@jmu.edu</a></td>
<td>(540) 568-3703</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jmuports.com">www.jmuports.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Texas A&amp;M</strong></td>
<td>Primary Football Contact: Brad Marquardt</td>
<td>(979) 845-0096</td>
<td>(979) 696-5721</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bmarquardt@athletics.tamu.edu">bmarquardt@athletics.tamu.edu</a></td>
<td>(979) 845-0564</td>
<td><a href="http://www.AggieAthletics.com">www.AggieAthletics.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Connecticut</strong></td>
<td>Primary Football Contact: Leigh Torbin</td>
<td>(860) 486-3531</td>
<td>(860) 648-9982</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ltorbin@maya.ath.uconn.edu">ltorbin@maya.ath.uconn.edu</a></td>
<td>(860) 486-5085</td>
<td><a href="http://www.UConnHuskies.com">www.UConnHuskies.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rutgers</strong></td>
<td>Primary Football Contact: John Wooding</td>
<td>(732) 445-4200</td>
<td>(732) 548-7005</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jwooding@sscarletknights.com">jwooding@sscarletknights.com</a></td>
<td>(732) 445-3063</td>
<td><a href="http://www.scarletknights.com">www.scarletknights.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Syracuse</strong></td>
<td>Primary Football Contact: Sue Edson</td>
<td>(315) 443-2608</td>
<td>(315) 469-8007</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sedson@syr.edu">sedson@syr.edu</a></td>
<td>(315) 443-2076</td>
<td><a href="http://www.suathletics.com">www.suathletics.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**West Virginia**

*Primary Football Contact: Shelly Poe*
*Office Phone: (304) 293-2821*
*Home Phone: (304) 599-7259*
*E-mail Address: shelly.poe@mail.wvu.edu*
*Sid Fax: (304) 293-4105*
*Athletics Web Site: www.MSNsportsNET.com*

**Miami**

*Primary Football Contact: Doug Walker*
*Office Phone: (305) 284-3244*
*Home Phone: (305) 301-9826*
*E-mail Address: dwalker@miami.edu*
*Sid Fax: (305) 284-2807*
*Athletics Web Site: www.hurricanesports.com*

**Pittsburgh**

*Primary Football Contact: E.J. Borghetti*
*Office Phone: (412) 648-8240*
*Home Phone: (412) 441-2431*
*E-mail Address: eborghetti@athletics.pitt.edu*
*Sid Fax: (412) 648-8248*
*Athletics Web Site: www.pittsburghpanthers.com*

**Temple**

*Primary Football Contact: Kevin Lorincz*
*Office Phone: (215) 204-1608*
*Home Phone: (856) 854-0292*
*E-mail Address: lorinczkk@temple.edu*
*Sid Fax: (215) 204-7499*
*Athletics Web Site: www.owlsports.com*

**Boston College**

*Primary Football Contact: Chris Cameron*
*Office Phone: (617) 552-3004*
*Home Phone: (617) 262-3782*
*E-mail Address: cameroch@bc.edu*
*Sid Fax: (617) 952-4903*
*Athletics Web Site: www.bceagles.com*

**Virginia**

*Primary Football Contact: Michael Colley*
*Office Phone: (434) 982-5500*
*Home Phone: (434) 975-5477*
*E-mail Address: mcc7k@virginia.edu*
*AMRD Fax: (434) 982-5525*
*Athletics Web Site: www.virginiasports.com*
HOKIESPORTS.COM

Notes, releases, statistics and other pertinent information are available on Tech’s official Web site (hokiesports.com). Because of easy access to information on the Web site, members of the media no longer receive weekly releases by mail. Tech’s football statistics will be available on the same day of home games and the day after road games. Official defensive statistics are generally available by 6 p.m., the day after all games. Notes on the upcoming game will be updated late Monday afternoon.

BIG EAST on the Web

The BIG EAST site on the Internet is available at www.bigeast.org. The site contains current information on all facets of the BIG EAST Conference. In addition, in-game scores for football contests involving BIG EAST teams will be updated in-progress. Please contact Rob Carolla in the BIG EAST media relations department for more information.

Interview Policy

Virginia Tech’s coaches and players will be available throughout the season for interviews with accredited members of the news media. It is important, however, that all requests for interviews be made through the Tech Sports Information Office.

All requests for players to appear at the press luncheons must be submitted to Bryan Johnston by noon on Monday of that week. He can be contacted at (540) 231-3387 or by email at bj@vt.edu. Any other requests for individual interviews, whether by phone or after practice, need to be submitted by noon on Monday as well.

Player availability for the press luncheons is determined by the players’ class and lifting schedule. Some requested players may not be available. In that case, all efforts will be made to get the player at some point during the week.

Any media person wishing to come to practice and talk to a specific player or coach needs to contact the SID Office the day before to allow time to contact the desired people.

At no time will a players’ phone number be given out and media are asked not to call the players at home or ask for their contact information.

Weekly Press

Interview Session

On Tuesdays prior to each Tech game, Coach Frank Beamer and select members of the Tech team will be available to meet accredited media in the Bowman Room, located on the fourth floor of the Jamerson Athletic Center. A light lunch will be served at approximately 12:30 p.m. Coach Beamer will begin the interview session at 1 p.m., followed by player interviews at approximately 1:20. The interview session will conclude by 2:30 p.m.

The press luncheon for the West Virginia game, which will be on a Wednesday, has yet to be determined. An announcement regarding that press conference will be made at a later date. No sessions are held on the weeks prior to an open date.

Accredited media members who are unable to attend the Tuesday media session in person can still participate. Please contact the Sports Information Office by 11 a.m., the day of the event for details.

BIG EAST Teleconference

The BIG EAST football coaches will be featured on a weekly teleconference, beginning on Monday, Aug. 25 and continuing each Monday through Nov. 24. Each coach will be available for 10 minutes. The teleconference number will be mailed to media members who cover Virginia Tech football. Members of the media can also secure the number by contacting The BIG EAST Conference Office at (401) 453-0660.

Talking to Coach Beamer

The best way to reach Coach Frank Beamer is on the BIG EAST Teleconference or at his weekly press interview session on Tuesdays. Any additional interview requests should be made through the Sports Information Office at (540) 231-6726.

Satellite Feed

Both Virginia Tech and the BIG EAST provide weekly satellite feeds with highlights and coaches interviews. Additional information is available through the SID office.
# Media Information

## Newspapers

- **Blackburn, VA 24061-0546**
  - **Daily Progress**
  - Fax: (804) 643-6646
  - Phone: (804) 643-6233

- **Blacksburg, VA 24061-0502**
  - **Blackburn**
  - Fax: (540) 231-6984
  - Phone: (540) 231-4134

- **Charlottesville, VA 22906**
  - **Collegiate Times**
  - Fax: (434) 975-7104
  - Phone: (434) 975-7104

- **Charlottesville, VA 22906**
  - **Local Progress**
  - Fax: (434) 978-7246
  - Phone: (434) 977-7104

- **Roanoke, VA 24022**
  - **Daily Advance**
  - Fax: (540) 981-3221
  - Phone: (540) 981-3221

- **Richmond, VA 23218**
  - **Daily Press**
  - Fax: (804) 230-2789
  - Phone: (804) 233-5461

- **Richmond, VA 23236**
  - **每日进步**
  - Fax: (804) 330-8883
  - Phone: (804) 330-8883

## Sports

- **Blacksburg, VA 24061-0502**
  - **Petersburg Progress Index**
  - Fax: (540) 981-3221
  - Phone: (540) 981-3221

- **Charlottesville, VA 22906**
  - **Collegiate Times**
  - Fax: (434) 247-4637
  - Phone: (434) 247-9420

- **Charlottesville, VA 22906**
  - **Local Progress**
  - Fax: (434) 975-19865
  - Phone: (540) 231-9865

- **Richmond, VA 23218**
  - **Daily Advance**
  - Fax: (540) 885-7281
  - Phone: (540) 885-7281

## Radio

- **Blacksburg, VA 24060**
  - **WBW**
  - Fax: (504) 981-3392
  - Phone: (504) 981-3392

- **Richmond, VA 23236**
  - **WVEC-TV**
  - Fax: (804) 775-8085
  - Phone: (804) 775-8085

- **Richmond, VA 23218**
  - **WHR**
  - Fax: (540) 885-1904
  - Phone: (540) 885-1904

## Television

- **Blacksburg, VA 24060**
  - **WDBJ-TV**
  - Fax: (504) 885-1904
  - Phone: (504) 885-1904

- **Richmond, VA 23236**
  - **WHR**
  - Fax: (540) 885-1904
  - Phone: (540) 885-1904
About

Our Name

While the full name of the school is Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, the school is commonly referred to as “Virginia Tech.” Founded in 1872, as Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College, the university changed its name to Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1896. Fans of the athletic department, as well as media covering the Hokies, shortened the name to VPI, but it eventually became Virginia Tech. The “State University” was added on in 1970 to bring the official title to what it is today.

Those covering Hokie athletics are asked to refer to the university as simply “Virginia Tech.” Virginia Tech University, VPI and SU, VPI&SU, VT or VA Tech are not recognized names and should not be used.
What Is a Hokie?

That's the most often-asked question in Virginia Tech athletics. The answer leads all the way back to 1896 when Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College changed its name to Virginia Polytechnic Institute. With the change came the necessity for writing a new cheer and a contest for such a purpose was held by the student body. Senior O.M. Stull won first prize for his “Hokie” yell which still is used today. Later, when asked if “Hokie” had any special meaning, Stull explained the word was solely the product of his imagination and was used only as an attention-getter for his yell. It soon became a nickname for all Tech teams and for those people loyal to Tech athletics. The official school colors — Chicago maroon and burnt orange — also were introduced in 1896. They were chosen because they made a “unique combination” not worn elsewhere at the time.
HOKIES IN THE NFL

More than 100 Virginia Tech players have signed with NFL teams during Coach Frank Beamer’s tenure, including sensational quarterback Michael Vick who was the first player drafted in 2001. Tech has had at least one former player participate in 11 of the last 13 Super Bowls.