



# Hokies Open Road Schedule at Texas A&M

Virginia Tech (3-0) vs. Texas A&M (2-0) • 2:30 p.m. (CDT), Sept. 21, 2002 • Kyle Field

## TODAY'S CHECKLIST

- ✓ This will be the third football meeting between Virginia Tech and Texas A&M
- ✓ Texas A&M has won both games in the series which began in 1976
- ✓ The two schools last met on the gridiron in 1977
- ✓ The Hokies have won 32 of their last 41 regular-season road games
- ✓ VT is 12-1 versus non-conference foes in regular-season road games since the BIG EAST went to round-robin play in 1993
- ✓ VT is ranked 7th in both the AP poll and the USA Today/ESPN Coaches' poll
- ✓ Texas A&M is ranked 19th in the AP poll and 21st by USA Today/ESPN
- ✓ The game will be televised by ABC

## THE SERIES

☛ Saturday's game will be the third football meeting between Virginia Tech and Texas A&M. The Aggies have won both previous football meetings between the two schools. Texas A&M defeated the Hokies in College Station, Texas, by a score of 19-0 in 1976, then took a 27-6 decision at Lane Stadium in 1977.

Tech is 4-5-1 overall against teams from the state of Texas. The Hokies are 2-0 against West Texas State, 1-0 versus Texas, 1-3-1 against Houston and 0-2 against A&M. Tech is 2-3 in games played in Texas. The Hokies' last win against a team from the Lone Star state was a 28-10 win over Texas in the 1995 Sugar Bowl.

## THE GAME ON TV

☛ The Virginia Tech-Texas A&M game will be televised regionally by ABC Sports. Brad Nessler will handle the play-by-play with Bob Griese serving as the color analyst. Lynn Swann will provide sideline commentary.

Virginia Tech has a 6-10 record in games televised by ABC. The Hokies' last appearance on the network was a 26-8 victory against LSU earlier this season in Blacksburg.

The Hokies have compiled a 53-14 record in televised football games over the past seven-plus seasons. Overall, Tech is 79-42 in televised games, including a 65-30 record during Frank Beamer's tenure as the head coach.

## COUNTDOWN TO KICKOFF

- 10 Virginia Tech has played 10 football games against teams from the state of Texas.
- 9 Nine different players have scored for the Hokies during the first three games of the season.
- 8 Tech's defense has allowed just eight rushing first downs.
- 7 For the seventh consecutive year, the Hokies have won their first three games of the season.
- 6 The Tech offense scored on all six of its trips inside the red-zone during the Marshall game.
- 5 Tailbacks Kevin Jones and Lee Suggs have each scored five touchdowns during Tech's first three games of 2002.
- 4 Virginia Tech won four of its five road games last season.
- 3 Senior Lee Suggs needs just three points to move by Don Wade for fourth place in career scoring at Tech.
- 2 The Hokies have committed a total of just two turnovers during their first three games.
- 1 After two Sunday games and a Thursday night contest, Tech will play its first Saturday game of the season at Texas A&M.

## THIS SEASON

☛ Virginia Tech is 3-0 following three straight wins at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field. Tech opened its 2002 season with a 63-7 victory against Arkansas State in the third Hispanic College Fund Football Classic. The Hokies followed that win with a 26-8 decision over No. 14 Louisiana State and a 47-21 win against No. 16 Marshall.

☛ Texas A&M is off to a 2-0 start in 2002. The Aggies opened with a 31-7 home win against Louisiana-Lafayette at Kyle Field. Texas A&M took a hard-fought 14-12 victory at Pittsburgh before an open date last weekend. The Aggies have not lost a home game to a non-conference foe under Coach R.C. Slocum. A&M is 29-0 at home versus non-conference foes since Slocum took over in 1989.

**COACH FRANK BEAMER**

☛ Frank Beamer (Va. Tech '69), whose teams have averaged nine victories a year over the last nine seasons, is in his 16th year as the head football coach at Virginia Tech. Beamer has guided the Hokies to a 110-65-2 record. He became Tech's winningest football coach in 1997 when the Hokies defeated Arkansas State, 50-0.

Under Beamer, Tech football has enjoyed unprecedented success with nine consecutive bowl appearances, three BIG EAST Conference titles and a trip to the national championship game. Last season, the Hokies posted an 8-4 record and appeared in the Top 20 every week despite having to fill four offensive line spots, the quarterback job vacated by sensational underclassman Michael Vick and the tailback spot left open when All-America tailback Lee Suggs was lost for the season with an injury.

During the 2000 season, the Hokies posted an 11-1 record that included a 41-20 win over Clemson in the Gator Bowl. In 1999, Tech marched to an 11-0 regular-season mark before losing a hard-fought 46-29 game to Florida State for the national title in the Sugar Bowl. The Hokies ended that season ranked No. 2 by The Associated Press.

Another highlight of the Hokies' parade of bowl games came when Tech beat Texas, 28-10, in the 1995 Sugar Bowl and finished 10-2. The 1996 Hokies also finished 10-2, bowing to Nebraska, 41-21, in the Orange Bowl. In 1998, Tech registered a 9-3 mark, including a 38-7 win over Alabama in the first Music City Bowl game.

The Hokies posted a record of 7-5 in 1997 after losing to UNC in the Gator Bowl game. The bowl streak started in '93 when Tech beat Indiana in the Independence Bowl, 45-20, to cap a 9-3 season. The Hokies were 8-4 in 1994 after losing to Tennessee, 45-23, in the Gator Bowl.

Tech won the BIG EAST title in 1999 and 1995 and shared it in '96. Beamer was voted BIG EAST Coach of the Year by the league's coaches each of those seasons. In 1997, he was inducted into The Virginia Tech Sports Hall of Fame, and following the 1999 season, he earned eight national coach of the year honors.

Beamer returned to his alma mater in December 1986 after a six-year stint as the head coach at Murray State University, where he compiled a 42-23-2 mark. His 152-88-4 overall record ranks him sixth among active Division I-A coaches in wins.

During his undergraduate days at Tech, Beamer started three years as a cornerback and played on the Hokies' 1966 and 1968 Liberty Bowl teams. The 55-year-old Hillsville, Va., native began his collegiate coaching career as a graduate assistant at Maryland in 1972. He held assistant coaching positions at The Citadel and Murray State before being named MSU's head coach in 1981.

**2002 SCHEDULES & RESULTS**

<b>Virginia Tech (3-0):</b>		
hW	63- 7	Arkansas State
hW	26- 8	LSU
hW	47-21	Marshall
Sept.	21	at Texas A&M (2:30 p.m. cdt)
	28	at Western Michigan (noon)
Oct.	10	at Boston College (7:45 p.m.)*
	19	Rutgers (tba)*
	26	Temple (tba)*
Nov.	2	Pittsburgh (tba)*
	9	at Syracuse (tba)*
	20	West Virginia (7 p.m.)*
	30	Virginia (tba)
Dec.	7	at Miami (1 p.m.)*
*BIG EAST Conference Game		
<b>Texas A&amp;M (2-0):</b>		
hW	31- 7	Louisiana-Lafayette
aW	14-12	Pittsburgh
Sept.	21	Virginia Tech
	28	Louisiana Tech
Oct.	5	Texas Tech
	12	at Baylor
	19	at Kansas
	26	Nebraska
Nov.	2	at Oklahoma State
	9	Oklahoma
	16	Missouri
	29	at Texas

**STABILITY AT THE TOP**

☛ One of the keys to the success of Virginia Tech football has been the stability of the program. That stability begins with head coach Frank Beamer.

Beamer, the first Tech alumnus to guide the Hokies' football program since the 1940s, has coached and won more football games at Tech than any other coach. His 15 years at the Hokie helm have helped the program develop a sense of stability and consistency currently enjoyed by just a handful of other Division I-A schools.

Only three of the 117 Division I-A head football coaches have been at their current school longer than Beamer. Those coaches are: Joe Paterno (36 yrs., Penn State); Bobby Bowden (26 yrs., Florida State); and Fisher DeBerry (18 yrs., Air Force).

**ACTIVE WINNERS**

☛ Frank Beamer is ranked sixth among the winningest active NCAA Division I-A football coaches with 152 career wins. Joe Paterno leads the way with 329 wins followed by Bobby Bowden (326), Lou Holtz (234), Jackie Sherrill (176) and Ken Hatfield (155).

**COACH R.C. SLOCUM**

☛ R.C. Slocum (McNeese St. '67) is in his 14th season at Texas A&M. Slocum is the Aggies' all-time winningest football coach with a 119-41-2 record. He served 19 years as a collegiate assistant in three major conferences before getting the nod as the Aggies' head coach on Dec. 12, 1988. Slocum served two years at Kansas State (1970-71), one year at Southern California (1981) and 16 years at Texas A&M (1972-80; 1982-88). During the summer months of 1975 and 1977, he spent time coaching in the Canadian Football League. Slocum has helped guide the Aggies to 11 bowl games during his 13 seasons at the helm.

**TECH IN THE POLLS**

☛Virginia Tech is ranked No. 7 in The Associated Press Poll and No. 7 in the *USA Today*/ESPN Coaches' Poll.

The Hokies posted their highest-ever football rankings during the 1999 and 2000 seasons. Tech finished the 1999 season rated No. 2 by AP and No. 3 by the coaches. In 2000, Tech climbed as high as No. 2 in both polls before finishing No. 6. Prior to the '99 season, Tech's previous high in the AP poll was 10th in the final 1995 poll that followed a 28-10 Sugar Bowl win over Texas. The Hokies had been ranked as high as No. 9 in the coaches' poll. Tech was ranked ninth by the coaches in the final poll of 1995, as well as four times during the '96 season. Tech's highest preseason rankings ever came last season when it was ranked No. 9 in both polls.

Tech has been ranked a total of 123 voting periods by the AP since the beginning of the 1993 season. When Coach Frank Beamer took over in 1987, Tech had been ranked a total of 12 weeks during the first 49 years of the AP poll. The Hokies have been ranked in 68 of the last 69 AP polls including the last 57 in a row.

**TECH IN THE BIG EAST**

☛Virginia Tech joined the BIG EAST Football Conference as a charter member when the league formed in 1991. Tech has finished among the top four in the league each year since the BIG EAST went to round-robin play in 1993. Tech won the BIG EAST title in 1999 and 1995 and shared the '96 championship with Miami and Syracuse. Tech finished second in 1994, 1997, 2000 and tied for second in 1998. The Hokies were fourth in '93. Last year, Tech tied for third in the league, marking just the second time in the last nine years that it did not finish higher than it was picked. Tech has won more games (86) than any BIG EAST team since the start of 1993.

**TECH ON THE ROAD**

☛Virginia Tech has won 32 of the last 41 regular-season road games it has played, including 19 of its last 25 BIG EAST Conference road games. The Hokies' are 12-1 versus non-conference opponents in regular-season road games since the BIG EAST went to round-robin play in 1993. The lone loss came at Virginia (34-20) in 1997. Tech was 4-1 on the road last season with wins at Rutgers (50-0), WVU (35-0), Temple (35-0) and Virginia (31-17) and a loss at Pittsburgh (38-7).

☛The Hokies have won their first road game of the year each of the last nine seasons. Tech is 9-5-1 overall under Coach Frank Beamer in its first road game of the year.

**TECH-TEXAS A&M TIES**

☛Texas A&M offensive line coach J.B. Grimes served as the offensive line coach at Virginia Tech from 1993 through 1997.

☛Virginia Tech and Texas A&M are the only two universities in the nation with a military component inside a larger civilian population. Both schools have an active Corps of Cadets.

**FINALLY, A SATURDAY**

☛The Texas A&M game will be Tech's first Saturday game of the season. This year marks the first time Tech has not played at least one of its first three games on a Saturday.

**SCORING STREAK**

☛Tech has scored in a school record 85 straight football games, beginning with a 13-7 win over Miami on Sept. 23, 1995. The streak began after a 16-0 loss to Cincinnati in 1995. The previous record was 66 straight games, which started in 1970 and ran into the 1976 season. During its current streak, Tech has scored 13 or more points in all but two games.

**BIG EAST STANDINGS**

Team	Conf.	Overall
Miami	1-0-0	3-0-0
Virginia Tech	0-0-0	3-0-0
Boston College	0-0-0	2-0-0
Pittsburgh	0-0-0	2-1-0
West Virginia	0-0-0	2-1-0
Syracuse	0-0-0	1-2-0
Rutgers	0-0-0	1-2-0
Temple	0-1-0	1-2-0

Thursday, Sept. 12  
Virginia Tech 47, Marshall 21

Saturday, Sept. 14  
Miami 44, Temple 21  
Syracuse 63, Rhode Island 17  
Pittsburgh 26, UAB 20  
Rutgers 44, Army 0  
West Virginia 35, Cincinnati 32

Saturday, Sept. 21  
Virginia Tech at Texas A&M  
Boston College at Miami  
Rutgers at Pittsburgh  
Temple at South Carolina

**2001 RESULTS**

Virginia Tech (8-4; 4-3):  
hW 52-10 Connecticut  
hW 31- 0 Western Michigan  
aW 50- 0 Rutgers\*  
hW 46-14 UCF  
aW 35- 0 West Virginia\*  
hW 34-20 Boston College\*  
hL 14-22 Syracuse\*  
aL 7-38 Pittsburgh\*  
aW 35- 0 Temple\*  
aW 31-17 Virginia  
hL 24-26 Miami\*  
nL 17-30 Florida State  
(Toyota Gator Bowl)

Texas A&M (8-4):  
hW 38-24 McNeese  
aW 28-20 Wyoming  
hW 21- 7 Oklahoma State  
hW 24- 3 Notre Dame  
hW 16-10 Baylor  
aL 21-31 Colorado  
aW 31-24 Kansas State  
hW 24-21 Iowa State  
aL 0-12 Texas Tech  
aL 10-31 Oklahoma  
hL 7-21 Texas  
nW 28- 9 TCU  
(galleryfurniture.com Bowl)

**Last Game**

**Tech Rushes To 47-21 Victory Over Thundering Herd**

Sept. 12, 2002 • Lane Stadium/Worsham Field • Attendance 65,049

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Tailbacks Kevin Jones and Lee Suggs combined for 324 yards rushing and five touchdowns as No. 11 Virginia Tech posted a convincing 47-21 win against No. 16 Marshall in a Thursday night ESPN game at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field.

While the Tech defense was holding Marshall quarterback Byron Leftwich in check, Jones and Suggs helped the Hokies pile up a 33-0 lead before the Herd got on the scoreboard with three fourth-quarter touchdowns. Jones rushed for 171 yards and three touchdowns, while Suggs added 153 yards and a pair of TDs.

Defensively, Tech was at its best when it mattered, holding Marshall to just 234 yards during the first three quarters. The offense helped out with four touchdown drives of more than 70 yards, including a 15-play, 85-yard drive that took up more than eight minutes on the clock.

Marshall	0	0	0	21	—	21
Virginia Tech	10	10	6	21	—	47

- VT (10:46 re 1st) — FG Warley 42
- VT (2:47 re 1st) — Jones 25 run (Warley kick)
- VT (13:21 re 2nd) — FG Warley 43
- VT (9:11 re 2nd) — Jones 15 run (Warley kick)
- VT (2:57 re 3rd) — Suggs 1 run (pass failed)
- VT (14:02 re 4th) — Suggs 1 run (Warley kick)
- MU (11:56 re 4th) — Watts 9 pass from Leftwich (Head kick)
- VT (5:38 re 4th) — Jones 1 run (Warley kick)
- MU (4:20 re 4th) — Marriott 18 pass from Leftwich (Head kick)
- MU (2:25 re 4th) — Bates 19 pass from Leftwich (Head kick)
- VT (1:28 re 4th) — Candelas 10 run (Warley kick)

Team Stats	MU	VT
First downs	25	28
Rushing yds.	16-34	66-395
Passing yds.	442	101
Return yds.	0	52
Passes	36-56-1	5-12-0
Punts-avg.	3-49	1-49
Fumbles-lost	3-2	1-0
Penalties-yds.	5-40	7-65
Time of poss.	25:53	34:07
Sacks by	1-8	2-14

**Individual Leaders**

Rushing — MU, Carey 6-17, Wallace 4-16, Hargrove 1-9, Watts 1-6, Leftwich 4-(-14); VT, Jones 24-171, Suggs 24-153, Randall 7-36, Easlick 4-18, Candelas 2-11, Spence 1-5, Humes 2-3, Team 2-(-2).

Passing — MU, Leftwich 31-49-1-406; Hill 5-6-0-36, Team 0-1-0-0; VT, Randall 5-12-0-101.

Receiving — MU, Jones 11-164, Watts 7-85, Davis 6-72, Marriott 6-60, Rader 3-30, Deifel 2-12, Bates 1-19; VT, Wilford 2-49, Witten 2-44, Easlick 1-8.

**A CLOSER LOOK**

☛Prior to the kickoff of the Marshall game, Tech head coach Frank Beamer's jersey was retired. Beamer, who is in his 16th season as the Hokies' head coach, was a three-year starter in the secondary for Tech from 1966-68. He is the winningest football coach in school history and is a member of the Tech Sports Hall of Fame. Beamer was the consensus Division I-A Coach of the Year in 1999 when he helped guide Tech to the national championship game.

☛Tech running backs **Kevin Jones** (Chester, Pa.) and **Lee Suggs** (Roanoke, Va.) both rushed for over 150 yards in the Marshall game. Jones compiled 171 yards on 24 carries, while Suggs finished with 153 yards on 24 attempts. It marked just the second time in Tech history that two players had rushed for 150 or more yards in the same game. It was first done by tailbacks Maurice Williams (165) and Eddie Hunter (159) against William & Mary during the 1985 season. Jones and Suggs were just the third set of backs to accomplish the feat in BIG EAST history. Boston College backs Chuckie Dukes (162) and Dwight Shirley (160) did it against Michigan State in 1992. Two other BC backs, Omari Walker (185) and Mike Cloud (159), equalled the feat against Miami in 1997.

☛Tech mounted its longest touchdown drive of the season against Marshall, going 90 yards in nine plays. Tech also had a season-high 15-play drive that took 8:02 off the clock, another season-best.

☛Marshall's 442 yards passing were the most against the Hokies since 1993 when Boston College passed for 448 yards. It was the third-highest overall total ever against a Tech team. The Herd got 233 of their passing yards during the fourth quarter.

## YOUTH MOVEMENT

☛Of the 76 Tech players who dressed against Marshall, 45 were freshmen or sophomores. The overall breakdown was 11 true freshmen, 14 redshirt freshmen, 20 sophomores, 18 juniors and 13 seniors. Of the 71 players who dressed for the Hokies' season opener against Arkansas State, 28 were dressing for the first time.

☛Thirteen of Tech's 18 touchdowns this season have been scored by either a freshman or sophomore. The other five have all been scored by senior **Lee Suggs** (Roanoke, Va.). The Hokies have gotten five touchdowns from sophomore **Kevin Jones** (Chester, Pa.) and two TDs each from sophomores **DeAngelo Hall** (Chesapeake, Va.) and **Bryan Randall** (Williamsburg, Va.). Tech has also gotten one TD each from sophomore **Jason Lallis** (Mitchellville, Md.), redshirt freshman **Jeff King** (Pulaski, Va.) and true freshmen **Mike Imoh** (Fairfax, Va.) and **John Candelas** (Blacksburg, Va.).

☛Of the 11 players who got some work at defensive tackle during the preseason, seven were true freshmen or redshirt freshmen. Only three of the players had seen any varsity action at the position. Redshirt junior **Mark Costen** (Virginia Beach, Va.) played in six games last year as a reserve and was in for 71 plays. **Kevin Lewis** (Richmond, Va.) saw action on 125 plays as a freshman in 2000, then was redshirted last year. **Jason Lallis** (r-So.; Mitchellville, Md.) was primarily an end until playing a few downs at tackle late last season. Lallis and Lewis have started in the Hokies' first three games.

☛The Hokies' kickoff team features seven freshmen, including true freshmen **Jimmy Williams** (Hampton, Va.), **Cary Wade** (Fairfax, Va.) and **Darryl Tapp** (Chesapeake, Va.).

## Extra Points

☛The Virginia Tech-Texas A&M game will feature two of the nation's top rushing defenses. The Aggies currently lead the Division I-A ranks in rushing defense, allowing an average of just 33.5 yards per game. Tech, meanwhile, ranks fourth nationally in that category, yielding an average of 46 yards per game. Both teams have given up just one rushing touchdown so far this season.

☛Texas A&M's top-rated rushing defense will provide a real challenge for the Hokies' rushing offense, which currently ranks as the third-best in Division I-A. Tech is averaging 283 yards per game on the ground, while A&M is allowing just 33.5 yards. Thirteen of the Hokies' 18 touchdowns this season have come on the ground. Tech has rushed for over 200 yards in five of its last six regular-season road games.

☛Virginia Tech ranks fifth nationally in turnover margin at plus-2.67 per game. The Hokies have made the most of their opportunities this season, scoring 45 points off of their opponents' 10 turnovers. Tech's two turnovers this season, both on fumbles, have not led to any points. The Hokies are tied for sixth in fumbles recovered with seven and tied for 15th in turnovers gained with 10.

☛The Hokies lead the BIG EAST Conference in red zone success so far this season. On its 15 trips inside the 20-yard line in 2002, Tech has scored 14 touchdowns, a success rate of 93.3 percent.

☛Tailback **Lee Suggs** (Roanoke, Va.) has scored at least one touchdown in each of the 16 games that he has started for Virginia Tech. During those 16 games, Suggs has posted a total 38 touchdowns. Three of those touchdowns, against Clemson in the 2001 Gator Bowl, don't count in his career total because they came in a bowl game. That NCAA rule will change this season, but will not be retroactive. Suggs' official career total now stands at 37, including two touchdowns as a reserve in 1999. He is just three touchdowns away from becoming the BIG EAST Conference's all-time leader in touchdowns scored. The current record of 39 is shared by William Green of Boston College and Amos Zereoue of West Virginia. Suggs is also nearing the BIG EAST mark for career rushing touchdowns. The Tech senior has 36 career rushing TDs, two behind Zereoue who holds the current mark of 38.

☛Tech has yet to allow a score in the first half of play this season. The Hokies have outscored their opponents 90-0 in the first half and 106-7 during the first three quarters of play. Since the beginning of the 1993 season, Tech has posted a 71-5 record in games when it is leading at the half. During that same stretch, the Hokies are 6-0 in games when the score is tied at the half and 9-20 in contests when they have trailed at the half. Tech has won the last 30 games it has led at halftime.

### NOEL'S KNEE

☛Quarterback **Grant Noel** (Ridgeley, W.Va.) underwent a 15-minute arthroscopic procedure on Tuesday, Sept. 3 to evaluate his left knee. Noel had been slightly limited for about three weeks due to "clicking" in his knee. He opened his senior season as Tech's starter despite a torn ACL in his left knee. Noel, who took over the starting duties last season, injured his knee just days before the Hokies' 2002 spring game. When tests showed there was not a significant amount of looseness in the knee, Noel opted to forego surgery, which would likely have meant the end of his Tech playing career. Instead, he underwent conservative treatment involving a brace and rehabilitation. During his recent procedure, doctors found a partially torn lateral meniscus, which was trimmed up along with the portion of the ACL that was torn during the spring. Marshall did not see action in the Marshall game.

Noel worked extremely hard during the summer to prepare for the challenge. In the opening game win over Arkansas State, he worked four series, directing the team to three touchdowns, including one on his 19-yard pass to tight end Jeff King. He played just two series against LSU before leaving the game.

### RANDALL READY

☛Sophomore **Bryan Randall** (Williamsburg, Va.) made his first collegiate start when he opened at quarterback against Marshall. Last year, he saw limited action as Tech's top backup at quarterback. He made steady progress during the spring and preseason. Randall ran for two touchdowns and passed for another in the 2002 opener against Arkansas State. He came off the bench after the first two series to direct the Tech attack against LSU. He has completed 16 of 29 passes for 214 yards and has added 78 yards on the ground.

### Extra Points

☛Five Virginia Tech players scored their first collegiate touchdowns during the Hokies' opening game against Arkansas State. Sophomores **DeAngelo Hall** (Chesapeake, Va.), **Bryan Randall** (Williamsburg, Va.) and **Jason Lallis** (Mitchellville, Md.), redshirt freshman **Jeff King** (Pulaski, Va.) and true freshman **Mike Imoh** (Fairfax, Va.) all contributed their first touchdowns as Hokies. Hall and Randall scored two TDs each.

☛Two Tech players pulled some double-duty during the Arkansas State game. Freshman **Mike Imoh** (Fairfax, Va.) saw action at flanker and led the Hokies with four catches for 28 yards and a touchdown. He also put in some time at tailback, his natural position, rushing four times for 22 yards. Redshirt freshman **Cedric Humes** (Virginia Beach, Va.), who worked at tailback last fall before moving to fullback in the spring, played at both positions. He finished second on the team in rushing against ASU with 52 yards on a team-high 10 carries.

☛Former high school teammates **Jason Lallis** (Mitchellville, Md.) and **Mikal Baaqee** (Columbia, Md.) made their first Tech starts in the same game. Lallis opened at tackle and Baaqee at mike linebacker against Arkansas State. The two players entered Tech together after starring at DeMatha High School. Both players had an impact on the Arkansas State game. Lallis picked up an ASU fumble in the second quarter and rambled 59 yards for a touchdown. Baaqee forced a pass interception that teammate DeAngelo Hall returned for a TD and earned the most points on defense.

☛During the Arkansas State game, sophomore **DeAngelo Hall** (Chesapeake, Va.) became the first player in coach Frank Beamer's 15-plus seasons at Tech to score a touchdown on defense and a touchdown on special teams in the same game. Hall scored on a 69-yard punt return and a 49-yard interception return during the first quarter of the ASU game.

☛Two Tech players made their first collegiate pass receptions count against Arkansas State. Tight end **Jeff King** (Pulaski, Va.) grabbed a 19-yard touchdown pass from **Grant Noel** (Ridgeley, W.Va.) for his first catch as a Hokie, while flanker **Mike Imoh** (Fairfax, Va.) hauled in a 19-yard TD toss from **Bryan Randall** (Williamsburg, Va.) for his first reception at Tech.

☛Brothers **Kevin** and **Jonathan Lewis** (Richmond, Va.) played side-by-side at defensive tackle for the first time at Tech during the Arkansas State game. Kevin, a redshirt sophomore starter, posted six tackles including a sack which forced a fumble that was returned for a touchdown. Jonathan, a true freshman, played 22 downs and was in on five tackles. They are the first brothers to play side-by-side at Tech since offensive linemen T.J. and Todd Washington in 1995 and 1996.

**LEE AND KJ**

☛ Virginia Tech's tailback duo of senior **Lee Suggs** (Roanoke, Va.) and sophomore **Kevin Jones** (Chester, Pa.) was ranked among the nation's best backfield combinations in many preseason publications. In a contest to nickname the duo held on the Hokies' official athletics Web site hokiesports.com, an amazing 4,016 potential slogans were submitted over a one-month period. After going through all of the choices, Suggs and Jones chose Jeremy Reynolds of Danville, Va., as the winner with his slogan of "The Untouchables."

☛ **Lee Suggs** took the first steps to regaining the form that helped him earn All-America honors in 2000 by making good showings in Tech's first three games. Suggs rushed seven times for 87 yards and a touchdown against Arkansas State in his first appearance since the opening game of 2001. He added 91 yards and two touchdowns on 22 carries in the LSU game and had 24 carries for 153 yards and two TDs versus Marshall. He is averaging 6.2 yards per carry.

Suggs was lost to the Virginia Tech football team for the 2001 season after suffering a torn ACL in his left knee during the Hokies' 52-10 win over Connecticut. Suggs rushed for 99 yards and two touchdowns on 12 carries before injuring his knee in the third quarter.

Suggs made quite an impact in 2000, his first year as a starter. He finished first in the Division I-A ranks in scoring (15.27 ppg) and touchdowns (28) and led the BIG EAST Conference in both scoring and rushing (109.1 ypg).

Suggs' final rushing tally of 1,207 yards was the third-best single-season mark in school history and the best during coach Frank Beamer's 15 seasons. He tied a school season mark with six 100-yard games. He posted a career-high 164 yards against Pittsburgh.

Suggs scored five TDs at UCF, and four versus both Rutgers and Virginia in 2000. He carried the football a total of 222 times without a fumble and was named third-team All-America by The Associated Press.

With his two touchdowns in the UConn game, Suggs established new Tech career records for both rushing touchdowns and total TDs. He currently ranks fifth on Tech's career scoring list with 222 points. All four players ahead of him on the list are place-kickers.

Suggs' career rushing total of 1,773 yards ranks 15th at Tech. He needs another 156 yards to pass Kenny Lewis (1,928) for 14th place.

☛ Highly-touted **Kevin Jones** (Chester, Pa.) lived up to his billing in his first season with the Hokies, earning 2001 BIG EAST Rookie of the Year honors. The true freshman running back became a prominent figure in the Tech offense after Lee Suggs suffered a season-ending knee injury in the opening game.

Jones ended up in the starting lineup for the Hokies' last three regular-season games and the Gator Bowl. During the final three regular-season games, Jones contributed 155 yards rushing at Temple, 181 yards against Virginia and 160 yards versus No. 1 Miami. His 957 yards for the season led the team and set a school season mark for a freshman. He ranked fifth among Division I-A freshmen in rushing yards for the season and third among true freshmen. He was named a freshman All-American by *The Sporting News*. His 87-yard TD run at Temple was the longest for a Tech freshman.

Jones opened the 2002 season by gaining 31 yards on four carries in the Arkansas State game. He scored on a 19-yard run and also posted three tackles on special teams. Jones rushed for 70 yards and a TD against LSU and carried 24 times for 171 yards and three TDs versus Marshall.

**WHAT'S A HOKIE?**

That's the most often-asked question in Virginia Tech athletics. The answer leads all the way back to 1896 when Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College changed its name to Virginia Polytechnic Institute. With the change came the necessity for writing a new cheer and a contest for such a purpose was held by the student body. Senior O.M. Stull won first prize for his "Old Hokie" yell which still is used today. Later, when asked if "Hokie" had any special meaning, Stull explained the words he used had no hidden or symbolic meaning, but had been thought up in an effort to get attention. Hokie soon became a nickname for all Tech teams and for those people loyal to Tech athletics. Following is the "Old Hokie" yell in its original form:

Hoki, Hoki, Hoki Hy!  
 Tech! Tech! V.P.I!  
 Sola-Rex Sola-Rah  
 Polytech-Vir-gin-i-a!!  
 Rae, Ri, V.P.I.

**SIZE CHART**

Average heights and weights by position of the players on Tech's active depth chart:

Pos.	Hgt.	Wgt.
WR	6-0	194
TE	6-5	255
OT	6-5	310
OG	6-4	308
C	6-3	292
QB	6-1	203
FB	6-0	227
TB	6-0	204
DE	6-2	247
DT	6-2	278
ILB	6-1	225
OLB	6-0	206
CB	5-11	188
SAF	6-2	197

**BEAMERBALL**

☛During the Frank Beamer era at Tech, putting points on the scoreboard has always been a team effort — the offensive team, the defensive team and the special teams. It's called BeamerBall, and what sets it apart are the contributions of the defense and special teams.

Each of Tech's last eight teams is ranked among the school's top 10 highest scoring teams. During that time, a player at every position on the defensive unit has produced at least one touchdown. And 21 different players have scored touchdowns while playing on Tech's special teams. Altogether, the defense and special teams have combined for 73 TDs since Beamer arrived in 1987, including 56 in Tech's last 101 games.

Under Beamer, Tech's defense has scored 46 TDs, with 27 coming on pass interceptions, 17 on fumble returns and two on fumble recoveries. The special teams have added 27 TDs, including 13 on blocked punts, eight on punt returns, three on kickoff returns, two on blocked field goals and one on a fumble recovery.

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

Under Beamer, a total of 54 different players on Tech's defense and special teams have scored touchdowns. Eleven of those players — Don Stokes, Jock Jones, Roger Brown, Lawrence Lewis, Antonio Banks, Jim Baron, Keion Carpenter, Pierson Prioleau, Anthony Midget, Cory Bird, Kevin McCadam and **DeAngelo Hall** — scored twice. Ike Charlton and Ricky Hall had three scores and André Davis had four.

Since the start of the 1993 season, Tech is 37-5 in games it scores at least one TD on defense or special teams.

**TOUCHDOWNS BY DEFENSE & SPECIAL TEAMS**

**1987:** Jon Jeffries, 92-yd. kickoff return vs. Clemson; Don Stokes, recovered blocked punt in end zone vs. Syracuse; Randy Cockrell (ilb), 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 (ilb), 19-yd. interception return vs. South Carolina.

**1989:** Marcus Mickel, 90-yd. kickoff return vs. Clemson; Jock Jones (olb), 55-yd. interception return vs. Tulane; Roger Brown (cb), 55-yd. interception return vs. North Carolina State.

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

**1991:** P.J. Preston (olb), recovered fumble in end zone vs. Oklahoma; Ken Landrum, 18-yd. blocked punt return vs. Cincinnati; Kirk Alexander (fs), 95-yd. interception return vs. Cincinnati.

**1992:** Tyronne Drakeford (cb), 40-yd. interception return vs. East Carolina; Tony Kennedy, 91-yd. kickoff return vs. Louisville; Ken Brown (olb), 18-yd. interception return vs. Rutgers.

**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. fumble 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 (ilb), 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.

**2000:** Willie Pile (fs), 11-yd. interception return vs. Akron; Cory Bird 9-yd. blocked punt return vs. East Carolina; André Davis 87-yd. punt return vs. East Carolina; André Davis 71-yd. punt return vs. Boston College; André Davis 76-yd. punt return vs. WVU; Nathaniel Adibi (de), 36-yd. fumble return vs. UCF.

**2001:** Channing Reed (dt), 8-yd. fumble return vs. Rutgers; Kevin McCadam (rov), 69-yd. interception return vs. UCF; André Davis, 55-yd. punt return vs. UCF; Jim Davis (de), 27 yd. interception return vs. WVU; Kevin McCadam (rov), 9-yd. fumble return vs. BC; Ronyell Whitaker, 71-yd. blocked field goal return vs. Pittsburgh; Brandon Manning, 22-yd. blocked punt return vs. Miami.

**2002:** DeAngelo Hall, 69-yd. punt return vs. Arkansas State; DeAngelo Hall (cb), 49-yd. interception return vs. Arkansas State; Jason Lallis (dt), 59-yd. fumble return vs. Arkansas State.

**BEAMERBALL II**

☛ Virginia Tech's tradition for blocking kicks is another part of BeamerBall. It was carried to new heights in 1998 with 10 blocks during the regular season and two more in the Hokies' Music City Bowl game against Alabama. Tech now has 93 blocks in Beamer's 177 games as the head coach. The Hokies have blocked 48 punts (13 for TDs), 24 field goals and 21 extra points.

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

☛ 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 Tech has victimized the most during Frank Beamer's 16-seasons have been Pittsburgh, WVU and Miami. During that span, the Hokies have blocked nine kicks against the Panthers and eight versus the Mountaineers and 'Canes.

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

☛ During the Beamer era, Tech has blocked two kicks in a game 17 times, including two against No. 14 LSU this season. Tech blocked two kicks against four different teams in 1998.

**VIRGINIA TECH'S BLOCKED KICKS UNDER FRANK BEAMER**

Totals: 93 in 177 games (48 punts, 24 FGs, 21 PATs)

**1987 (1 punt, 1 PAT, 1 FG)**

Syracuse – punt\* (Jimmy Whitten) hL  
East Carolina – PAT (na) hL  
Cincinnati – FG (Roger Brown) hW

**1988 (4 punts, 3 FGs)**

Clemson – punt (Jock Jones) aL  
Southern Miss – punt\* (Archie Hopkins) aL  
West Virginia – punt\* (Archie Hopkins) hL  
Cincinnati – punt+ (Jock Jones) aW  
Louisville – FG (Jimmy Whitten) aL  
Florida State – FG (Roger Brown);  
FG+ (Roger Brown) aL

**1989 (1 punt, 1 FG)**

Tulane – punt+ (Archie Hopkins) hW  
N.C. State – FG (Jock Jones) aW

**1990 (2 punts, 3 PATs, 1 FG)**

East Carolina – PAT (John Rivers) aW  
South Carolina – PAT (John Rivers) hL  
Florida State – punt+ (Scott Jones) aL  
West Virginia – FG+ (Bernard Basham) hW  
Temple – punt (Archie Hopkins) aL  
N.C. State – PAT (Bernard Basham) hW

**1991 (3 punts, 3 FGs)**

James Madison – FG (Bernard Basham) hW  
Oklahoma – FG (Bernard Basham) aL  
Cincinnati – punt+ (P.J. Preston);  
punt\* (Kirk Alexander) hW  
Louisville – FG (John Rivers) hW  
East Carolina – punt (Marcus McClung) hL

**1992 (5 PATs, 1 FGs)**

James Madison – PAT (John Rivers);  
FG+ (Kirk Alexander) hW  
East Carolina – PAT (Bernard Basham) aL  
West Virginia – PAT (David Wimmer) hL  
Miami – PAT (Bernard Basham) hL  
Virginia – PAT (David Wimmer) hL

**1993 (4 punts, 2 FGs)**

Miami – punt@ (Willie Wilkins) aL  
Maryland – FG (George DelRocco) hW  
Rutgers – punt\* (Marcus McClung) hW  
Syracuse – punt+ (William Ferrell) hW  
Virginia – punt# (Brandon Semonos) aW  
Indiana – FG\* (Jeff Holland) nW  
Independence Bowl

**1994 (2 punts, 2 FGs)**

Arkansas St. – FG (Cornell Brown) hW  
Temple – punt\* (William Ferrell) hW  
Miami – punt# (Michael Williams) aL  
Rutgers – FG (Michael Williams) hW

**1995 (4 punts, 3 PATs, 1 FG)**

BC – PAT (Waverly Jackson) hL  
Cincinnati – FG (Jim Baron);  
PAT (Lawrence Lewis) hL  
Miami – punt# (Angelo Harrison) hW  
Pittsburgh – punt+ (Angelo Harrison);  
punt# (Angelo Harrison) aW  
Akron – punt\* (Okesa Smith);  
PAT (Lawrence Lewis) hW

**1996 (5 punts, 1 PAT)**

Akron – PAT (John Engelberger) aW  
BC – punt+ (Keion Carpenter) aW  
Syracuse – punt\* (Cornelius White) aL  
Temple – punt (Keion Carpenter) hW  
SW Louisiana – punt (Michael Stuewe);  
punt+ (Keion Carpenter) hW

**1997 (2 punts, 3 PATs, 2 FGs)**

Arkansas St. – FG+ (Carl Bradley) hW  
WVU – punt# (Phillip Summers) aL  
Miami – PAT (Carl Bradley) hW  
Pittsburgh – PAT (Corey Moore);  
PAT (John Engelberger) aL  
Virginia – punt (Keion Carpenter);  
FG (John Engelberger) aL

**1998 (8 punts, 2 PATs, 2 FGs)**

East Carolina – FG+ (Corey Moore) hW  
Miami – PAT (John Engelberger) aW  
Pittsburgh – FG (Corey Moore);  
punt# (Larry Austin) hW  
Boston College – punt (Keion Carpenter);  
punt+ (André Davis) aW  
UAB – punt\* (Larry Austin) aW  
WVU – punt\* (Marcus Gildersleeve);  
PAT (John Engelberger) hW  
Syracuse – punt\* (Anthony Midget) aL  
Alabama – punt (Keion Carpenter);  
punt+ (Corey Moore) nW  
Music City Bowl

**1999 (1 punt, 1 PAT, 0 FGs)**

Rutgers – PAT^ (Carl Bradley) aW  
Pittsburgh – punt+ (André Davis) aW

**2000 (4 punts, 2 FGs, 2 PATs)**

Akron – FG+ (Cory Bird) hW  
East Carolina – punt\* (Wayne Ward);  
FG (Larry Austin) aW  
Rutgers – punt+ (Eric Green) hW  
Temple – punt+ (Wayne Ward) hW  
West Virginia – punt (Lee Suggs);  
PAT (Lamar Cobb) hW  
Pittsburgh – PAT (David Pugh) hW

**2001 (5 punts, 0 PAT, 2 FG)**

W. Michigan – punt+ (Wayne Ward) hW  
Rutgers – punt@ (Eric Green) aW  
UCF – punt@ (Brandon Manning) hW  
Pittsburgh – FG\* (Lamar Cobb) aL  
Virginia – punt (Wayne Ward) aW  
Miami – FG# (David Pugh);  
punt\* (Eric Green) hL

**2002 (2 punts, 0 PAT, 1 FG)**

LSU – punt+ (Justin Hamilton);  
punt@ (Jason Lallis) hW  
Marshall – FG+ (Team) hW

\*recovered or returned for touchdown +led to TD @led to safety #led to FG ^led to a two-point defensive extra point

**UP FOR GRABS**

☛The competition continues to be close for several positions on the Virginia Tech depth chart, including the rover and whip linebacker spots.

Senior **Billy Hardee** (Winter Haven, Fla.) and redshirt junior **Michael Crawford** (Baltimore, Md.) took turns holding the top spot at the rover position during the preseason before Crawford got the nod for the opener. Crawford has posted 10 tackles and Hardee seven during the first three games. Hardee was making good progress at rover in 2001 before he was sidelined for six games by a knee injury. Crawford, who saw some reserve action at rover, was making a strong push for the position during the spring before suffering an ankle injury.

**Mike Daniels** (Fairfax, Va.), who started the final four games of the 2001 season at whip linebacker, is battling fellow redshirt sophomore **Brandon Manning** (Harrisburg, Pa.) for the starting duties this fall. Manning started the first two games and is tied for third on the team in tackles with 19. Daniels, who was slowed during the preseason by a hamstring injury, started the Marshall game and has a total of eight tackles for the season.

**READY FOR HIS TURN**

☛Redshirt junior tight end **Keith Willis** (Norfolk, Va.) is anxious to prove what he can do after working behind veterans Browning Wynn and Bob Slowikowski the past two seasons. Willis, who has bulked up to 254 pounds, was one of three offensive players to meet all six of his goals in preseason strength and conditioning tests. He increased his bench press to 390 pounds, best among the tight ends. He also led the position with a 32-inch vertical jump. Willis had a 15-yard reception in the opening game with Arkansas State and added a 7-yard catch in the Hokies' win against LSU.

**VEGAS**

☛Defensive coordinator Bud Foster had some big shoes to fill at the backer position, but he may have hit the jackpot with **Vegas Robinson** (Chesapeake, Va.). Robinson has taken over the spot held by Ben Taylor, a two-time All-American and Butkus Award semi-finalist.

In Robinson, the Hokies have a physical, athletic player with all the tools to follow in Taylor's footsteps. The 6-0, 245-pound redshirt junior attained Elite Athlete status during the spring when he turned in a 370-pound bench press, a 600-pound back squat, a 39 1/2-inch vertical jump and a 4.47 second clocking in the 40-yard dash.

Robinson saw action on just 78 defensive plays last season, posting 14 tackles. He has been in on 140 plays this season, contributing 19 tackles and a pass interception.

**2002 START CHART**

<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Offense (starts)</b>
<b>SE</b>	Ernest Wilford (3)
<b>LT</b>	Anthony Davis (3)
<b>LG</b>	James Miller (2) Jacob Gibson (1)
<b>C</b>	Jake Grove (3)
<b>RG</b>	Luke Owens (3)
<b>RT</b>	Jon Dunn (3)
<b>TE</b>	Keith Willis (3)
<b>QB</b>	Grant Noel (2) Bryan Randall (1)
<b>FB</b>	Doug Easlick (3)
<b>TB</b>	Lee Suggs (3)
<b>FL</b>	Shawn Witten (3)
<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Defense (starts)</b>
<b>E</b>	Nathaniel Adibi (3)
<b>T</b>	Kevin Lewis (3)
<b>T</b>	Jason Lallis (3)
<b>E</b>	Jim Davis (3)
<b>OLB</b>	Brandon Manning (2) Mike Daniels (1)
<b>ILB</b>	Mikal Baaqee (3)
<b>ILB</b>	Vegas Robinson (3)
<b>BC</b>	DeAngelo Hall (3)
<b>FS</b>	Willie Pile (3)
<b>ROV</b>	Michael Crawford (3)
<b>FC</b>	Vincent Fuller (2) Ronyell Whitaker (1)

**WHITAKER RETURNING**

☛Virginia Tech's defensive secondary was rated among the nation's best in several preseason magazines, but the loss of versatile junior cornerback **Eric Green** (Clewiston, Fla.) with a season-ending knee injury and the suspension of All-America corner **Ronyell Whitaker** (Norfolk, Va.) for two games forced Tech to shuffle its lineup briefly.

Whitaker returned to the lineup against Marshall. The 5-9, 192-pound senior was a first-team All-BIG EAST pick last season and was named third-team AP All-America.

During Whitaker's absence, secondary coach Lorenzo Ward started promising sophomore free safety **Vincent Fuller** (Baltimore, Md.) at the field corner spot were Whitaker and Green were both working. Fuller worked extremely well with experienced redshirt junior **Garnell Wilds** (Tampa, Fla.) to solidify the position. Fuller has three pass break-ups and Wilds has 13 tackles.

Fuller will continue to see time at corner while also backing up starter **Willie Pile** (Alexandria, Va.) at free safety. Pile, who is in his third season as a starter, has been rated as one of the top free safeties in Division I-A for the second straight year. The 6-3 senior currently leads the secondary with 21 tackles. True freshman **Jimmy F. Williams** (Hampton, Va.) saw playing time at safety in the opening game and contributed 10 tackles.

**DeAngelo Hall** (Chesapeake, Va.) is the starting boundary corner. The talented sophomore was listed as the best athlete in the BIG EAST by *Street & Smith's* preseason magazine and showed why by returning a punt and an interception for touchdowns in Tech's opening game. Hall has 11 tackles and is ranked fifth nationally in punt returns (21.67 ypr).

Redshirt freshman **D.J. Walton** (Woodbridge, Va.) and true freshman **Cary Wade** (Fairfax, Va.) are also providing help at the corners.

**DON'T FORGET THESE GUYS**

☛Virginia Tech's tailbacks and defensive backfield have been rated among the best units in the nation, but it's hard to overlook the Hokies' defensive ends.

This year's group of ends ranks with the best Tech has had. The veteran group includes redshirt junior **Nathaniel Adibi** (Hampton, Va.), who has played in 27 games, 24 as a starter; senior **Lamar Cobb** (Hurt, Va.), who has played in 30 games, 20 as a starter; redshirt junior **Cols Colas** (Plantation, Fla.), who has played in 25 games, four as a starter; and junior **Jim Davis** (Highland Springs, Va.), who has played in 24 games, six as a starter.

Last season, those four players combined for 49 quarterback hurries, 25 tackles for loss and 11 of the Hokies' 30 sacks. Those numbers are expected to improve this season.

Davis is a play-maker who is being counted on for a big year. Last year, he tied for the team lead in sacks with 4.5, intercepted a pass and returned it for a touchdown and forced two fumbles that were returned for TDs. He had six tackles, three sacks and two hurries in Tech's win over LSU.

Adibi, the team's most outstanding leader during 2002 spring practice, finished with 41 tackles and 15 hurries in 2001. He was moved to the stud end position during the spring to get him and Davis on the field at the same time. He has five tackles and five hurries in 2002.

Colas sees a lot of playing time at the stud end, too. His power and explosive speed – 390 bench press and 4.41 forty – make him hard to handle on the corner. He led the team with 17 hurries last fall and added 3.5 sacks. He had four hurries versus LSU and leads the team with six.

Cobb led the defensive ends in tackles last season with 46 and had 11 hurries. He registered four tackles and one hurry during the LSU game.

**PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

Nathaniel ADIBI .....	uh-DEE-bee
MIKAL BAAQEE .....	meh-CALL bah-KEY
Chris BUIE .....	BOO-ee
John CANDELAS .....	can-DELL-us
COLS COLAS .....	coles CO-las
Billy HARDEE .....	har-DEE
Mike IMOH .....	EEE-moh
Ken KEISTER .....	KEES-ter
Jason LALLIS .....	LAH-liss
Alex MARKOGIANNAKIS .....	marko-gee-an-knock-us
Jared MAZZETTA .....	muh-ZEH-tah
Jon MOLLERUP .....	MAH-ler-up
Grant NOEL .....	knoll
Chris PANNELL .....	puh-NELL
Robert PEASLEE .....	PEESE-lee
Tim SANDIDGE .....	SAN-didge
Chris SHREVE .....	shreev
Carter WARLEY .....	WOR-lee

**ON THE RECEIVING END**

☛A lot of attention was paid to the receiving positions during the spring and preseason as Tech looked to replace veteran wideouts André Davis and Emmett Johnson.

A variety of players saw action in the Hokies' first three games with senior **Shawn Witten** (Elizabethton, Tenn.) and redshirt junior **Ernest Wilford** (Richmond, Va.) getting the starts at flanker and split end, respectively. Witten, who started seven games last season before suffering a broken leg at Pittsburgh, has caught four passes for 63 yards, while Wilford has four grabs for 75 yards.

True freshman **Mike Imoh** (Fairfax, Va.), who saw action at flanker against ASU, has four catches for 28 yards and a touchdown.

**Richard Johnson** (r-So.; Baltimore, Md.), **Chris Shreve** (r-Jr.; Mouth of Wilson, Va.), **Justin Hamilton** (r-Fr.; Clintwood, Va.) and **Chris Clifton** (r-Fr.; Chesapeake, Va.) have all seen playing time during the first two games. **Terrell Parham** (r-Jr.; Bartow, Fla.), who caught 14 passes in 2001, has played against LSU and Marshall.

**CLEARING THE WAY**

☛Leading the charge for Tech's highly-touted running backs is an offensive line that ranks among the largest in school history. The unit is anchored by 6-3, 292-pound **Jake Grove** (r-Jr.; Forest, Va.) who moved to center this year after starting every game at guard last season. Also back from last year's starting lineup are 6-4, 322-pound left tackle **Anthony Davis** (Victoria, Va.) and 6-3, 310-pound right guard **Luke Owens** (Grundy, Va.).

**Jon Dunn** (Virginia Beach, Va.), a 6-7, 319-pound redshirt sophomore is the starter at right tackle, while 6-6, 304-pound **James Miller** (So.; Pompano Beach, Fla.) and 6-4, 302-pound **Jacob Gibson** (r-Jr.; Rocky Mount, Va.) have both seen starting time at left guard.

Guards **Will Montgomery** (r-Fr.; Clifton, Va.) and **Anthony Nelson** (r-Jr.; Kingsport, Tenn.), tackles **Reggie Butler** (Fr.; Keswick, Va.) and **Jimmy Martin** (Fr.; Chantilly, Va.) and centers **Robert Ramsey** (r-So.; Coraopolis, Pa.) and **Danny McGrath** (Fr.; Herndon, Va.) provide solid depth along the offensive front.

### FRESH FACES

☛ Eleven true freshmen are dressing for the Hokies this season. True freshmen who dress on offense are tackles **Reggie Butler** (Keswick, Va.) and **Jimmy Martin** (Fairfax, Va.), center **Danny McGrath** (Herndon, Va.), flanker **Mike Imoh** (Fairfax, Va.), quarterback **Marcus Vick** (Newport News, Va.) and tailback **John Candelas** (Blacksburg, Va.). The true freshmen on defense who are dressing are end **Darryl Tapp** (Chesapeake, Va.), tackle **Jonathan Lewis** (Richmond, Va.), cornerback **Cary Wade** (Fairfax, Va.) and safety **Jimmy F. Williams** (Hampton, Va.). Freshman place-kicker/punter **Nic Schmitt** (Salem, Va.) rounds out the group. All but Schmitt and Vick have played.

☛ The busiest of the true freshmen has been **Darryl Tapp**, who is a starter on five different special teams and has also seen action at defensive end. Tapp has played 50 snaps at end and 66 plays on special teams. Defensive tackle **Jonathan Lewis** has also been busy with 77 plays at tackle and 22 on special teams.

### THE OTHER BACKS

☛ While tailbacks **Lee Suggs** and **Kevin Jones** are stealing all the headlines, **Doug Easlick** (r-Jr.; Marlton, N.J.), **Cedric Humes** (r-Fr.; Virginia Beach, Va.) and **Josh Spence** (r-So.; Riner, Va.) are quietly battling for the fullback duties.

All three have seen action in the first three games with Easlick getting the starting nod. Easlick has rushed five times for 33 yards and caught three passes for 18 yards. Humes, who worked some at both fullback and tailback during the Arkansas State game, has rushed for 55 yards on 12 carries. He also has two pass receptions for 18 yards. Spence has also seen his share of playing time and has gained 26 yards rushing on four carries.

### NUMBERS GAME

☛ Marshall's 36 pass completions were the most ever against a Tech team. The previous record was 34, set by William & Mary in 1982 and equalled by East Carolina in 1992. Marshall quarterback Byron Leftwich finished with 31 completions, the most by an individual against the Hokies. Danny McCoin of Cincinnati had 30 completions against Tech in 1986, while East Carolina's Marcus Crandell had 30 versus Tech in 1994.

☛ Senior tailback **Lee Suggs** (Roanoke, Va.) has carried the football 337 consecutive times without fumbling. Officially, Suggs has just one fumble in 331 career carries, but that does not include his 20 carries in the 2000 Toyota Gator Bowl. In all, he's carried the ball 351 times in his career with just one fumble, which came against Rutgers on his 14th carry of the 1999 season. He has not fumbled since becoming a starter.

☛ Punter **Vinnie Burns** (New Orleans, La.) is currently ranked 14th nationally in punting with a 43.6-yard average. Eight of Burns' 15 punts have covered more than 40 yards.

☛ Linebacker **Mikal Baaqee** (Columbia, Md.) registered his first collegiate interception against Marshall. Baaqee currently leads the Tech team in tackles with 23.

☛ Tech held Arkansas State to 24 yards rushing. That was the lowest rushing total by a Tech foe in an opening game since 1980 when Wake Forest had just three yards.

☛ Forty-three of the last 48 passes caught by Virginia Tech tight ends have produced first downs.

☛ Since the start of BIG EAST Conference round-robin play in 1993, Tech is 61-3 when it rushes for 200 yards or more.

### BIG EAST HONORS

☛ Sophomore tailback **Kevin Jones** (Chester, Pa.) was named the BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Week for his showing against No. 16 Marshall. Jones carried 24 times for 171 yards and three touchdowns in Tech's 47-21 win. Two of his TDs came in the first half to help the Hokies build a 20-0 lead.

☛ **Mikal Baaqee** (Columbia, Md.) was named BIG EAST Co-Defensive Player of the Week after the Hokies' win against Marshall. The redshirt sophomore linebacker set up Tech's second touchdown with an interception. He also contributed three solo tackles, six assists and a pass broken up.

☛ Junior defensive end **Jim Davis** (Highland Springs, Va.) was named BIG EAST Co-Defensive Player of the Week after posting six tackles, three sacks and two hurries against LSU. Davis was the first Tech player to have three sacks in a game since 1999 when rover Cory Bird had three versus Boston College.

☛ Punter **Vinnie Burns** (New Orleans, La.) enjoyed his best career punting day as a Hokie against a team from his home state. Burns was named the BIG EAST Special Teams Player of the Week after averaging a personal-best 44.7 yards per punt against LSU. Four of Burns' nine punts covered 50 yards or more and four were placed inside the Tigers' 20-yard line.

### NEW LEADER

☛ The 2002 season is Bryan Stinespring's 10th year as a full-time coach on Frank Beamer's staff at Tech, but it is his first as offensive coordinator. Stinespring was promoted to the position in December and handled those duties during Tech's Gator Bowl game against Florida State.

### ALIVE AND KICKING

☛ Redshirt junior kicker **Carter Warley** (Richmond, Va.) is coming off excellent spring and preseason practices after experiencing some ups and downs last season. Warley connected on just 11 of his 21 field goal attempts in 2001, but has been extremely accurate since then. So far this season, Warley is 17-for-17 on extra points and 3 of 4 on field goals. All four of his field goal attempts this season have come from 40 or more yards. Prior to this season, he was just 2-for-7 from 40 or more yards.

### TODAY'S GAME ON RADIO

☛ Today's game can be heard on radio stations throughout Virginia and the mid-Atlantic region on the Virginia Tech ISP Sports Network. Bill Roth (play-by-play), Mike Burnop (analyst) and Cory Provus (studio host) comprise Tech's football broadcast crew. Coverage begins 90-minutes prior to kickoff with Virginia Tech Gameday and continues 90-minutes following the game with the Kroger Point After. For a complete list of radio stations, please consult Tech's football media guide or the Fan's Guide to Radio and TV on [hokiesports.com](http://hokiesports.com).

### ISP SPORTS TELEVISION

☛ Highlights of today's game, post-game interviews and other features can be seen on Virginia Tech Sports Today, Tech's weekly television magazine show presented by ISP Sports. The show, featuring Tech coach Frank Beamer with host Bill Roth, can be seen every Sunday on a network of stations throughout the Commonwealth: Washington D.C. (Newschannel 8, Sunday, 10 a.m.), Norfolk (WAVY-TV, Sunday, 10 a.m.), Richmond (WRIC-TV, Sunday, 1 p.m.), Roanoke (WSLS-TV, Sunday 10 a.m.), Bristol-Johnson City (WCYB, Sunday 9:30 a.m.). The show is also shown on Comcast SportsNet every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.

### 2002 Preseason Notes

**Virginia Tech was picked** to finish second in the BIG EAST Conference in 2002 based on a poll of media representatives who cover the league on a regular basis. The Hokies were picked behind defending national champion Miami, which received all 24 first-place votes for a total of 192 points. Tech garnered 152 points in the voting. Syracuse was picked to finish third with 133 points. The Orangemen were followed in the voting by Boston College (130), Pittsburgh (110), West Virginia (64), Temple (50) and Rutgers (33).

**Tech's preseason ranking** of 16th from both The Associated Press and the *USA Today/Coaches'* polls marks the fourth consecutive year that the Hokies have started a season ranked by both major polls. The Hokies have now started eight of the last nine seasons ranked in at least one of the two polls.

**Virginia Tech's defensive secondary** was rated the No. 10 defensive backfield in the Division I-A ranks by *The Sporting News* and *Lindy's*. The Hokies' running backs were rated the best in the BIG EAST by both *TSN* and *Athlon Sports*.

**Tailback Lee Suggs** was named to the preseason *Playboy* All-America team, while senior cornerback Ronyell Whitaker was picked first-team preseason All-America by *Athlon Sports*.

**Virginia Tech was forced to cancel two practices** when an outbreak of a flu-like virus sidelined a number of players. Two players became ill on Saturday, Aug. 10, and by Thursday, Aug. 15 – the final day of Tech's two-a-day practices – 43 players, two coaches, two trainers, a manager and a videographer had developed symptoms of the virus. The Hokies did not practice on the 15th, but were able to resume workouts on the afternoon of Aug. 16.

**Individual player preseason rankings** saw Tech tailback Lee Suggs rated the No. 5 running back in Division I-A by *The Sporting News*. Suggs' runningmate at tailback, Kevin Jones, was named the No. 12 running back by *Lindy's* and the No. 18 back by *TSN*. Junior Jake Grove was selected the No. 6 center in the nation by *The Sporting News*, while senior Ronyell Whitaker was picked the No. 8 cornerback by *TSN* and the No. 10 cornerback by *Lindy's*. Willie Pile was listed as the 10th-best safety in Division I-A by *The Sporting News* and the No. 13 safety by *Lindy's*. Offensive linemen Anthony Davis and Luke Owens were both ranked by *TSN*. Davis was listed as the No. 21 tackle and Owens the No. 23 guard.

**The Hokies lost cornerback Eric Green** for the season when he suffered a torn ACL in his left knee during a personal workout in late July. Green, a junior from Clewiston, Fla., has a redshirt year available. He was expected to challenge for the starting job at field corner and also be one of the Hokies' top special team performers.

**Game 1**

**Fast Start Leads To 63-7 Tech Win Over Arkansas State**

Aug. 25, 2002 • Lane Stadium/Worsham Field • Attendance 54,016

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Virginia Tech scored 35 points in the first quarter on the way to a 63-7 season-opening victory against Arkansas State in the Hispanic College Fund Football Classic at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field.

Sophomore DeAngelo Hall scored two of Tech's first three touchdowns, returning a punt 69 yards for the Hokies' first score and racing 49 yards with an interception for the team's third TD. Tech's No. 2 quarterback, Bryan Randall, accounted for three touchdowns during the game, scoring on runs of 12 and 5 yards and tossing a 19-yard touchdown pass.

Defensively, the Hokies held ASU to 24 yards on the ground and 227 yards overall. Tech's offense accounted for 387 total yards, including 288 yards rushing.

Arkansas St.	0	0	7	0	—	7
Virginia Tech	35	21	7	0	—	63

- VT (12:40 re 1st) — Hall 69 punt return (Warley kick)
- VT (9:47 re 1st) — Suggs 32 run (Warley kick)
- VT (6:05 re 1st) — Hall 49 interception return (Warley kick)
- VT (5:50 re 1st) — King 19 pass from Noel (Warley kick)
- VT (2:11 re 1st) — Jones 19 run (Warley kick)
- VT (12:14 re 2nd) — Randall 12 run (Warley kick)
- VT (9:50 re 2nd) — Lallis 59 fumble return (Warley kick)
- VT (5:43 re 2nd) — Imoh 19 pass from Randall (Warley kick)
- ASU (11:06 re 3rd) — Cox 73 pass from Jacobs (Neihouse kick)
- VT (7:02 re 3rd) — Randall 5 run (Warley kick)

<b>Team Stats</b>	<b>ASU</b>	<b>VT</b>
First downs	10	21
Rushes-yds.	33-24	41-288
Passing yds.	203	99
Return yds.	22	196
Passes	14-27-1	11-18-0
Punts-avg.	9-43	5-41
Fumbles-lost	6-4	1-1
Penalties-yds.	8-72	10-82
Time of poss.	31:47	28:13
Sacks by	1-16	1-8

**Individual Leaders**

Rushing — ASU, Smith 17-36, Stegall 6-12, Warren 4-(-4), Team 1-(-6), Jacobs 4-(-6), Miller 1-(-8); VT, Suggs 7-87, Humes 10-52, Randall 5-36, Jones 4-31, Imoh 4-22, Spence 3-21, Easlick 1-15, Candelas 5-15, Hunt 1-11, Noel 1-(-2).

Passing — ASU, Jacobs 9-16-0-177, Miller 5-11-1-26; VT, Randall 6-8-0-66, Hunt 3-5-0-9, Noel 2-5-0-24.

Receiving — ASU, Cox 5-120, Hickenbotham 2-39, Wood 2-17, Smith 2-13, Stegall 1-9, Mack 1-3, C. Walker 1-2; VT, Imoh 4-28, King 1-19, Wilford 1-15, Willis 1-15, Witten 1-11, Hamilton 1-5, Easlick 1-5, Humes 1-1.

**A CLOSER LOOK**

☛Virginia Tech's 56 points in the first half against Arkansas State marked the most points in a half for a Tech squad during the modern era (since 1950). It also ranked as the second-highest point total in a half by a BIG EAST Conference team behind the 59 points scored by West Virginia against Rutgers last season. The Hokies' 35 first-quarter points against the Indians tied modern day school and BIG EAST Conference marks for points in a quarter.

☛Tech's 63 points in the ASU game were the most points scored by the Hokies in a season opening game since Tech defeated Roanoke College 86-0 to open the 1905 season. The last time Tech scored more points in a game was a 77-27 win over Akron in 1995.

☛Each of the Hokies' first four touchdowns against ASU were scored in a different manner. Tech scored on a punt return, a rushing play, an interception and a pass play. The Hokies also had a fumble return for a TD later in the game. Special teams, offense and defense each contributed one of Tech's first three scores.

☛Eleven Tech players made their first collegiate starts in the Arkansas State game. The first-time starters on offense were guard **James Miller** (Pompano Beach, Fla.), tackle **Jon Dunn** (Virginia Beach, Va.), tight end **Keith Willis** (Norfolk, Va.) and fullback **Doug Easlick** (Marlton, N.J.). Starting for the first time on defense were tackles **Kevin Lewis** (Richmond, Va.) and **Jason Lallis** (Mitchellville, Md.), linebackers **Brandon Manning** (Harrisburg, Pa.), **Vegas Robinson** (Chesapeake, Va.) and **Mikal Baaqee** (Columbia, Md.), rover **Michael Crawford** (Baltimore, Md.) and cornerback **Vincent Fuller** (Baltimore, Md.).

**Game 2**

**Hokies Post Victory Over Defending SEC Champs LSU**

Sept. 1, 2002 • Lane Stadium/Worsham Field • Attendance 65,049

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Sixteenth-ranked Virginia Tech used a strong defense and an opportunistic offense to defeat No. 14 Louisiana State, 26-8, in front of a state-record crowd of 65,049 at Lane Stadium/Worsham Field.

Tech capitalized on good field position to build a 14-0 advantage in the first half. A 17-yard punt return by sophomore DeAngelo Hall put the Hokies at the LSU 27 late in the first quarter. From there, it took Tech just six plays to score its first touchdown. A blocked punt gave the Hokies the football at the LSU 29 less than two minutes into the second quarter. A 6-yard TD run by Lee Suggs capped a four-play drive.

Defensively, the Hokies kept the pressure on LSU quarterback Matt Mauck, registering four quarterback sacks and 14 hurries. Tech limited the Tigers to 80 yards on the ground and 214 yards overall. LSU converted on just one of 13 third-down plays during the contest. A pass interception by linebacker Vegas Robinson set up Tech's last touchdown.

Suggs led the Hokies with 91 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 22 carries.

Louisiana State	0	0	0	8	—	8
Virginia Tech	7	7	3	9	—	26

- VT (0:30 re 1st) — Jones 2 run (Warley kick)
- VT (12:58 re 2nd) — Suggs 6 run (Warley kick)
- VT (11:22 re 3rd) — FG Warley 41
- VT (14:02 re 4th) — Suggs 2 run (Warley kick)
- LSU (10:00 re 4th) — Toefield 1 run (Clayton pass from Mauck)
- VT (0:05 re 4th) — safety, punt blocked out of end zone

<b>Team Stats</b>	<b>LSU</b>	<b>VT</b>
First downs	14	13
Rushes-yds.	28-80	32-166
Passing yds.	134	65
Return yds.	52	68
Passes	15-35-1	7-14-0
Punts-avg.	9-27	9-45
Fumbles-lost	4-1	4-1
Penalties-yds.	8-61	8-65
Time of poss.	25:56	34:04
Sacks by	3-21	4-20

**Individual Leaders**

Rushing — LSU, Toefield 10-46, Davis 7-23, Mauck 10-6, Addai 1-5; VT, Suggs 22-91, Jones 14-70, Randall 14-6, Team 1-(-1).

Passing — LSU, Mauck 15-35-1-134; VT, Randall 5-9-0-47, Noel 2-5-18-0.

Receiving — LSU, Clayton 5-49, Toefield 3-20, Brazell 1-12, Edwards 1-11, Henderson 1-10, Carey 1-9, Addai 1-9, Davis 1-8, Myers 1-6; VT, Humes 1-17, Parham 1-11, Wilford 1-11, Witten 1-8, Willis 1-7, Suggs 1-6, Easlick 1-5.

**A CLOSER LOOK**

☛ Louisiana State, which was ranked 14th in the Associated Press poll, was the highest-ranked team in the AP poll that Virginia Tech has defeated since a 28-10 win over No. 9 Texas in the 1995 Sugar Bowl game. The last time Tech beat a higher ranked team in Blacksburg was during the 1964 season when the Hokies downed No. 10-ranked Florida State by a score of 20-11. That game was played at Miles Stadium.

☛ The attendance of 65,049 for the Tech-LSU game set new state and Tech records for the largest crowd to see a football game. The previous attendance record for the commonwealth of Virginia was 61,625 set during last season's game between Virginia Tech and Virginia in Charlottesville. The former Tech mark was set during the 2000 season when all six home games were sell-outs of 56,272.

☛ Redshirt freshman **Justin Hamilton** (Clintwood, Va.) and redshirt sophomore **Jason Lallis** (Mitchellville, Md.) both blocked punts during the Hokies' win over LSU. Hamilton's block in the second quarter set up Tech's second touchdown of the game, while Lallis' block in the fourth quarter resulted in a safety. It marked the 17th time in Frank Beamer's tenure as head coach that the special teams unit posted two blocks in a game.

☛ Only three players had rushing carries for the Hokies during the LSU game. The last time Tech only had three players carry the football in a game was during a 1994 game with Virginia.

☛ Tech's 231 yards of total offense against LSU ranks as the lowest total for the Hokies in a victory since gaining just 206 yards during a 1999 win at Pittsburgh.

# TECH OFFENSIVE DEPTH CHART

First Team	Second Team
<p><b>SE 19 Ernest Wilford</b> ..... (6-4, 217, r-Jr.) Caught a 39-yard pass vs. Marshall ... Had 2 catches in the game ... Had a catch for 11 yards vs. LSU ... A huge target at receiver</p>	<p><b>SE 27 Justin Hamilton</b> ..... (6-3, 209, r-Fr.) Tied at No. 2 with senior Terrell Parham ... Caught a 5-yard pass against Arkansas State ... Blocked a punt in the win over LSU</p>
<p><b>LT 57 Anthony Davis</b> ..... (6-4, 322, Sr.) Started all 3 games this year ... Averaged 59 snaps a game on offense last year ... Graded out at 84% with 5 knockdowns vs. MU</p>	<p><b>LT 61 Reggie Butler</b> ..... (6-5, 330, Fr.) Saw significant action against Arkansas State, playing 34 snaps ... A big, physical presence on the line ... Recorded a 500-lb. squat</p>
<p><b>LG 76 James Miller</b> ..... (6-6, 304, So.) Started the 1st 2 games this year ... Saw action on 49 plays against LSU ... Graded out at 84% on 38 snaps against Marshall</p>	<p><b>OR LG 60 Jacob Gibson</b> ..... (6-4, 302, r-Jr.) Got the start vs. MU ... Graded out at 92% vs. LSU ... Considered the "utility player" of the line ... Can play either guard or tackle spot</p>
<p><b>C 64 Jake Grove</b> ..... (6-3, 292, r-Jr.) Started all 3 games this year ... Graded out at 86% vs. Arkansas State ... Had 6 knockdowns vs. LSU ... Graded out at 93% vs. MU</p>	<p><b>C 68 Robert Ramsey</b> ..... (6-3, 296, r-So.) Saw significant action against Arkansas State, playing 34 snaps ... Saw limited action vs. MU ... Has a solid grasp of VT's offense</p>
<p><b>RG 74 Luke Owens</b> ..... (6-3, 310, r-Sr.) Started both games this year ... Graded out at 84.9% last year with 48 knockdown blocks ... Moves over from the left guard spot</p>	<p><b>RG 66 Will Montgomery</b> ..... (6-3, 294, r-Fr.) A former invited walk-on who earned a scholarship this past offseason ... Saw significant action against Arkansas State</p>
<p><b>RT 79 Jon Dunn</b> ..... (6-7, 319, r-So.) Graded at 89% vs. Arkansas State ... Had 5 knockdowns vs. MU ... The biggest player on the team ... Started all 3 games this year</p>	<p><b>RT 52 Jimmy Martin</b> ..... (6-5, 269, Fr.) A standout lineman at Fork Union Military Academy in 2001 ... Saw significant action against Arkansas State, playing 34 snaps</p>
<p><b>TE 86 Keith Willis</b> ..... (6-5, 254, r-Jr.) Has waited his turn and is ready to take over the starting job ... An athletic TE with good hands ... Had 1 catch for 19 yards vs. ASU</p>	<p><b>TE 90 Jeff King</b> ..... (6-5, 252, r-Fr.) Caught his first career pass and touchdown pass against Arkansas State, a 19-yarder ... The biggest of the three main tight ends</p>
<p><b>QB 3 Bryan Randall</b> ..... (6-0, 213, So.) Directed 8 scoring drives vs. Marshall ... Directed 4 scoring drives vs. LSU ... Ran for 2 TDs and threw for 1 against Arkansas State</p>	<p><b>QB 11 Grant Noel</b> ..... (6-2, 221, r-Sr.) Had surgery on Sept. 3 to clean up his left knee ... Is probable for the Texas A&amp;M game ... Playing with slightly-torn ACL in left knee</p>
<p><b>FB 43 Doug Easlick</b> ..... (5-11, 235, r-Jr.) Had an 18-yard run vs. Marshall ... Blocked well in all 3 games ... Had a 15-yard run vs. ASU ... A former walk-on ... A physical back</p>	<p><b>FB 32 Cedric Humes</b> ..... (6-1, 218, r-Fr.) Moved to FB from TB following spring ... Had 10 rushes for 52 yards against Arkansas State ... A great runner with breakaway speed</p>
<p><b>TB 22 Lee Suggs</b> ..... (6-0, 198, r-Sr.) Ran for 153 yards and 2 TDs vs. MU ... Ran for 91 yards and 2 TDs vs. LSU ... Virginia Tech's all-time touchdown leader with 36</p>	<p><b>TB 7 Kevin Jones</b> ..... (6-0, 212, So.) Ran for 171 yards and 3 TDs vs. MU ... Ran for 70 yards and a TD vs. LSU ... Had a 34-yard run ... BIG EAST Rookie of the Year in '01</p>
<p><b>FL 26 Shawn Witten</b> ..... (6-0, 192, Sr.) Has the best hands and runs the best routes of any receiver ... Had 16 catches and 161 yds. before breaking his leg vs. Pitt in '01</p>	<p><b>FL 12 Richard Johnson</b> ..... (5-11, 180, r-So.) Looking to make a big impact this year after struggling with a hamstring injury most of last year ... Also returns kickoffs</p>
<p><b>PK 49 Carter Warley</b> ..... (5-11, 189, r-Jr.) All-BIG EAST in 2000 ... Is 17 of 17 on PATs this year ... Is 2 for 3 on field goals ... Kicked FGs of 42 and 43 yards against Marshall</p>	<p><b>PK 23 Nic Schmitt</b> ..... (6-3, 238, Fr.) A talented young kicker with a strong leg ... Impressed the coaches in preseason practices ... Likely to redshirt this year unless needed</p>

# TECH DEFENSIVE DEPTH CHART

First Team	Second Team
<p><b>DE 83 Nathaniel Adibi</b> ..... (6-3, 261, r-Jr.) Had 2 tackles, 1 QBH and a PBU vs. Arkansas State ... Recorded 2 solo stops and 2 QB hurries vs. LSU ... Had a sack vs. Marshall</p>	<p><b>OR DE 99 Cols Colas</b> ..... (6-0, 239, r-Jr.) Had 4 QB hurries and a sack vs. LSU ... Had a tackle, a QBH and a TFL vs. Arkansas State ... Had 2 solo stops and a QBH vs. Marshall</p>
<p><b>DT 70 Kevin Lewis</b> ..... (6-1, 287, r-So.) Had 3 solo stops, 3 assists, a TFL, a sack and a forced fumble vs. Arkansas State ... Had 5 tackles and 2 QB hurries against LSU</p>	<p><b>DT 71 Tim Sandidge</b> ..... (6-1, 273, r-Fr.) Had a sack and a PBU against Marshall before spraining his ankle ... Had 3 tackles and a FR vs. Arkansas St. ... Redshirted last year</p>
<p><b>DT 91 Jason Lallis</b> ..... (6-0, 254, r-So.) Returned a fumble 59 yards for a TD against Arkansas State in his 1st start ... Had 6 tackles and a QB hurry in the win over LSU</p>	<p><b>DT 56 Jonathan Lewis</b> ..... (6-1, 3000, Fr.) Had 2 solo stops against LSU ... Had 5 tackles and a TFL vs. Arkansas State ... Had 2 solo stops, 1 TFL, vs. Marshall</p>
<p><b>DE 95 Jim Davis</b> ..... (6-3, 265, Jr.) Had 2 solo tackles vs. Marshall ... Had a team-high 3 sacks vs. LSU ... Had 6 total stops, 1 TFL, 2 QB hurries and caused a fumble</p>	<p><b>DE 58 Darryl Tapp</b> ..... (6-1, 234, Fr.) Had 3 solo stops, 2 assists and a QBH vs. Arkansas State ... Had an assist in the win over LSU ... Starts on 5 special teams units</p>
<p><b>LB 48 Brandon Manning</b> ..... (6-0, 214, r-So.) Registered 9 total stops against LSU ... Also recovered a fumble ... Recorded 6 stops, a TFL and a PBU in his 1st career start (ASU)</p>	<p><b>LB 31 Mike Daniels</b> ..... (6-0, 201, r-So.) Got the start vs. Marshall ... Had 5 tackles — two solo — vs. the Herd ... Had 2 solo stops and a TFL against Arkansas State</p>
<p><b>LB 45 Mikal Baaqee</b> ..... (5-10, 217, r-So.) Earns the lunch pail for this week ... Had a team-high 10 stops vs. LSU ... Had 9 tackles — 3 solo — and an INT vs. Marshall</p>	<p><b>LB 39 Alex Markogiannakis</b> .... (5-9, 204, r-Sr.) Had 3 solo stops and a TFL against Arkansas State ... Also recovered a fumble ... Saw limited action vs. LSU and Marshall</p>
<p><b>LB 6 Vegas Robinson</b> ..... (6-0, 245, r-Jr.) Had 7 tackles and recovered a fumble vs. Marshall ... Had 9 total stops against LSU ... Also had 2 QB hurries and recorded an INT</p>	<p><b>LB 47 James Anderson</b> ..... (6-3, 222, r-Fr.) Had a solo stop and an assist against Arkansas State ... Had 3 tackles and caused a fumble vs. LSU ... Had 2 solo stops vs. MU</p>
<p><b>BC 4 DeAngelo Hall</b> ..... (5-11, 194, So.) Had 7 total tackles vs. LSU ... Also had a PBU ... Returned a punt and an INT for TDs vs. ASU ... Also had a solo stop on defense</p>	<p><b>BC 17 Garnell Wilds</b> ..... (5-11, 192, r-Jr.) Recorded 4 tackles against LSU ... Had 2 PBUs ... Had a solo stop against Arkansas State ... Had 4 total stops against Marshall</p>
<p><b>FS 35 Willie Pile</b> ..... (6-3, 211, r-Sr.) Had 10 tackles vs. Marshall ... Had 7 total tackles against LSU ... Also broke up a pass ... Has 10 INTs in 2+ seasons as a starter</p>	<p><b>FS 18 Jimmy F. Williams</b> ..... (6-2, 203, Fr.) Had a big game in his 1st collegiate action ... Played 37 snaps on defense, registering 5 solo stops, 5 assists and a pass broken up</p>
<p><b>ROV 21 Michael Crawford</b> ..... (5-11, 206, r-Jr.) Had 6 total stops vs. Marshall ... Had a 2 stops vs. Arkansas State ... Had 2 total tackles vs. LSU ... Played 34 snaps in that game</p>	<p><b>ROV 25 Billy Hardee</b> ..... (5-11, 203, r-Sr.) Recovered a fumble and had 2 tackles vs. Marshall ... Had a solo tackle vs. Arkansas State ... Recorded a solo stop vs. LSU</p>
<p><b>FC 2 Ronyell Whitaker</b> ..... (5-9, 192, r-Sr.) Caused a fumble on the 1st drive vs. Marshall ... A third-team All-American last year by AP ... Can also serve as the punt returner</p>	<p><b>FC 8 Vincent Fuller</b> ..... (6-1, 184, r-So.) Had 2 tackles against LSU ... Also broke up a pass and caused a fumble ... Recorded 3 tackles and 2 passes broken up vs. Marshall</p>
<p><b>P 38 Vinnie Burns</b> ..... (5-11, 194, r-So.) Was named the BE ST POW after the LSU game ... Punted 9 times for an avg. of 44.7 yards ... Had a long of 58 yds w/4 inside the 20</p>	<p><b>P 23 Nic Schmitt</b> ..... (6-3, 238, Fr.) Has pressed Burns for playing time in the preseason ... Has a strong leg ... Will likely redshirt this year, unless needed in a pinch</p>

# CHARTING THE HOKIES

## On The Move

<u>Quarterback</u>	<u>Drives</u>				<u>Drives Ended By</u>						<u>Points Scored</u>	<u>Pts. Drive</u>	<u>Drive Efficiency</u>
	<u>Started</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>FG</u>	<u>FGA</u>	<u>Punt</u>	<u>Downs</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>Clock</u>	<u>Safety</u>				
Randall	29	12	3	4	9	0	2	2	0	92	3.2	51.7%	
Noel	6	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	21	3.5	50.0%	
Hunt	5	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0.0	0.0%	
VT Offense	40	15	3	4	12	0	2	4	0	113	2.83	45.0%	
Opp. Offense	43	5	0	1	20	4	10	2	1	35	0.8	11.62%	

## What Happens On First Down

<u>Team</u>	<u>Plays</u>	<u>Yds.</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>Rush</u>	<u>Yds.</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Yds.</u>	<u>Avg.</u>
VT	90	498	5.5	78	432	5.5	15	66	4.4
Opp.	86	418	4.9	44	116	2.6	42	302	7.2

Times Gained 10+ Yards (on any down): VT 40/Opponents 32

Times Gained 5+ Yards (on any down): VT 86/Opponents 69

Negative Yardage Attempts on First Downs: VT 8/Opponents 5

Own Penalty on First Down: VT 6/Opponents 4

## The Money Downs (Results on third- and fourth-down conversions)

Opponents are 10 for 40 (25%) on third-down conversions and 0 for 4 (0%) on fourth-down conversions

Virginia Tech is 15 for 37 (40.5%) on third-down conversions and 2 for 3 (66.7%) on fourth-down conversions

## Capitalizing On Turnovers

Virginia Tech's 2 total turnovers have led to 0 points for the opposition

Opponents' 10 total turnovers have led to 45 points for Virginia Tech

## Field Position

	Virginia Tech	Opponents
Drives Started	40	43
Cumulative Starting Yardlines	1,624	973
Average Starting Field Position	Own 40.6	Own 22.6
Times Started Inside 20	6	15
Drives Started in Plus Territory	12	2

## Kickoffs (20 yards added to average drive started total for touchbacks)

Player	No.	Ret.	FC	OB	TB	EZ+	O-S	Avg. Depth	Avg. Drive Start
Mollerup	23	16	0	0	8	1	0	1.9-yd. line (43)	21.6-yd. line (497)

## Inside The Red Zone

	Virginia Tech	Opponents
Times Penetrated Opponent 20	15	6
Total Scores	14	4
Touchdowns	14	4
Field Goals	0	0
Lost on Downs or Turnovers	1	1
Lost on Missed Field Goals	0	1
Lost on Expiration of Time	0	0
Scoring Percentage	93.3%	66.7%
Scoring Percentage (TDs out of total red zone scores)	100%	100%
Percent of total drives (All Scores In Red Zone)	35%	9.3%

## Longest Scoring Drives:

	By Tech	By Opponent
# Plays	15 (85 yds, 8:02-TD) vs. MU	10 (82 yds, 4:02-TD) by LSU
# Yards	90 (9 pl, 4:18-TD) vs. MU	86 (6 pl, 3:54-TD) by ASU
Possession Time	8:02 (15 pl, 85 yds-TD) vs. MU	4:02 (10 pl, 82 yds-TD) by LSU

## 2002 Virginia Tech Depth Chart for Texas A&M (9/21/02)

### Offense (Multiple)

**SE** 19, Ernest Wilford (6-4, 217, r-Jr.)  
27, Justin Hamilton (6-3, 209, r-Fr.) OR  
9, Terrell Parham (6-0, 195, r-Sr.)

**LT** 57, Anthony Davis (6-4, 322, Sr.)  
61, Reggie Butler (6-5, 330, Fr.)

**LG** 60, Jacob Gibson (6-4, 302, r-Jr.) OR  
76, James Miller (6-6, 304, So.)

**C** 64, Jake Grove (6-4, 292, r-Jr.)  
68, Robert Ramsey (6-3, 296, r-So.)

**RG** 74, Luke Owens (6-3, 310, r-Sr.)  
66, Will Montgomery (6-3, 294, r-Fr.)

**RT** 79, Jon Dunn (6-7, 319, r-So.)  
52, Jimmy Martin (6-5, 269, Fr.)

**TE** 86, Keith Willis (6-5, 254, r-Jr.) OR  
90, Jeff King (6-5, 252, r-Fr.)

**QB** 3, Bryan Randall (6-0, 213, So.)  
11, Grant Noel (6-2, 221, r-Sr.)

**TB** 22, Lee Suggs (6-0, 198, r-Sr.)  
7, Kevin Jones (6-0, 212, So.)

**FB** 43, Doug Easlick (5-11, 235, r-Jr.)  
32, Cedric Humes (6-1, 218, r-Fr.)

**FL** 26, Shawn Witten (6-0, 192, Sr.)  
12, Richard Johnson (5-10, 180, r-So.)

### Defense (4-3)

**DE** 83, Nathaniel Adibi (6-3, 261, r-Jr.) OR  
99, Cols Colas (6-0, 239, r-Jr.)

**DT** 70, Kevin Lewis (6-1, 287, r-So.)  
71, Tim Sandidge (6-1, 273, r-Fr.) OR  
72, Jason Murphy (6-2, 288, r-Fr.)

**DT** 91, Jason Lallis (6-0, 254, r-So.)  
56, Jonathan Lewis (6-1, 300, Fr.)

**DE** 95, Jim Davis (6-3, 265, Jr.)  
58, Darryl Tapp (6-1, 234, Fr.)

**ILB** 6, Vegas Robinson (6-0, 245, r-Jr.)  
47, James Anderson (6-3, 222, r-Fr.)

**ILB** 45, Mikal Baaqee (5-10, 217, r-So.)  
39, Alex Markogiannakis (5-9, 204, r-Sr.)

**OLB** 48, Brandon Manning (6-0, 214, r-So.)  
31, Mike Daniels (6-0, 201, r-So.)

**FC** 2, Ronyell Whitaker (5-9, 192, r-Sr.)  
8, Vincent Fuller (6-1, 184, r-So.)

**ROV** 21, Michael Crawford (5-11, 206, r-Jr.)  
25, Billy Hardee (5-11, 203, r-Sr.)

**FS** 35, Willie Pile (6-3, 211, r-Sr.)  
18, Jimmy F. Williams (6-2, 203, Fr.)

**BC** 4, DeAngelo Hall (5-11, 194, So.)  
17, Garnell Wilds (5-11, 192, r-Jr.)

### Special Teams

**P** 38, Vinnie Burns (5-11, 194, r-So.)  
23, Nic Schmitt (6-2, 238, Fr.)

**FG/PAT** 49, Carter Warley (5-11, 189, r-Jr.)  
23, Nic Schmitt (6-2, 238, Fr.)

**FG/PAT Snap** 55, Ken Keister (6-1, 240, r-Sr.)  
62, Travis Conway (6-5, 257, r-So.)

**FG/PAT Hold** 89, Robert Peaslee (6-1, 199, r-Jr.)  
26, Shawn Witten (6-0, 192, Sr.)

**Punt Snap** 55, Ken Keister (6-1, 240, r-Sr.)  
62, Travis Conway (6-5, 257, r-So.)

**KOs** 97, Jon Mollerup (5-11, 215, r-Sr.)  
23, Nic Schmitt (6-2, 238, Fr.)

**KR** 12, Richard Johnson (5-10, 180, r-So.)  
7, Kevin Jones (6-0, 212, So.) OR  
22, Lee Suggs (6-0, 198, r-Sr.)

**PR** 4, DeAngelo Hall (5-11, 194, So.)  
12, Richard Johnson (5-10, 180, r-So.)