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

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

“Our philosophy is to use different formations and personnel groups to spread the field and attack the defense. We want to utilize both our passing game and our running game to create big plays. We like to keep things moving.”
—Rickey Bustle

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

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

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

One of the keys to the skyrocketing success of Virginia Tech football has been the stability at the top of the program. And of course that stability begins with head coach Frank Beamer. Beamer, the first Tech alumnus to guide the school’s football program since the 1940s, has coached and won more football games at Tech than any other football coach. His 13 years at the Hokie helm have helped the program develop a sense of stability and consistency currently enjoyed by just a handful of other Division I-A schools. Only six of the 115 Division I-A head football coaches have been at their current school longer than Beamer. Prior to Beamer, no other football coach in Tech history had served more than 10 seasons as the head coach and only four men had held the head coaching job for more than six seasons.

Frank Beamer’s top three assistant coaches — Billy Hite, Bud Foster and Rickey Bustle — have a combined total of 47 years coaching experience at Tech alone. Hite, Tech’s associate head coach and running backs coach, joined the Tech program under Coach Bill Dooley in 1978 and has been in Blacksburg ever since. Foster, the Hokies’ defensive coordinator and linebacker coach, has been with Beamer since he returned to Tech in 1987. Bustle, Tech’s offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, has been with the Hokies 12 of the past 13 seasons. Bustle left Tech briefly after the 1993 season to coach at South Carolina, but returned less than a year later to resume his duties in Blacksburg — yet another tribute to Beamer’s program at Tech.

What do others think about the Tech coaches? In 1998, The Sporting News listed the top college coaches in terms of getting the most out of their talent year in and year out. Virginia Tech’s Frank Beamer was ranked No. 9 in Division I-A. The past two years, TSN has rated Beamer first among Big East head coaches and has ranked the Hokies’ football coaching staff as the best in the conference.

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

— Frank Beamer
One of the college game’s top strategists, Frank Beamer has lifted Virginia Tech football to new and exciting heights with seven straight bowl appearances, three BIG EAST Conference championships and an average of nine wins a year since the beginning of the 1993 season.

Nothing that Beamer has accomplished, however, can top Tech’s success in 1999. An 11-0 regular season record, a No. 2 ranking in The Associated Press poll and a spot in Nokia Sugar Bowl to play No. 1 Florida State for the national championship focused widespread attention on Virginia Tech and its football program. And although the Hokies fell short in their bid for the national title, they proved that they belong among the top teams in the college ranks.

For his part in the Hokies’ magical season, Beamer earned eight national Coach of the Year honors. He was named the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year, the GTE Coach of the Year, the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year, the Paul ‘Bear’ Bryant Coach of the Year, the Associated Press Coach of the Year, the Walter Camp Football Foundation/Street & Smith’s Coach of the Year, the Maxwell Football Club Coach of the Year and the Woody Hayes Coach of the Year.

Beamer also was named the BIG EAST Conference Coach of the Year for the third time.

Beamer’s abilities as a head coach were already widely known before the 1999 season. In 1996, The Sporting News queried writers from around the country and asked them to rate the coaches in various conferences. In the BIG EAST, those writers rated Frank Beamer the best coach on game day, the best in game preparation, the best as a motivator, the best as a teacher, the best in big games and the best overall.

Last summer, The Sporting News ranked the nation’s top coaches in terms of their ability to get the most out of their players. Beamer was picked No. 9 in Division I-A.

A jubilant Frank Beamer is hoisted onto the shoulders of his players after Tech defeated Boston College to complete an undefeated 11-0 regular season in 1999.

Continued on next page
Coach Frank Beamer
Continued from previous page

The past two years, TSN also rated the Tech coach first among BIG EAST head coaches and ranked the Hokies’ football coaching staff as the best in the conference.

The Beamer success story has made him a much sought-after coach. He has been pursued by other schools, as well as professional football teams, in recent years but in 1998, the Tech administration quickly sat down with Beamer. The two parties agreed on additional contract terms that ensure Beamer’s tenure at Tech for the duration of his collegiate coaching career.

“I’ll tell you my heart is in Blacksburg,” Beamer said at a news conference. “It’s where I want to be, where I want to finish my coaching career.”

Beamer always has put Virginia Tech first — ever since he starred as a defensive back for the Hokies in his undergraduate days in the late 1960s, and surely throughout his 13 years as head coach of the Hokies.

Three times in the past 11 years, he has given back part of his earnings to the university. In the summer of 1996, he and his wife Cheryl, for the second time in six years, presented a $50,000 gift to Tech. Both gifts were earmarked for improvements to facilities.

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

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

There have been plenty of other honors for the Hokies’ coach. Following consecutive 10-2 seasons in 1995 and 1996, Beamer was voted BIG EAST Conference Coach of the Year by the league coaches. Both seasons, he was named State Division I Coach of the Year by the Virginia Sports Information Directors’ Association and by a number of Touchdown Clubs in the state. He was one of five finalists in the voting for the 1995 National Coach of the Year.

Beamer’s overall record at Tech now stands at 88-60-2. He became Tech’s winningest football coach ever during the 1997 campaign. Counting six years as head coach at Murray State prior to joining the Hokies, Beamer’s overall 19-year record is 130-83-4.

The 53-year-old Beamer, first alumnus to guide the Hokies since the 1940s, took over the Tech reins from Bill Dooley in January 1987. He began work a few days after the Hokies had beaten North
Beamer’s Profile

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

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

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
Virginia Tech (1966-68)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1972  Graduate Assistant, Maryland
1973-76 Assistant Coach, The Citadel
1977-78 Defensive Coordinator, The Citadel
1979-80 Defensive Coordinator, Murray State
1981-86 Head Coach, Murray State
      1981 (8-3)
      1982 (4-7)
      1983 (7-4)
      1984 (9-2)
      1985 (7-3-1)
      1986 (7-4-1) Ohio Valley co-champion
Record at Murray State: 42-23-2

1987- Head Coach, Virginia Tech
      1987 (2-9)
      1988 (3-6)
      1989 (6-4-1)
      1990 (6-5)
      1991 (5-6)
      1992 (2-8-1)
      1993 (9-3) Independence Bowl champion
      1994 (8-4) Gator Bowl
      1995 (10-2) BIG EAST, Sugar Bowl champion
      1996 (10-2) BIG EAST co-champion, Orange Bowl
      1997 (7-5) Gator Bowl
      1998 (9-3) Music City Bowl champion
      1999 (11-1) BIG EAST champion, Sugar Bowl
Record at Virginia Tech: 88-60-2
Overall head coaching record: 130-83-4

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Player
1966  Liberty (Virginia Tech vs. Miami)
1968  Liberty (Virginia Tech vs. Mississippi)
Coach
1993  Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
1994  Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
1995  Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
1996  Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997  Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998  Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999  Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)

Coach Frank Beamer with (l to r) his son, Shane, wife, Cheryl and daughter, Casey.

Carolina State in the Peach Bowl. It took a while for him to get the Hokies moving in the right direction because the football program was hit with NCAA sanctions at the time.

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

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

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

“Coach Beamer is a great coach. He is a man who is very concerned with his players’ academic standing, as well as their performance on and off the football field. Coach Beamer is becoming a premier coach and will take his team to new heights.”

— Bryan Still, Chicago Bears

Active Division I-A Head Coaches by Victories

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<th>Rk</th>
<th>Coach</th>
<th>School</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Joe Paterno</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Bobby Bowden</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>LaVell Edwards</td>
<td>Brigham Young</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Lou Holtz</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>Don Nehlen</td>
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<td>John Cooper</td>
<td>Ohio St.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>George Welsh</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Jackie Sherrill</td>
<td>Mississippi St.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Dick Tomey</td>
<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Larry Smith</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Frank Beamer</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Dennis Franchione</td>
<td>TCU</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Fisher DeBerry</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Steve Spurrier</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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The Beamer Philosophy

Style of Play

“I like taking chances. I always have. I’m a guy that offensively wants to make sure we are using the whole field. I want to take some pops deep. I want to run our reverses. Offensively, I believe in bringing more people at times than you can block and hope you don’t throw it to the right part of the field. I want to do some things that are a little unusual in the kicking game, too.

The thing I believe more than anything is you have to be the aggressor. On defense you’ve got to have toughness. Offensively, you’ve got to be ready to knock them off the ball in short yardage situations and get that ball carrier running tough up in there. And kicking-wise, the same thing. Being aggressive, being tough ... that is the way I hope people would think about our football team.”

Building a Program

“I believe you treat people right, with respect. In this business you are always aware of when things are not going well. If you have solid relationships with your players and with your coaches, you have a chance of getting through those tough times.

Then, I think it really gets into people. You need to get good people, solid people as coaches and players. This is such an up and down business that you have to be in there with people that you like and trust. There is always a certain talent level that you have to have as far as ability on your team, but to me, getting good people and treating them with respect is the way you build a program.”
Noteeworthy Accomplishments

Under the direction of Frank Beamer and his staff, the Hokies have ...

- earned a chance to play for the national championship for the first time in school football history.
- won 11 games in a season.
- become one of only eight Division I schools to go to bowl games each of the last seven seasons.
- won more games over the past seven seasons (64) than any other team in the BIG EAST.
- become the first team in BIG EAST history to win all the league’s major awards in the same season.
- set a record for the most players from one team selected to the All-BIG EAST first and second teams in one season (15).
- won more games (88) than under any other coaching staff.
- been to twice as many bowl games (7) than under any other coaching staff.
- won more bowl games (3) than under any other coaching staff.
- posted seven straight seasons of seven or more wins for the first time in school history.
- won three BIG EAST Championships and earned three invitations to the Bowl Championship Series in the past five seasons.
- earned the highest national rankings in school football history.
- finished in a final Top 25 poll six times in the last seven seasons.
- had 34 of their last 48 games televised.
- compiled a 32-9 record in televised games the past five seasons.
- blocked more kicks in the 1990s than any other Division I-A team.
- had more than 70 players sign with NFL teams.

1999 Coach of the Year Honors

- Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year
- GTE Coach of the Year
- Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year
- Paul ‘Bear’ Bryant Coach of the Year
- Associated Press Coach of the Year
- Walter Camp Football Foundation/Street & Smith’s Coach of the Year
- Maxwell Football Club Coach of the Year
- Woody Hayes Coach of the Year

Since 1975, only five Division I-A football coaches have collected five or more major coach of the year awards in the same year. Those five coaches are:

Frank Beamer, Virginia Tech, 1999
Gary Barnett, Northwestern, 1995
Bobby Ross, Georgia Tech, 1990
Dick MacPherson, Syracuse, 1987
Fisher DeBerry, Air Force, 1985

Frank Beamer (r) is presented the AFCA Coach of the Year award by Jeff Jordan, of GTE.
What did playing in the national championship game mean for Virginia Tech?

I don’t think you can give it an exact value. I believe the name Virginia Tech is more familiar to so many more people now than it was a year ago. When Sports Illustrated is writing about you, and you’re in USA Today almost every day and on ESPN almost every night — and all of it is coming across in a very positive manner — there’s probably not enough money to purchase that kind of advertising. So, when you say exactly what it meant, I think it’s hard to say exactly. But I know it meant a lot. I’m really proud that so many more people know about our University and that our alumni and supporters are showing their pride more than ever. And I feel good knowing that a large portion of the vast television audience was pulling for the Hokies.

What was your fondest memory of the 1999 season?

There were a lot of exciting moments, but I don’t think any could top after the Boston College game. Just standing there on that podium, looking at the great players and at all the great fans — the tremendous feelings and emotions I had right there — I don’t know if that will ever be topped.

After all the team’s success last year, you were honored with a number of national coach of the year awards. How do you feel about receiving all those awards?

It’s amazing. These were awards you dream about. I think it’s really a statement about our program, about our coaching staff and about our players. I’m really proud of our coaching staff. Our coaches really fit together well and fit together well with the players. They are the ones who really are responsible for the awards.

After winning the BIG EAST Championship and going to the national championship game last year, what are the team’s goals for this season?

We’ve got a list, but they’re not the big things. Our goals are more along the lines of getting the most out of practice and getting good senior leadership, than winning a BIG EAST championship or getting back to the national championship game. I think those things are understood. I believe when you are making goals, it’s
better to make goals that you try to accomplish every day. Our goals are the little things that if we get them done, the big things will be there for us.

**What are your thoughts on the Tech defense after losing eight players?**

I think it will be an interesting year. We really lost some quality players, but I think we have some good players coming along. If we can stay away from injuries, I think we’re going to be good. How good will depend on how quickly these players can mature and get to the point that they play well. That’s the challenge to us and to them — to make that take the least amount of time as possible.

**You made several personnel moves on defense during spring practice. Do you feel they were successful?**

Oh yeah. I think Jake Houseright switching to mike linebacker, Ben Taylor taking over at the backer position and Nick Sorensen moving up to whip linebacker were the right moves. All three adjusted well to the positions and in the process we increased the overall speed of our defense. We also got good play from Willie Pile and Billy Hardee at the free safety position that Nick vacated. I think it is all going to work out well.

**What kind of progress has been made in rebuilding the special teams for the upcoming year?**

We probably won’t find out the answer to that question until the Georgia Tech game. I think we have kickers, snappers and holders with talent. Now it’s a matter of them taking it to that next step and performing well in a game situation. All of them are going to be new, so it’s a little bit scary. The good part is, the kids are talented.

**In what ways do you see quarterback Michael Vick improving after a sensational freshman year?**

I think where Michael will get better is in his decision making. Certainly the talent is there, now he must continue to develop consistency in making good decisions and getting the ball off at exactly the right time — all those things that really go into making a good quarterback. And that all comes with experience.

**Following the early departure of Shyrone Stith to the NFL, how do you see the tailback position shaping up this year?**

I think we will be good at the position. Lee Suggs really stood out during the spring. Wayne Ward and Keith Burnell had good springs, too. And we also expect André Kendrick back. André will give us the experienced guy who has been in the big battles. He is a guy who can just flat play the game.

**With such a young defense, do you expect more from the offense this year?**

More will be expected of the offense just because that’s where much of our experience and maturity is. Defensively, if we can stay healthy, I think we are going to be good. But by keeping the football and putting up points on offense, we could help our defense along a little bit and our kicking game, too, until the younger players get acclimated to game situations.

**What are your thoughts on the Hokies’ preseason game against Georgia Tech in the BCA Bowl?**

I think it’s good. When you play in a preseason game, you always know you’re going to face a tough opponent … that you are going to be challenged right away. But, I think where we are right now as far as developing our program, to play a quality opponent like Georgia Tech on our home field on national television is a good game.

**How about opening the season with three games in less than two weeks? That’s got to be tough.**

No question, but that’s just the way it worked out. Of course, the first one is a national television game and the third one is on national TV, so a lot of people are going to be watching. I think if you have to play three games close together, you want to do it at the beginning of the year when, hopefully, you will be healthy. If you get down to the middle of the season or the end of the season when some injuries have occurred, it might be tougher to do at that time.

**How do you see the BIG EAST Conference race shaping up for 2000?**

Overall, I believe it will be a very competitive year in the BIG EAST. Most people are picking us, Miami and Syracuse as the top three programs, with Miami being the team to beat.

Thirteen players off last year’s team signed with NFL teams. Is that another product of the Hokies’ success?

Yes, I believe that is all part of our success. As you continue to win and have success, and kids are developing in your program, then a lot of those guys will have an opportunity to go to the next level. The thing I’d like to see is for all of them to have their degrees when they get ready to take that next step to the NFL.

**What is the next step for the Virginia Tech football program?**

We’ve worked hard to raise our program to a new level. What happens now is you have to stay at the top. I would hope each and every year we would be one of the top contenders for the BIG EAST championship and a spot in the Bowl Championship Series. If we are, I think some years it’s going to work out great and others it won’t be quite as good. But the key is staying up there and challenging every year. We want to develop that kind of consistency.
Frank Beamer and His Staff Believe Scoring Points Is A Team Effort

The fact that Virginia Tech’s last seven football teams are all ranked among the top 10 highest scoring grid squads in school history is more than just a tribute to the Hokies’ offensive units. During the Frank Beamer era at Tech, putting points on the scoreboard has always been a team effort — the offensive team, the defensive team and the special teams.

During that time, a player at every position on the defensive unit has produced at least one touchdown. And 16 different players have scored touchdowns while playing on Tech’s special teams. Altogether, the Hokies’ defense and special teams have combined to contribute 57 touchdowns since Beamer arrived in 1987, including 26 in the six seasons from 1991 through 1996.

Under Beamer, Tech’s defense has scored 38 TDs, with 23 coming on pass intereceptions, 13 on fumble returns and two on fumble recoveries. The special teams have added 19 TDs, including 11 on blocked punts, three on kickoff returns, three on punt returns, one on a blocked field goal and one on a fumble recovery.

The defense and special teams have accounted for 40 touchdowns in Tech’s last 74 games. Fittingly, the trend started in Beamer’s first game as Tech’s head coach when true freshman Jon Jeffries returned a kickoff 92 yards for a touchdown against Clemson. It was the Hokies’ first touchdown under Beamer, and it was scored on special teams.

Since the start of the ‘87 season, a total of 44 different players on Tech’s defense and special teams units have scored touchdowns. Nine of those players — Don Stokes, Jock Jones, Roger Brown, Lawrence Lewis, Antonio Banks, Jim Baron, Keion Carpenter, Pierson Prioleau, and Anthony Midget — have scored twice. Ike Charlton and Ricky Hall have scored three times.

Touchdowns by Defense and Special Teams Under Beamer

1987: Jon Jeffries, 92-yd. kickoff return vs. Clemson; Don Stokes, recovered blocked punt in end zone vs. Syracuse; Randy Cockrell (ib), 90-yd. interception return vs. Navy.

1988: Don Stokes, recovered blocked punt in end zone vs. Southern Miss; Jock Jones, recovered blocked punt in end zone vs. West Virginia; Roger Brown (cb), 55-yd. interception return vs. South Carolina; Leslie Bailey (ib), 19-yd. interception return vs. South Carolina.


1990: The 90 season marked the first and only season to date during Beamer’s tenure that the Hokies failed to score at least one touchdown on either defense or special teams.


1993: William Ferrell, 7-yd. blocked punt return vs. Rutgers; DeWayne Knight (olb), 23-yd. fumble return vs. Syracuse; Jeff Holland (dt), 8-yd. fumble return vs. Virginia; Lawrence Lewis (de), 20-yd. fumble return vs. Indiana; Antonio Banks, 80-yd. blocked field goal return vs. Indiana.

1994: Torrian Gray (rov), 66-yd. interception return vs. Boston College; Stacy Henley, 25-yd. blocked punt return vs. Temple; Lawrence Lewis (de), 60-yd. punt return vs. East Carolina; Antonio Freeman, 80-yd. punt return vs. Pittsburgh.

1995: Jermaine Holmes, recovered blocked punt in end zone vs. Akron; Hank Coleman (de), 51-yd. fumble return vs. Rutgers; Myron Newsome (ib), 71-yd. interception return vs. Rutgers; Larry Green (cb), 37-yd. interception return vs. West Virginia; Jim Baron (dt), 46-yd. fumble return vs. Temple; J.C. Price (dt), 19-yd. interception return vs. Temple; Antonio Banks (cb), 65-yd. interception return vs. Virginia; Bryan Still, 60-yd. punt return vs. Texas; Jim Baron (dt), 20-yd. fumble return vs. Texas.

1996: Cornelius White, 60-yd. blocked punt return vs. Syracuse; Keion Carpenter (fs), 100-yd. interception return vs. Miami.

1997: Carl Bradley (dt), recovered fumble in end zone vs. Rutgers; Pierson Prioleau (rov), 43-yd. fumble return vs. Rutgers; Lorenzo Ferguson (fs), 84-yd. interception return vs. Arkansas St.; Anthony Midget (cb), 22-yd. fumble return vs. Pittsburgh.

1998: Keion Carpenter (fs), 16-yd. interception return vs. Pittsburgh; Pierson Prioleau (rov), 85-yd. interception return vs. Boston College; Marcus Gildersleeve, recovered blocked punt in end zone vs. UAB; Ricky Hall 17-yd. blocked punt return vs. West Virginia; Ricky Hall recovered blocked punt in end zone vs. Syracuse; Loren Johnson (cb), 78-yd. fumble return vs. Syracuse; Ike Charlton (cb) 26-yd. interception return vs. Rutgers; Jamel Smith (lb) 98-yd. interception return vs. Rutgers; Anthony Midget (cb) 27-yd. interception return vs. Alabama.

1999: Ike Charlton (cb), 34-yd. interception return vs. Clemson; Corey Moore (de), 32-yard fumble return vs. Clemson; Cory Bird (rov), 26-yd. fumble return vs. Syracuse; Phillip Summers (rov) 43-yd. interception return vs. Syracuse; Tee Butler recovered fumble by punter in end zone vs. Syracuse; Ricky Hall, 64-yd. punt return vs. Miami; Ike Charlton (cb), 51-yd. fumble return vs. Miami; Larry Austin (cb), 31-yd. interception return vs. Temple.
Tech the Best Kick-Blocking Team of the 1990s

Virginia Tech blocked more kicks during the 1990s than any other Division I-A football team. The Hokies blocked 63 kicks since the start of the '90 season — 31 punts, 18 PATs and 14 field goals.

Tech's tradition for blocking kicks during the Frank Beamer era was carried to new heights in 1998 with 10 blocks during the regular season and two more in the Hokies' Music City Bowl game against Alabama. Tech now has 75 blocks in Beamer's 150 games as the head coach. The Hokies have blocked 37 punts (11 for TDs), 19 field goals and 19 extra points.

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

The teams the Hokies have victimized the most during the past 13 seasons have been Pittsburgh, Miami and Cincinnati. During Beamer's time at Tech, the Hokies have blocked seven kicks versus Pittsburgh and six against the other two teams.

Since joining the BIG EAST Conference in 1991, the Hokies have posted at least two blocked kicks against every team in the league. During that span, Tech has blocked seven kicks against Pittsburgh, six versus Miami, four against BC and WVU, three against Syracuse and Rutgers and two versus Temple.

In the Beamer era, Tech has blocked two kicks in a game 13 times. In 1998, Tech blocked a field goal and a punt versus Pittsburgh, two punts against both BC and Alabama and a punt and PAT against WVU.

### Tech's Blocked Kicks Under Beamer

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Blocks</th>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>3 PATs, 1 FG</td>
<td>East Carolina – extra point (John Rivers) aW; South Carolina – extra point (John Rivers) hL; Florida State – punt+ (Scott Jones) aL; West Virginia – field goal+ (Bernard Basham) hW; Temple – punt (Archie Hopkins) aL; N.C. State – extra point (Bernard Basham) hW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>3 FGs</td>
<td>James Madison – field goal (Bernard Basham) hW; Oklahoma – field goal (Bernard Basham) hW; Cincinnati – punt+ (P.J. Preston); punt* (Kirk Alexander) hW; Louisville – field goal (John Rivers) hW; East Carolina – punt (Marcus McClung) hL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>5 PATs, 1 FG</td>
<td>James Madison – extra point (John Rivers); field goal+ (Kirk Alexander) hW; East Carolina – extra point (Bernard Basham) hL; West Virginia – extra point (David Wimmer) hL; Miami – extra point (Bernard Basham) hL; Virginia – extra point (David Wimmer) hL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>2 FGs</td>
<td>Miami – punt@ (Willie Wilkins) aL; Maryland – field goal (George DelRicco) hW; Rutgers – punt* (Marcus McClung) hW; Syracuse – punt+ (William Ferrell) hW; Virginia – punt+ (Brandon Semones) aW; Indiana – field goal* (Jeff Holland) nW; Independence Bowl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>2 FGs</td>
<td>Arkansas State – field goal (Cornell Brown) hW; Temple – punt* (William Ferrell) hW; Miami – punt@ (Michael Williams) aW; Rutgers – punt* (Michael Williams) hW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>3 FGs</td>
<td>Boston College – extra point (Waverly Jackson) hL; Cincinnati – field goal (Jim Baron); extra point (Lawrence Lewis) hL; Miami – punt@ (Angelo Harrison) aW; Pittsburgh – punt+ (Angelo Harrison); punt@ (Angelo Harrison) aW; Akron – punt* (Okses Smith); extra point (Lawrence Lewis) hW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>5 PATs, 1 PAT</td>
<td>Akron – extra point (John Engelberger) aW; Boston College – punt+ (Keion Carpenter) aW; Syracuse – punt* (Cornelius White) aL; Temple – punt (Keion Carpenter) hW; SW Louisiana – punt* (Michael Stuewe); punt@ (Keion Carpenter) hW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>2 FGs</td>
<td>Arkansas State – field goal* (Carl Bradley) hW; West Virginia – punt# (Phillip Summers) aL; Miami – extra point (Carl Bradley) hW; Pittsburgh – extra point (Corey Moore); extra point (John Engelberger) aL; Virginia – punt (Keion Carpenter); field goal (John Engelberger) aL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>2 FGs</td>
<td>East Carolina – field goal+ (Corey Moore) hW; Miami – extra point (John Engelberger) aW; Pittsburgh – field goal (Corey Moore); punt# (Larry Austin) hW; Boston College – punt (Keion Carpenter); punt+ (André Davis) aW; UAB – punt* (Larry Austin) aW; West Virginia – punt# (Marcus Gildevere); extra point (John Engelberger) hW; Syracuse – punt* (Anthony Midget) aL; Alabama – punt (Keion Carpenter); punt* (Corey Moore) nW; Music City Bowl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>0 FGs</td>
<td>Rutgers – PAT* (Carl Bradley) aW; Pittsburgh – punt+ (André Davis) aW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Larry Austin blocks a punt in Tech's 41-0 victory over UAB in 1998.
Billy Hite
Assistant Head Coach and Running Backs Coach

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

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

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
North Carolina (1970-74)

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

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Player
1971 Sun (North Carolina vs. Texas Tech)
1972 Gator (North Carolina vs. Georgia)
Coach
1974 Sun (North Carolina vs. Mississippi State)
1976 Peach (North Carolina vs. Kentucky)
1977 Liberty (North Carolina vs. Nebraska)
1980 Peach (Virginia Tech vs. Miami)
1984 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Air Force)
1986 New Peach (Virginia Tech vs. N.C. State)
1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
1994 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)

Billy Hite, who helped lead the Hokies to the 2000 Nokia Sugar Bowl, begins his 23rd season on the Virginia Tech coaching staff. He has spent more time on the Tech sidelines than any other football coach — head or assistant — in school history.

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

Hite remained at Tech when Frank Beamer took over in 1987 and was elevated to the position of assistant head coach by Beamer the following year. His primary coaching responsibility continues to be Tech’s running backs.

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

During the mid-1980s, Hite was credited with the development of Tech’s famed “Stallions” backfield that featured Maurice Williams and Eddie Hunter. While at Tech, he has coached eight of the Hokies’ top 10 all-time rushing leaders. Eighteen of his running backs have gone on to sign with NFL teams, including Shyrone Stith, who was drafted by the Jacksonville Jaguars in the 2000 NFL draft.

A native of Hyattsville, Md., Hite was a former star tailback at the University of North Carolina. He received one of his highest honors when he was inducted into the DeMatha High School Hall of Fame in 1992.

As a player at North Carolina under Dooley, Hite helped the Tar Heels to a 28-6 record, two ACC titles and two bowl games during his undergraduate days from 1970-73. He received a bachelor’s degree in education in 1974.

Hite began his coaching career as a graduate assistant at UNC in ’74. He was a part-time assistant for the Tar Heels from 1975-77.

Hite is married to the former Anne Heen of Memphis, Tenn., whom he met at North Carolina when they were students. They have two daughters, Kirsten Marie, 15, and Bryn Elizabeth Louise, 11, and a son, Griffin William, 7.

In his spare time, Hite enjoys playing basketball and racquetball.

Coach Hite and his wife, Anne, with their children — Bryn, Griffin and Kirsten.
The Running Game

Under the direction of Coach Billy Hite, the Hokies’ 1999 running game ... 

• finished eighth in the nation in rushing.
• set a BIG EAST Conference season record for rushing yards (2,793).
• set a school single-season record for rushing touchdowns with 35.
• established a new school single-season record for highest yards per carry average (5.0).
• posted over 200 yards rushing in 11 of Tech’s 12 games.
• got 1,914 yards from the tailback position.

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

• the Hokies have rushed for over 48,000 yards — an average of nearly 200 yards per game (199.3) over a 242-game period.
• he has had a back rush for 100 yards or more in a game 105 times.
• the Hokies have gotten an average of 140 yards rushing per game from the tailback position.
• he has coached eight of Virginia Tech’s top 10 career rushing leaders.
• he has worked with six of the seven Tech players who have turned in 1,000-yard rushing seasons.
• he has coached five different running backs who rushed for over 100 yards in a bowl game.
• a total of 18 running backs have gone on to sign with NFL teams.
• the Hokies have been ranked among the top 20 rushing teams in Division I-A four of the past seven seasons.

Career Rushing Leaders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Yds.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cyrus Lawrence</td>
<td>3,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roscoe Coles</td>
<td>3,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurice Williams</td>
<td>2,981</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dwayne Thomas</td>
<td>2,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Oxendine</td>
<td>2,645</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eddie Hunter</td>
<td>2,523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Rogers</td>
<td>2,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaughn Hebron</td>
<td>2,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shyrone Stith</td>
<td>2,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Kennedy</td>
<td>2,259</td>
</tr>
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Season Rushing Leaders

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Player</th>
<th>Yds.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cyrus Lawrence</td>
<td>1,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyrus Lawrence</td>
<td>1,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwayne Thomas</td>
<td>1,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shyrone Stith</td>
<td>1,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roscoe Coles</td>
<td>1,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roscoe Coles</td>
<td>1,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Rogers</td>
<td>1,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurice Williams</td>
<td>1,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenny Lewis</td>
<td>1,020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shyrone Stith is the latest in a long line of talented running backs that Billy Hite has tutored.
Rickey Bustle

Offensive Coordinator and Quarterbacks Coach

Hokies have fielded six of the seven highest-scoring teams in school history, posted a 56-16 record and won three BIG EAST Conference Championships.

The Hokies have been to a bowl every year Bustle has been the offensive coordinator, including last season’s appearance in the Nokia Sugar Bowl national championship game.

Bustle, who also has earned a reputation as an outstanding recruiter, came to Tech with Coach Frank Beamer in 1987 as the Hokies’ quarterback coach. He was promoted to offensive coordinator in 1993 and directed the ‘93 offensive unit that scored a then-school-record 400 points and rolled over Indiana, 45-20, in the Independence Bowl.

In 1994, Bustle accepted the position of offensive coordinator at the University of South Carolina. He helped the Gamecocks to a 7-5 record that included a Carquest Bowl win over West Virginia.

After just one season away from Blacksburg, Bustle decided to rejoin the Tech staff and helped the Hokies to a 10-2 record and a Sugar Bowl win over Texas.

Rickey Bustle

Offensive Coordinator and Quarterbacks Coach

In 1983, Bustle became the running backs coach for the Arizona Wranglers of the USFL. The following year, he joined the staff at Northeast Louisiana, where he served as the running backs coach for two seasons before becoming the offensive coordinator in 1986.

Bustle is married to the former Lynn Sanders of Charleston, S.C., who received her Ph.D., in curriculum and instruction from Tech in December 1997. They have a son, Brad, who is 13 years old.

PERSONAL:
Hometown: Summerville, S.C.
Wife: former Lynn Sanders
Child: Brad

EDUCATION:
High School: Summerville High School (1972)
College: Clemson University (1977)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
Clemson (1973-76)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1977-78 Clemson (graduate assistant)
1979 Gardner-Webb (defensive coordinator)
1980-81 East Carolina (defensive backfield)
1982 East Carolina (receivers)
1983 USFL’s Arizona Wranglers (running backs)
1984-85 Northeast Louisiana (running backs)
1986 Northeast Louisiana (off. co./quarterbacks)
1987-92 Virginia Tech (quarterbacks/receivers)
1993 Virginia Tech (off. coordinator/quarterbacks)
1994 South Carolina (off. coordinator/quarterbacks)
1995- Virginia Tech (off. coordinator/quarterbacks)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Graduate Assistant
1977 Gator (Clemson vs. Pittsburgh)
1978 Gator (Clemson vs. Ohio State)
Coach
1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
1994 Carquest (South Carolina vs. West Virginia)
1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
The Offense

Under the guidance of Coach Rickey Bustle, the Hokies’ 1999 offense...

- led the nation in scoring (41.4 ppg).
- ranked ninth nationally in total offense (451.8 ypg).
- paced the BIG EAST in scoring, total offense, rushing, pass efficiency and time of possession.
- set a school record for points (455) and scoring average (41.4) in a season.
- established a new school mark for total offense in a season (4,970).
- broke Tech records for most yards per game (451.8) and most yards per play (6.6).
- amassed 503 total yards and 29 points against Florida State’s tough defense in the 2000 Nokia Sugar Bowl.

During Bustle’s six seasons as the offensive coordinator, Virginia Tech has...

- averaged 33 points per game and piled up nearly 15 miles (26,143 yards) of total offense.
- fielded the six highest-scoring football teams pointwise in school history and six of the top seven teams averagewise.
- fielded four of the school’s top six teams in terms of total offense.

During Rickey Bustle’s 12 seasons as the quarterbacks coach, he has...

- worked with three of Virginia Tech’s top four career passing leaders.
- coached players who have accounted for seven of Tech’s top 10 all-time single-season passing totals and eight of the Hokies’ top 10 all-time single-season total offense totals.
- coached the top three quarterbacks on Tech’s career list for touchdown passes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Total Offense For A Season</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Yards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>4,970</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>4,885</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>4,587</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>4,534</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>4,527</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>4,233</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tech’s Highest Scoring Teams By Points</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pts.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>455</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>349</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>321</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>321</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tech Career Passing Leaders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Player</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Strock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Furrer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurice DeShazo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Druckenmiller</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tech Career Touchdown Passes</th>
<th>TDs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maurice DeShazo</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Furrer</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Druckenmiller</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Strock</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Casey</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bud Foster
Defensive Coordinator and Inside Linebackers Coach

Highly-regarded assistant coach Bud Foster, who has helped mold nationally-ranked defensive units during each of his five years as defensive coordinator, is beginning his 14th season as a member of Frank Beamer’s football staff at Virginia Tech.

Following the 1998 season, Foster was pursued by the University of Florida for its defensive coordinator position, but opted to continue his long-standing football association with Beamer. That association dates back to 1979 when Foster was a member of the national championship game last season, Foster was one of five finalists for the 1999 Broyles Award given to the nation’s top assistant football coach. In June, he was recognized as the 2000 Division I-A Defensive Coordinator of the Year by American Football Coach magazine. Tech’s 1999 defensive unit led Division I-A in scoring defense and ranked third in both total and rushing defense.

Foster’s Profile

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

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

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
- Murray State (1977-80)

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

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
- Player
  - 1979 Division I-AA Playoff semifinals (Murray State vs. Lehigh)
- Coach
  - 1986 Division I-AA Playoff quarterfinals (Murray State vs. Eastern Illinois)
  - 1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
  - 1994 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
  - 1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
  - 1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
  - 1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
  - 1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
  - 1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)

The inside linebackers continue to be his primary responsibility.

During his tenure at Tech, Foster has coached All-American Jamel Smith and five other linebackers who have earned All-BIG EAST Conference honors. In each year since the BIG EAST began round-robin play in 1993, Foster has had a linebacker tabbed all-conference. Last season, Michael Hawkes was named to the second team, as was Smith for the second-straight year. Smith also was named second-team All-America by The Associated Press. Tech’s other All-BIG EAST linebackers were two-time pick Ken Brown, who was second-team in 1993 and first-team in 1994; George DelRicco, a first-team pick in 1995; and second-team picks Myron Newsome in ’96, and Steve Tate in ’97.

A 1981 graduate of Murray State, Foster was an outstanding strong safety and outside linebacker from 1977 to 1980.

After two years as a graduate assistant at his alma mater, Foster was pursued by the University of Florida for its defensive coordinator position, but opted to continue his long-standing football association with Beamer. That association dates back to 1979 when Foster was a member of the national championship game last season, Foster was one of five finalists for the 1999 Broyles Award given to the nation’s top assistant football coach. In June, he was recognized as the 2000 Division I-A Defensive Coordinator of the Year by American Football Coach magazine. Tech’s 1999 defensive unit led Division I-A in scoring defense and ranked third in both total and rushing defense.

Foster assumed the position of co-defensive coordinator in 1995 and took over as the sole defensive coordinator in ’96.

Coaching hats. Foster coached the inside linebackers for one year in 1987, then tutored the outside linebackers for the next five seasons. He assumed responsibility for both sets of linebackers prior to the 1993 season and also took over special-teams coaching that year. The following year, he coached the inside linebackers and special teams.

Foster assumed the position of co-defensive coordinator in 1995 and took over as the sole defensive coordinator in ’96.
The Defense

Under the tutelage of Coach Bud Foster, the Hokies’ 1999 defense ...

• led the nation in scoring defense (10.5 ppg).

• topped the BIG EAST in scoring defense, total defense, rushing defense, pass defense and pass efficiency defense.

• set a BIG EAST record for quarterback sacks in a season with 58.

• held opponents to just 75.9 yards rushing per game.

• produced Tech’s first Lombardi Award winner and its first Nagurski Trophy winner.

• placed three players on the AP All-America teams.

• had six players named All-BIG EAST.

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

• had 10 different players earn first-team All-BIG EAST defensive honors and 11 different players earn second-team honors.

• produced two BIG EAST Defensive Players of the Year — Corey Moore, who earned the honor in both 1998 and 1999, and Cornell Brown, who won it in 1995.

• had at least one defensive player earn All-America honors every year. Four players gained A-A recognition in 1999 and two in 1995.

• held opponents to an average of 97.3 yards rushing and 13.9 points per game over a 55-game span.

• finished among the top two teams in the BIG EAST in scoring defense all five years and among the top two teams in both rushing and total defense four of the five years.

Tech’s National Defensive Rankings Under Foster

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

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

1997
13th Scoring Defense (16.82)

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

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

*co-coordinator in 1995

Bud Foster’s style of defense — attacking and pressuring — has kept the Hokies among the nation’s leaders in defense the past five seasons.
Tony Ball brings enthusiasm and 12 years of collegiate coaching experience to the Hokies as he begins his third season as Virginia Tech’s wide receivers coach.

Ball’s outstanding knowledge of the receiver position contributed to an 11-0 regular season in 1999 and a berth in the national championship game.

Last season under Ball’s tutelage, redshirt sophomore Andre Davis exploded onto the college football scene. Davis averaged 27.5 yards on 35 receptions for 962 yards and nine touchdowns. He also scored two TDs on reverses and recovered a fumble in the end zone for another score. Davis set school records for yards per catch and yards receiving for a season and tied the record for touchdown receptions in a season en route to being named second-team All-BIG EAST.

This past spring one of Ball’s pupils, Ricky Hall, signed a free agent contract with the San Francisco 49ers.

Ball came to Tech in 1998 after serving three seasons as an assistant at the University of Louisville, where he coached the receivers.

Prior to his stint with the Cardinals, Ball worked with the running backs at Holy Cross for three seasons. He coached the receivers at his alma mater, UT Chattanooga, on two different occasions — once in 1988 and for two seasons in 1990-91. In between, Ball coached the running backs at East Tennessee State in 1989.

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

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

Ball played football for the late Joe Morrison at UT Chattanooga. He was a standout running back who set numerous school kickoff return records.

Ball is married to the former Maria Ann Slayden. They have two children: Anthony, 9 and Keshea, 8.
Jim Cavanaugh
Strong Safety and Outside Linebackers Coach

A veteran of 26 years as a full-time coach on the collegiate level, Jim Cavanaugh has made a major impact on Virginia Tech’s football program during his four seasons in Blacksburg.

Cavanaugh joined the Tech staff in 1996 as coach of the strong safeties and outside linebackers. During his first season on the job, outside linebacker Brandon Semones led the team in tackles and earned second-team All-BIG EAST honors.

Cavanaugh helped in the development of safety Pierson Prioleau, who was a first-team All-BIG EAST pick in 1997 and 1998 and earned third-team All-America recognition from The Sporting News in ’97. Prioleau was a fourth-round draft pick of the San Francisco 49ers in 1999.

Along with his success in developing the Hokies’ current talent, Cavanaugh also has been instrumental in bringing top notch new talent to the Tech program. Over the past three years, his recruiting skills have helped the Hokies attract, among others, prep All-Americans Michael Vick, Nathaniel Adibi and Andraé Harrison.

Tech’s appearance in the 2000 Nokia Sugar Bowl marked Cavanaugh’s 16th postseason game as a coach. The Hokies have been to bowls in each of his four seasons on the staff.

A former star receiver at William & Mary, Cavanaugh has worked at two other Virginia schools — VMI and the University of Virginia — during his collegiate coaching career.

Cavanaugh coached at the University of North Carolina for eight years and from 1982 through 1987, he worked under Bobby Ross and Joe Krivak at Maryland. He served two years at North Carolina State, three years under coach Bob Thalman at VMI, one year at Virginia and two years at Marshall.

Cavanaugh began his collegiate coaching career as a graduate assistant at North Carolina State in 1972.

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

Married to the former Marsha Carnell, he has two children, Ryan, who will graduate from Appalachian State University this winter; and Lauren, who is a junior at Virginia Tech.

Cavanaugh’s Profile

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

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

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
William & Mary (1967-69)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1970 Newport News (Va.) High School
1971 Denbigh (Va.) High School
1972-73 North Carolina State (graduate assistant)
1974-75 VMI (receivers)
1976 VMI (running backs)
1977-78 North Carolina State (receivers)
1979-80 Marshall (off. coordinator/quarterbacks)
1981 Virginia (receivers)
1982-86 Maryland (running backs)
1987 Maryland (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)
1988-95 North Carolina (receivers)
1996- Virginia Tech (strong safety, outside linebackers)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Coach
1972 Peach (N.C. State vs. West Virginia)
1973 Liberty (N.C. State vs. Kansas)
1977 Peach (N.C. State vs. Iowa State)
1978 Tangerine (N.C. State vs. Pittsburgh)
1982 Aloha (Maryland vs. Washington)
1983 Citrus (Maryland vs. Tennessee)
1984 Sun (Maryland vs. Tennessee)
1985 Cherry (Maryland vs. Syracuse)
1992 Peach (North Carolina vs. Mississippi State)
1993 Gator (North Carolina vs. Alabama)
1994 Sun (North Carolina vs. Texas)
1995 Carquest (North Carolina vs. Arkansas)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
Danny Pearman

Tight Ends and Offensive Tackles Coach

Danny Pearman, beginning his third year as Virginia Tech’s tight ends and offensive tackles coach, is busy putting his extensive football knowledge and experience to work for the Hokies.

Pearman was instrumental in helping the 1999 Hokies lead the nation in scoring. A trio of tight ends — Derek Carter, Bob Slowikowski and Browning Wynn — combined for 17 catches last season, 16 of which went for first downs.

Pearman joined the Tech staff in 1998, just in time to help the Hokies to a surprising 8-3 regular season record and a 38-7 victory over Alabama in the Music City Bowl. He helped bring along an inexperienced group of tight ends and also aided in the development of tackle Derek Smith, who was drafted by the Washington Redskins following the season.

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

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

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

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

Pearman has a bachelor’s degree in finance and a master’s in business administration, both from Clemson. He is married to the former Kristy Sewell of Birmingham, Ala., and they have a daughter, Taylor Brooke, and a son Tanner Ryan, who will turn 1 in November. In his spare time, Pearman enjoys golf, jogging and fishing.

Pearman’s Profile

PERSONAL:
Born: 2/17/65, Charlotte, N.C.
Hometown: Charlotte, N.C.
Wife: former Kristy Sewell
Child: Taylor Brooke

EDUCATION:
College: Clemson University (1987)
Postgraduate: Clemson University (1989)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE:
Clemson (1983-87)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1988-89 Clemson (graduate assistant)
1990-91 Alabama (graduate assistant)
1991-96 Alabama (offensive tackles/offensive special teams)
1997 Alabama (defensive tackles/special teams)
1998 Virginia Tech (tight ends and off. tackles)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Player
1985 Independence (Clemson vs. Minnesota)
1986 Gator (Clemson vs. Stanford)
1987 Citrus (Clemson vs. Penn State)
Coach
1988 Citrus (Clemson vs. Oklahoma)
1989 Gator (Clemson vs. West Virginia)
1990 Fiesta (Alabama vs. Louisville)
1991 Blockbuster (Alabama vs. Colorado)
1992 Sugar (Alabama vs. Miami)
1993 Gator (Alabama vs. North Carolina)
1994 Citrus (Alabama vs. Ohio State)
1996 Outback (Alabama vs. Michigan)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)
Bryan Stinespring

Offensive Line Coach

Bryan Stinespring is entering his third season as Virginia Tech’s offensive line coach and his eighth year as a full-time assistant on Coach Frank Beamer’s staff.

Last season, the Hokie offense led the nation in scoring. Under Stinespring’s guidance, offensive linemen Keith Short, Matt Lehr and Dave Kadela were tabbed second-team All-BIG EAST. Short, the lone senior of that group, signed a free-agent contract with the N.Y. Jets.

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

Prior to taking over his current duties, Stinespring coached Tech’s tight ends and assisted with the offensive line for five seasons. He also has served as the Hokies’ recruiting coordinator the past six years and has been instrumental in helping attract top high school talent to campus.

Stinespring initially joined the Tech staff in 1990 as a graduate assistant coach and spent two seasons in that capacity helping with the offensive line. After serving as the director of sports programs in 1992, he was elevated to a full-time coaching position prior to the 1993 season. Since then, he has been a part of seven straight bowl games and three BIG EAST Conference championships.

During his tenure as tight ends coach, two of his players earned all-conference honors. John Burke was a second-team pick in 1993, while Bryan Jennings earned first-team honors in 1996.

A native of Clifton Forge, Va., Stinespring was a walk-on player for James Madison University in the early 1980s. He served as a teacher and coach at Lexington High School and helped the football squad win its lone state championship in 1988. He also helped coach the Patrick Henry High School football team before joining the Tech program in 1990.

Stinespring is married to the former Shelley Franklin of Richmond, Va. Bryan and Shelley have a son, Daniel, who is 6 years old; and twin daughters, Caroline and Olivia, who will be 2 in September. Stinespring enjoys golf, fishing and spending time with his family.

Stinespring’s Profile

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

EDUCATION:
High School: Clifton Forge (Va.) High School (1982)
College: James Madison University (1986)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:
1986-88 Lexington (Va.) High School
1989 Patrick Henry (Va.) High School
1990-91 Virginia Tech (graduate assistant)
1992 Virginia Tech (director of sports programs)
1993-97 Virginia Tech (tight ends/assistant off. line)
1998- Virginia Tech (offensive line)

BOWL EXPERIENCE:
Coach
1993 Independence (Virginia Tech vs. Indiana)
1994 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. Tennessee)
1995 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Texas)
1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)

Coach Stinespring and his wife, Shelley, with their children - Olivia, Daniel and Caroline.
Beginning his second year as coach of the Virginia Tech defensive backfield is Lorenzo Ward.

Ward coaches the cornerbacks and free safeties and helped direct the 1999 Hokie defense that led the BIG EAST in every major defensive category, was second in the nation in scoring defense and third in the country in rushing defense and total defense.

Tech’s starting cornerbacks each earned All-BIG EAST honors last year, with Anthony Midget being named to the first team and Ike Charlton making the second team. Both men also were selected in the 2000 NFL draft, with Charlton going to Seattle and Midget being chosen by Atlanta.

Prior to joining the Tech coaching staff, Ward was a coach at Tennessee-Chattanooga and Alabama.

Ward, 33, was named the defensive coordinator at UT-Chattanooga in 1998 after serving as the Mocs’ running backs coach since 1997. Under Ward, tailback Tyrone Coleman became just the fourth player in UTC history to gain 1,000 yards in a season. Prior to working with the running backs, Ward was the defensive backs coach.

Ward coached strong safety Ron Faugue, who earned both second- and third-team All-America honors in 1996.

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

Ward served two seasons as a graduate assistant at Alabama before spending one season as an assistant coach at Newnan High in Newnan, Ga. While a graduate assistant, Ward helped coach the Tide to victories in the 1991 Blockbuster Bowl and the 1993 Gator Bowl.

He joined the UTC staff as the secondary coach in 1994.

Nicknamed "Whammy" by his UA teammates because of his fierce tackles, Ward graduated from Alabama in 1990 with a bachelor’s in physical education.

Ward is married to the former Tara Tubbs. The couple has one son, Lorenzo Donovan Ward, Jr., who will be 4 in November.

Coach Ward and his wife, Tara, and their son, Lorenzo, Jr.
Charley Wiles, a former All-America player for Frank Beamer at Murray State, enters his fifth season as Virginia Tech’s defensive line coach. Wiles has played a huge role in the Hokies’ recent success.

**Wiles’ Profile**

**PERSONAL:**
- Born: 5/4/64, Nashville, Tenn.
- Hometown: De Land, Fla.
- Wife: former Andrea Wilder
- Child: Kendall

**EDUCATION:**
- High School: De Land High School
- College: Murray State University (1987)

**PLAYING EXPERIENCE:**
- Murray State (1983-86)

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

**BOWL EXPERIENCE:**
- Player
  - 1986 Division I-AA Playoff Quarterfinals (Murray State vs. Eastern Illinois)
- Coach
  - 1995 Division I-AA Playoff Quarterfinals (Murray State vs. Northern Iowa)
  - 1996 Orange (Virginia Tech vs. Nebraska)
  - 1997 Gator (Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina)
  - 1998 Music City (Virginia Tech vs. Alabama)
  - 1999 Sugar (Virginia Tech vs. Florida State)

During Wiles’ four seasons directing the Tech line, he has helped develop some of the nation’s finest players, including standout defensive ends, Corey Moore and John Engelberger.

Moore, one of the premier players in the nation last season, became the most honored player in Tech football history. Moore won the Mike Fox/Bronko Nagurski Award as the nation’s best defensive player and the Lombardi Award as the best lineman. He also became Tech’s second unanimous All-American and was chosen the BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year for the second consecutive year.

Engelberger was named second-team on the Associated Press All-America team and was selected first-team All-BIG EAST after earning second-team honors in 1998 and 1997.

Following their outstanding seasons, Moore was drafted by the Buffalo Bills and Engelberger was selected by San Francisco. In addition, two other seniors off last year’s defensive line, Nathaniel Williams and Carl Bradley, signed NFL free agent contracts.

Overall, five of Wiles’ players have won All-BIG EAST honors and three have earned All-America recognition.

End Cornell Brown was also an All-American in 1996. Brown was a first-team BIG EAST pick in ’96 and tackle Kerwin Hairston was a first-teamer in 1997. Williams made the second team last year.

A year ago, Wiles coached a veteran line that he helped mold into what The Sporting News rated as the best Division I-A defensive line in the college ranks prior to the season. That line helped the Hokies finish first in the nation in scoring defense and third in rushing defense and total defense.

Wiles is on his second tour of duty at Tech. He originally joined Beamer’s Tech staff as a graduate assistant in 1987 and worked in that capacity for two years.

Wiles first had a player-coach relationship with Beamer, when Beamer was the head man at Murray State. Wiles was a Kodak Division I-AA All-American as an offensive lineman in 1986.

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

Wiles rejoined Beamer at Tech in 1996, fulfilling a goal he had set during his first stint in Blacksburg. The Hokies have competed in bowl games during each of his four seasons on the staff.

A native of De Land, Fla., and a three-sport star at De Land High School, he is married to the former Andrea Wilder of Booneville, Ind. They have a daughter, Kendall, who is 4, and a son Eric, who is 1.

Coach Wiles and his wife, Andrea, with their children - Kendall and Eric - and their dog “Coach.”
John Ballein
Assistant Athletics Director for Football Operations

John Ballein holds one of the most important positions in Virginia Tech athletics as assistant athletic director for football operations.

Called "the No. 1 administrative assistant in the country" by former Tech AD Dave Braine, Ballein is responsible for all operations dealing with the football program. He continues to serve as assistant to head coach Frank Beamer and as departmental recruiting coordinator, jobs he was performing prior to his promotion in 1996.

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

A native of Bentleyville, Pa., Ballein was a linebacker at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and graduated from there with a degree in health and physical education in 1983. He later earned a master’s in education from Old Dominion University in 1985.

He completed his studies at ODU, while teaching and coaching football in 1983-84 at Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth, Va., and at Western Branch High in Chesapeake, Va., in 1985-86.

Ballein served on Beamer’s first Virginia Tech staff in 1987 as a graduate assistant coach. In 1988, he accepted a position as running backs coach at Western Kentucky University. He returned to Tech a year later as recruiting coordinator.

With his office adjacent to Coach Beamer’s, he is often considered Beamer’s right-hand man. He deals mostly with the administrative side of the football program, but is one of the favorites among players. His office is a preferred hangout of Tech players, and he is one of the most beloved and respected members of the staff.

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

Ballein is married to the former Stephanie Green, who was a basketball player at Tech in her undergraduate days. They have two daughters, Jordan Gray, 5, and Jalyn Ann, who is 2.

John Ballein and his wife, Stephanie, with their children — Jordan and Jalyn.
Bruce Garnes
Administrative Assistant

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

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

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

In the past, Garnes, 29, has worked for the Fairfax Juvenile Detention Center and also has interned with the Dallas Cowboys. A 1989 graduate of Magna Vista High School in Ridgewater, Va., Garnes is single and enjoys jogging, spending time with co-workers and watching all Virginia Tech athletic teams compete in his spare time.

Lester Karlin
Equipment Manager

Lester Karlin, a veteran of 22 years as the Hokies' equipment manager, is one of the most popular people on the Virginia Tech athletic staff.

In addition to ordering equipment for the football team, he is responsible for day-to-day operations of the equipment room.

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

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

Graduate Assistants

Bill Housereight
Chris Malone
Diana Clark
Lisa Marie
Kristie Verniel

Secretary to Coach Beamer
Football Program Support Technician
Football Program Support Technician

Lester Karlin and his wife, Suzie, with their two daughters — Rachel, 14, and Sarah, 12, and their dog, Maggie.

Mike McPike
Shahan Burrell
Brock Burroughs
Paul Heizer
Justin Lazzery
Ford Pham
Jeffrey Rossen

Graduate Student Manager
Student Manager
Student Manager
Student Manager
Student Manager
Student Manager
Student Manager
The 2000 football staff — (seated, l to r) Tony Ball, John Ballein, Rickey Bustle, Frank Beamer, Bud Foster, Billy Hite; (standing) Jim Cavanaugh, Bill Houseright, Lester Karlin; (second row, l to r) Jed Castro, Bruce Garnes, Charley Wiles, Bryan Stinespring, Danny Pearman, Chris Malone, Kevin Hicks, Mike Gentry, Lorenzo Ward and Mike Goforth.

2000 Virginia Tech Football Directory

Frank Beamer
Head Coach

Billy Hite
Assistant Head Coach and Running Backs Coach

Rickey Bustle
Offensive Coordinator and Quarterbacks Coach

Bud Foster
Defensive Coordinator and Inside Linebackers Coach

Tony Ball
Wide Receivers Coach

Jim Cavanaugh
Strong Safety and Outside Linebackers Coach

Danny Pearman
Tight Ends and Offensive Tackles Coach

Bryan Stinespring
Offensive Line Coach

Charley Wiles
Defensive Line Coach

Lorenzo Ward
Defensive Backfield Coach

John Ballein
Assistant A.D. for Football Operations

Mike Gentry
Assistant A.D. for Athletic Performance

Sonny Sano
Strength & Conditioning Assistant

Dr. Duane Lagan
Team Physician

Mike Goforth
Athletic Trainer

Lester Karlin
Equipment Manager

Diana Clark
Executive Secretary To Coach Beamer

Lisa Marie
Football Program Support Technician

Kristie Verniel
Football Program Support Technician

Bill Houseright
Graduate Assistant

Chris Malone
Graduate Assistant

Bruce Garnes
Administrative Assistant