Frank Beamer was tabbed the ACC Coach of the Year last season and was the consensus National Coach of the Year for 1999.
Virginia Tech couldn’t have asked for anyone better than Frank Beamer to guide its football program into the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Beamer, who was the consensus national coach of the year in 1999, may have done his best coaching job in 2004, guiding a young Tech team that was picked to finish sixth in the ACC to a league title and a BCS Bowl. The Hokies’ first-year showing in their new conference earned Beamer ACC Coach of the Year honors. The team also won the league’s 2004 Fall Sportsmanship Award for football, yet another tribute to the program Beamer and his staff have built.

When Beamer accepted the job as head football coach at his alma mater in 1987, his goal was for the Virginia Tech football program to reach a consistent level of excellence. The Hokies have come a long way since that day, and along the way, Beamer has become one of the most respected and successful coaches on the college football scene.

Beamer enters his 19th season at Virginia Tech and his 25th year as a collegiate head coach ranked third among active Division I-A coaches in victories with 177. His Tech teams have posted a 111-37 record over the past 12 seasons and appeared in bowl games each year during that span, a feat equaled by just four other schools. Prior to winning the ACC championship, he guided the Hokies to three BIG EAST Conference championships and in 1999 helped direct Tech to the national championship game. Beamer’s Hokies have earned the highest national rankings in the program’s history, spending 61 weeks in the Top 10 of The Associated Press poll over the past six seasons. During one stretch that ended last season, Tech was ranked in 84 consecutive AP polls.

Winning has been just part of Frank Beamer’s success story. He and his staff have earned a reputation for getting the most out of their players.

In 2000, Beamer and his staff directed Tech to an 11-1 record after opening the season with eight new starters on defense and an all-new lineup in the
kicking game. During the 2001 season, the Hokies posted an 8-4 record and appeared in the Top 20 every week despite having to fill four offensive line spots, the quarterback job vacated by sensational underclassman Michael Vick and the tailback spot left open when All-America running back Lee Suggs was lost for the season with an injury. In 2002, the Hokies were 10-4 despite attacking one of their toughest schedules ever with a young team that featured all-new starters at the defensive tackle, inside linebacker and rover positions, as well as major questions at quarterback and wide receiver. Last season, the Hokies earned 10 wins, an ACC title, a Top 10 ranking and a Sugar Bowl bid despite having to replace 14 starters.

A spot in the Nokia Sugar Bowl to play No. 1 Florida State for the national championship focused widespread attention on Virginia Tech and its football program following the 1999 season. And although the Hokies fell short in their bid for the national title, they proved that they belong among the nation’s elite year in and year out.

In January 2001, the Pigskin Club of Washington, D.C., honored Beamer as the NCAA Coach of the Year. In May of that year, an online newspaper named him the best coach currently in the college football ranks because of his ability to place Tech among the nation’s elite year in and year out.

Following consecutive 10-2 seasons in 1995 and 1996, Beamer was voted BIG EAST Conference Coach of the Year by the league’s media.

In January 2001, the Pigskin Club of Washington, D.C., honored Beamer as the NCAA Coach of the Year. In May of that year, an online newspaper named him the best coach currently in the college football ranks because of his ability to place Tech among the nation’s elite year in and year out.

Following consecutive 10-2 seasons in 1995 and 1996, Beamer was voted BIG EAST Conference Coach of the Year by the league’s media. He was one of five finalists in the voting for the 1995 National Coach of the Year.

In 1996, The Sporting News queried writers from around the country and asked them to rate the coaches in various conferences. In the BIG EAST, those writers rated Frank Beamer the best coach on game day, the best in game preparation, the best as a motivator, the best as a teacher, the best in big games and the best overall.

In 1999, The Sporting News ranked the nation’s top coaches in terms of their ability to get the most out of their players. Beamer was picked No. 9 in Division I-A. Four of Tech’s last six years in the league, TSN rated the Tech coach tops among BIG EAST head coaches. The publication has also ranked the Hokies’ football coaching staff as the best in the conference four times during that span. Street & Smith’s College Football 2002 rated Beamer as the top recruiter in the BIG EAST. Last year, SI.com selected him coach of the year in the Division I-A ranks.

The rise of the Tech football program has made Beamer a man in demand. It has opened doors to places he may never have dreamed of as a youngster growing up in Southwest Virginia.

In September 2000, Beamer was invited to the White House where he joined a select group that stood in the Rose Garden

STABILITY = SUCCESS

One of the keys to the continuing success of Virginia Tech football has been the stability of the program. That stability begins at the top with head coach Frank Beamer, whose 18 years at the Hokie helm have helped the program develop a sense of stability and consistency currently enjoyed by just a handful of other Division I-A schools. Only three of the 119 Division I-A head football coaches have been at their current school longer than Beamer. The Hokies’ head man and his current staff have a combined total of 116 years of full-time coaching experience at Virginia Tech alone.

"Stability means consistency and when you can be consistent in how you perform on Saturday, that’s what gives you a chance to win. I feel that doesn’t happen unless you keep basically the same coaching staff intact. I really feel good about our coaching staff. I feel good about their knowledge and I feel great about the way they treat the players. I think Virginia Tech is really fortunate to have what I think is the top staff in the country."

— Coach Frank Beamer

More Than Just a Coach

Virginia Tech head football coach Frank Beamer was honored by The National Conference of Community and Justice in recognition of his contribution to fostering justice, equity and community in the Roanoke Valley. Beamer was one of four recipients of the 2004 NCCJ-Roanoke Region Humanitarian Award.

Recruiting Excellence

Virginia Tech defensive line coach Charley Wiles was named one of the nation’s top 25 college recruiters, according to rivals.com in Feb. 2005.

The Highest Compliment

The Sporting News’ 2005 ACC preview magazine listed Frank Beamer as the top head coach and Bud Foster as the top defensive coordinator in the league.
behind then-President Bill Clinton as he made remarks on the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. Beamer was one of the keynote speakers at the American Football Coaches Association Convention in 2000, and in April, 2001, he joined former Prime Minister of Great Britain, Lady Margaret Thatcher, as one of the featured speakers at SUCCESS 2001, one of the nation’s most popular business seminars.

In April 2004, Beamer was presented a Humanitarian Award by the National Conference for Community and Justice for his contributions to fostering justice, equity and community in the Roanoke Valley. An avid NASCAR fan, Beamer was the official starter for the 2005 Food City 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway in April.

Beamer’s success has also made him a much sought-after coach. In recent years, he has been pursued by numerous other schools and has drawn interest from professional football teams. But in the end, his loyalty has remained with the Hokies.

Beamer has always put Virginia Tech first — ever since he starred as a defensive back for the Hokies in his undergraduate days in the late 1960s, and surely throughout his 18 years as head coach of the Hokies. He has given the Tech program a sense of stability enjoyed by just a handful of other Division I-A schools. Only three other active Division I-A head coaches have been at their current school as long as Beamer.

In 1990, Beamer received a new contract and a substantial pay raise. He refused the raise, however, until such time that all classified and faculty employees of the university could have the same opportunity for pay raises. Most state salaries had been frozen at the time.

Another indication of Beamer’s love for the university came on the night he was inducted into The Virginia Tech Sports Hall of Fame in 1997. He called it the biggest honor of his entire career. With the induction, he became the first active coach at the university to be honored in that fashion.

Beamer’s overall record at Tech now stands at 135-77-2. He became Tech’s winningest football coach during the 1997 campaign. Counting six years as head coach at Murray State prior to joining the Hokies, Beamer’s overall 24-year record is 177-100-4. That record places him third among active Division I-A coaches in wins.

The 58-year-old Beamer, the first alumnus to guide the Hokies since the 1940s, took over the Tech reins from Bill Dooley in January 1987. He began work a few days after the Hokies had beaten North Carolina State in the Peach Bowl. It took a while for him to get the Hokies moving in the right direction because the football program was hit with NCAA sanctions at the time.

But everything came together in the 1990s. The Techmen finished 9-3 in 1993 after beating Indiana, 45-20, in a wild Independence Bowl game. Tech followed up with an 8-4 season in 1994, losing to Tennessee, 45-23, in the Gator Bowl.

The Tech teams in 1995 and 1996 were among the best in school history. The 1995 team swept the BIG EAST Conference championship outright and the 1996 club tied for the title with Syracuse and Miami.

The 1995 team was 9-2 during the regular season and then came up with a stirring 28-10 victory over Texas in the Sugar Bowl. The 1996 team went 10-1 during the regular season and lost to powerful Nebraska, 41-21, in the Orange Bowl after giving the Cornhuskers a fierce battle for three quarters.

The Hokies fell to 7-5 in 1997 and were beaten badly by North Carolina in the Gator Bowl, 42-3. But they came right back with a 9-3 mark in 1998 that included an impressive 38-7 victory over Alabama in the inaugural Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tenn.

The two winningest seasons in school history followed in 1999 and 2000 with the Hokies posting back-to-back 11-1 records. Tech registered its first-ever 11-0 regular-season record in ’99 before losing its national championship battle with FSU.

In 2000, the Hokies’ only blemish was a loss at Miami in the ninth game of the season. Both seasons, Tech climbed as high as No. 2 in The Associated Press poll, finishing No. 2 in ’99 and No. 6 in 2000. The Hokies climbed as high as No. 5 in the 2001 AP poll and finished 18th. In 2002, Tech was ranked as high as No. 3 in the AP poll after posting consecutive wins over nationally ranked LSU (14th), Marshall (16th) and Texas A&M (19th). The Hokies’ youthful team finished the season 18th.

During the 2003 season, the Hokies ended No. 2 Miami’s 39-game regular-season winning streak with a 31-7 victory. The Canes were the highest-ranked opponent Tech had ever beaten on the gridiron. The Hokies climbed as high as No. 3 in the polls before falling victim to inconsistent play during the final month of the season. Still, Tech earned eight wins for the 10th time in 11 seasons.

The 2004 season saw the Hokies bounce back to win their last eight games of the regular season, including victories against three nationally ranked teams — No. 6 West Virginia, No. 16 Virginia and No. 9 Miami.

Beamer’s early Tech teams also registered many exciting victories. One of the most impressive came in 1990 when the Hokies capped the year with a 38-13 victory over arch-rival Virginia before a crowd of 54,157, which at the
time was the largest ever to see a college football game in the commonwealth of Virginia. During the 1989 season, Tech knocked off ninth-ranked West Virginia and star quarterback Major Harris, 12-10, in Morgantown.

During his undergraduate days at Tech, Beamer started three years as a cornerback and played on the Hokies’ 1966 and 1968 Liberty Bowl teams. He received a B.S. in distributive education from Tech in 1969 and a master’s in guidance from Radford in 1972. Then came the start of the Beamer coaching career.

He began as an assistant at Radford High School from 1969 through 1971. Then, after one season as a graduate assistant at the University of Maryland, he went to The Citadel where he worked five seasons under Bobby Ross and one year under Art Baker. His last two years at The Citadel, Beamer was the defensive coordinator.

In 1979, Beamer went to Murray State as the defensive coordinator under Mike Gottfried. He was named head coach at Murray State in 1981 and went on to compile a six-year record of 42 wins, 23 losses and two ties.

The Tech coach was born in Mt. Airy, N.C., and grew up in Hillsville, Va. At Hillsville High, he earned 11 varsity letters as a three-sport athlete in football, basketball and baseball.

Beamer is married to the former Cheryl Oakley of Richmond, Va. They have two children, Shane, a former member of his dad’s football team at Tech and now an assistant at Mississippi State; and daughter Casey, a 2003 graduate of Virginia Tech.

Coach Frank Beamer and his wife, Cheryl, with Shane and Casey on the back patio of their Blacksburg home.

PERSONAL:
Born: 10/18/46, Mt. Airy, N.C.
Hometown: Hillsville, Va.
Wife: former Cheryl Oakley
Children: Shane, Casey

EDUCATION:
High School: Hillsville (1965)
College: Virginia Tech (1969)
Postgraduate: Radford University (1972)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
Virginia Tech (1966-68)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1972 Graduate Assistant, Maryland
1973-76 Assistant Coach, The Citadel
1977-78 Defensive Coordinator, The Citadel
1979-80 Defensive Coordinator, Murray State
1981-86 Head Coach, Murray State
1981 (8-3)
1982 (4-7)
1983 (7-4)
1984 (9-2)
1985 (7-3-1)
1986 (7-4-1) Ohio Valley co-champion
Record at Murray State: 42-23-2 (six years)
1987- Head Coach, Virginia Tech
1987 (2-9)
1988 (3-8)
1989 (6-4-1)
1990 (6-5)
1991 (5-6)
1992 (2-8-1)
1993 (9-3) Independence Bowl champion
1994 (8-4) Gator Bowl
1995 (10-2) BIG EAST champion, Sugar Bowl champion
1996 (10-2) BIG EAST co-champion, Orange Bowl
1997 (7-5) Gator Bowl
1998 (9-3) Music City Bowl champion
1999 (11-1) BIG EAST champion, Sugar Bowl
2000 (11-1) Gator Bowl champion
2001 (8-4) Gator Bowl
2002 (10-4) San Francisco Bowl champion
2003 (8-6) Insight Bowl
2004 (10-3) ACC champion, Sugar Bowl
Record at Virginia Tech: 135-77-2 (18 years)
Overall head coaching record: 177-100-4 (24 years)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Player
1966 Liberty (Virginia Tech vs. Miami)
1968 Liberty (Virginia Tech vs. Mississippi)
Coach
1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
1994 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2000 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Clemson)
2001 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2002 San Francisco (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
2003 Insight (Virginia Tech vs. California)
2004 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Auburn)
During the Frank Beamer era at Tech, putting points on the scoreboard has always been a team effort — the offensive team, the defensive team and the special teams. It’s called BeamerBall, and what sets it apart are the contributions of the defense and special teams.

- Each of Tech’s last 10 teams is ranked among the school’s top 12 highest scoring teams. During that time, a player at every position on the defensive unit has produced at least one touchdown. And 25 different players have scored touchdowns while playing on Tech’s special teams. Altogether, the defense and special teams have combined for 94 TDs since Beamer arrived in 1987, including 77 in Tech’s last 138 games.

- Under Beamer, Tech’s defense has scored 59 TDs, with 36 coming on pass interceptions, 21 on fumble returns and two on fumble recoveries. The special teams have added 35 TDs, including 15 on blocked punts, 12 on punt returns, four on kickoff returns, three on blocked field goals and one on a fumble recovery.

- Fittingly, the trend started in Beamer’s first game as Tech’s head coach when true freshman Jon Jeffries returned a kickoff 92 yards for a touchdown against Clemson. It was the Hokies’ first TD under Beamer, and it was scored on special teams.

- Under Beamer, 64 different players on defense and special teams have scored TDs. Fifteen of those players — Don Stokes, Jock Jones, Roger Brown, Lawrence Lewis, Antonio Banks, Jim Baron, Keion Carpenter, Pierson Prioleau, Anthony Midget, Cory Bird, Kevin McCadam, Willie Pile, Jimmy Williams, Vincent Fuller and Eric Green — scored twice. Jason Lallis, Ike Charlton and Ricky Hall each had three scores, André Davis four and DeAngelo Hall had six.

- Since the start of the 1993 season, Tech is 50-8 in games it scores at least one TD on defense or special teams.

Tech’s tradition for blocking kicks is another part of BeamerBall. It was carried to new heights in 1998 with 10 blocks during the regular season and two more in the Hokies’ Music City Bowl game against Alabama. Tech now has 105 blocks in Frank Beamer’s 214 games as the head coach. The Hokies have blocked 53 punts (15 for TDs), 31 field goals and 21 extra points.

- The most prolific kick blockers under Beamer have been defensive lineman Bernard Basham and safety Keion Carpenter, who each posted six blocks during their Tech careers. Basham blocked three field goals and three PATs, while Carpenter blocked six punts.

- Tech blocked more kicks in the 1990s than any other Division I-A team. The Hokies blocked 63 kicks during the decade — 31 punts, 18 PATs and 14 FGs. Tech has started the new decade with 30 blocks.

- During its time in the BIG EAST (’91-03), Tech posted at least three blocked kicks against every team in the league. During that span, Tech blocked 10 kicks against Pittsburgh, nine against Miami, seven versus WVU, six versus Rutgers, four against BC and Syracuse, and three versus Temple.

- The teams Tech has victimized the most during Beamer’s 18 seasons have been Pittsburgh, WVU and Miami. During that span, the Hokies have blocked 10 kicks versus the Panthers and Mountaineers, and nine against the Hurricanes.

- During the Beamer era, Tech has blocked two kicks in a game 18 times, winning 13 of those games. Tech blocked two kicks against four different teams in 1998.
Under the direction of Frank Beamer and his staff, the Hokies have …

• played for the national championship for the first time in school football history.
• become one of only five Division I schools to go to bowl games each of the last 12 seasons.
• earned four conference titles and four BCS bids in a 10-year span.
• compiled a school-record streak in the Associated Press Top 25 Poll at 84 consecutive weeks.
• posted 11 wins in a season for the first time.
• registered the program’s first back-to-back 11-win seasons.
• produced the school’s first 11-0 regular-season record in football.
• averaged nine wins a season over the last 12 seasons.
• won an Atlantic Coast Conference Championship in their first season of competition.
• produced the ACC Coach of the Year and Player of the Year during their inaugural season.
• became the first team in BIG EAST history to win all the league’s major awards in the same season.
• earned the highest national rankings in school football history, including four Top 10 finishes and back-to-back Top 6 finishes.
• finished in a final Top 25 poll 10 times in the last 12 seasons.
• won more games (135) than under any other coaching staff.
• been to three times as many bowl games (12) than under any other coaching staff.
• posted 12 straight seasons of seven or more wins for the first time in school history.
• had 91 of their last 112 games televised (81%).
• compiled a 72-26 record in televised games since the start of the 1995 season.
• blocked more kicks in the 1990s than any other Division I-A team.
• become one of only eight Division I-A schools ever to lead the nation in both scoring offense and defense in the same season.
• had at least one player from every defensive position score a touchdown.
• produced a No. 1 pick in the National Football League draft.
• had over 100 players sign with NFL teams.
• had two players who entered the program as walk-ons drafted in the top four rounds of the NFL draft.
• produced nine Associated Press All-Americans over the last six seasons.
• had players win 10 major conference individual awards in the last seven years.

Frank Beamer, the first Tech alumnus to guide the Hokies’ football program since the 1940s, has won more games at Tech than any other football coach. Prior to Beamer, no other grid coach in Virginia Tech history had served more than 10 seasons as head coach. Only three of the 119 Division I-A head coaches have been at their current school consecutively longer than Beamer’s 18 years. Those coaches are Joe Paterno (39 yrs., Penn State); Bobby Bowden (29 yrs., Florida State); and Fisher DeBerry (21 yrs., Air Force).

Head coach Frank Beamer has led the Hokies to 12 straight bowl games. The 12 bowl appearances mark the fourth-highest by any active coach. Penn State’s Joe Paterno leads the way with 31, followed by Florida State’s Bobby Bowden with 26. With 13 bowl games, Tennessee’s Phillip Fulmer is just ahead of Beamer.
Billy Hite, who has helped develop 22 running backs who have gone on to sign with NFL teams, is entering his 28th season on the Tech coaching staff and his fifth year as the Hokies’ associate head coach.

While at Tech, Hite has helped produce eight of Virginia Tech’s top 10 career rushing leaders. He has been on the sidelines for more Virginia Tech football games than any other coach.

Hite came to Blacksburg as a member of Bill Dooley’s football staff in 1978. He served as a recruiter and head jayvee coach his first two years, then took over as the offensive backfield coach in charge of tailbacks and fullbacks in 1980. He has been coaching Tech’s running backs ever since.

Hite remained at Tech when Frank Beamer took over in 1987 and was elevated to the position of assistant head coach by Beamer the following year. He was promoted to the new position of associate head coach in December 2000.

In 1989, Hite filled in as the acting head coach when Beamer was sidelined following coronary angioplasty surgery and had to miss a home game versus Tulane. Hite didn’t let the Tech faithful down as he led the Hokies to an emotional 30-13 victory.

Hite’s first tailback in 1980, Cyrus Lawrence, went on to establish Tech season and career marks for rushing yards. During the mid-1980s, Hite was credited with the development of Tech’s famed “Stallions” backfield that featured Maurice Williams and Eddie Hunter.

In 2000, tailback Lee Suggs shattered school and BIG EAST Conference scoring records on the way to leading the nation in touchdowns and scoring. Suggs, who also led the conference in rushing, was selected the Co-BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year.

During the 2001 season, with Suggs sidelined by an injury, true freshman tailback Kevin Jones came on to lead the team in rushing and set a Tech record for rushing yards by a freshman. Jones was named the BIG EAST Rookie of the Year.

In 2002, Suggs and Jones combined to become the most productive Tech twosome ever in terms of single-season rushing yardage, combining for over 2,000 yards. During the 2003 season, Jones broke Lawrence’s single-season rushing mark and set new Tech records for rushing in a game and 100-yard games in a season. He earned consensus All-America honors before opting to leave early for the NFL Draft. He was a first-round pick of the Detroit Lions. Jones’ single-game rushing mark was broken last season when another one of Hite’s pupils, junior Mike Imoh, ran for 243 yards at North Carolina.

A native of Hyattsville, Md., Hite was a former star tailback at the University of North Carolina. He received a bachelor’s degree in education in 1974. Hite began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at UNC in 74. Hite received one of his highest honors when he was inducted into the DeMatha High School Hall of Fame in 1992.

Hite is married to the former Anne Heen of Memphis, Tenn. They have two daughters, Kirsten Marie, 20, and Bryn Elizabeth Louise, 16, and a son, Griffin William, 12.

Hite’s Profile

PERSONAL:
- Hometown: Hyattsville, Md.
- Wife: former Anne Heen
- Children: Kirsten Marie, Bryn Elizabeth Louise, Griffin William

EDUCATION:
- High School: DeMatha High School (1969)
- College: University of North Carolina (1974)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
- North Carolina (1970-73)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
- 1974-77 North Carolina (running backs)
- 1978-87 Virginia Tech (running backs)
- 1988-00 Virginia Tech (assistant head coach and running backs)
- 2001- Virginia Tech (associate head coach and running backs)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
- Player
  - 1971 Sun (North Carolina vs. Texas Tech)
  - 1972 Gator (North Carolina vs. Georgia)
- Coach
  - 1974 Sun (North Carolina vs. Mississippi State)
  - 1976 Peach (North Carolina vs. Kentucky)
  - 1977 Liberty (North Carolina vs. Nebraska)
  - 1980 Peach (Virginia Tech vs. Miami)
  - 1984 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
  - 1986 New Peach (Virginia Tech vs. N.C. State)
  - 1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
  - 1994 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
  - 1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
  - 1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
  - 1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
  - 1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
  - 1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
  - 2000 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Clemson)
  - 2001 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
  - 2002 San Francisco (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
  - 2003 Insight (Virginia Tech vs. California)
  - 2004 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Auburn)
Under the direction of Coach Billy Hite, in 2004 ...

- tailback Mike Imoh set a school single-game record with 243 yards rushing against North Carolina.
- the Hokies got an average of 150 yards per game from the tailback position.

During Billy Hite’s tenure at Virginia Tech ...

- the Hokies have rushed for over 61,000 yards — an average of more than 200 yards per game (202) over a 304-game period.
- he has had a back rush for 100 yards or more in a game 140 times.
- the Hokies have had an average of 145 yards rushing per game from the tailback position.
- he has coached eight of Virginia Tech’s top 10 career rushing leaders.
- he has worked with seven of the nine Tech players who have turned in 1,000-yard rushing seasons.
- he has coached six different running backs who rushed for over 100 yards in a bowl game.
- a total of 22 running backs have gone on to sign with NFL teams.
- the Hokies have been ranked among the top 20 rushing teams in Division I-A seven of the past 12 seasons.

Kevin Jones rushed for a Tech season-record 1,647 yards in 2003 before making his mark in the NFL with the Detroit Lions.

“...to be complete football players. I want them to take the attitude that one man cannot bring them down. I want them to be physical and nasty when blocking; to run good pass routes and catch the football; and to be good actors and carry out their fakes. Once a back touches the ball, they make the decision where to run. I will never second guess a running back with the ball in his arms. If each back protects the football, makes the big play and plays with intensity, we will win.”

— Billy Hite

Season Rushing Leaders

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Career Rushing Leaders

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<td>Ken Oxendine</td>
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<td>Phil Rogers</td>
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<td>Vaughn Hebron</td>
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</table>

(Bold signifies player coached by Hite)
Bud Foster has gained a well-deserved reputation as one of the nation’s most respected defensive coaches while serving on Frank Beamer’s football staff at Virginia Tech.

Foster, who is beginning his 19th season at Tech, has helped mold nationally ranked defenses on a yearly basis during his 10 years as a coordinator. His success made him a finalist for the coveted Broyles Award in both 1999 and 2001. The award is presented annually to the nation’s top assistant football coach.

Last season’s defense ranked in the top five nationally in total defense, pass defense, scoring defense, interceptions and turnovers gained. Tech’s young 2002 defense was ranked among the national leaders in scoring defense, interceptions and turnovers gained.

Under Foster’s guidance, Tech’s 2001 defense proved to be one of the nation’s best, ranking among the top eight teams in Division I-A in six different categories and leading the way in shutouts with four. In 2000, Foster took a defense that returned just three starters and turned it into a unit that led the BIG EAST in rushing defense, placed 16th nationally against the run and tied for third nationally in interceptions.

After helping Tech to the national championship game in 1999, Foster was recognized as the 2000 Division I-A Defensive Coordinator of the Year by American Football Coach magazine. Tech’s 1999 defensive unit led Division I-A in scoring defense and ranked third in both total and rushing defense.

Following the 1998 season, Foster was pursued by the University of Florida for its defensive coordinator position, but he opted to continue his long-standing football association with Beamer. That association dates back to 1979 when Foster was a strong safety and defensive end at Murray State and Beamer was the defensive coordinator.

Foster began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at MSU in 1981, Beamer’s first season as the head coach.

Since coming to Tech in 1987, Foster has worn several coaching hats. He coached the inside linebackers for one year in 1987, then tutored the outside linebackers for the next five seasons. Foster assumed responsibility for both sets of linebackers prior to the 1993 season and also took over special-teams coaching that year. The following year, he coached the inside linebackers and special teams. Foster assumed the position of co-defensive coordinator in 1995 and took over as the sole defensive coordinator in ‘96. The inside linebackers continue to be his primary responsibility.

A 1981 graduate of Murray State, Foster was an outstanding strong safety and outside linebacker from 1977 to 1980. After two years as a graduate assistant at his alma mater, Foster was elevated to a full-time staff position. The Nokomis, Ill., native, coached outside linebackers for three seasons before taking over the inside and outside linebackers in 1986. He also served as the Racers’ recruiting coordinator and worked with special teams.

Foster and his wife Jacqueline have three children: Ammie, 26; Grant, 19; and Hillary, 17. In his spare time, Foster enjoys spending time with his family.

**Foster’s Profile**

**PERSONAL:**
Born: 7/28/59, Somerset, Ky.
Hometown: Nokomis, Ill.
Wife: former Jacqueline Travis
Children: Ammie, Grant, Hillary

**EDUCATION:**
High School: Nokomis (Ill.) High School (1977)
College: Murray State University (1981)

**PLAYING EXPERIENCE:**
Murray State (1977-80)

**COACHING EXPERIENCE:**
1981-82 Murray State (graduate assistant)
1983-85 Murray State (outside linebackers)
1986 Murray State (linebackers/special teams)
1987 Virginia Tech (inside linebackers)
1988-92 Virginia Tech (outside linebackers)
1993 Virginia Tech (inside linebackers/special teams)
1994 Virginia Tech (inside backers/special teams)
1995 Virginia Tech (defensive coordinator/ inside linebackers/special teams)

**Bowl Experience:**
Player
1979 Division I-AA Playoff semifinals
(Murray State vs. Lehigh)

Coach
1986 Division I-AA Playoff quarterfinals
(Murray State vs. Eastern Illinois)
1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
1994 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2000 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Clemson)
2001 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2002 San Francisco (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
2003 Insight (Virginia Tech vs. California)
2004 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Auburn)
VIRGINIA TECH’S DEFENSE

Under the direction of Bud Foster in 2004, the Hokies’ defense ...

- led the ACC in scoring defense.
- ranked among the top five teams nationally in five categories.
- tied a school season record for interception returns for touchdowns with four.
- had 11 different players record interceptions.

During Bud Foster’s one year as co-defensive coordinator and nine seasons as defensive coordinator, Tech has ...

- produced two BIG EAST defensive players of the year — Corey Moore, who earned the honor in both 1998 and 1999, and Cornell Brown, who won it in 1995.
- had at least one defensive player earn All-America honors every year. Four players gained A-A recognition in 1999 and three in 2001.
- had 35 different defensive players score touchdowns.
- produced its first Lombardi Award winner and its first Nagurski Trophy winner in Corey Moore.
- held opponents to an average of 104 yards rushing and 16 points per game over a 116-game span.
- had 19 players drafted by NFL teams.

Tech’s National Defensive Rankings
Under Coach Bud Foster

1995*
1st Rushing Defense (77.36 ypg)
5th Scoring Defense (14.09 ppg)
10th Total Defense (285.9 ypg)
23rd Pass Efficiency Defense (104.25 rating)

1996
Tied-9th Scoring Defense (15.27 ppg)
16th Pass Efficiency Defense (99.37 rating)
19th Rushing Defense (112.0 ypg)
24th Total Defense (316.09 ypg)

1997
13th Scoring Defense (16.82 ppg)
1998
2nd Interceptions (23)
4th Scoring Defense (12.9 ppg)
7th Total Defense (284.9 ypg)
11th Rushing Defense (102.2 ypg)
11th Pass Efficiency Defense (103.4 rating)

1999
1st Scoring Defense (10.5 ppg)
3rd Total Defense (247.3 ypg)
3rd Rushing Defense (75.9 ypg)
7th Pass Efficiency Defense (98.1 rating)

2000
Tied-3rd Interceptions (23)
16th Rushing Defense (99.3 ypg)

2001
2nd Total Defense (237.81 ypg)
2nd Rushing Defense (71.6 ypg)
2nd Scoring Defense (13.4 ppg)
3rd Pass Efficiency Defense (85.62 rating)
Tied-7th Interceptions (19)
8th Pass Defense (166.27 ypg)

2002
1st Interceptions (24)
5th Turnovers Gained (37)
21st Scoring Defense (18.79 ppg)

2004
2nd Scoring Defense (12.85 ppg)
Tied-2nd Turnovers Gained (32)
4th Total Defense (268.00 ypg)
4th Pass Defense (152.77 ypg)
Tied-4th Interceptions (19)
7th Pass Efficiency Defense (100.95)
9th Turnover Margin (1.00)
21st Rushing Defense (115.23 ypg)
*co-coordinator in 1995

“I believe in an attacking, aggressive style of defense. We want to put speed and athleticism on the field and use that to attack and pressure opposing offenses.”
— Bud Foster
Bryan Stinespring

Offensive Coordinator and Offensive Line Coach

Bryan Stinespring, an integral member of the Virginia Tech staff as both a coach and recruiter, is entering his fourth season overseeing the Hokies’ offense. Stinespring was promoted to offensive coordinator in December 2001 and began those duties during the Hokies’ Gator Bowl game against Florida State on New Year’s Day.

The 2004 season marked Stinespring’s 12th year as a full-time coach at Tech and his seventh season as the offensive line coach. In 2003, one of Stinespring’s star pupils, center Jake Grove, won the Rimington Trophy and became the university’s third unanimous All-American. He was the first center taken in the 2004 NFL Draft.

Stinespring took over the offensive line duties in the spring of 1998 and helped mold Tech’s young line into a unit that showed steady improvement during the ’98 season. Two members of that line — tackle Derek Smith and guard Dwight Vick — went on to sign with NFL teams.

In 1999 and 2000, the offensive line helped clear the way as the Hokies set new BIG EAST rushing marks in back-to-back seasons. Center Keith Short, guard Matt Lehr and tackle Dave Kadela all earned second-team BIG EAST honors in ’99. Lehr repeated as a second-team pick in 2000, while Kadela moved to first team. In 2002, tackle Anthony Davis earned second-team all conference honors as the offensive front cleared the way for record-setting tailbacks Lee Suggs and Kevin Jones, who combined for over 2,100 yards. Last season, senior tackle Jon Dunn earned second-team All-ACC honors, while center Will Montgomery and tackle Jimmy Martin were honorable mention picks.

Prior to taking over his current duties, Stinespring coached Tech’s tight ends and assisted with the offensive line for five seasons. He was the Hokies’ recruiting coordinator for eight years (1994-2001) and continues to be instrumental in helping attract top high school talent to campus. In 2001, he served as Tech’s assistant head coach along with his other duties.

Stinespring initially joined the Tech staff in 1990 as a graduate assistant coach and spent two seasons in that capacity helping with the offensive line. After serving as the director of sports programs in 1992, he was elevated to a full-time coaching position prior to the 1993 season.

A native of Clifton Forge, Va., Stinespring was a walk-on player for James Madison University in the early 1980s. He is married to the former Shelley Franklin of Richmond, Va. Bryan and Shelley have a son, Daniel, 11; twin daughters, Caroline and Olivia, who are 7 years old, and another daughter, Ella Grace who will be 2 in August.

Stinespring’s Profile

PERSONAL:
- Born: 10/12/63, Clifton Forge, Va.
- Hometown: Clifton Forge, Va.
- Wife: former Shelley Franklin
- Children: Daniel Franklin, Caroline Frances, Olivia Jane, Ella Grace

EDUCATION:
- High School: Clifton Forge (Va.) High School (1982)
- College: James Madison University (1986)
- Postgraduate: Virginia Tech (1992)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
- 1986-88 Lexington (Va.) High School
- 1989 Patrick Henry (Va.) High School
- 1990-91 Virginia Tech (graduate assistant)
- 1992 Virginia Tech (director of sports programs)
- 1993 Virginia Tech (tight ends/assistant offensive line)
- 1994-97 Virginia Tech (tight ends/assistant offensive line/recruiting coordinator)
- 1998-00 Virginia Tech (offensive line/recruiting coordinator)
- 2001 Virginia Tech (assistant head coach/OL/recruiting)
- 2002- Virginia Tech (offensive coordinator/offensive line)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
- Coach
  - 1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
  - 1994 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
  - 1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
  - 1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
  - 1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
  - 1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
  - 1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
  - 2000 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Clemson)
  - 2001 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
  - 2002 San Francisco (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
  - 2003 Insight (Virginia Tech vs. California)
  - 2004 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Auburn)
During Bryan Stinespring’s third season as offensive coordinator, the Virginia Tech offense ...

- led the ACC in pass efficiency.
- had 11 different players catch touchdown passes.
- produced the ACC Player of the Year and Offensive Player of the Year in quarterback Bryan Randall.
- finished in the top five all-time at Tech in scoring, total offense and passing yardage.

During Bryan Stinespring’s 12 full-time seasons at Tech, the Hokies’ offensive line ...

- produced the program’s first Rimington Trophy winner in Jake Grove.
- has had 17 different players (including three tight ends) who earned All-BIG EAST honors, including four repeat performers, and two who won All-ACC honors in 2004.
- cleared the way for an average of 200 yards rushing per game over a 148-game span.
- helped the team set BIG EAST season rushing marks back-to-back years in 1999 and 2000.
- had 17 players sign with NFL teams.

"We want, and expect, to attack both the defense and the field of play in a concerted, aggressive approach. We want to be able to use schemes and formations that utilize our talents while placing pressure on the opponent to adjust and defend. Our goal is to set the tempo of the game and dictate the style of play that is indicative of Virginia Tech football."
- Bryan Stinespring
Jim Cavanaugh

Strong Safety and Outside Linebackers Coach and Recruiting Coordinator

Cavanaugh is entering his 10th season as the Hokies’ strong safety and outside linebackers coach and his fourth year as Tech’s recruiting coordinator.

No one has been more instrumental in bringing top-notch talent to the Tech program than Cavanaugh. Over the past seven years, his recruiting skills have helped the Hokies attract, among others, prep All-Americans Michael Vick, Nathaniel Adibi, Bryan Randall, Jonathan Lewis, Marcus Vick, Xavier Adibi, and Chris Ellis.

Along with his success in attracting talent, Cavanaugh has also been instrumental in helping players develop their talent once they join the Tech program. During his first season on the job in 1996, outside linebacker Brandon Semones led the team in tackles and earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors.

Cavanaugh has since helped in the development of highly successful safeties Pierson Prioleau, Cory Bird, Kevin McCadam and Michael Crawford. Prioleau was a first-team All-BIG EAST pick in 1997 and 1998 and earned third-team All-America recognition from The Sporting News in ’97. He was a fourth-round draft pick of the San Francisco 49ers in 1999. Bird was tabbed a second-team All-BIG EAST pick following the 2000 season and was selected in the third-round of the NFL draft by the Indianapolis Colts. McCadam was one of the keys to Tech’s success in 2001 and was a fifth-round NFL selection by the Atlanta Falcons. Crawford set a position record for tackles with 131 in 2003 and was a second-team All-BIG EAST selection.

Tech’s appearance in the Nokia Sugar Bowl marked Cavanaugh’s 21st postseason game as a coach. A former star receiver at William & Mary, he is a veteran of 35 college games. McCadam was tabbed a second-team All-BIG EAST pick following the 2000 season and was selected in the third-round of the NFL draft by the Indianapolis Colts. Bird was tabbed a second-team All-BIG EAST pick following the 2000 season and was selected in the third-round of the NFL draft by the Indianapolis Colts. Crawford set a position record for tackles with 131 in 2003 and was a second-team All-BIG EAST selection.

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Tech’s appearance in the Nokia Sugar Bowl marked Cavanaugh’s 21st postseason game as a coach. A former star receiver at William & Mary, he is a veteran of 35 years coaching, including 31 as a full-time coach on the collegiate level. He has worked at two other Virginia schools — VMI and the University of Virginia — during his career and has been on the staff of four other ACC schools — North Carolina State, Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina.

Cavanaugh coached at the University of North Carolina for eight years and from 1982 through 1987, he worked under Bobby Ross and Joe Kevik at Maryland. He served two years at North Carolina State, three years under coach Bob Thalman at VMI, one year at Virginia and two years at Marshall. Cavanaugh began his collegiate coaching career as a graduate assistant at N.C. State in 1972.

During his years as a receiver at William & Mary, Cavanaugh surpassed the Tribe career record in receiving with 117 catches and over 1,600 yards. He also earned honorable mention All-America honors in 1967 and was co-captain of his team in 1969. Cavanaugh was inducted into the William & Mary Sports Hall of Fame in April 2001.

Married to the former Marsha Carnell, he has two children — Ryan, an Appalachian State graduate who works for the Indianapolis Colts and Lauren, who graduated from Virginia Tech in 2002. Ryan and his wife, the former Melissa Searls, have a daughter, Mallory, who was born in April, while Lauren and her husband, Rob Reddick, have a son, Matthew, who is 1.

Cavanaugh’s Profile

PERSONAL:
Born: 8/4/48, Queens, N.Y.
Hometown: Queens, N.Y.
Wife: former Marsha Carnell
Children: Ryan, Lauren

EDUCATION:
High School: Chaminade High School (1966)
College: The College of William & Mary (1970)
Postgraduate: North Carolina State University (1974)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
William & Mary (1967-69)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1970 Newport News (Va.) High School
1971 Denbigh (Va.) High School
1972-73 North Carolina State (graduate assistant)
1974-75 VMI (receivers)
1976 VMI (running backs)
1977-78 North Carolina State (receivers)
1979-80 Marshall (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1981 Virginia (receivers)
1982-86 Maryland (running backs)
1987 Maryland (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1988-91 North Carolina (receivers)
1996-01 Virginia Tech (strong safety, outside linebackers)
2002- Virginia Tech (recruiting coordinator/strong safety, outside linebackers)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Coach
1972 Peach (N.C. State vs. West Virginia)
1973 Liberty (N.C. State vs. Kansas)
1977 Peach (N.C. State vs. Iowa State)
1978 Tangerine (N.C. State vs. Pittsburgh)
1982 Aloha (Maryland vs. Washington)
1983 Citrus ( Maryland vs. Tennessee)
1984 Sun (Maryland vs. Tennessee)
1985 Cherry (Maryland vs. Syracuse)
1992 Peach (North Carolina vs. Mississippi State)
1993 Gator (North Carolina vs. Alabama)
1994 Sun (North Carolina vs. Texas)
1995 Carquest (North Carolina vs. Arkansas)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2000 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Clemson)
2001 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2002 San Francisco (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
2003 Insight (Virginia Tech vs. California)
2004 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Auburn)

Coaching Staff:
2002 Virginia Tech (recruiting coordinator/strong safety, outside linebackers)
2001 Virginia Tech (strong safety, outside linebackers)
1996-01 Virginia Tech (strong safety, outside linebackers)
1988-95 North Carolina (receivers)
1987 Maryland (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1982-86 Maryland (running backs)
1981 Virginia (receivers)
1982-86 Maryland (running backs)
1987 Maryland (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1988-95 North Carolina (receivers)
1996-01 Virginia Tech (strong safety, outside linebackers)
2002- Virginia Tech (recruiting coordinator/strong safety, outside linebackers)
“The state of Virginia is, and always will be, the primary focus of our recruiting. In recent years, a number of outstanding players from outside the state have also expressed great interest in Virginia Tech. If you get the best players from the state of Virginia and put them together with some talented players from out-of-state, you’ve got a really good combination.”

— Coach Frank Beamer

“Having coached high school football in Newport News and having spent most of my professional recruiting life in the state of Virginia, I am fully aware of the outstanding quality of the players and coaches within our state. Our objective is to recruit as many of the great players in the state as possible with the goal of winning the national championship.”

— Coach Jim Cavanaugh
Tony Ball, who has 18 years of experience as a full-time collegiate coach, is beginning his eighth season as Virginia Tech’s receivers coach. Ball’s attention to detail and enthusiastic approach to the game of football have helped Tech to a 67-21 record, three bowl championships and an appearance in the national championship game over the past seven seasons.

Ball has shown an ability to motivate and prepare young players, which was instrumental in the development and success of the Hokies’ youthful 2004 receiving corps that got 75 catches and 12 touchdowns from its freshmen.

Ball’s successful pupils include split end Ernest Wilford who etched his name in the Tech record books in 2002 and 2003. Wilford became the Hokes’ all-time receptions leader and was the first Tech player ever to post two 50-catch seasons. He was picked in the fourth round of the 2004 NFL Draft by Jacksonville.

Under Ball’s watchful eye, André Davis became one of the nation’s top big-play threats. Davis closed out his Tech career in 2001 ranked among the Hokies’ top three in career catches, receiving yards and touchdown receptions. He was selected by the Cleveland Browns in the second round of the 2002 NFL Draft.

Ball came to Tech in 1998 after serving three seasons as an assistant at the University of Louisville, where he coached the receivers. Prior to his stint with the Cardinals, Ball worked with the running backs at Holy Cross for three seasons. He coached the receivers at his alma mater, UT-Chattanooga, on two different occasions — once in 1988 and for two seasons in 1990-91. In between, Ball coached the running backs at East Tennessee State in 1989.

During the summers of 1996 and 1997, Ball participated in the National Football League’s Minority Internship Program with the Baltimore Ravens.

Ball began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at Austin Peay in 1985 and 1986. While at Austin Peay, he earned a master’s in health and nutrition. He served as restricted earnings coach at the University of South Carolina in 1987, working with the running backs and helping the Gamecocks to the Gator Bowl. His first full-time coaching position came at UTC the following year.

Ball played football for the late Joe Morrison at UT-Chattanooga. He was a standout running back who set numerous school kickoff return records and was recently named to the school’s All-Century Football Team. He finished with a degree in criminal justice.

Ball is married to the former Maria Ann Slayden. They have two children: Anthony, 14, and Keshea, 13.
Danny Pearman, who has coached in Division I-A national championship games at two different schools, is starting his 14th season as a full-time collegiate assistant. Pearman, who is in his eighth season as the Hokies’ tight ends and offensive tackles coach, brought experience and a sound football background to the Tech staff in 1998. He arrived just in time to help the Hokies to a surprising 8-3 regular season record and a 38-7 victory over Alabama in the Music City Bowl. Pearman helped in the development of All-BIG EAST tackle Derek Smith, who was drafted by the Washington Redskins following the season. He has since worked with three other all-conference tackles — Dave Kadela, Anthony Davis and Jon Dunn.

Under Pearman’s tutelage, last year’s group of tight ends was the most productive at Tech since 1984 with a combined total of 42 catches. Junior Jeff King was named second-team All-ACC. During Tech’s march to the national championship game in 1999, Pearman’s group of tight ends caught 17 passes, 16 of which went for first downs. In 2000, former walk-on Browning Wynn earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors at tight end, while teammate Bob Slowikowski caught a key 72-yard touchdown pass against West Virginia. Following the 2001 season, both players signed with NFL teams after contributing valuable senior leadership to a rebuilding offensive unit. In 2002, Keith Willis caught an 87-yard pass against Syracuse — the longest reception ever by a Tech tight end. A year later, Willis became the first Tech player ever to catch two touchdown passes in a bowl game. Eighty-five of the tight ends’ last 112 receptions have resulted in first downs.

Prior to coming to Blacksburg, Pearman helped coach the University of Alabama to six bowls and a national championship between 1990 and 1997. After helping guide the Crimson Tide to the national championship in 1992, he contributed to the Tide winning Southeastern Conference Western Division championships the next four years.

Pearman was a graduate assistant at Alabama for two years, then served as coach of the offensive tackles from 1991 to 1996. He coached the defensive tackles and special teams in 1997.

A native of Charlotte, N.C., Pearman won three letters as a tight end at Clemson from 1983 through 1987. In his playing days, he was named a strength and conditioning All-American. He helped the Hokies win two ACC championships.

Following graduation, Pearman began his coaching career as a graduate assistant with the Tigers in 1988 and 1989. The Tigers won the ACC championship again in ’88 and went to bowl games both of Pearman’s seasons as a grad assistant.

Pearman has a bachelor’s degree in finance and a master’s in business administration, both from Clemson. He is married to the former Kristy Sewell of Birmingham, Ala., and they have a daughter, Taylor Brooke, 8, a son Tanner Ryan, 5, and a son Trent Joseph, 1.
Kevin Rogers, who played a major role in the development of quarterback Donovan McNabb at Syracuse, is beginning his fourth season as the quarterbacks coach at Virginia Tech.

The 2005 season marks Rogers’ 27th year as a full-time coach on the collegiate level. He served as an offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at both Syracuse and Notre Dame before joining the Tech staff in January 2001.

Under Rogers’ watchful eye, Tech quarterback Bryan Randall became the Hokies’ all-time leader in passing yards, touchdown passes and total offense. In 2004, Randall was named the Player of the Year in the Atlantic Coast Conference, as well as the league’s top offensive player.

Prior to a three-year stint at Notre Dame (1999-01), Rogers served as the quarterbacks coach for eight seasons at Syracuse under head coach Paul Pasqualoni. His final two years at SU, Rogers was the offensive coordinator, as well as the quarterbacks coach.

Rogers’ star pupil at Syracuse was McNabb, the BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year three straight seasons (he shared the award in ’96). McNabb broke most of Syracuse’s passing records, which had been held by another of Rogers’ proteges, Marvin Graves, who ranked second nationally in passing in 1992. McNabb was the second overall pick in the 1999 NFL Draft by the Philadelphia Eagles.

Rogers first joined the Syracuse staff in 1991 as quarterbacks coach, was named assistant head coach in 1995, served as recruiting coordinator from 1995-97 and was named offensive coordinator in ’97. Before his tenure at Syracuse, Rogers spent eight seasons on the Navy staff coaching a variety of positions. Rogers’ other college coaching credits include running backs coach at William & Mary from 1980-82 and defensive line coach at Ohio State in 1977-78 under Woody Hayes.

In 1999, Rogers coached a Notre Dame offense that broke the school single-season record for total passing yards, completions and attempts.

Rogers has coached in 12 postseason bowl games as an assistant coach and has coached a number of All-Americans and National Football League players in his career, including McNabb, Qadry Ismail, Aaron Brown and Napoleon McCallum.

Rogers is no stranger to the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Brooklyn, N.Y., native is a 1974 graduate of the College of William & Mary and began his coaching career as an assistant coach at Bayside High School in Virginia Beach from 1974-76. At William & Mary, he was a three-year letterman as a lineman and earned a degree in physical education. He earned a master’s in physical education from Ohio State in 1978.

Rogers and his wife Betty are parents of three children — Kevin, a former quarterback at Villanova and now a scouting assistant for the Indianapolis Colts; Megan, a Notre Dame graduate who currently works for the New York Jets; and Ryan, a 2005 Notre Dame graduate.
Lorenzo Ward
Defensive Backfield Coach

Lorenzo Ward’s reputation as an outstanding coach and recruiter continues to grow as he begins his seventh season on Frank Beamer’s football staff at Virginia Tech. Ward oversees Tech’s cornerbacks and free safeties.

During his time with the Hokies, Ward has coached five all-BIG EAST players and one all-ACC selection, produced a secondary that helped Tech finish among the national defensive leaders five of the last six seasons and spearheaded the recruiting of the nation’s top high school football player.

His work with the secondary in 1999 contributed to the Hokies finishing No. 3 in total defense and No. 7 in pass efficiency defense. In 2000, Tech tied for third nationally in interceptions and during the 2001 season, the Hokies ranked second in total defense, third in pass efficiency defense, eighth in pass defense and tied for seventh in interceptions. In 2002, Tech led the Division I-A ranks in interceptions with 24. Last season, the Hokies finished fourth nationally in pass defense, tied for fourth in interceptions and ranked seventh in pass efficiency defense.

Ward was instrumental in Tech’s signing of Pennsylvania running back Kevin Jones in February 2000. Jones, the most highly touted player ever to sign with the Hokies, was rated the top high school football player in the country. Jones was named the BIG EAST Conference Rookie of the Year in 2000 and as a junior broke three Tech rushing records on the way to becoming a consensus All-American and a first-round pick in the NFL Draft.

Five of Ward’s cornerbacks at Tech — Anthony Midget, Ike Charlton, Ronyell Whitaker DeAngelo Hall and Jimmy Williams — earned all-conference honors, as did free safety Willie Pile. Midget was a first-team All-BIG EAST pick and Charlton a second-team selection in 1999, while Whitaker was second team in 2000 and first team in 2001. Hall and Pile were second-team picks in 2002. Hall became a first-team All-BIG EAST selection and a second-team A-A pick in 2003 and was the eighth overall player taken in the NFL Draft. Hall and Pile were semi-finalists for the Jim Thorpe Award in 2002 and 2003, respectively. Williams was a first-team All-ACC pick last season.

Prior to joining the Tech coaching staff, Ward was a coach at UT-Chattanooga and Alabama. He was named the defensive coordinator at UT-Chattanooga and Alabama. He was named the defensive coordinator at UT-Chattanooga in 1998 after serving as the Mocs’ running backs coach in 1997. Prior to working with the running backs, Ward was the defensive backs coach.

An Alabama native, Ward starred for the Crimson Tide from 1986-90. He helped lead Alabama to a 33-15 record and a Southeastern Conference Championship during his career. He was also tabbed Special Teams Player of the Year by The Sporting News in 1990 as the Tide’s unit ranked No. 1 in the nation.

Ward played on four bowl teams, helping lead “Bama to two Sun Bowl wins.

Ward served two seasons as a graduate assistant at Alabama before spending one season as an assistant coach at Newman High in Newman, Ga. He joined the UTC staff as the secondary coach in 1994.

Nicknamed “Whammy” because of his fierce tackles, Ward graduated from Alabama in 1990 with a bachelor’s in physical education. He is married to the former Tara Tubbs. The couple has one son, Lorenzo Donovan Ward, Jr., who is 9.

Ward’s Profile

PERSONAL:
Hometown: Greensboro, Ala.
Wife: former Tara Tubbs
Child: Lorenzo Donovan Ward, Jr.

EDUCATION:
High School: Greensboro Public School — West Campus (1986)
College: University of Alabama (1990)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
Alabama (1986-90)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1991-93 Alabama (graduate assistant)
1993 Newnan High (assistant coach)
1994-98 UT-Chattanooga (secondary/running backs)
1999- Virginia Tech (defensive backfield)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Player
1986 Sun (Alabama vs. Washington)
1988 Hall of Fame (Alabama vs. Michigan)
1988 Sun (Alabama vs. Army)
1990 Sugar (Alabama vs. Miami)
Coach
1991 Blockbuster (Alabama vs. Colorado)
1993 Gator (Alabama vs. North Carolina)
1998 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2000 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Clemson)
2001 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2002 San Francisco (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
2003 Insight (Virginia Tech vs. California)
2004 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Auburn)
Charley Wiles
Defensive Line Coach

Charley Wiles, a former All-America player for Frank Beamer at Murray State, has produced four All-Americans of his own since joining Beamer’s Virginia Tech staff as defensive line coach in 1996.

Among the top players Wiles has helped develop during his nine seasons directing the Tech line are ends Corey Moore and Cornell Brown. In 1999, Moore won the Mike Fox/Bronko Nagurski Award as the nation’s best defensive player and the Lombardi Award as the best lineman.

He also became Tech’s second unanimous All-American and was chosen the BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year two consecutive years. Brown was a two-time All-America pick, taking consensus honors as a junior in 1995 when he was also named the National Defensive Player of the Year by Football News and the BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year.

Wiles also coached John Engelberger, who was named second-team on The Associated Press All-America team and tackle David Pugh, who was a third-team All-America pick by The Sporting News.

In all, 11 of Wiles’ players have won all-conference honors, including end Darryl Tapp and tackle Jim Davis, who were first and second team picks, respectively, on last year’s All-ACC squad.

During the 1999 season, Wiles coached a veteran line that he helped mold into what The Sporting News rated as the best Division I-A defensive line in the college ranks prior to the season. That line helped the Hokies finish first in the nation in scoring defense and third in rushing defense and total defense. Tech’s 2001 defensive line was rated as the fourth-best in the Division I-A ranks by The Sporting News.

Wiles is on his second tour of duty at Tech. He originally joined Beamer’s Tech staff as a graduate assistant in 1987 and worked in that capacity for two years. Wiles first had a player-coach relationship with Beamer, when Beamer was the head man at Murray State. Wiles won Kodak Division I-AA All-America honors as an offensive lineman in 1986.

When he left Tech after the 1988 season, Wiles spent a year on the staff at East Tennessee State. He then returned to Murray State for a six-year coaching tenure, winding up as the Racers’ co-defensive coordinator. In 1995, he helped coach the Racers to an 11-0 regular-season mark and a berth in the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs. Wiles also served as Murray State’s recruiting coordinator, helping land many of the Racers’ top players.

When Wiles rejoined Beamer at Tech in 1996, he fulfilled a goal he had set during his first stint in Blacksburg. The Hokies have competed in bowl games during each season since he rejoined the staff.

A native of DeLand, Fla., and a three-sport star at DeLand High School, he is married to the former Andrea Wilder of Booneville, Ind. They have a daughter, Kendell, 9, and a son Eric, 6.

Wiles’ Profile

PERSONAL:
Born: 5/4/64, Nashville, Tenn.
Hometown: DeLand, Fla.
Wife: former Andrea Wilder
Children: Kendell, Eric

EDUCATION:
High School: DeLand High School
College: Murray State University (1987)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
Murray State (1983-86)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1987-88 Virginia Tech (graduate assistant)
1989 East Tennessee State (offensive line)
1990-91 Murray State (defensive ends)
1992 Murray State (running backs)
1993-95 Murray State (linebackers)
1995 Murray State (co-def, coordinator)
1996- Virginia Tech (defensive line)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Player
1986 Division I-AA Playoff Quarterfinals
(Murray State vs. Eastern Illinois)
Coach
1995 Division I-AA Playoff Quarterfinals
(Murray State vs. Northern Iowa)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2000 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Clemson)
2001 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
2002 San Francisco (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
2003 Insight (Virginia Tech vs. California)
2004 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Auburn)
John Ballein holds one of the most important positions in Virginia Tech athletics as associate athletics director for football operations. He was promoted to the position during the summer of 2000 in recognition of his excellent work for Coach Frank Beamer and his program. Called “the No. 1 administrative assistant in the country” by former Tech AD Dave Braine, Ballein is responsible for all operations dealing with the football program. He continues to serve as assistant to head coach Frank Beamer and as departmental recruiting coordinator, jobs he performed prior to his promotion.

“You name it and John Ballein does it,” Beamer said in a Dec. 18, 1999 article on Ballein in The Roanoke Times. “Just everything that goes on around here — our travel, our recruiting, our camps, our clinics. He is absolutely the best.”

A native of Bentleyville, Pa., Ballein was a linebacker at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and graduated with a degree in health and physical education in 1983. He later earned a master’s in education from Old Dominion University in 1987 and is close to completing his Ed.D in health promotions from Virginia Tech.

Ballein was a teacher and football coach in 1983-84 at Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth, Va., and at Western Branch High in Chesapeake, Va., in 1985-86.

Ballein served on Beamer’s first Virginia Tech staff in 1987 as a graduate assistant coach. In 1988, he accepted a position as running backs coach at Western Kentucky University. He returned to Tech a year later as recruiting coordinator. With his office adjacent to Coach Beamer’s, he is often considered Beamer’s right-hand man. He deals mostly with the administrative side of the football program, but is one of the favorites among players. His office is a preferred hangout, and he is one of the most beloved and respected members of the staff.

“I don’t think [Coach] Beamer could operate without Ballein,” said former Tech standout Corey Moore. “Ballein’s a guy on the ball. Plus, he’s kind of a favorite among the players, too.”

Ballein is married to the former Stephanie Green, who was a basketball player at Tech in her undergraduate days. They have two daughters, Jordan Gray, 9, and Jalyn Ann, 7.
Football Support Staff

Bruce Garnes
Football Operations Assistant

Bruce Garnes, a 1994 graduate of Virginia Tech, is in his seventh year as an administrative assistant in the Hokies' football office.

For six years, he has served as the liaison between the academic community and football and has helped the Hokies with their recruiting efforts. Garnes also assists John Ballein, the associate athletic director for football operations, with Tech’s football camps and coaching clinics.

A native of Martinsville, Va., Garnes graduated from Tech with a bachelor's in sport management. He received a master’s at Tech in counseling education in 1996.

In 1998 and 1999, Garnes interned with the Dallas Cowboys in the equipment room.

A 1989 graduate of Magna Vista High School in Ridgeway, Va., Garnes, 34, is single and enjoys jogging, spending time with his mother and co-workers and watching all Virginia Tech athletic teams compete.

Lester Karlin
Equipment Manager

Lester Karlin, a veteran of 27 years as the Hokies' equipment manager, is one of the most popular people on the Virginia Tech athletic staff.

Karlin is a certified equipment manager and a member of the Athletic Equipment Managers Association. In addition to ordering equipment for the football team, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the equipment room.

A native of Norfolk, Va., Karlin graduated from Tech in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in health and physical education. From 1971 to 1973, he served as the student assistant in the football equipment room.

Karlin worked for two years in the World Football League, serving as the equipment manager for teams in Houston, Texas, and Shreveport, La. He returned to Blacksburg and his alma mater in 1978.

Karlin, his wife, Suzie, and their daughters Sarah and Rachel live in Blacksburg. Karlin is a life member of the Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad. He spends his spare time either working in his yard or at the rescue squad.