Virginia Tech has a host of talented players on both sides of the ball this season.

Brandon Frye

Aaron Rouse and Chris Ellis

Virginia Tech has a host of talented players on both sides of the ball this season.

MEET THE HOKIES
Has developed into a steady playmaker at the backer position. Is coming off of an outstanding spring practice. Was voted one of the team’s spring MVPs. Picked up some valuable experience and maturity while starting every game last season. Finished fourth on the team in tackles with 69. Returned an interception for a touchdown against Georgia Tech. Plays fast, smart and aggressive.

As a freshman in 2004, he came back from what was thought to be a season-ending injury to contribute in Tech’s last six games. Listed as a preseason second-team All-ACC performer by The Sporting News. Will be looked to for leadership on a young defensive unit.

2005: Compiled 69 total tackles, including seven behind the line. Also had three sacks, two interceptions, four pass breakups and four QB hurries. Played 592 defensive plays during the regular season and was in on 71 special teams plays. Made his first collegiate start in the opener at NC State. Played every defensive down and contributed eight tackles. Had four tackles, including one for a loss against Duke. Picked off a pass and returned it 25 yards in win over Ohio. Registered his second interception of the season against Georgia Tech and took it 25 yards for a touchdown. Had a personal-best 10 tackles at Virginia, including a quarterback sack. Repeated those numbers against Maryland. Picked up his third sack of the season in the Boston College game. Had seven tackles against both BC and Miami. Collected six tackles, including one for a loss, in win over UNC. Was in on four tackles, one behind the line, against Florida State. Had four tackles in the Gator Bowl against Louisville. Turned in the fastest time among the linebackers in the 40 during spring testing with a 4.41 clocking. Posted five tackles and broke up a pass in first spring scrimmage. Was in on six tackles during the spring game, including two

behind the line. Shared the George Preas Award as the most valuable defensive player in the spring with Chris Ellis.

2004: Played in seven games, recording 21 solo stops and four assists. Included in those 25 tackles were 4.5 sacks for loss and 2.0 sacks. Also had one interception, one forced fumble and two quarterback hurries. Played 192 snaps on defense and 13 on special teams in the regular season. Was lost for six games after suffering a torn tendon in his right biceps muscle during the opening game against USC. Injury happened on his 23rd play as a collegian. Had surgery the following week. Made a remarkable recovery and returned to the field against Georgia Tech. Played 43 snaps in that game, recording eight tackles, seven of which were solo stops. Had a forced fumble on his first drive. Also had 2.5 sacks for loss and two sacks. Recorded his first career interception in the win over Maryland. Recorded a 34 1/2-inch vertical jump, a 340-pound bench and a 4.5 40-yard dash in spring testing.

2003: Redshirted while working at the backer position during the fall. Turned in a 33 1/2-inch vertical jump during scout team testing during the season. His 365-pound bench press during spring max testing was tops among the inside linebackers. Contributed three tackles, including one for a loss in Tech’s first spring scrimmage. Was one of the team leaders with five tackles in the team’s third scrimmage. Contributed three tackles in the annual Maroon-White game.

High School: Named an All-American by PrepStar as a defensive lineman and an All-American by SuperPrep as a linebacker. Played for Coach Bill Dee at Phoebus High. Helped his team to back-to-back Group AAA championships. Was a 2002 AAA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman. A first-team and defensive player of the year selection to the 2002 AAA coaches all-state team at the defensive end position. Named to the VHSCA All-Eastern Region first team as a defensive end. Named to the first-team Newport News Daily Press All-Star Team as a defensive lineman. A three-time Daily Press All-Star. Was the leader of a Phantoms’ defense that held opponents to fewer than five points a game. Finished with a team-best 13.5 sacks and 100-plus tackles, including 31 for loss. Also rushed for 575 yards and 11 TDs at fullback. A first-team all-region selection at end. A first-team selection to the 2001 AAA Coaches and Associated Press all-state teams at a defensive linemen spot as a junior. Rated the No. 96 prospect nationally, the No. 12 player in the Mid-Atlantic region and the No. 1 prospect in the state of Virginia by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report. Ranked the No. 1 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times. Rated the No. 4 linebacker in the nation and the No. 1 player in Virginia by SuperPrep.

Personal: Xavier Oyekola Adibi was born 10/18/84 in Stillwater, OK. Son of Abiodun and Leanne Adibi. Brother of former Tech defensive end Nathaniel Adibi. Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

### Pronunciation Guide

**XAVIER ADIBI**

ZAY-vee-ur uh-DEE-bee

**JASON ADJEPONG**

ADD-juh-pong

**LADI AJIBOYE**

LAH-dee AA-jih-boy

**MASSON BAGGETT**

BAG-it

**NEKOS BROWN**

NEE-kose

**XAVIER ADIBI**

ZAY-vee-ur uh-DEE-bee

**JUD DUNLEVY**

DUN-lee-vee

**MILE GEE**

Like the letter G

**HIRVERA GREEN**

Hah-vee-air (Javier)

**ELAN LEWIS**

EE-uhn

**ORION MARTIN**

Oh-RIE-in (O’Ryan)

**BEAU WARREN**

STEPH-un

**BEAU WARREN**

STEPH-un

**JAHRE CHEESEMAN**

Hah-vee-air (Javier)

**JARED DEVELLI**

duh-VELL-eee

**NOLAND BURCHETTE**

bur-CHET

**STEPHAN VIRGIL**

STEFF-un

**TOM LEMMING**

EE-uhn

**LAZARUS ADIBI**

LAZ-uh-rus-uh-DEE-bee

**HIVERA GREEN**

Hah-vee-air (Javier)

**BEAU WARREN**

STEPH-un

**BEAU WARREN**

STEPH-un

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**JARED DEVELLI**

duh-VELL-eee

**NOLAND BURCHETTE**

bur-CHET

**STEPHAN VIRGIL**

STEFF-un
A powerful blocker who handles the bulk of the fullback duties when the Hokies opt to use a two-back set … Has worked hard to become a good all-around player … Can catch the ball out of the backfield … Could get more opportunities to carry the football this fall … A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room … Mixes that strength with a physical style of play … Started his career as a walk-on and earned a scholarship … Will be looked to for senior leadership.

2005: Saw limited action during the first two games … Caught a 3-yard touchdown pass in the Ohio game … Played 13 snaps against Marshall … Had a 7-yard reception at Maryland … Was in for 11 offensive snaps at Virginia … Got a season-high 22 offensive plays against UNC … Contributed several key blocks against the Tar Heels … Caught a 5-yard pass in the Florida State game … Played in all 13 games with three starts … Missed out on some of spring strength and conditioning tests due to a wrist surgery.

2004: Played in 10 games, starting two … Had three receptions for 24 yards and a touchdown … Caught a 9-yard touchdown pass in the win over Florida A&M … Saw brief action against Virginia and UNC … Contributed several key blocks against the Tar Heels … Caught a 5-yard pass in the Florida State game … Played in all 13 games with three starts … Missed out on some of spring strength and conditioning tests due to a wrist surgery.

2003: Continued to take reps at the fullback spot … Did not dress or play in any of the games … Played in both Jayvee games … Had three carries for nine yards against Hargrave … Earned Iron Hokie honors in the weight room during the preseason and was a Super Iron Hokie in the spring … Set a position record in the power clean with a lift of 361 pounds … His lift ranked fourth on the Hokies’ all-time list.

2002: Worked at fullback while redshirting … His 351-pound hang clean was the second-best on the team during fall testing … Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during spring max testing … Bench pressed 400 pounds and posted a 530-pound back squat … Turned in an 18-yard run during one of the Hokies’ spring scrimmages and had a 7-yard pass reception in another.

High School: Was a four-year letterman as a running back and linebacker for Coach Chris Pope at Pathfinder Regional High … Set a school record with 2,316 yards rushing his senior year … Scored 23 touchdowns on the ground and two receiving … Ran for 301 yards and five TDs in a game against Dean Tech … Posted 180 tackles, nine sacks and four interceptions from his linebacker spot … Finished with over 3,700 yards rushing and 42 career touchdowns and had his number retired … Scored a touchdown in the state all-star game … A three-time all-league pick and a two-time selection for All-Western honors … Was the team’s offensive MVP as a junior and senior.

Personal: Jesse Lee Allen … Born 10/22/83 in Springfield, MA … Son of Tim and Sharron Allen … Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

Receiving

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A knowledgeable player with the versatility to play several positions along the line … Joined the team as a walk-on and has worked hard to earn a spot on the depth chart … Picked up some valuable experience last season in a reserve role at tackle … Has good size and a great work ethic … Can fill a solid backup role this fall.

2005: Played in six games for a total of 59 snaps … Saw his first varsity action against Duke, grading 88 percent on 17 snaps … Graded 84 percent on 13 plays in the Ohio game … Picked up 15 plays versus Georgia Tech and got seven snaps against Marshall … Saw brief action against Virginia and UNC … Earned Iron Hokie status during spring strength and conditioning testing … Worked at center during spring practice.

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2003: Was one of just four returning players to meet all six of his goals in preseason strength and conditioning testing … Played on the scout and Jayvee teams during the fall … Worked at offensive tackle … Turned in a 380-pound bench press and 560-pound back squat.

High School: Lettered three times for Coach George DeFrancesco at James River High School … Was captain in his senior year … Also lettered four times in wrestling, qualifying for the state tournament as a junior … Was named first-team all-academic in both football and wrestling … Was the 2002 Dominion District heavyweight champion.

Personal: Mason Christopher Baggett … Born 8/16/83 … Son of Thomas and Jane Baggett … Majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

In the Ohio game … Ran for 301 yards against Hargrave … Earned Iron Hokie honors in the weight room … Mixed opportunities to carry the football this fall … A powerful blocker who handles the bulk of the fullback duties when the Hokies opt to use a two-back set … Has worked hard to become a good all-around player … Can catch the ball out of the backfield … Could get more opportunities to carry the football this fall … A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room … Mixes that strength with a physical style of play … Started his career as a walk-on and earned a scholarship … Will be looked to for senior leadership.

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Personal: Mason Christopher Baggett … Born 8/16/83 … Son of Thomas and Jane Baggett … Majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise.
BELL, Continued

against Maryland and two times for 5 yards in the BC game ... Ran for a personal-best 74 yards on 12 carries during the Virginia game ... Added 40 yards on seven attempts versus UNC ... Rushed for 192 yards and two touchdowns ... Was an Iron Hokie during spring testing ... Turned in a 34-inch vertical jump, second-best among the running backs ... Rushed 13 times for 34 yards and a touchdown during second spring scrimmage ... Carried just six times for 14 yards in the Maroon-White spring game.

2004: Redshirted, using the time to continue rehabilitation on his knee ... Led the Maroon squad with 37 yards on 10 carries in the Maroon-White game ... Given the Paul Torgersen Award, awarded to the top offensive newcomer, following spring practice ... Recorded a 321-pound power clean and a 331-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Enrolled at Tech in January 2004 after completing his high school degree early ... Posted a 380-pound bench press during spring max testing and added a 341-pound push jerk that ranked second among Tech’s running backs ... Earned Iron Hokie honors ... Began spring practice at fullback, then moved to tailback ... Carried the football four times for 26 yards in the team’s second spring scrimmage ... Rushed for 22 yards on eight carries in the third scrimmage and had 48 yards on eight carries in the final scrimmage of the spring ... Added eight carries for 24 yards during the annual Maroon-White game.

High School:
A prep All-America running back for Coach Richard Bailey at Amherst High ... Only played in three games as a senior due to knee injury he suffered during his junior season ... Rushed for 279 yards in the three games after returning from the injury ... Rushed for 529 yards and seven touchdowns in three full games before suffering the injury as a junior ... Had 127 yards in the game he was

Injured ... Started his varsity career with 1,100 yards rushing as a freshman ... Added 864 yards as a sophomore before missing four games with a broken wrist ... Was rated the No. 4 tailback in the nation by Tom Lemming ... Named a high school All-American by SuperPrep, PrepStar and Lemming ... Ranked the No. 12 running back in the nation by Rivals100.com and 26th by SuperPrep ... Listed as the No. 28 player in the country in Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... Picked to the PrepStar Dream Team ... Played in the U.S. Army All-America Bowl.

Personal: George W. Bell ... Born 10/28/85 ... Son of Janet and Jeff Polk ... Enrolled in human development.

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2005 Rushing Game-by-Game

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One of the leading candidates for a starting spot at defensive tackle ... A real competitor who has become a more physical player ... May be the team’s most athletic defensive tackle ... Can rush the passer ... Has worked to add strength ... Showed the demeanor the coaches like during the spring ... Backed up starter Jonathan Lewis at tackle last year ... Gained some valuable experience while seeing action in every game ... An instinctive player with good size and play-making ability ... Figures to be an important contributor along the defensive front this fall.

2005: Saw action in 12 games ... Posted 13 total tackles, including two behind the line ... Had four QB hurries ... Recovered a fumble against NC State ... Played on 25 plays in each of the Hokies’ first two games ... Had four tackles, including one for a loss at Duke ... Added four more against Ohio ... Posted a tackle for a 4-yard loss in the West Virginia game ... Assisted on three tackles against Marshall ... Was in for 18 plays at Maryland and 17 versus Miami ... Had 12 plays at Virginia and 11 against UNC ... Turned in the best 40 time among the defensive tackles during the spring at 4.82 ... Had three tackles, including a tackle for loss in first spring scrimmage ... Earned the Coaches’ Award as the defensive player who had an exceptional spring.

2004: Played in one game ... Recorded one solo tackle and one assist ... Also had a quarterback hurry and a forced fumble ... Recorded a 350-pound bench and a 316-pound power clean in spring testing.

2003: Worked to add weight while taking a redshirt year ... Spent most of practice time at tackle ... Bench pressed 350 pounds and had a 500-pound back squat during spring max testing ... Posted a sack for the winning White team in the 2004 Maroon-White game ... Finished the game with a total of four tackles.

High School: Played a number of positions for Coach Scott Abell at Amherst, including tight end, fullback and defensive tackle ... Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by PrepStar as a defensive lineman ... Was a 2002 AA second-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman ... A first-team selection to the 2002 AA Coaches

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Barry Booker

Defensive Tackle • 6-4 • 275 • r-Jr.
Amherst, Va. • Amherst H.S.
Barry Nathaniel Booker, Jr.

Personal:

Chesapeake, Va. • Oscar Smith H.S.

Greg Boone

Tight End/Quarterback • 6-3 • 276 • r-Fr.

Chesapeake, Va. • Oscar Smith H.S.

Justin Born

Split End • 6-1 • 200 • Jr.

Centreville, Va. • Westfield H.S.

2006 Virginia Tech Football • 53

A talented newcomer who missed a lot of valuable practice time last year due to injuries. Has agreed to make a temporary move from quarterback to tight end for the 2006 season.

Could vie for the starting job at that position.

Notched 68 tackles and 13 sacks on defense while rushing for 250 yards and catching nine passes for three touchdowns on offense his senior season. Registered 10 sacks and was named to the all-district team as a junior. Rated the No. 24 defensive tackle in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com. The No. 17 player in Virginia as ranked by SuperPrep magazine. Rated the No. 18 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times. One of the top 40 linebackers/defensive ends in the ACC area as ranked by the preseason G&W Recruiting Report.

Personal: Barry Nathaniel Booker, Jr. • Born 11/13/85 in Fort Campbell, KY • Son of Richard Born and Cathrine Rowe • Enrolled in apparel, housing and resource management.

2005: Worked at quarterback with the scout team. Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the weight room during off-season workouts. Set a position record for the push jerk at 334 pounds. Bench pressed 355 pounds and had a back squat of 535. Was 2-for-2 in the spring game for 13 yards. Scrambled for a 6-yard gain on one of his four carries.

High School: Named a postseason All-American by SuperPrep, which also rated him the No. 15 quarterback in the nation and the No. 8 player in the state of Virginia. Named first-team all-state by both The Associated Press and the VHSCA. Rated the No. 36 athlete in the state by scout.com. Named first-team All-Tidewater at wide receiver his final year. As a senior, totaled 570 yards as a junior.

Rated the No. 15 quarterback in the nation and the No. 12 player in the state by PrepStar’s postseason All-Atlantic Region team. Listed first-team All-Tidewater by The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot. Named first-team all-district at quarterback and second-team all-district at defensive back and punter as a senior. Named first-team all-region. Was first-team All-Tidewater at defensive back as a junior. Earned first-team all-district honors as a junior.

Personal: Greg E. Boone • Born 9/14/86 in Norfolk, VA • Son of Nora and Larry Evans • Enrolled in university studies.

Is competing for a spot on the depth chart at split end. A walk-on who has solid skills and is working to improve at running his routes. Missed some valuable time during the spring with a sprained ankle. Could be a candidate for some special teams duty.

2005: Worked on the scout and jayvee teams. Caught two passes for 36 yards in the JV win over Hargrave. Scored two touchdowns in a win against Fork Union. Recorded a 290-pound bench, a 430-pound back squat, a 32 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.46 40-yard dash in spring testing.

High School: Played wide receiver for Coach Tom Verbanic at Westfield. Was a teammate of current Hokies Eddie Royal, Brent Bowden and Sean Glennon. Named all-district and all-region at wide receiver as a junior. Won the Class AAA, Group 6 Virginia state championship with 14-0 record his final year. As a senior, totaled 570 yards receiving on 38 catches and 11 touchdowns. For his career, totaled 83 receptions for 970 yards.

Personal: Justin Thomas Born • Born 2/10/86 in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO • Son of Richard Born and Cathrine Rowe • Enrolled in university studies.
Brent Bowden
Punter • 6-2 • 192 • r-Fr.
Centreville, Va. • Westfield H.S.

Has all the essentials to be a good punter ... Traveled as the No. 2 punter last season ... Did not see action and was redshirted ... Will compete with Nic Schmitt for the duties again this season ... Has sound fundamentals and a good leg ... Just needs to concentrate on maintaining his consistency.

2005: Was redshirted ... Dressed for all 13 games, serving as the back-up punter ... Punted three times for a 44.7-yard average during the Maroon-White spring game ... Had a long punt of 48 yards and had one punt inside the 20.

High School: Was ranked as high as the No. 4 punter in the nation by scout.com ... Averaged 44 yards on 29 punts with a net of 37 and a long of 58 as a senior for Coach Tom Verbanic at Westfield ... Had 16 punts downed inside the 20-yard line, nine downed inside the 10-yard line, five inside the 5-yard line and eight fair catches ... Named first-team all state by both the Associated Press and the VHSCA as a punter following his senior year ... Named first-team All-Concorde District, first-team All-Northern Region, and first-team All-Met by The Washington Post ...

In 2003, Westfield’s state championship year, averaged 40 yards, with a 38-yard net and a long of 64 yards, along with 11 fair catches and seven downed inside the 20 ... Was the MVP of the Virginia Kicking Camp in 2004 with a 47.5-yard average ... At Westfield ... Had 16 punts downed inside the 20-yard line, nine downed inside the 10-yard line, five inside the 5-yard line and eight fair catches ... Named first-team all state by both the Associated Press and the VHSCA as a punter following his senior year ... Named first-team All-Concorde District, first-team All-Northern Region, and first-team All-Met by The Washington Post ...

2005: Played in two games ... Was in for five special teams plays against Ohio ... Slowed by an ankle injury the second half of the season ... His 360-pound bench press was second-best among the inside linebackers during spring testing ... Was in on two tackles during the Maroon-White spring game.

2004: Was redshirted while working with the scout team ... Posted a 475-pound squat and a 320-pound bench in spring testing.

High School: A SuperPrep and PrepStar All-America pick as a senior ... Lettered four seasons while seeing action at linebacker and running back for Coach Patrick Kane ... Posted 99 tackles in 2003 with 11 tackles for loss and a pair of sacks ... Also forced three fumbles and recovered two ... Earned first-team all-district, all-Metro and all-region honors as a linebacker ... Named second-team Group AAA by both The Associated Press and the coaches ... Ranked the No. 7 player in the state by SuperPrep and the No. 9 player by The Roanoke Times ... Listed the No. 24 linebacker prospect in the nation by PrepStar ... Rated the No. 56 player in the Mid-Atlantic region by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... Selected the No. 30 prep inside linebacker in the country by Rivals ... Helped his team to a 10-1 record his junior year ... Had 100 tackles that season, including four sacks, an interception, five fumbles caused and five recovered ... Was first-team all-district and second-team all-Metro that season.

Andrew Bowman
Linebacker • 5-11 • 233 • r-Sr.
Glen Allen, Va. • Hermitage H.S.

A true freshman who has everything you want in an offensive lineman ... Graduated from high school early and enrolled at Tech in January ... Has been watched closely by the coaches due to the Hokies’ lack of depth along the offensive front ... Got some valuable work during spring practice ... Has a 6-6 frame, good feet and a strong will to succeed, but needs to be bigger and stronger ... A good summer preparation will become a special player for the Hokies.

2005: Graduated high school in December ... Entered Tech for second semester ... Participated in the winter off-season program ... Worked at left tackle during spring practice.

High School: Played his last two years of high school football at Princeton High ... Was a preseason and postseason SuperPrep All-American offensive lineman for Coach Brian Dodds ... Was used on defense in short-yardage and goal-line situations ... Also named to PrepStar’s “Dream Team” ... Rated the No. 7 offensive tackle in the nation by rivals.com ... Listed as the No. 52 overall player in the country by USA Today ... Ranked the No. 120 player in the country and the No. 14 offensive lineman in the country by collegefootballnews.com ... Listed as the No. 17 offensive lineman in the country by PrepStar ... Listed as the No. 7 player in the state by SuperPrep and the No. 9 player by The Roanoke Times ... Listed the No. 24 offensive tackle in the nation by PrepStar ... Rated the No. 56 player in the Mid-Atlantic region by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... Selected the No. 30 prep offensive tackle in the country by Rivals ... Helped his team to a 10-1 record his junior year ... Had 100 tackles that season, including four sacks, an interception, five fumbles caused and five recovered ... Was first-team all-district and second-team all-Metro that season.

Aaron Brown
Offensive Tackle • 6-6 • 294 • Fr.
Cincinnati, Ohio • Princeton H.S.

A true freshman who has everything you want in an offensive lineman ... Graduated from high school early and enrolled at Tech in January ... Has been watched closely by the coaches due to the Hokies’ lack of depth along the offensive front ... Got some valuable work during spring practice ... Has a 6-6 frame, good feet and a strong will to succeed, but needs to be bigger and stronger ... A good summer preparation will become a special player for the Hokies.

2005: Graduated high school in December ... Entered Tech for second semester ... Participated in the winter off-season program ... Worked at left tackle during spring practice.

High School: Played his last two years of high school football at Princeton High ... Was a preseason and postseason SuperPrep All-American offensive lineman for Coach Brian Dodds ... Was used on defense in short-yardage and goal-line situations ... Also named to PrepStar’s “Dream Team” ... Rated the No. 7 offensive tackle in the nation by rivals.com ... Listed as the No. 52 overall player in the country by USA Today ... Ranked the No. 120 player in the country and the No. 14 offensive lineman in the country by collegefootballnews.com ... Listed as the No. 17 offensive lineman in the country by PrepStar ... Listed as the No. 7 player in the state by SuperPrep and the No. 9 player by The Roanoke Times ... Listed the No. 24 offensive tackle in the nation by PrepStar ... Rated the No. 56 player in the Mid-Atlantic region by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... Selected the No. 30 prep offensive tackle in the country by Rivals ... Helped his team to a 10-1 record his junior year ... Had 100 tackles that season, including four sacks, an interception, five fumbles caused and five recovered ... Was first-team all-district and second-team all-Metro that season.

Personal: Andrew Lacy Bowman, Jr. ... Born 3/6/86 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Andrew, Sr., and Gwen Bowman ... Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.
Duane Brown

Offensive Tackle • 6-5 • 286 • r-Jr.
Richmond, Va. • Hermitage H.S.

Is athletic as they come at the tackle position ... Played an important role in the Hokies' success last season, both at tackle and on special teams ... Agreed to move from tight end to right tackle just weeks before the season opener at NC State ... Got on-the-job training, while starting every game ... Was hurt by his inexperience at the position, but his size and athletic ability were a real plus ... Continues to learn more about the position every day ... Was named the offensive MVP during 2006 spring practice ... Will be the Hokies' most experienced lineman this fall and will be counted on to play a key leadership role.

2005: Started preseason as No. 2 tight end ... Was moved to offensive tackle two weeks before the opening game ... Ended up playing 673 offensive snaps during the regular season ... Started all 13 games ... Also had 148 plays on special teams where he started on three different units ... Started at right tackle against NC State and played every snap ... Posted two knockdown blocks and graded 80 percent at Duke ... Added three knockdowns against Ohio and two versus Georgia Tech ... Graded 81 percent with three knockdowns on 66 plays at WVU ... Played 54 snaps against Marshall, grading out at 87 percent with two knockdowns ... Worked 83 plays in the BC game with a pair of knockdowns ... Was in for every offensive down against Miami ... Picked up three knockdowns at Virginia ... Graded 88 percent on 67 plays against North Carolina ... Worked a season-high 90 snaps against FSU ... Was in for all 69 offensive snaps against Louisville in the Gator Bowl ... His 346-pound push jerk was the third-best among the offensive linemen during spring testing ... Also turned in a 32 1/2-inch vertical jump ... Won the George Preas Award as the most valuable offensive performer during spring practice.

2004: Played in all 13 games, catching three passes for 64 yards and a touchdown ... Played 157 snaps on offense and 150 on special teams in the regular season ... Caught his first collegiate pass against Western Michigan, a 33-yarder from Sean Glennon that went for a touchdown ... Had a 26-yard reception in the win over FAMU ... Recorded a 530-pound back squat, a 316-pound power clean and a 326-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Took a redshirt year while working at tight end ... Caught a 10-yard pass during Tech's second spring scrimmage ... Hauled in a 9-yard touchdown pass in the final scrimmage of the spring.

High School: A two-year letterman at tight end and defensive end for Coach Patrick Kane at Hermitage ... Played in the Panthers' first three games his senior year before suffering a broken leg ... Returned for the Central Region semifinal game ... Caught seven passes for just under 100 yards in his limited playing time ... Added 15 tackles on defense along with a pair of sacks ... Named second-team all-district on offense and defense ... Registered 10 catches for 115 yards and two scores, while contributing six sacks on defense as a junior ... Rated the No. 13 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times and SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 49 tight end in the nation by Rivals100. com ... No. 37 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid Atlantic team ... Played basketball and averaged 15 points and 12 rebounds a game ... Finished 4th in the Group AAA outdoor shot put competition.

Personal: Duane Anthony Brown ... Born 8/30/85 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Dennis and Myra Brown ... Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

Noland Burchette

Defensive End • 6-2 • 281 • r-Sr.
Richmond, Va. • Highland Springs H.S.

An important member of the starting rotation at defensive end the past two seasons ... Suffered a fractured bone in his left forearm during spring practice, but should be at full strength when practice resumes ... Brings experience to the position along with quickness, agility and a non-stop motor ... Has a knack for making plays ... Is a Super Iron Hokie in the strength and conditioning program ... Played in every game last fall, despite a nagging shoulder injury ... A valuable member of the defensive unit who will be counted on as a player and leader.

2005: Turned in three quarterback hurries and two big hits during the opening game win at NC State ... Had three tackles, three hurries and a fumble recovery in the Ohio game ... Shared a sack and had a pair of hurries in the Georgia Tech game ... Played 25 downs at WVU and contributed a pair of tackles ... Registered four tackles, 1.5 sacks and forced a fumble against Marshall ... Picked up two hurries against Boston College ... Played 30 downs against Miami with two tackles and a hurry ... Added three hurries and a pair of tackles against UNC ... Had two tackles for loss, including a sack, in Tech's Gator Bowl win over Louisville ... Had 25 tackles, including three sacks ... Finished third on the team in hurries with 18 ... Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Turned in a career-best 560-pound back squat, best among the defensive ends ... Posted two sacks and an additional tackle for loss during first spring scrimmage, but was sidelined by a broken forearm for much of the spring and did not play in the Maroon-White game.

2004: Played in and started 12 games, recording 15 solo stops and 12 assists ... Included in those 27 tackles were six tackles for loss and 3.0 sacks ... Also had two forced fumbles, a fumble recovery and 11 quarterback hurries ... Played 405 snaps on defense and 104 on special teams in the regular season ... Made his first career start against USC in the opener, playing 37 snaps ... Was credited with three total tackles, including 1.5 for loss ... Also had a quarterback hurry ... Had a sack, forced fumble and two tackles against WVU ... Had four tackles in the win at Wake Forest, but sprained his shoulder late in the game ... Injury forced him to miss the FAMU game ... Returned to start at Georgia Tech, playing 44 snaps ... Had five tackles and three quarterback hurries ... Picked up four tackles against Virginia ... Included in that total were 1.5 tackles for loss, one of which was a sack that caused a fumble on UVa's final drive ... Posted a 530-pound back squat, a 326-pound power clean and a 309-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Saw action in all 13 games, playing more than 330 defensive snaps ... Had 20 solo tackles and 22 assists ... Included in those 43 stops was a sack ... Also had nine quarterback hurries and a forced fumble ... Had three total tackles, a forced fumble and a QB hurry against James Madison ... Played 42 snaps on defense against UConn, recording six solo tackles, two assists and a quarterback hurry ... Was in on five tackles against California ... Bench pressed 360 pounds during spring max tests ... Had a sack in the Maroon-White game ... Was voted one of the team's top hustlers of the spring.

2002: Was slowed by a hamstring injury during the early part of the year ... Worked at defensive end while redshirting ... Sprained his
Burchette, Continued

knee in spring practice, causing him to miss some time … Had four tackles and a sack in one spring scrimmage and a fumble recovery in another … Posted two quarterback sacks and three tackles in the spring game … Won the Paul Torgersen Award as the top defensive newcomer of the spring.

High School: 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 five TDs … Contributed 58 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 … Was a second-team selection by The Richmond Times-Dispatch All-Metro first team his senior season … Helped his team to the Group AAA Division 5 regional division title game … Starrred 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 … 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 Polly Burchette … Majoring in sociology.
High School: Lettered four years in football as a tight end/defensive end for Coach Scott Allen … Named first-team all-district and second-team all-region as a senior … Led team to a district title … Also lettered four times in basketball … Served as football and basketball team captain as a senior.


Got a lot of reps at end in the spring due to the injury to Noland Burchette … Took advantage of the opportunity to get better … Showed some quickness … Has a chance to become a solid contributor if he continues to make progress.

2005: Joined the team as a walk-on … Played on the scout and jayvee teams … Posted a pair of tackles in the Hokies’ JV win against Fork Union … Contributed a tackle in the spring Maroon-White game.

High School: Lettered three years in football as a linebacker/fullback for Coach Don Ward … Earned second-team all-state honors as a senior … Led his team to the state championship game in 2005 … Had 1,000 yards rushing and seven touchdowns as a senior … Also had 100 tackles, four interceptions, two sacks, five fumble recoveries and a blocked punt in 2005 … Also lettered three times in soccer and twice in swimming.


A talented young player who made a good impression during the spring after redshirting last fall … Mixes good ability with toughness … Worked hard and showed improvement each practice during the spring … Has the potential to be a playmaker … Coaches considered trying him at tailback after injuries at the position, but liked his future on defense too much to make the move … Is already showing the benefits of Tech’s strength and conditioning program … Will compete for playing time at boundary corner, as well as special teams … Has a bright future.

2005: Was redshirted while working at the boundary cornerback position … Turned in the best bench press among the defensive backs during spring testing with a lift of 340 pounds … Ran a 4.35 in the 40 … Turned in four tackles, including one for a loss in first spring scrimmage … Was in on four tackles and forced a fumble during the spring Maroon-White game.

High School: Named first-team all-state and second-team all-region as a senior … Averaged 6.4 yards per carry … Added 1,444 yards and 15 touchdowns on 183 carries as a senior … Also returned kicks … Rushed for 1,167 yards and 15 touchdowns on 183 carries as a senior … Averaged 6.4 yards per carry … Added 1,444 yards and 18 TDs his senior year … Was instrumental in his team’s march to the New Jersey Group 4 title during his junior season … Earned second-team all-state honors … Rated as the No. 9 all-purpose back in the nation and the state of New Jersey by rivals.com … Ranked the No. 49 running back in the nation and the No. 22 player in the state of New Jersey by scout.com … Rated the No. 20 player in the state of New Jersey by SuperPrep … Named to PrepStar’s postseason All-East Region team.

Personal: Jahre T. Cheeseman … Born 1/11/87 in Vallejo, CA … Son of Acintia and Mario Robinson … Enrolled in university studies.

The lone senior in the receiving corps … Is being looked to for a big season … Has worked hard to get where he is … Tech’s top receiver in 2005 … Contributed a key fourth-quarter touchdown catch in season-opening win at NC State … Had a productive spring … A playmaker … Possesses breakaway speed, but also contributes down field as a blocker … Can return kickoffs if needed … Has spent his winters working with the Tech track team … Coaches are looking for him to take more of a leadership role.

2005: Led the team in receptions (34), receiving yards (619) and was second in average yards per catch (18.2) … Caught three TD passes … Got off to a fast start, catching a 19-yard touchdown pass that provided the winning margin in the season opener at NC State … Finished the game with three catches for 30 yards … Hauled in three passes for 62 yards and a TD at Duke … Had a 52-yard catch against Ohio … Posted two kickoff blocks versus Georgia Tech … Grabbed three passes for 47 yards at WVU … Hauled in a 48-yard TD catch versus Marshall … Caught three passes for 76 yards at Maryland and three for 58 yards versus BC … Had three catches for 42 yards at Virginia … Posted four catches for 35 yards in the Florida State game … Caught two passes for 69 yards, including a career-long 54-yarder, in the Gator Bowl win over Louisville … Started all but one game, compiling the most regular-season plays among the receivers with 373 … Caught five passes for 52 yards in Tech’s second scrimmage of the spring … Had a 6-yard grab during the Maroon-White game.

2004: Played in 12 games, catching 20 passes for 263 yards and two touchdowns … Had a 7-yard reception against USC … Did not
CLOWNEY, Continued

play against WMU … Caught a big 38-yard pass on the final drive against NC State … Earned his first collegiate start against Florida A&M … Caught a 16-yard touchdown pass on Tech’s first offensive play … Finished the day with two catches for 34 yards and a 26-yard kickoff return … Got the scoring started at Georgia Tech by haulings a 34-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter … Tied his career high with four catches at Miami for 54 yards … Also had a 19-yard kickoff return … Had a 7-yard catch in the Maroon-White game … Given the Frank O. Moseley Award, awarded to the top offensive hustler, following spring practice … Recorded a 450-pound back squat, a 36-inch vertical jump and a 4.33 40-yard dash in spring testing.

2003: Saw action in 12 games, playing 96 snaps on offense and 44 on special teams … Had five receptions for 67 yards and a score on the season … Started his career out with a bang, catching two passes for 37 yards against UCF … Hauled in a 27-yard touchdown pass from Marcus Vick late in the game … Had four catches for 27 yards in Tech’s third scrimmage in the spring … Scored on a 6-yard reverse in the final scrimmage … Hauled in three passes for 46 yards in the spring game … Scored a touchdown on a 2-yard passer reverse.

High School: An honorable mention Class 5A all-state selection as a senior … Lettered four seasons as a receiver and safety for Coach Chris Bean at Atlantic High … Named to the All-Palm Beach County Team as published by The Palm Beach Post Sun-Sentinel … Made one of the season’s biggest plays, a 95-yard touchdown catch against Ely in the regional finals … Totaled 25 catches for 576 yards and a county-best 10 touchdowns … Returned three kicks for 245 yards and two touchdowns … Caught three passes for 120 yards and two touchdowns in a game against Wellington High … Led his team to an undefeated regular season … Hauled in 39 passes his junior season … A sprinter on the track team … Was a state finalist in the 200 meters and a regional finalist in the 100 meters … Also lettered two years as a guard in basketball.

Personal: David Cortez Clowney IV … Born 7/8/85 in Long Island, NY … Son of Maria and Tracy Bean … Majoring in Apparel, Housing and Resource Management.

Receiving

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Career

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2005 Receiving Game-by-Game

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Eric Davis

Offensive Guard • 6-7 • 335 • r-Fr.
Lorton, Va. • West Springfield H.S.

A young player who worked at tackle last year while redshirting … Got a lot of reps there during the spring, but is expected to move inside to guard when practice resumes in August … Possesses excellent size, but is still learning the speed of the game … Mixes a good work ethic with the will to succeed … Will benefit from continued exposure to the Hokies’ strength and conditioning program … Could help provide depth at guard if he continues to develop.

2005: Worked at the right offensive tackle position while redshirting in the fall … Continued to work as a tackle during spring practice.

High School: Named the Sleeper of the Year among in-state prospects by The Roanoke Times … Earned honorable mention all-district honors as a senior offensive lineman for Coach Bill Renner at West Springfield … Helped his team to a sixth-place finish in a region of 30 teams … Allowed only five sacks in 278 passing attempts his final year … Did not start playing football until the ninth grade … Missed some time his sophomore and junior seasons with wrist and foot injuries.


Jared Develli

Place-Kicker • 6-0 • 237 • Jr.
Sterling, Va. • Park View H.S.

Has handled the bulk of Tech’s kickoff duties for the past two seasons … Is competing to continue those duties again this fall … Possesses a strong leg that can get the ball into the end zone on a consistent basis … Has 59 career touchbacks … Will work on field goals and PATs over the summer to prepare for the future as well as possible backup duties to Brandon Pace.
2005: Kicked in every game but one (FSU) … Fifteen of his first 25 kicks were touchbacks … Kicked off eight times against Georgia Tech … Had 64 kickoffs for the season with the average return starting on the 2-yard line … Finished with 29 touchbacks … Did not have a kickoff go out of bounds … Bench pressed 300 pounds and had a 430-pound squat during spring testing … Kicked off three times in the spring game with all three kicks downed in the end zone.

2004: Kicked off 70 times with 29 touchbacks … Had three tackles on kickoff coverage … Handled all four kickoffs in the opener against USC … Put six of his kickoffs in the end zone, including two through the uprights, against Duke … Had three touchbacks against NC State … Had two touchbacks against West Virginia … Was busy against Florida A&M, kicking off nine times with two touchbacks … Had three touchbacks at UNC and a solo tackle on kickoff coverage that saved a touchdown … Had four touchbacks against Maryland and two against Virginia … Posted a 430-pound back squat in spring testing.

High School: Was a place-kicker, punter and safety for Coach Charlie Pierce at Park View … Made 26 of 35 field goals during his career and was 90 of 91 on extra points … Had a career average of 40.6 as a punter and posted six career interceptions on defense … Made five field goals in a game his senior season, including the game-winner in overtime … Had a total of four game-winning field goals during his three varsity seasons … Was a three-time all-district and all-region selection and a two-time, first-team all-state pick … Named to Washington Post all-Met team as a senior … Holds school career records for field goals made in a season (12) and career (36) … Also set a season mark for touchbacks as a kickoff man … Played soccer, earning all-district honors twice.

Personal: Jared Gabriel Develli … Born 12/28/85 in Loudoun, VA … Son of Gabe and Linda Develli … University of New Mexico (12) and career (36) … Also set a season mark for touchbacks as a kickoff man … Played soccer, earning all-district honors twice.

Jared Gabriel Develli … Born 12/28/85 in Loudoun, VA … Son of Gabe and Linda Develli … University of New Mexico (12) and career (36) … Also set a season mark for touchbacks as a kickoff man … Played soccer, earning all-district honors twice.

Brandon Dillard
Flanker • 5-10 • 174 • r-Fr.
Martinsville, VA • Bassett H.S.

Will be in the mix at the flanker position when practice opens in August … Joined the team as a walk-on … Possesses outstanding speed, but must concentrate on catching the football … Needs to get more reps … A good summer preparation will be important … Will be watched in August … Could help provide depth or help on special teams … Has potential for the future.

2005: Got a look at both wide receiver spots while redshirting … Registered a 36 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring max testing … Spent time at the flanker position during spring practice.

High School: Lettered four times in football at quarterback, defensive back and wide receiver for Coach James Gilbert … Named region and district player of the year as a senior … Also named all-state, all-region and all-district in his career … Rushed for 650 yards and passed for 380 yards during his senior season … Had 16 all-purpose touchdowns … Recorded 35 tackles and six interceptions … Named team captain as a junior and as a senior … Also lettered four times in basketball and track and field … Won 2005 state championship in the 100 and 200 meter … Also named state Runner of the Year … A member of the National Honor Society.

Personal: Brandon Antonio Dillard … Born 2/3/87 in Martinsville, VA … Son of Anthony and Linda Dillard … A university studies major.
Chris Ellis
Defensive End • 6-4 • 260 • r-Jr.
Hampton, Va. • Bethel H.S.

Has a chance to be one of the nation's top defensive ends this fall. ... Continues to show outstanding ability as a playmaker ... Excels as a pass rusher ... Combines good technique with outstanding athleticism, speed and agility ... Works hard and plays aggressively ... Ranked second on the team in tackles for loss and sacks last season ... Returned an interception for a touchdown against Georgia Tech ... Has been named one of the team's most valuable defensive performers of spring practice each of the last two years ... Listed as the nation's No. 19 defensive end heading into the 2006 season by The Sporting News ... TSN also lists him as a second-team All-ACC pick.

2005: Picked up his first collegiate start in the opener at NC State ... Had a career-high eight tackles in the Marshall game, including a sack and two forced fumbles ... Recorded nine tackles, three tackles for loss and a fumble recovery in the first start in the Marshall game ... Contributed two tackles for loss against FAMU ... Included in that total were 3.5 tackles for loss and a sack ... Also had a forced fumble and a pass break up ... Had two tackles — 1.5 for loss — at Georgia Tech ... Recorded a big sack in the third quarter that resulted in a safety ... Also had a fumble recovery ... Given the George Preas Award, awarded to the most valuable player of spring practice ... Posted a 350-pound bench, a 304-pound bench press, a 4.70-second 40-yard dash and a 20-yard shuttle of 4.38 seconds ... Was also used in the Hokies' nickel package ... Named the Hokies' top defensive newcomer following 2005 spring practice ... Played briefly during the 2004 season before receiving a medical redshirt ... A player to watch this fall.

2004: Picked up his first collegiate start in the opener at NC State ... Had three tackles and two quarterback hurries ... Posted two tackles for losses, including a sack at Duke ... Added another sack in the Ohio game and returned an interception 29 yards for a touchdown against Georgia Tech ... Had a career-high eight tackles in the Marshall game, including a sack and two forced fumbles ... Recorded nine tackles, three tackles for loss and a fumble recovery in the first start in the Marshall game ... Contributed two tackles for loss against FAMU ... Included in that total were 3.5 tackles for loss and a sack ... Also had a forced fumble and a pass break up ... Had two tackles — 1.5 for loss — at Georgia Tech ... Recorded a big sack in the third quarter that resulted in a safety ... Also had a fumble recovery ... Given the George Preas Award, awarded to the most valuable player of spring practice ... Posted a 350-pound bench, a 304-pound bench press, a 4.70-second 40-yard dash and a 20-yard shuttle of 4.38 seconds ... Was also used in the Hokies' nickel package ... Named the Hokies' top defensive newcomer following 2005 spring practice ... Played briefly during the 2004 season before receiving a medical redshirt ... A player to watch this fall.

Personal: Christopher James Ellis ... Born 2/11/85 in Hawaii ... Son of Eric and Laurie Ellis ... Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.
2005: Worked some at both tackle spots … Saw his first action at Duke … Graded 89 percent on 29 snaps against Ohio and posted a knockdown block … Was in on eight plays at WVU … Played 25 snaps versus Marshall, grading 92 percent … Got limited work against Maryland and BC … Was in for 10 snaps at Virginia … Saw limited time in the UNC game … Was thrust into the starting lineup for the Gator Bowl when starter Jimmy Martin went down with a knee injury in practice three days before the game … Ended up playing all 69 offensive snaps against Louisville … Set a position record with a 705-pound back squat during strength and conditioning testing … Topped the offensive linemen with a 34-inch vertical jump and a 470-pound bench press … Moved into the top spot at left tackle during spring practice.

2004: Played 62 offensive snaps and 46 on special teams in the regular season ... Graded out at 83 percent on 18 snaps in his first collegiate action, coming against Western Michigan … Played four snaps on offense against Duke … Played 35 snaps on offense with a knockdown in the win over Florida A&M and Maryland … Set a new position record in the squats (690) … Mark was the sixth-best in program history … Also had a 435-pound bench press.

2003: Did not see any varsity action, but played in both jayvee games … Earned Iron Hokie honors during the off-season … Turned in a 445-pound bench press and a 600-pound back squat … Had the best vertical jump (33 1/2 inches) and 40 time (4.85) among the offensive linemen.

2002: Practiced at defensive end while redshirting in the fall … Moved to the offensive line for spring practice … Turned in the top vertical jump among the offensive linemen during spring testing at 33 1/2 inches … Also had the top time in the forty (4.76) and the second-best showing in the NFL shuttle run (4.31) … Improved his bench press to 400 pounds … Was tried at right tackle during spring workouts.

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: Named second team all-state by the VHSCA … Named to the Virginia All-Group AAA first-team all-state team by the Associated Press as a defensive lineman … Named to the AAA all-state first team as a defensive end by the VHSCA … Named to the Newport News Daily Press All-Star Team … Ranked the No. 11 player in the nation by The Roanoke Times … Ranked the No. 9 weak-side defensive end in the nation and the No. 7 player in the state by The Roanoke Times … Ranked the No. 11 player in the state of Virginia by prepstar.com … Ranked the No. 45 player in the Mid-Atlantic coast by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report … Ranked the No. 96 player on the East Hot 100 by scout.com … Named an All-American and an All-Atlantic Region selection by PrepStar.

Personal: Brandon Lavar Flowers … Born 2/18/86 in Delray Beach, FL … Son of Patricia and Roland Flowers and Willie Flowers … Enrolled in business administration sociology.

Tackles G UT AT Tot. Loss Sacks
2004 1 1 0 1 0- 0 0- 0
2005 13 13 7 20 1.5- 6 0- 0
Career 14 14 7 21 1.5- 6 0- 0

Interceptions G No. Yds. Avg. TD LG
2004 1 1 38 38.0 1 38
2005 13 1 15 15.0 0 15
Career 14 2 53 22.5 1 38

Brandon Frye
Offensive Tackle • 6-4 • 300 • r-Sr.
Myrtle Beach, S.C. • Myrtle Beach H.S.

A promising young player who picked up a lot of reps during spring practice … Did not enter school until January … Began work in the strength and conditioning program during the winter to add strength and bulk to his 6-4 frame … Saw extra duty in the spring when senior starter Noland Burchette was injured … Gives outstanding effort and runs well … Is a year away body-wise.

2005: Entered school at the beginning of the second semester in January … Participated in the winter program … Worked at the stud end position during the spring … Posted a pair of tackles, including a quarterback sack during the spring Maroon-White game.

High School: Helped Phoebus to the state championship game his sophomore and junior seasons … Missed two games his senior season because of a bruised knee, but finished with 89 tackles, including 21 for loss and 17 sacks, his senior year … Also had three forced fumbles and three blocked kicks … Has over 30 sacks his final two seasons for Coach Bill Dee … Named to the Virginia All-Group AAA first-team all-state team by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman … Named to the AAA all-state first team as a defensive end by the VHSCA … Named to the Newport News Daily Press All-Star Team … Ranked the No. 11 player in the nation by The Roanoke Times … Ranked the No. 9 weak-side defensive end in the nation and the No. 7 player in the state by rivals.com … Listed as the No. 11 player in the state by scout.com … Ranked the No. 11 player in the state of Virginia by prepstar.com … Ranked the No. 45 player in the Mid-Atlantic coast by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report … Ranked the No. 96 player on the East Hot 100 by scout.com … Named an All-American and an All-Atlantic Region selection by PrepStar.

Personal: Steven J. Friday … Born 8/9/86 in Melbourne, FL … Son of Cynthia and Delmont Friday … Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles G UT AT Tot. Loss Sacks
2004 1 1 0 1 0- 0 0- 0
2005 13 13 7 20 1.5- 6 0- 0
Career 14 14 7 21 1.5- 6 0- 0

Interceptions G No. Yds. Avg. TD LG
2004 1 1 38 38.0 1 38
2005 13 1 15 15.0 0 15
Career 14 2 53 22.5 1 38

Steven Friday
Defensive End • 6-4 • 213 • Fr.
Hampton, Va. • Phoebus H.S.

Open some eyes with an outstanding performance in the Gator Bowl when he was pressed into starting duty for injured senior Jimmy Martin … Picked up a big boost in confidence and carried it over to spring practice … Showed continued improvement in run blocking … Is athletic enough to be a good pass protector … Heads into the season as the starting left tackle after serving as the No. 2 man at both offensive tackle positions in 2005 … Combines a big frame with a good work ethic and athleticism … Earned the Excalibur Award — the top honor in Tech’s strength and conditioning program — for the third time during the spring … Is expected to be one of the big keys to the Hokies’ offensive line this fall.
FRYE, Continued
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 ... Majoring in finance.

Sean Glennon
Quarterback • 6-4 • 215 • r-So.
Centreville, Va. • Westfield H.S.

Heads into preseason practice on top of the depth chart at quarterback ... Will be challenged for that spot ... Earned an edge with a very consistent spring ... Showed leadership ... Improved in the weight room ... Has a good understanding of the Tech offense ... Posseses the ability to make the proper reads and checks at the line of scrimmage ... Takes care of the football ... Has a good arm and can make the necessary throws ... Dressed for every game last season, while redshirting ... Was considered the top backup to Marcus Vick at quarterback, but was only scheduled to see action if Vick was sidelined by an injury ... Did see action in four games in 2004 as a true freshman ... Doesn't have a lot of game experience, but that could change rapidly.

2005: Got a lot of reps in practice and stayed game-ready ... Asked to be held out of action and redshirted ... Bench pressed 350 pounds on the way to Iron Hokie honors during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Was 7-for-11 passing in first spring scrimmage for 44 yards ... Completed 8-of-21 passes for 96 yards in the second scrimmage ... Hit five passes in six attempts during the spring Maroon-White game for 36 yards.

2004: Played in four games, completing 8-of-11 passes for 137 yards and two touchdowns ... Saw his first collegiate action in the second game of the season, against Western Michigan ... Completed all four of his passes, including one to himself, for 79 yards ... His first pass went to Justin Harper for a 34-yard touchdown ... Later connected with Duane Brown for a 33-yard touchdown pass ... Played 40 snaps on offense against FAMU, directing two touchdown drives ... Completed 4-of-7 passes for 58 yards with a long of 26 yards ... Completed 7-of-17 or 38 yards with three interceptions in the Maroon-White game ... Recorded a 330-pound bench, a 410-pound back squat, a 285-pound power clean and a 36 1/2-inch vertical jump in spring testing.

High School: Was named the District of Columbia Metropolitan Player of the Year for 2003 ... Led his team to the Virginia AAA Group 6 state championship as a senior ... Passed for 1,840 yards with 26 touchdowns and only four interceptions his senior season ... Also rushed for four TDs ... Earned All-America honors from both SuperPrep and PrepStar ... Ranked the No. 10 pro-style quarterback in the nation by Rivals ... Selected to The Washington Post All-Metro first team ... Was the first-team quarterback on the All-ACC Area Offensive Team selected by G&W Recruiting Report ... Rated No. 21 on the All Mid-Atlantic team picked by Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report ... A first-team all-state selection by both the AP and coaches ... Accumulated over 4,800 yards passing during his career for Coach Tom Verbanic ... Ranks seventh all-time in the Virginia High School League in career touchdown passes with 67 ... Threw just 11 interceptions during his career ... Had over 1,700 passing yards as a junior ... Passed for 21 touchdowns that year and rushed for four ... Ranked the No. 4 player in the state by The Roanoke Times and the No. 3 player in the state by SuperPrep.

Personal: Sean Benjamin Glennon ... Born 9/5/85 in Woodlands, Texas ... Son of John and Nancy Glennon ... Majoring in business.

Passing

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Corey Gordon
Linebacker • 6-2 • 226 • r-Jr.
Gainesville, Fla. • Gainesville H.S. • Hargrave

A physical player who is in the thick of the battle for playing time at the whip linebacker position ... Is coming off a good spring ... Got better each practice ... Has the size and speed that you want for the position ... Just needs to become more consistent ... Rates as a good tackler ... Still has some work to do in pass coverage ... Started on the kickoff team last season and is an important contributor on special teams ... Should see his share of playing time.

2005: Played in all 13 games ... Saw his first action at whip linebacker in the Duke game ... Contributed two tackles and broke up a pass against Ohio ... Played 23 downs on defense and eight more on special teams against Marshall ... Only saw special teams action in the final seven games of the season ... Had four tackles and a pass breakup on his credit ... Posted a personal-best 336-pound push jerk during spring testing ... Also ran a 4.48 in the 40 ... Had two tackles and recovered a fumble in first major scrimmage of spring practice ... Was in on three tackles during Maroon-White game and broke up a pass.

2004: Saw action in 10 games, mostly on special teams ... Defensive action came at free safety ... Recorded one solo tackle and three assists ... Played 21 snaps on defense and 61 on special teams ... Posted a 340-pound bench, a 460-pound back squat, a 285-pound power clean and a 304-pound push jerk in spring testing ... Also recorded a 33 1/2-inch vertical jump ...

2003: Redshirted during the fall ... Practiced at free safety ... His 340-pound bench press led the returning defensive backs ... Registered a personal-best 520-pound back squat during spring testing ... Posted four tackles during Tech's second scrimmage of the spring ... Picked off a pass in the final scrimmage ... Had a tackle and a fumble recovery during the Maroon-White game ...

2002: Enrolled at Tech in January 2003 ... Tied for the top bench press among the defensive backs during off-season testing with a lift of 320 pounds ... Added a 400-pound back squat ... Worked at free safety during spring practice ... Was in on five tackles during one of the Hokies' spring scrimmages.

Prep School: Helped Hargrave to a 9-1 season ... Played for Coach Robert Prunty ... Had 48 solo tackles, three fumble recoveries
and two interceptions ... Had four tackles, a tackle for loss and three passes broken up in a game against the Virginia Tech jayvee team.

High School: Played for Coach Rick Swain at Gainesville High ... Named to the all-area team by The Gainesville Sun as a senior ... Caught 29 passes for 443 yards and three touchdowns his final season.

Personal: Corey Daven Gordon ... Born 6/9/84 in Gainesville, FL ... Son of David and Gloria Gordon ... Majoring in human development.

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Brandon Gore

Offensive Guard • 6-5 • 358 r-Sr.
Warrenton, Va. • Liberty H.S.

Missed the Gator Bowl game after suffering a broken ankle in the Florida State game ... Underwent surgery the following day and sat out the entire spring ... Saw action in seven games at guard last season ... Has also worked at tackle and could see some work at that position when he returns ... Will be counted on to play along the offensive front in 2006, either as a starter or a utility man ... Needs to have a good summer preparation and be ready to go when practice opens in August.

2005: Made his first collegiate start, opening at left guard against NC State ... Played 52 snaps ... Saw backup duty in the Duke, Ohio, Georgia Tech and WVU games ... Just saw special teams duty against Marshall ... Played 10 plays at Virginia ... Saw brief action against UNC ... Suffered a broken ankle during the FSU game ... Posted a position-record 460-pound bench press during spring strength and conditioning tests, but was unable to participate in any of the other lifts ... Sat out spring practice while recovering from his injury.

2004: Played in all 13 games, mostly on special teams ... Was in for 80 snaps on offense and 60 on special teams in the regular season ... Served on the PAT and field goal protection units ... Was in for 28 offensive snaps and nine special teams snaps in the win over WMU ... Was in for seven special teams plays and four offensive snaps against Duke ... Played eight snaps on special teams and 39 snaps on offense against FAMU ... Played eight snaps on offense against Maryland ... Got in for four offensive snaps against UVa ... Given the Dr. Richard Bullock Award, awarded to the most improved player, following spring practice ... Posted a 430-pound bench press, a 605-pound back squat, a 360-pound power clean and a 370-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Played in 12 games ... Contributed mainly on the PAT and field goal teams ... Was in on 37 offensive snaps ... Played 21 snaps on offense against James Madison, recording one knockdown block ... Was in for five special teams plays against Texas A&M and six offensive snaps against UConn ... Posted the 10th-best power clean (336 pounds) and back squat (660 pounds) on Tech's all-time football list during spring max tests ... Also registered a 420-pound bench press.

2002: Tied for the top bench press among incoming freshmen in August with a lift of 380 pounds ... Was redshirted while working at offensive tackle ... Gained Super Iron Hokie recognition during spring testing when he turned in a 400-pound bench press, 600-pound back squat and 316-pound clean ... Was moved to guard during spring practice.

High School: A prep All-American offensive lineman for Coach Joe Trabucco at Liberty High ... 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 Loudoun 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 ... 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 ... Majoring in sociology.
Has moved back and forth between tailback and fullback over the past year ... Figures to be back at fullback in August ... Has made good progress since joining the team as a walk-on ... Is benefiting from the strength and conditioning program ... A good runner who has developed into a solid blocker and receiver ... Has a chance to be a factor in Tech's goal-line offense.

2005: Worked with the scout and jayvee teams ... Practiced mainly as a fullback, but got to see action as a tailback in the JV games ... Rushed for 139 yards and a touchdown on 23 carries during jayvee win against Fork Union ... Also had a touchdown and 32 yards on 12 rushes in win over Hargrave ... Registered personal bests in the bench press (340) and back squat (535) during spring max testing ... Carried four times for nine yards in the spring Maroon-White game.

2004: Did not see any varsity action ... Recorded a 300-pound push jerk and a 495-pound back squat in spring testing.

High School: Played quarterback, linebacker and halfback for Coach Gerry Pannoni at Robert E. Lee ... Was a first-team all-district linebacker and an honorable mention quarterback his senior season ... Rushed for 490 yards and eight touchdowns during his senior season, catching another three ... Recorded 91 tackles and six sacks in his final year ... As a junior, totaled 99 tackles, six rushing touchdowns and eight sacks while playing multiple positions ... For his career, totaled 1,232 yards rushing, 503 passing, 30 touchdowns and 321 total tackles.

Personal: William Howard Gorham ... Born 3/11/85 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Rick and Debbi Gorham ... Majoring in sociology.

Richard Graham
Offensive Tackle • 6-6 • 281 • r-Fr.
Richmond, Va. • St. Christopher's

Moved around while redshirting last season ... Started out at tackle and then got a look at tight end when spring rolled around ... Will move back inside as soon as practice resumes in August ... Has a good frame ... Is working to add muscle and bulk through the strength and conditioning program ... His progress in preseason practice will determine his spot on the depth chart.

2005: Was redshirted during the fall while working at the left offensive tackle position ... Had a 445-pound back squat during spring testing ... Switched to tight end during spring practice.

High School: Played tight end and along the defensive line for Coach Paul Padalino at St. Christopher's ... Earned all-region honors as a senior for Coach Chuck Jordan of the South Carolina Shrine Bowl team ... Had 44 tackles and 14 sacks while on a defense that allowed just 10 points per game ... Earned a spot on PrepStar's preseason All-State team.

Personal: Richard Warwick Graham, Jr. ... Born 3/30/87 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Elizabeth Graham and Dr. Richard W. Graham ... Majoring in business.

Hivera Green
Defensive End • 6-3 • 293 • r-Fr.
Conway, S.C. • Conway H.S.

Was hard to evaluate during the spring due to nagging heel and thumb injuries that limited his practice time ... Never really cut it loose on the field ... Did show promise during the fall ... Possesses good athletic ability along with some speed and quickness ... Will compete for the fourth tackle position when practice resumes, if he makes a good summer preparation ... Coaches will keep an eye on his progress.

2005: Took a redshirt year while working at the nose tackle position ... Was slowed by injuries during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Had four tackles and a sack during first spring scrimmage ... Missed some more time due to injuries, but was in on a tackle behind the line in the spring Maroon-White game.

High School: Earned postseason All-America honors from SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 32 defensive lineman in the country and the No. 5 player in South Carolina by Rivals.com ... Rated the No. 26 offensive guard in the nation and the No. 11 player in South Carolina by Rivals.com ... Earned first-team all-state honors as a senior for Coach Chuck Jordan at Conway ... Was on a defense that allowed just 10 points per game ... Earned a spot on the South Carolina Shrine Bowl team ... Had 72 tackles, a forced fumble, two recovered fumbles and a pair of pass breakups despite being hampered by the high-ankle sprains his final year ... Totaled 112 stops and six sacks his junior year ... Earned all-region honors as a junior ... A weight man on the track team ... Possessed the speed to add muscle and bulk through the strength and conditioning program ... A good runner who has a chance to be a factor in Tech's goal-line offense.

Personal: Hivera Green ... Born 8/1/87 in Conway, SC ... Son of Robert Lee and Demetria Green ... Lives with his grandmother, Mary Green ... Enrolled in university studies.
2005 All-ACC Second Team

Chad Grimm
Linebacker • 5-10 • 185 • Sr.
Fairfax, Va. • Oakton H.S.

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Personal: Chad Russell Grimm … Born 5/18/85 in Fairfax, VA … Son of Russ and Karen Grimm … Father was a member of the Washington Redskins, earning Pro Bowl honors four consecutive years … Enrolled in sociology.

2003:

Saw action in eight games, all on special teams … Had three solo tackles on the season … Was in for five kickoff coverages against Syracuse … Was in for five kickoffs against Miami … Had a solo tackle on special teams at Pittsburgh … Was in for six kickoff coverages against Boston College.

High School: Lettered three seasons as an outside linebacker and deep snapper for Coach Pete Bendorf at Oakton … Compiled over 100 tackles and 5.5 sacks his senior season … Had 10 tackles, a sack and a blocked punt that was returned for a touchdown in the regional championship game … Earned all-district honors … Was also an all-district pick and a four-year letterman in lacrosse … Helped school to regional titles in both sports.

A good tackler with football savvy … Knows the game and has been a solid contributor on special teams … Also an important scout and jayvee teams performer as a whip linebacker.

2005: Saw action on special teams against Ohio, Georgia Tech, Marshall and UNC … Worked three plays at whip linebacker in the Georgia Tech game and was in on a tackle … Also played for the jayvee team, posting two fumble recoveries and a sack in a win against Fork Union … Broke up a pass in the spring Maroon-White game.

2004: Played in just one game, coming against Florida A&M … Posted a 32-inch vertical jump in spring testing … Also had a 420-pound back squat.

2003: Saw action in eight games, all on special teams … Had three solo tackles on the season … Was in for five kickoff coverages against Syracuse … Was in for five kickoffs against Miami … Had a solo tackle on special teams at Pittsburgh … Was in for six kickoff coverages against Boston College.

High School: Lettered three seasons as an outside linebacker and deep snapper for Coach Pete Bendorf at Oakton … Compiled over 100 tackles and 5.5 sacks his senior season … Had 10 tackles, a sack and a blocked punt that was returned for a touchdown in the regional championship game … Earned all-district honors … Was also an all-district pick and a four-year letterman in lacrosse … Helped school to regional titles in both sports.

A good tackler with football savvy … Knows the game and has been a solid contributor on special teams … Also an important scout and jayvee teams performer as a whip linebacker.

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Coach Lew Johnston at Western Branch …
seasons as a linebacker and tight end for
the annual Maroon-White game.

2004: Played in all 13 games, starting the last 12 … Recorded 21 solo stops and 43 assists … Included in those 64 tackles were 4.5 tackles for loss and a sack … Also had a forced fumble, three pass breakups and seven quarterback hurries … Played S22 snaps on defense and 22 on special teams in the regular season … Picked up five tackles in his collegiate debut, coming against USC … Made his first collegiate start the next week against Western Michigan, leading the team with 10 tackles … Led the way with eight tackles and a break-up against Duke … Had four tackles, a forced fumble and his first collegiate sack in the win over No. 6 West Virginia … Led the team with 10 tackles and had a quarterback hurry against Virginia … Once again led the way with eight tackles at Miami, picking up a pass break up as well … Earned Iron Hokie honors after posting a 340-pound bench press, a 530-pound back squat, a 326-pound power clean and a 321-pound push jerk … Also had a 530-pound back squat, a 326-pound power clean and a 321-pound push jerk … Also recorded a 33-inch vertical jump.

2003: Practiced at the mike linebacker position while redshirting … Turned in a 305-pound jerk and a 340-pound clean during spring max testing … Posted five tackles, three tackles for loss, a sack, a pass broken up and forced a fumble during the Hokies’ first scrimmage of the spring … Was also in on five tackles during the third scrimmage … Had a tackle behind the line and broke up a pass during the annual Maroon-White game.

High School: The 2002 Gatorade State Football Player of the Year … Lettered four seasons as a linebacker and tight end for Coach Lew Johnston at Western Branch … Named an All-American by both SuperPrep and PrepStar as a linebacker following his senior season … Recorded over 120 tackles, 23 tackles for loss and 10 sacks his senior season … Also had three interceptions … Listed 63rd on SuperPrep’s Elite 100 rankings of top prospects … Was a 2002 AAA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a linebacker … A first-team selection to the 2002 AAA Coaches all-state team at the linebacker spot while earning second-team honors as a tight end … Named to the VHSCA All-Eastern Region first team as both a linebacker and a tight end … Named to the first-team All-Tidewater squad as a senior, earning the Abe Goldblatt Player of the Year Award … Named the Eastern Region and Southeastern District Defensive Player of the Year as both a junior and senior … Earned first-team All-Southeastern District honors as a sophomore, junior and senior … A first-team selection to the 2001 AAA Coaches and Associated Press all-state teams at the linebacker spot as a junior … A first-team All-Tidewater selection as a junior and a second-team selection as a sophomore … Rated the No. 133 prospect nationally and the No. 14 player in the Mid-Atlantic region by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report … Ranked the No. 3 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times … Rated the No. 5 inside linebacker in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com … Rated the No. 5 linebacker in the country and the No. 2 prospect in Virginia by SuperPrep magazine … Named the Norfolk Sports Club Athlete of the Year … Also selected the Ace Parker Sportsman of the Year.

Personal: Vincent Larry Hall … Born 12/3/84 in Kingsville, TX … Son of Wilbert and Cathy Hall … Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

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2005: Recorded over 120 tackles, including 33-yard touchdown, in the win over Louisville in the Gator Bowl … Turned in the fastest shuttle run among the receivers at 3.9 during spring testing … Also had a 37-inch vertical jump … Led all receivers with six catches for 79 yards in the spring game … Caught a 49-yard touchdown pass in the game from Ike Whitaker.

2004: Played in 11 games, catching five passes for 84 yards and a touchdown … Saw brief action on offense against USC, but came back to play 30 snaps against Western Michigan … Caught three passes for 57 yards, including a 34-yard touchdown, in that game … Had a 25-yard catch at Wake Forest … Caught two touchdown passes in Tech’s 15-7 jayvee win over Fork Union … Played 10 snaps against both Virginia and Miami … Caught two passes for 39 yards in the Maroon-White game … Recorded a 36-inch vertical jump and a 4.36 40-yard dash in spring testing.

2003: Entered Tech in January 2004 … Participated in the off-season strength and conditioning program … Had a 10-yard reception in Tech’s first spring scrimmage … Hauled in touchdown passes of 30 and 45 yards during the Hokies’ second scrimmage … Had a 47-yard catch in scrimmage three … Closed out the spring with three receptions for 41 yards in the Maroon-White game.

Prep School: Spent the fall semester playing for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave … Caught a 47-yard touchdown pass on the third play of that game from fellow Tech freshman Cory Holt in a win over the Tech jayvee squad … Caught a 61-yard TD pass
from Holt against the Bridgewater jayvee team … Led team to an 8-1 record.

High School: Was a receiver and defensive back for Coach Randy Lowman at Bandys High … Helped the team to a state title game as a senior.

Personal: Justin Lamar Harper … Born 2/24/85 … Son of Oddie and Marva Harper … Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

Receiving

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
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Career: 2004-2005 Receiving Game-by-Game

- at NCSU: 1-2-36 (18.0) 0-0-0
- at Duke: 1-0-0 0-0-0
- at Ohio: 1-3-31 (10.3) 0-0-0
- GT: 1-2-20 (20.0) 0-0-0
- at WVU: 1-2-18 0-0-0
- at MU: 1-0-0 0-0-0
- at MD: 1-0-0 0-0-0
- BC: 1-2-53 0-0-0
- UM: 1-2-31 (15.5) 0-0-0
- at UVa: 1-0-0 0-0-0
- UNC: 1-1-9 (9.0) 0-0-0
- FSU: 1-1-35 0-0-0
- UL: 1-2-62 (31.5) 1-33

Victor Harris

Cornerback • 6-0 • 186 • So.
Highland Springs, Va.
Highland Springs H.S.

A skilled young player with a great upside … Heads into the preseason as the top candidate for the starting field corner position … Spent the first half of spring working at tailback before returning to defense … Moved to the top of the depth chart with his playmaking ability and eagerness to learn … Should become an excellent cover corner as he gets more reps … The only true freshman to see action last season for the Hokies … Started on Tech’s punt return and kickoff teams … Saw spot duty at cornerback … Has a chance to make a big impact this season.

2005: Got the majority of his snaps on special teams … Had five plays on special teams during opening game at NC State … Played 11 defensive plays and 17 special teams plays at Duke … Had 12 plays on special teams and 13 on defense against Ohio, contributing a tackle … Turned in a big hit in the Georgia Tech game … Was in on 10 special teams plays at West Virginia … Broke up a pass in the Marshall game and collected four tackles … Chipped in three special teams tackles against Boston College … Saw brief action in the secondary against UNC and broke up a pass in the end zone … Was in on 13 special teams plays in that game, blocking a punt and posting a pair of tackles … Posted a tackle in the Gator Bowl against Louisville … Had 12 total tackles for the season … Turned in a 36-inch vertical jump during spring max testing … Saw some action at running back during the first part of spring practice … Rushed for 47 yards on 10 carries during the first scrimmage … Moved back to the field corner spot for the final half of the spring … Was in on three tackles during the Maroon-White game, including one sack and another tackle for loss.

High School: A PARADE All-American as an “athlete” … Led the Richmond metro area in rushing his senior year with 225 carries for 2,346 yards for Coach Scott Burton at Highland Springs … Averaged 10.4 yards per carry, scoring 27 touchdowns … Caught four passes for 90 yards and four touchdowns … Racked up 751 yards and four touchdowns on 28 returns … Contributed 22 tackles and three interceptions as a defensive back … Scored TDs six different ways as a senior … The Central Region’s career leading ground gainer with 5,320 yards … Scored a total of 70 touchdowns his final two seasons … Ranked the No. 1 player in the state by The Roanoke Times … Named the Offensive Player of the Year in the state’s AAA grouping by the VHSCA … Named a first-team running back and defensive back, as well as second-team as a kick returner, by the coaches … Selected a postseason All-American by SuperPrep … Named to the Virginia All-Group AAA first-team all-state team by the Associated Press as a running back … Participated in the U.S. Army All-American game in San Antonio … Ranked the No. 2 athlete in the nation by PrepStar … Named to PrepStar’s postseason Dream Team (top 100 in the nation), as well as an All-American and an All-Atlantic Region selection … Ranked the No. 8 defensive back in the nation and the No. 1 player in the state of Virginia by SuperPrep … Ranked the No. 28 overall player in the nation, the No. 3 “athlete” in the nation and the No. 1 player in the state by rivals.com … Rated the No. 14 player in the nation and the No. 2 cornerback by collegefootballnews.com … Rated the No. 24 player in the nation, the No. 4 cornerback and the No. 1 player in the state by scout.com … Rated the No. 22 player in the nation and the No. 3 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report … Listed first-team All-American by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report … Named second-team All-USA by USA Today.

Personal: Victor Harris … Born 2/16/86 … Son of Victor Harris and the late Maritza Harris … Nicknamed “Macho” … Enrolled in university studies.

Tackles

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<th>Tot.</th>
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Ryan Hash

Cornerback • 5-9 • 173 • r-Sr.
Springfield, Va. • Robert E. Lee H.S.

A team player who has filled an important role on special teams for the Hokies the past two seasons … Started on the kickoff unit and also worked on the punt return team … Will be counted on to continue that role … Has also been a contributor on the scout team … Practices at the boundary cornerback position … Bounced back after missing 2005 spring practice with a knee injury that required surgery … Works hard and can always be counted on for top effort.

2005: Played in every game on special teams, contributing seven tackles … Contributed two tackles in Tech’s win against Georgia Tech and one versus Ohio … Had a special teams tackle against Marshall … Added another at Virginia, playing nine special teams plays … Was in on a tackle against Florida State and had a solo stop against Louisville … His 3.82 clocking in the NFL shuttle run was the best on the team.

2004: Played in eight games, all on special teams … Saw action on 37 special teams snaps … Had one solo tackle … Had surgery in November on his right knee.

2003: Opened practice working at the field corner position … Took a redshirt year after suffering an injury to his left shoulder … Was limited during winter workouts … Returned to action in the spring … Posted a pair of tackles during the Maroon-White game, including one behind the line of scrimmage.

2002: Played the boundary corner position for the scout and jayvee teams … Had four tackles, two passes broken up and a pass interception during a jayvee game against Hargrave Military Academy … Got some work at field corner during the spring … Was in on four tackles during one of the spring scrimmages … Registered a tackle in the Maroon-White game.

High School: Played wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Gerry Pannoni at Robert E. Lee … Missed his senior season with an injury … Was an all-district backfield his sophomore and junior seasons … Registered 60 tackles and five interceptions as a junior … Returned one of those interceptions 60 yards.
Hash, Continued
for a TD ... Also caught 10 passes for 150 yards
and a touchdown ... Posted nine career picks.

Personal: Ryan Matthew Hash ... Born 3/27/83 in Alexandria, VA ... Son of Macol and Katie Hash ... His sister, Rachel, was an outstanding soccer player for the Hokies ... His grandfather, Herbert, played pro baseball for the Red Sox ...Majoring in apparel, housing
and resource management.

Personal: John Warren Hedge ... Born 7/22/84 in Radford, VA ... Son of William and Clara Morton ... Enrolled in university studies.

Kent Hicks
Cornerback • 6-2 • 207 • r-So.
Culpeper, Va. • Culpeper H.S.

Moved to the field cornerback position late in the spring and is still adjusting ... Needs more reps to make the transition ... Made some strides in the strength and conditioning program ... Has the size and physical tools needed, but has yet to establish consistency ... Was redshirted in 2004 ... Worked at rover that fall and free safety the following spring ... Returned to rover last season before moving to corner ... Coaches are hoping to find a position where he can best fit in and contribute.

2005: Moved back to the rover position ... Played on the jayvee and scout teams ... Earned Iron Hokie honors during spring testing ... Posted a 38-inch vertical jump and a 490-pound back squat ... Got some work at the field corner back spot during spring practice ... Registered a sack for an 11-yard loss during the spring Marvin-White game.

2004: Was redshirted while working with the scout team ... Started at the rover position ... Moved to free safety in the spring ... Posted a 480-pound back squat, a 280-pound power clean and a 36-inch vertical jump.

High School: A three-year letterwinner and starter at Culpeper High School for Coach Randy

Brenden Hill
Linebacker • 6-2 • 204 • r-Sr.
Newport News, Va. • Warwick H.S.

A fifth-year senior who was one of the most pleasant surprises in the spring ... Moved to the top of the depth chart at whip linebacker where he is expected to share time with junior Corey Gordon ... Has a good understanding of the game and his role on defense ... Makes very few mistakes ... Has good range and speed ... Is good in pass coverage and working to become more physical versus the run ... Did a good job tackling during the spring ... Began last year third on the depth chart at whip ... Moved into the No. 2 spot during the season, but saw most of his action on special teams ... Will see that change this fall.

2005: Didn't see his first action until the Georgia Tech game ... Was in for six plays at rover and added 11 more on special teams ... Was in on four tackles, three on kickoff

An accurate kicker who is vying for the backup role to starter Brandon Pace ... Has kicked in Tech's jayvee games, but has yet to see varsity action ... Also handled the punting in JV games last fall.

2005: Averaged 45 yards on three punts and kicked a PAT in a jayvee win against Hargrave ... Added three extra points in victory over Fork Union ... Connected on a PAT in spring game, but missed a 31-yard field goal try.

2004: Attended school but did not participate in football.

2003: Booted field goals of 39 and 45 yards during spring Marvin-White game ... Also connected on both PAT tries in the game.

High School: Three-year letterwinner as a kicker and punter at Pulaski County High School for coach Joel Hicks ... Scored 170 points in his career ... Set a record as a junior for most PAT's in a season with 59 ... Had nine PAT's in a game for a school record ... Was the MVP kicker of the 4th Down Sports camp as a junior ... Went 5-for-7 in field goals as a junior ... Played in the Division 4 AA state championship game in 2001 as a junior varsity player ... Participated in track and wrestling at Pulaski.

Personal: John Warren Hedge ... Born 7/22/84 in Radford, VA ... Son of John and Melody Hedge ... Enrolled in business.

2005:
Averaged 45 yards on three punts and
Booted field goals of 39 and 45 yards during spring Marvin-White game ... Also connected on both PAT tries in the game.

Personal:

2004:

Averaged 45 yards on three punts and
Booted field goals of 39 and 45 yards during spring Marvin-White game ... Also connected on both PAT tries in the game.

Personal:

2003:

Booted field goals of 39 and 45 yards during spring Marvin-White game ... Also connected on both PAT tries in the game.

Personal:

2002:

Booted field goals of 39 and 45 yards during spring Marvin-White game ... Also connected on both PAT tries in the game.

Personal:

2001:

Booted field goals of 39 and 45 yards during spring Marvin-White game ... Also connected on both PAT tries in the game.

Personal:

2000:

Booted field goals of 39 and 45 yards during spring Marvin-White game ... Also connected on both PAT tries in the game.

Personal:
Personal: Brenden Dee Hill … Born 7/7/84 in Newport News, VA … Son of Shawn Hill and Merle Askew … Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

Tackles G UT AT Tot. Loss Sacks
2004 9 2 0 2 0- 0- 0 0- 0
2005 10 6 10 16 0- 0- 0 0- 0
Career 19 8 10 18 0- 0- 0 0- 0

Personal: Brandon Tyrell Holland … Born 4/1/86 in Roanoke, VA … Son of Deanna and James Claytor … Enrolled in university studies.

Brandon Holland
Offensive Guard • 6-4 • 320 • Fr.
Roanoke, Va. • Northside H.S. • Hargrave

A newcomer who will make the transition to offense after enjoying most of his success on defense in high school … Joined the team in January … Worked at offensive guard during the spring and showed some natural ability that just needs to be harnessed … Should benefit from exposure to Tech’s strength and conditioning program … Has a chance to be a factor for the Hokies in the future.

2005: Enrolled at Tech for the winter semester … Went through winter strength and conditioning program … Posted a 505-pound back squat during spring max testing … Worked at the right offensive guard position during spring practice.

Prep School: Spent the fall semester playing defensive end for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave.

High School: Rated as the No. 23 prep school player in the nation by rivals.com following a season at Hargrave … Originally signed with Tech as part of the 2004 class … Played defensive end and tight end for Coach Jim Hickam at Northside … Named first-team AA all-state by the Associated Press and the VHSCA … Posted 46 tackles and three sacks during his senior season … Named the district’s defensive player of the year … Had 75 tackles as a junior and scored a touchdown in a game against Liberty … Ranked the No. 29 player in the state by The Roanoke Times in 2004 … Ranked No. 20 in Virginia by rivals100.com … Ranked No. 26 in Virginia by SuperPrep … Named an All-Atlantic Region selection as a tight end by PrepStar … Took third place in the shot put at the Group AA state track & field meet as a junior … Was named All-TimeLand in both football and track by The Roanoke Times.

Cory Holt
Quarterback • 6-4 • 221 • rSo.
Lexington, N.C. • Lexington H.S. • Hargrave

Will continue his close race with Sean Glennon for the quarterback duties when practice opens in August … Made good progress during the spring … Impressed the coaches with his competitiveness, drive and leadership … An exceptional athlete with good size and a strong arm … Is also a threat as a runner … Has a good knowledge of the Tech offense, just needs to be a little more consistent … Saw action in six games last fall as one of the backups to Marcus Vick … Picked up some valuable reps … Still lacks overall game experience, something he hopes to change with a good preseason showing.

2005: Finished out the action in six games … Completed 4-of-12 passes for 80 yards and one touchdown … Did not throw an interception … Took 14 snaps at Duke … Was 1-for-3 passing for 10 yards … Engineered a 96-yard scoring drive against Ohio … Capped the drive with a 38-yard touchdown pass, the first of his Tech career … Finished the game 2-for-3 for 57 yards … Also had a 7-yard run … Played 17 snaps in the Georgia Tech game, but did not connect on any of his four passing attempts … Hit on a 13-yard pass in two attempts against Marshall … Was in for 12 snaps at Virginia and saw brief action against UNC … Recorded a 505-pound back squat during spring testing … Completed 6-of-12 passes in first scrimmage for 46 yards and one interception … Was 5-for-10 passing in second scrimmage for 36 yards … Hit 4-of-12 passes in the spring Maroon-White game for 83 yards … Tossed a 50-yard touchdown pass to Josh Morgan and had one pass intercepted … Also finished as the leading rusher in the game with nine carries for 31 yards … Shared the the President’s Award for offensive player who showed outstanding leadership during the off-season and spring with fellow quarterback Sean Glennon.

2004: Dressed for all of the games, but did not play, preserving his redshirt … Recorded
HOLT, Continued

a 450-pound back squat and a 35-inch vertical jump in spring testing.

2003: Enrolled at Tech for the second semester and went through 2004 spring practice ... Was 3-for-4 passing for 28 yards during Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Hit 3-of-5 passes for 62 yards and a touchdown in his second scrimmage, but also threw an interception ... Also threw for a touchdown and had an interception in the Hokies' final scrimmage ... Completed 2-of-4 passes in the Maroon-White game for 9 yards.

Prep School: Spent the fall semester playing for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave ... Connected on 4-of-10 passes for 66 yards in a win over the Virginia Tech jayvee squad ... Hit fellow Tech freshman Justin Harper for a 47-yard touchdown on the third play of that game ... Had a rushing touchdown against Lackawanna J.C. ... Hit Harper on a 61-yard touchdown pass against Bridgewater's jayvee team ... Led team to an 8-1 record.

High School: Accounted for more than 6,000 yards of total offense during his career at Lexington High ... Lettered four years as a quarterback for Coach Billy Hunt ... Passed for 1,738 yards and 21 touchdowns as a senior ... Added 953 yards on the ground and scored 17 rushing touchdowns ... Had two games during his senior season where he rushed and threw for at least 150 yards in the same game ... Was named the Offensive Player of the Year in Central Carolina 2A ... Also named to the All-Northwest football team by The Winston-Salem Journal ... Named an all-region selection by PrepStar for the Atlantic region ... Threw for over 2,000 yards as a junior ... Set a state record as a junior by throwing eight touchdown passes in one game ... Was named all-conference, all-county and all-area as a junior ... For his career, threw for 4,872 yards and 58 TDs while rushing for 1,619 yards and 27 scores ... Set school season and career marks for passing yards, passing touchdowns and completions ... Ranked the No. 49 player in the Atlantic East region by Rivals100.com ... Ranked the No. 26 player in North Carolina by SuperPrep ... Lettered three seasons as a center in basketball ... Played on a 17-and-under AAU basketball team that won a national title.

Jonas Houseright
Linebacker • 5-11 • 192 • r-So.
Gate City, Va. • Gate City H.S.

A walk-on who has shown steady improvement ... A tough, hard-nosed player with a good upside ... Combines intelligence with good athletic ability ... Moved from whip linebacker to the backer position ... Really came on the last two weeks of spring practice and played well in the Maroon-White game ... Is still adjusting to his new position, but will likely be a candidate for special teams duty ... Could help the Hokies in that capacity this year ... His father and two brothers all played football for the Hokies.

2005: Played on the jayvee and scout teams ... Contributed four tackles during a JV victory against Fork Union ... Improved on three of his four major lifts in the weight room during the winter ... Moved to the backer position for spring practice ... Had a pair of tackles and a pass interception during first spring scrimmage ... Was in on five tackles during the spring Maroon-White game.

2004: Joined the team as a walk-on ... Redshirted while working to add strength and bulk through the strength and conditioning program ... Practiced at the whip linebacker position during the spring.

High School: Played linebacker and tight end for coach Nick Colobro at Gate City High School ... Was named all-state, all-region and all-district as a tight end as a senior ... Also named all-district as a linebacker ... Helped lead team to 2003 Tennessee state championship in Class A Division II ... Participated in track and field in the 400 meter dash, and the 4x100 and 4x400 relays.

Personal: Jonas Ian Houseright ... Born 5/17/85 in Kingsport, TN ... Son of Bill and Jenny Houseright ... Father Bill played football for Tech, as well as brothers Jake and Billy, uncle Tom Beasley and cousin Chad Beasley ... Enrolled in mining and minerals engineering.
Josh Hyman
Split End • 5-11 • 191 • r-Jr.
Chesapeake, Va.
Deep Creek H.S. • Fork Union

Another talented receiver who is capable of making big plays … A hard-nosed, competitive player … Possesses a great work ethic … Does a good job running routes and catching the football … Averaged 15.2 yards per catch in 2005 … Played extremely well in the spring until being sidelined by a shoulder injury … Underwent surgery and is expected to be ready when practice resumes in August … Is expected to compete for the split end duties when he returns … Gives the Hokies another valuable option in their passing game.

2005: Saw action in every game, including a start against NC State …Posted four knockdown blocks and caught a 10-yard pass during the Duke game …Grabbed two passes for 52 yards in win over Georgia Tech …Equalled his career-best with five receptions in the Boston College game for a total of 58 yards …Had two catches for 19 yards against UNC …Hauled in two passes for 44 yards in the Gator Bowl win over Louisville …Had a total of 13 catches for 197 yards, an average of 15.2 yards per catch …Was bothered by a shoulder injury during the off-season program and missed contact work in the spring after undergoing surgery.

2004: Played in all 13 games, starting 12 …Had 27 receptions for 491 yards and a team-high five touchdowns …Earned the start and played 62 snaps against USC …Caught a 12-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter …Moved over to start at split end against WMU and caught four passes for 89 yards …Led the way with four catches for 89 yards in the win over Duke …Caught a 34-yard score from Richard Johnson on a receiver pass …Had just one catch against FAMU, but it went for a 20-yard touchdown …Caught four passes for a career-high 93 yards and two touchdowns against Virginia …Had scoring receptions of 45 and 32 yards …Performance earned him ACC Rookie of the Week honors …Did not start against Miami due to an injury, but played 14 offensive snaps …Caught five passes for 71 yards in the Sugar Bowl against Auburn …Caught three passes for 22 yards in the Maroon-

White game …Recorded a 295-pound bench, a 450-pound back squat, a 35-inch vertical jump and a 4.41 40-yard dash in spring testing.

2003: Worked with the scout team while taking a redshirt year …Did well during spring strength and conditioning tests earning Iron Hokie honors …Posted a 320-pound bench press and 450-pound back squat …Ran a 4.37 in the 40 and added 37 1/2 vertical jump …Caught four passes for 40 yards during the 2004 Maroon-White game.

Prep School: Spent the fall semester at Fork Union Military Academy …Played wide receiver and defensive back for Coach John Shuman at FUMA … Had a 97-yard interception return for a touchdown in a game against Gettysburg (Pa.) …Had a 9-yard reception in a game against the Virginia Tech Jayvee squad …Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by PrepStar as a wide receiver.

High School: Played wide receiver and free safety for Coach David Cox at Deep Creek High …Caught 44 passes for over 700 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior …Added over 50 tackles and four interceptions on defense …Had over 300 yards on kickoff returns …Named to the All-Eastern Region first team in 2001 as a wide receiver and defensive back …A second-team All-Eastern Region selection as a kick returner …Was a AAA Coaches all-state selection by The Associated Press as a wide receiver …A first-team selection to the AAA Coaches all-state team at the wide receiver position …Returned two kickoffs for touchdowns his junior year …Earned All-America honors as a sprinter in track as a junior.

Personal: Joshua Leonard Hyman …Born 4/18/83 in Chesapeake, VA …Son of Delphia Hughes …Enrolled in apparel, housing and resource management.

Receiving

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2005 Receiving Game-by-Game

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2006 Virginia Tech Football • 71
JEFFERSON, Continued
and the No. 12 player in Maryland by rivals.com … Ranked the No. 11 player in the state of Maryland by scout.com … Rated the No. 6 fullback in the nation by collegefootballnews.com … Ranked the No. 16 player in the Mid-Atlantic region by SuperPrep … Rated the No. 41 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report … Wrestled for three seasons.


Scott King 61
Deep Snapper • 6-0 • 283 • Jr.
Radford, Va. • Radford H.S.

A hard worker who has been an important contributor as a member of the scout team the past two seasons … Is expected to compete for snapping duties this fall after helping provide depth at defensive tackle in the past … Has made big strides in the Hokies’ strength and conditioning program … Joined the team as a walk-on.

2005: Worked as a defensive tackle on the scout team … Registered a sack in a jayvee win against Fork Union … Earned Iron Hokie status following the winter off-season program … Turned in a 390-pound bench press and 575-pound back squat … Tied for the best push jerk among the defensive tackles with a lift of 575-pound back squat … Tied for the best push jerk among the defensive tackles with a lift of 370-pound bench press and 530-pound back squat.

2004: Saw action on the jayvee team … Posted a 360-pound bench press and a 304-pound power clean in spring max testing.

High School: Played linebacker, fullback and punter for Coach Norm Lineburg at Radford … Was a second team all-state linebacker his senior season … Set a Radford record with a 201-yard interception return for a touchdown … Recorded 103 tackles and two sacks in his senior year … Named all-state in track and field his junior and senior season … Set records for shot put and discus at Radford … Was named gold medalist at the state track meet for the 1,600 meters.

Personal: Robert Scott King … Born 8/26/85 in Radford, VA … Son of William King and Judy Cox … His brother, Billy, played football for the Hokies in the ‘70s … Majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

Elan Lewis 38
Tailback • 5-9 • 235 • r-Fr.
Hampton, Va. • Phoebus H.S.

A tough inside runner who should be ready to compete for playing time when practice resumes barring any setbacks … Suffered a knee injury during spring practice … Surgery in May found a slightly torn meniscus and a frayed — but not torn — ACL … The meniscus and ACL were trimmed … Was making good progress in practices prior to being sidelined … A special talent coming out of high school … Arrived at Tech with a sore knee and a little extra weight and was redshirted … Earned Iron Hokie honors in the winter strength and conditioning program … Is comfortable with the football in his arms … Also rates as an outstanding receiver out of the backfield … Will compete for carries if healthy … Has the ability to give the Tech running game a boost.

2005: Redshirted during the fall … Improved in three of the four major lifts during winter strength and conditioning … Posted 515-pound back squat during spring testing … Had seven carries for 27 yards in first spring scrimmage … Suffered a knee injury that sidelined him for the rest of the spring.

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) … Majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

Nick Leeson 53
Deep Snapper • 6-1 • 249 • r-Sr.
Abingdon, Va. • Abingdon H.S.

Will be expected to help anchor Tech’s special teams this fall … Brings experience to the long snapping duties … Did an excellent job last year as the Hokies’ long snapper … Was accurate and consistent … Could add the short snapping duties in 2006 … Handled most of Tech’s PAT and field goal snaps in 2003, but did not play in 2004 … Has improved himself through hard work in the strength and conditioning program … Joined the team as a walk-on in 2002 … His dad played for the Hokies in the early 1980s.

2005: Handled the long snapping for all 52 punts by Nic Schmitt, none of which were blocked … Was limited during the off-season by a sprained wrist … Worked at both the short and long snapping duties during spring practice.

2004: Dressed for all 13 games, but did not see any varsity action … Earned Super Iron Hokie honors after posting a 370-pound bench, a 550-pound squat, a 316-pound power clean and a 309-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Played in nine games … Handled 47 total snaps on PATs and field goals with zero bad snaps … Earned Super Iron Hokie honors in the strength and conditioning program during the off-season … Posted a 360-pound bench press and 530-pound back squat during spring testing.

2002: Practiced at the backer position during the fall and served as a reserve deep snapper … Did not see action and was redshirted … Had a 340-pound bench press and a 475 back squat during spring testing … Was in on three tackles during one spring scrimmage.

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.
Kenny Lewis, Jr.
Tailback • 5-9 • 191 • Fr.
Danville, Va. • George Washington H.S.

Rushed for 2,000 yards in the regular season twice, a feat no other Peninsula District back has accomplished .... Named to the Virginia All-Group AAA first-team all-state team by the Associated Press and the VHSCA as a running back ... Selected to the Newport News Daily Press All-Star Team ... The Daily Press’ Offensive Player of the Year ... Ranked the No. 2 player in the state by The Roanoke Times ... Participated in the U.S. Army All-American game in San Antonio ... Ranked the No. 18 running back in the nation and the No. 2 player in the state of Virginia by SuperPrep ... Rated the No. 15 running back in the nation by collegefootballnews.com ... Ranked the No. 22 player on the East Hot 100 by scout.com ... Ranked the No. 18 running back in the nation and the No. 2 player in the state by scout.com ... Named an All-American by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... and picked an All-American and an All-Atlantic Region selection by PrepStar ... Also named a postseason All-American by SuperPrep.

Personal: Eilan Monte Lewis ... Born 5/7/86 in Hampton, VA ... Son Cheryl Scott and Richard Lewis ... Enrolled in university studies.

Zac Lowe
Offensive Guard • 6-1 • 273 • Sr.
Bridgewater, Va. • Turner Ashby H.S.

An intelligent player who can fill in anywhere along the offensive front ... Worked at guard and center last year ... Has worked hard in the strength and conditioning program ... An important contributor on the scout team since joining the Hokies as a walk-on.

2005: Worked at right guard ... Played on the scout and jayvee teams ... Turned in a personal-best 395-pound bench press during spring strength and conditioning tests ... Moved to center for spring practice.

2004: Saw action in two games ... Played four snaps against Florida A&M and three against Maryland ... Played in the jayvee game against Fork Union ... Recorded a 316-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Entered school in January ... Went through the winter off-season program ...
Worked at offensive tackle during spring practice.

**High School:** Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by PrepStar as an offensive lineman ... Was a 2002 AA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman ... A second-team selection to the 2002 AA Coaches all-state team at the defensive tackle position ... Also played tight end and offensive tackle for Coach Joe Taylor at Turner Ashby ... Caught eight passes as a senior, including two for touchdowns ... Finished with 85 tackles on defense with 15 tackles for loss, 11 quarterback hurries, 6.5 sacks, five tipped passes and three fumbles caused ... Posted three sacks in a game against Potomac ... Rated the No. 23 tight end in the nation by Tom Lemming on ESPN.com ... Ranked the No. 23 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times ... Ranked the No. 33 on Tom Lemming's All-Mid Atlantic team ... Picked as the No. 14 player in Virginia by SuperPrep rated the No. 25 safety in the nation and the No. 11 player in the state by rivals.com ... Rated the No. 25 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast by Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report ... Rated the No. 13 safety in the nation by collegefootballnews.com ... Rated the No. 13 player in the state of Virginia by SuperPrep ... Rated the No. 25 safety in the nation and the No. 13 player in the state by scout.com ... Ranked the No. 84 player on the East Hot 100 by scout.com ... Named to PrepStar's postseason All-Atlantic Region team as a defensive back.

**Personal:** Nicholas Chase Marshman ... Born 2/13/85 in Roanoke, VA ... Son of Frank and Janet Marshman ... Enrolled in apparel, housing and resource management.

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**Safety • 6-1 • 209 • r-Fr.**

Martinsville, Va. • George Washington H.S.

A talented young player who is expected to compete for playing time at free safety when practice resumes ... Made a good impression while redshirting in the fall, but missed some valuable time during the spring following a hernia operation ... A smart player with ability and savvy ... Is working to get stronger ... His summer preparation will be important ... Does things right, both on and off the field ... Has a bright future with the Hokies.

**2005:** Spent the fall working at free safety while redshirting ... Played on the scout team ... Turned in a 33 1/2-inch vertical jump during scout team maxing during the fall ... Improved in all four major lifts during the winter program ... Sat out spring practice after undergoing surgery for a hernia.

**High School:** Named to the Virginia All-State first-team all-state team by The Associated Press as a defensive back ... Named to the AAA All-State second team as a defensive back by the VHSCA ... Had over 70 tackles and earned all-area honors for the second year in a row ... Also played quarterback for Coach Dan Newell, completing 39 of 90 passes for 759 yards and nine touchdowns as a senior ... Rushed for 683 yards and 10 TDs on 86 carries, a 7.9-yard average per carry ... Was picked team MVP after a 9-2 season and Valley District title ... Ranked the No. 13 player in the state by The Roanoke Times ... Ranked the No. 20 safety in the nation and the No. 11 player in the state by rivals.com ... Rated the No. 39 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast by Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report ... Rated the No. 13 safety in the nation by collegefootballnews.com ... Ranked the No. 13 player in the state of Virginia by SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 25 safety in the nation and the No. 13 player in the state by scout.com ... Ranked the No. 84 player on the East Hot 100 by scout.com ... Named to PrepStar's postseason all-Atlantic Region team as a defensive back.

**Personal:** Cameron Olin Martin ... Born 4/19/87 in Danville, VA ... Son of David and Denese Martin ... Brother, Orion, is a redshirt sophomore on the Tech football squad ... Majoring in management.

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**Defensive End • 6-2 • 250 • r-So.**

Martinsville, Va. • George Washington H.S. • Hargrave

Picked up some valuable experience last season as a member of the four-man rotation at defensive end ... Was also one of the top performers on special teams, where he started on two units and was a top backup on three more ... Figures to be right in the thick of the battle for playing time this fall ... Got his weight and strength up during the winter program ... Played extremely well during the spring ... Plays hard and makes plays ... Transferred to Tech and joined the team as a walk-on ... Earned a scholarship in spring 2005.
... Can be an important contributor in the fall.

2005: Played in all 13 games ... His 152 plays on special teams ranked second-highest on the team during the regular season ... Had a total of 23 tackles, seven quarterback hurries and three passes broken up ... Broke up a pass in the opening game at NC State ... Shared a sack at Duke and contributed four tackles ... Added three tackles and a pass breakup against Ohio ... Was in on a tackle for loss against Georgia Tech ... Had two special teams tackles at West Virginia ... Contributed three tackles and a QB hurry in the Marshall game ... Played 26 downs on defense and 14 on special teams ... Had a tackle and a hurry in 13 defensive plays at Maryland ... Also had a hurry against Miami ... Saw action on 14 special teams plays in the BC game ... Played 15 snaps at end and 12 on special teams at UVa, contributing three tackles and a QB hurry ... Had 13 special teams plays against UNC with a tackle ... Picked up two solo tackles against Louisville in the Gator Bowl ... Turned in the best 40 by a defensive end during spring testing with a clocking of 4.52 ... Posted four tackles, two sacks and an additional tackle for loss during Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Blocked a field goal in the second scrimmage ... Also had three tackles, a TFL and a shared sack in that outing ... Was in on five tackles during the spring Maroon-White game, including two behind the line.

2004: Joined the team as a walk-on for spring practice ... Had a game-high seven tackles, including 3.5 for a loss and two sacks in the Maroon-White game ... Given the Paul Torgersen Award, awarded to the top newcomer, following spring practice ... Posted a 350-pound bench, a 550-pound back squat and a 34-inch vertical jump in spring testing.

Norfolk State: Attended NSU for 2004 spring semester.

Prep School: Played defensive end for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave for one semester.

High School: Played tight end and defensive end for Coach Everett Woods at George Washington ... As a senior, had three sacks, eight receptions for 190 yards and one interception ... Was named first team all-Western Valley as a senior ... Also lettered in basketball as a forward.

Personal: David Orion Martin ... Born 9/2/85 in Danville, VA ... Son of David and Denese Martin ... Brother, Cam, is a redshirt freshman on the Tech football squad ... Uncle, Bobby Martin, played for Tech from 1986-1989 ... Majoring in sociology.

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Gave the Hokies a real lift last season when he moved into the starting center spot early in the season, allowing veteran Will Montgomery to move to guard ... Held his own, posting 24 knockdown blocks and allowing just one sack ... Is expected to hold down the starting duties again this fall despite missing spring practice ... Underwent shoulder surgery following the season and is expected back at full strength by the start of the summer ... Has excelled in strength and conditioning ... Brings a good work ethic and toughness to the position ... Named to the 2005 All-ACC Academic Football team ... Will be looked to for senior leadership.

2005: First action of the season came at Duke, where he graded 94 percent and had a knockdown block during 18 snaps ... Worked 32 plays in the Ohio game, posting three knockdowns and grading out at 84 percent ... Made his first collegiate start in the Georgia Tech game ... Played 51 snaps and picked up three more knockdown blocks ... Started at center against Marshall and played 39 downs ... Had three knockdowns ... Remained in the starting lineup the next four games ... Graded 90 percent at Maryland and had five knockdowns in the BC game ... Picked up three knockdowns against UNC ... Made his seventh start in the FSU game ... Underwent shoulder surgery following the season and missed winter workouts and spring practice.

2004: Played in four games, seeing action on 72 offensive snaps and picking up four knockdowns ... Saw his first action of the year against Western Michigan ... Played 18 snaps, grading out at 91 percent with a knockdown block ... Played 39 snaps on offense against Florida A&M, grading out at 85 percent with two knockdowns ... Given the Don Williams TEAM UNITED Award, awarded for outstanding leadership, following spring practice ... Posted a 455-pound bench, a 316-pound power clean and a 351-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Took a redshirt year while working hard in the strength and conditioning program ... Worked at center during the spring.

2002: Played in two games ... Was in for 25 offensive snaps on the season ... Saw action on 22 offensive snaps in the opener against Arkansas State ... Had a knockdown block in that game.

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 Washington Post ... An honorable-mention pick on the All-Metro team and the All-Northern Virginia first-team by the Fairfax Journal ... Rated the No. 17 player in Virginia by PrepStar ... Rated 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 ... Graduated with a degree in physical education and is enrolled in health and physical education in graduate school.
Dressed for every game last season as the backup for deep snapper Nick Leeson, but did not play … Is competing with Leeson for the job again this season … Came to Tech as a walk-on linebacker … Originally signed with Eastern Tennessee State but was released from his obligation when ETSU announced it would drop football.

2005: Served as the backup long snapper but did not see varsity action … Played in the Hokies’ two jayvee games … Continued to work as a long snapper during spring practice.

2004: Did not see any varsity action … Posted a 455-pound back squat in spring testing.

2003: Took a redshirt year … Concentrated mainly on deep snapping, but also got some work at the backer position … Registered a 490-pound back squat during spring max testing.

High School: Lettered four seasons for Coach Greg Stubbs at Tennessee High … Saw action at middle linebacker, fullback and long snapper … Had 80 solo tackles, 38 assists, six sacks, four fumbles caused and three fumble recoveries his senior season … Also averaged 7.7 yards a carry at fullback and scored seven touchdowns … Set a school career record for individual tackles with 238 and sacks with 18 … Had a career total of 356 tackles, including 118 assists … Caused 10 fumbles during his career and blocked two punts … Was a three-time all-conference and all-region pick … Named Northeast Tennessee Defensive Player of the Year his junior and senior years by the Bristol Herald-Courier … Selected to all-state teams picked by the Tennessee Sport’s Writers Association and the coaches association … Picked All-Big Six Defensive Player of the Year his last two years … Was a National Football Hall of Fame scholarship winner.

Personal: William Bart McMillin … Born 2/25/85 in Johnson City, TN … Son of Jeff and Debbie McMillin … Enrolled in apparel, housing and resource management.
three interceptions … Was in on eight tackles during the opener at NSCU … Picked off a pass and returned it 23 yards for a touchdown at Duke … Was named ACC Defensive Back of the Week for his performance in that game … Intercepted another pass in the Ohio game and returned it 14 yards … Had two tackles against Georgia Tech … Was in on three tackles in the victory over Marshall … Was in on two tackles, including one behind the line, at Maryland … Had four tackles against Miami … Registered a pair of tackles and a fumble recovery at Virginia … Picked up three tackles against UNC … Had four tackles, a pass break up and an interception against Louisville in the Gator Bowl … Contributed a pair of tackles during the spring Maroon-White game.

2004: Played in all 13 games, recording 15 tackles, four pass break ups and two interceptions … Made his first collegiate start against FAMU when the Hokies opened up in a nickel package … Played 55 snaps on defense in that game, recording three tackles and three break ups … Earned ACC Defensive Back of the Week honors for his play at Georgia Tech … Had two key interceptions late in the game, returning the last one 64 yards for a touchdown … Recorded four tackles in the Maroon-White game.

2003: Worked at the boundary corner while redshirting … Showed improvement in each of the four major lifts during the off-season program … Led all Tech players with 10 tackles during the 2004 Maroon-White game … Two of his tackles were sacks for a combined loss of 13 yards.

High School: Earned first-team All-Metro honors from The Washington Post as a senior … Was a wide receiver, defensive back and kick returner for Coach Greg Fuller at H.D. Woodson … Registered 53 tackles and seven interceptions, including three for touchdowns, during his senior season … Also caught 30 passes for 609 yards and eight touchdowns … Blocked five punts, returning one for a score … Had 158 yards and three TDs on punt returns and 253 yards and two TDs on kickoff returns … Caught six passes for 250 yards and two touchdowns in one game during his senior season … Also contributed an interception, 10 tackles and a fumble recovery in the same game … Named to the Pigskin Club All-Metro team and was a member of the George Michael Golden 11 team … Ranked the No. 13 player in the D.C. and Maryland area by SuperPrep … Named a 2002 honorable mention all-region selection by PrepStar as a defensive back … Earned first-team All-Washington D.C. honors as a junior … Finished his career with 13 interceptions and over 1,100 yards receiving … Excellled as a sprinter in track … Ran a 21.8 in the 200 meters.

Personal: Roland Lawrence Minor … Born 8/1/86 in Washington, DC … Son of Theresa Minor … Majoring in apparel, housing and management.

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Tackles | G | UT | AT | Tot. | Loss | Sacks | 2005 Tackles Game-by-Game |
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2006 Virginia Tech Football
Robert Norris

Offensive Guard • 6-4 • 338 • r-Fr.
Cheltenham, Md. • DeMatha Catholic H.S.

A young lineman with potential for the future ... Is working at right guard ... Made progress while redshirting last year, but still needs to get stronger ... Has a big body and a good work ethic ... Has a chance to be a good player.

2005: Worked at right guard during a redshirt year ... Had a 475-pound back squat during spring max testing.

High School: Started at guard for two seasons for Coach Bill McGregor at DeMatha ... Helped team to a 10-1 record and spot in the nation’s top 25 high school teams ... Graded out at 85 percent in his blocking assignments ... Played on defense occasionally on defense in short-yardage and goal-line situations ... Rated the No. 72 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast by superPrep ... Rated the No. 42 offensive lineman in the nation by Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... Ranked the No. 16 player in the state of Maryland by PrepStar's Postseason All-Atlantic Region team.

Personal: Robert Lee Norris, Jr. ... Born 11/28/86 in Honolulu, HI ... Son of Sonya Norris ... Enrolled in sociology.

Robert Norris

Offensive Guard • 6-4 • 338 • r-Fr.
Cheltenham, Md. • DeMatha Catholic H.S.

A young lineman with potential for the future ... Is working at right guard ... Made progress while redshirting last year, but still needs to get stronger ... Has a big body and a good work ethic ... Has a chance to be a good player.

2005: Worked at right guard during a redshirt year ... Had a 475-pound back squat during spring max testing.

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Personal: Robert Lee Norris, Jr. ... Born 11/28/86 in Honolulu, HI ... Son of Sonya Norris ... Enrolled in sociology.
Can give Tech the total package at tailback if he returns to the team focused and healthy after sitting out the spring semester … Combines great ability with outstanding speed, quickness, great vision and toughness … A preseason second-team All-ACC pick by The Sporting News … Underwent shoulder surgery following the season … Went home to rehab the shoulder during the spring semester.

2004: Was redshirted … Had five rushes for 14 yards and two catches for 4 yards in the Maroon-White game … Recorded a 324-pound push jerk in spring testing.

High School: A prep All-American who rushed for 1,280 yards and 18 touchdowns for Coach Cadillac Harris as a senior … Added 70 tackles and three interceptions as a safety on defense … Returned one of those picks for a touchdown … Led his team to the state AAA Group 5 state semifinals … Rushed for 188 yards and two touchdowns in a win over two-time defending state champion Phoebus … Was a first-team all-state pick by The Associated Press … Named second-team all-state by the coaches … First-team all-district as a running back and second team as defensive back … Picked first-team All-Tidewater at a defensive back by The Virginian-Pilot … Ran for 963 yards and 11 touchdowns his junior season … Also contributed 15 pass receptions for 282 yards … Rated the No. 7 player in the state by The Roanoke Times … Listed as the No. 26 running back in the nation by SuperPrep … Earned All-America honors from both SuperPrep and PrepStar.

Personal: Branden Kry-Allen Ore … Born 2/17/86 in Norfolk, VA … Son of James and Karey Ore … Majoring in management.

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2005: Was 51-for-52 on extra point kicks … Made 19-of-22 field goal attempts … Made kicks of 44 and 28 yards in win at NC State … Was 3-for-3 on field goals in the Georgia Tech game … Made good on two short field goal attempts against Marshall … Missed his only attempt at Maryland, then made 3 of 4 tries in the Boston College game … Did not get an attempt for the first time all season during the Miami game … Scored 10 points at Virginia … Missed just the second PAT of his Tech career as his lone PAT … Kicked two field goals and had three PATs against West Virginia … Did not get an attempt against top-ranked Southern California … Made field goals of 35 and 42 yards, as well as his lone PAT … Kicked two field goals and five PATs against Duke … Was 3-for-5 on field goals and 1-for-1 on PATs against NC State … Missed the game-winning 43-yarder as time expired … Came back a week later to hit 4-of-5 field goal attempts, including a career-long 46-yarder, in Tech’s 19-13 win over No. 6 West Virginia … Was named one of the Lou Groza Award “Stars of the Week” for his performance … Made both of his field goals — from 44 and
Finished spring practice as the leader of the secondary … Took control and performed at a high level … Was asked to be more vocal and responded … Did a good job of getting players lined up and playing fast … Started six games as a sophomore and played over 300 snaps at safety … Also had over 130 plays on special teams … Turned in a game-changing play when he returned a blocked field goal 78 yards for a touchdown against Georgia Tech … Saw some playing time at cornerback as a freshman before moving to safety during 2005 spring practice … Will be an important performer this fall.

2005: Saw action in every game at free safety and on special teams … Contributed four tackles and a pass breakup at NC State in his first start … Was in on five tackles at Duke and had a pass breakup against Ohio … Scooped up a blocked field goal and raced 78 yards for a touchdown against Georgia Tech … Also posted five tackles in that game … Registered two tackles and a 5-yard fumble return at WVU … Helped out on four tackles versus Marshall … Contributed two tackles against both Boston College and Miami … Started at Virginia and had four tackles … Posted three tackles in the Gator Bowl against Louisville … Registered 34 total tackles for the season … Earned the Coaches’ Award for the defensive player who had an exceptional spring.

2004: Played in 12 games, recording 10 tackles … Saw action on four special teams plays in the opener against USC … Played 15 snaps on defense against WMU, recording two solo tackles … Had a tackle and forced fumble against Duke … Played 19 snaps on defense against Maryland … Posted a 300-pound bench press, a 265-pound power clean and a 4.37 40-yard dash in spring testing.

2003: Attended prep school in the fall before enrolling at Tech in January 2004 … Participated in winter workouts … Worked at the field corner back spot during the spring … Posted five tackles during the annual Maroon-White spring game.

Prep School: Saw action at cornerback for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave during the fall of 2003.
... Added seven tackles and a pass interception during a victory over Fork Union ... Posted a 35-inch vertical jump during spring testing.  
2004: Did not see any varsity action ... Posted a 310-pound bench, a 400-pound back squat and a 294-pound power clean in spring testing.  
2003: Worked at free safety ... Recorded a 385-pound back squat during spring max testing.  
High School: Worked at safety and wide receiver for Coach Ken Kincaid at Chantilly High ... Also returned kicks ... Earned all-district and all-region honors as a senior ... Contributed 84 tackles and seven interceptions ... Had three picks in a game versus Herndon ... Also lettered two seasons in basketball.  
Personal: John Laurence Patten III ... Born 9/30/84 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of John and Elizabeth Patten ... Enrolled in sociology.  

A walk-on who has been a surprise with his performance in the strength and conditioning program ... Mixes an outstanding work ethic with toughness ... Possesses a strong desire to succeed ... Contributed on the scout and jayvee teams last fall ... Picked up some extra reps during spring practice ... Gives the Hokies added depth at fullback and could earn some action.  
2005: Played fullback on the scout and jayvee teams ... Rushed five times for 36 yards in a jayvee win against Fork Union ... Scored a touchdown in that game on a 3-yard run ... Had a 360-pound push jerk on the way to Super Iron Hokie honors following spring max testing ... Turned in a 7-yard run and a 6-yard pass reception during first spring scrimmage ... Caught a 3-yard pass in the spring game.  
2004: Joined the team for winter workouts and went through spring practice ... Recorded a 360-pound power clean in the spring, the seventh-best mark in program history ... Also had a 605-pound back squat and a 341-pound push jerk in spring testing.  
Prep School: Attended Fork Union Military Academy for one year.

High School: Played defensive line for Pope John XXIII High School for Vic Paternostro ... Also wrestled and threw shot on the track and field team ... Helped lead football team to state championships in 2001 and 2002 ... Was named all-state, all-West Jersey and all-league in football ... Named all-state in wrestling with a 102-19 career record and all-league in track and field.  
Personal: Devin Victor Perez ... Born 6/1/85 in North Bergen, NJ ... Son of Victor and Ana Perez ... Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

A versatile walk-on who worked on both sides of the ball last year ... Practiced as a linebacker during fall, while seeing some duty at tailback for the jayvee team ... Was moved to tailback during spring practice after injuries depleted the position ... A hard worker who puts the team first ... Could be a candidate for special teams this season.  
2005: Worked at whip linebacker on the scout team during the fall ... Played tailback in jayvee wins against Fork Union and Hargrave ... Ran for 61 yards on 10 carries versus FUMA ... Scored on a 14-yard run ... Rushed four times for 14 yards against Hargrave ... Moved from linebacker to tailback during spring ... Carried eight times for 23 yards in second spring scrimmage and caught a 10-yard pass ... Won the Frank O. Moseley Award as the top offensive hustler during the spring.  
High School: Lettered four years in football at running back/linebacker for Coach Stephen Magenbauer ... Named all-district and all-region in his career ... Led team to a 2A state championship as a senior ... Rushed for 350 yards and caught 30 passes for 400 yards as a senior ... Also had 14 tackles, seven interceptions, three sacks and seven fumble recoveries as a senior ... Also lettered three years in baseball and one in track and field ... Named all-state, all-region and all-district in baseball ... A member of the National Honor Society.  
Personal: Dustin Michael Pickle ... Born 7/16/86 in Salem, VA ... Son of Mike and Sandra Pickle ... Majoring in building construction.

A promising newcomer who had some ups and downs last season ... Got a lot of work in the preseason with thoughts that he might be needed as a freshman ... Was ultimately redshirted, but showed good knowledge and quickness, while gaining some valuable experience ... Posted a team-best 40-inch vertical jump during spring testing ... Wasn’t the same in the spring after tweaking a hamstring in an early practice ... His summer preparation will be extremely important ... Needs a good showing during the preseason to put himself into contention for special teams action and possible playing time at rover.  
2005: Practiced at the rover position while redshirting ... Had a 480-pound back squat during scout team maxing in the fall ... Was in on a tackle in the Maroon-White game.  
High School: Totaled 48 tackles and six interceptions his senior year for Coach Bill Long at Gordon Central ... Also rushed for 825 yards and 10 touchdowns and threw for 930 yards and nine TDs ... Started three years in the secondary and two years at quarterback ... Helped team to an 8-2 record and a spot in the state playoffs for the first time since 1993 ... Rallied his team from a 24-0 halftime deficit to a 34-24 win during the season ... Named a first-team all-state AAAA performer by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution ... Was a two-time all-area honoree at defensive back ... Excelled in football, basketball and baseball ... Could be drafted in baseball ... Ranked the No. 46 corner in the nation and the No. 36 player in Georgia by rivals.com ... Ranked the No. 50 player in the state of Georgia by SuperPrep ... Listed as the No. 57 player in the state of Georgia by scout.com ... Rated the No. 81 player in the Southeast Region by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... Named to PrepStar’s postseason All-Southeast Region team ... Named to PrepStar’s All-Southeast Region team as a defensive back.  
Personal: Dorian Porch ... Born 3/16/87 in Calhoun, GA ... Son of Lynette Porch and Michael Gregory ... Enrolled in university studies.
Carlton Powell

Defensive Tackle • 6-2 • 303 • r-Jr.
Chesapeake, Va. • Great Bridge H.S.

A mentally tough player who doesn’t back down … Has the most experience of the defensive tackle candidates … Combines an outstanding work ethic with a strong desire to succeed … Plays hard … Has good strength and football instincts … Was slowed by a sprained ankle early last season, but gave the Hokies steady play at tackle … Started four games, including the opener at NC State … Played nearly 300 snaps during the regular season … Is being counted on to help anchor the line this season.

2005: Saw action in 12 games, five as a starter … Started and played 36 snaps at NC State … Suffered an ankle injury during that contest and missed the Duke game … Returned for 20 plays against Ohio and 17 versus Georgia Tech … Was in on two tackles, including one behind the line, against the Yellow Jackets … Shared a sack in the Marshall game … Returned to the starting lineup at Maryland … Had two tackles and a QB hurry … Also had two tackles against both BC and Miami … Got 25 snaps at Virginia and 28 against UNC … Was in on a tackle for loss against FSU … Started against Louisville in the Gator Bowl … Had 13 total tackles for the season and three QB hurries … During the spring turned in two tackles and a sack in the first scrimmage … Was in on three tackles during the Maroon-White game, including a sack … Was one of two defensive players to earn the Frank O. Moseley Award for his hustle during the off-season and spring practice.

2004: Saw action in all 13 games, recording seven solo stops and 10 assists … Included in those 17 tackles were 6.0 tackles for loss … Also had six quarterback hurries and a forced fumble … Had two stops, including 1.5 for loss, against NC State … Had three tackles, including 1.5 for loss, against WVU … Earned his first collegiate start against Florida A&M … Played just 14 snaps in the big win … Had a tackle and a forced fumble against Georgia Tech … Had three tackles, including two for loss, in the win over Maryland … Had a sack in the Sugar Bowl … Given the Frank O. Moseley Award, awarded to the top defensive hustler, following spring practice … Posted a 410-pound bench, a 600-pound back squat and a 316-pound power clean in spring testing.

2003: His 390-pound bench press in August was the top among Tech’s reporting freshmen … Spent a redshirt year working at defensive end … Upped his bench to 415 pounds during scout team maxing during the fall … Had a 575-pound back squat in spring testing … Picked up four tackles in the 2004 spring game … Two of his tackles were behind the line, including a sack for a loss of four yards.

High School: Played inside linebacker for three years at Great Bridge before moving to defensive tackle as a senior … Also played along the offensive line for Coach Noble Palmer … Suffered through some nagging injuries his senior year, but still managed to post 60 tackles, five sacks and five fumble recoveries … Blocked a punt … Named an all-region selection for the Atlantic region by PrepStar as a defensive lineman … Made the honorable mention All-Eastern Region football team as a lineman … Rated the No. 24 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times … Picked as the No. 15 prospect in Virginia by SuperPrep … No. 54 on Tom Lemming’s All-Mid Atlantic team … Finished his junior year with over 80 tackles and 15 tackles for loss … A weight man on the track team … Finished seventh in the Group AAA outdoor shot put competition as a senior.

Personal: Carlton Eugene Powell, Jr. … Born 8/14/85 in Norfolk, VA … Son of Carlton and Jay Powell … Majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise.
boundary cornerback position ... Had tackles on kickoff returns against Duke and Georgia Tech ... Recovered a fumble on a punt by the Yellow Jackets ... Had a personal-best 500-pound back squat and 38 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring max testing ... Got a look at field corner and free safety during spring ... Max testing ... Got a look pound back squat and 38 1/2-inch vertical jump during spring max testing ...

2003: His 32 1/2-inch vertical jump in August was the second-best among incoming freshmen ... Played wide receiver on the scout and jayvee teams during the fall ... Improved his vertical to 36 1/2 inches during the off-season program ... Also posted a 450-pound back squat ... Moved to defense, working at corner during the spring.

High School: Was a wide receiver and defensive back for Coach Dave Crist at Blacksburg High ... Caught 21 passes for 588 yards and eight touchdowns his senior season ... Contributed two interceptions on defense ... Caught two passes for 63 yards and a touchdown against Northside ... Also intercepted a pass in overtime during that game ... Posted 12 catches for 302 yards and five TDs as a junior ... Had a game-winning TD in his first high school football game ... Only played football his junior and senior years ... Was an all-district pick his senior year ... Excelled in track, earning first-team Group AA as a sprinter ... Finished second in the state meet in the 200 meters in 2003 ... Also an all-district pick in basketball.

Personal: McKinley Cory Price ... Born 4/9/85 in Blacksburg, VA ... Son of Tony and Brenda Price ... Majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

Devin Radford
Tailback • 5-9 • 179 • Fr.
Fayetteville, N.C. • E.E. Smith H.S.

A speedy newcomer who finished high school early and entered Tech in January ... Was moved around during the spring before settling at tailback ... Also got looks in the secondary and at receiver ... Possesses great speed, but needs to get stronger ... Is still adjusting to the transition and the Tech system ... His progress during the preseason will determine his role this fall.

2005: Enrolled at Tech after completing his senior season ... Went through the off-season program ... Turned in the second-best time in the 40 among the running backs during spring max testing with a 4.4 ... Got a look at several positions during the spring ... Played tailback in the Maroon-White game ... Rushed for 17 yards on two carries and caught a pass for a 9-yard gain ... His 17-yard run was the longest run of the game ... Also had a 16-yard kickoff return.

High School: Talled 55 tackles and four interceptions his senior season at E.E. Smith High School for Coach Milton Butts ... Named defensive player of the year by the coaches ... Team had a 40-7 record during his time ... Averaged 8.9 rushing yards per game on offense, going for 12 touchdowns as a senior ... Named second-team all-Two Rivers Conference as a running back ... Caught five passes for 205 yards, scoring three touchdowns in 2005 ... On special teams, blocked a punt and scored three touchdowns as a return specialist as a senior ... Team captain in 2005 ... Also played basketball and ran track ... Won first place in the 100 meters with a time of 10.82 in the Cumberland County Championship meet.

Personal: Devin Maurice Radford ... Born 1/13/88 in Frankfurt, Germany ... Son of Zelbert and Cynthia Radford ... Enrolled in university studies.

Michael Reid
Split End • 6-3 • 188 • So.
Martinsville, Va. • Martinsville H.S.

A walk-on receiver with potential for the future ... Needs a little more exposure to the position after missing time in the spring ... Has good size but needs to build his strength ... Summer work and preseason progress will determine his role for the fall.

2005: Worked on the scout and jayvee teams as a receiver ... Caught two passes for 33 yards in a jayvee win over Fork Union ... Caught an 8-yard pass in first spring scrimmage, but sat out the second half of the spring following a knee injury.

High School: Lettered one year in football as a wide receiver for Coach Taylor Edwards ... Caught seven passes for 120 yards and two touchdowns as a senior ... Also completed 7-of-13 passes ... Lettered three years in basketball and two in baseball ... Captained basketball team to a state finals appearance as a senior ... A member of the National Honor Society.

Personal: Michael Brennan Reid ... Born 9/28/87 in Salem, VA ... Son of James Reid and Mitzi Reid ... Enrolled in university studies.

Matt Reidy
Rover • 6-0 • 213 • Fr.
Gaithersburg, Md. • Damascus H.S.

A hard worker who spent last season working at the rover position ... Showed some progress in the strength and conditioning program, but needs to continue working to add strength ... Could play a role on the scout team this fall.

2005: Worked at the rover position while redshirting ... Registered a pair of tackles in the first spring scrimmage.

High School: Lettered four times in football at running back/safety for Coach Dan Makosy ... Named to George Michael’s Golden 11 as a senior ... A two-time all-state, all-metro, all-county selection ... Named the Cumberland County Player of the Year as a junior ... Led his team to a 4A state championship in 2003 and a region championship in 2004 ... Rushed for 1,866 yards and 17 touchdowns as a senior ... Also had 80 tackles, five interceptions and two blocked punts during senior season ... Finished career with over 3,593 yards rushing ... Also lettered twice in baseball and once in basketball.

Personal: Matthew S. Reidy ... Born 1/8/87 in Shady Grove, MD ... Son of Denny and Sue Reidy ... Plans to pursue a degree in business.
Sergio Render
Offensive Guard • 6-3 • 328 • Fr.
Newnan, Ga. • Newnan H.S

A gifted freshman who could make a significant impact along the offensive line this fall. ... Joined the team in January and was named the Hokies' top offensive newcomer following spring practice. ... Suffered through some growing pains, but finished the spring on top of the depth chart at right guard. ... Will have to battle to retain that spot when practice resumes. ... Possesses a good combination of size and strength. ... Plays physical and has good feet. ... Was picked the preseason ACC Offensive Newcomer of the Year by The Sporting News. ... Has a chance to be a special player.

2005: Entered school for the second semester. ... Went through off-season program. ... Turned in a 430-pound bench press, third best on the entire squad. ... Added a 550-pound back squat and 334-pound push jerk on the way to Iron Hokie honors. ... Worked at right guard during spring practice and earned the Paul Torgersen Award as the top offensive newcomer during the spring.

High School: A two-way lineman for Coach Robert Herring at Newnan High. ... Graded out at 85 percent in his blocking assignments and recorded over 100 pancake blocks the past two seasons. ... A two-time all-area honoree. ... Helped his team to a 12-2 record and place in the state playoffs his junior year. ... Played in the Georgia North-South All-Star game. ... Rated as the No. 7 center in the nation and the No. 27 player in Georgia by rivals.com. ... Ranked the No. 67 offensive lineman in the nation and the No. 22 player in the state of Georgia by scout.com. ... Ranked the No. 41 player in the state of Georgia by SuperPrep. ... Rated the No. 91 player in the Southeast Region by Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report. Named to PrepStar's postseason All-Southeast Region team. ... Competed as a heavyweight on the school's weight lifting team. ... Helped the school to a state title. ... Was also a weight man on the track team.

Personal: Sergio Orlando Render. ... Born 9/13/86 in LaGrange, GA. ... Lives with his aunt and uncle, Kerri and Eric Geter. ... Enrolled in university studies.

Kory Robertson
Defensive Tackle • 6-2 • 339 • r-Jr.
Martinsville, Va. • Magna Vista H.S.

A talented lineman who is extremely good when he turns it on. ... Is finally showing signs he may be ready to "turn it on" on a consistent basis. ... Played with more consistency during spring practice and put himself in the mix for a starting job at tackle. ... Has always had the physical ability, but not the focus. ... Is maturing and starting to put it all together on the field. ... Has great quickness and change of direction. ... An Iron Hokie in the weight room. ... Can make things happen inside when he puts his mind to it. ... Backed up at both defensive tackle positions last season, seeing action in 11 of the team's 13 games. ... Can be a special player if he puts his mind to it.

2005: Played in 11 games. ... Was in on a tackle behind the line in the opening game at NCSU. ... Made two solo tackles in the Georgia Tech game. ... Had quarterback hurries against NC State and Ohio. ... Was in for 20 plays against Marshall. ... Had a tackle and a QB hurry. ... Saw limited action against Maryland and Boston College. ... Turned in a quarterback hurry at Virginia. ... Played briefly against UNC. ... Finished the season with five tackles and four quarterback hurries. ... Also shared a sack. ... Set a Tech record in the power clean with a lift of 400-pounds during spring testing. ... Also bench pressed 370 pounds on the way to Iron Hokie honors. ... Was in on a pair of tackles during the spring Maroon-White game, including one behind the line. ... Won the Richard Bullock Award as the most improved defensive player during spring workouts.

2004: Played in five games, recording four tackles. ... Played two snaps in the opener against USC, recording an assisted tackle. ... Played 32 snaps on defense against FAMU, picking up a solo tackle. ... Posted a 350-pound bench, a 625-pound back squat, a 326-pound power clean and a 351-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Spent a redshirt year at defensive tackle. ... Was slowed much of the fall by a shoulder injury. ... Had a 500-pound back squat during spring max testing. ... Was in on two tackles during the 2004 Maroon-White game, including one behind the line of scrimmage.
High School: A first-team selection to the Group AA Coaches all-state team at the defensive tackle position and a second-team selection as an offensive lineman … Was also a 2002 AA first-team all-state selection by The Associated Press as a defensive lineman … Named a 2002 honorable mention all-region selection by PrepStar as a defensive lineman … Recorded 75 tackles, 11 sacks and two fumble recoveries during his senior season for Coach Joe Beckelheimer at Magna Vista … Played several positions along both the offensive and defensive lines during his career … Named first-team all-district on both offense and defense as a senior … Won the 2002 Lee Cook Lineman of the Year Award … Registered 62 tackles and seven sacks as a junior … Had four tackles behind the line in an upset win over Martinsville in the 2001 Region IV semifinals … Ranked the No. 16 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times … Ranked the No. 11 player in Virginia by SuperPrep … No. 50 on Tom Lemming’s All-Mid Atlantic team … Also lettered in basketball and track.

Personal: Kory Waurez Robertson … Born 12/12/84 in Atlanta, GA … Son of John Robertson and Sharon Pittman … Has lived with his grandparents, John and Mary Robertson, since the age of 5 … Enrolled in apparel, housing and resource management.

Career 16 3 6 9 0.5- 1 0- 0
Tackles G UT AT Tot. Loss Sacks
2004 5 1 3 4 0- 0 0- 0
2005 11 2 3 5 0.5- 1 0- 0

Took on more of a leadership role during the spring and is expected to be one of the key players on the 2006 team … Is ranked the No. 3 strong safety in the nation by The Sporting News, which also selected him a first-team preseason All-ACC player … Made an impact as the Hokies’ starting rover last fall … Ranked third on the team in tackles with 77 … Led the squad in interceptions with four … Preserved Tech’s opening-game win at NC State with a last-second pick … Had 13 tackles against No. 5 Miami … A hard hitter with great range and speed … Improved on reading his keys during the spring, which allows him to play even faster … A good tackler who excels in run support … Has also become a good pass defender … Mixes good football instincts with big-play ability … Has come into his own as a player and a person.

2005: The starter in every game at rover … Was named the ACC Defensive Back of the Week after intercepting two passes and causing a fumble in the opening game against NC State … Also had eight tackles and broke up two other passes in that game … Turned in three tackles and broke up a pass at Duke … Recovered a fumble that set up a touchdown and posted three tackles against West Virginia … Had four tackles, including one for a loss, versus Marshall … Posted a tackle for loss and five total tackles at Maryland … Led the team with 13 tackles versus Miami … Also broke up a pass in that game … Picked off two passes against Virginia … Also had eight tackles, one for a loss, in that game … Had 10 tackles and broke up a pass against North Carolina … Added 10 more tackles in the FSU game … Had four tackles against Louisville in the Gator Bowl … Finished the season with 77 total tackles to go with 4.5 TFL, four interceptions and five pass breakups … Had a sack and two tackles during the first scrimmage of the spring … Contributed three tackles during the Maroon-White game … Won the President’s Award for the defensive player who showed the most outstanding leadership during off-season program and spring practice.

2004: Saw action in all 13 games, recording 16 solo stops and 21 assists … Was in for 284 defensive plays and 50 on special teams in the regular season … Included in those 37 stops were 2.5 tackles for loss … Also had one forced fumble … Played 36 snaps on defense against WMU, recording two solo tackles, an assist and a forced fumble … Had five total tackles against Duke … Was in on five tackles, including .5 for loss, against NC State … Had four tackles, including one for a loss, in the win over Maryland … Had five tackles in the Sugar Bowl against Auburn … Scored the spring game’s lone touchdown on a 29-yard interception return of a Sean Glennon pass in the second half … Posted a 550-pound back squat, a 300-pound push jerk, a 35 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.44 40-yard dash in spring testing.

2003: Played in all 13 games, starting one … Named to the 2003 Rivals.com Freshman All-America football team as an honorable mention selection … Made his first collegiate start against James Madison … Played 39 defensive plays and three on special teams against the Dukes, registering four solo tackles, seven assists and a forced fumble … Was in on four tackles, including one behind the line, against Cal in the Insight Bowl … Also broke up two passes in that game … Had a 460-pound back squat during spring testing … Missed the 2004 spring game due to a sprained left knee.

2002: Spent the fall working at whip linebacker while taking a redshirt year … Had a 400-pound back squat during spring max testing … Turned in a 4.44 clocking in the forty … Contributed a quarterback sack and three total tackles during the Maroon-White game … Also broke up a pass.

High School: A PrepStar All-American was who 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 cornerback during his 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 Virginia Beach, VA … Son of Nadine Rouse … Majoring in sociology.

Career 13 16 21 37 2.5- 15 0- 0
Tackles G UT AT Tot. Loss Sacks
2003 13 19 27 46 3.0- 8 0- 0
2004 13 16 21 37 2.5- 15 0- 0
2005 13 35 42 77 4.5- 7 0- 0
2006 13 39 50 90 0.0- 10 0- 0

36 Aaron Rouse

Rover • 6’4 • 225 • rSr.
Virginia Beach, Va. • First Colonial H.S.
Eddie Royal

Flanker • 5-10 • 178 • Jr.
Herdon, Va. • Westfield H.S.

A versatile player who gives the Hokies a big-play threat in several phases of the game ... Is one of the team’s most dangerous receivers ... Has run for two career touchdowns on reverses ... Led the squad in punt and kickoff returns last fall ... Was third on the team in receptions after leading the Hokies as a freshman in 2004 ... Combines great hands with a knack for picking up extra yards after a catch ... A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room who has bench pressed 380 pounds ... Has excellent athletic ability and speed to go with football savvy ... Was a consistent performer during the spring ... Moved into the starting lineup as a true freshman in 2004 ... Named a second-team freshman All-American by Rivals.com ... Missed 2005 spring practice with compartment syndrome in his left leg, but returned to start every game last season at flanker ... A key figure in Tech’s offensive plans.

2005: Was third on the team in receptions with 27 for 315 yards and two touchdowns ... Carried the football 10 times for 79 yards and a TD ... Averaged 8.2 yards on punt returns and 20.9 yards on kickoff returns ... Broke his own position record for the bench press with a lift of 380 when the players returned in August ... Returned a punt 19 yards against NC State in the season opener ... Caught a pass for an 18-yard gain in the Duke game ... Posted two catches for 44 yards against Georgia Tech ... Also had a 36-yard kickoff return and four punt returns for 35 yards in that game ... Tied a career-high with six catches at West Virginia, including a 15-yarder for a TD ... Also had 20 yards rushing on a pair of reverses ... Caught three passes for 34 yards in win over Marshall ... Had two punt returns for 38 yards and two kickoff returns for 43 at Maryland ... Also had three receptions for 33 yards and a rush for 8 yards ... Scored on a 15-yard reverse in the BC game ... Returned the opening kickoff against Miami, but was sidelined the rest of the game by a hamstring injury ... Caught three-passes at Virginia for 47 yards and a touchdown ... Hauled in four passes for 43 yards against FSU ... Caught two passes against Louisville in the Gator Bowl ... Gained Super Iron Hokie honors during spring max tests ... Had a personal-best 450-pound back squat and a 39-inch vertical jump ... Also turned in the best 40 time at 4.22 ... Hauled in three passes for 52 yards in Tech’s second spring scrimmage ... Scored the first touchdown of the Maroon-White game on a 4-yard reverse ... Had one catch in the game for 12 yards and two punt returns for 26 yards.

2004: Led the team with 28 catches for 470 yards and three touchdowns ... Also averaged 28.8 on kick returns and 11.0 on punt returns ... Saw action on 328 snaps on offense and 85 on special teams in the regular season ... Got his first collegiate start against Western Michigan ... Scored the game’s first touchdown on an 11-yard reverse ... Later scored on a 35-yard touchdown pass ... Had a big day returning punts against NC State ... Had a long of 58 yards ... Finished with 107 yards on three returns ... Also caught two passes for 47 yards ... Caught an 8-yard pass on Tech’s first offensive possession against WVU, but suffered a slight concussion on that play ... Missed the rest of the first half ... Returned in the second half to catch five passes for 37 yards ... Finished the game with a career-high six receptions for 45 yards ... Missed the FAMU game due to an illness ... Started at Georgia Tech and scored on a big 80-yard touchdown catch-and-run ... The 80-yard score was the longest by a Tech freshman since freshmen were eligible to play in 1972 ... Finished the game with three catches for 91 yards ... Did suffer a fumble on a kickoff return ... Had four catches for 84 yards, as well as a 25-yard kickoff return, at North Carolina ... Caught two passes for 44 yards, including the game-winning, 39-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter, at Miami ... Had an 18-yard punt return to set up that drive ... Had a 48-yard kickoff return in the Sugar Bowl against Auburn ... Set a position record in the bench press with a 365-pound mark.

High School: Named the Mid-Atlantic Offensive Player of the Year by SuperPrep ... Selected the Group AAA player of the year by The Associated Press ... Was the Washington Post All-Metro Offensive Player of the Year ... Earned both SuperPrep and PrepStar All-America honors following his senior season for Coach Tom Verbanic ... Teamed with fellow Tech signee Sean Glennon to lead his team to the Group AAA Division 6 championship with a 14-0 record ... Had 41 pass receptions for 875 yards and 11 touchdowns ... Contributed a 47-yard punt return for a touchdown and a 1-yard TD run on a reverse in the state title game ... Hauled in 48 pass as a junior for 905 yards and 11 touchdowns ... Scored 10 TDs on kick returns during his career ... Rated the No. 1 player in Virginia by SuperPrep and the No. 2 player by The Roanoke Times ... Ranked the No. 13 wide receiver in the nation by Rivals ... Was picked first-team all-state by the state coaches as a receiver and kick returner.

Personal: William Edward Royal ... Born 5/21/86 in Alexandria, VA ... Son of Pearl Royal ... Majoring in sociology.

Nic Schmitt

Punter • 6-2 • 273 • r-Sr.
Salem, Va. • Salem H.S.

One of the nation’s top punters ... Selected to the preseason Playboys All-America team ... Was one of 10 semifinalists for the Ray Guy Award last fall ... Was a big weapon in the field position battle for the Hokies in 2004 ... Ranked third in the ACC with a 43.2-yard average ... His average was the second-highest single-season average in school history ... Became just the fifth Tech punter since 1950 to finish a season with an average of 42 yards or more ... A Super Iron Hokie in the weight room ... Serves as the holder for field goals and PATs ... As an extremely valuable member of Tech’s special teams.

2005: Averaged 43.2 years per punt on 52 kicks ... Placed 15 kicks inside the opponents’ 20-yard line ... Did not have a kick blocked during the season ... Averaged 45.7 yards on six kicks in the opening game at NCSU ... Put three of those kicks inside the 20 ... Had a punt of 61 yards against Georgia Tech ...
Ryan Shuman

Guard/Center • 6-3 • 307 • rSo.
Fork Union, Va. • Fork Union M.A.

A key figure in Tech’s plans to solidify the offensive line ... Really came into his own during the spring when he was asked to handle the center duties in the absence of injured starter Danny McGrath ... Stepped right in and took control ... Was named the team’s most improved offensive player ... A tough guy who plays hard ... Is taking full advantage of the personal-best 620-pound back squat, which was third-best on the team ... Continued to work at center during spring drills ... Won the Richard Bullock Award as the most improved offensive player.

Watson Stelly

Defensive Tackle • 6-1 • 287 • Jr.
Richmond, Va. • Benedictine H.S. • Hargrave

A competitor who works hard and can always be counted on for top effort ... Has contributed on the scout and jayvee teams each of his first two seasons ... Shows the desire
coaches like ... Joined the team as a walk-on ... Has taken advantage of the strength and conditioning program ... Could help add depth at the defensive tackle position.

2005: Played on the scout and jayvee teams ... Contributed two tackles, a tackle for loss and fumble recovery in a jayvee win over Fork Union ... His 10-yard sprint time of 1.74 during spring testing was the third-best among offensive linemen.

2004: Saw action for the jayvee team ... Worked as an end during the fall and a tackle in the spring ... Turned in a 550-pound back squat during spring testing.

Prep School: Played fullback for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave ... Caught two passes for 20 yards in five games before missing remainder of the season due to illness.

High School: Played linebacker for Coach Gene Smith at Benedictine ... High school won the 2000 and 2001 independent class III state championships ... As a senior, totaled 110 tackles and 10 sacks, while recovering three fumbles ... His junior season, totaled over 100 tackles and eight sacks along with a blocked field goal ... Also lettered in track and field.

Personal: Albert Watson Stelly ... Born 5/12/85 in Richmond, VA ... Son of Tony and Pratt Stelly ... Majoring in interdisciplinary studies.

be the No. 2 man at backer ... Needs to have a great summer to get himself caught up both physically and mentally.

2005: Playing time was limited to special teams ... Practiced at the backer position ... Started every game on the kickoff team ... Had one tackle each against NCSU, Ohio, Georgia Tech, Virginia and UNC ... Posted four tackles in the ACC Championship game against Florida State ... Finished the season with nine total tackles ... Earned Iron Hokie recognition during the off-season ... Improved in all four major lifts, including a 580-pound back squat ... Also posted a 38 1/2-inch vertical jump, which was the third-best on the team ... Missed most of spring practice while battling mono.

2004: Was redshirted while working with the scout team ... Practiced at rover, but was moved to the backer linebacker spot in the spring ... Posted a 530-pound back squat, a 294-pound push jerk and a 37 1/2-inch vertical jump in spring testing.

High School: A two-way player who was named All-Eastern District and All-Eastern Region as both a linebacker and running back

...Rushed for 1,359 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior ... Racked up 97 tackles, four sacks and three interceptions from his linebacker spot ... Named the Eastern Region Defensive Player of the Year as a junior and senior ... Earned Eastern District Player of the Year award in 2003 ... Gained 603 yards on 106 carries his junior year, scoring 10 touchdowns ... Helped his team to the state playoffs three consecutive seasons ... A second-team Group AAA all-state pick by AP as a senior ... First-team All-Tidewater linebacker by the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot ... Rated the No. 13 prospect in the state by both SuperPrep and The Roanoke Times ... Named All-Atlantic region by PrepStar ... Competed in the long jump, shot put, 200 meters and 4x100 relay as a member of the track team.

Personal: Purnell Joshua Sturdivant ... Born 3/19/86 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Purnell and Terry Sturdivant ... Enrolled in apparel, housing and resource management.

Tackles | G | UT | AT | Tot. | Loss | Sacks
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
2005 | 13 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 0-0 | 0-0
STELLY, Continued

45

Purnell
Sturdivant

Linebacker • 5-9 • 221 • r-So.
Norfolk, Va. • Lake Taylor H.S.

An explosive player whose continued development is important to the defense ... Made marked improvement during the second half of the 2005 season ... Picked up where he left off during the first week of spring practice ... Was sidelined the rest of the spring while battling mononucleosis ... Has outstanding strength to go with good speed and athleticism ... Spent last season working at the backer position, but made an impact as a starter on special teams ... Was one of the team’s top tacklers on kickoff returns ... Has a chance to
Demetrius Taylor
Linebacker • 6-1 • 239 • r-Fr.
Virginia Beach, Va. • Kellam H.S.

Personal: Demetrius A. Taylor ... Born 11/22/86 in Jacksonville, FL ... Son of Demetrius and Charmaine Taylor ... Enrolled in university studies.

A strong, young player with the ability to be a good linebacker ... Showed flashes of that ability while redshirting last season, but has yet to display it consistently ... Has a tremendous upside ... Works hard, runs well and plays physical ... A standout in the strength and conditioning program ... Should continue to improve with added reps ... The key is having a great summer and a good early preseason camp to see what his role will be on this year's team ... Is likely to begin as a special teams player and a backup at the Mike linebacker position.

2005: Was redshirted while working at the Mike linebacker position ... Gained Super Iron Hokie honors during the off-season ... Bench pressed 400 pounds and turned in the fifth-best push press on the team at 346 pounds ... Had a back squat of 570 pounds to go with a 36 1/2-inch vertical jump.

High School: Averaged more than 10 tackles per game as a senior linebacker for Coach Chris DeWitt at Kellam ... Forced five fumbles, recovered two fumbles and intercepted a pass ... Also played tailback and rushed for 927 yards and 20 touchdowns ... Helped the team to an 8-2 record on the way to first-team All-Beach District honors as both a linebacker and running back ... Named to the Virginia All-Group AAA first-team all-state team by the Associated Press as a linebacker ... Named to the AAA all-state second team as a linebacker by the VHSCA ... Named a first-team All-Tidewater selection by The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot ... Ranked the No. 20 player in the state by The Roanoke Times ... Ranked the No. 38 inside linebacker in the nation and the No. 16 player in the state by rivals.com ... Ranked the No. 19 player in the state of Virginia by SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 20 player in the state by scout.com ... Rated the No. 40 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast by Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report ... Named to PrepStar's postseason All-Atlantic Region team ... A sprinter on the track team.

Cordarrow Thompson
Defensive Tackle • 6-2 • 316 • r-Fr.
Stafford, Va. • North Stafford H.S.

Personal: Cordarrow Eugene Thompson ... Born 10/2/87 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Eugene and Wanda Thompson ... Enrolled in university studies.

Will compete for a spot in the defensive tackle rotation when practice opens in August ... Reported overweight in the fall, then caught the coaches' eye with his commitment, by losing much of that weight to get into better playing shape ... Has some quickness and play making ability ... Must continue to work hard in the strength and conditioning program ... Is still maturing mentally and physically ... Needs to focus on his assignments ... Should get better and better as he gains added reps at the position ... His summer preparation will be extremely important ... Has the ability to help the Hokies.

2005: Worked at the tackle position while redshirting ... Had a 351-pound power clean during scout team max in the fall ... Registered three tackles and a pair of sacks during the Hokies' first scrimmage of the spring.

High School: Had over 100 tackles, including 43 for loss and nine sacks during his final season for Coach Eric Cooke at North Stafford ... Helped team to the Virginia AAA Group 5 title game ... Also had a strong junior year from his nose guard position, finishing with 64 tackles, including 16 for loss and five sacks, and two blocked field goals ... Scored two touchdowns as a fullback in goal-line situations ... Named the Defensive Player of the Year by The Washington Post, as well as first-team All-Met ... Named first-team all-state by both the Associated Press and the VHSCA ... Named the Defensive Player of the Year in both the Commonwealth District and the Northwestern Region Led his team to the Virginia AAA Group 5 championship game ... Ranked the No. 18 player in the state by The Roanoke Times ... Named to PrepStar's postseason All-Atlantic Region team.

Grant Throckmorton
Quarterback • 6-3 • 213 • r-Jr.
Wytheville, Va. • George Wythe H.S.

Personal: Grant Throckmorton ... Born 11/22/86 in Jacksonville, FL ... Son of Demetrius and Charmaine Taylor ... Enrolled in university studies.

An unselfish player whose importance to the team is not always reflected on the field ... Quarterbacked the scout and jayvee teams last year, and also saw brief action in a varsity game ... Serves as a backup holder ... A potential candidate for personal protector on the punt team ... Helps signal in plays from the sidelines ... A former Tech baseball player who joined the football squad as a walk-on ... Came from a high school program that didn't throw the ball a lot, yet he has solid passing ability ... A team-first player with leadership skills ... Will fill a variety of roles again this fall.

2005: Saw action in one game, coming on the road against Duke ... Went in for the final drive at quarterback ... Was 2-for-5 passing for 14 yards in first spring scrimmage.

2004: Joined the team, but didn't dress or play in any varsity games ... Recorded a 350-pound back squat in spring max testing.

2003: Made the Tech baseball team as a walk-on pitcher and was redshirted.

High School: Played quarterback, defensive end, punter and kicker for Coach Donnie Pruitt at George Wythe ... Was a first team all-state punter and first team all-district kicker as a senior ... Named second team all-district quarterback ... Led team to Class A state championships in 2002 and a 13-1 record ... Also helped basketball team to a final four appearance in 2003 under Coach Al Copenhaver ... For his career, totaled 2,672 yards passing and 40 touchdowns ... Finished 60-for-65 on extra points, 8-of-12 field goals, with a longest of 47 yards his senior season ... Holds his high school single-season records for most touchdowns (19), passing yards (1,222), pass attempts (168) and longest TD pass (79 yards) ... Played shortstop, pitcher and catcher for his high school baseball team.
Matt Tilley

Defensive End • 6-2 • 257 • So.
Pulaski, Va. • Pulaski County H.S.

A smart player who joined the team as a walk-on last year ... Played in the jayvee games during the fall ... Got a lot of reps at end during spring practice ... A valuable contributor on the scout team.

2005: Joined the team when school started and worked at the stud end position ... Played in Tech's two jayvee games and also worked on the scout squad ... Contributed a pair of tackles in a jayvee win over Fork Union ... Moved to the end position in the spring ... Had two tackles in Tech's first spring scrimmage ... Was in on two tackles, including a sack in the Maroon-White game.

High School: Lettered three years for Coach Joel Hicks at Pulaski County High School ... Had 140 career tackles (72 solo) on the defensive line ... Had six quarterback sacks and 15 tackles for loss ... Named the team's defensive player of the year in 2003 ... Second-team all-region as a defensive lineman in 2003 ... As a tight end, had 103 career yards with six catches ... All-district first-team defensive lineman in 2003 ... All-district second-team tight end in 2002 and 2003 ... Played in the Division 4 AA state championship game in 2001 ... Also lettered in basketball and track in the shot put and discus events ... Had 235 career rebounds as a post player in basketball.

Personal: Matthew Christopher Tilley ... Born 6/20/86 in Roanoke, VA ... Son of Mike and Che Tilley ... Majoring in management.

Tech Jayvee Games
Fork Union Military Academy ................. Monday, Oct. 2, Noon ...................... Lane Stadium
Hargrave ........................................ Friday, Oct. 6, Noon ............... Lane Stadium

THROCKMORTON, Continued

Personal: Grant Campbell Throckmorton ... Born 10/27/84 in Roanoke, VA ... Son of Dennis and Missy Throckmorton ... Both his father, Dennis, and brother, Cole, graduated from Virginia Tech ... Majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise.

Stephan Virgil

Cornerback • 5-11 • 176 • Fr.
Rocky Mount, N.C. • Rocky Mount H.S.

A newcomer with a good upside ... Entered school in January ... Made progress during spring practice while working at the field corner position ... Is still adjusting to the Tech system but should become more consistent at his assignments as he gets more reps ... Coaches like his ability and potential ... Will benefit from the Hokies' strength and conditioning program ... Could put himself in position for a backup role or special teams duty with a good showing in August.

2005: Entered school for the second semester and went through the off-season program ... Worked at the field corner position during spring practice ... Contributed a tackle in the Hokies' first spring scrimmage ... Posted three tackles in the Maroon-White game, including one for a 2-yard loss.

High School: Played in a school-record 47 games during his career and was the only freshman to start for Rocky Mount ... Helped Coach B.W. Holt's team to an undefeated regular season and an appearance in the 4A state semifinals in 2004 ... Played on offense, defense and special teams ... Posted 31 career touchdowns — 14 rushing, 10 receiving, three on kickoff returns, two on interception returns and two on punt returns ... Had 13 career interceptions and 363 tackles ... Contributed 98 tackles with two sacks and four interceptions and also had 293 yards receiving, his senior season ... Tallied 900 yards (rushing and receiving) and 13 touchdowns as a junior ... Earned first-team all-state defensive honors after totaling 81 tackles, four interceptions and four fumble recoveries as a junior ... Ranked the No. 25 player in the state of North Carolina by SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 30 high school player in the state of North Carolina by rivals100.com ... Ranked the No. 45 safety in the nation and the No. 29 player in the state of North Carolina by scout.com.

Personal: Stephan D. Virgil ... Born 4/3/87 in Rocky Mount, NC ... Son of Richard and Sandra Virgil ... Enrolled in university studies.

Cary Wade

Rover • 5-10 • 178 • r-Sr.
Fairfax, Va. • Robinson H.S.

Really improved his stock during the spring ... Pushed Aaron Rouse for the rover job and will continue to do so in the fall ... Has really fought to be a good player ... Played well in Tech's Gator Bowl win over Louisville ... Is coming off an excellent spring, which saw him spend some time at free safety as well as rover ... Has taken advantage of the strength and conditioning program ... Wants to do what's right for the team ... Has contributed as a top backup at rover and a starter on special teams.

Cary Wade
the past two seasons ... Started his career at corner ... Has played in every game during his three seasons ... Will be counted on for steady play and leadership this fall.

2005: Started on the punt return and kickoff teams ... The No. 2 man at rover ... Played 22 downs at rover against Duke and 24 versus Ohio ... Contributed three tackles in the Georgia Tech game ... Posted six tackles during the Marshall game ... Worked 14 plays on special teams against BC and was in on a pair of tackles ... Collected two tackles on special teams against North Carolina ... Played in every game, registering 15 total tackles ... Was slowed some by an ankle injury during the off-season ... Worked some at free safety, as well as rover, during the spring ... Turned in six tackles, including one behind the line, during the second spring scrimmage ... Added two tackles in the Maroon-White game.

2004: Played in all 13 games, mostly on special teams ... Saw action on 35 defensive snaps and 83 on special teams in the regular season ... Had four solo tackles and two assists ... Had a solo tackle on defense against FAMU ... Had a big solo tackle on kickoff coverage at Georgia Tech to pin the Jackets inside the 20 ... Played 19 snaps on defense against Maryland, recording three tackles ... Given the Dr. Richard Bullock Award, awarded to the most improved player, following spring practice ... Posted a 475-pound back squat, a 285-pound power clean and a 34-inch vertical jump in spring testing.

2003: Moved to the rover position prior to the season and was redshirted ... Posted a personal-best 455-pound back squat during the scout team testing in the fall ... Contributed two tackles and broke up a pair of passes during the 2004 Maroon-White game.

2002: Played in 13 games ... Had nine solo tackles and two assists ... Played 25 snaps on defense and 13 on special teams in the opener against Arkansas, registering two solo stops ... Also had two tackles on special teams in that game ... Had two solo tackles on special teams at Texas A&M ... Had an assisted tackle on special teams at Miami ... Had a solo tackle in the San Francisco Bowl.

High School: 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 Bendorff 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 and Beatrice Wade ... Majoring in sociology.

### Tackles

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A talented newcomer who will battle for a spot in the four-man rotation at defensive end when practice resumes ... Showed some flashes of his ability while redshirting last year, but lacked consistency ... Was outstanding in the spring Maroon-White game ... Combines a good body with speed and ability ... Needs to attack his conditioning during the summer ... Has the attitude and desire to succeed ... Should get better and better as he gains some experience ... Coaches will keep their eye on him in preseason practice.

2005: Was redshirted during the fall, but did not practice ... Participated in off-season strength and conditioning program ... Posted a 450-pound back squat during max testing ... Had six tackles and a sack in each of the Hokies’ first two spring scrimmages ... Registered a sack and a tackle for loss in the spring Maroon-White game.

Prep School: Committed to the Hokies out of high school and recommitted while at Hargrave ... Ranked the No. 17 prep school player in the nation by rivals100.com ... Collected over 20 tackles and six sacks for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave.

High School: Was ranked the No. 18 player in the Maryland/Washington D.C. area by rivals100.com following his senior season at Woodson, where he played for Coach Greg Fuller ... Finished the season with 63 tackles and 11 sacks ... Ranked the No. 26 defensive end in the nation by scout.com ... Named an All-American by SuperPrep ... Named an All-East Region selection as a defensive lineman by that publication ... Ranked No. 34 on the All Mid-Atlantic Team by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report ... Ranked No. 31 in the Mid-Atlantic by SuperPrep.

Personal: William Anthony Wall ... Born 12/31/84 in Washington, DC ... Son of Kristy Wall and William Wall ... Enrolled in university studies.

A young player who is in the mix for playing time at the tight end position ... Has good size and ability, but will have to get stronger ... Needs to buy into the Hokies’ strength and conditioning program ... Also has to continue learning the system ... A good summer preparation will be crucial ... His performance during the preseason will determine his role.

2005: Worked at tight end during a redshirt year his final season ... Turned in a 400-pound back squat during scout team maxing in the fall ... Posted a 314-pound push jerk during spring testing ... Caught two passes for 28 yards in the Hokies’ first spring scrimmage.

High School: Selected the Gatorade State Player of the Year ... A three-year starter for Coach Mickey Thompson at Stone Bridge ... Grabbed 30 passes as a tight end his senior season, helping the team to an 11-1 record ... Named to the Virginia All-Group AA second-team all-state team by the Associated Press as a tight end ... Named to the Virginia All-Group AA first-team all-state team by the VHSCA as a tight end ... Earned All-Dulles District honors as a tight end and a defensive end ... Ranked the No. 7 player in the state by The Roanoke Times ... Rated the No. 14 tight end in the nation and the No. 10 player in the state by rivals.com ... Ranked the No. 14 player in the state of Virginia by SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 81 offensive lineman in the nation and the No. 18 player in the state by scout.com ... Rated the No. 26 tight end in the nation by collegefootballnews.com ... Ranked the No. 65 player on the East Hot 100 by scout.com ... Rated the No. 100 player in the Mid-Atlantic Coast by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report as a defensive lineman ... Named to PrepStar’s preseason All-East Region team.

### 2006 Virginia Tech Football • 91

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[Image of Cary Dupree Wade]

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Ed Wang

Tight End • 6-5 • 268 • r-Fr.
Ashburn, Va. • Stone Bridge H.S.

A young player who is in the mix for playing time at the tight end position ... Has good size and ability, but will have to get stronger ... Needs to buy into the Hokies’ strength and conditioning program ... Also has to continue learning the system ... A good summer preparation will be crucial ... His performance during the preseason will determine his role.

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Dr. Richard Bullock Award, awarded to the most improved player, following spring practice.
Stepped up during the spring … Had as good a spring practice as anyone on the squad … Worked hard to become a complete linebacker … Made his biggest improvement in his pass coverage … Has always been good against the run … Has a nose for the ball and plays a physical brand of football … Will be the top man behind Vince Hall at mike linebacker … Played as a true freshman in 2004 … Is slated to play an important role this fall.

2005: Contributed at mike linebacker and on special teams … Had a total of 14 tackles, including one behind the line … Posted three tackles, including a TFL at Duke … Collected two tackles in the win over Georgia Tech … Helped on four tackles while playing 25 downs against Marshall … Picked up a tackle on coverage while playing 10 special teams plays against BC … Got limited time at linebacker versus Virginia and contributed a tackle … Registered a special teams tackle in the UNC game … Had a tackle against Louisville in the Gator Bowl … His 3.93 time in the NFL shuttle during spring testing was the best among the inside linebackers … Posted five tackles in the first spring scrimmage … Added six tackles, a sack and a pass break up in the second scrimmage … Was in on two tackles in the Maroon-White game.

2004: Played in 12 games, registering seven tackles … Played 72 snaps on special teams … Saw his first collegiate action in the opener against USC, playing four snaps on special teams … Saw his first action of the season on defense against Maryland … Posted a 500-pound back squat, a 321-pound power clean and a 31-inch vertical jump in spring testing.

2003: Entered school in January … Posted a 500-pound back squat during off-season testing … Collected a pair of tackles during the 2004 Maroon-White game.

High School: Was a 2002 AAA second-team all-state selection by The Associated Press at the linebacker spot for Coach Mike Skinner at Centreville … Registered a school-record 149 tackles as a senior … Added four sacks, four fumble recoveries, two interceptions and a blocked punt … Posted 23 tackles in a game against Chantilly for another school record … Selected to the second-team All-Metro team picked by The Washington Post … Earned first-team all-district and all-region honors … Voted team MVP … Named a 2002 honorable mention all-region selection by PrepStar as a linebacker … Named to the 2002 All-Times first-team defensive squad … Named a first-team All-ACC Area linebacker by the preseason G&W Recruiting Report … The No. 19 prospect in Virginia as ranked by SuperPrep magazine … Ranked the No. 17 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times … Ranked the No. 56 player in the Mid Atlantic region by Tom Lemming’s Prep Football Report … Picked as the No. 19 player in Virginia during the preseason by SuperPrep … His 250 tackles during his junior and senior seasons were a school mark for a two-year period … Blocked a punt for a touchdown and led the district in sacks with eight his junior year … Helped team to a state Group AAA title in 2000 and a 31-5 record during his career.

Personal: Brett Paul Warren … Born 3/7/85 in Huntington Beach, CA … Son of Don and Irene Warren … His father, Don, played 14 seasons with the Washington Redskins … Brother of former Hokie linebacker Blake Warren … Enrolled in sociology.

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Career: 25 5 16 21 1.0- 5 0- 0
Carlton Weatherford

Fullback • 5-9 • 221 • r-Jr.
Danville, Va. • Tunstall H.S.

The No. 2 man at the fullback position … A very physical player with outstanding strength … Possesses a great work ethic and desire to be successful … Worked his way back from a severe knee injury he suffered as a freshman … Has gotten better every year … Does things right on and off the field … Joined the team as a walk-on.

2005: Picked up 13 snaps at fullback at Duke … Also saw limited action against Ohio and Marshall … Had a season-best 16 snaps in the Georgia Tech game … Played briefly against Maryland … Was in for 11 plays at fullback during the win at Virginia … Also saw brief action against UNC in the backfield … Earned Super Iron Hokie honors during the off-season … Turned in a personal-best 550-pound back squat and 33 1/2-inch vertical jump … Rushed for a touchdown in Tech’s second scrimmage of the spring … Rushed two times for four yards in the spring Maroon-White game and caught a 10-yard pass.

2004: Played in four games, earning 24 total snaps … Played against Western Michigan, Duke, Florida A&M and Maryland … Had a 4-yard catch out of the backfield in the Maroon-White game … Recorded a 530-pound back squat and a 304-pound push jerk in spring testing.

2003: Practiced with the scout team all season … Was making solid strides in both the weight room and on the field before suffering a serious knee injury in bowl practice … Underwent ACL surgery on his right knee in January.

High School: Lettered four times for Coach Buddy Brown at Tunstall High School … Helped lead his team to two Piedmont District titles … Rushed for 1,250 yards and 14 touchdowns his senior season … Also had 141 tackles, five sacks and four fumble recoveries that year … Was named a first-team all-state linebacker and was the defensive player of the year for Region IV, Division IV and the Piedmont District as a senior … A two-time All-Region IV, Division IV first-team linebacker and second-team running back … A three-time first-team All-Metro and two-time first-team All-Piedmont District running back … Rushed for 2,790 career yards.

Personal: Carlton Nunn Weatherford, Jr. … Born 1/5/85 in Danville, VA … Son of Carlton and Donna Weatherford … Majoring in sociology.

Matt Welsh

Offensive Guard • 6-4 • 296 • r-So.
Clifton, Va. • Centreville H.S.

Put himself in position to help along the offensive line with a solid spring … Has worked at guard, tackle and center during his time at Tech … Improved his strength through the strength and conditioning program … Needs to keep developing his knowledge of the system … Has shown a great attitude … Can help supply some much-needed depth along the offensive line.

2005: Worked at left guard on the scout and jayvee teams … Saw action in both jayvee games … Had a 300-pound power clean and 550-pound back squat during spring max testing … Contined to work at left guard during the spring.

2004: Redshirted while working to gain strength in the weight room … Recorded a 400-pound bench press, a 326-pound push jerk and a 30 1/2-inch vertical jump in spring testing.

2003: Entered school for the second semester … Had a 405 bench press and 500-pound back squat during spring max testing … Worked at guard during spring practice.

High School: Named an All-American by PrepStar as an offensive lineman … Injured his knee four games into his senior season and was sidelined until returning for the last two games … A preseason PrepStar All-American … Named a first-team All-ACC Area offensive lineman by the preseason G&W Recruiting Report … Coach Mike Skinner tried playing him on both offense and defense, but ended up putting him at offensive tackle … A first-team selection to the 2001 AAA Coaches all-state team at the offensive tackle position as a junior … Had 17 pancake blocks in his first game in 2001 … Ranked the No. 17 offensive guard in the nation by Rivals100.com … Rated the No. 10 player in Virginia by The Roanoke Times … Rated the No. 12 player in Virginia by SuperPrep … Ranked the No. 39 player in the Mid Atlantic region by Tom
WELSH, Continued

Sam Wheeler
Tight End • 6-2 • 259 • r-Fr.
Blacksburg, Va.
Blacksburg H.S. • Hargrave

A newcomer who finds himself the leading candidate for the starting tight end duties ... Is still learning the offense and adjusting to the speed of the game ... Has good athletic ability and catches the ball well ... Made progress during spring practice ... Shows a willingness to get into a defender and block ... Has made some improvement in the weight room, but is still not ready physically ... Must make a good summer preparation ... Appears likely to find himself getting some on the job training this fall.

2005: Redshirted while working at tight end ... Posted a 450-pound back squat during scout team max tests during the fall ... Ran a 4.64 in the 40 during spring testing ... Caught a pass for 4 yards in Tech's first spring scrimmage.

Prep School: Saw action at linebacker, fullback and tight end while playing for Coach Robert Prunty at Hargrave ... Listed as the No. 24 prep school player in the nation by rivals.com.

High School: Lettered three seasons for Coach Dave Crist at Blacksburg, while playing running back, wide receiver, linebacker and tight end ... Also punt ed for the Bruins ... Rushed for over 300 yards his senior year and caught 14 passes for 293 yards and four touchdowns ... Also contributed 98 tackles on defense ... Caught three passes, including two for TDs, in a game against Northside ... Earned all-district honors three straight years ... Ranked the No. 33 player in the state by Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report as a senior ... Named an All-Southeast Region selection as a defensive lineman by PrepStar ... Earned all-district, region and state honors in basketball ... Pulled down 31 rebounds in a game against Patrick Henry as a senior ... Averaged 16.8 points and 8.7 rebounds a game.

Personal: Matthew Edward Welsh ... Born 9/12/84 in Fairfax, VA ... Son of Ed and Maryann Welsh ... Majoring in apparel, housing and resource management.

Ike Whitaker
Quarterback • 6-4 • 212 • r-Fr.
Germantown, Md. • Northwest H.S.

A highly-promising young quarterback candidate ... Finds himself third on the depth chart after missing valuable time during the spring due to a suspension ... Will be given the opportunity to compete for the starting job, but has a lot of ground to make up ... Has all the tools to get there ... Possesses tremendous athleticism in terms of both throwing the football and running the football ... Has a way to go from a mental aspect — learning how the offense operates and what is expect of him within the system ... His summer preparation will be extremely important ... Will be watched closely when practice resumes.

2005: Worked on the scout squad while redshirting ... Posted a 360-pound back squat during fall testing ... Turned in a 32-inch vertical jump during the spring ... Was suspended for a violation of team rules and missed half of spring practice ... Rushed for 23 yards on three carries during final scrimmage of spring ... Completed 2 of 9 passes for 18 yards ... Was 6-for-6 passing in the spring Maroon-White game for 85 yards ... Tossed a 49-yard touchdown pass to Justin Harper.

High School: A three-year starter for Coach Randy Trivers at Northwest ... Passed for nearly 5,000 yards and 56 scores in his career, leading his team to a 30-6 record ... Completed 157-of-262 passes his senior season for a school-record 2,586 yards and 28 touchdowns ... Threw just 10 interceptions ... Also ran for 432 yards and 10 scores his senior year ... Led his team to a 13-1 record and the Maryland 3A championship ... Hit 20 of 27 passes for 207 yards with a touchdown and an interception in the championship game ... Won the Art Monk Good Samaritan Offensive Player of the Year Award ... Named first-team All-Met by The Washington Post ... Named the PrepStar Offensive Player of the Year ... Selected to the first-team All-Montgomery 3A/2A/1A team ... Listed as the No. 3 dual-threat quarterback in the nation and the No. 3 player in the state of Maryland by rivals.com ... Rated the No. 5 quarterback in the nation and the No. 4 player in the Mid-Atlantic region by PrepStar ... Ranked the No. 8 quarterback in the nation by PrepStar ... Ranked the No. 16 quarterback in the nation and the No. 4 player in the state of Maryland by scout.com ... Rated the No. 14 quarterback in the nation by collegefootballnews.com ... Rated the No. 119 player in the nation by Tom Lemming's Prep Football Report ... Ranked the No. 57 player in the nation by PrepStar ... Ranked the No. 67 player on the East Hot 100 by scout.com ... Listed an All-American by PrepStar's postseason Dream Team (top 100 in the nation), as well as an All-American and an All-Atlantic Region selection ... Named a preseason All-American by PrepStar and PrepStar ... Played basketball and runs track.

Personal: Dewight Allan Whitaker ... Born 6/5/87 in Takoma Park, MD ... Son of Derrick Whitaker and Maria Thomas ... Enrolled in university studies.
2006 Recruiting Class

Jason Adjepong

Defensive End, 6-3, 248, Fr.
Rahway, N.J., Carteret H.S.

A SuperPrep and PrepStar All-American ... Rated the No. 7 strongside defensive end in the nation by rivals.com ... Ranked the No. 8 defensive end in the country by scout.com ... Listed as the No. 15 defensive lineman in the country by SuperPrep ... Rated the No. 17 defensive lineman in the country by PrepStar ... Named the No. 90 player in the country and the No. 9 defensive end in the country by collegefootballnews.com ... Earned AP first-team all-state honors at defensive end his senior year for Coach Bob Molarz ... Also saw action at fullback and linebacker during this varsity career ... Posted 107 total tackles, 18 tackles for loss and 10 sacks as a senior ... Had five forced fumbles, four fumble recoveries and one interception ... As a fullback, ran for 468 yards as a senior, and 849 yards and 15 touchdowns in his career ... Finished his junior season with 87 tackles, including 22 TFL and 12 sacks, earning first-team all-state honors ... Also had 61 carries for 330 yards and four touchdowns ... Finished his prep career with 292 tackles, three interceptions, 42 tackles for loss, 14 forced fumbles, and 31 sacks ... Listed as the No. 4 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... Ranked the No. 26 defensive end in the country by rivals.com ... Ranked the No. 17 player on the Mid-Atlantic 47 team by PrepStar ... Listed as the No. 14 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... An All-Atlantic Region selection by PrepStar ... Also competed in track and field and basketball.

Personal: Jason Worilds Adjepong ... Born 9/3/88 in Rahway, NJ ... Son of Sandra Worilds.

Nekos Brown

Linebacker, 6-3, 225, Fr.
Brandywine, Md., Thomas Stone H.S.

An all-conference and all-state selection for Coach Steve Lindsey ... Missed two games with a knee injury his senior year, but still made 110 tackles, including 15 tackles for loss and three sacks ... Intercepted two passes ... Played defensive tackle as a junior ... Led the team with seven sacks and earned second-team all-conference honors ... In three varsity seasons, he made 390 tackles and had 12 sacks and three interceptions ... Rated the No. 19 weakside defensive end in the country by rivals.com ... Rated the No. 17 player on the Mid-Atlantic 47 team by PrepStar ... Listed as the No. 14 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... An All-Atlantic Region selection by PrepStar ... Also competed in track and field and basketball.

Personal: Nekos Laprae-Brooks Brown ... Born 2/18/88 in Prince George's, MD ... Son of Chuck and Jocelyn Brown.

Rashad Carmichael

Defensive Back, 5-9, 175, Fr.
Clinton, Md., Gwynn Park H.S.

A three-year letterman for Coach Danny Hayes at Gwyn Park ... Played running back and defensive back ... Helped team to a 14-0 mark and a state championship in 2005, rushing for over 800 yards and 11 touchdowns ... Caught 15 pass for 109 yards ... Had three interceptions and 30 tackles on defense ... Only played seven games due to injury ... Rushed for 157 yards and two TDs in one of those games ... Named all-conference and all-region ... Had five interceptions as a junior ... Compiled 1,785 career rushing yards and 19 touchdowns ... Posted 12 career interceptions and 115 tackles ... Was named a scholar athlete (3.0 GPA or better) all three varsity seasons ... Rated as the No. 23 player on the Mid-Atlantic 47 team by PrepStar ... Listed as the No. 24 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... Was a sprinter in track, turning in a 10.55 time in the 100 meters and a 21.00 in the 200m.

Personal: Rashad Bernard Carmichael ... Born 9/9/88 in Laurinburg, NC ... Son of Bernard and Mae Carmichael ... Cousin is former Clemson and current San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Derrick Hamilton.

Ladi Ajiboye

Defensive Tackle, 6-2, 290, Fr.
College Park, Ga., Banneker H.S.

A four-year defensive and offensive lineman for Coach Benny Crane, Jr., at Banneker ... Named to the South Metro Super 11 team as a senior ... Named all-district, all-region and first-team All-State all-state ... Racked up 85 total tackles including 60 solo efforts, 20 tackles for loss and 4.5 sacks in 2005 ... Had 80 tackles, including 10 sacks, as a junior ... Rated the No. 27 defensive tackle in the nation by rivals.com ... Listed as the No. 18 prospect in the state of Georgia by rivals.com in its postseason rankings ... An All-Southeast...

Kam Chancellor

Quarterback, 6-4, 210, Fr.
Norfolk, Va., Maury H.S.

Passed for over 2,000 yards and rushed for 500 his senior season for Coach Dallbert Cotton at Maury ... Team finished 10-2 after losing in the Group AAA Division 5 playoffs ... During one of the playoff games, he rushed for 89 yards and two touchdowns and threw for 224 yards and two more TDs ... Also played safety for Maury ... Was team MVP ... Named the first-team all-Eastern District quarterback ... Earned second-team all-Tidewater accolades from The Virginian Pilot ... Missed half of his junior season with a thumb injury ... Returned to throw for 1,000 yards ... Passed for 369 yards in a game against Granby ... Rated as the No. 27 pro-style quarterback in the nation by rivals.com ... Listed as the No. 20 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... Rated the No. 21 player in Virginia by PrepStar ... Ranked the No. 21 player in the state by The Roanoke Times in its postseason list ... Played on the basketball team.

Personal: Kameron Darnell Chancellor ... Born 4/3/88 in Norfolk, VA ... Son of Karen Lambert.

Clark Crum

Offensive Tackle, 6-7, 282, Fr.
Dublin, Ohio, Scioto H.S.

Rated the No. 40 offensive tackle in the country by rivals.com ... Played tight end as a freshman and then lettered three seasons as an offensive lineman at Dublin Scioto High for Coach Karl Johnson ... Helped team to conference and regional titles as a sophomore ... Named first-team All-Ohio by Ohio Prep as a senior ... Named the district offensive player of the year his senior season ... First-team all-district, all-conference and all-Ohio ... Named to PrepStar Midwest all-region team ... Listed as the No. 45 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... Rated the No. 58 player in the Midwest by SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 65 postseason prospect on the scout.com Midwest Region Hot 100 ... Lettered three years in basketball ... Set a number of school records, including a career mark for rebounds and games played ... Was second all-time in points, with over 1,000 ... Two-time all-conference and all-district ... Named to all-state academic team ... Team MVP his last two seasons.

Personal: Clark Charles Crum ... Born 2/22/88 in Hettinger, ND ... Son of Lee and Jenni Crum.
Mario Edwards
Defensive Back, 6-1, 181, Fr.
Atlanta, Ga., Westlake H.S.

An all-state defensive back for Coach Dallas Allen at Westlake ... Also saw action as a wide receiver ... Registered 98 tackles as a senior ... Had four interceptions, six sacks, two fumble recoveries and a blocked punt ... Caught six passes for 123 yards ... Helped team to a region title ... Contributed 12 tackles, an interception, two pass deflections and a forced fumble during a playoff game against Banneker ... An all-city and all-state selection ... Rated the No. 25 safety in the country by rivals.com ... Rated the No. 83 safety in the country by scout.com ... Listed as the No. 27 prospect in the state of Georgia in the rivals.com postseason rankings ... Had 75 tackles, two interceptions, 10 pass break ups, four forced fumbles and three sacks as a junior.

Personal: Mario Edwards ... Born 7/14/88 in Atlanta, GA ... Son of William and Maudestia Edwards ... As a youngster, won the state of Georgia 200-meter dash for the 11 and under age group.

Mike Gee
Defensive End, 6-1, 228, Fr.
Englewood, N.J., Dwight Morrow H.S.

A SuperPrep preseason and postseason All-American ... An All-America selection by PrepStar ... Posted 40 tackles and six sacks as a defensive end his senior season for Coach Bill Davis ... Named to Group 2 all-state team ... Played at Queen of Peace High as a junior ... In six games, ran for 119 yards and a score and had 45 tackles, including 12 tackles for loss and six sacks, along with one interception ... Rated the No. 11 weakside defensive end in the country by rivals.com ... Rated the No. 27 defensive end in the country by scout.com ... Listed as the No. 32 defensive lineman in the country by SuperPrep ... Ranked the No. 139 player in the country and the No. 22 defensive end in the country by collegefootballnews.com ... Rated the No. 90 player in the country and the No. 22 defensive end in the country by collegefootballnews.com ... Ranked the No. 94 post-season prospect on the scout.com East Region Hot 100 ... Started every game on varsity during his four-year career.

Personal: John Walter Graves ... Born 6/25/87 in Richmond, VA ... Son of John and Joyce Graves.

Joey Hall
Defensive Tackle, 6-3, 246, Fr.
Sanford, N.C., Lee County H.S.

Earned all-conference honors three-straight years for Coach Jody Stouffer at Lee County ... Played defensive end and tight end ... Posted 75 tackles, including 10 quarterback sacks his senior season ... Contributed three of those sacks in a game against Southern Durham ... Had five fumble recoveries in 2005 ... Caught four passes as a tight end that season for 162 yards and one TD ... Tied for the top performance among defensive ends in the bench press with 29 reps at the Nike Combine held in Blacksburg ... As a junior, had 68 tackles, eight sacks, four forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries and two blocked punts ... Earned all-conference honors in the shot put as a member of the track team ... Won a conference championship in that event.

Personal: Thomas Joseph Hall ... Born 11/19/87 in Orlando, FL ... Son of John and Bunni Hall.

Zach Luckett
Wide Receiver, 6-3, 190, Fr.
Mays Landing, N.J., Holy Spirit H.S.

Played tailback and free safety at Holy Spirit for Coach Bill Walsh ... An All-America selection by PrepStar ... Rushed for over 700 yards on 100 carries as a senior ... Had 32 pass receptions for 622 yards and also recorded three interceptions ... Had 92 rushes for 587 yards and 10 touchdowns, and 22 receptions for 864 yards and six touchdowns as a junior ... Rated the No. 33 athlete in the country by rivals.com ... Rated the No. 57 wide receiver in the country by scout.com ... Rated the No. 11 player in New Jersey by SuperPrep ... Listed as the No. 12 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... Ranked the No. 95 post-season prospect on the scout.com East Region Hot 100 ... A three-sport athlete, he played football, basketball and ran track (100, 200, and 4x400 events).

Personal: Zachary Lance Luckett ... Born 12/8/87 in Somers Point, NJ ... Son of Jeffrey and Cynthia Luckett.

Douglas McNeil
Wide Receiver, 6-4, 190, Fr.
Randallstown, Md., New Town H.S.

Had 31 receptions for 687 yards and eight touchdowns as a senior, earning all-state honors ... Played both wide receiver and free safety for Coach Richard Stichel ... Caught eight passes for 145 yards and two touchdowns in a game against Owings Mills ... Also returned a punt for a TD in that game ... Posted 61 tackles, two sacks and a fumble recovery as a senior ... Earned all-division honors his junior year ... Caught 28 passes for 341 yards ... Averaged 12.3 yards on punt returns that year and added 47 tackles, two sacks and three forced fumbles ... Contributed four catches for 70 yards and a touchdown against Southside Academy ... Forced two fumbles on defense in that game ... Also lettered in basketball and track.

Personal: Douglas McNeil III ... Born 7/22/88 in Baltimore, MD ... Son of Helen McNeil and Douglas McNeil, Jr.

Todd Nolen
Wide Receiver, 6-3, 185, Fr.
Hampton, Va., Hampton H.S./Fork Union

Signed with Tech in February, 2005, but enrolled at Fork Union Military, where he played for Coach John Shuman ... Rated as the No. 13 prep school player in the country by rivals.com ... Listed as the No. 24 wide receiver in the country by scout.com ... As a senior for Coach Mike Smith at Hampton High in 2004-05, he was named to PrepStar's post-season All-Atlantic Region team ... Selected first-team...
all-state by both The Associated Press and the VHSCA ... Caught 53 passes for 1,370 yards and 16 touchdowns his final year ... Had seven 100-yard games, including a 248-yard receiving night against Phoebus ... Scored a season-high four touchdowns in Hampton’s 700th victory, a 44-3 win over Kecoughtan ... Named to the Newport News Daily Press All-Star Team ... Earned first-team all-state honors as a junior ... As a senior, Ranked the No. 10 player in the state by The Roanoke Times ... Listed as the No. 9 player in the state by SuperPrep ... Rated the No. 20 player on the Mid-Atlantic 47 team by SuperPrep ... Listed as the No. 18 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... An All-Atlantic Region selection by PrepStar. 

Personal: Andre Phillip Smith ... Born 9/26/88 in Savannah, GA ... Son of the late Julida Klafawaiun.

Devven Sutton

Linebacker, 6-0, 239, Fr. 
Elizabeth City, N.C., Northeastern H.S. 

Played fullback and linebacker for Coach Antonio Moore at Northeastern ... Lettered three seasons and helped team to a conference title as a senior ... Contributed 91 tackles that season and recovered three fumbles ... Had 14 tackles and a sack against Farmville Central in the state playoffs ... Rushed for 573 yards and three touchdowns his final year ... Also registered a touchdown receiving ... Was all-conference and first-team all-state ... Named the defensive player of the year ... Was in on 76 tackles as a junior and intercepted two passes ... Ranked the No. 35 player in North Carolina by SuperPrep. ... Selected to play in the North Carolina Shrine Bowl game ... Posted 217 tackles and five interceptions during his career ... Collected 823 career rushing yards on 55 carries ... Registered 70 victories in three seasons as a heavyweight wrestler ... Also lettered in track ... Set a school record with a 475-pound bench press. 

Personal: Devven O’Neal Sutton ... Born 2/2/89 in Elizabeth City, NC ... Son of Valerie Sutton.

Jacob Sykes

Wide Receiver, 6-0, 180, Fr. 
Goldsboro, N.C., Goldsboro H.S. 

Served as a wide receiver, free safety and return man for Coach Maurice Jackson at Goldsboro ... As a senior, he caught 24 passes for three touchdowns ... Averaged over 20 yards per catch ... Added 107 yards and one TD on the ground, as well as 68 tackles and two interceptions on defense ... Also contributed over 300 yards on punt returns and 475 yards on kickoff return ... Scored on a 75-yard kickoff return ... Named all-area, all-conference and all-state ... Caught 22 passes for 400 yards and two TDs as a junior ... Finished his career with nearly 3,000 all-purpose yards during his career, including 1,086 yards receiving ... Listed as the No. 28 player in his state by rivals.com in its final state rankings ... An All-Atlantic Region selection by PrepStar. 

Personal: Forrest Jacob Sykes ... Born 4/27/88 in Wake City, NC ... Son of Jerry and Deborah Sykes.
Walk-ons at Virginia Tech

From walk-on to NFL draftee. Sound improbable? Not at Virginia Tech, where it’s happened numerous times.

Take John Engelberger. The San Francisco 49ers selected Engelberger in the second round of the 2000 NFL Draft. Fullback Jarrett Ferguson was drafted in 2002, and this past year, former walk-on Will Montgomery was taken by the Carolina Panthers.

Engelberger, who arrived in Blacksburg as a walk-on in 1995, followed 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 making big 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-conference and All-America 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 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.

Burke walked on in the spring of 1990 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.

Burke was drafted by the New England Patriots in 1994 and was a member of the Patriots’ 1997 Super Bowl XXXI team. He also saw 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, the associate athletics director for football operations, 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 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 the chance to play for one of the best coaches in college football as well.

“I think our walk-on program is successful because we work at it,” Beamer says. “We work to recruit 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 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 roster, there are six former walk-ons who have already earned scholarships and that number could increase. Brandon Pace, Orion Martin, Nick Leeson, Bart McMillin, Jared DeVelli and Jesse Allen all came to Tech as walk-ons and have earned scholarships for their valuable contributions.

Pace has been a two-time All-ACC performer and holds the school record for points by a kicker in a season. Martin earned his scholarship after just 15 spring practices in 2005 and Allen earned his last off-season after showing his dedication in the weight room and on the field.

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 Will Montgomery, John Burke or John Engelberger.