

2003 Football Preview

Friday, August 29, 2003



a special publication by the
COLLEGIATETIMES

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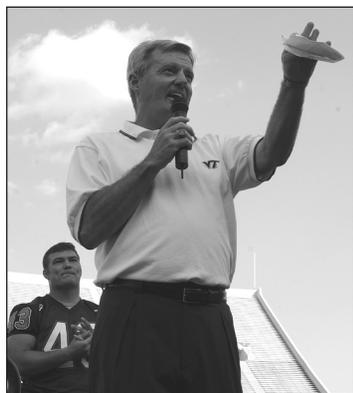
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by Adam Abramson

Chalk talk — Frank Beamer



A. We got a place down on the lake in Georgia — spend part of the year down there, spend part of the year back up here in the mountains. Figure out what time I'm going to play golf each day.

Q. Would you rather have won a national championship as a player or a coach?

A. Well, since my playing days are over, I'm gonna say as a coach. I think that'd be a wonderful feeling for everyone if we could share the highest honor.

Q. Who is the greatest player you have ever coached?

A. I think the greatest all-around player is Michael Vick. That's not to slight any of the other people, but Michael changed this program, changed the Atlanta Falcons, and there's not many people in the world who could do that.

Q. What Tech player from the present or the recent

past reminds you most of yourself during your playing days?

A. Nic Sorenson — I was a quarterback in high school, so was he, and he got called on to be the quarterback here, and he's just a good, smart player, wherever he's called on. He's very unselfish, but he was a smart player. I was a smart player, but I sure as heck didn't have any speed, so I had to be.

Q. If you were stranded on a desert island, what three things would you want to have with you and why, and family doesn't count?

A. A Bible would be one, I think a guide to successful fishing would be one — I feel like I'd need to eat. And then, a nice heavy jacket. And then maybe a pillow.

Q. If your family was throwing a dinner party, if you could invite any three people, past or present, who would they be?

A. Bear Bryant, Billy Graham, Faith Hill.

Q. What are three of the typical CD's in Coach Beamer's CD player?

A. Faith Hill would be there, Shania Twain would be there, and my daughter made me a CD with all my favorite tunes from the 60s. So the one Casey made me.

Q. If you could have coached or played another sport at the collegiate level, what would it have been?

A. I coached baseball in high school, and I wasn't any good at that, so I'm gonna go with basketball.

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Marcus Vick — talented
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National championship — the goal

Q. If you weren't coaching, what would you be doing?

A. I think doing without. Because back when I was back at Murray State coaching, I'd come home, we'd have a bad game or a bad week of practice, and I'd tell my wife 'I gotta figure out something else to do. This coaching stuff is not for me,' and she'd say 'Well what else can you do?' and after I thought about it, I'm not sure there's anything else I could do. If I wasn't coaching, I'd probably be doing without.

Q. What do you plan to do when you retire?

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Leading the pack

by **Jana Renn**
Sports Assistant

For the past two years, Virginia Tech starting quarterback Bryan Randall has spent his pre-seasons trying to prove himself. Beginning both the 2001 and 2002 campaigns as backup to Grant Noel, he knows what it's like to try and steal a starting job.

However, this season, the roles are reversed.

It's no secret to anyone in Blacksburg or in the college football nation for that matter that the true junior is in the driver's seat and up-and-coming, red-shirt freshman Marcus Vick is hot on his tail. However, Randall doesn't feel pressure, but rather takes pleasure in the fact that he must work very hard to keep his job.

"It's good to have somebody like that behind you pushing you," Randall said. "You can never go to sleep on what you're doing, and you always have to be on top of your game. Having a guy that's going to push you everyday to the best of your potential is what you want."

For Randall, there is a sense of ease knowing he is the starter and it is his job to lose.

"I'm more comfortable now than I was the last two years," he said. "It's my third year, and if I'm not ready now, then I'll never be ready."

Having Michael Vick's brother breathing down his back would be enough to threaten anyone, but Randall insists that it is just a little friendly competition. The two are actually friends.

"We're cool on and off the field," he said. "We've got a friendship to where we can chill with each other, hang out or look at film together. Of course on the field it's competition, but I wouldn't expect anything less from us. We're not enemies. We're not here to beat down at each other and see each other do bad; we're here to see each other do well and to push each other."

One thing necessary for any quarterback to excel is a strong offensive line, and Randall has a lot of confidence in the men pro-

tecting him this year.

"The guys have been working hard," he said. "I think this year, we're a little more mature than we were last year, and the guys have been working hard during the off-season to get stronger. Their work ethic has shown me a lot, so I think they're going to be much improved this year."

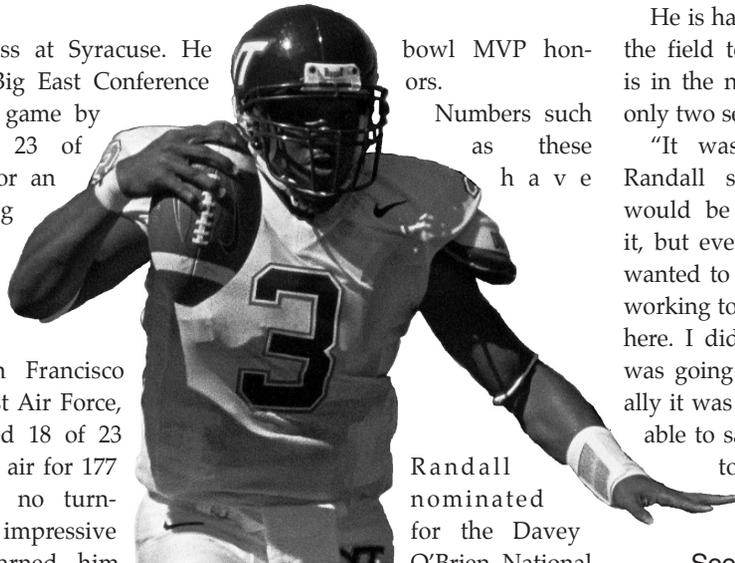
Last year, Randall took over the job of starting quarterback early in the season because of an injury to Noel. He went on to win his first six starts and set a single game school record by throwing five touchdown passes in a triple

overtime loss at Syracuse. He also set a Big East Conference record that game by completing 23 of 25 passes for an astounding 504 yards.

In January's Diamond Walnut San Francisco Bowl against Air Force, he connected 18 of 23 times in the air for 177 yards with no turnovers. The impressive numbers earned him

bowl MVP honors.

Numbers such as these have



Randall nominated for the Davey O'Brien National

Quarterback Award this year, which is given at the end of the season to the top QB in the nation.

He is happy to be excelling on the field to the point where he is in the national spotlight after only two seasons in Blacksburg.

"It was a goal of mine," Randall said. "I knew there would be steps leading up to it, but eventually that's where I wanted to be. That's what I was working towards when I first got here. I didn't know how fast it was going to come, but eventually it was one of my goals to be able to say that I'm one of the top quarterbacks in the nation."

See **RANDALL**, page 9

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Front & center

by **Kumar Malhotra**
Sports Editor

The stereotypical view of an offensive lineman is that of a overweight behemoth who could eat his weight in fried chicken. He is perceived as a huge, slow, mass of flesh whose sole responsibility is to serve as a human shield for the quarterback or running back behind him. He does the dirty work, puts his body on the line

and gets none of the glory.

Virginia Tech center Jack Grove, however, is not a stereotypical lineman.

Standing at 6 feet 3 inches, Grove carries his 300 pounds well across his solid frame. He is a massive physical presence, one who bench presses 490 pounds (highest on the team) and has the ability to move — his time of 4.26 seconds in the NFL shuttle run was tops amongst Tech offensive linemen.

"I really worked on my strength and my quickness in the off season," Grove said "I've developed into one of the stronger players on the team and that will help me this year."

The Hokies are hoping all that extra work will pay off, as they are relying heavily on Grove to anchor the offensive line. He is confident that the unit will be able to get the job done and help the team improve on its 221 yards per game rushing average from a year ago.

"I think we have a chance to be a really great offensive line," he said. "We have to play better every week; we have to keep improving every week to be successful. I think we are doing that — we've come a long way from when we started practice to where we are now and if that continues, we should make a mark on the Big East."

That mark will have to be made without the help of running back Lee Suggs who has departed to the NFL. Inheriting his role will be Kevin Jones; a back Grove feels has the opportunity to surpass the accomplishments of his

predecessor.

"Lee was a great running back, but Kevin has the chance to be one of the greatest backs ever at Virginia Tech," he said. "When he gets tired, Cedric Humes and Mike Imoh can come in the game, both of those guys are as good as we've had here."

Grove's generosity with his compliments is completely genuine — he has no ulterior motives or hidden agenda, he is simply being a leader and doing his best to encourage his teammates.

"I just try to motivate people to play the best they possibly can," he said. "Not everyone is going to have the same athletic ability or be able to do the same things on the field. But everyone can give their best every single play and that is all I ask from people."

That workman-like approach to the game appears to be paying off. In 2002, Grove was the only offensive lineman to grade out above 80 percent each game.

Additionally, he saw action on a team-high 838 offensive snaps and registered a team-high 43 knockdown blocks. He enters the 2003 season ranked No. 1 among all Division 1-A centers by The Sporting News. "It's an honor (to be recognized), but I'm not really concerned with all that," Grove said. "If we win the national championship this year, then all that stuff will take care of itself. My goal this year, is not to be the best center in the country — it's to win a national championship."

While the pursuit of that cov-

See **GROVE**, page 16



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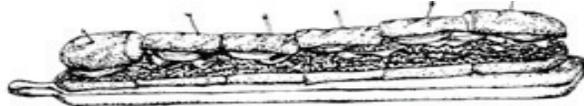


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Carrying the load

by **Rajan Nanavati**
Sports Editor

First you see the offensive and defensive lineman running wind sprints at the end of football practice, and you're in awe of the fact that a 280-pound lineman can run that fast. Next you see the other skill position players running wind sprints, and despite the fact they may not be at top speed after a long day of practice, they're still jogging faster than most people can sprint.

At last you see Kevin Jones, accompanied in his wind sprints only by fellow running back Mike Imoh. When Jones runs, the flow is as smooth as water, and though he may not be running at top speed either, blink your eyes at the end of this gasser, and you'll be sure to miss him.

Not bad for a running back who just added 15 pounds of muscle to his already inconceivably ripped frame. Ironically he may have gotten faster after the weight gain. Quite simply, Jones doesn't mess around. Inheriting the job of lead back from his former Untouchables partner Lee Suggs, Jones wants you to take it to the bank: he's going to break 2,000 yards like he breaks ankles of defensive linemen trying to chase him.

"I'm trying to get 200 (yards) the first five games, that's a thousand early," Jones said of the lofty but reachable goal. "That'll put me on pace."

When you watch him in games, you'd be hard pressed to disagree. Jones still has that track-star speed, which he flashed during his freshman and sophomore season, along with the ability to shoot through only a small crease created by the offensive line like a cannon ball. If you happen to be on the other side of the hole Jones slips through, be prepared. The speed he has, coupled with the strength he carries makes the impact seem like getting hit by a freight train.

After running for over 150 yards against both state rival Virginia and the eventual national champion Miami Hurricanes during the stretch run of his freshman year in 2001, the expecta-

tations were sky high for the dynamic duo of Jones and Suggs.

Jones looked very impressive during the spring practices of 2002 and visions of dual 1,500-yard backs danced through the mind of Hokie fans. The tandem flashed their capability last season when they ran roughshod through a Marshall defense that couldn't stop either back despite lining up nine men along the line of scrimmage.

But, a November slump where the Hokies lost three consecutive games, coupled with a hamstring injury suffered by Jones in the loss against Pittsburgh, caused both the tandem of running

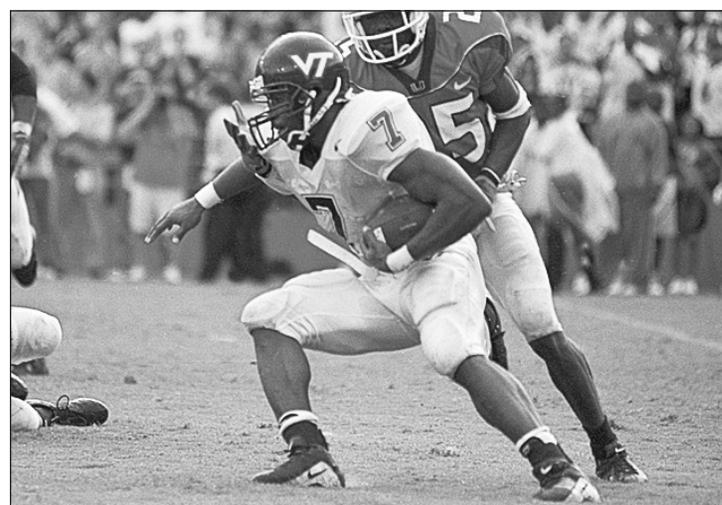
backs, along with the team as a whole to fall short of their goals.

"(Last season) was a disappointment and something to build on," Jones said. We're disappointed when we lose any game. We just got to go out there and focus."

While walking off the field victorious at the San Francisco Bowl, just minutes before the turn of the new year of 2003, Tech running backs coach Billy Hite went to Jones and simply stated one thing: with Lee Suggs going to the NFL, it was Jones' turn now.

Even though he may already

See **JONES**, page 16



ROBERT DRAKE/SPPS

Running back sensation Kevin Jones (7) looks to regain his 2001 form as the feature back for the Hokies

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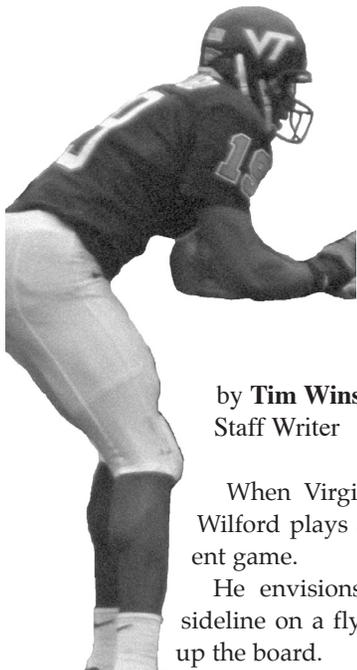


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Catching it in full stride

by **Tim Winsky**
Staff Writer

When Virginia Tech senior split end Ernest Wilford plays a game of chess, he sees a different game.

He envisions himself accelerating down the sideline on a fly route when he pushes his castle up the board.

He imagines himself knifing through the defense on a slant pattern over the middle as he shifts his bishop. He pictures himself running an out-pattern, stopping to drag a foot inbounds, when he moves his knight.

Even when he adjusts his pawns to protect his king, it's as though he's blocking on a run play for Kevin Jones.

"It makes me think and it helps me on the game field," Wilford said. "It makes me think through what people are trying to do to me ... I love chess."

Hokie fans love Wilford. The 6-foot-4-inch, 220-pounder has developed into one of the premier receivers in all of college football. Possessing a

near unstoppable combination of size, speed and strength, Wilford has the ability to out-leap smaller defenders, get behind the secondary for big plays and hang onto the ball in a rush of traffic across the middle.

Syracuse knows the gifted No. 19 all too well. Wilford set Tech and Big East Conference single-game records with 279 yards receiving last year at the Carrier Dome.

His four touchdown catches

that game were also a Hokie team record.

In fact, the entire 2002 season was a breakout year for Wilford.

The sociology major led Tech in every major receiving statistical category including receptions (51), receiving yards (925) and receiving touchdowns (7).

Despite the success, Wilford is focused on continuing his growth and maturity as a player.

"Individually, my goal is to be the most consistent player on the team right now," Wilford said.

"There's always somebody out there that's going to be a better receiver than me," Wilford said. "So if I'm trying to work hard to be the best receiver, than I know I won't get complacent in where I'm at."

The chances of that are about as likely as Michael Vick returning to play out his remaining two years of eligibility.

Known as a beast in the weight room, Wilford takes the term work ethic to a whole new level.

"I don't think there's anyone in this world that can work harder than I can," Wilford said.

"I push myself to the max, and I don't think there's one coach that can push me more than myself."

His athletic ability and physical stature may resemble the 49ers' Terrell Owens, however, Wilford carries the humbleness of former Lions' great Barry Sanders.

"I'm not one who celebrates if I make a touchdown catch and stuff like that," said Wilford, who wants to become an FBI agent after his playing days are over.

"I always keep God first," he said.

While visions of the NFL still remain in the back of his head behind national-championship dreams,

Wilford can guarantee one thing to any team interested in putting a NFL jersey on him.

"I think if someone was wanting to draft me, they would get the hardest working player on that team," he said.



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Virginia Commonwealth University

by Rajan Nanavati
Sports Editor

Big time players make big time plays in big time games. In college football, it's that simple. That is the bottom line.

With all due respect to running back Kevin Jones, quarterback Bryan Randall and receiver Ernest Wilford, the coaching staff and many Hokie fans believe the biggest playmaker on the Virginia Tech football team may be junior cornerback DeAngelo Hall.

Three-way threat

After recording a blistering 4.15 seconds in the 40-yard dash last spring, the Hokies' coaching staff has given Hall the green light to not only shut down the opposition's top receiver along with returning punts, but also to get in about 30 snaps a game on offense.

"First thing, he is a corner for us," Tech head coach Frank

Beamer said. "A corner and a punt returner. After that, as much as we can get him in there offensively, we'd like to, because he is a talented guy, he can make people miss, and if he touches the ball enough times, I think it's going to end up in the end zone."

At 5 feet 11 inches and roughly 200 pounds, Hall has nearly prototype physical tools for a next-level cornerback, as well as a solid frame to be a very productive receiver. The coaching staff knew they had something special on their hands from the day Hall walked in.

He emerged as a budding star during the spring practice sessions of 2002 (the tail end of his true freshman year) and last season often had to guard the opposition's best receivers one-on-one as only a sophomore, going up against receivers like Andre Johnson of Miami, Bethel Johnson of Texas A&M and Billy McMullen of Virginia, all of who were selected in the 2003 NFL draft.

But imagine the urge the Tech coaching staff must have had

to experiment with Hall. After learning the nuances of both wide receiver and cornerback from going head-to-head against Tech wideout Wilford the past two years, Hall feels he is ready to contribute despite the challenges the new position brings.

"Defensive back is so natural to me," Hall said. "It's just like going out there and walking. Offense, it's kind of like running backwards — you can do it, but you gotta work hard at it."

The scary thing is actually that Hall is in better condition than past football seasons. He stayed in Blacksburg the whole summer to work out, ran track during the offseason to actually improve his sizzling speed, all while adding a few pounds of muscle in the weight room to handle the extra hits he may take if someone actually catches him.

But don't think of DeAngelo as just a physical freak with God-given athleticism. He's as meticulous as any person on the team with regards to detail and the fundamental techniques. Despite cutting into whatever free time he may have left after football practices, he attends both offensive and defensive meetings, diligently taking notes during both.

Friday and Saturday night during football season, he's not downtown at Woody's or Big Al's taking down a drink or chatting up the women. No, he's in his room watching game film of the team the Hokies are about to play and of the wideouts he's going to be depended on to shut down during the game, maybe with a little bit of Jay-Z, 50 Cent or Biggie Smalls in the background, depending on his mood.

Fool him once, you got lucky, and you aren't going to fool him twice. In last year's loss to Pittsburgh in early November, Panthers quarterback Rod Rutherford spotted the 5-foot-9-inch Ronyell Whitaker covering the 6-foot-4-inch Pittsburgh freshman phenom Larry Fitzgerald on two different trips into the Hokies red zone. Two fade passes to Fitzgerald with Whitaker

covering, two touchdowns. The third time around in the red zone, when Rutherford saw Hall covering Fitzgerald, he would try the fade pass once again. Hall not only beat Fitzgerald to the exact landing spot of the ball reading the play like a book, he intercepted the pass in the end zone and ran it back to the 50-yard line, one block short of going the distance.

It's that kind of playmaking ability that the coaching staff wants to harness during all three facets of the game, after watching a player like Ohio State University's Chris Gamble excel on both offense and defense.

Hall has seen former collegiate triple-threat players such as Charles Woodson of the University of Michigan and Champ Bailey of the University of Georgia and has taken mental notes on how they were able to have success. But there's one player whom he really looked up to while growing up.

"Always Deion Sanders," Hall said. "Just that showtime, that flashiness, that primetime image and that speed. Speed kills."

Contrary to "Neon Deion," Hall has the more tough-minded approach to defense. While "Primetime" may be flashy, he prefers the hard-nose, high-energy, relentless attitude of defense. He reels off teams like the Ravens, Buccaneers, Raiders or Eagles as teams whose attitude in the secondary and defense overall he admires, and mentions them as the short-but-not-exclusive list of teams he'd love to play for.

"Defensive-minded teams," Hall said, "I love their defensive energy."

His dedication and passion for the game of football comes from within, but may be easiest to notice from the tattoo on the upper part of his left arm. The body ink shows a picture of Hall's deceased older brother Kevin Smith, who was shot to death in 1994. Smith introduced Hall to the game, and like a love-struck teenager, Hall was smitten by it. He plays football to help



ROBERT DRAKE/SPPS

DeAngelo Hall will have to shut down the opposition's top wide receiver, such as former Hurricane Andre Johnson.

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ROBERT DRAKE/SPPS

Vegas Robinson (6) makes another open-field tackle on UVa running back Wali Lundy.

by **Brent Anderson**
Staff Writer

Big, strong, fast and intelligent. This is how Virginia Tech football head coach Frank Beamer describes Vegas Robinson.

Beamer said he will be counting on the middle linebacker to help lead the Hokie defense this season.

A redshirt senior from Chesapeake, Robinson played a major role on defense last year and said he is expecting even better things in his second season as a starter.

Last season he finished with 71

tackles and three interceptions, despite missing three games with a sprained ankle. Robinson's determination and tough play earned him a spot on the Butkus Watch List for the upcoming year. The Butkus Award, named after the legendary Dick Butkus, is given annually to the top collegiate linebacker.

Robinson said he doesn't feel any pressure to win the award.

"I feel like personal goals will come as long as your team plays good," he said.

A powerful linebacker who bulked up from 210 to 250 pounds since arriving at Tech,

Robinson is a playmaker and knows the Hokie system well. Fortunately the added weight has not infringed upon his speed. He even set a new position record in 2000 by clocking 4.46 in the 40-yard dash.

Robinson has been playing football since he was five years old and was also recruited by the University of Alabama, Purdue University, the University of Virginia and the University of North Carolina. He chose to come to Tech on the advice of a good friend from high school — former Hokie wideout Emmett Johnson.

"I came down here and Emmett really sold me on it," he said. "He told me this was a great place, so you have to take your friend's word."

After having surgery on his ankle in the spring, Robinson worked hard over the summer to rehabilitate it and is back at 100 percent. He said the best thing about playing middle linebacker is having the chance to just get your aggression out.

As determined and tenacious as Robinson is on the gridiron, he takes a different approach off the field. He said he likes to relax and hang out in his free time. Before the game he listens to rap music, such as Nas, to focus.

"Downtown is okay, but I like to chill on the weekends," he said.

He also prefers Playstation 2 to Xbox when bidding his time so he can play his favorite video game.

"Madden 2004, hands down," he said.

In five years, Robinson said he sees himself playing in the pros. If this doesn't happen, however, he would like to do something with residential property management, which is his major.

Robinson's mom gets credit for giving him his unique first name.

"(It came from) the television show 'Vegas,' from way back in the day," he said. "That was my mom's show, so she decided to roll with that."

With Robinson leading the defense this year, the Hokies will look to him to roll over the competition all the way to New Orleans.

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rezac@vt.edu
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27	CONNECTICUT
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22	at West Virginia
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Randall: QB has title dreams

Continued from page 3

The spotlight this year is on the whole Hokie team as they are ranked in the top 10 in preseason polls. Some are even picking them to go to the national championship. Randall

is indifferent about all of the hype.

"It's good and bad," he said. "It's good to be recognized as one of the top football programs in the country, but at the same time you really don't want it to go to your head. We were

kind of in the same position last year. Maybe we weren't ranked as high, but I think everybody realizes this year that all that preseason hype doesn't mean anything ... We have to come with our 'A' game every week."

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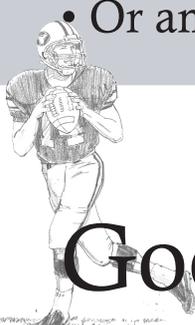
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Family Matters

by Adam Abramson
Associate Sports Editor

Every so often a major sports media outlet will run a "feel good story" on a set of brothers that play the same sport.

Rare is it that you find brothers that actually play on the same team. Try two sets of brothers. Virginia Tech features the Adibi and Lewis brothers suiting up for the Hokies' stingy defense this year.

Defensive end Nathaniel and linebacker Xavier Adibi hail from Hampton, and both played under coach Bill Dee at Phoebus High School.

Defensive tackles Kevin and Jonathan Lewis represent Richmond, coming out of Varina High School.

In their pre-Hokie days, it was the little brothers who did the most damage on the field.

"It probably was (Xavier), he was a lot better than I was coming into Tech," Nathaniel said.

Off of the field, the brothers spend a lot of time together although neither pair lives with each other.

"We don't live together, but we are always together," Kevin said. "All of our classes are together so that makes it easy for me to see (Jonathan) off of the field."

Having an older brother already playing for the Hokies had different effects on the younger brothers as they made a decision on which institution to take the field for every fall.

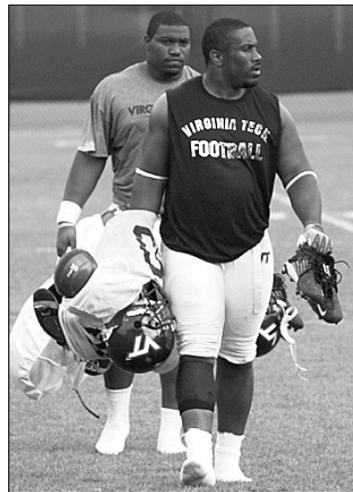
"There was a lot of influence on my brother being here when I made my choice," Jonathan said. "Being able to play with

my brother one more time was something that was a factor, we had remarkable seasons in high school and we want to have remarkable seasons at Tech."

Coming off back-to-back state championships in his final two seasons, Xavier's coach prepared him for the pressure people would put on him to join Nathaniel at Tech.

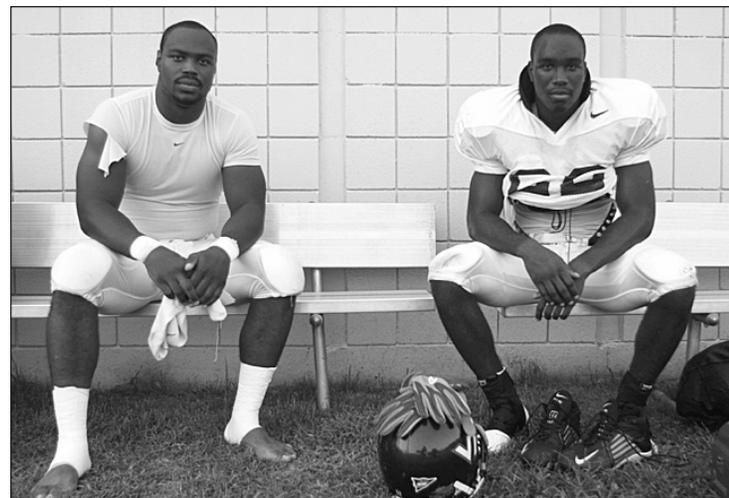
"Coach Dee told me what to be ready for when it was time to think about where I wanted to play after high school," Xavier said. "I always kept my options open and listened to Nathaniel who told me to follow my heart." While Xavier is taking a year off to red shirt, the Lewis brothers, will line up next to Nathaniel Adibi on the defensive line plan to execute Tech's defense to its full potential this year.

"Our main goal this year is stopping the run, if we can shut down the run and force them



PHOTOS BY TED MARTELLO AND BYRON KENNERLY/SPPS

The Lewis brothers (top) and Adibis (bottom) bond by terrorizing quarterbacks.



to pass, we are getting our jobs done," Kevin said.

As far as experience, both Nathaniel and Kevin have always worked hard at setting a good example for their younger

siblings on and off the field.

"My brother has shown me how to conduct myself off of the field," Jonathan said.

Nathaniel is also working on ensuring that Xavier's experience at Tech off of the field is something he can help with.

"Academics are something I know I can help him with espe-

cially with classes and what to expect," Nathaniel said.

Although Xavier is not going to be taking the field this year, when asked which tandem of brothers could accomplish more as a team on the field, the Lewis brothers are quick to let everyone know. "Us," the Lewis' said, in unison.



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Intramurals

2003 Intramural Schedule - Fall Semester					
Activity	Registration Dates	Entry Fee	Capt. Meeting	League/Tourney Play	Official Training
* Fantasy Football (O)	Aug. 25 - Sept. 2	\$10/Team	Sept. 3	Sept. 4 - Dec. 14	
Golf Doubles (M,W,CR)	Aug. 25 - Sept. 2			Sept. 8 - Oct. 30	
9-on-9 Soccer (M,W,CR)	Aug. 25 - Sept. 2	\$40/Team	Sept. 4	Sept. 8 - Oct. 14	Sept. 1 - Sept. 4
Tennis Singles (M,W)	Aug. 25 - Sept. 2			Sept. 8 - Oct. 30	
* Homerun Derby Contest (O)	Aug. 25 - Sept. 9			Sept 12 - 14 & Sept 19 - 21	
* Putt-Putt Tournament (O)	Aug. 25 - Sept. 9			Sept. 15 - Oct. 2	
USOA Softball Tournament (M,W,CR)	Aug. 25 - Sept. 9	\$40/Team	Sept. 11	Sept 12 - 14 & Sept 19 - 21	Sept. 8 - Sept. 11
Weekly NCAA Football Pickem Contest (O)	Sept. 1 - Nov. 14 (Wkly)			Sept. 6 - Nov. 15	
* Racquetball Singles Tournament (M,W)	Sept. 15 - Sept. 30	\$5/person		Oct. 4 - Oct. 5	
Bowling Singles (M,W)	Sept. 15 - Sept. 30			Oct. 6 - Dec. 4	
8-Ball Singles (M,W)	Sept. 15 - Sept. 30			Oct. 6 - Dec. 4	
Racquetball Doubles (M,W,CR)	Sept. 22 - Oct. 7			Oct. 13 - Dec. 4	
Volleyball (M,W,CR)	Sept. 22 - Oct. 7	\$40/Team	Oct. 9	Oct. 13 - Nov. 20	Oct. 6 - Oct. 9
USOA Flag Football Tournament (M,W,CR)	Sept. 29 - Oct. 14	\$25/Team	Oct. 16 @ 6:00pm	Oct. 18 - Oct. 19	Oct. 13 - Oct. 16
Flag Football (M,W,CR)	Sept. 29 - Oct. 14	\$40/Team	Oct. 16 @ 5:00pm	Oct. 20 - Dec. 2	Oct. 13 - Oct. 16
Freshman 5-on-5 Basketball (M,W)	Oct. 6 - Oct. 21	\$40/Team	Oct. 23 @ 6:00pm	Oct. 27 - Dec. 9	Oct. 20 - Oct. 23
3-on-3 Basketball (M,W)	Oct. 6 - Oct. 21	\$25/Team	Oct. 23 @ 5:00pm	Oct. 27 - Dec. 9	
USOA Dodgeball Tournament (M,W,CR)	Oct. 20 - Nov. 4	\$25/Team	Nov. 6	Nov. 7 - Nov. 9	
Swim Meet (M,W,CR)	Oct. 27 - Nov. 11			Nov. 17	
* Holiday Bowl Football Pickem Contest (O)	Dec. 8 - Dec. 16			Dec. 16 - Jan. 4	

* = Espirit de Corp All-University Points M = Men's W = Women's CR = CoRec O = Open

Check out the Intramural website at www.recports.vt.edu/intramurals/new/index.html or you can sign up for a sport at signup.recports.vt.edu/

Group Fitness

2003 Fall Fitness Schedule
McComas Hall Studio A

2003 Fall Fitness Schedule
McComas Hall Studio B

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
7:30-8:30 am		Cardioboxing	Cycle/GWT	Cycle			
9:00-10:00am	High/Low			Cardioboxing			
12:00-1:00 pm	Xtreme Cardio	Group Fitness Instructional		Group Fitness Instructional	Cycle		
1:00-1:20 pm	Abs	Class 12:30-2:00pm	Abs	Class 12:30-2:00pm	Abs		
4:15-5:15 pm	Advanced Step	Core	High/Low	Step			
5:30-6:30 pm	Cycling	Boot Camp	Cycling	Happy Hour			TKD
6:45-7:45 pm	Core	Step	Xtreme Cardio	Cardioboxing			Core
7:50-8:35pm				GBT			
8:00-9:00pm	Body Sculpting		Chisel				
9:15-10:15pm		Cycling	Cardio Jam				

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:45-9:30 am		Yogilates		Pilates			
10:30-11:30am			Pilates		Yoga 10:30-11:45am	Open Studio	
12:00-1:00 pm			GWT			Step	
2:00-3:00 pm					GWT	Cardioboxing	
3:00-4:00 pm					GBT (3:05-3:50pm)	Body Sculpting	
4:00-5:00 pm	Yoga	GWT	Yogilates	GWT	Cardioboxing		
5:15-6:15 pm	Cardioboxing	Pilates	Cardioboxing	Body Sculpting			GWT
6:30-7:30 pm	GWT	Xtreme Cardio	GBT (6:30-7:15pm)	Funk			Yoga (6:30-8:00pm)
7:45-8:05pm	Abs	Abs	Abs				
8:15-9:15 pm	Boxing	Yoga		Xtreme Cardio			
9:30-10:30pm	Funk	Boxing	Boxing	Salsa			

McComas Pool

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
9:00-10:00am							
5:00-6:00 pm	Water Fitness		Water Fitness				
7:00-8:00 pm		Water Fitness					

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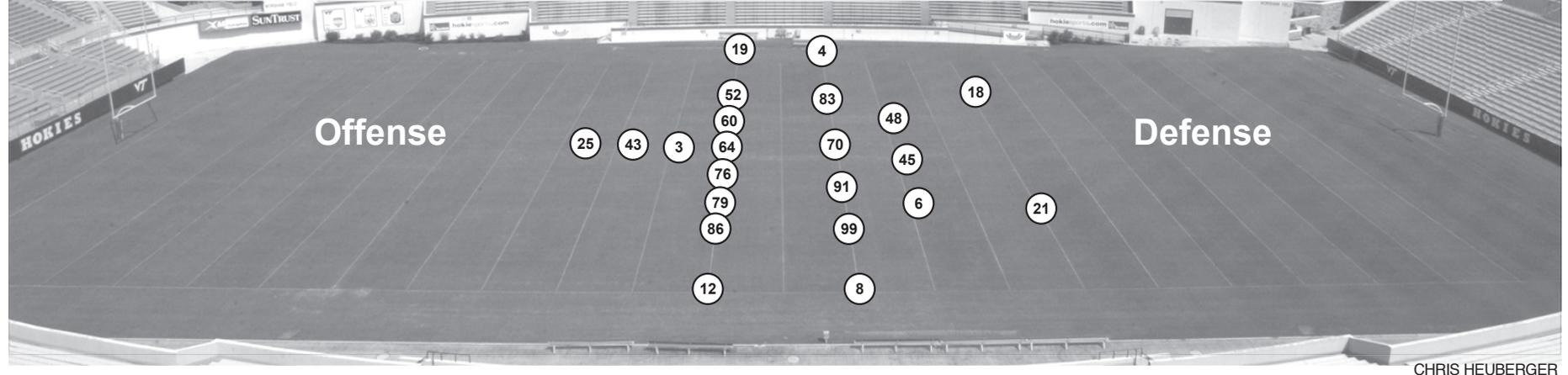
To see what else the Fitness program has to offer, visit our website at www.recports.vt.edu/fitness/index.html

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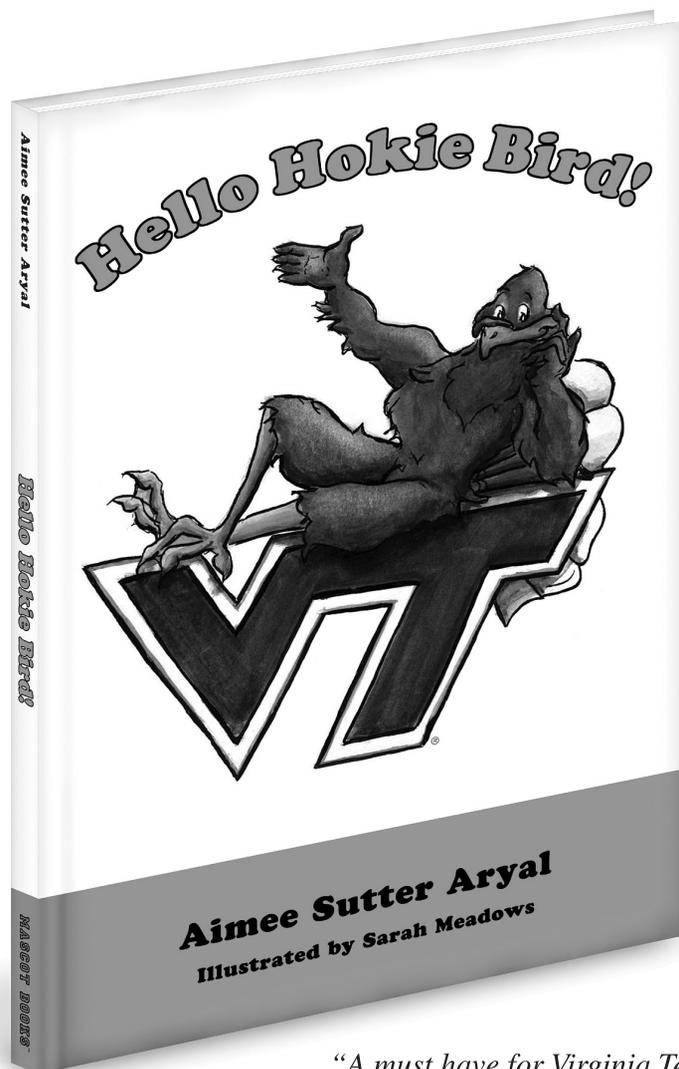
Virginia Tech Football 2003-2004 Projected Depth Chart

<p>25 Jones -RB 32 Humes</p> <p>43 Easlick -FB 37 Canter</p> <p>3 Randall -QB 5 Vick</p>	<p>19 Wilford -WR 81 Shreve</p> <p>52 Martin -LT 57 Carroll</p> <p>60 Gibson -OG 77 Gore</p> <p>64 Grove -C 68 Ramsey</p> <p>76 Miller -OG 72 Murphy</p> <p>79 Dunn -RT 61 Butler</p> <p>86 Willis -TE 90 King</p> <p>12 Johnson -WR 27 Hamilton</p>	<p>CB- 4 Hall 17 Wilds</p> <p>DE- 83 Adibi 58 Tapp</p> <p>DT- 70 K. Lewis 56 J. Lewis</p> <p>DT- 91 Lallis 71 Sandidge</p> <p>DE- 99 Colas 95 Davis*</p> <p>CB- 8 Fuller 1 Green</p>	<p>LB- 48 Manning 42 Anderson</p> <p>LB- 45 Baaqee 41 Trott</p> <p>LB- 6 Robinson 33 Cooper</p> <p>FS- 18 Williams 31 Daniels</p> <p>ROV- 21 Crawford 22 Griffin</p>
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Hokies must survive November

Adam Abramson

Sit atop the hill in between Cassell Coliseum and the tennis courts along Washington Street halfway through the week before a game weekend and you can witness the first-string squads prepare for the upcoming opponent's playing style.

But all of that means nothing when the ball leaves the tee on the opening kickoff with each respective game as the season progresses.

This year, the Hokies attempt to tackle the task of filling the currently vacant Sears' trophy space that is waiting for a tenant in the Merryman Athletic Center.

The 2003 schedule for the Hokies appears difficult but surely leaves room for a strong chance to trudge through the season unscathed by defeat.

Personally, I know our beloved Hokies will be in New Orleans this January if a couple of things roll our way.

A trip to New Orleans would be the furthest Tech would travel this season, as they venture from Blacksburg only to

Pennsylvania, New Jersey and West Virginia.

Beamer also has the luxury of calling the shots on Worsham Field seven times this year — we as fans must show up every time even more electric than we were against University of Virginia last year.

It won't be all smooth sailing for our boys this year though, as we play in the Big East for the last time.

Surely all of our conference opponents will be looking to dethrone us as a conference powerhouse this year and there are a couple of Aggies who are looking for revenge as well.

To me, we have two seasons this year, and we should get through the first seven games victorious. Our second season starts on Nov. 1. Yes, November. We always have bad luck in November, and in four weeks this year, we have five games.

I think this is the year we can do something like that. As everyone recalls, we had a late-season collapse last year, and I highly doubt the veterans that take the field for the Hokies would let that happen again.

The Miami Hurricanes arrive

in Blacksburg on Nov. 1 and their road to the national championship will probably be in the same position that ours is. Win out and see you in the Sugar Bowl.

You know ESPN Gameday will be there (if not, I'll be upset) and finally we're getting some love this year from the media. I think our boys on the defensive line are going to tear up Frank Gore and Brock Berlin because we as fans are gonna be so live that Radford won't need a TV to know when the Hokies just made a good play.

Watch for Ernest Wilford to catch multiple touchdowns; that man will show up to play.

After our monumental victory, the team heads north to Pittsburgh where it all went downhill last year.

Jimmy Williams, do me a favor and spy Larry Fitzgerald until he comes over the middle and team up with Vegas Robinson on a bone crushing hit, so he won't even know who hit him until he watches next morning's 9 a.m. SportsCenter. We will win.

Our only point in the season were we are away from

Blacksburg more than one consecutive game is the following week when the team travels across state to Philadelphia to play Temple (they'll come back to the 'Burg first, of course).

That game shouldn't be a problem, I only hope we can jump out to a big lead and give some of our big guns a little rest as the regular season dwindles down.

Boston College travels here Nov. 22 — our last Big East conference game. BC is a solid football team, but they aren't even a close second to a healthy Tech football team.

Finally, the Commonwealth battle in Charlottesville.

The Cavaliers are good, and they have a couple of young guys that weren't around last year that should have an impact this year.

But after seeing how good our youth is, I have no fear that the Hokies will end the season with a victory, their 11th straight at that. Then, it is the Sugar Bowl. Give us anyone, except Oklahoma and we will fill that vacancy that is just chillin' over near the practice fields.

Hall: DB will take snaps at WR

Continued from page 7

keep his brother's memory alive, and uses that as motivation.

"He was the first person to introduce me to football," Hall said about his brother.

"When I met (football), I fell in love with it, like your first girlfriend.

"Just knowing that I have someone to play for, trying to keep his memory alive," Hall said about Smith's influence. "Every time I do something positive out there, I think about (Kevin). Every time I do something negative, I'm like 'I got you this next time around. I know what I did wrong, I just got to keep going.'

"I'm focused," Hall said. "We gotta go to the national championship. I would like to bring a national championship to Blacksburg. We got a little spot up there in the trophy hall waiting for it. We already got the case, so I would love to bring that."

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Jones: Heisman in his sights

Continued from page 5

be one of the fastest running backs in the nation, he worked out during the summer to improve his speed. He'd catch at least 100 balls every day to help make him a better receiver and a more complete running back, and he spent more time in the weight room to gain those extra 15 pounds to help him absorb the added hits he'll take this season.

Plus, for those of you wondering — he's worked on holding onto the football during

carries.

"Not gonna put the football on the ground this year," Jones said.

Opposing front seven's beware: there's nothing Jones fears, save God himself. Whether he's gotten himself up by listening to some Lil' John and the East Side boys, or through the support of his Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity brothers, Jones believes one thing: with all due respect from Jones to the many great running backs around the nation, Blacksburg

hosts the best running back in the nation, bar none.

"He's ready for the challenge, he's a great competitor and he's really excited about this year," Hite said. "He's bigger, faster and stronger."

With that in mind, the goals Jones has set for himself, outside the 2,000 yards are as lofty as the expectations from Hokie fans.

He wants the Big East and national championships.

"And the Heisman," Jones added.

Grove: Lineman hopes for NFL career

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eted national championship consumes a majority of Grove's time, he enjoys spending whatever free time he has fishing in the New River.

Grove is pursuing a degree in residential property management and is on pace to graduate this year. Upon graduation, he would love the opportunity to play in the NFL, but is keeping

his options open.

"I'm hoping that I get drafted," he said. "If that doesn't happen, then I have gotten into graduate school and would like to continue my education. Hopefully, I could get into collegiate coaching."

With a great work ethic and a positive, team-first attitude, Grove shouldn't have a problem finding work after college.

VIRGINIA TECH 2003 - 2004 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	TV	LOCATION
AUG. 31, 2003	UCF	3 PM	ESPN	BLACKSBURG, VA
SEPT. 6, 2003	JAMES MADISON	1 PM		BLACKSBURG, VA
SEPT. 18, 2003	TEXAS A&M	7:30 PM	ESPN	BLACKSBURG, VA
SEPT. 27, 2003	CONNECTICUT (HALL OF FAME)	NOON	BIG EAST NETWORK (REGIONAL)	BLACKSBURG, VA
OCT. 4, 2003	at RUTGERS *	NOON	BIG EAST NETWORK (REGIONAL)	PISCATAWAY, NJ
OCT. 11, 2003	SYRACUSE * (HOMECOMING)	TBA		BLACKSBURG, VA
OCT. 22, 2003	at WEST VIRGINIA *	7:30 PM	ESPN/ESPN2	MORGANTOWN, W VA
NOV. 1, 2003	MIAMI	TBA	ESPN	BLACKSBURG, VA
NOV. 8, 2003	at PITTSBURGH *	TBA		PITTSBURGH, PA
NOV. 15, 2003	at TEMPLE *	TBA		PHILADELPHIA, PA
NOV. 22, 2003	BOSTON COLLEGE *	TBA		BLACKSBURG, VA
NOV. 29, 2003	at VIRGINIA *	TBA		CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA